

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fourth Session
(Fifteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, April 19, 2010/Chaitra 29, 1932 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MADAM SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJNATH SINGH (Ghaziabad): Madam Speaker, Lakhs of tonnes of wheat is rotting in the godowns of FCI at present and I have given a notice in this regard. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Your notice has been received.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): I have also signed it.

MADAM SPEAKER: Yes, you have also signed it. But it would be taken during Zero Hour instead of now.

...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down and let the Question Hour go on.

...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Let the Question Hour continue. Q.No. 321.

...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: All the issues raised by you will be taken up during Zero Hour.

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saran): Madam, give me a minute please. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: All right, I have asked you to sit down and let the Question Hour go on. Question Hour has been discontinued for the last two days.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Madam, We are co-operating. But I want to say that Shashi Tharoor has resigned, but what about the betting on a huge scale that is going on in the IPL and BCCI.

MADAM SPEAKER: We will take it up after the Question Hour.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: It should be nationalized and IPL and BCCI should be scrapped and the Government should take over. Betting is rampant, we are not satisfied with the resignation of Tharoorji. There are large scale betting, and other irregularities there. IPL and BCCI should be scrapped. They are involved in betting and wasting the time of the nation. Hence, I urge the Government to takeover. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: You have raised your issue. Now, nothing will go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)*

11.02 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Question No. 321 Shrimati Meena Singh.

Delivery of Mail

*321. SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is satisfied with the timely and efficient delivery of mail across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the norms fixed for delivery of mail is observed in letter and spirit;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the shortage of manpower including postmen is one of the reasons for the poor delivery and distribution of mail; and

*Not recorded.

(f) if so, the corrective action taken by the Government in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) 100% timely delivery norms for all mail products are not met all the time. The Department receives complaints relating to lack of timely or efficient delivery of mail, though a small percentage compared to the traffic handled given in the enclosed Annexures-I & II, yet this remains a cause of concern for the Department and continuous efforts are made to improve performance in these areas. Bringing improvement in the quality of service pertaining to delivery of mail is a continuous activity, and measures are taken to improve

each segment of the mail operations, *i.e.*, from collection to delivery.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. This is borne by the results of All India Mail Survey 2008 given in the enclosed Annexure III. However, occasional delays in delivery of mail do occur due to (i) dependence of the Department on external agencies such as Airlines, Railways, Road Transport Corporations etc. for transmission of mail, (ii) incorrect or incomplete address used by the customers, (iii) non-use of PIN Code, (iv) non-availability of the address, (v) missending of mail, and (vi) change in the residence of the addressee without information to the Post Office concerned.

(e) and (f) No, Madam. Shortage of manpower in normal course due to death, retirement, leave, resignation etc. is sought to be made up by regular recruitment. The short term gap between shortage and recruitment is sought to be made up by redistribution and combination of duties, resorting to overtime, and temporary engagement of retired postal personnel and Gramin Dak Sewaks in Post offices to ensure timely and efficient delivery.

Annexure I

Product wise complaints as percentage of total traffic for the year 2008-09

| Sl.No. | Circle | Speed Post | Regd Letters | Regd Parcels | VPP | Unregd Letters | Money Order |
|--------|-------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|-------|----------------|-------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Assam | 0.139 | 0.380 | 0.040 | 1.039 | 0.001 | 0.446 |
| 2. | AP | 0.053 | 0.145 | 0.107 | 0.096 | 0.000 | 0.180 |
| 3. | Bihar | 0.037 | 0.172 | 0.689 | 1.040 | 0.001 | 1.114 |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | 0.089 | 0.129 | 0.399 | 0.821 | 0.000 | 0.400 |
| 5. | Delhi | 0.235 | 0.053 | 0.538 | 2.838 | 0.001 | 1.724 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 0.199 | 0.240 | 0.060 | 0.074 | 0.001 | 0.311 |
| 7. | Haryana | 0.048 | 0.118 | 0.103 | 1.041 | 0.000 | 0.485 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 0.098 | 0.119 | 0.070 | 0.352 | 0.000 | 0.136 |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 0.215 | 0.198 | 0.216 | 0.784 | 0.000 | 0.797 |
| 10. | Jharkhand | 0.019 | 0.033 | 0.042 | 0.010 | 0.000 | 0.314 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-----|---------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 11. | Karnataka | 0.109 | 0.196 | 0.167 | 0.396 | 0.000 | 0.122 |
| 12. | Kerala | 0.026 | 0.061 | 0.065 | 0.066 | 0.000 | 0.029 |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 0.110 | 0.361 | 0.132 | 0.928 | 0.003 | 0.881 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 0.018 | 0.173 | 0.182 | 0.515 | 0.000 | 0.229 |
| 15. | NE | 0.085 | 0.104 | 0.266 | 0.730 | 0.000 | 0.625 |
| 16. | Orissa | 0.081 | 0.159 | 0.086 | 0.392 | 0.000 | 0.179 |
| 17. | Punjab | 0.132 | 0.100 | 0.089 | 0.811 | 0.000 | 0.389 |
| 18. | Rajasthan | 0.085 | 0.223 | 0.087 | 0.155 | 0.000 | 0.098 |
| 19. | Tamil Nadu | 0.087 | 0.207 | 0.186 | 0.184 | 0.001 | 0.088 |
| 20. | Uttar Pradesh | 0.062 | 0.144 | 0.065 | 0.045 | 0.000 | 0.229 |
| 21. | Uttarakhand | 0.090 | 0.085 | 0.079 | 1.955 | 0.000 | 1.045 |
| 22. | West Bengal | 0.057 | 0.083 | 0.082 | 0.181 | 0.000 | 0.190 |
| 23. | Army Postal Service (APS) | 0.073 | 0.038 | 0.078 | 0 | 0.000 | 0.167 |
| | Total | 0.065 | 0.142 | 0.144 | 0.191 | 0.000 | 0.192 |

Annexure II*Year-wise Ratio of Complaints vis-a-vis Traffic*

| Service | Complaint Traffic Ratio for 2008-09 | Complaint Traffic Ratio for 2007-08 | Complaint Traffic Ratio for 2006-07 | Complaint Traffic Ratio for 2005-06 | Complaint Traffic Ratio for 2004-05 | Complaint Traffic Ratio for 2003-04 |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Speed Post | 0.065 | 0.082 | 0.88% | 0.133% | 0.152% | 0.064% |
| Registered letters | 0.142 | 0.082 | 0.045% | 0.082% | 0.102% | 0.123% |
| Registered Parcels | 0.144 | 0.185 | 0.166% | 0.204% | 0.181% | 0.050% |
| VPP Articles | 0.191 | 0.546 | 0.724% | 0.726% | 0.642% | 0.353% |
| Foreign Mails | 0.273 | 0.153 | 0.050% | 0.017% | 0.012% | 0.008% |
| MOs (incl TMOs) | 0.192 | 0.166 | 0.210% | 0.341% | 0.424% | 0.359% |
| SB&CC | 0.008 | 0.008 | 0.002% | 0.012% | 0.010% | 0.008% |

Annexure III*Table 1: All India Mail Survey 2008 (Rural)
Percentage of Mail Delivered within Norms*

| Circle | Unregd Mail | Regd Mail | Parcels | Money Order | 2nd Class Mail |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------|---------|-------------|----------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 97.1 | 97.42 | 96.58 | 94.88 | 95.29 |
| Assam | 93.41 | 91.81 | 98.22 | 96.47 | 97.28 |
| Bihar | 86.76 | 93.66 | 94.84 | 96.21 | 88.33 |
| Chhattisgarh | 94.96 | 95.91 | 98.87 | 98.74 | 95.12 |
| Delhi | 96.48 | 96.4 | 94.1 | 91.2 | 95.64 |
| Gujarat | 97 | 98.98 | 88.5 | 96.67 | 98.12 |
| Haryana | 98.37 | 99.55 | 87.5 | 89.6 | 97.41 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 88 | 89 | 84 | 87 | 82 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 89.1 | 78.48 | 78.48 | 82.3 | 82.25 |
| Jharkhand | 94.5 | 90 | 86.35 | 98.5 | 88.24 |
| Karnataka | 94.62 | 98.16 | 89.2 | 98.02 | 95.39 |
| Kerala | 77.55 | 85.1 | 52.2 | 80.98 | 79.87 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 94.15 | 93.97 | 90.57 | 86.11 | 92.93 |
| Maharashtra | 91.88 | 86.98 | 76.3 | 80.36 | 86.8 |
| North-East | 91.66 | 89.5 | 84.4 | 94.7 | 86.2 |
| Orissa | 92.22 | 84 | 86.88 | 77.9 | 90.27 |
| Punjab | 90.18 | 93.63 | 87.36 | 88.43 | 96.33 |
| Rajasthan | 86.93 | 92.47 | 81.86 | 88.16 | 85.42 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 95.65 | 96.45 | 96.55 | 94.6 | 90.35 |
| Tamil Nadu | 97.24 | 99.19 | 92.3 | 98.79 | 95.62 |
| Uttarakhand | 88.18 | 72.38 | 71.99 | 71.53 | 89.55 |
| West Bengal | 75.62 | 76.02 | 87.48 | 80.31 | 77.64 |

*Table 2: All India Mail Survey 2008 (Urban)
Percentage of Mail Delivered within Norms*

| Circle | Unregd Mail | Regd Mail | Parcels | Money Order | 2nd Class Mail |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------|---------|-------------|----------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 96.64 | 97.4 | 97.27 | 95.3 | 95.45 |
| Assam | 88.69 | 91.9 | 96.3 | 96.8 | 92.37 |
| Bihar | 87.1 | 93.1 | 93.05 | 95.4 | 88.58 |
| Chhattisgarh | 93.47 | 95.3 | 83.45 | 88.6 | 98.24 |
| Delhi | 95.68 | 96.5 | 98.88 | 99.5 | 98.08 |
| Gujarat | 97.19 | 99.1 | 97.12 | 98.1 | 97.76 |
| Haryana | 97.42 | 98.5 | 88.3 | 91.7 | 97.39 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 85 | 86 | 89 | 87 | 89 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 80.5 | 85.45 | 75.35 | 76 | 84.5 |
| Jharkhand | 87 | 90.65 | 88.3 | 98.7 | 89.2 |
| Karnataka | 94.17 | 97.5 | 97.93 | 95.3 | 93.12 |
| Kerala | 80.24 | 87.1 | 78.09 | 86.8 | 79.13 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 94.09 | 96.4 | 93.2 | 90.1 | 97.55 |
| Maharashtra | 92.24 | 93.3 | 88.36 | 90 | 90.32 |
| North-East | 92.8 | 94.6 | 94 | 96.7 | 93.8 |
| Orissa | 86.92 | 79.9 | 72.52 | 72.1 | 75.43 |
| Punjab | 91.93 | 94.4 | 96.85 | 96.8 | 93.96 |
| Rajasthan | 85.98 | 93.3 | 90.39 | 94.1 | 81.72 |
| Tamil Nadu | 98.66 | 98.5 | 99.85 | 97.6 | 96.24 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 93.78 | 96.45 | 95 | 97.2 | 94.8 |
| Uttarakhand | 81.15 | 83 | 90.71 | 70 | 84.04 |
| West Bengal | 69.4 | 79.5 | 87.79 | 78.8 | 73.13 |

[Translation]

SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH: In reply to my original question, the Hon. Minister has said that it is not possible to deliver all mail produces on time. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Let the Question Hour go on, please speak after that.

SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH: Hon. Minister has admitted that he too receives complaints regarding non-delivery of mails on time though they are very less number. Earlier, even ordinary mail used to reach all parts of the country within three or four days. Today, the truth is that leave aside ordinary mail, even speed posts and registered posts do not reach in 10 days.

Sometimes, it so happens that the post neither reaches to address nor comes back to the sender.
...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: We would take up this issue also, but let the Question Hour continue first.

SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH: Many people miss their interviews and many others miss their job opportunity and loose their job because they do not get their mails in time.

Through you, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister whether he is aware of the said problems. If so, what are the steps being taken by his ministry to solve these problems and to deliver mail posts in time?

[English]

SHRI SACHIN PILOT: Madam Speaker, as you are aware, the Department of Post is a very crucial department in the Government of India. Madam, we have, across the country, 1,55,000 post offices and approximately 4.8 lakh employees working together in the Department of Post.

Madam, while it is the endeavour of the Department to make sure that we have 100 per cent delivery of all registered, unregistered, first-class and second-class mail, there are issues sometimes when the mail is not received on time. That is because the Department of Posts has also to depend on external agencies such as air network, railway network and transportation facilities of roads etc. from other agencies.

Madam, we are trying to make sure that our efforts bear fruits. We are setting up six automated mail processing centres in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore and Hyderabad. We have also inducted dedicated aircraft for the North-Eastern region. We are setting up mail post centres. We are also having radio frequency identification devices on bags.

Since 2009, there has been lifting of the curbs on the induction and recruitment of members in the Department of Posts. So, we are trying to recruit more people. We are trying to rationalise the post offices. Through Project Arrow of the Department of Posts, we are making sure that we make these 1,100 post offices ideal post offices, but it will be our endeavour in the time to come to collaborate more with other agencies to make sure that our delivery is more on time.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH: Madam, if a person or a business establishment has to send a mail today, it is the name of courier service that strikes first. In reply to my original question, the Hon. Minister has stated that they have to depend on external agencies like airlines, railways and road transport etc. for the delivery of mails.

Madam, I think that private courier services are also dependent on these services for the delivery of mails, still they manage to delivery in time. That is why, private courier service has developed credibility in common people's mind.

Madam, through you I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether they are taking any steps so that Indian postal department could pose a challenge to private courier services in an era of competition and regain the trust of the people.

SHRI SACHIN PILOT: Madam, I agree with the sentiments of the hon. Member. We also want our department not only to come at par with private courier services but it should be better than private courier services also. Ours is a very large and vast department.

Madam, for your kind information as well as that of the House, I would like to tell that there are 654 crore mail articles which are distributed by the Department of posts annually. I feel happy to tell that we have recorded a growth of more than 100 percent in the speed post traffic in the last five years. Speed post is an area of work where we have achieved great success in winning the trust of the common man. It is true that entry of private couriers has increased the competition. But, Madam, I would like to assure you and the House that no matter how big a private courier company, whether Indian or foreign, might be, our department is capable, our staff is capable and we would make all efforts to provide better services to the people than the private courier companies.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Madam, with your permission I would like to have answer to my question and also tell him that he would be surprised to listen that in our hilly areas it takes months for the letter to reach. Sometimes the letters do not reach at all and particularly, the candidates from hilly areas who apply

for various examinations, miss them. He says that they are capable but I say that the situation is very bad. He should not say such thing without any ground. Should I bring you the letters from district Doda, Inderwal, Bhadarwah, Kishtwar, Madwa, Baadvan and Darshan in my own constituency?

MADAM SPEAKER: Please ask the question.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Through you, I appeal to the hon. Minister that there are small post offices in the hilly areas where one has to walk 30-40 kms. to reach there and therefore, people should be recruited from those areas itself. Will hon. Minister make such an arrangement?

SHRI SACHIN PILOT: Madam Speaker, I would like to tell the hon. Member that our department pays particular attention to the hilly areas, whether they are the regions in north east or valleys of Jammu and Kashmir. It is true that more of such complaints are received from the remote areas. But, I would like to assure the hon. Member that we are also fully alert. If he has some specific complaint then he may give it to me and I will address it. We will not only recruit people in Jammu and Kashmir but also make efforts to expand post offices under the Ministry here as per rules.

[English]

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: If you kindly look at part (e) and part (f) of the question which the hon. Member has asked, it says:

“(e) whether the shortage of manpower including postmen is one of the reasons for the poor delivery and distribution of mail; and

(f) if so, the corrective action taken by the Government in this regard?”

In reply to this particular question, the hon. Minister has stated “No” which means there is no problem of shortage of manpower. At the same time, he has admitted, and I would like to quote one sentence of the Minister, “No, Madam. Shortage of manpower in normal course due to death, retirement, resignation, etc., is sought to be made up by recruitment. The short-term gap between shortage and recruitment is sought to be

made up by distribution and combination of duties.” This is the crux of the matter. On the one side, they have said that there was no shortage of manpower. On the other hand, they have stated that they have redistributed the work amongst the available staff. The hon. Minister has admitted this.

If there is no shortage of manpower, and in this particular regard, I want to know how many recruitments they have undertaken in between, how many left the job due to retirements, deaths or other reasons, and how many people have been recruited to fill up the gaps caused due to death, retirement, resignation, etc. If there is no definite answer or specific statistics readily available with him, Madam, will you please allow him to lay the details on this particular aspect on the Table of the House? That will be all right.

In this context, I am sorry to state that I have written a letter to the hon. Minister two years back referring to my own circle, but no reply has been received as yet. Two years back, I have written a letter, but I have not received any reply from you so far.

SHRI SACHIN PILOT: Madam Speaker, the hon. Member is a very senior Member. I would like to very respectfully submit to him and to the House that what we stated in the answer is a fact that delays are not happening because of shortage of manpower. Since the hon. Member wanted specific answers, I will just take one minute to elaborate. The total strength of the Department of Posts is 2,69,000 approximately. We have the Grameen Dak Sevaks; all inclusive, we have got 4.87 lakh sanctioned strength in the Department of Posts.

The hon. Member pointed out about the rationalization and shifting of post offices. It is an on-going process. As you are aware, the dwellings and the habitations keep shifting. Cities are getting larger and larger. Villages are getting larger. Earlier, where there were post offices, thirty or forty years ago, perhaps, the population has shifted to a nearby area and town. If we look at the population, there are very fixed parameters in normal areas, hilly areas and tribal areas depending on the population and the area. We accordingly rationalize the location of post offices and the number of people deployed.

The Grameen Dak Sevaks were not considered Government employees. So, the Sixth Pay Commission recommendations were not applicable to them. I am happy to inform the House that the Department set up

a Committee to make sure that we address the grievances of the Grameen Dak Sevaks, and that the report has been accepted. It is going to cost the Government hundreds of crores of rupees, but these thousands of employees, the GDS employees, who were up until now not been given a raise, between 15 to 30 per cent per month of increase of their wages has already taken place. We are now also giving these Grameen Dak Sevaks, for the first time, a cycle allowance.

Earlier these Gramin Dak Sevaks were using cycles and putting money from their own pockets. Today we give them cycle allowance, maintenance allowance, maternity grant for the GDSs. We are now in the process of recruiting 7,800 more people in the Department of Posts. It is an on-going process. For Group 'A' and Group 'B' it is the UPSC and the Staff Selection Boards that do the recruitment and for Groups 'C' and 'D', it is an on-going process and different State Circles are already in the process of recruiting people. And 7,800 posts have been sanctioned and we are in the process of recruiting such people.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Madam, I had asked a specific question. Why can the hon. Minister not lay it? Madam, you please direct the hon. Minister to lay the details of the recruitment that he has undertaken during these two years or three years. How many of them have retired, how many they have recruited?

MADAM SPEAKER: Would you write to him specifically?

SHRI SACHIN PILOT: I will be specific. We have already started the recruitment for the 7,800 sanctioned posts. I will give an exact update on the floor of the House.

SHRI S. SEMMALAI: Even today the postman in uniform is a welcome guest in the villages. In spite of the rapid technological advances, the mail delivery is still the most reliable form of communication. But in villages, the postmen are still treated as ED employees. Their long time demand is to regularize their services and to treat them on a par with the postal employees working in the urban areas. Even though their working time is fixed as three hours, really they are working for five hours. Will the Minister, taking into account the nature of services rendered and to fulfil their long-pending demand, come forward to regularize the services of ED employees?

SHRI SACHIN PILOT: This supplementary does not relate to the main question. But I would like to assure the hon. Member that the Government and the Department is very sympathetic towards the demands raised by the various employees. We are in constant touch with the unions. There are already steps being taken. But if he puts a separate notice, I will answer the question separately.

Crash of Aircraft in Air Show

*322. ⁺ SHRI UDAY SINGH:
SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a naval aircraft, participating in an air show, crashed recently in Hyderabad;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the amount of compensation paid by the Government to the next of kin of those killed/injured;
- (d) whether the preliminary cause of the crash has been ascertained;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (f) On the 3rd March, 2010, when the Indian Navy aircraft, Kiran IN-078, was participating in an air show over Begumpet airfield, it crashed onto a residential building, leading to demise of the two pilots who were flying the aircraft, damage of building and injuries to two civilians. A Board of Inquiry (BOI) has been constituted by the Indian Navy to investigate into the circumstances leading to the crash. The actual cause of the accident will be known after the BOI completes the investigation and reports. The compensation is to be paid as per norms, post completion of BOI enquiry. While the Navy follows prescribed procedure to avoid such incidents, further steps, if any, to prevent such accidents, can be considered after the report of BOI is seen and examined. In the interim, as a precaution, one time check of engine

and flying controls of the entire Kiran Fleet of the Indian Navy has been undertaken.

SHRI UDAY SINGH: Madam, in matters relating to the Defence of the country, we are willing to accept cryptic answers. We do not want extra transparency provided the answers given to us address the core issue. The question related is why such accidents take place. It is the conventional wisdom; it is generally believed that the number of air accidents in our country is far in excess of what is considered to be the global norm. Each accident is an unfortunate event. I am sure, they are unavoidable in all circumstances and there will be air accidents. But in India we have seen that we have had more than our fair share of air accidents. This particular aircraft the HJT 16 is not the first one that has had an accident. In fact, in the last four years, there have been a couple of accidents involving this particular type of aircraft and I am sure, the Ministry and the Minister would have learnt from the Board of Inquiries of those accidents as to why these accidents take place. By saying that the causes of this particular accident would be known only after the BOI has submitted its report, is actually giving us no answer.

Therefore, I would like to know from the Minister, why these aircraft are meeting with accidents at regular intervals and whether there is a design flaw with these aircrafts and, if so, what is it that the Government is planning to do, whether it is trying to phase out these aircrafts or upgrade them. We want some kind of answer from the Government.

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Madam Speaker, each crash that happens is a sad incident for the armed forces and every measure is taken to ensure that nothing goes wrong in future. However, in defence of this particular aircraft, I would like to mention that in its 29,500 hours of flying of the Kiran Aircraft, only three crashes have taken place so far including the one that happened in Hyderabad in March. That has been the record. This trainer aircraft is designed for training and also for aerobatic flying and it is manufactured by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. It is proved to be a reliable aircraft so far and it has stood us well. This specific aircraft which crashed in Hyderabad was inducted only in 1998. It had only 1720 hours of flying and it had a relatively safe record. However, this particular crash, we are looking into the factors. The normal factor, for which a crash happens, is either due to human error or a technical defect and every instance that has happened so far, a thorough study is done to analyse the causes of the failure.

Rectification is done and inducted into the training so that such incident do not recur.

SHRI UDAY SINGH: In my first question I mentioned that we are having a fair share of accidents. There is also a feeling and need for our aircraft to be phased out at regular intervals and newer aircraft inducted. We just heard some disconcerting reports that one of the types of aircraft that the Indian Air Force operates is going to be upgraded – the Avionics and Ornaments - at a phenomenal cost and the same report suggested that newer, better aircraft would probably be available to us for the cost that we are paying for the upgradation. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether it would not be more prudent that instead of upgrading older aircraft which have now lived their useful life and as to whether it would not be better if we go in for induction of newer aircraft available from other countries.

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: This particular question refers to the Naval Aviation and I would like to confine myself to that. To answer the question in general, every aircraft has a designed life and a periodic upgradation is necessary and we do try to induct the most modern aircraft into our flying, given the budget, and also an upgrade as necessary at periodic intervals.

SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Through you, Madam Speaker, I would like to apprise the hon. Minister that I have been following the accident record of Defence aircraft for the last few years and was very happy that there was a marked improvement. However, lately the safety record has been disappointing as there have been three fatal accidents in the month of February-March this year. Will the hon. Minister kindly apprise the House as to what is the outcome of enquiry of the other two aircrafts as well, the MiG-27, which crashed on 16th February, and MiG-21, which crashed on 19th February.

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Again I want to remind that the House that I would like to confine myself to Naval Aviation as this particular question refers to the crash which happened to the Naval aircraft S-13. Like I said earlier, every time a crash happens, we have a Board of Enquiry which looks into the causes for the accident and carries out rectification measures. I will not be able to, at this point, answer to the air accidents that happened in the Air Force, but I can assure the House that every time an incident happens, the causes for the incident is deeply looked into and corrective measures are taken.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Madam, aircraft whether it belongs to Naval or Air Force, that question is not material. Such type of accidents happen involving the Defence Forces. Particularly, I want to mention the name of an aircraft MiG-21. The basic idea throughout the nation is that whenever any operational attempts are made by the pilots to take the aircraft into the sky, that will fall down or may fall down at any place or anywhere causing the deaths of promising, young pilots of the country. It is not a very bright picture as far as MiG-21 aircraft is concerned in connection with the fleet of the Defence Forces. Whether the Government proposes to include this MiG-21 furthermore or want to make it a total rejection considering the effectiveness of this aircraft in particular, whose failure is very well established in the minds of the people of the country?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): Madam, Speaker, this question is regarding the aircraft accident in the Naval Force. Regarding this particular aircraft – Kiran series – this aircraft is used by Indian Navy or the Air Force for imparting basic training facilities.

Apart from that basic training, they are using for aerobatic exercises. This aircraft, as my colleague just now mentioned, was inducted into the Indian Navy in 1985. So, in the last 25 years, three accidents took place, in this type of aircrafts; in the last ten years, one accident took place – whether it is one or three, accidents are accidents. But considering the rate of accidents, in the last 25 years after the induction of this aircraft in 1985, three accidents took place and in the last ten years, there was only one. In the Navy also, during the last ten years, 20 accidents took place, which means, on an average, there were two accidents yearly. It is very serious. The Ministry is paying serious attention to all these accidents. After the court of inquiry and after finding the reasons for such accidents, we are taking corrective measures.

Regarding the induction of new aircrafts, there is a balanced approach taken by the armed forces. They want to induct modern equipments, and along with that, they want to continue to use the equipments that are already in services. Normally purchase of aircrafts is very costly things. So, by and large, we are purchasing the aircrafts, after spending thousands of crores of rupees. Normally, 30-40 years is the lifetime for the aircrafts. We cannot change the aircrafts, whenever we find something modern in the world. So, for some urgent purposes, for uses in the border areas and for other important purposes, they will always use modern aircrafts,

but at the same time, in the entire fleet of aircrafts, not only in India, but also all over the world, there are old aircrafts and also new aircrafts. So, this is the way it is managed by the Army or Navy or Air Force.

Coming to the MiG-21, I agree that it is a very old aircraft. Now it is in the final phase; we are in the process of phasing it out. When we are getting more and more new aircrafts, it will be done – there is a time limit. So, it is almost in the final phase. I agree with the hon. Member; we are also in the process of phasing out this particular type of aircraft, MiG-21.

[Translation]

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO: Madam Speaker, crashing of aircraft occurred at the international Air Show. It took place in front of the people from about 100 countries who were present at this Air Show. Why complete and proper care was not taken before such an important occasion? It has been told that it happened in Hyderabad due to choking of the fuel supply. But, what is the truth, nobody knows it so far. Crashing of an Indian aircraft in such an important Air Show has severely dented the reputation of the country. Due to this accident, the whole world thinks that the Indian Navy lacks talent. It is a very serious matter.

Madam, the second thing I want to ask is that no compensation has been paid so far to the people died in this accident and in future from the Begumpet Airport.

MADAM SPEAKER: You ask your question.

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO: Madam, this Air Show was organized at the old airport at Begumpet. Due to this accident, now people would fear even coming to Hyderabad. Our state Andhra Pradesh is also getting a bad name due to such accident. We should think over it very seriously and it should not recur. Finally, I would like to ask as to by when the compensation is likely to be paid?

[English]

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: It is unfortunate that this incident has happened. But this incident happened during an International Show – India Aviation Expo— like the hon. Member has mentioned, a lot of participants were there. The show was conducted by the Ministry of Civil Aviation in conjunction with FICCI. The necessary permission to fly the naval team was sought from the Ministry of Defence, which we did. It is very unfortunate that this incident has happened. But I can assure the

House; at the time of the crash, this aircraft was in a fully serviceable condition. Although this airfield in the Begumpet is not in use, it is being used for air-shows. Certainly, a lot of residences have come up around this airport.

Any time a new airport happens, at that time usually that area is empty but subsequently all these habitations happen. So, it is unfortunate that the incident has happened but once the Court of Inquiry is completed, suitable compensation will be paid by the particular Service, in this case the Navy. Meanwhile, two people who were injured were taken care of, were administered first-aid and discharged.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ: Madam, I would like to thank the hon. Minister who said the compensation will be paid to those injured in this accident. The soldiers of the Para Military Forces and our Army, who sacrifice their lives for the country, get compensation ranging from Rs. 7 lakh to Rs. 50 lakh. I would like to ask the hon. Minister if there is some policy to award uniform compensation to the people who sacrifice their lives for the country?

[*English*]

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Madam, although this is out of the scope of the question, there is a policy for compensation for servicemen who lose their lives in the line of their duty.

Welfare Schemes for old Age Persons

*323. PROF. RANJAN PRASAD YADAV:
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of old age persons in the country are living in poverty due to lack of regular source of income and savings;

(b) if so, the number of such old age persons in the country at present;

(c) the details of the welfare schemes implemented by the Government for the welfare of these old age persons; and

(d) the efforts being made by the Government to provide better standard of living for old age persons a sustainable basis?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) As per Census 2001, the total number of Senior Citizens (60+) in the the country was 7.7 crore. Several Programmes are being implemented to safegurad the interests of and to provide facilities to senior citizens which are as follows:

The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 was enacted in December 2007 under which maintenance of parents/senior citizens by children/relatives has been made obligatory and justiciable. The Act also provides *inter-alia*, for revocation of transfer of property by senior citizens in case of negligence by relatives, and penal provision for abandonment of senior citizens.

Under the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development, central assitance is given to States for giving pension to persons above 65 years, living below the poverty line, @ Rs. 200/- per month, which is meant to be supplemented by at least an equal contribution by the States so that each beneficiary gets at least Rs. 400/- per month as pension. Central assistance was given in 2009-10 for 1.63 crore beneficiaries under this Scheme.

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing the Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP) with a view to improve the quality of life to senior citizens by providing basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care and entertainment opportunities etc. Under the Scheme, financial assitance is provided to non-governmental organizations for running and maintenance of old age homes, day care centres, mobile medicare units, etc. for senior citizens.

As per recommendation of the Sixth Pay Commission, additional Pension to older persons is being provided as per details given below:

| Age Group of Persons | % of additional pension |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 80+ | 20 |
| 85+ | 30 |
| 90+ | 40 |
| 95+ | 50 |
| 100+ | 100 |

Ministry of Railway provides separate ticket counters for senior citizens (60+) at railway reservation centres, and 30% and 50% concession in rail fare for male and female senior citizens (60+), respectively.

[Translation]

PROF. RANJAN PRASAD YADAV: Madam Speaker, the Hon. Minister in reply to my question has stated that as per 2001 census the total population of senior citizens of the age of 60 years and above in the country was 7.7 crore which is estimated to reach 9.84 crore by 2011. The Government provides a number of facilities such as financial and food security, health care, shelter and other needs to senior citizens to ensure a better life for the senior citizens. Ministries such as Health and Family Welfare, Rural Development, Railways and other departments also provide such facilities to the senior citizens to ensure their contribution in developmental works, and provide security against abuse and exploitation. Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to ask if the Government proposes to provide facilities such as senior citizenship identity card so that one smart card would be sufficient to allow a senior citizen to avail all these facilities. If so, by when and if not the reasons therefor?

[English]

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Madam, I think there is no proposal at this point of time to provide for separate identity cards for the senior citizens. I think different proposals in this regard have already been under consideration. Therefore, to provide separate identity cards for senior citizens is not under consideration.

[Translation]

PROF. RANJAN PRASAD YADAV: Madam, the Government provides medical and healthcare facilities for welfare of senior citizens but it is regrettable that most of the health insurance companies do not provide insurance to people above 65 years of age whereas in Western countries these facilities are provided to people up to the age of 80 years. 10 percent of senior citizens in the country don't have anybody to look after them. Out of them more than 2.7 crore old people are ill and need immediate care. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister if the Government has prepared or proposes to prepare any strategy in this regard?

[English]

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Madam, I would like to inform this august House that the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority on 25th May, 2009 had informed all the general insurance companies that health insurance products filed should be allowed till the age of 65 years and if anybody is not being permitted then specific reasons have to be provided for why this is not being allowed. And beyond the circular which was issued in May, 2009, there is no further action under consideration.

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Aaron Rashid – not present.

[Translation]

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: The Minister has replied that old age pensioners who are above 80 years of age will get 20 percent additional pension after the implementation of the recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission and pension holders who are above 85 years of age will get 30 percent additional pension. I would like to ask the Minister whether the said recommendations have been implemented in Andaman and Nicobar Islands and if not, the time by which they are likely to be implemented there?

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: The said decision of the Government of India holds true for all of India and as such it includes Andaman and Nicobar Islands as well.

[English]

SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR: Madam, the House is well aware that the Government of Andhra Pradesh is perfectly implementing the welfare scheme for old age pension by giving Rs. 200 every month on the first day of the month itself, just like giving the salary, through the Self-Help Groups. My question is whether the Ministry has any proposal to assist them financially in the remaining period of the Five Year Plan and whether they are increasing the amount in this regard.

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Madam, in 2006-07, the National Old Age Pension Scheme was revised and it was renamed as Indra Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme. Earlier, the coverage was restricted but then it was decided that all those who are above 65 years of age will be covered under this Old Age Pension Scheme. In 2006-07, the coverage was 87,56,000 but last year, in 2009-10, the Ministry of Rural Development provided pension to 1.63 crore. In a matter of just a couple of years, the number of beneficiaries covered has doubled. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has been providing pension.

I would like to mention here that the Ministry of Rural Development extends Rs. 200 per person per month and it is expected that the State Government should make an equal contribution at least. There are certain States who are doing more than Rs. 200 per month but there are certain States who are doing less and that is a matter of concern.

[Translation]

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Madam Speaker, I would like to know from the Minister, through you, whether the age limit of 65 years is likely to be reduced to 60 years since a number of people die before the age of 60 in many states in the country?

Secondly, the Minister has stated in his reply that a number of facilities are provided to them in case of illness. I know from personal experience that no such facilities are provided in Uttar Pradesh. I would also like to know from him. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: How many questions will you ask. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Madam, this question is connected to the other questions, it is not a separate question. ...*(Interruptions)*

I would like to know if the Government would consider increasing the said amount from 200 rupees to 300 rupees?

[English]

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Madam, as far as the maintenance and welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act of 2007 is concerned, senior citizens have been defined as persons who are 60 years and above but as far as Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme is concerned, the Ministry of Rural Development have provided pension to persons above the age of 65 years. But there are several other schemes which are meant for people above the age of 60 years. I am not in a position to mention right away whether there is any such proposal to reduce the age for Pension Scheme from 65 years to 60 years.

Secondly, I would like to mention that as far as the age thing is concerned, the expectancy of life at birth in 1951 was 42 years. In 2010, it has almost reached 67 to 68 years. So, there has been an increase by almost 25 years. The matter of concern for all of us will have to be that there are certain projections that by 2050, the percentage of senior citizens in the population can

go up to 21. Today, it is almost about seven-and a-half per cent. Therefore, for the special needs of the senior citizens, we will have to have special programmes to address their issues.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: I have a very direct question. Nearly 10 per cent of our population today is beyond the age of 60 years. As Shri Rewati Raman Singh has said, life expectancy has gone up and this population will rise drastically in the near future. I have a pertinent question to put relating to the policy of the Government.

Mr. Minister, you recognize 60-Plus as the age to determine a person as a senior citizen but you provide pension after 65 years! You have answered a question earlier saying that you are not in a position to say whether this policy decision is going to be reviewed or not. Do you not believe that there is a discrepancy in determining a senior citizen and providing pension? A number of States are providing old-age pension to senior citizen who have crossed 60 years.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please put your question.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: My question is whether you are going to bring down the age from 65 years to 60 years or not. To add to this, widow pensions are also being provided with an age bar. A widow who has crossed 40 years is only eligible to get widow pension. A widow is a widow. It caters to the BPL category also. My question here is this. Do you consider there is a need to review the age bar relating to old-age and also to widow pension?

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Madam Speaker, I appreciate the concern expressed by the hon. Member. I would like to inform through you, this august House that we will have to understand that in the year 1997, the beneficiaries covered under the Old-Age Pension Scheme was 27,60,000 at Rs. 75 per month per older person. Today, in 2010, we have risen up to 1,63,00,000 providing Rs. 200 per person per month. So, one should understand that there has been a massive increase. What has been decided is that above 65 years, it has to be universal coverage – all those who are below the poverty line. There are different schemes for different concerns. But at this point, there is no such proposal under consideration to lower the age.

As far as widows above 40 years are concerned, I am afraid, I will not be in a position to respond.

MADAM SPEAKER: SHRI J.M. Aaron Rashid – Not Present

Q. No. 324 – Shri Narayan Singh Amlabe.

[*Translation*]

Upgradation of Roads

*324. SHRI NARAYAN SINGH AMLABE:
SHRI BALKRISHNA KHANDERAO SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan for upgradation of roads constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) after their guarantee period is over;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount of funds released by the Government for upgradation of such roads to each State including Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat during the last three years;

(d) the number and details of the proposals of the State Governments for upgradation of rural roads under PMGSY pending with the Union Government as on date, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) No, Madam. Under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), there is no provision for upgradation of rural roads once constructed under the programme. Maintenance of roads constructed under PMGSY, during the five-years post-construction period as well as beyond it, is to be carried out by the States/ Union Territories.

(c) No funds are released by the Ministry for upgradation of roads once constructed under PMGSY.

(d) and (e) Presently, under PMGSY, proposals for residual new connectivity coverage envisaged under Bharat Nirman; projects to be taken up with the assistance of World Bank and Asian Development Bank

and projects for special areas are being considered by the Ministry. Currently under these categories, no proposal for upgradation under PMGSY is pending for consideration in the Ministry.

SHRI NARAYAN SINGH AMLABE: Hon. Madam Speaker, I would like to ask the hon. Minister, through you, about the time by which the proposals for construction of new roads in villages in Madhya Pradesh including district Raigarh having a population of 500-900 and on linkages are to be sanctioned and the works to be completed.

SHRI PRADEEP JAIN: Madam, I would like to tell the hon. Minister, through you, that all the proposals for various districts submitted by the State Governments under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana are sanctioned as and when each phase is cleared. He has sought information about Raigarh district. H.E. the President had set a target in 2009 that roads are to be linked to main roads on the basis of four point. The areas under phase-I of Bharat Nirman have to be linked first. Secondly, the 33 naxalite affected districts are to be linked then the border districts and the fourth category of areas to be linked are the habitations of networking which are financed by the Asian Bank and the World Bank. We will undertake upgradation works only after the fulfillment of the said targets.

SHRI NARAYAN SINGH AMLABE: Hon. Madam Speaker, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, whether the State Governments would be instructed to upgrade these roads after five years and undertake their maintenance so that the general public do not face my inconvenience.

SHRI PRADEEP JAIN: Madam, I would like to inform the hon. Member through you, that is the most important scheme of the country under which were are connecting more than 6 lakh Gram Panchayat habitations with main roads and through routes. Since our country has a federal system, hence the State Government looks after the maintenance and repair of the roads built by us through contractors. Roads go through three stages of quality check and many roads remain in good condition even after 5 years. However, if they require upgradation after 5 years, the State Governments have been instructed to take care to carry out such upgradation.

SHRI BALKRISHNA KHANDERAO SHUKLA: Madam, the hon. Minister in his reply to my written question has informed

[*English*]

that there is no provision for upgradation of rural roads once constructed under the programme.

[*Translation*]

Though part proposals worth Rs. 394 crore were approved out of the proposals submitted by the Gujarat Government for phase-8 under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, at the same time, the department of Rural Department of the Government of India had informed that the remaining proposals would also be approved on receiving their DPR's. In this regard, I would like to tell that the DPR's of the projects were submitted by the Gujarat Government to the Department on 5th June, 2009 itself. Similarly, out of the proposals submitted for phase-9, proposals worth Rs. 130 crore have been approved. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the action taken on the pending proposals worth Rs. 987 crore for phase-8 and phase-9?

SHRI PRADEEP JAIN: Madam, through you, I would like to tell the hon. Member that PMGSY has two features—new connectivity and upgradation. We do not upgrade the roads with new connectivity. Upgradation is done on other roads.

Secondly, regarding what he has said about Gujarat Government, when a State Government completes its work, then its proposals for the next phase are received by the NRRDA through SRRDA. Including the specific proposals stated by the hon. Member, a total of 3082 approved proposals were received from the Gujarat Government of which 2467 proposals costing Rs. 1780 crore have been completed. Besides, the specific information asked by the hon. Member will be sent to him.

SHRI GORAKHNATH PANDEY: Madam Speaker, the hon. Minister has stated the proposals received from the state are granted approval and then returned to them. I would like to speak about Uttar Pradesh and particularly Purvanchal that there are many districts there where roads are to be constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. Their proposals are with the Central Government after being approved by the State Government but the funds for phase-8 and phase-9 have not been released by it so far due to which all the works are lying incomplete there. These roads should be constructed as they are very important. The rural areas in my constituency where there is no transportation

facility, can get facilities under the PMGSY. But, the Central Government has not released the funds for phase-8 and phase-9 against the proposals received for construction of these roads from the State Government. Through you, I would like to know from the Hon. Member the time by which the said funds are likely to be released so that the roads could be constructed in Purvanchal particularly in Bhadohi, Mirzapur, Jaunpur, Chandauli and Allahabad and many other rural areas? Many works are pending and stalled in Purvanchal due to non-release of funds by the Centre. Therefore, by which time funds would be made available for these works?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (DR. C.P. JOSHI): Madam Speaker, DPR's for 11,143 habitations of Uttar Pradesh have been cleared out of which 10,748 have been connected by the State Government. We have sanctioned all the DPR's which have been cleared by them. Out of the 4997 habitations having settlements of more than one thousand people, they have connected only 3935 habitations so far. We will consider it when they will connect the remaining settlements.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Madam, I had recently reviewed Saran district in my capacity as an MP. During our regime, 296 projects were sanctioned only for Saran district. When I enquired about the number of projects, which have been completed, it was told that only 10 projects have been completed and there also the work has not been finished completely. I have seen it on the spot. Besides, the quality of work is poor. In Diora, Patna, Bhagalpur and many other areas of Bihar same complaint is being received that Centre is not released the funds. During our regime, fund was released. The Government should give a detailed reply as to why it is not releasing the funds now due to which work is not being completed? I had personally met the hon. Minister and hon. Minister of State to and asked them to visit the areas and conduct a review. It is true that implementation of work is the responsibility of the State Government. But, where has the fund got struck, after all? And why is he fund not being released as the work is not going on?

SHRI PRADEEP JAIN: Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to tell the senior most hon. Member of the House that, as everyone knows, we provide connectivity to all the habitations in all the states of the country through core network. Though, the core networks of all the states were finalized, they could not be finalized for Bihar due to its own particular circumstance. The local problems of Bihar due to which. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: It is not true.
...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: All right. But let the hon. Minister finish his reply first.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Do not make so much noise. Let him finish his reply first. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions) ...**

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, please continue to the point in your reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: I have told the Minister to give a to the point reply. It looks like you have not heard it, therefore, take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions) ...**

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: I have just told him to be to the point. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Madam Speaker, Bihar is being meted out a step motherly treatment. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing is going into record.

*(Interruptions) ...**

MADAM SPEAKER: I have already asked the Minister to speak to the point.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now you should let him speak. Rama Devi Ji, you should also take your seat.

[English]

Nothing else will go into record.

*(Interruptions) ...**

[Translation]

DR. C.P. JOSHI: Madam Speaker, the Government of India never mete out a step motherly treatment to any State Government. Under PMGSY scheme ...*(Interruptions)*. Unfortunately, among the states where the PMGSY scheme should be implemented properly there is one state where it is not being implemented properly and that state is Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*

We have cleared projects worth Rs. 17000 crore in Bihar but so far the Bihar Government has not done so much work as it should have done. ...*(Interruptions)* We have sanctioned 16,628 habitation in Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)* We have cleared proposals worth Rs. 17000 crore ...*(Interruptions)* but the Bihar Government has only constructed 3000 habitations. ...*(Interruptions)* We have already provided them funds in advance for connecting 12000 habitations but they are not doing the required work. ...*(Interruptions)* This is the election time. The State Government is not working but it wants to blame the Central Government. We have provided the funds in full and the State Government will have to finish work. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: He is anti-Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: They should go to Bihar and conduct a review. If Bihar is not implementing, then review it. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. C.P. JOSHI: Madam Speaker, I agree with what Hon. Lalu Prasad ji has said, we will to there to review the situation and examine why the Government is not working.

MADAM SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

Development of Wasteland

*325. SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of wasteland in the country, State-wise;

(b) the programmes/schemes formulated and under implementation to reclaim such wasteland;

(c) the source of funding such programmes/schemes alongwith the investment already made in this regard upto the financial year 2009-10;

(d) the details of employment generated during the last three years and the current year by way of developing wasteland; and

(e) the steps to be taken to further improve/expedite the process of reclamation of such land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) The State-wise details of wastelands (waste & barren) is enclosed as Statement. The figures are based on Wastelands Atlas of India 2005 published by National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad.

(b) The Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development has been implementing three area development programme viz. Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drcught Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) since 1995 on watershed basis. The above three programmes have been merged into a single programme i.e. Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) w.e.f. 26.2.2009.

(c) These programmes are funed jointly by the State Governments and the Central Government. In respect of IWDP, DPAP, DDP and IWMP schemes, the central share is 92%, 75%, 75% and 90% respectively. The balance is the State share. The release of central share under

these programmes from 1995-96 till 2009-10 is as follows:

IWDP : Rs. 3934.29 crore

DPAP : Rs. 3690.70 crore

DDP : Rs. 2803.35 crore

IWMP : Rs. 562.83 crore

(d) As per the information received from the State Governments, employment generated during the period is 46.49 crore mandays.

(e) The steps taken to further improve/expedite the process of development of rainfed areas including wastelands include the provision of treatment of micro-watersheds on cluster basis, reduced number of installments, delegation of power of sanction of projects to the States, dedicated institutions, capacity building of stakeholders, monitoring & evaluation, specific budget provision for detailed project report preparation and livelihood component.

Statement

State-wise details of wastelands (Waste & barren) in India

| Sl.No. | State | Area of Total Wasteland (million ha) |
|--------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 4.53 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1.82 |
| 3. | Assam | 1.40 |
| 4. | Bihar | 0.54 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 0.76 |
| 6. | Goa | 0.05 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 2.04 |
| 8. | Haryana | 0.33 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 2.83 |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | 7.02 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 1.12 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 1.35 |
| 13. | Kerala | 0.18 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------|-----------------|-------|
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 5.71 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 4.93 |
| 16. | Manipur | 1.32 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 0.34 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 0.45 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 0.37 |
| 20. | Orissa | 1.90 |
| 21. | Punjab | 0.12 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 10.15 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 0.38 |
| 24. | Tripura | 0.13 |
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 1.73 |
| 26. | Uttaranchal | 1.61 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | 1.70 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 0.44 |
| 29. | Union Territory | 0.03 |
| Total | | 55.27 |

Source: Wastelands Atlas of India 2005 published in NRSA, Hyderabad.

SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAO: Madam Speaker, the schemes formulated by the Government to make the wasteland arable have been formulated by spending thousands of crores of rupees.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: We have moved on to the next Question, please.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAO: What is the quantum of wasteland converted into arable land? The Government had made an announcement to allot the said converted arable land to the landless people belonging to the SC and ST category. How many of them have been allotted the said land?

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing else will go into record.

(Interruptions)...*

[Translation]

SHRI PRADEEP JAIN: Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to tell the hon. Member that according to a survey the country has a total of 142 million hectares of land and 38.29 lakh hectares of land has been converted into arable land under the land development scheme.

SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAO: Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister the quantum of wasteland in hectares converted into arable land so far?

SHRI PRADEEP JAIN: Madam, as I have told earlier that 38.29 million hectares of land has been made arable under this scheme.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Allotment of Houses under IAY

*326. SHRI BHISMA SHANKAR ALIAS KUSHAL

TIWARI:

SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the break-up of houses allotted to women, weaker section and minorities in the country under the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government has appointed any representatives to monitor the works being done under this Yojana;

*Not recorded.

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the main findings of the report, if any, submitted by the aforesaid representatives including complaints made in this regard, if any;

(d) whether certain State Governments are facing various constraints in the implementation of this Yojana; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (DR. C.P. JOSHI):

(a) A Statement-I showing the State-wise, year-wise, number of houses allotted in the name of women of joint name with husband, to weaker sections (SCs/STs) and to minorities during the last three years is enclosed.

(b) and (c) IAY Scheme is monitored through the Monthly Progress Reports, Utilization Certificates, Audit Reports, Monthly and Quarterly Review Meetings and

through field visits by Area Officers. National Level Monitors (NLMs) are also appointed and deputed for independent inquire and monitoring of the scheme. During the period June-Sept. 2009, National Level Monitors were deputed for independent assessment of rural development programmes, who visited 2387 villages in 248 districts of 27 States. Major findings of these NLMs in respect of Indira Awaas Yojana are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) and (e) Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) is a very popular Scheme of the Central Government and is being implemented in all the States effectively, especially as IAY is a full subsidy scheme and houses are constructed by the beneficiaries themselves. However, in some States, there is shortage of skilled manpower, material and technical supervision. The States Governments have been advised to take necessary action to address these issues. Further, the unit assistance provided for an IAY house is not commensurate with the cost of construction. To augment funds in this regard, the Reserve Bank of India has included IAY houses in the Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme for lending up to Rs. 20,000/- per housing unit at interest rate of 4% per annum.

Statement I

State-wise and Year-wise number of houses allotted to Weaker Section (SC/ST), Minorities and in the name of Women and Joint Names with husbands under Indira Awaas Yojana during last three years i.e. 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10

(Unit in Nos.)

| Sl. No. | Name of the States/UTs | 2007-08 | | | 2008-09 | | | 2009-10 | | |
|---------|------------------------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|
| | | Weaker Section SC/ST | Minority | Women and Joint Name | Weaker Section SC/ST | Minority | Women and Joint Name | Weaker Section SC/ST | Minority | Women and Joint Name |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 145897 | 6347 | 175485 | 134434 | 34989 | 208154 | 255264 | 53872 | 371982 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 6422 | 0 | 3009 | 8945 | 0 | 6281 | 4069 | 0 | 2796 |
| 3. | Assam | 78701 | 26165 | 102337 | 114541 | 31556 | 151030 | 134084 | 40191 | 198145 |
| 4. | Bihar | 234506 | 42367 | 545724 | 395990 | 103949 | 628154 | 500800 | 157631 | 845567 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 18748 | 998 | 28548 | 21548 | 1334 | 32782 | 65898 | 2192 | 96285 |
| 6. | Goa | 107 | 86 | 427 | 183 | 67 | 858 | 462 | 112 | 1586 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 71082 | 1737 | 109008 | 86701 | 8406 | 133416 | 103237 | 11533 | 183320 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|-------|-----------------------------|---------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| 8. | Haryana | 8177 | 1658 | 15163 | 12789 | 2980 | 17793 | 15404 | 4137 | 22224 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 2400 | 90 | 2423 | 3905 | 514 | 6227 | 5164 | 314 | 9093 |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | 6985 | 266 | 10213 | 9405 | 96 | 8276 | 15827 | 245 | 10331 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 28509 | 4230 | 49414 | 52611 | 11141 | 67557 | 82672 | 16220 | 104584 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 21457 | 4323 | 39796 | 69944 | 13253 | 122685 | 124797 | 29413 | 233132 |
| 13. | Kerala | 21530 | 5756 | 34151 | 46428 | 12181 | 69413 | 30497 | 9755 | 53046 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 39141 | 852 | 48104 | 55259 | 6407 | 69967 | 60061 | 8485 | 85266 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 76295 | 10981 | 113177 | 94825 | 18991 | 133640 | 131790 | 24684 | 180696 |
| 16. | Manipur | 2303 | 0 | 2362 | 1666 | 267 | 2061 | 3495 | 154 | 3557 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 2271 | 0 | 2269 | 8540 | 208 | 7466 | 7478 | 65 | 6582 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 1918 | 0 | 1038 | 5031 | 188 | 4369 | 3065 | 0 | 3001 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 7491 | 0 | 7410 | 28799 | 0 | 27936 | 12145 | 0 | 11780 |
| 20. | Orissa | 86993 | 2860 | 189207 | 60254 | 3986 | 72579 | 131775 | 14799 | 118811 |
| 21. | Punjab | 14459 | 399 | 12942 | 13565 | 569 | 14904 | 18763 | 994 | 20774 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 25629 | 3109 | 42973 | 46286 | 8105 | 74659 | 55924 | 11337 | 90187 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 727 | 0 | 329 | 1254 | 216 | 2184 | 873 | 578 | 1586 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 60813 | 8432 | 94095 | 104596 | 24880 | 169641 | 100953 | 25901 | 169689 |
| 25. | Tripura | 8122 | 295 | 1222 | 13561 | 3796 | 14067 | 9627 | 2400 | 14016 |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | 156994 | 23932 | 212982 | 167401 | 43427 | 235588 | 264447 | 58400 | 344429 |
| 27. | Uttaranchal | 8450 | 905 | 11144 | 7130 | 1448 | 12060 | 7874 | 3711 | 18856 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 64430 | 10217 | 89613 | 222619 | 51808 | 326096 | 157093 | 77151 | 243604 |
| 29. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0 | 0 | 62 | 0 | 0 | 667 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 30. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 121 | 0 | 12 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 31. | Daman and Diu | 8 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 32. | Lakshadweep | 97 | 0 | 97 | 105 | 105 | 106 | 246 | 0 | 246 |
| 33. | Puducherry | 31 | 10 | 74 | 42 | 8 | 142 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | 1200814 | 156015 | 1944819 | 1788369 | 384875 | 2620758 | 2303784 | 554274 | 3445171 |

Note: There is overlapping in number of houses as women would also being to SC/ST and Minority categories.

Statement II*Major findings of NLM Report*

- Quality of houses found excellent in the case of 5.81% of the visited houses, rated good for 67.37%, average for 24.66% and poor for 2.16% houses.
- Out of 10173 IAY houses allotted during last five years in 2387 villages, 89% houses were found completed.
- Out of all the villages visited, payment was found to be made through Post Offices/Banks Accounts, in 95% of the total cases.
- 90.86% of the villages visited had prepared Permanent IAY Waitlist.
- 72.65% of the villages visited had displayed/painted Permanent IAY Waitlist on walls.

*[English]***Condition of Schools under NCLP**

*327. SHRI BIBHU PRASAD TARAI:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

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

(a) whether a number of schools running under the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) are in a very pitiable condition due to bureaucratic lethargy resulting in irregular disbursement of funds;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):
(a) No, Madam. Under the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme, grants are directly released to the District level Project societies headed by the District Magistrate/Collector/Dy. Commissioner. Grants are released by the Government to the Project Societies after the receipt of Quarterly Progress Reports, Audited Accounts and Utilisation Certificates. The Project Societies release funds for various components such as

nutrition, stipend, health care, honorarium to teaching and non teaching volunteers etc., according to the procedure laid down under the scheme. The trend of expenditure/release of funds to NCLP societies in the country during the last three years is as follows:

| Year | Budget allocation (Rs. in crores) | Expenditure/funds released (Rs. in crores) |
|---------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 2007-08 | Rs. 143.33 | Rs. 143.31 |

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

EPF Defaulters

*328. SHRI A. SAMPATH:
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

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

(a) the number of units, establishments and employers who defaulted in depositing the provident fund collected from the workers and employees during each of the last three years alongwith the total amount involved therein, separately, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has taken any action to recover the amount which was not remitted to the concerned authorities but remained with the defaulters;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount recovered from them during the said period, separately, State-wise and year-wise;

(d) whether the Government proposes to take stringent action against such defaulters; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):
(a) to (e) The details of defaulting establishments against whom arrears were due with amount involved and the amount recovered during the last three years including 2009-10 is given in the enclosed Statement-I. About 75-80% of total arrears outstanding as on 31.03.2009 are involved in litigations/court cases. The details of action taken to recover the arrears are given below:

1. Action under section 8F of the Act prohibiting 3rd parties including bankers against payment due to the defaulter and appropriating it against Provident Fund dues.
2. Recovery action by —
 - (a) Attachment and sale of movable and immovable properties of the defaulting establishments.
 - (b) Appointment of receiver to run the business of the defaulting establishment.
 - (c) Arrest and detention of defaulter.
3. Action under section 14 of EPF Act — Prosecution of the defaulters before the courts of law.
4. Action under section 14B—levying darnings as penalty—a different action.
5. Prosecution under section 406/409 IPC — for non payment of employees share deducted from the wages but not deposited.
6. Action under section 110 Cr PC — Complaints with the Executive Magistrate.
7. Action under section 7Q — levy of interest for belated remittances.

The details of number of cases where concrete action taken against defaulting establishments as per the provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 as detailed above are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement I

2006-07

| Region | 2006-07 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|---------------|----------|---------------|--------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------|---------------|--------|---------------|--------------------------------|---------------|----------|---------------|--------|----------|
| | Workload During the year | | | | | | Recovered During the year | | | | | | Pending at the end of the year | | | | | |
| | Unexmpted | | Exempted | | Total | | Unexmpted | | Exempted | | Total | | Unexmpted | | Exempted | | Total | |
| No. of estts. | Amount | No. of estts. | Amount | No. of estts. | Amount | No. of estts. | Amount | No. of estts. | Amount | No. of estts. | Amount | No. of estts. | Amount | No. of estts. | Amount | No. of estts. | Amount | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| Delhi | 1113 | 3837.94 | 19 | 5647.02 | 1132 | 9484.96 | 338 | 1465.09 | 7 | 1399.1 | 345 | 2864.19 | 775 | 2372.85 | 12 | 4247.92 | 787 | 6620.77 |
| Haryana | 3757 | 8383.27 | 5 | 2934.5 | 3762 | 11317.77 | 2055 | 4453.16 | 0 | 610.14 | 2055 | 5063.3 | 1702 | 3930.11 | 5 | 2324.36 | 1707 | 6254.47 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 968 | 925.48 | 0 | 0 | 968 | 925.48 | 850 | 666.05 | 0 | 0 | 850 | 666.05 | 118 | 259.43 | 0 | 0 | 118 | 259.43 |
| Punjab | 9970 | 14014.77 | 1 | 76.16 | 9971 | 14090.93 | 4557 | 6654.17 | 0 | 0 | 4557 | 6654.17 | 5413 | 7360.6 | 1 | 76.16 | 5414 | 7436.76 |
| Uttarakhand | 352 | 949.37 | 2 | 2675.07 | 354 | 3624.44 | 40 | 199.93 | 1 | 17.16 | 41 | 217.09 | 312 | 749.44 | 1 | 2657.91 | 313 | 3407.35 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 5152 | 13488.56 | 58 | 7144.51 | 5210 | 20633.07 | 1878 | 2755.48 | 37 | 1494.51 | 1915 | 4249.99 | 3274 | 10733.08 | 21 | 5650 | 3295 | 16383.08 |
| North Zone | 21312 | 41599.39 | 85 | 18477.26 | 21397 | 60076.65 | 9718 | 16193.88 | 45 | 3520.91 | 9763 | 19714.79 | 11594 | 25405.51 | 40 | 14956.35 | 11634 | 40361.86 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 18585 | 17625.48 | 31 | 3046.08 | 18616 | 20615.6 | 7029 | 5695.57 | 17 | 1679.41 | 7046 | 7374.98 | 11556 | 11929.91 | 14 | 1366.67 | 11570 | 13296.58 |
| Karnataka | 9490 | 17831.65 | 16 | 10488.62 | 9506 | 28320.27 | 7347 | 7687.36 | 8 | 4037.1 | 7355 | 11724.46 | 2143 | 10144.29 | 8 | 6451.52 | 2151 | 16595.81 |
| Kerala | 9046 | 17437.83 | 35 | 1540.8 | 9081 | 18978.63 | 5444 | 5498.94 | 15 | 678.89 | 5459 | 6177.83 | 3602 | 11938.89 | 20 | 861.91 | 3622 | 12800.8 |
| Tamil Nadu | 34076 | 31063.33 | 39 | 1065.57 | 34115 | 32128.9 | 16310 | 9706.22 | 9 | 38.73 | 16319 | 9744.95 | 17766 | 21357.11 | 30 | 1026.84 | 17796 | 22383.95 |
| South Zone | 71197 | 83958.29 | 121 | 16141.07 | 71318 | 100099.36 | 36130 | 28588.09 | 49 | 6434.13 | 36179 | 35022.22 | 35067 | 55370.2 | 72 | 9706.94 | 35139 | 65077.14 |
| Bihar | 1918 | 6521.88 | 13 | 775.9 | 1931 | 7297.78 | 512 | 1161.67 | 0 | 273.98 | 512 | 1435.65 | 1406 | 5360.21 | 13 | 501.92 | 1419 | 5862.13 |
| Jharkhand | 2510 | 4097.88 | 16 | 11788.16 | 2526 | 15886.04 | 1345 | 1668.62 | 11 | 874.02 | 1356 | 2542.64 | 1165 | 2429.26 | 5 | 10914.14 | 1170 | 13343.4 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
|----------------|--------|-----------|-----|-----------|--------|-----------|-------|----------|-----|----------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|-----|----------|-------|-----------|
| N.E. Region* | 1708 | 5743.32 | 3 | 90.72 | 1711 | 5834.04 | 993 | 2508.86 | 2 | 59.06 | 995 | 2567.92 | 715 | 3234.46 | 1 | 31.66 | 716 | 3266.12 |
| Orissa | 3952 | 25528.29 | 11 | 1978.61 | 3963 | 27506.9 | 1108 | 5980.69 | 1 | 873.39 | 1109 | 6854.08 | 2844 | 19547.6 | 10 | 1105.22 | 2854 | 20652.82 |
| West Bengal | 6533 | 21489.19 | 470 | 34818.74 | 7003 | 56307.93 | 3702 | 8539.49 | 208 | 18527.38 | 3910 | 27066.87 | 2831 | 12949.7 | 262 | 16291.36 | 3093 | 29241.06 |
| East Zone | 16621 | 63380.56 | 513 | 49452.13 | 17134 | 112832.69 | 7660 | 19859.33 | 222 | 20607.83 | 7882 | 40467.16 | 8961 | 43521.23 | 291 | 28844.37 | 9252 | 72365.53 |
| Chhattisgarh | 1814 | 6038.71 | 0 | 0 | 1814 | 6038.71 | 1087 | 1764.22 | 0 | 0 | 1087 | 1764.22 | 727 | 4274.49 | 0 | 0 | 727 | 4274.49 |
| Goa | 1258 | 709.31 | 0 | 0 | 1258 | 709.31 | 1000 | 432.94 | 0 | 0 | 1000 | 432.94 | 258 | 276.37 | 0 | 0 | 258 | 276.37 |
| Gujarat | 8532 | 14811.95 | 14 | 14856.52 | 8546 | 29668.47 | 4162 | 8233.96 | 4 | 295.68 | 4166 | 8529.64 | 4370 | 6577.99 | 10 | 14560.84 | 4380 | 21138.83 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 5062 | 16558.59 | 16 | 5612.85 | 5078 | 22171.44 | 2170 | 2460.48 | 3 | 545.18 | 2173 | 3005.66 | 2892 | 14098.11 | 13 | 5067.67 | 2905 | 19165.78 |
| Maharashtra | 10083 | 41883.35 | 49 | 3663.02 | 10132 | 45546.37 | 3914 | 11674.46 | 12 | 294.78 | 3926 | 11969.24 | 6169 | 30208.89 | 37 | 3368.24 | 6206 | 33577.13 |
| Rajasthan | 3447 | 4858.55 | 43 | 2379.78 | 3490 | 7238.33 | 931 | 825.14 | 28 | 1903.19 | 959 | 2728.33 | 2516 | 4033.41 | 15 | 476.59 | 2531 | 4510 |
| West Bengal | 30196 | 84860.46 | 122 | 26512.17 | 30318 | 111372.63 | 13264 | 25391.2 | 47 | 3038.83 | 13311 | 28430.03 | 16932 | 59469.26 | 75 | 23473.34 | 17007 | 82942.6 |
| Grand Total | 139326 | 273798.70 | 841 | 110582.63 | 140167 | 384381.33 | 66772 | 90032.5 | 363 | 33601.70 | 67135 | 123634.20 | 72554 | 183766.20 | 478 | 76980.93 | 73032 | 260747.13 |

(*Includes the political states of North-East)

Total Recovery Position for the the year 2007-08 (Rs. in Lakhs)

| Region | Total Workload | | | Realised during the Year | | | | | | Closing Balance as on 31.03.2009 | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------|----------|--------------------------|-------|------------|-------|----------|-------|----------------------------------|-------|------------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|
| | Unexempted | | Exempted | Total | | Unexempted | | Exempted | | Total | | Unexempted | | Exempted | | Total | | |
| | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| Delhi | 1152 | 4741.12 | 26 | 4301.90 | 1178 | 9043.02 | 381 | 1835.04 | 6 | 441.12 | 387 | 2276.16 | 771 | 2906.08 | 20 | 3860.78 | 791 | 6766.86 |
| Haryana | 4238 | 6033.39 | 7 | 2576.62 | 4245 | 8610.01 | 2355 | 1577.75 | 3 | 880.13 | 2358 | 2457.88 | 1883 | 4455.64 | 4 | 1696.49 | 1887 | 6152.13 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 628 | 1033.81 | 73 | 122.29 | 701 | 1156.10 | 573 | 246.68 | 73 | 122.29 | 646 | 368.97 | 55 | 787.13 | 0 | 0.00 | 55 | 787.13 |
| Punjab | 9368 | 8962.47 | 3 | 80.31 | 9371 | 9042.78 | 3061 | 1849.61 | 2 | 4.15 | 3063 | 1853.76 | 6307 | 7112.86 | 1 | 76.16 | 6308 | 7189.02 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 4769 | 11088.13 | 50 | 10270.42 | 4819 | 21358.55 | 855 | 1817.04 | 8 | 2858.05 | 863 | 4675.09 | 3914 | 9271.09 | 42 | 7412.37 | 3956 | 16683.46 |
| Uttarakhand | 437 | 820.23 | 2 | 1189.03 | 439 | 2009.26 | 51 | 186.80 | 0 | 0.00 | 51 | 186.80 | 386 | 633.43 | 2 | 1189.03 | 388 | 1822.46 |
| North Zone | 20592 | 32679.15 | 161 | 18540.57 | 20753 | 51219.72 | 7276 | 7512.92 | 92 | 4305.74 | 7368 | 11818.66 | 13316 | 25166.23 | 69 | 14234.83 | 13385 | 39401.06 |
| Bihar | 1657 | 5591.38 | 28 | 1477.65 | 1685 | 7069.03 | 258 | 332.67 | 4 | 261.52 | 262 | 594.19 | 1399 | 5258.71 | 24 | 1216.13 | 1423 | 6474.84 |
| West Bengal | 6315 | 17404.11 | 340 | 21176.51 | 6655 | 38580.62 | 3283 | 4451.86 | 142 | 3099.46 | 3425 | 7551.32 | 3032 | 12952.25 | 198 | 18077.05 | 3230 | 31029.30 |
| Jharkhand | 1404 | 2674.21 | 8 | 10437.30 | 1412 | 13111.51 | 629 | 611.36 | 2 | 93.80 | 631 | 705.16 | 775 | 2062.85 | 6 | 10343.50 | 781 | 12406.35 |
| Orissa | 3704 | 21673.06 | 10 | 1067.77 | 3714 | 22740.83 | 754 | 3089.89 | 1 | 33.29 | 755 | 3123.18 | 2950 | 18583.17 | 9 | 1034.48 | 2959 | 19617.65 |
| North Eastern Region* | 1373 | 3951.84 | 2 | 195.20 | 1375 | 4147.04 | 605 | 1288.49 | 1 | 175.23 | 606 | 1463.72 | 768 | 2663.85 | 1 | 19.97 | 769 | 2683.32 |
| East Zone | 14453 | 51294.60 | 388 | 34354.043 | 14841 | 8549.03 | 5529 | 9774.27 | 150 | 3663.30 | 5679 | 13437.57 | 8924 | 41520.33 | 238 | 30691.13 | 9162 | 72211.46 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
|----------------|--------|-----------|-----|-----------|--------|-----------|-------|----------|-----|----------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|-----|----------|-------|-----------|
| Karnataka | 12135 | 26635.95 | 22 | 10635.42 | 12157 | 37271.37 | 6494 | 15721.67 | 7 | 5983.21 | 6501 | 21704.88 | 5641 | 10914.28 | 15 | 4652.21 | 5656 | 15566.49 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 16951 | 16647.18 | 38 | 3535.74 | 16989 | 20182.92 | 4839 | 5116.16 | 22 | 2260.00 | 4861 | 7376.16 | 12112 | 11531.02 | 16 | 1275.74 | 12128 | 12806.76 |
| Kerala | 10748 | 20397.35 | 48 | 1405.84 | 10796 | 21803.19 | 7209 | 4858.52 | 9 | 484.40 | 7218 | 5342.92 | 3539 | 15538.83 | 39 | 921.44 | 3578 | 16460.27 |
| Tamil Nadu | 34215 | 33897.16 | 38 | 1930.82 | 34253 | 35827.98 | 16225 | 8226.66 | 8 | 48.15 | 16233 | 8274.81 | 17990 | 25670.50 | 30 | 1882.67 | 18020 | 27553.17 |
| South Zone | 74049 | 97577.64 | 146 | 17507.82 | 74195 | 115085.46 | 34767 | 33923.01 | 46 | 8775.76 | 34813 | 42698.77 | 39282 | 63654.63 | 100 | 8732.06 | 39382 | 72386.69 |
| Chhattisgarh | 1338 | 5224.58 | 1 | 27.31 | 1339 | 5251.89 | 601 | 2148.46 | 0 | 0.00 | 601 | 2148.46 | 737 | 3076.12 | 1 | 27.31 | 738 | 3103.43 |
| Goa | 987 | 926.57 | 0 | 0.00 | 987 | 926.57 | 730 | 597.43 | 0 | 0.00 | 730 | 597.43 | 257 | 329.14 | 0 | 0.00 | 257 | 329.14 |
| Gujarat | 12295 | 18048.44 | 17 | 17774.71 | 12312 | 35823.15 | 6860 | 10668.35 | 5 | 8845.17 | 6865 | 19513.52 | 5435 | 7380.09 | 12 | 8929.54 | 5447 | 16309.63 |
| Maharashtra | 9750 | 51805.33 | 32 | 4360.57 | 9782 | 56165.90 | 3585 | 7541.90 | 10 | 516.07 | 3595 | 8057.97 | 6165 | 44263.43 | 22 | 3844.50 | 6187 | 48107.93 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 6240 | 29799.74 | 18 | 6262.89 | 6258 | 36062.63 | 2611 | 7959.78 | 4 | 546.33 | 2615 | 8306.11 | 3629 | 21839.95 | 14 | 5716.56 | 3643 | 27556.52 |
| Rajasthan | 4138 | 5744.79 | 21 | 2610.39 | 4159 | 8355.18 | 874 | 1133.51 | 15 | 1968.95 | 889 | 3102.46 | 3264 | 4611.28 | 6 | 641.44 | 3270 | 5252.72 |
| West Bengal | 34748 | 111549.45 | 89 | 31035.87 | 34837 | 142585.32 | 15261 | 30049.43 | 34 | 11876.52 | 15295 | 41925.95 | 19487 | 81500.02 | 55 | 19159.35 | 19542 | 100659.37 |
| Total | 143842 | 293100.84 | 784 | 101438.69 | 144626 | 394539.53 | 62833 | 81259.63 | 322 | 28621.32 | 63155 | 109880.95 | 81009 | 211841.21 | 402 | 72817.37 | 81471 | 284658.58 |

(*includes the political states of North-East)

Total Recovery Position for the the year 2008-09 (Rs. in Lakhs)

| Region | Total Workload | | | | | | Realised during the Year | | | | | | Closing Balance as on 31.03.2009 | | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------|-------|----------|--------------------------|---------|----------|---------|-------|----------|----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------|----------|
| | Unexempted | | Exempted | | Total | | Unexempted | | Exempted | | Total | | Unexempted | | Exempted | | Total | |
| | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| Delhi | 1155 | 4248.64 | 23 | 4328.53 | 1178 | 8577.17 | 537 | 817.49 | 3 | 42.91 | 540 | 860.40 | 618 | 3431.15 | 20 | 4285.62 | 638 | 7716.77 |
| Haryana | 4225 | 9255.50 | 10 | 1958.17 | 4234 | 11213.67 | 2130 | 3544.58 | 0 | 1149.52 | 2130 | 4694.10 | 2095 | 5710.92 | 9 | 808.65 | 2104 | 6519.57 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 600 | 1049.32 | 4 | 133.31 | 604 | 1182.63 | 435 | 205.28 | 3 | 66.50 | 438 | 271.78 | 165 | 844.04 | 1 | 66.81 | 166 | 910.85 |
| Punjab | 10811 | 8983.75 | 1 | 76.16 | 10812 | 9059.91 | 4115 | 1816.88 | 0 | 0.00 | 4115 | 1816.88 | 6696 | 7166.87 | 1 | 76.16 | 6697 | 7243.03 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 5362 | 15147.98 | 56 | 7268.51 | 5418 | 22416.49 | 1370 | 1800.42 | 12 | 1054.54 | 1382 | 2854.96 | 3992 | 13347.56 | 44 | 6213.97 | 4036 | 19561.53 |
| Uttarakhand | 401 | 780.35 | 5 | 1298.71 | 404 | 2079.06 | 52 | 81.64 | 1 | 1.23 | 53 | 82.87 | 349 | 698.71 | 2 | 1297.48 | 351 | 1996.19 |
| North Zone | 22554 | 39465.54 | 99 | 15063.39 | 22650 | 54528.93 | 8639 | 8266.29 | 19 | 2314.70 | 8658 | 10580.99 | 13915 | 31199.25 | 77 | 12748.69 | 13992 | 43947.94 |
| Bihar | 1866 | 5952.96 | 28 | 1229.57 | 1894 | 7182.53 | 160 | 438.36 | 2 | 347.88 | 162 | 786.24 | 1706 | 5514.60 | 26 | 881.69 | 1732 | 6396.29 |
| West Bengal | 4980 | 15602.54 | 260 | 21011.83 | 5195 | 36614.37 | 2477 | 3808.41 | 85 | 2538.68 | 2562 | 6347.09 | 2503 | 11794.13 | 130 | 18473.15 | 2633 | 30267.28 |
| Jharkhand | 1116 | 3621.75 | 21 | 10710.81 | 1135 | 14332.56 | 601 | 1176.65 | 13 | 112.98 | 614 | 1289.63 | 515 | 2445.10 | 6 | 10597.83 | 521 | 13042.93 |
| Orissa | 3849 | 21709.86 | 9 | 1149.97 | 3858 | 22859.83 | 1094 | 3344.82 | 3 | 110.17 | 1097 | 3454.99 | 2755 | 18365.04 | 6 | 1039.80 | 2761 | 19404.84 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
|-----------------------|--------|-----------|-----|----------|--------|-----------|-------|----------|-----|----------|-------|----------|-------|-----------|-----|----------|-------|-----------|
| North Eastern Region* | 1261 | 3547.29 | 1 | 19.97 | 1262 | 3567.26 | 483 | 1016.41 | 1 | 19.97 | 484 | 1036.38 | 778 | 2530.88 | 0 | 0.00 | 778 | 2530.88 |
| East Zone | 13072 | 50434.40 | 319 | 34122.15 | 13344 | 84556.55 | 4815 | 9784.65 | 104 | 3129.68 | 4919 | 12914.33 | 8257 | 40649.75 | 168 | 30992.47 | 8425 | 71642.22 |
| Karnataka | 10316 | 21749.43 | 33 | 8403.31 | 10333 | 30152.74 | 5168 | 10487.91 | 10 | 1381.27 | 5178 | 11869.18 | 5148 | 11261.52 | 7 | 7022.04 | 5155 | 18283.56 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 16796 | 16972.79 | 34 | 2632.33 | 16830 | 19605.12 | 5501 | 4852.07 | 12 | 1232.44 | 5513 | 6084.51 | 11295 | 12120.72 | 22 | 1399.89 | 11317 | 13520.61 |
| Kerala | 9967 | 20923.66 | 52 | 978.52 | 10019 | 21902.18 | 6177 | 6193.46 | 8 | 126.72 | 6185 | 6320.18 | 3790 | 14730.20 | 44 | 851.80 | 3834 | 15582.00 |
| Tamil Nadu | 36607 | 36006.03 | 45 | 2001.24 | 36652 | 38007.27 | 19039 | 10516.24 | 13 | 131.95 | 19052 | 10648.19 | 17568 | 25489.79 | 32 | 1869.29 | 17600 | 27359.08 |
| South Zone | 73686 | 95651.91 | 164 | 14015.40 | 73834 | 109667.31 | 35885 | 32049.68 | 43 | 2872.38 | 35928 | 34922.06 | 37801 | 63602.23 | 105 | 11143.02 | 37906 | 74745.25 |
| Chhattisgarh | 1497 | 4992.17 | 1 | 27.31 | 1498 | 5019.48 | 850 | 2052.24 | 0 | 0.00 | 850 | 2052.24 | 647 | 2939.93 | 1 | 27.31 | 648 | 2967.24 |
| Goa | 1510 | 923.63 | 0 | 0.00 | 1510 | 923.63 | 1223 | 579.98 | 0 | 0.00 | 1223 | 579.98 | 287 | 343.65 | 0 | 0.00 | 287 | 343.65 |
| Gujarat | 12732 | 17245.30 | 19 | 12265.50 | 12755 | 29510.80 | 8760 | 4877.80 | 5 | 28.66 | 8765 | 4906.46 | 3972 | 12367.50 | 18 | 12236.84 | 3990 | 24604.34 |
| Maharashtra | 9527 | 58726.74 | 59 | 5359.53 | 9570 | 64086.27 | 3748 | 11722.30 | 9 | 243.72 | 3757 | 11966.02 | 5779 | 47004.44 | 34 | 5115.81 | 5813 | 512120.25 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 7524 | 29009.34 | 18 | 5717.10 | 7542 | 34726.44 | 3542 | 10931.29 | 5 | 9.86 | 3547 | 10941.15 | 3982 | 18078.05 | 13 | 5707.24 | 3995 | 23785.29 |
| Rajasthan | 5643 | 5643.08 | 13 | 2465.53 | 5650 | 8108.61 | 774 | 1128.45 | 1 | 1824.02 | 775 | 2952.47 | 4869 | 4514.63 | 6 | 641.51 | 4875 | 5156.14 |
| West Zone | 38433 | 116540.26 | 110 | 25834.97 | 38525 | 142375.23 | 18897 | 31292.06 | 20 | 2106.26 | 18917 | 33398.32 | 19536 | 85248.20 | 72 | 23728.71 | 19608 | 108976.91 |
| Total | 147745 | 302092.11 | 692 | 89035.91 | 148353 | 391128.02 | 68236 | 81392.68 | 186 | 10423.02 | 68422 | 91815.70 | 79509 | 220699.43 | 422 | 78612.89 | 79931 | 299312.32 |

Total Recovery Position for the the year 2009-10 (Upto December 2009) (Rs. in Lakhs)

| Region | Total Workload | | | | | | Realised during the Year | | | | | | Closing Balance as on 31.03.2009 | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------|-------|----------|--------------------------|---------|----------|---------|-------|---------|----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------|----------|
| | Unexempted | | Exempted | | Total | | Unexempted | | Exempted | | Total | | Unexempted | | Exempted | | Total | |
| | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears | Estt. | Arrears |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| Uttarakhand | 1948 | 2245.40 | 27 | 3545.80 | 1975 | 5791.20 | 1189 | 470.79 | 12 | 6.60 | 1201 | 477.39 | 759 | 1774.61 | 15 | 3539.20 | 774 | 5313.81 |
| Delhi | 2322 | 5918.30 | 28 | 4307.07 | 2350 | 10225.37 | 893 | 541.62 | 3 | 16.21 | 896 | 557.83 | 1429 | 5376.68 | 25 | 4290.86 | 1454 | 9667.54 |
| Zonal office (DL &UK) | 4270 | 8163.70 | 55 | 7852.87 | 4325 | 16016.57 | 2082 | 1012.41 | 15 | 22.81 | 2097 | 1035.22 | 2188 | 7151.29 | 40 | 7830.06 | 2228 | 14981.35 |
| Punjab | 19011 | 9169.64 | 2 | 275.23 | 19013 | 9444.87 | 5034 | 1125.18 | 0 | 0.00 | 5034 | 1125.18 | 13977 | 8044.46 | 2 | 275.23 | 13979 | 8319.69 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 590 | 1014.51 | 1 | 66.81 | 591 | 1081.32 | 383 | 201.59 | 1 | 66.81 | 384 | 268.40 | 207 | 812.92 | 0 | 0.00 | 207 | 812.92 |
| Zonal office (PN&HP) | 19601 | 10184.15 | 3 | 342.04 | 19604 | 10526.19 | 5417 | 1326.77 | 1 | 66.81 | 5418 | 1393.58 | 14184 | 8857.38 | 2 | 275.23 | 14186 | 9132.61 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 7131 | 17497.49 | 65 | 13304.58 | 7196 | 30802.07 | 1893 | 1722.93 | 13 | 3641.85 | 1906 | 5364.78 | 5238 | 15774.56 | 52 | 9662.73 | 5290 | 25437.29 |
| Bihar | 2026 | 6463.79 | 34 | 691.81 | 2060 | 7155.60 | 366 | 809.85 | 1 | 9.51 | 367 | 819.36 | 1660 | 5653.94 | 33 | 682.30 | 1693 | 6336.24 |
| Zonal office (UP&BR) | 9157 | 23961.28 | 99 | 13996.39 | 9256 | 37957.67 | 2259 | 2532.78 | 14 | 3651.36 | 2273 | 6184.14 | 6898 | 21428.50 | 85 | 10345.03 | 6983 | 31773.53 |
| Haryana | 5612 | 7176.85 | 9 | 776.69 | 5621 | 7953.54 | 1662 | 854.95 | 1 | 131.72 | 1663 | 986.67 | 3950 | 6321.90 | 8 | 644.97 | 3958 | 6966.87 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
|---------------------------|--------|-----------|-----|----------|--------|-----------|-------|----------|-----|----------|-------|----------|--------|-----------|-----|----------|--------|-----------|
| Rajasthan | 4298 | 6573.65 | 18 | 2077.30 | 4316 | 8650.95 | 1259 | 1895.51 | 7 | 1319.27 | 1266 | 3214.78 | 3039 | 4678.14 | 11 | 758.03 | 3050 | 5436.17 |
| Zonal office (GH&RJ) | 9910 | 13750.50 | 27 | 2853.99 | 9937 | 16604.49 | 2921 | 2750.46 | 8 | 1450.99 | 2929 | 4201.45 | 6989 | 11000.04 | 19 | 1403.00 | 7008 | 12403.04 |
| Gujarat | 7516 | 16573.78 | 19 | 12336.90 | 7535 | 28910.68 | 3071 | 4382.04 | 2 | 11808.90 | 3073 | 16190.94 | 4445 | 12191.74 | 17 | 528.00 | 4462 | 12719.74 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 7201 | 21378.00 | 16 | 5990.92 | 7217 | 27368.92 | 2749 | 1963.79 | 2 | 89.75 | 2751 | 2053.54 | 4452 | 19414.21 | 14 | 5901.17 | 4466 | 25315.38 |
| Zonal office (GJ&MP) | 14717 | 37951.78 | 35 | 18327.82 | 14752 | 56279.60 | 5820 | 6345.83 | 4 | 11898.65 | 5824 | 18244.48 | 8897 | 31605.95 | 31 | 6429.17 | 8928 | 38035.12 |
| Maharashtra | 11293 | 49146.46 | 68 | 6228.91 | 11361 | 55375.36 | 3475 | 4087.47 | 14 | 509.02 | 3489 | 4596.49 | 7818 | 45058.98 | 54 | 5719.90 | 7872 | 50778.88 |
| Chhattisgarh | 1330 | 3170.71 | 1 | 27.31 | 1331 | 3198.02 | 348 | 310.99 | 0 | 0.00 | 348 | 310.99 | 982 | 2859.72 | 1 | 27.31 | 983 | 2887.03 |
| Zonal office (MH&CG) | 12623 | 52317.16 | 69 | 6256.22 | 12692 | 58573.38 | 3823 | 4398.46 | 14 | 509.02 | 3837 | 4907.48 | 8800 | 47918.70 | 55 | 5747.21 | 8855 | 53665.91 |
| Karnataka | 10095 | 20640.52 | 39 | 8058.66 | 10134 | 28699.18 | 3310 | 8235.31 | 5 | 621.01 | 3315 | 8856.32 | 6785 | 12405.21 | 34 | 7437.65 | 6819 | 19842.86 |
| Goa | 1310 | 883.75 | 0 | 0.00 | 1310 | 883.75 | 978 | 319.48 | 0 | 0.00 | 978 | 319.48 | 332 | 564.27 | 0 | 0.00 | 332 | 564.27 |
| Zonal office (KN&Goa) | 11405 | 21524.27 | 39 | 8058.66 | 11444 | 29582.93 | 4288 | 8554.79 | 5 | 621.01 | 4293 | 9175.80 | 7117 | 12969.48 | 34 | 7437.65 | 7151 | 20407.13 |
| Orissa | 5631 | 19742.52 | 11 | 1039.80 | 5642 | 20782.32 | 597 | 889.13 | 0 | 135.66 | 597 | 1024.79 | 5034 | 18853.39 | 11 | 904.14 | 5045 | 19757.53 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 23955 | 20051.56 | 51 | 2046.89 | 24006 | 22098.45 | 5467 | 5430.17 | 20 | 776.67 | 5487 | 6206.83 | 18488 | 14621.39 | 31 | 1270.22 | 18519 | 15891.61 |
| Zonal office (AP&OR) | 29586 | 39794.08 | 62 | 3086.69 | 29648 | 42880.77 | 6064 | 6319.30 | 20 | 912.33 | 6084 | 7231.62 | 23522 | 33474.78 | 42 | 2174.36 | 23564 | 35649.14 |
| Tamil Nadu | 40256 | 36420.22 | 40 | 1945.72 | 40296 | 38365.94 | 14343 | 8637.01 | 5 | 39.25 | 14348 | 8676.26 | 25913 | 27783.21 | 35 | 1906.47 | 25948 | 29689.68 |
| Kerala | 12158 | 19296.75 | 55 | 855.05 | 12213 | 20151.80 | 4520 | 3196.84 | 15 | 63.03 | 4535 | 3259.87 | 7638 | 16099.91 | 40 | 792.02 | 7678 | 16891.93 |
| Zonal Office (TN & KR) | 52414 | 55716.97 | 95 | 2800.77 | 52509 | 58517.74 | 18863 | 11833.85 | 20 | 102.28 | 18883 | 11936.13 | 33551 | 43883.12 | 75 | 2698.49 | 33626 | 46581.61 |
| N.E. Region* | 2072 | 3019.49 | 0 | 0.00 | 2072 | 3019.49 | 536 | 598.95 | 0 | 0.00 | 536 | 598.95 | 1536 | 2420.54 | 0 | 0.00 | 1536 | 2420.54 |
| West Bengal | 4008 | 17098.84 | 189 | 19385.14 | 4797 | 36483.98 | 1104 | 3493.85 | 20 | 2190.31 | 1124 | 5684.16 | 2904 | 13604.99 | 169 | 17194.83 | 3073 | 30799.82 |
| Jharkhand | 2503 | 3205.81 | 19 | 10639.02 | 2522 | 13844.83 | 1005 | 498.79 | 5 | 41.68 | 1010 | 540.47 | 1498 | 2707.02 | 14 | 10597.34 | 1512 | 13304.36 |
| Zonal office (WB, NER&JH) | 8583 | 23324.14 | 208 | 30024.16 | 8791 | 53348.30 | 2645 | 4591.59 | 25 | 2231.99 | 2670 | 6823.58 | 5938 | 18732.55 | 183 | 27792.17 | 6121 | 46524.72 |
| All India | 172266 | 286688.03 | 692 | 93599.61 | 172958 | 380287.64 | 54182 | 49666.24 | 126 | 21467.24 | 54308 | 71133.48 | 118084 | 237021.79 | 566 | 72132.37 | 118650 | 309154.16 |

(*includes the political states of North-East)

Statement II*Un-Exempted Sector*

| Mode of Action | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Bank accounts attached | 14856 | 15946 | 13570 |
| Movable property attached | 333 | 225 | 211 |
| Immovable property attached | 221 | 255 | 364 |
| Arrest of defaulters | 79 | 61 | 24 |
| Public Auctions made of Movable property | 3 | 9 | 15 |
| Total | 15522 | 16527 | 14204 |

Exempted Sector

| Mode of Action | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Bank accounts attached | 233 | 174 | 13 |
| Movable property attached | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Immovable property attached | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Arrest of defaulters | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 237 | 178 | 18 |

Cases filed before Police Authorities under section 406/409 of IPC in respect of un-exempted establishments during the year 2008-09.

| Opening Balance | Cases filed | Dropped by Police | Challans filed in Court | Closing Balance |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 6511 | 500 | 103 | 20 | 6888 |

Prosecution under section 14 of EPF&MP Act, 1952 in respect of un-exempted establishments during the year 2008-09 (EPF Scheme).

| Opening Balance | Decided | | | Closing Balance |
|-----------------|-----------|--------|-------|-----------------|
| | Convicted | Others | Total | |
| 25267 | 329 | 784 | 1113 | 24154 |

Dwelling units for Salt Workers

*329. SHRI C.R. PATIL:
SHRI P.C. GADDIGOUDAR:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has sanctioned a scheme "Namak Mazdoor Awas Yojana" (NMAY) during the Tenth Plan for construction of dwelling units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized by each State, year and State-wise; and

(d) the achievements of the scheme and also its present status?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M.

SCINDIA): (a) The Government of India (GOI) had sanctioned a scheme 'Namak Mazdoor Awas Yojana' (NMAY) during the 10th Five Year Plan for construction of dwelling units for salt workers.

(b) to (d) The scheme was sanctioned by the GOI during 2003-04 for construction of 5000 dwelling units in the 10th Five Year Plan with an outlay of Rs. 24.75 crore. Out of the above, contribution of GOI was Rs. 22.50 cr. The scheme was implemented in the states of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. The cost of each dwelling unit was Rs. 50,000 including Rs. 10,000 as cost of infrastructure facilities. 90% of the assistance was extended by the GOI and the balance 10% was borne by the beneficiaries/salt manufacturers/State Government/NGOs.

The details regarding the funds sanctioned by GOI to the States year-wise is given below.

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl.No. | Name of State | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | Total |
|--------|----------------|---------|----------|----------|-----------|---------|---------|----------|
| 1. | Gujarat | 119.35 | 174.625 | 400.7075 | 610.9375 | - | 49.960 | 1355.580 |
| 2. | Tamil Nadu | 43.75 | 12.500 | 74.1825 | 174.8025 | 13.320 | 11.295 | 329.850 |
| 3. | Andhra Pradesh | 86.90 | 14.525 | - | 118.8950 | 7.965 | - | 228.285 |
| 4. | Rajasthan | - | 56.700 | 25.1100 | 100.4400 | - | 18.990 | 201.240 |
| 5. | Orissa | - | 41.650 | - | 44.6150 | - | 16.065 | 102.330 |
| Total | | 250.00 | 300.0000 | 500.0000 | 1049.6900 | 21.285 | 96.310 | 2217.285 |

The utilization certificates in respect of the funds sanctioned by GOI have been received from the State Government except for an unspent amount of Rs. 43.361 lakhs as on 31.12.2009.

The present status of construction of houses under the scheme is given below:

| State | No. of houses allotted | No. of houses completed | No. of houses under construction | No. of houses dropped |
|----------------|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Gujarat | 3058 | 2973 | 85 | - |
| Tamil Nadu | 735 | 735 | - | - |
| Andhra Pradesh | 510 | 494 | 11 | 5 |
| Rajasthan | 450 | 449 | 1 | - |
| Orissa | 247 | 230 | 14 | 3 |
| Total | 5000 | 4881 | 111 | 8 |

[Translation]

Misuse of Export Incentive Schemes

*330. SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN:
SHRI IJYARAJ SINGH:

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

(a) the schemes being implemented to increase foreign trade and exports in the country;

(b) whether cases of misuse of such schemes have been reported;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of such cases of misuse brought to the notice of the Government during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken to check such misuse and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) Under Foreign Trade Policy (FTP), 2009-2014, the following export incentive schemes; namely, Served From India Scheme (SFIS), Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana (VKGUY) including Agri-Infrastructure Incentive Scheme, Focus Market Scheme (FMS), Focus Product Scheme (FPS) Market Linked Focus Product Scheme (MLFPS), Status Holder Incentive Scrip (SHIS) Scheme, are being implemented.

(b) and (c) As per CAG Audit Report of 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 and certain test checks by the field formations of Department of Revenue, cases of irregularities reported under the export incentive schemes primarily related to wrong interpretation of policy/

procedure and mistakes in calculation of entitlement, by the Regional Authorities of DGFT.

(d) Penal action under Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 is taken by way of suspension/cancellation of Importer-Exporter Code Number, and imposition of fiscal penalty for any misuse of the provisions of FTP, including the Incentive Schemes stated therein. These schemes are reviewed from time to time and amendments carried out, wherever required. Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) connectivity between the offices of DGFT and Customs is being progressively enhanced so as to cover all the incentive schemes, which would further reduce any misuse/wrong interpretation of policy provisions.

[English]

Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourers

*331. SHRI JAYARAM PANGI:
SHRI MAHESH JOSHI:

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

(a) the total number of bonded labourers at present in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of bonded labourers rehabilitated/freed during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the concrete and comprehensive steps taken by the Union Government for eradication and rehabilitation of bonded labourers;

(d) whether the Union Government has received proposals/schemes from States for rehabilitation of bonded labourers;

(e) if so, the details alongwith the follow-up action taken thereon, State-wise; and

(f) the financial assistance provided and utilized for rehabilitation of such labourers during each of the last three years, Statewise and Non-Governmental Organisation wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) According to the reports received from the State Governments, the total number of bonded labourers identified and released, as on 31.3.2010 is 2,88,462. As and when existence of bonded labour is detected, such persons are identified for rehabilitation. A statement showing the State-wise number of bonded labourers identified and released is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The Bonded Labour System has been abolished by law through out the country with effect from 25th October, 1975 under the Bonded Labour system (Abolition) Ordinance which was replaced by Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. The responsibility for implementing of the Act lies with the State Government.

In order to assist the State Governments in the task of rehabilitation of identified and released bonded labourers, a Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme is in operation since May, 1978. Under the Scheme, rehabilitation assistance is provided @ Rs. 20000/- per bonded labour which is equally shared by the Central and State Governments.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme a sum of Rs. 7015.46 lakhs has been provided as Central assistance for release and rehabilitation of 2,88,462 bonded labourers so far. Further, so far a sum of Rs. 676.00 lakhs has been provided to various State Governments for conducting district-wise survey of bonded labour, awareness generation and evaluatory studies under the above scheme.

Under the directions of the Prime Minister's Office, a Special Group has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of Secretary (Labour & Employment) to review and monitor the implementation of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. The Special Group is holding region wise meetings and till now 18 such meetings have been held.

(d) to (f) A statement showing financial assistance provided by the Central Government to the State Governments in respect of proposal received for rehabilitation of bonded labourers during the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement-III.

The Central Government is not providing any financial assistance to Non-Governmental Organizations.

Statement I

Number of bonded labourers identified, released and rehabilitated under the Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme up to 31.3.2010

| Name of the State | Number of Bonded Labourers | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| | Identified and Released | Rehabilitated |
| Andhra Pradesh | 37988 | 31534 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 3,526 | 2992 |
| Bihar | 14,615 | 13797 |
| Chhattisgarh | 124 | 124 |
| Gujarat | 64 | 64 |
| Haryana | 591 | 89 |
| Jharkhand | 196 | 196 |
| Karnataka | 63,437 | 57185 |
| Kerala | 823 | 710 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 13,317 | 12,392 |
| Maharashtra | 1,404 | 1,325 |
| Orissa | 50,029 | 46901 |
| Punjab | 69 | 69 |
| Rajasthan | 7488 | 6331 |
| Tamil Nadu | 65,573 | 65,573 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 28,946 | 28,946 |
| Uttarakhand | 5 | 5 |
| West Bengal | 267 | 267 |
| Total | 2,88,462* | 2,68,500 |

*19962 Bonded Labourers are not available for rehabilitation either they have died or left the place without leaving their addresses.

Statement II

A statement showing number of bonded labourers rehabilitated/freed during each of the last three years, State-wise:

| Year | Name of the State | No. of bonded labourers rehabilitated/freed |
|---------|-------------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 2007-08 | Bihar | 150 |
| | MP | 192 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---------|---------|-----|
| | Haryana | 09 |
| | UP | 277 |
| | WB | 88 |
| 2008-09 | Bihar | 409 |
| | UP | 80 |
| | WB | 54 |
| 2009-10 | Bihar | 264 |
| | UP | 100 |

Statement III

Statement showing financial assistance provided by the Central Government to the State Governments in respect of proposal received for rehabilitation of bonded labourers during the last three years:

| Year | Name of the State | No. of bonded labour rehabilitated | Financial assistance provided (Rs. In lakhs) |
|---------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 2007-08 | Bihar | 150 | 15.00 |
| | MP | 192 | 19.20 |
| | Haryana | 09 | 0.90 |
| | UP | 277 | 27.70 |
| 2008-09 | WB | 88 | 8.80 |
| | Bihar | 409 | 36.00 |
| | UP | 80 | 7.98 |
| 2009-10 | WB | 54 | 5.40 |
| | Bihar | 264 | 22.10 |
| | UP | 100 | 12.23 |

[Translation]

Employment to Physically Challenged Persons

*332. SHRI MAHABAL MISHRA:
SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme is being implemented with public private partnership providing employment to the physically challenged persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the targets set for providing employment under the said scheme alongwith the achievement made thereunder during the last three years; and

(d) the action being taken to make such schemes more effective?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) and (b) A Scheme of Incentive to the Private Sector for 'Employment of Physically Challenged Persons has been launched, w.e.f. 01.04.2008. Under this Scheme, the Government of India provides the employer's contribution towards Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees State Insurance (ESI) for 3 years, for employees with disabilities employed in the private sector on or after 01.04.2008, with a monthly salary upto Rs. 25,000.

(c) It is for private sector employers to avail of the incentive scheme. As on 31.12.2009, incentive was being claimed by employers in respect of 151 employees from Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) and 275 employees from the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC).

(d) The following efforts have been made to improve coverage under the Scheme:

- Publication of advertisements about the scheme in newspapers by the Ministry, EPFO and ESIC, as well as display of its details on their websites.
- Meetings with representatives of Employers, State Governments and NGOs at Delhi and certain other State Capitals to publicize the scheme.
- Recipients of National Awards in the category of "Best Employers of Persons with Disabilities" were individually requested to employ more persons with disabilities and publicize the Scheme.
- A High Level Monitoring Committee reviews progress of the Scheme from time to time.

Representatives of apex industry chambers and NGOs are also invited to these meetings from time to time.

[English]

Assistance under ADIP

*333. SHRI PURNMASI RAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives behind the assistance extended under the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP);

(b) the details of the steps taken to achieve the said objectives;

(c) the details of camps organized to generate awareness among the disabled persons to take advantage of the scheme;

(d) the details of the physical and financial achievements of the scheme during the last three years;

(e) the details of artificial limbs and appliances distributed to the disabled persons during the said period, State-wise; and

(f) the mechanism in place to monitor implementation of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) The main objective for the Scheme is to assist the needy disabled persons in procuring aids and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation by reducing the effects of disabilities and enhance their economic potential.

(b) Funds are released to the Implementing Agencies for holding camps in various districts for wider coverage of Persons with Disabilities. Funds are also released to the Artificial Limbs Manufacturing corporation (ALIMCO) for taking up ADIP activity, in conjunction with Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), for covering school children with disabilities. National Institutes under the Ministry and capable NGO (Non Governmental Organizations) are also released funds for providing services under ADIP Scheme at their Head Quarters/Centres.

(c) During 2008-09, 726 camps were organized by various Implementing Agencies (IAs) for distribution of Aids and appliances, including, inter-alia, for awareness generation. In 2009-10, Rs. 21.85 Crores have been released to the IAs for holding such camps in 340 districts of the country.

(d) The details of physical and financial achievement for the last three years is as under:

| Year | Funds released (Rs. in Crores) | No. of Beneficiaries (In lakhs) |
|---------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2007-08 | 49.08 | 2.24 |
| 2008-09 | 60.22 | 2.10 |
| 2009.10 | 67.35 | 2.00 (estimated) |

(e) State-wise details of artificial limbs and appliances distributed under the ADIP Scheme during the above period are being collected.

(f) Grants are released under the scheme after receipt of Inspection Report and Test Check Report of beneficiaries of the IA in the previous year. In addition the seven National Institutes under the Ministry are also expected to carry out inspections to monitor implementation of the Scheme in the States/UTs respectively allotted to them for the purpose.

[Translation]

Allocation of 2G Spectrum

*334. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI C. RAJENDRAN:

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

(a) whether substantial loss to the Government Exchequer has occurred due to allocation of 2G spectrum to some telecom companies allegedly at throw away prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted inquiry into the matter;

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

(e) the action taken/being taken by the Government against the guilty persons in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) No. Madam. 2G spectrum is only allotted to the Unified Access Services (UAS) licensees as per the service licensing conditions, subject to availability of spectrum. Further, no separate up front charges are levied for allotment of spectrum. Only annual spectrum usage charges on percentage of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) are being levied.

(c) to (e) On allegation of irregularities in the award of UAS Licenses, (CBI had registered a case on 21st October 2009 and conducted a search on 22.10.2009 in some offices of DOT and taken custody of certain files relating policy, issuance of UAS Licenses and spectrum.

[English]

Export of Marine Products

*335. SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN:
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

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

(a) whether the European Union (EU) is the largest market for export of marine products from India;

(b) if so, the details of export of such products during the last three years;

(c) whether the EU countries have introduced or recently proposed to introduce certain restrictions including tests such as antibiotic residues and micro organisms on export of marine products from India;

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

(e) the procedural and financial problems being faced regarding export of marine products to EU countries; and

(f) the measures being taken by the Government to implement its notification for registration of companies dealing with Aqua products alongwith other corrective steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. European Union (EU) accounts for 33.29% of total marine product exports

(in US\$) from India. During 2008-09 India exported 1,55,161 metric tons of marine products to EU valued at US \$ 635.34 million *i.e.* Rs. 2,854.07 crores

Details of marine products exports to EU during the last three years and during April-January 2009-10 (provisional) are given below:-

Export of marine products to European Union

| | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 Apr-Jan** |
|------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------------------|
| Quantity in M.T. | 1,49,773 | 1,49,381 | 1,55,161 | 1,43,377 |
| Value in Rs. | 2,760.32 | 2,664.24 | 2,854.07 | 2,664.58 |
| Value in US\$ | 610.95 | 663.17 | 635.34 | 561.31 |

** (Provisional)

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. EU has introduced EC Regulation no. 1005/2008 dated 29th September 2008, according to which every consignment of wild catch fish and fishery products exported to EU from any country, must be accompanied by a validated Catch Certificate. This requirement is aimed at ensuring that the marine products imported by EU countries are not from illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

(e) Indian exporters are experiencing two procedural issues in respect of marine products exports to EU. The first one is the insistence of EU on validated catch certificate as per its regulation on IUU fishing.

The second one relates to the procedure followed by EU members on "Rapid Alerts" issued by EC. Whenever a consignment is tested positive as per norms for presence of residues (antibiotic, microbial or chemical), European commission (EC) issues notifications called "Rapid Alerts" and keeps the concerned exporter on 'alert' status. The number of minimum consecutive checks to be conducted thereafter to withdraw the 'Alert' status is not uniform and differs from one member country to the other. Besides, even after the country where the problem originated has lifted the 'alert' status, other member state may still continue with the control measures without knowing the current status in other member states. Thus there is lack of harmonization of 'Rapid Alerts' procedure amongst the EU member countries.

(f) Government of India has issued notification on 28th Oct 2009 mandating the exporters to source the raw material for aqua culture products only from registered aqua farms. Export Inspection Council of India (EIC) is ensuring that the exported material is sourced only from registered aqua farms.

Registration of aqua culture farms is the subject matter of State Governments and Coastal Aquaculture Authority of India (CAAI). This issue has been taken up at the highest level with Chief Secretaries of the concerned states. Meetings have also been periodically held with the Fishery secretaries of the states for speedy completion of the process. The Centre is monitoring the registration process through MPEDA which is the statutory body promoting marine products exports. MPEDA is persuading more and more farmers to apply for registration with CAA and the State Government agencies.

Illegal Telecom Services

*336. CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH:
SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE:

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

(a) whether some telecom companies including foreign ones are illegally operating telecom services especially internet telephony in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of such companies;

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

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (e) Internet telephony Services are permitted under the scope of Unified Access Service (UAS) in terms of the UAS Guidelines dated 14th December 2005 without any restriction. Similar provisions are there in Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) and Basic Service Licence. Restricted Internet telephony Services [without connectivity to Public Switch Telephone Network (PSTN)/ Public Land Mobile Network (PLMN) in India] are

permitted under the scope of Internet Service Licence in terms of Internet Service guidelines dated 1st April 2002 and 24th August, 2007.

Illegal operation of telecom services including Internet Telephony service pertains to provision of telecom services without any Licence or permission. A list of reported cases of illegal telecom services in the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement. On receiving the complaint, actions are taken as per the provisions of Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933 which includes filing of First Information Report (FIR).

In an endeavor to curb illegal activities in telecom services, 34 Telecom Enforcement, Resource and Monitoring (TERM) units have been created in the country by the Government. Continuous efforts are made for curbing the illegal telecom operations through the TERM units. Also Information Technology Act, 2000 has been amended by the Information Technology (Amendment) Act, 2008 w.e.f. 27.10.2009 wherein enabling provisions have been made with reference to services being provided using computer resources including provisions for interception, monitoring and blocking for public access of any information through any computer resource.

Statement

Cases registered for illegal provision of telecom services by various entities and companies in last three years as per available records are as below:

| Sl.No. | Cases of the illegal Telecom Service | Year |
|--------|---|------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | G-Max Call center, 410, Blue Chip Complex, Sayaji Gunj, Vadodara. 2. Shiv Shakti Marketing, 701, Blue Chip Complex, Sayaji Gunj, Vadodara | 2007 |
| 2. | Shri Sachin J Shah G-22, Maradia Complex, C G Road, Ahmedabad. And M/s Yamunaji Investments, No. 17 I Floor, ISCON ARCADE, Ahmedabad | 2007 |
| 3. | V Selvamani, OK Communications, A/29, Karthikeyan Road, Periyar Nagar, Jawahar Nagar, Chennai-600082 | 2007 |
| 4. | Anand, Nexter, No-28E, TVS Colony, Anna Nagar Extension, Chennai-102 | 2007 |
| 5. | M/s Dhanus Technologies Ltd., A-3, Golden Brim Rose Appartments, 32/34, Saravana street, T Nagar, Chennai -17 & M/s Dhanus Technologies Ltd., 6-B, Meena Kampala Arcade, No.: 113/114 S Thyagaraya Road, T Nagar Chennai- 17. | 2007 |
| 6. | Amber Agrawal, Softec Service 319, 212 of R.G. Complex II Sector-14 Rohini | 2007 |
| 7. | Devender Singh, 30-1, Vill. Kirdoli, Distt. Sikar | 2007 |
| 8. | Shri Gunjan Modi, Shri Vishal Gandhi, Shri Yogesh, Shri Gopal, Shri Jetesh, Chembur Mumbai | 2007 |
| 9. | Ramesh, Sadeep Reddy and Md Arifuddem No 1-11-252/1,II Floor, Jabbar Eastate, Adj to Petrol Bunk, Near Airport Flyover, S P Road, Begumpet, Hyd | 2007 |
| 10. | Ramesh H.No.: 8-3-231/7/F, 1st floor, Sri Krishna Nagar, Yousufguda, Hyderabad | 2007 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|---|------|
| 11. | Nikhil H.No. 7-1-282/C/11, Flat No. 101, Line Beside Yallamma Temple, B.K. Guda, Hyderabad | 2007 |
| 12. | Harikrishna Ho.No: 8-3-191/147/30, Plot no: B-32, Near Madhura Nagar Nala, Madhura Nagar, Yousufguda, Hyderabad | 2007 |
| 13. | Harshavandhan Agarwal HNo. 3-4-308/9/1, Paravarsibagh, Bagh Lingampally, Kachiuguda, Hyderabad | 2007 |
| 14. | Rajesh kumar, A Raju 1-8-27/14/A, Aurora Degree College Lane, Chikkad pally, Hyd | 2007 |
| 15. | Rajesh kumar, A Raju 1-2-206, Opp Allahabad Bank, Main Road, Chikkad pally, Hdy | 2007 |
| 16. | Mohd. Arifuddin H.No: 4-122/2, Behind Vincity Hospital, Old Bowenpally, secunderabad-11 | 2007 |
| 17. | D Venkateswarlu and Arif H.No: 7-1-302/45A, B.K. Guda, S.R. Nagar, Hyderabad-500018 | 2007 |
| 18. | Anil Kumar Reddy 3-4-841/1, Plot no: 201, R.K. Apartments, Behind Kachiguda Junior College, Barkatpura, Hyderabad-500027 | 2007 |
| 19. | Mohd Junaid M/s. Pacific Online Infotronics, Flat No: 216, 2nd floor, Pushpanjali Complex, Koti, Hyderabad-500095 | 2007 |
| 20. | G. Sekhar at 18-7-722, Near Gandhi Statue, Gowlipura, Hyderabad-500055 | 2007 |
| 21. | P Narender Goud alias Rohit Flat No: 3, SANA Apartments, H.No:6-3-252/A/P, Near back gate of Taj Residency, Erramanzil, somajiguda, Hyderabad | 2007 |
| 22. | Mohan H.No: 9-1-34/24, First Floor, Babu Nagar, Langerhouse, Hyderabad | 2007 |
| 23. | Phani Kumar, C. Raju H. No: 1-1-421, Chandrakala Nilayam, Mohan Nagar, Kothapet, Hyderabad | 2007 |
| 24. | Suresh Kumar 1-52/1/360, Bhavani Nagar Colony, Chanda Nagar, Hyderabad | 2007 |
| 25. | Siva 64-9-8/1, Patamatalanka, Vijayawada | 2007 |
| 26. | Krishna Mohan Reddy Door No: 6/127-4, I Floor, M G Road, Railway Kodur, Cudappah District | 2007 |
| 27. | M/s Direct Information Services and Analysis, Bangalore | 2007 |
| 28. | K Narsimma Reddy, H.No. 1-38/1, Prabhat Nagar, Chaitanya Puri, Dilsukhnagar, Hyderabad-500060 | 2008 |
| 29. | M/s DSC VICON Venturs Pvt Ltd., Durg, Chhattisgarh | 2008 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|--|------|
| 30. | MCI (General telecom), M/s Mountain Cable vision Ltd., M/s New Global telecom | 2008 |
| 31. | Sh. Yogen Singh, Marvel Communications, Delhi | 2009 |
| 32. | V Ramesh and Associates, H.No: 6-3-713, Sapphire complex D2, 2nd floor, Block: A, LG-2-C2, Amrutha Hills, Nr Topaz Building, Panjagutta, Hyderabad | 2009 |
| 33. | Ramesh Associates, H.No: 10-5-2/2/8, Flat No: 513, Maheswari Complex, Road No: 1, beside Golconda Hotel, Masabtank, Hyderabad | 2009 |

FIRs have also been registered in all the above cases except Sr. No. 30

[Translation]

Working Days under MGNREGS

*337. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sizeable difference between the employment generated and actually provided under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the year 2009-10 and the steps taken to analyse and rectify this gap;

(c) whether the target of hundred days of employment as guaranteed under the Act is not being provided to every person seeking employment under the scheme;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the number of persons applied for jobs cards and actually provided with 132 hundred days wage employment under the scheme during the last two years, till date, State/UT-wise;

(f) the details of wages disbursed during the above period indicating payment made directly to the beneficiaries in cash and those paid through bank/post office accounts respectively, State/UT wise; and

(g) the nature of grievance feedback received from the beneficiaries and the redressal steps taken by the Government to mitigate the same?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (DR. C.P. JOSHI):
(a) and (b) Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is demand based. A registered job seeker is required to give a written application demanding employment under the Act. Under the provisions of the Act, the applicant is to be provided employment within a period of 15 days from the date from which employment has been demanded. As per reports received from the State Governments, upto March, 2010, (provisional figures) 5.07 crore households had demanded employment out of which 5.05 crore households had been provided employment under the Act.

(c) and (d) Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is demand based. The Act provides a legal guarantee for up to 100 days of wage employment on demand to every household in rural areas in a financial year for doing unskilled manual work. The workers are free to avail any other employment opportunities available to them. Thus, NREGA in an area depends upon the availability of other employment opportunities available in that area.

(e) and (f) A household is the basic unit under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA for issue of job cards and also for providing employment. State/UT-wise number of households issued job cards, completed 100 days of employment, total wages disbursed and wages disbursed through bank/post office accounts during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10 (provisional) are given in the enclosed statement.

(g) The grievances of the beneficiaries as indicated in the complaints received in the Ministry mainly relate

to non issuance/delay in issuance of job cards, non-issuance of dated receipts for application for employment, delay in wages payment, fake job cards and misuse of funds under the Act. To address the grievances of the beneficiaries, the Ministry has been the following steps:

- (i) Permissible administrative expenditure limit has been enhanced from 4% to 6% for deployment of dedicated staff for NREGA, strengthening of management and administrative support structures for social audit, grievance redressal and ICT infrastructure.
- (ii) ICT based MIS to make available to public scrutiny, inclusive of Job cards, Employment demanded and allocated, Days worked, Muster rolls, shelf of works, Funds available/spent and fund to various implementing agencies, Social Audit findings, registering grievances and generating alerts for corrective action.
- (iii) Payment of wages through accounts of Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers in banks/post offices has been made mandatory. To cover gaps in financial services and outreach and also to ensure greater transparency in wage disbursement, Rural ATM, hand held devices, smart cards, biometrics have been initiated.
- (iv) Instructions have been issued on 7.9.09 directing all States to appoint ombudsman at district level for grievance redressal in a time bound manner.
- (v) The progress of the implementation of the Act is regularly reviewed and monitored in Performance Review Committee meetings which are held on quarterly basis, State-specific reviews and visits by NLMs and Central Council members.
- (vi) Scheme of Independent monitoring by Eminent Citizens has been approved.

Statement

(Values in Lakhs)

| Sl.No. | States | Cumulative No. of HHS issued jobcards | | No. of HHS completed 100 days of Employment | | Total wages disbursed | | Wages disbursed through Bank/Post Office Accounts | |
|--------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| | | 2008-09 | 2009-10 upto March (Provisional) | 2008-09 | 2009-10 upto March (Provisional) | 2008-09 | 2009-10 upto March (Provisional) | 2008-09 | 2009-10 upto March (Provisional) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 113.48 | 117.67 | 4.83 | 10.08 | 225796.50 | 292816.00 | 224300.20 | 290375.77 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1.55 | 1.55 | 0.13 | 0.00 | 2055.82 | 741.57 | 0.00 | 175.76 |
| 3. | Assam | 29.71 | 35.92 | 1.77 | 1.30 | 57941.32 | 63465.02 | 16154.93 | 47373.50 |
| 4. | Bihar | 102.84 | 135.24 | 1.03 | 2.33 | 84379.94 | 105406.55 | 29242.79 | 105406.55 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 33.55 | 35.71 | 2.52 | 1.53 | 91005.61 | 83062.56 | 12918.18 | 81012.92 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 28.78 | 49.42 | 0.49 | 1.03 | 14437.33 | 50555.77 | 11239.32 | 50555.77 |
| 7. | Haryana | 3.78 | 4.75 | 0.10 | 0.09 | 8269.37 | 8907.03 | 6341.60 | 8907.03 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 8.50 | 9.70 | 0.50 | 0.29 | 20337.81 | 26714.46 | 17898.03 | 26589.92 |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 4.97 | 6.26 | 0.08 | 0.13 | 5321.82 | 8617.27 | 3498.73 | 4940.41 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|-------|-----------------------------|---------|---------|-------|-------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 10. | Jharkhand | 33.76 | 36.97 | 0.95 | 1.33 | 67843.60 | 82304.03 | 54778.36 | 81802.07 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 34.21 | 60.31 | 0.27 | 3.69 | 23295.85 | 151902.40 | 23288.94 | 129392.84 |
| 12. | Kerala | 18.98 | 24.13 | 0.14 | 0.21 | 18459.60 | 34314.15 | 18459.60 | 29056.05 |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 112.30 | 112.99 | 9.79 | 6.59 | 215621.79 | 240035.29 | 87631.82 | 240035.29 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 48.15 | 55.30 | 0.33 | 0.22 | 31377.01 | 25033.73 | 6698.18 | 18407.96 |
| 15. | Manipur | 3.86 | 4.22 | 1.37 | 0.00 | 22299.42 | 23144.36 | 8284.58 | 11716.75 |
| 16. | Meghalaya | 2.99 | 3.71 | 0.26 | 0.13 | 6052.84 | 11382.58 | 1906.00 | 4144.92 |
| 17. | Mizoram | 1.73 | 1.92 | 0.92 | 0.00 | 13712.28 | 15055.94 | 767.08 | 4974.99 |
| 18. | Nagaland | 2.97 | 3.22 | 0.34 | 0.34 | 16372.28 | 26156.55 | 14188.55 | 15934.22 |
| 19. | Orissa | 52.68 | 55.50 | 0.52 | 0.51 | 39810.35 | 45965.09 | 22931.91 | 39633.05 |
| 20. | Punjab | 5.25 | 7.09 | 0.04 | 0.07 | 4412.43 | 9390.80 | 2967.58 | 9244.43 |
| 21. | Rajasthan | 84.69 | 90.08 | 26.32 | 14.35 | 426531.88 | 375953.21 | 324130.49 | 328723.83 |
| 22. | Sikkim | 0.77 | 0.77 | 0.03 | 0.10 | 2414.68 | 4033.44 | 580.85 | 3389.17 |
| 23. | Tamil Nadu | 55.13 | 63.81 | 5.08 | 2.68 | 95899.82 | 150776.71 | 5.59 | 229.21 |
| 24. | Tripura | 6.01 | 6.05 | 0.57 | 0.95 | 30057.75 | 39172.25 | 5038.61 | 16507.38 |
| 25. | Uttar Pradesh | 106.52 | 116.95 | 6.48 | 7.89 | 225446.53 | 352011.44 | 159992.00 | 352011.44 |
| 26. | Uttaranchal | 8.18 | 8.93 | 0.13 | 0.17 | 8830.23 | 17542.23 | 8593.14 | 17542.23 |
| 27. | West Bengal | 95.56 | 102.78 | 0.23 | 0.45 | 61522.41 | 118125.39 | 21167.09 | 107364.25 |
| 28. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0.23 | 0.23 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 123.91 | 666.49 | 123.91 | 666.49 |
| 29. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 0.08 | 0.11 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.52 | 78.72 | 0.52 | 78.72 |
| 30. | Daman and Diu | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR |
| 31. | Goa | 0.10 | 0.31 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 97.10 | 170.07 | NR | 71.54 |
| 32. | Lakshadweep | 0.03 | 0.06 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 145.33 | 158.23 | NR | 0.00 |
| 33. | Puducherry | 0.16 | 0.60 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 130.00 | 671.08 | 130.00 | 288.70 |
| 34. | Chandigarh | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR | NR |
| Total | | 1001.46 | 1152.28 | 65.21 | 56.44 | 1820003.13 | 2364330.41 | 1083258.58 | 2026553.16 |

NR—Not Reported

Rehabilitation of Physically Challenged Persons

*338. SHRIMATI BHAVANA GAWALI PATIL:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has provided/proposes to provide free education, training and hostel facility to the physically challenged and mentally retarded including deaf and dumb children/ persons through various schemes run by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Centre wise, category-wise and State-wise alongwith the funds sanctioned, released and incurred by the Government for the purpose during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to map such children/persons and provide free higher education/training and shelters to the said people;

(d) whether the Government has chalked out any strategy to rehabilitate such physically challenged and mentally retarded children/persons; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) and (b) The following Schemes of the Government aim to provide free education, training and hostel facility to the physically challenged and mentally retarded including deaf and dumb children/persons:

- (i) Assistance is provided under the Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS), for rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities, to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for projects like Special Schools for disabled, Vocational Training Centres, Pre-School & Early Intervention Centres, Project for Cerebral Palsied Children etc. The details of the funds released State-wise by the Government under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme during Eleventh Five Year Plan given in the enclosed Statement-I

(ii) The scheme of Sarav Shiksha Abhiaya (SSA) aims to ensure that every child with special needs; irrespective of the kind, category and degree and disability, is provided elementary education. SSA provides upto Rs. 1200/- per child per year for the inclusive education of children with disabilities, in addition to other assistance which is meant for all children. 7.18 lakh elementary schools have been made barrier-free. State-wise details for number of Children With Special Needs (CWSN) identified and covered under SSA are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(iii) Erstwhile Scheme of Integrated Education for the Disabled Children (IEDC) aimed to provide educational opportunities to children with mild to moderate disability, in common schools and facilitate their retention in the school system. Assistance for all items specified in the scheme was on 100% basis and available upto the senior secondary stage. The components included educational aids, assistive equipment, salaries for special teachers and facilities for children with disability like hotel facility etc.

The Scheme of Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS) has been launched from the year 2009-10, in place of IEDC. Under IEDSS, assistance is provided for the inclusive education of children with disabilities in classes IX-XII. The components of the scheme include: (1) assessment of medical/educational needs, (2) provision of student specific facilities, (3) development of learning material, (4) support services like special educators, (5) construction and equipping of resource rooms, (6) training of general school teachers to build their capacity to fulfill the needs of children with special needs, and (7) making schools barrier free. Setting up of Model Inclusive Schools in every State is also envisaged. The details of the funds released State-wise by the Government under IEDC and IEDSS during Eleventh Five Year Plan given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(iv) 20 Vocational Rehabilitation Centers (VRCs) are being run by the Ministry of Labour and Employment to provide skill training to persons with disabilities. State-wise list of VRCs is enclosed as Statement-IV.

(c) Persons with disabilities are expected to avail the facilities for education, training etc. available in their vicinity.

(d) and (e) National Policy for Persons with Disabilities indicates the strategy of the Government for rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities which inter alia includes Prevention, Early Detection and Intervention, Human Resource Development, Education and employment of Persons with Disabilities, creation of barrier free environment and steps to provide adequate social security and equal opportunities for sports, recreation and cultural activities.

For the physical and economic empowerment/rehabilitation of children/persons with disabilities, the following steps have been taken in 2009-10:

- (1) Under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme, Rs. 61.56 crores has been released to 445 NGOs for a total of 546 projects in various states across the country. The State-wise details of the projects sanctioned are given in the enclosed Statement-V.
- (2) Under the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aid/Appliances

where the main objective is to assist the needy disabled persons in procuring durable, sophisticated, modern, standard aid and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation and enhance their economic potential, Rs. 21.85 crores has been released for camp activity. The State-wise details of the releases are given in the enclosed Statement-VI.

- (3) National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (HNFDC) Promotes economic empowerment and self-employment ventures of the persons with disabilities, extends loan facilities to persons with disabilities for upgradation of their entrepreneurial skills and for pursuing professional/technical education leading to vocational rehabilitation/self employment. During the year 2009-10, Rs. 3079.59 lakhs has been released to various States/Union Territories. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-VII.

The budgetary outlay for the disability sector has been increased from Rs. 260 crores last year to Rs. 450 crores for the year 2010-11.

Statement I

State-wise details of grant-in-aid released and the number of organisation supported in the last three years under DDRS

| Sl.No. | State | Amount released (Rupees in Lakhs) | | | No. of organisation supported | | |
|--------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------------------|---------|---------|
| | | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0* | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 1807.74 | 1317.78 | 1586.81 | 123 | 107 | 80 |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | 10.67 | 7.37 | 6.72 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 4. | Assam | 84.72 | 121.92 | 87.40 | 14 | 14 | 12 |
| 5. | Bihar | 112.62 | 87.75 | 45.48 | 18 | 13 | 7 |
| 6. | Chandigarh | 5.11 | 0.00 | 10.50 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 7. | Chhattisgarh | 39.23 | 76.69 | 31.52 | 8 | 9 | 6 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-----|------------------------|---------|--------|--------|----|----|----|
| 8. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 9. | Daman and Diu | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 10. | Delhi | 314.12 | 193.55 | 170.24 | 22 | 22 | 17 |
| 11. | Goa | 14.87 | 13.09 | 18.30 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 12. | Gujarat | 81.17 | 82.20 | 57.40 | 17 | 14 | 8 |
| 13. | Haryana | 186.31 | 127.92 | 78.36 | 21 | 15 | 9 |
| 14. | Himachal Pradesh | 11.49 | 40.83 | 17.99 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| 15. | Jammu and Kashmir | 7.91 | 27.93 | 7.19 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| 16. | Jharkhand | 16.68 | 10.06 | 12.01 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| 17. | Karnataka | 1135.92 | 814.66 | 857.24 | 83 | 60 | 44 |
| 18. | Kerala | 237.19 | 378.40 | 386.96 | 37 | 44 | 38 |
| 19. | Lakshadweep | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| 20. | Madhya Pradesh | 134.63 | 170.35 | 99.56 | 26 | 19 | 16 |
| 21. | Maharashtra | 188.41 | 254.23 | 150.51 | 23 | 18 | 14 |
| 22. | Manipur | 125.7 | 196.76 | 130.14 | 15 | 15 | 13 |
| 23. | Meghalaya | 85.16 | 76.65 | 25.64 | 7 | 4 | 4 |
| 24. | Mizoram | 12.5 | 19.60 | 6.58 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 25. | Nagaland | 1.43 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1 | 0 | |
| 26. | Orissa | 418.51 | 367.34 | 448.66 | 43 | 34 | 32 |
| 27. | Puducherry | 12.56 | 15.63 | 13.36 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 28. | Punjab | 105.67 | 94.00 | 35.38 | 12 | 11 | 4 |
| 29. | Rajasthan | 182.7 | 93.14 | 168.81 | 24 | 17 | 17 |
| 30. | Sikkim | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | |
| 31. | Tamil Nadu | 481.75 | 474.37 | 366.18 | 56 | 55 | 32 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-------|---------------|---------|---------|---------|-----|-----|-----|
| 32. | Tripura | 11.86 | 10.81 | 21.36 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 33. | Uttar Pradesh | 704.54 | 700.21 | 718.82 | 66 | 58 | 45 |
| 34. | Uttaranchal | 43.98 | 63.02 | 53.60 | 6 | 7 | 5 |
| 35. | West Bengal | 449.94 | 641.12 | 543.22 | 48 | 39 | 29 |
| Total | | 7025.09 | 6476.38 | 6155.94 | 687 | 592 | 445 |

Statement II

Number of Children with Special Needs (CWSN) Identified and Covered Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)

| Sl.No. | Name of the State | Total CWSN Identified | CWSN Enrolled in Schools | % Enrolled in schools | CWSN Enrolled in EGS/AIE Centers | CWSN provided Home Based Edu. | Total Coverage of CWSN | % CWSN covered against identified CWSN |
|--------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 181999 | 159266 | 87.51 | 2500 | 12840 | 174606 | 95.94 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 12189 | 9765 | 80.11 | 0 | 3 | 9768 | 80.14 |
| 3. | Assam | 97801 | 72084 | 73.70 | 5405 | 19197 | 92537 | 94.62 |
| 4. | Bihar | 313500 | 241995 | 77.19 | 9643 | 8244 | 259882 | 82.90 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 46153 | 45196 | 97.93 | 517 | 187 | 45900 | 99.45 |
| 6. | Goa | 2140 | 1393 | 65.09 | 0 | 4 | 1397 | 65.28 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 78900 | 64944 | 82.31 | 1250 | 422 | 66616 | 84.48 |
| 8. | Haryana | 25075 | 20431 | 81.48 | 0 | 0 | 20431 | 81.48 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 22040 | 19643 | 89.12 | 10 | 2387 | 22040 | 100.00 |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | 25906 | 20117 | 77.65 | 0 | 1 | 20118 | 77.66 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 47312 | 35695 | 75.45 | 105 | 213 | 36013 | 76.12 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 135301 | 121153 | 89.54 | 0 | 14148 | 135301 | 100.00 |
| 13. | Kerala | 157147 | 145476 | 92.57 | 2544 | 809 | 148829 | 94.71 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|-------|-----------------------------|---------|--------|--------|-------|--------|---------|--------|
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 111492 | 102567 | 91.99 | 697 | 2126 | 105390 | 94.53 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 414277 | 380723 | 91.90 | 2981 | 11412 | 395116 | 95.37 |
| 16. | Manipur | 7423 | 4357 | 58.70 | 47 | 147 | 4551 | 61.31 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 9224 | 7496 | 81.27 | 659 | 249 | 8404 | 91.11 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 6390 | 6303 | 98.64 | 0 | 87 | 6390 | 100.00 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 3672 | 2948 | 80.28 | 0 | 321 | 3269 | 89.03 |
| 20. | Orissa | 124741 | 115344 | 92.47 | 0 | 2535 | 117879 | 94.50 |
| 21. | Punjab | 114473 | 86696 | 75.73 | 378 | 4174 | 91248 | 79.71 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 248084 | 236912 | 95.50 | 2026 | 3824 | 242762 | 97.85 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 1045 | 770 | 73.68 | 0 | 0 | 770 | 73.68 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 118151 | 90976 | 77.00 | 459 | 26716 | 118151 | 100.00 |
| 25. | Tripura | 3832 | 3417 | 89.17 | 0 | 53 | 3470 | 90.55 |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | 391708 | 315194 | 80.47 | 3886 | 0 | 319080 | 81.46 |
| 27. | Uttaranchal | 21577 | 18483 | 85.66 | 58 | 1248 | 19789 | 91.71 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 219075 | 133662 | 61.01 | 7683 | 21733 | 163078 | 74.44 |
| 29. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 815 | 815 | 100.00 | 0 | 0 | 815 | 100.00 |
| 30. | Chandigarh | 3704 | 3532 | 95.36 | 81 | 1 | 3614 | 97.57 |
| 31. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 298 | 164 | 55.03 | 0 | 0 | 164 | 55.03 |
| 32. | Daman and Diu | 141 | 70 | 49.65 | 0 | 33 | 103 | 73.05 |
| 33. | Delhi | 8015 | 6504 | 81.15 | 0 | 0 | 6504 | 81.15 |
| 34. | Lakshadweep | 463 | 398 | 85.96 | 0 | 65 | 463 | 100.00 |
| 35. | Puducherry | 2926 | 2816 | 96.24 | 0 | 110 | 2926 | 100.00 |
| Total | | 2956989 | 247730 | 583.78 | 40929 | 133289 | 2647374 | 89.53 |

EGS—Education Guarantee Scheme.

AIE—Alternative and Innovative Education.

Statement III

State-wise expenditure under Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC) and Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS)

| Sl.No. | Name of the State | Expenditure during Xlth Plan (2007-09) under IEDC | | | | | | Exp. under IEDSS | | |
|--------|-------------------|--|-------|---------|---------|-----|---------|------------------|------|---------|
| | | 2007-08 | | | 2008-09 | | | 2009-10 | | |
| | | State | NGO | Total | State | NGO | Total | State | NGO | Total |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 100 | 34.85 | 134.85 | 403.17 | | 403.17 | | 7.06 | 7.06 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 17.19 | | 17.119 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| 3. | Assam | | 15.42 | 15.42 | 71.64 | | 71.64 | 104.43 | | 104.43 |
| 4. | Bihar | | | 0 | | | 0 | 360 | | 360 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 1439.67 | | 1439.67 | 1700.62 | | 1700.62 | 713.66 | | 713.66 |
| 7. | Goa | | | 0 | 0.54 | | 0.54 | | | 0 |
| 8. | Haryana | 627.49 | | 627.49 | 472.69 | | 472.69 | 218.24 | | 218.24 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | 6.5 | | 6.5 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 861.72 | | 861.72 | 188.67 | | 188.67 | 702.11 | | 702.11 |
| 13. | Kerala | 796.33 | | 796.33 | 1446.12 | | 1446.12 | 733.32 | | 733.32 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 816.33 | 5.64 | 821.97 | 710.94 | | 710.94 | 4.85 | | 4.85 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 613.85 | 19.82 | 633.67 | 169.25 | | 169.25 | 1083.44 | | 1083.44 |
| 16. | Manipur | 122.5 | | 122.5 | 144.43 | | 144.43 | | | 0 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 1.65 | | 1.65 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 41.76 | | 41.76 | 133.44 | | 133.44 | | | 0 |
| 19. | Nagaland | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| 20. | Orissa | 704.6 | 77.89 | 782.49 | 95 | | 95 | 488.67 | 3.17 | 491.84 |
| 21. | Punjab | 4.73 | | 4.73 | 9.72 | | 9.72 | 433.67 | | 433.67 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|-----|--------------------------------|---------|--------|---------|---------|---|---------|--------|-------|---------|
| 22. | Rajasthan | 193.25 | | 193.25 | 116.65 | | 116.65 | 43.41 | | 43.41 |
| 23. | Sikkim | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 340.42 | | 340.42 | 294.15 | | 294.15 | 400.48 | | 400.48 |
| 25. | Tripura | | | 0 | 4.53 | | 4.53 | | | 0 |
| 26. | Uttaranchal | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| 28. | West Bengal | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| 29. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | | | 0 | | | 0 | 2.85 | | 2.85 |
| 30. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| 31. | Lakshadweep | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| 32. | Daman and Diu | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| 33. | Chandigarh | | | 0 | | | 0 | | | 0 |
| 34. | Delhi | | | 0 | | | 0 | 162.57 | 4.9 | 167.47 |
| 35. | Puducherry | | | 0 | | | 0 | 46.3 | | 46.3 |
| | Total | 6687.99 | 153.62 | 6841.61 | 5961.36 | 0 | 5961.36 | 5498 | 15.13 | 5513.13 |

Statement IV*List of Vocation Rehabilitation Centres under Ministry of Labour and Employment*

VRC for Handicapped, ATI Campus, Vidya Nagar, Hyderabad

VRC for Handicapped, ATI Campus, V.N. Purav Marg, Sion, Mumbai

VRC for Handicapped, Old ITI Campus, Rehbari, Guwahati

VRC for Handicapped, Plot No. 9, 10, 11, Karkar Dooma, Vikas Marg, Delhi

VRC for Handicapped, A/84, Plot No. 1, Gandhi Vihar Police Colony, Anisabad, Patna

VRC for Handicapped, SIRD Campus, Unit-8, Bhubaneswar

VRC for Handicapped, (women), After Care Hostel Building, Pensionpura, Vadodara

VRC for Handicapped, Opp. Boat House, Ariyankuppam, Puducherry

VRC for Handicapped, ITI Campus, Kuber Nagar, Ahmedabad

VRC for Handicapped, ATI Campus, Gill Road, Near Arora Talkies, Ludhiana

VRC for Handicapped, Mohalla Baga Mataji, Near Rotary Chowk, Una

VRC for Handicapped, 5-A/23, Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur

VRC for Handicapped, Gogji Bagh, Jawahar Nagar, K.G. Polytechnic Campus, Srinagar

VRC for Handicapped, CTI Campus, Guindy, Chennai

VRC for Handicapped, 22, Hosur Road, Bangalore

VRC for Handicapped, Abhoy Nagar, Agartala

VRC for Handicapped, Nalanchira, M.C. Road, Nalanchira, Thirunanthapuram

VRC for Handicapped, ATI Campus, Govind Nagar, Kanpur

VRC for Handicapped, Napier Town, Near Bus Stand, Jabalpur

VRC for Handicapped, 38, Badan Roy Lane, Beliaghata, Kolkata

Statement V

No. of projects supported under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme during

| Sl.No. | State | No. of projects supported |
|--------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 101 |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | 1 |
| 4. | Assam | 17 |
| 5. | Bihar | 7 |
| 6. | Chandigarh | 1 |
| 7. | Chhattisgarh | 7 |
| 8. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 0 |
| 9. | Daman and Diu | 0 |
| 10. | Delhi | 23 |
| 11. | Goa | 2 |
| 12. | Gujarat | 15 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|-------------------|----|
| 13. | Haryana | 10 |
| 14. | Himachal Pradesh | 5 |
| 15. | Jammu and Kashmir | 2 |
| 16. | Jharkhand | 1 |
| 17. | Karnataka | 48 |
| 18. | Kerala | 43 |
| 19. | Lakshadweep | 0 |
| 20. | Madhya Pradesh | 17 |
| 21. | Maharashtra | 16 |
| 22. | Manipur | 18 |
| 23. | Meghalaya | 5 |
| 24. | Mizoram | 1 |
| 25. | Nagaland | 0 |
| 26. | Orissa | 39 |
| 27. | Puducherry | 1 |
| 28. | Punjab | 4 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------|---------------|-----|
| 29. | Rajasthan | 19 |
| 30. | Sikkim | 0 |
| 31. | Tamil Nadu | 42 |
| 32. | Tripura | 2 |
| 33. | Uttar Pradesh | 54 |
| 34. | Uttaranchal | 5 |
| 35. | West Bengal | 40 |
| Total | | 546 |

Statement VI

*State-wise release of funds for the year 2009-10
under ADIP Scheme for camp activity*

| 2009-10 | | |
|---------|----------------------|--|
| Sl. No. | Name of the State/UT | Release of grant in aid (Rs. in Lakhs) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 137.00 |
| 2. | Bihar | 16.99 |
| 3. | Chhattisgarh | 7.50 |
| 4. | Goa | 0.00 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 85.45 |
| 6. | Haryana | 23.50 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 25.00 |
| 8. | Jammu and Kashmir | 0.00 |
| 9. | Jharkhand | 46.00 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 73.00 |
| 11. | Kerala | 140.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------|-----------------------------|---------|
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 140.40 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 129.25 |
| 14. | Orissa | 97.00 |
| 15. | Punjab | 56.50 |
| 16. | Rajasthan | 128.00 |
| 17. | Tamil Nadu | 159.11 |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | 240.25 |
| 19. | Uttaranchal | 17.75 |
| 20. | West Bengal | 100.20 |
| 21. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0.00 |
| 22. | Chandigarh | 0.00 |
| 23. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 2.00 |
| 24. | Daman and Diu | 0.00 |
| 25. | Delhi | 5.60 |
| 26. | Lakshadweep | 2.00 |
| 27. | Puducherry | 0.00 |
| 28. | Arunachal Pradesh | 53.00 |
| 29. | Assam | 317.50 |
| 30. | Manipur | 0.00 |
| 31. | Meghalaya | 40.00 |
| 32. | Mizoram | 34.00 |
| 33. | Nagaland | 37.00 |
| 34. | Sikkim | 0.00 |
| 35. | Tripura | 71.00 |
| Total | | 2185.00 |

Statement VII*National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation State-wise disbursement details*

| Sl. No. | Name of State/UTs | 2009-10 (Rs. in Lakh) |
|---------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 138.08 |
| 2. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0 |
| 3. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0 |
| 4. | Assam | 0 |
| 5. | Bihar | 5 |
| 6. | Chandigarh | 3.18 |
| 7. | Chhattisgarh | 146.19 |
| 8. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 0 |
| 9. | Daman and Diu | 0 |
| 10. | Delhi | 28.74 |
| 11. | Goa | 0 |
| 12. | Gujarat | 578.65 |
| 13. | Haryana | 600.79 |
| 14. | Himachal Pradesh | 134.3 |
| 15. | Jammu and Kashmir | 42.31 |
| 16. | Jharkhand | 22.48 |
| 17. | Karnataka | 50 |
| 18. | Kerala | 260.99 |
| 19. | Lakshadweep | 3.8 |
| 20. | Madhya Pradesh | 0 |
| 21. | Manipur | 0 |
| 22. | Maharashtra | 379.15 |
| 23. | Meghalaya | 0 |
| 24. | Mizoram | 0 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------|---------------|---------|
| 25. | Nagaland | 0 |
| 26. | Orissa | 5 |
| 27. | Puducherry | 104.88 |
| 28. | Punjab | 52.79 |
| 29. | Rajasthan | 142.1 |
| 30. | Sikkim | 0 |
| 31. | Tamil Nadu | 370.07 |
| 32. | Tripura | 0 |
| 33. | Uttar Pradesh | 3.11 |
| 34. | Uttaranchal | 1.92 |
| 35. | West Bengal | 6.06 |
| Total | | 3079.59 |

*[English]***Welfare of Construction/Real Estate Employees**

*339. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an adequate framework exists for protection and welfare of the workers/employees engaged in the building construction/real estate sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government for ensuring proper implementation and strengthening of the labour laws in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) In order to safeguard the interest of workers engaged in the building and other construction works, the government has enacted the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and the Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1996 with a view to regulating the wages, working conditions, safety and health, welfare measures etc. The Acts apply to every establishment which employs 10 or more workers. As per the Acts, every State Government has to frame and notify Rules, constitute Advisory committee/Expert

Committee, appoint various authorities for registration of workers, cess collection, inspection and appellate authority and constitute Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board to frame and implement various welfare schemes in pursuance of the said Acts. The major source of the fund to the Building and other Construction Workers Welfare Board shall be collection of cess @1 % of the cost of construction incurred by the employer under the Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1996. The fund has to be utilized for various welfare measures.

The main responsibility for implementing the Acts lies with the respective State Government. As on 31.12.2009, 33 States/UTs have notified Rules under the Act, 30 have constituted Welfare Boards, 31 have notified implementing/cess collecting authorities and 27 have constituted State Advisory Committees.

The Central Government has framed Rules viz. the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Central Rules, 1998 which contains elaborate provisions regarding responsibilities and duties of employers, architect, projects engineers, Central Advisory committee, Registration of establishments, safety and health, hours of work, welfare and payment of wages etc. The Central Advisory committee has also been constituted. The Central Government is the implementing agency in the Central sphere while States are the implementing authority under State sphere.

In order to closely monitor and review the implementation of the Act, a Special Group has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Union Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment. The Special Group is holding region-wise meeting with the representatives of the State Governments concerned to emphasize the urgency and importance for the effective implementation of the Act. 18 Region-wise meetings of the Special Group have been held so far, in different regions.

The Central Advisory Committee constituted under the Act is also reviewing the implementation of the Act. So far eleven meetings of the Central Advisory Committee have been held.

Issues concerning construction workers was one of the agenda item discussed in State Labour Ministers Conference held on 22nd January, 2010 in New Delhi.

It was impressed upon on the State Governments that concerted efforts need to be made for speedy implementation of the Act.

Doha Round of Talks

*340. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:
SHRI M. ANANDAN:

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

(a) whether India wants the issue of arbitrary quality standards and agricultural and non-agricultural market access to be addressed in the ongoing Doha round of WTO talks;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the progress made in this regard so far;

(c) whether the views of the industry, experts and the public have been taken into consideration before arriving at the final decision; and

(d) if, so the steps being taken to conclude the Doha Round Talks within a stipulated time frame?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The Doha round of trade negotiations in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) covers several issues as part of a single undertaking. These include Agriculture, Non-Agricultural Market Access (NAMA), Services, Rules, Trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights, Trade and Environment etc. Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards and Technical Barriers to Trade, which relate to quality standards, are not part of the Doha Round mandate and are not being negotiated in this Round.

Negotiations for finalisation of modalities for agriculture and NAMA are ongoing, based on draft proposals issued in December 2008.

(c) All stakeholders concerned are consulted and their inputs and concerns are taken into consideration while formulating India's negotiating strategy in the WTO negotiations.

(d) WTO members, at the level of senior officials, took stock of the progress of the Doha Round during the week of 22-26 March 2010. There was general agreement that multilateral meetings should continue,

supplemented by other avenues as required. They emphasised the need to build on what was already on the table in the shape of Chairs' texts and avoid backtracking and to retain the focus on the development dimension of the Round.

Release of Postage Stamps

3645. SHRI ADAGOORU H. VISHWANATH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed to release postage stamps in the name of Jeanne Jugan and Dr. Raj Kumar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Yes Madam.

(b) Postage stamps on Jeanne Jugan and the Little Sisters of the Poor were released on 29.10.2009 and on Dr. Raj Kumar on 01.11.2009.

Computerisation of Land Records

3646. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be please to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government has submitted a detailed Project report for the computerization of land records in the Land Revenue Department in January, 2009;

(b) if so, whether the proposal includes procurement of hardware in the remaining eight hundred villages, sixty three talukas and fourteen District Collectorates and also for the procurement of necessary application software;

(c) whether the Union Government has considered and approved this proposal of the Kerala Government; and

(d) if so, the time by which the amount for this project is likely to be released to the Kerala Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam.

(c) The Government of Kerala was advised on 2.3.2009 to submit the proposal for consideration under the National Land Records Modernization Programme (NLRMP), which was approved by the Government of India on 21.8.2008 as a Mission Mode Project of the Department of Land Resources (DoLR), Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India.

(d) The DoLR has released a sum of Rs. 700.79 lakh under the NLRMP during the year 2009-10 to Kerala.

E-Bharat Project under E-Governance

3647. SHRI VARUN GANDHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed to implement e-Bharat project under e-Governance in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the funding mechanism involved in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (c) The Government is in a dialogue with the World Bank to explore the possibility of World Bank funding for e-Governance initiatives through a proposed e-Bharat Project. No final decision has been taken in this regard.

[Translation]

Subsidy to Telecom Equipment Manufacturers

3648. SHRI DEVENDRA NAGPAL:
SHRI MITHILESH KUMAR:

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

(a) whether the Cellular Operator Association of India (COAI) has demanded various subsidies for expanding their business in rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including their specific demands;

(c) whether it will be appropriate from the business point of view; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (d) Yes, Madam. Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) has submitted before DoT Empowered Committee on rural telephony that one of the major problems faced by telecom operators in rural areas is the non-availability of reliable grid power forcing telecom service providers to extend power to these sties through diesel generator sets. Thus, fuel cost associated with running of DG sets is very high. Accordingly COAI has requested to introduce fuel subsidies to provide telecom service in such areas. Strategies to make alternate sources of power supply viable for rural and remote areas is under consideration.

Facilities for Workers in Export Sector

3649. SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL:
SHRI ANJANKUMAR M. YADAV:

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

(a) whether a recent survey by the Ministry indicated lay off of a large number of workers in the export sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the sectors affected by the lay off;

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate any plan to rehabilitate the workers and provide additional facilities to workers in export sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) As per the Quarterly Employment Surveys conducted by the Labour Bureau, after an over all decline in employment in the exporting units to the extent of 1.67 lakh during April to June, 2009 over January to March, 2009, the exporting units have shown recovery by registering an increase in employment to the extent of 2.04 lakhs during July to September, 2009 over April to June, 2009.

(c) and (d) No such plan/rehabilitation proposal is under consideration in the Ministry of Commerce and

Industry. There has been a progressive reduction in the decline in exports during May to October, 2009 and positive growth in exports on month to month basis since November, 2009 which indicates that all the measures and initiatives taken by the Government and RBI have had a significant impact on effecting a turnaround in our exports.

[English]

Diversified Services by Department of Posts

3650. SHRI R. THAMARASELVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Posts has entered into an agreement with many organisations including financial institutions to sell their products through Post Offices in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to make post office savings and other related financial products more attractive and engage the post offices in the country in a big way; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) The Central and State Governments take various measures from time to time to promote and popularize small saving schemes through print and electronic media as well as holding seminars, meetings and providing training to various agencies involved in mobilizing deposits under the schemes. As part of this ongoing exercise, Government has taken following steps to make the small savings schemes more attractive and investor friendly:-

(1) Introduction of Bonus at the rate of 5% on the deposits made under Post Office Monthly Income Account (POMIA) Scheme on or after 8th December, 2007 upon the maturity of the deposit.

(2) The benefit of Section 80C of the Income Tax Act, 1961 has been extended to the investments

made under 5-Year Post Office Time Deposits Account and Senior Citizens Savings Scheme, with effect from 01.04.2007.

- (3) With effect from 1.8.2007, the maximum deposit ceilings of Rs. 3.00 lakh and Rs. 6.00 lakh under the Post Office Monthly Income Account (POMIA) Scheme has been raised to Rs. 4.50 lakh and Rs. 9.00 lakh in respect of single and joint accounts respectively.
- (4) The penalty on pre-mature withdrawal of deposits under the Post Office Monthly Income Account (POMIA) scheme has been rationalized from 3.5% to 2% on withdrawal on or before expiry of three years and 1% on withdrawal after expiry of three years.
- (5) All categories of pensioners have been allowed to open and maintain 'Pension Account' under Post Office Savings Account Rules, with effect from 11th July, 2007.
- (6) The restriction on opening of more than one account during a calendar month under the Senior Citizens Savings Scheme has been

removed with effect from 24th May, 2007.

- (7) Opening of "Zero deposit/Zero Balance" accounts for workers employed under NREG Act, under Post Office Savings Account Rules, with effect from 26th August 2008.
- (8) Opening of "Zero deposit/Zero Balance" accounts for Old Age Pensioner Account under Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme, Widows Pensioner Account under Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme and Disabled Pensioner Account under Indira Gandhi National Disabled Pension Scheme with effect from 13th October 2009.
- (9) National Savings Institute, a subordinate organization under the Department of Economic Affairs (Budget Division) also maintains its web site *i.e.* nsiindia.gov.in in collaboration with National Informatics Centre to facilitate interface with the public through wider dissemination of information on small savings and on-line registration and settlement of investor's grievances.

Statement

(1) Details of Products sold at National level

| Sl.No. | Name of Company/Financial Institution | Description of product/service |
|--------|---|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Western Union Money Transfer | International money transfer to India |
| 2. | UTI Mutual Funds | Sale of UTI Mutual Funds through post offices |
| 3. | ICICI Prudential | Sale of Pension and other products |
| 4. | Oriental Insurance Company | For sale of non-life insurance products |
| 5. | Pension Fund Regulatory & Development Authority | Point of Presence for National Pension Scheme Accounts |
| 6. | Ministry of Railways | Booking/cancellation of Railway Reservation Tickets under PRS Scheme |
| 7. | CBOP (Now merged with HDFC Bank) | Sale/Purchase of foreign exchange |
| 8. | Reliance Money Infrastructure Limited | Sale of Gold Coins |
| 9. | UPSC | Sale of application forms |
| 10. | BSNL | Sale of recharge coupons Sancharnet Cards etc. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|---|--|
| 11. | Eurogiro International Money Remittance | India Post has entered into an agreement with Eurogiro which provides network interconnectivity with postal organizations and banks in foreign countries for inward and outward money remittances. |
| 12. | International Electronic Money Remittance Service using IFS System of UPU | The service is available for money remittance from UAE to India using the postal network of both the countries. |
| 13. | Opening of SB Accounts for NREGA beneficiaries | Department opens Savings Bank accounts for disbursement of wages to NREGA beneficiaries. |
| 14. | India Post SBI tie-up | Department sells assets and liability products of SBI through identified postal outlets. |
| 15. | Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) | Department makes payments to beneficiaries of IGNOAPS through money orders and savings bank accounts |
| 16. | NABARD-SHG linkage scheme | India Post has entered into a tie-up with NABARD to disburse micro credit to women self help groups (SHGs) on pilot basis. |

(2) Details of Products sold by the Circles

| Sl.No. | Name of Circle | Organization | Details of products sold by Department of Posts |
|--------|-----------------------|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | A P State Council of Higher Education, Government of A.P | Sale of Common Entrance Test applications |
| 2. | | Inspector General (Registration & Stamps) Government of A.P | Sale of non-judicial stamp papers |
| 3. | | Vignan University | Sale of Entrance application forms |
| 4. | Delhi | Delhi Prakashan & Vitaran | Sale of Books/Magazine |
| 5. | | Living Media | Sale of Books/Magazine |
| 6. | | Malayala Manorama Co. Ltd | Sale of Books/Magazine |
| 7. | | Malayala Manorama Pub Ltd | Sale of Books/Magazine |
| 8. | | Magna Publications Ltd | Sale of Books/Magazine |
| 9. | | Stamps Today | Sale of Books/Magazine |
| 10. | | Outlook Group | Sale of Books/Magazine |
| 11. | | Sahitya Academy | Sale of Books/Magazine |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|-----------------------|---|--|
| 12. | | Directorate General Armed Forces Medical Services | Sale of Prospectus and application form of AFMC Entrance Exam |
| 13. | | NCT of Delhi | sale of judicial/non judicial stamps/stamp papers |
| 14. | | NCT of Delhi | Sale of Revenue Stamps |
| 15. | | M/s Avon Beauty Products | Sale of Beauty Products |
| 16. | Gujarat | Sheetal Aloevera | Sale of Aloevera Products |
| 17. | Haryana | CIPET, Panipat | Sale of CIPET forms |
| 18. | | Career Muskan Publisher | Sale of career Muskan magazine |
| 19. | | Al-Falah School, Faridabad | Sale of prospectus of Al-Falah |
| 20. | | Uttarkashi Mineral Corporation | Sale of Gangajal |
| 21. | | Kurukshetra University | Sale of KUK forms |
| 22. | | MDU University | Sale of MDU forms |
| 23. | | HAU University, Hissar | Sale of HAU forms |
| 24. | Jharkhand | Jharkhand Public Commission | Sale of application forms |
| 25. | Karnataka | ETV Karnataka | Sale of Annadata Magazines |
| 26. | | ARM-I Solutions | Ease-ticketing - Train/Air ticket booking |
| 27. | | Multi Commodity Exchange India Ltd | Providing information on prices of agricultural commodities - GSK sale of non-agri products. |
| 28. | | MCT Cards & Technology Pvt. Ltd, Manipal | Post Office Plastic Identification Cards |
| 29. | | Centre for International Trade in Agri & Agrobases Industries | Sharad Krishi-Collection of annual subscription. |
| 30. | | Manipal University | Sale of MAHE application forms |
| 31. | Kerala | ARM-I Solutions, Chennai | e-ticketing for Train/Air |
| 32. | Madhya Pradesh | Multi Commodity Exchange India Ltd | Providing information on prices of agricultural commodities-GSK sale of non-agri products. |
| 33. | Maharashtra | Government of Maharashtra State | Sale and acceptance of MPSC and other forms. |
| 34. | North East | Sikkim Manipal University | Sale of prospectus & application forms |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 35. | | Kasalingam University | Sale of application forms |
| 36. | Punjab | State Government of Punjab | Sale of Puniab State Lottery tickets |
| 37. | | Punjab University, Chandigarh | Sale of application forms |
| 38. | | Reserve Bank of India | Distribution of coins |
| 39. | Tamil Nadu | ARM-I Solutions, Chennai | e-ticketing for Train, Air and Bus tickets |
| 40. | | Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission | Sale of Application form |
| 41. | | Vellore Institute of Technology | Sale of Application form |
| 42. | | SRM University | Sale of Application form |
| 43. | | Christian Medical College, Vellore | Sale of Application form |
| 44. | | Vels University | Sale of Application form |
| 45. | | Kalasalingam University | Sale of Application form |
| 46. | | Vel Tech University | Sale of Application form |
| 47. | | Puducherry University | Sale of Application form |
| 48. | | Mis. G.K. Power | Sale of Booklets |
| 49. | | M/s. Ramana Publications | Sale of Booklets |
| 50. | | M/s. Southern Bookhouse | Sale of Books |
| 51. | | M/s. New India Foundation | Sale of Books |
| 52. | | M/s. Everest Study Point | Sale of Books |
| 53. | | BSNL, Tamil Nadu Circle | Recharge Coupons |
| 54. | | M/s. MTS | Sale of e-Recharge |
| 55. | | M/s. Anil Fireworks, Sivakasi | Sale of Cracker coupons |
| 56. | | Dabur India Ltd | Sale of Juice products |
| 57. | Uttarakhand | Divya Yog Mandir Trust, Haridwar | Sale of Divya Yog Products literature CD etc |
| 58. | | IDEA Cellular Ltd | Sale of recharge coupons |
| 59. | | Reserve Bank of India | Distribution of coins |

Incentives to Telecom Equipment Manufacturers

3651. SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to provide incentives to local telecom equipment manufacturers from a fund meant to subsidise rural telephony in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the views of the States and telecom operators in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Question does not arise.

Defence Deals with Blacklisted Companies

3652. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has opted to resume defence deals with the companies blacklisted in connection with corruption cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the firms allowed for trails of equipment;

(c) the reasons for continuing with deals from such firms; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure scrupulous deals?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) In the light of the names of certain firms figuring in a FIR filed by the CBI on 17th May, 2009, it had been decided that all procurement cases in the pipeline with any of these firms may be put on hold till further orders. Subsequently, the matter was reviewed and it was decided that multi-vendor procurement cases, held up at various stages of technical evaluation/trials, may be progressed further as per the Defence Procurement Procedure, 2008. Accordingly, trials are being progressed in respect of such procurement cases relating to M/s ST Kinetics, Singapore and M/s IMI, Israel. However, no tender will be awarded to the companies mentioned in the FIR, unless the CBI investigation clears them totally.

(d) The Defence Procurement Procedure contains stringent provisions aimed at ensuring the highest degree of probity, public accountability and transparency. The Procedure provides for the mechanism of Pre-Contract Integrity Pact, in procurement cases of the estimated value exceeding Rs. 100 crore as well as provisions prohibiting engagement of agents or use of undue influence.

Pool for Provident Funds

3653. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the companies in the country particularly in Karnataka, which are running in losses for the last few years and have not opened any pool for provident funds deducted from their workers; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to protect the provident fund subscribers in such cases especially in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) There is no provision under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 for opening any 'Pool' for Provident Fund deducted from workers by loss making companies.

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

Impact of Advisor in BSNL

3654. SHRI P. KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is functioning without a financial advisor for more than a year due to delay in selection procedure;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore alongwith its impact on the working of the company;

(c) whether the Public Enterprises Selection Board had started the process in November 2008 and yet the final appointment is pending;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (e) The post of Director/Finance), BSNL, which fell vacant on 21st December, 2008, was advertised by Public Enterprises Selection Board (PSEB) on 5th November, 2008. That Board, through its communication dated 10th February, 2009, recommended Smt. Anita Soni, Director (Finance), Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), and Shri T.R. Gandhi, General Manager, MTNL, in order of preference, for appointment to the post. Smt. Anita Soni was, however, found not to fulfill educational qualification prescribed for the post. A proposal recommending appointment of Shri T.R. Gandhi was not approved by the competent authority. PESB has advertised the post of Director (Finance), BSNL again on 19th March, 2010. Charge of the post of Director (Finance), BSNL was entrusted to Director (HRD), BSNL, in addition to his own charge, upto 20th June, 2009. Thereafter, the charge of the post vests in Chairman and Managing Director, BSNL.

Import of Obsolete and Discarded Medical Devices

3655. SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA:
SHRI S.R. JEYADURAI:

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

(a) whether our country is becoming a dumping ground for obsolete and discarded medical, diagnostic, surgical and imaging devices from Europe and United States;

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

(c) whether there is any regulatory framework in our country for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to put a check on such imports of obsolete and discarded medical devices from developed world and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) to (d) No specific complaints have been

received in Department of Commerce that obsolete and discarded medical, diagnostic, surgical and imaging devices from Europe and United States are being dumped in India. Under the 'Drug and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and the Rules made thereunder, import of devices intended for internal or external use in the diagnosis, treatment, mitigation or prevention of disease or disorder in human beings or animals, as may be specified from time to time by the Central Government by notification in the Official Gazette, are included under the definition of 'Drug'. Hence, import of such medical devices is subject to compliance requirements under the aforesaid Act and Rules.

Further, guidelines prescribed for import of medical devices by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare specify the procedure for registration and import licence of medical devices under the 'Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945. Further, in case of medical devices, manufactured in USA, USFDA approval for manufacture and free sale in USA in respect of the device is to be submitted. Further, in case of medical devices manufactured in European countries CE certificate along with approval for manufacture and Free Sale Certificate from respective country of origin is to be submitted.

[Translation]

Promotion Policy for MTNL Employees

3656. SHRI ANJANKUMAR M. YADAV:
SHRI IYARAJ SINGH:

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

(a) whether there is no employee friendly promotion policy for Group 'C' employees in MTNL; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) MTNL has a promotion policy for Group 'C' & 'D' employees which is known as Non-Executive Promotion Policy. The said Policy was approved by MTNL Board "taking relevant aspects into account".

(b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

[English]

Industry Farming Balance

3657. SHRIMATI J. SHANTHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether industry-farming balance is essential for the healthy growth of the economy in country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government to maintain such equilibrium in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Industry-Farming balance is an essential requirement for the healthy growth of the economy. The National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy (NRRP) 2007 inter-alia, prescribes the guidelines that only the minimum area of land commensurate with the purposes of the project may be acquired and as far as possible projects may be set up on waste land, degraded land or un-irrigated land. It also provides that "acquisition of agricultural land for non-agricultural use in the project may be kept to the minimum; multi-cropped land may be avoided to the extent possible for such purposes and acquisition of irrigated land, if unavoidable, may be kept to the minimum" (Section 1.4). The guidelines, therefore, are for a balanced growth of industry and agriculture in the economy.

Distribution of Spectrum

3658. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to initiate an action plan to equally distribute spectrum in both 1800 MHz band and 900 MHz band in order to have a level playing field for the telecom operators in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (c) No Madam, Different mobile telecom operators entered into services at different time frames and depending on availability and as per respective service licence conditions,

spectrum has been allotted to them in 900 MHz and/or 1800 MHz GSM bands.

Budgetary Support to IDSA

3659. SHRI SAMEER BHUJBAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of budgetary support given to Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis (IDSA) during the last three years;

(b) the details of utilization of the funds allocated;

(c) whether there has been diversion of funds from one head to another without concurrence of the Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons for continuous increase in non-plan expenditure of the Institute?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) Government provides an annual grant-in-aid to Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) from the demand for grant of Ministry of Defence (Civil), which is a non-plan grant.

The details of the allocation and utilization of the grant-in-aid provided to IDSA during the last three Financial Years are as follows:

| | (Rupees in lakhs) | | |
|-------------|-------------------|---------|---------|
| | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 |
| Allocation | 2135.00 | 1298.45 | 830.30 |
| Utilisation | 2112.15 | 1298.45 | 830.30 |

Since the grant-in-aid is in the form of a lump sum allocation, the question of diversion of funds does not arise.

Condition of Cashew Workers

3660. SHRI N. PEETHAMBARA KURUP: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the conditions of cashew workers is pitiable in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of such workers living below poverty line in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to introduce suitable welfare measures like pension, gratuity and ESI facilities for the said workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the necessary orders issued by the Union Government to States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (d) The Employees State Insurance Act, 1948 applies to non-seasonal power using factories employing 10 or more persons and non-power using factories and certain specified establishments employing 20 or more persons. Employees of factories and establishments covered under the Act and drawing wages upto Rs. 10,000/- per month are covered under the Act. Cashew workers working in cashew factories satisfying the above coverage requirements are covered under the Act and are provided medical and cash benefits available under the Scheme. Similarly, the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 applies to an employee who is in receipt of pay upto Rs. 6500/- employed in factories/establishments employing 20 or more in industries mentioned in Schedule of the Act or notified by the Central Government in the Official Gazette. Also, as per Section 2 (e) of Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, an employee working in Cashew factories or Plantation is eligible for gratuity provided he/she rendered a continuous service of five years on superannuation, retirement/resignation. In case of death or disablement, continuous service of five years is not necessary as per section 4 of the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972. The maximum permissible gratuity is Rs. 3,50,000/.

Modification in Guidelines of PMGSY

3661. SHRI MOHAMMED E.T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether existing guidelines of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) requires modification;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any memorandum from any State Government in this regard;

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

(e) whether any revised scheme has already been announced; and

(f) if so, the details of the revised scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) As and when the proposals/suggestions for amendment in the existing programme guidelines are received from the State Governments, the same are considered.

(b) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) Guidelines have been amended from time to time based on the feedback/suggestions from the States. The details are available on PMGSY website *i.e.* www.pmgysy.nic.in

(c) and (d) The Government of Kerala has suggested relaxation of norms with regard to permissible road width and gradient. The State Government of Kerala has been intimated that the roadway width of six metres can be permitted when there are constraints on availability of land and the projected traffic is less than 100 motorized vehicles per day. As regards gradient, an exceptional gradient has been permitted upto 10% for rural road as per the recommendations of an Expert Committee constituted by Ministry of Rural Development. However, this exceptional gradient should be limited to 100 metres at a stretch and should be used sparingly. In ghat sections, the recommendations-limiting gradient is 7% and the exceptional gradient remains at 10%.

An Expert Committee had been constituted to review the standards and specifications under PMGSY. The Committee considered the representation received from the State for making recommendations. The interim recommendations of the Committee on the geometric parameters which include Carriageway width and Road way width and Road land width have been circulated to all the State for adoption for the recommendations with immediate effect.

(e) No, Madam.

(f) Question does not arise.

National Electronic Mission

3662. SHRI RAMESH RATHOD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up a National Electronics Mission to create a comprehensive environment for manufacturing of electronic items in the country;

(b) if, so the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (c) The Department of Information Technology(DIT) had set up a Task Force to suggest measures to stimulate the growth of IT, ITES and Electronics Hardware Manufacturing Industry in the country, in August 2009. The terms of reference of the Task Force were to suggest: (a) Strategies to augment the growth of the IT software and IT enabled services sector in the context of global development; (b) steps needed to accelerate domestic demand for (i) Electronics hardware products and (ii) IT & IT enabled services and (c) steps needed to boost domestic manufacturing in Electronics hardware sector. The Task Force submitted its report on 11th December, 2009.

One of the recommendations made by the Task Force pertains to establishment of a 'National Electronics Mission' - a nodal agency for the electronics industry, within DIT, to help in the synchronized functioning of the industry for enhancing the ease of doing business. The above recommendation and the other recommendations of the Task Force are under examination by the Department. No decision has been taken in this regard.

Jobs in IT Sector

3663. SHRI P.K. BIJU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of jobs in Information Technology (IT) sector is decreasing;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) students; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase the jobs in IT Sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) No, Madam. The IT-ITES industry has remained a net hirer in 2009-10. During the year 2009-10, the direct employment in IT-ITES Sector is estimated to reach 2.29 million as compared to 2.20 million in the year 2008-09.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Department of Information Technology had recently set up a Task Force to suggest measures to stimulate the growth of IT & ITES and Electronics Hardware Manufacturing Industry in the country in the backdrop of significant challenges faced by the IT industry owing to the global economic crisis. It has submitted its report in December, 2009. Inter-Ministerial consultations on the recommendations contained in the report have been held. Further, Government has decided to constitute a Committee of Secretaries (COS) under the chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary for facilitating examination and implementation of the recommendations of the Task Force on a fast track basis.

Subsidy for Fishery Sector

3664. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Developing countries have called for exclusion of small and marginal fishermen from curbs on fisheries subsidy under World Trade Organisation (WTO);

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

(c) the details of outcome achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) to (c) Under the work programme of the Doha Round of WTO negotiations, Members are engaged in clarifying and improving the WTO disciplines on fisheries subsidies, taking into account the importance of this sector to developing countries. In the Declaration adopted on 18 December 2005 in the Hong Kong Ministerial Conference of WTO, while reaffirming the Doha mandate, Ministers had recalled the commitment to enhancing the mutual supportiveness of trade and environment, and had noted that there is broad agreement that the Group should strengthen disciplines on subsidies in the fisheries sector, including through

the prohibition of certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and over-fishing. The ministerial declaration further stated that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least-developed Members should be an integral part of the fisheries subsidies negotiations, taking into account the importance of this sector to development priorities, poverty reduction, and livelihood and food security concerns. Developing countries including India, Brazil, Indonesia, China, Mexico and Argentina have made proposals before the Negotiating Group on Rules of WTO seeking special and differential treatment to the developing countries in the new fisheries subsidies disciplines under discussion in the WTO. India has recently made a joint proposal along with Brazil, China and Mexico in February 2010 to the WTO seeking inter-alia, special and differential treatment for the developing countries in the fisheries subsidies. The negotiations under the current Doha Round are in progress.

Group Insurance Scheme

3665. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce any Group Insurance Scheme to cover unorganised workers in the wake of recent recession in economy;

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

(c) whether the Union Government has consulted the State Governments in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):
(a) At present, no such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

E-Governance Initiatives

3666. SHRI RAJIAH SIRICILLA:
SHRI VARUN GANDHI:
SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:
SHRI P. BALRAM:
SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased

to state the details, State-wise regarding implementation status of e-governance in smaller cities alongwith the funds allocated and spent for this purpose during the Eleventh Plan period in Panchayati Raj schemes?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (DR. C.P. JOSHI): Ministry of Panchayati Raj has not allocated funds to any State/UT for e-governance during the Eleventh Plan period. However, as per information available, the following a-governance services are being offered by some States:

| Name of State | Services offered |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Gujarat | (i) Land Records Computerization (ii) Automated Certificate Issuance (iii) Information Dissemination |
| 2. Himachal Pradesh | (i) Land Records Computerization (ii) Automated Certificate Issuance (iii) Information Dissemination (iv) Disbursement of Pension/ Payments |
| 3. Maharashtra | (i) Automated Certificate Issuance |
| 4. Rajasthan | (i) Online FIR Facilities (ii) Registration and Stamps |
| 5. Tripura Services offered | (i) Automated Certificate Issuance offered |

Fire Incidents in Ordnance Depots

3667. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fire incidents occurred in the ordnance depots during the last three years;

(b) the details of loss of arms and ammunition, life and property in each case, separately;

(c) whether the Government has conducted inquiry in each case;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof, separately and action taken thereon; and

(e) the measures being taken by the Government to check recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (e) The details of fire incidents in the Army Ordnance/Ammunition Depots during last three years are as under:-

- (a) On 11.8.2007, a fire broke out in 21 Field Ammunition Depot (21 FAD) Khundroo in Jammu and Kashmir. Nineteen people died and approximately 10,000 MTs of ammunition worth of Rs.692 Crores was destroyed in the incident.
- (b) On 26.3.2010, a fire incident took place in Ammunition Depot (AD) Panagarh in West Bengal in which approximately 332 MTs of ammunition worth of 18 Crores was destroyed. There was no loss of life in the incident.

2. In each of the incidents, a Court of Inquiry has been ordered by the Army. The Court of Inquiry in respect of the fire incident at 21 FAD Khundroo has been completed while the same in respect of the Ammunition Depot (AD) Panagarh is under progress.

3. The following measures have been taken to check the recurrence of such incidents in future:-

- (i) All depots have updated safety and security instructions.
- (ii) All depots have been inspected by a Board of Officers to check adequacy of fire safety and security arrangements.
- (iii) 349 trucks for fire fighting have been provided to the Units in 2009-10.
- (iv) Unserviceable ammunition is being disposed off on priority.
- (v) Shortage of storage accommodation is being made up gradually. Rs. 1736 Crores have been allocated from 1999 onwards for ammunition storage accommodation.

Renaming of Vedanta Foundation

3668. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vedanta Foundation renamed itself as Anil Agarwal Foundation without consulting the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) No, Madam. Vedanta Foundation changed its name to "Anil Agarwal Foundation" after obtaining approval from the Central Government u/s 25/21 read with Sec. 23 of the Companies Act, 1956. Regional Director (Western Region), Ministry of Corporate Affairs, approved the same on 1st September, 2006 and Registrar of Companies (ROC) issued certificate to that effect on 6th September, 2006.

Export of Perishable Items

3669. SHRI NILESH NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of quantity and value of export of perishable items including groundnut during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government has lifted ban on export of some of the perishable items keeping in view the interest of the farmers;

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

(d) the action being taken by the Government to encourage export of these items especially processed food items and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) The details of exports of perishable items like vegetables, fruits, groundnuts, floriculture, livestock products etc., both in quantity and value, are as under:

| Products | Quantity in MTs; Value: Rs. in crores | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|------------------------------|---------|
| | 2006-07 | | 2007-08 | | 2008-09 | | 2009-10 (*P) (Aor.- Nov.) | |
| | Quantity | Value | Quantity | Value | Quantity | Value | Quantity | Value |
| Vegetables | 1655198 | 1596.45 | 1358843 | 1525.27 | 2175471 | 2507.72 | 1349955 | 1602.22 |
| Fruits | 347660 | 871.87 | 365732 | 911.86 | 470795 | 1151.43 | 240277 | 697.91 |
| Groundnuts | 251429 | 798.46 | 269588 | 1054.08 | 297890 | 1239.01 | 106687 | 427.75 |
| Floriculture | 42545 | 652.70 | 36241 | 340.14 | 30798 | 368.81 | 18136 | 186.67 |
| Livestock Products | 1258861 | 4050.53 | 1919379 | 5023.01 | 1630345 | 6754.01 | 790180 | 3488.53 |

*Provisional; Source: APEDA-DGCI&S

(b) and (c) The export of perishable items are permitted freely under the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP).

(d) The Government has been coordinating with export promotion agencies such as Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and Export Inspection Council (EIC) by providing necessary technical inputs and financial assistance. APEDA through its schemes for Infrastructure Development Scheme for Quality Development, Scheme for Market Development and the Scheme for Research & Development has been making efforts to expand export of products including processed food items. As a result of these measures; the exports of perishable items have increased from Rs. 7970.01 crores during 2006-07 to Rs. 12020.98 crores during 2008-09.

[*Translation*]

Patented Crops

3670. SHRI ARJUN MUNDA:
SHRI BHOOPENDRA SINGH:

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

(a) the number of crops got patented/ to be patented so far;

(b) the time by which these crops are likely to be got patented;

(c) whether there is any proposal to register Basmati Rice of Madhya Pradesh under the Geographical Indication like other States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) In accordance with Section 3 (j) of the Patents Act, 1970, crops are not patentable.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Geographical Indications Registry has not received any application seeking registration for Basmati Rice of Madhya Pradesh as a Geographical Indication.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation

3671. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the role of National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) regarding the grant of education loan to the handicapped students pursuing higher studies;

(b) the number of handicapped students who availed education loan during the last three years;

(c) whether NHFDC directly bears the responsibility or recommends the loan applications received from the handicapped students to the Nationalised Banks and the State Co-operative Banks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation (NHFDC) provides education loan at concessional interest rates to handicapped students (fulfilling eligibility criteria to avail loan) to pursue higher studies in India upto Rs. 7.50 lakh and abroad upto Rs. 15 lakh.

The interest rates are:

- | | | |
|-------|---|----------|
| (i) | Upto Rs. 50,000/- | -5% p.a. |
| (ii) | Above Rs. 50,000/- and upto Rs. 5 lakh | 6-% p.a. |
| (iii) | Above Rs. 5 lakh | -8% p.a. |

Also, a rebate of 1% on interest is given to women beneficiaries.

(b) 14 Handicapped students have availed education loans from NHFDC from 2007-2008 to 2009-10.

(c) and (d) NHFDC functions as an apex corporation and channelises its funds through State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) for the welfare of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).

The proposal for education loans above Rs. 1.50 lakh received from SCAs are sanctioned at NHFDC level and the proposals up to Rs. 1.50 lakh are sanctioned by the SCA under delegated authority.

Funds With EPFO

3672. Sk. SAIDUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the corpus of funds lying with the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) at present, State-wise;

(b) the number of employees covered under Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) at present, State-wise; and

(c) the details of EPF contribution deposited by the employers and employees during each of the last three years and the current year, separately, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The status of the corpus lying with the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation as on 31.03.2009 is Rs. 2,58,711.00 crores, State-wise details are not maintained by the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation since funds are invested centrally.

(b) The number of employees covered under the Employees' Provident Fund, State-wise as on 31.12.2009 is 5,68,92,900 (Provisional). The State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The details of Employees' Provident Fund contribution deposited by the employers and employees during the last three years i.e. 2006-07 to 2008-09 and the current year i.e. 2009-10 (Upto September, 2009) are given below:

| | (Rs. In Crores) | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10* (upto September, 2009) |
| | 14,414.01 | 18,782.30 | 23,246.60 | 12,457.67 |

*Unaudited

Statement

No. of employees covered under the Employees Provident Fund (State-wise) as on 31.12.2009 (provisional)

| State | Total Membership |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 2 |
| Uttarakhand | 558707 |
| Delhi | 5195760 |
| Zonal Office (DL&UK) | 5754467 |
| Punjab | 3443724 |
| Himachal Pardesh | 209790 |
| Zonal Office (PN&HP) | 3653514 |

| 1 | 2 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Uttar Pradesh | 1787970 |
| Patna | 311337 |
| Zonal Office (UP&BR) | 2099307 |
| Haryana | 3980062 |
| Rajasthan | 1209708 |
| Zonal Office (HR&RJ) | 5189770 |
| Gujarat | 2565158 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 1834589 |
| Zonal Office (GJ&MP) | 4399747 |
| Maharashtra | 9072012 |
| Chhattisgarh | 398747 |
| Zonal Office (MH&CG) | 9470759 |
| Karnataka | 7145537 |
| Goa | 633861 |
| Zonal Office (KN&Goa) | 7779398 |
| Orissa | 686573 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 4095677 |
| Zonal Office (AP&OR) | 4782250 |
| Tamil Nadu | 7837602 |
| Kerala | 1725534 |
| Zonal Office (TN&KR) | 9563136 |
| North Eastern Region | 337054 |
| West Bengal | 2842415 |
| Jharkhand | 1021083 |
| Zonal Office (WB,NER&JH) | 4200552 |
| All India | 56892900 |

[Translation]

Facilities to SC Students for Studies Abroad

3673. SHRI PREMCHAND GUDDU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the types of facilities provided to students of Scheduled Castes category including scholarship and hostel facility etc. for studies abroad;

(b) the number of students provided scholarship during each of the last three years alongwith the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the number of students belonging to Scheduled Castes category sent abroad for studies through such scholarships, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): Eligible Scheduled Caste students are offered scholarship for pursuing higher studies abroad under 'National Overseas Scholarship for SC etc. Candidates' scheme. The scholarship includes annual maintenance allowance, contingency allowance, actual fee payable to University/institute, VISA fees, medical insurance premium, equipment allowance, incidental journey expenses, etc. Air passage from India and back is also provided.

(b) and (c) As per provisions of the scheme, scholarships are not provided State-wise. The number of students offered scholarships during the selection years 2006-07, 2008-08 and 2008-09 was 15, 28 and 29 respectively. During the years 2006-07 and 2007-08, 11 students have actually gone abroad for studies under the scheme.

Selection for the year 2008-09 has been finalized recently, and as per the scheme, the selected candidates are required to obtain admission in the accredited University/institution abroad, within three years from the date of communication of their selection.

[English]

Review of Rural Development Schemes

3674. SHRI P. BALRAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently reviewed the rural development schemes like Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Swarnjayanti Gramin Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the decisions taken in the review meeting; and

(d) the view of each State especially Andhra Pradesh in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development has reviewed the performance of rural development schemes namely, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and Swarnjayanti Gramin Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY) in the Performance Review Committee (PRC) held on 17th-18th March, 2010.

(c) and (d) During the Performance Review Committee (PRC) meeting issues relating to the a option of best practices, use of MIS Software, timely payment and transparency in the implementation process of the rural development progmmames were discussed alongwith strategies for effective monitoring to further improve the implementation of rural development schemes as per objective were discussed in detail with all the State Governments including Andhra Pradesh.

[Translation]

Registration of Telephone Complaints

3675. DR. SANJAY SINGH:
RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

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

(a) whether the telephone numbers of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) meant to register complaints usually remain very busy and takes a lot of time to register complaints in the country;

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

(c) whether due to non registering of complaint and the number of complaints against MTNL and BSNL is increasing and customers are surrendering their services;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) No, Madam. The complaints are booked on automated Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) or on Call Centres. These numbers normally do not remain busy. The call centers meant to register complaints are also working satisfactorily and are in general meeting the Quality of Service (QoS) parameter prescribed by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) In respect of response time to customer for assistance.

(b) Not applicable in view of (a) above

(c) No, Madam.

(d) and (e) Not applicable in view of (c) above.

[English]

Desert Development Programme

3676. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in hectares identified as desert in each State of the country including Gujarat, location-wise;

(b) the details of the measures taken to conserve land, water, cattle wealth and to preserve ecological balance under Desert Development Programme (DDP) alongwith achievements made thereunder so far, State-wise; and

(c) the details of the works to be undertaken under DDP in each State during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI): (a) The State-wise details of areas identified under Desert Development Programme (DDP) in the country including Gujarat State are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) Under DDP following main activities are taken up to conserve land, water, cattle wealth etc. to preserve ecological balance;

(i) Afforestation including plantation, agro-forestry and horticultural development, shelter-belt plantation, sand dunes stabilization.

(ii) Land development including in-situ soil and moisture conservation.

- (iii) Development of water harvesting structures.
- (iv) Renovation and augmentation of water resources, desiltation of tanks for drinking/irrigation purpose.
- (v) Pasture development.

The State-wise area covered under DDP so far is as under:

| Sl.No. | State | Area covered (in lakh ha.) |
|--------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 4.52 |
| 2. | Gujarat | 13.94 |
| 3. | Haryana | 4.72 |
| 4. | Himachal Pradesh | 1.65 |
| 5. | Jammu and Kashmir | 2.66 |
| 6. | Karnataka | 6.33 |
| 7. | Rajasthan | 31.70 |
| Total | | 65.53 |

(c) During the current year, the works to be undertaken are soil-moisture conservation, construction of water harvesting structures, afforestation, sand-dune stabilization, horticultural plantation, pasture development.

Statement

Desert Development Programme (DDP)

| Sl. No. | Name of District | Sl.No. | Name of Block | Area (in Ha.) |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------|------------------|---------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| ANDHRA PRADESH | | | | |
| 1. | Anantapur | 1. | Chennakothapalli | 108400 |
| | | 2. | Dharmavaram | 84000 |
| | | 3. | Gooty | 128000 |
| | | 4. | Hindupur | 175600 |
| | | 5. | Kadiri-East | 159900 |
| | | 6. | Kadiri-West | 140700 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|----------------|-------|-------------|---------|
| | | 7. | Kalyandurg | 96200 |
| | | 8. | Kambadur | 123800 |
| | | 9. | Kanekal | 91100 |
| | | 10. | Kudair | 126100 |
| | | 11. | Madakasira | 105400 |
| | | 12. | Penukonda | 95400 |
| | | 13. | Rayadurg | 85900 |
| | | 14. | Singanamala | 114500 |
| | | 15. | Tadipatri | 159000 |
| | | 16. | Uravakonda | 119600 |
| | | Total | | 1913600 |
| | Andhra Pradesh | 16. | Blocks | 1913600 |

GUJARAT

| | | | | |
|----|--------------------|-------|------------------------|--------|
| 1. | Banaskantha | 1. | Bhabhar (Deodar & Vav) | |
| | | 2. | Dantivada (Dhanera) | |
| | | 3. | Deodar | 102200 |
| | | 4. | Dhanera | 108900 |
| | | 5. | Kankarej | 79700 |
| | | 6. | Tharad | 135100 |
| | | 7. | Vav | 130900 |
| | | Total | | 556800 |
| 2. | Jamnagar | 1. | Bhanwad | 73300 |
| | | 2. | Dhrol | 57000 |
| | | 3. | Jamjodhpur | 109700 |
| | | 4. | Jamnagar | 122300 |
| | | 5. | Jodiya | 86400 |
| | | 6. | Kalyanpur | 141600 |
| | | 7. | Khambhalia | 121600 |
| | | 8. | Lalpur | 107700 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----------|---------------|-----|---------------------------|---------|
| | | 9. | Okhamandal (Dwarka) | 71900 |
| | | | Total | 891500 |
| 3. | Kutch | 1. | Abdasa | 240500 |
| | | 2. | Anjar | 135300 |
| | | 3. | Bhachav | 202200 |
| | | 4. | Bhuj | 458100 |
| | | 5. | Gandhidham (Anjar) | |
| | | 6. | Lakhapat | 188600 |
| | | 7. | Mandvi | 142500 |
| | | 8. | Mundra | 88000 |
| | | 9. | Nakhatram | 98700 |
| | | 10. | Rapar | 302700 |
| | | | Total | 1856600 |
| 4. | Patan | 1. | Harji | 37700 |
| | | 2. | Radhanpur | 59200 |
| | | 3. | Sami | 151500 |
| | | 4. | Santhalpur | 129600 |
| | | | Total | 378000 |
| 5. | Rajkot | 1. | Dhoraji | 29100 |
| | | 2. | Gondal | 114800 |
| | | 3. | Jam Kandorna | 56700 |
| | | 4. | Jasdan | 132300 |
| | | 5. | Kotada Sangani | 45100 |
| | | 6. | Lodhika | 37100 |
| | | 7. | Malia | 75500 |
| | | 8. | Morvi | 169200 |
| | | 9. | Padadhari | 65100 |
| | | 10. | Rajkot | 106400 |
| | | 11. | Tankara (Part of 8,9 &12) | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----------|----------------------|------------|-----------------|----------------|
| | | 12. | Vankaner | 111700 |
| | | | Total | 943000 |
| 6. | Surendranagar | 1. | Chotila | 105800 |
| | | 2. | Chuda (Limbdii) | |
| | | 3. | Dasada | 16400 |
| | | 4. | Dhrangadhra | 136900 |
| | | 5. | Halvad | 123200 |
| | | 6. | Lakhtar | 73500 |
| | | 7. | Limbdii | 172400 |
| | | 8. | Muli | 93600 |
| | | 9. | Sayala | 97300 |
| | | 10. | Vadhvan | 97400 |
| | | | Total | 916500 |
| | Gujarat | 52. | Blocks | 5542400 |
| | | | HARYANA | |
| 1. | Bhiwani | 1. | Badhra | 51700 |
| | | 2. | Bawani Khera | 50900 |
| | | 3. | Bhiwani | 64200 |
| | | 4. | Dadri-I | 43300 |
| | | 5. | Dadri-II | 42100 |
| | | 6. | Loharu | 68100 |
| | | 7. | Siwani | 55100 |
| | | 8. | Tosham | 82900 |
| | | 9. | Kairu | |
| | | | Total | 458300 |
| 2. | Hissar | 1. | Adampur | 29800 |
| | | 2. | Agroha | 44500 |
| | | 3. | Barwala | 50400 |
| | | 4. | Hansi-I | 55400 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----------|---------------------|----|-----------------|--------|----|---------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------|
| | | 5. | Hansi-II | 31900 | 7. | Sirsa | 1. | Baragudha | 51500 |
| | | 6. | Hissar-I | 52400 | | | 2. | Debwali | 82400 |
| | | 7. | Hissar-II | 78100 | | | 3. | Ellenabad | 55100 |
| | | 8. | Narnaund | 37300 | | | 4. | Nathusari | 73400 |
| | | 9. | Uklana | 28400 | | | 5. | Odhan | 45500 |
| | | | Total | 408200 | | | 6. | Rania | 57600 |
| 3. | Fatehabad | 1. | Fatehabad | 51400 | | | 7. | Sirsa | 54400 |
| | | 2. | Ratia | 58800 | | | | Total | 419900 |
| | | 3. | Bhattu Kalan | 41900 | | Haryana | 45 | Blocks | 2054200 |
| | | 4. | Tohana | 46500 | | | | HIMACHAL PRADESH | |
| | | 5. | Bhuna | 41400 | 1. | Kinnaur | 1. | Pooh | 2127200 |
| | | | Total | 240000 | | | | Total | 2127200 |
| 4. | Jhajjar | 1. | Bahadurgarh | 43600 | 2. | Lahaul & Spiti | 1. | Lahaul | 624400 |
| | | 2. | Beri | 30900 | | | 2. | Spiti at Kaza | 759100 |
| | | 3. | Jhajjar | 47400 | | | | Total | 1383500 |
| | | 4. | Matan-Hail | 31500 | | Himachal | 3. | Blocks | 3510700 |
| | | 5. | Sahalawas | 30200 | | | | JAMMU AND KASHMIR | |
| | | | Total | 183600 | 1. | Kargil | 1. | Drass | |
| 5. | Mohindergarh | 1. | Ateli | 31600 | | | 2. | Kargil | |
| | | 2. | Kanina | 37700 | | | 3. | Sanko | 1403600 |
| | | 3. | Mohindergarh | 59600 | | | 4. | Shakarchitotan | |
| | | 4. | Nagal Chaudhary | 34900 | | | 5. | Zenskar | |
| | | 5. | Narnaul | 27700 | | | 6. | Shargole | |
| | | | Total | 191500 | | | 7. | Taisuru | |
| | | | | | | | | Total | 1403600 |
| 6. | Rewari | 1. | Bawal | 31200 | 2. | Leh | 1. | Darbuk | |
| | | 2. | Jatusana | 35100 | | | 2. | Khalsi | |
| | | 3. | Khol | 27500 | | | 3. | Leh | 8266500 |
| | | 4. | Nahar | 28500 | | | 4. | Nobra | |
| | | 5. | Rewari | 30400 | | | 5. | Noyama | } |
| | | | Total | 152700 | | | | Total | 8266500 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|------------------|----------------|
| | Jammu and Kashmir | 12 | Blocks | 9670100 |
| | | | KARNATAKA | |
| 1. | Bagalkot | 1. | Bagalkot | 93600 |
| | | 2. | Badami | 140600 |
| | | 3. | Biligi | 78200 |
| | | 4. | Hungund | 135300 |
| | | 5. | Jamakandi | 116900 |
| | | 6. | Mudhol | 95500 |
| | | | Total | 660100 |
| 2. | Bellary | 1. | Hadagalli | 103500 |
| | | 2. | Kudligi | 178600 |
| | | 3. | Mella Puram | 48600 |
| | | 4. | Sandur | 124600 |
| | | | Total | 455300 |
| 3. | Bijapur | 1. | B. Bagewadi | 197900 |
| | | 2. | Bijapur | 265800 |
| | | 3. | Indi | 222400 |
| | | 4. | Muddebihal | 150600 |
| | | 5. | Sindagi | 218100 |
| | | | Total | 1054800 |
| 4. | Davanagere | 1. | Harapanahalli | 154100 |
| | | | Total | 154100 |
| 5. | Koppal | 1. | Koppal | 135800 |
| | | 2. | Kushtagi | 134500 |
| | | 3. | Yelaburga | 141200 |
| | | | Total | 411500 |
| 6. | Raichur | 1. | Devadurga | 150100 |
| | | 2. | Lingasugur | 189500 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----------|------------------|------------|------------------|----------------|
| | | 3. | Raichur | 154100 |
| | | | Total | 493700 |
| | Karnataka | 22. | Blocks | 3229500 |
| | | | RAJASTHAN | |
| 1. | Ajmer | 1. | Kishangarh | 110700 |
| | | 2. | Pisangan | 120400 |
| | | 3. | Srinagar | 89800 |
| | | | Total | 320900 |
| 2. | Barmer | 1. | Baitu | 332500 |
| | | 2. | Barmer | 353200 |
| | | 3. | Chohatan | 328500 |
| | | 4. | Guralamani | 269000 |
| | | 5. | Pachpadra | 343100 |
| | | 6. | Sheo | 661600 |
| | | 7. | Shindhari | 310200 |
| | | 8. | Siwana | 204500 |
| | | | Total | 2802600 |
| 3. | Bikaner | 1. | Bikaner | 848900 |
| | | 2. | Kolayat | 792600 |
| | | 3. | Loonkaransar | 623200 |
| | | 4. | Nokha | 382500 |
| | | | Total | 2647200 |
| 4. | Churu | 1. | Dungargarh | 300400 |
| | | 2. | Rajgarh | 220300 |
| | | 3. | Ranangarh | 158900 |
| | | 4. | Ratangarh | 169800 |
| | | 5. | Sardashahar | 384700 |
| | | 6. | Sujangarh | 269400 |
| | | 7. | Taranagar | 182600 |
| | | | Total | 1686100 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|---------------------|----|-------------|---------|-----|---------------|-----|-------------|---------|
| 5. | Hanumangarh | 1. | Bhadra | 174000 | 4. | Bilara | | | 149800 |
| | (Ganganagar) | 2. | Nohar | 434000 | 5. | Jodhpur | | | 128200 |
| | | | Total | 608000 | 6. | Luni | | | 197900 |
| 6. | Jaipur | 1. | Dudu | 133800 | 7. | Osian | | | 424800 |
| | | | Total | 133800 | 8. | Phalandi | | | 311800 |
| 7. | Jaisalmer | 1. | Jaisalmer | 1148300 | 9. | Shergarh | | | 197900 |
| | | 2. | Sam | 2182800 | | Total | | | 2208900 |
| | | 3. | Shankara | 516400 | 11. | Nagaur | 1. | Deedwana | 165000 |
| | | | Total | 3847500 | | | 2. | Degana | 146000 |
| 8. | Jalore | 1. | Ahore | 135700 | | | 3. | Jayal | 208000 |
| | | 2. | Bhinmal | 127500 | | | 4. | Kuchaman | 152000 |
| | | 3. | Jalore | 118700 | | | 5. | Ladnu | 126000 |
| | | 4. | Jaswantpur | 107000 | | | 6. | Makrana | 114000 |
| | | 5. | Raniwara | 96700 | | | 7. | Metra | 142000 |
| | | 6. | Sanchore | 301900 | | | 8. | Mundwa | 235000 |
| | | 7. | Sayala | 145600 | | | 9. | Nagaur | 235000 |
| | | | Total | 1033100 | | | 10. | Parbatsar | 108000 |
| 9. | Jhunjhunu | 1. | Alsisar | 80700 | | | 11. | Riyan | 128000 |
| | | 2. | Buhana | 62800 | | | | Total | 1759000 |
| | | 3. | Chirawa | 52400 | 12. | Pali | 1. | Bali | 137900 |
| | | 4. | Jhunjhunu | 64600 | | | 2. | Desuri | 74000 |
| | | 5. | Khetri | 80500 | | | 3. | Jaitaran | 127000 |
| | | 6. | Nawalgarh | 67100 | | | 4. | Kharchi | 140100 |
| | | 7. | Surajgarh | 74800 | | | 5. | Pali | 144400 |
| | | 8. | Udaipurwati | 81100 | | | 6. | Raipur | 105000 |
| | | | Total | 564000 | | | 7. | Ranistation | 170000 |
| 10. | Jodhpur | 1. | Balesar | 183800 | | | 8. | Rohat | 29400 |
| | | 2. | Bap | 438200 | | | 9. | Sojot | 161500 |
| | | 3. | Bhopalgarh | 176500 | | | 10. | Sumerpur | 99400 |
| | | | | | | | | Total | 1188700 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--------------|-----------|-------|--------------|----------|
| 13. | Rajsamand | 1. | Bhim | 63700 |
| | | 2. | Devgarh | 63000 |
| | | | Total | 126700 |
| 14. | Sikar | 1. | Dantaramgarh | 113900 |
| | | 2. | Dhond | 91100 |
| | | 3. | Fatehpur | 125300 |
| | | 4. | Khandela | 73900 |
| | | 5. | Lachmangarh | 104300 |
| | | 6. | Neemkathana | 118200 |
| | | 7. | Piprali | 78800 |
| | | 8. | Srimadhapur | 62100 |
| | | Total | 767600 | |
| 15. | Sirohi | 1. | Shivganj | 89500 |
| | | | Total | 89500 |
| 16. | Udaipur | 1. | Gogunda | 90800 |
| | | | Total | 90800 |
| | Rajasthan | 85 | Blocks | 19874400 |
| DDP Total: | | 235 | Blocks | 45794900 |
| 40 Districts | | | | |

[Translation]

Strikes by Employees

3677. SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether workers in many public, private organised, unorganised and other sectors/organisations resorted to strikes during each of the last three years in support of their demands for better wages reinstatement of retrenched workers and etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the name of main sectors affected by such strikes;

(c) whether the demands of the workers have been settled amicably in all these sectors;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the total loss suffered by the Government as a result thereof during the said period, State-wise, sector-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Blast in Submarine

3678. SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a blast has reportedly taken place in a submarine at Vishakhapatnam recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of people dead/injured in the incident and the financial loss incurred therein;

(d) the investigation conducted and outcome thereof;

(e) whether efforts were made to protect the submarine from further damages and to save the life of people in the submarine; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (f) On the 26th February, 2010, a blast occurred in one of the battery pits of the Indian Navy submarine, INS Sindhurakshak, when the vessel was alongside Visakhapatnam harbour. The accident resulted in the demise of one Naval personnel, who was inside the submarine. However, efforts were made by the crew to protect the submarine and its crew from further damage. A Board of Inquiry has been constituted by the Indian Navy to investigate into the circumstances leading to the blast.

Completion of Projects Under IWMP

3679: SHRI S. PAKKIRAPPA:
SHRIMATI SHRUTI CHOUDHRY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of districts covered so far and projects sanctioned under each component of Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise;

(b) the details of projects out of them completed so far and those which are still incomplete/ongoing along with those which have yet not started State-wise;

(c) the reasons for non-start/completion of the concerned projects alongwith the expected time of their start/completion;

(d) the amount of funds allocated/released/utilised and achievements made under IWMP during the said period, State-wise and component-wise; and

(e) the effective steps taken by the Government to ensure proper implementation of IWMP and utilisation of funds thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI): (a) The projects under IWMP are being sanctioned from 2009-10 only. The District-wise details of projects

sanctioned under IWMP during 2009-10 are furnished the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c) Since the projects under IWMP are being sanctioned from 2009-10, the projects are under preparatory phase only. The project period is 4-7 years and it comprises of three phases viz. Preparatory Phase of 1-2 years, Works Phase of 2-3 years and Consolidation and Withdrawal Phase of 1-2 years.

(d) The State-wise details of central funds released under IWMP is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) The effective steps taken by the Government include the provision of treatment of micro-watersheds on cluster basis, reduced number of installments, delegation of power of sanction of projects to the States, dedicated institutions, capacity building of stakeholders, monitoring and evaluation, specific budget provision for detailed project report preparation and livelihood component.

Statement I

District-wise details of projects sanctioned under Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) during 2009-10

(Rs. in Crores)

ANDHRA PRADESH

| District | No. of projects | Area (ha) | Total project cost | Total Central share | Total State share | Total Central Share released during 2009-10 |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Adilabad | 9 | 36000 | 43.2000 | 38.8800 | 4.3200 | 2.3328 |
| Anantapur | 15 | 59205 | 71.0460 | 63.9414 | 7.1046 | 3.8365 |
| Chittoor | 9 | 38025 | 45.6300 | 41.0670 | 4.5630 | 2.4640 |
| Kadapa | 7 | 28000 | 33.6000 | 30.2400 | 3.3600 | 1.8144 |
| Khammam | 2 | 10000 | 12.0000 | 10.8000 | 1.2000 | 0.6480 |
| Kurnool | 13 | 63010 | 75.6120 | 68.0508 | 7.5612 | 4.0830 |
| Mahabubnagar | 16 | 64150 | 76.9800 | 69.2820 | 7.6980 | 4.1569 |
| Medak | 5 | 25300 | 30.3600 | 27.3240 | 3.0360 | 1.6394 |
| Nalgonda | 9 | 34500 | 41.4000 | 37.2600 | 4.1400 | 2.2356 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-------------------------|-----|--------|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| Prakasam | 14 | 67600 | 81.1200 | 73.0080 | 8.1120 | 4.3805 |
| Ranga Reddy | 7 | 28143 | 33.7716 | 30.3944 | 3.3772 | 1.8237 |
| Srikakulam | 4 | 19508 | 23.4096 | 21.0686 | 2.3410 | 1.2641 |
| Total | 110 | 473441 | 568.1292 | 511.3162 | 56.813 | 30.6789 |
| HIMACHAL PRADESH | | | | | | |
| Bilaspur | 3 | 8154 | 12.2310 | 11.0079 | 1.2231 | 0.6605 |
| Chamba | 3 | 20162 | 30.2430 | 27.2187 | 3.0243 | 1.6331 |
| Hamirpur | 2 | 7800 | 11.7000 | 10.5300 | 1.1700 | 0.6318 |
| Kangra | 5 | 26857 | 40.2855 | 36.2570 | 4.0286 | 2.1754 |
| Kinnaur | 3 | 10000 | 15.0000 | 13.5000 | 1.5000 | 0.8100 |
| Kullu | 1 | 5983 | 8.9745 | 8.0771 | 0.8975 | 0.4846 |
| Lahaul Spiti | 2 | 10000 | 15.0000 | 13.5000 | 1.5000 | 0.8100 |
| Mandi | 4 | 32636 | 48.9540 | 44.0586 | 4.8954 | 2.6435 |
| Shimla | 7 | 34890 | 52.3350 | 47.1015 | 5.2335 | 2.8261 |
| Sirmour | 2 | 13549 | 20.3235 | 18.2912 | 2.0324 | 1.0975 |
| Solan | 3 | 26108 | 39.1620 | 35.2458 | 3.9162 | 2.1147 |
| Una | 1 | 7693 | 11.5395 | 10.3856 | 1.1540 | 0.6231 |
| Total | 36 | 203832 | 305.748 | 275.1734 | 30.5750 | 16.5103 |
| MADHYA PRADESH | | | | | | |
| Alirajpur | 4 | 20504 | 24.6048 | 22.1443 | 2.4605 | 1.3287 |
| Barwani | 3 | 17416 | 20.8992 | 18.8093 | 2.0899 | 1.1286 |
| Betul | 5 | 26161 | 31.3932 | 28.2539 | 3.1393 | 1.6952 |
| Bhopal | 4 | 20000 | 24.0000 | 21.6000 | 2.4000 | 1.2960 |
| Chhattarpur | 6 | 31981 | 38.3772 | 34.5395 | 3.8377 | 2.0724 |
| Chhindwara | 3 | 19500 | 23.4000 | 21.0600 | 2.3400 | 1.2636 |
| Damoh | 4 | 19140 | 22.9680 | 20.6712 | 2.2968 | 1.2403 |
| Datia | 3 | 17456 | 20.9472 | 18.8525 | 2.0947 | 1.1311 |
| Dhar | 4 | 21284 | 25.5408 | 22.9867 | 2.5541 | 1.3792 |
| Guna | 3 | 20000 | 24.0000 | 21.6000 | 2.4000 | 1.2960 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---------------|-----|--------|----------|----------|--------|---------|
| Gwalior | 4 | 21752 | 26.1024 | 23.4922 | 2.6102 | 1.4095 |
| Indore | 3 | 18035 | 21.6420 | 19.4778 | 2.1642 | 1.1687 |
| Jabalpur | 4 | 25725 | 30.8700 | 27.7830 | 3.0870 | 1.6670 |
| Jhabua | 4 | 20002 | 24.0024 | 21.6022 | 2.4002 | 1.2961 |
| Katni | 3 | 20000 | 24.0000 | 21.6000 | 2.4000 | 1.2960 |
| Khandwa | 4 | 22650 | 27.1800 | 24.4620 | 2.7180 | 1.4677 |
| Khargone | 3 | 21000 | 25.2000 | 22.6800 | 2.5200 | 1.3608 |
| Mandla | 3 | 19675 | 23.6100 | 21.2490 | 2.3610 | 1.2749 |
| Mandsaur | 4 | 20084 | 24.1008 | 21.6907 | 2.4101 | 1.3014 |
| Morena | 3 | 21000 | 25.2000 | 22.6800 | 2.5200 | 1.3608 |
| Narasinghpur | 4 | 20791 | 24.9492 | 22.4543 | 2.4949 | 1.3473 |
| Neemuch | 3 | 18429 | 22.1148 | 19.9033 | 2.2115 | 1.1942 |
| Panna | 3 | 20000 | 24.0000 | 21.6000 | 2.4000 | 1.2960 |
| Ratlam | 4 | 25227 | 30.2724 | 27.2452 | 3.0272 | 1.6347 |
| Rewa | 4 | 21834 | 26.2008 | 23.5807 | 2.6201 | 1.4148 |
| Sagar | 7 | 39356 | 47.2272 | 42.5045 | 4.7227 | 2.5503 |
| Satna | 1 | 4914 | 5.8968 | 5.3071 | 0.5897 | 0.3184 |
| Seoni | 2 | 19983 | 23.9796 | 21.5816 | 2.3980 | 1.2949 |
| Shivpuri | 2 | 12500 | 15.0000 | 13.5000 | 1.5000 | 0.8100 |
| Tikamgarh | 4 | 20600 | 24.7200 | 22.2480 | 2.4720 | 1.3349 |
| Ujjain | 4 | 22527 | 27.0324 | 24.3292 | 2.7032 | 1.4597 |
| Vidisha | 4 | 21483 | 25.7796 | 23.2016 | 2.5780 | 1.3921 |
| Total | 116 | 671009 | 805.2108 | 724.6898 | 80.521 | 43.4813 |
| PUNJAB | | | | | | |
| Gurdaspur | 1 | 1681 | 2.0172 | 1.8155 | 0.2017 | 0.1089 |
| Hoshiarpur | 3 | 19501 | 23.4012 | 21.0611 | 2.3401 | 1.2637 |
| Ropar | 2 | 14120 | 16.9440 | 15.2496 | 1.6944 | 0.9150 |
| Total | 6 | 35302 | 42.3624 | 38.1262 | 4.2362 | 2.2876 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|----------------------|----|--------|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| TAMIL NADU | | | | | | |
| Coimbatore | 3 | 15000 | 18.0000 | 16.2000 | 1.8000 | 0.9720 |
| Cuddalore | 1 | 5133 | 6.1596 | 5.5436 | 0.6160 | 0.3326 |
| Dharmapuri | 2 | 10000 | 12.0000 | 10.8000 | 1.2000 | 0.6480 |
| Dindigul | 2 | 10000 | 12.0000 | 10.8000 | 1.2000 | 0.6480 |
| Erode | 1 | 5000 | 6.0000 | 5.4000 | 0.6000 | 0.3240 |
| Kancheepuram | 2 | 10012 | 12.0144 | 10.8130 | 1.2014 | 0.6488 |
| Karur | 2 | 11000 | 13.2000 | 11.8800 | 1.3200 | 0.7128 |
| Krishnagiri | 2 | 10000 | 12.0000 | 10.8000 | 1.2000 | 0.6480 |
| Madurai | 2 | 10095 | 12.1140 | 10.9026 | 1.2114 | 0.6542 |
| Namakkal | 1 | 5000 | 6.0000 | 5.4000 | 0.6000 | 0.3240 |
| Perambalur | 2 | 10000 | 12.0000 | 10.8000 | 1.2000 | 0.6480 |
| Pudukkottai | 3 | 9379 | 11.2548 | 10.1293 | 1.1255 | 0.6078 |
| Ramanathapuram | 2 | 10000 | 12.0000 | 10.8000 | 1.2000 | 0.6480 |
| Salem | 3 | 15000 | 18.0000 | 16.2000 | 1.8000 | 0.9720 |
| Sivagangai | 3 | 15488 | 18.5856 | 16.7270 | 1.8586 | 1.0036 |
| Theni | 2 | 10000 | 12.0000 | 10.8000 | 1.2000 | 0.6480 |
| Thoothukudi | 2 | 14917 | 17.9004 | 16.1104 | 1.7900 | 0.9666 |
| Tiruchirappalli | 3 | 13500 | 16.2000 | 14.5800 | 1.6200 | 0.8748 |
| Tirunelveli | 2 | 10000 | 12.0000 | 10.8000 | 1.2000 | 0.6480 |
| Tiruvallur | 1 | 5000 | 6.0000 | 5.4000 | 0.6000 | 0.3240 |
| Tiruvannamalai | 2 | 10000 | 12.0000 | 10.8000 | 1.2000 | 0.6480 |
| Vellore | 2 | 10000 | 12.0000 | 10.8000 | 1.2000 | 0.6480 |
| Villupuram | 2 | 10000 | 12.0000 | 10.8000 | 1.2000 | 0.6480 |
| Virudhunagar | 3 | 15000 | 18.0000 | 16.2000 | 1.8000 | 0.9720 |
| Total | 50 | 249524 | 299.4288 | 269.4859 | 29.9429 | 16.1692 |
| UTTAR PRADESH | | | | | | |
| Aligarh | 1 | 4959 | 5.9508 | 5.3557 | 0.5951 | 0.3213 |
| Ambedkarnagar | 1 | 5085 | 6.1020 | 5.4918 | 0.6102 | 0.3295 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-----------------|---|-------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| Auriya | 1 | 6177 | 7.4124 | 6.6712 | 0.7412 | 0.4003 |
| Azamgarh | 1 | 6839 | 8.2068 | 7.3861 | 0.8207 | 0.4432 |
| Badaun | 1 | 5104 | 6.1248 | 5.5123 | 0.6125 | 0.3307 |
| Banda | 2 | 10800 | 12.9600 | 11.6640 | 1.2960 | 0.6998 |
| Barabanki | 1 | 7188 | 8.6256 | 7.7630 | 0.8626 | 0.4658 |
| Bareilly | 1 | 5038 | 6.0456 | 5.4410 | 0.6046 | 0.3265 |
| Basti | 1 | 4571 | 5.4852 | 4.9367 | 0.5485 | 0.2962 |
| Bulandshaher | 1 | 4229 | 5.0748 | 4.5673 | 0.5075 | 0.2740 |
| Chitrakoot | 3 | 16972 | 20.3664 | 18.3298 | 2.0366 | 1.0998 |
| Deoria | 1 | 4304 | 5.1648 | 4.6483 | 0.5165 | 0.2789 |
| Etah | 1 | 4081 | 4.8972 | 4.4075 | 0.4897 | 0.2644 |
| Faizabad | 1 | 5104 | 6.1248 | 5.5123 | 0.6125 | 0.3307 |
| Fartehpur | 1 | 5205 | 6.2460 | 5.6214 | 0.6246 | 0.3373 |
| Firozabad | 1 | 5132 | 6.1584 | 5.5426 | 0.6158 | 0.3326 |
| Ghazipur | 1 | 4304 | 5.1648 | 4.6483 | 0.5165 | 0.2789 |
| Gorakhpur | 1 | 3677 | 4.4124 | 3.9712 | 0.4412 | 0.2383 |
| Hameerpur | 3 | 14657 | 17.5884 | 15.8296 | 1.7588 | 0.9498 |
| Hardoi | 1 | 5766 | 6.9192 | 6.2273 | 0.6919 | 0.3736 |
| Hathras | 1 | 4039 | 4.8468 | 4.3621 | 0.4847 | 0.2617 |
| Jalaun | 5 | 22178 | 26.6136 | 23.9522 | 2.6614 | 1.4371 |
| Jhansi | 3 | 17550 | 21.0600 | 18.9540 | 2.1060 | 1.1372 |
| JP Nagar | 1 | 5523 | 6.6276 | 5.9648- | 0.6628 | 0.3579 |
| Kannauj | 1 | 4989 | 5.9868 | 5.3881 | 0.5987 | 0.3233 |
| Kanpur Nagar | 1 | 6696 | 8.0352 | 7.2317 | 0.8035 | 0.4339 |
| Kausambi | 1 | 5126 | 6.1512 | 5.5361 | 0.6151 | 0.3322 |
| Kushi Nagar | 1 | 5864 | 7.0368 | 6.3331 | 0.7037 | 0.3800 |
| Lakhimpur Kheri | 1 | 6837 | 8.2044 | 7.3840 | 0.8204 | 0.4430 |
| Lalitpur | 4 | 17550 | 21.0600 | 18.9540 | 2.1060 | 1.1372 |
| Mahoba | 7 | 35293 | 42.3516 | 38.1164 | 4.2352 | 2.2870 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|--------------------|----|----------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|
| Mainpuri | 1 | 4004 | 4.8048 | 4.3243 | 0.4805 | 0.2595 |
| Meerut | 1 | 4779 | 5.7348 | 5.1613 | 0.5735 | 0.3097 |
| Mirzapur | 1 | 4198 | 5.0376 | 4.5338 | 0.5038 | 0.2720 |
| Muradabad | 1 | 6180 | 7.4160 | 6.6744 | 0.7416 | 0.4005 |
| Muzaffer Nagar | 1 | 6995 | 8.3940 | 7.5546 | 0.8394 | 0.4533 |
| Pratapgarh | 1 | 6686 | 8.0232 | 7.2209 | 0.8023 | 0.4333 |
| Raibareili | 1 | 6391 | 7.6692 | 6.9023 | 0.7669 | 0.4141 |
| Rampur | 1 | 6768 | 8.1216 | 7.3094 | 0.8122 | 0.4386 |
| Saharanpur | 1 | 6849 | 8.2188 | 7.3969 | 0.8219 | 0.4438 |
| Sant Kabir Nagar | 1 | 3666 | 4.3992 | 3.9593 | 0.4399 | 0.2376 |
| Sant Ravidas Nagar | 1 | 5082 | 6.0984 | 5.4886 | 0.6098 | 0.3293 |
| Shajahanpur | 1 | 6926 | 8.3112 | 7.4801 | 0.8311 | 0.4488 |
| Siddharth Nagar | 1 | 6710 | 8.0520 | 7.2468 | 0.8052 | 0.4348 |
| Sultanpur | 1 | 7091 | 8.5092 | 7.6583 | 0.8509 | 0.4595 |
| Unnao | 1 | 6820 | 8.1840 | 7.3656 | 0.8184 | 0.4419 |
| Total | 66 | 349982 | 419.9784 | 377.9805 | 41.9979 | 22.6788 |
| KARNATAKA | | | | | | |
| Bagalkote | 4 | 16989 | 25.4835 | 22.93515 | 2.54835 | 4.587 |
| Bangalore Rural | 3 | 12715.71 | 15.25885 | 13.732965 | 1.525885 | 2.747 |
| Belgaum | 8 | 23365.06 | 33.44567 | 30.101103 | 3.344567 | 6.020 |
| Bellary | 6 | 18486.06 | 25.91409 | 23.322681 | 2.591409 | 4.665 |
| Bidar | 4 | 20581 | 24.6972 | 22.22748 | 2.46972 | 4.445 |
| Bijapur | 5 | 17993.75 | 26.99063 | 24.291567 | 2.699063 | 4.858 |
| Chamrajnagar | 3 | 16572.22 | 19.88666 | 17.897994 | 1.988666 | 3.580 |
| Chikballapur | 5 | 23405 | 28.086 | 25.2774 | 2.8086 | 5.055 |
| Chikmagalur | 2 | 10788 | 12.9456 | 11.65104 | 1.29456 | 2.330 |
| Chitradurga | 6 | 26177 | 31.4124 | 28.27116 | 3.14124 | 5.654 |
| Dakshina Kannda | 2 | 9028 | 12.0327 | 10.82943 | 1.20327 | 2.166 |
| Davengere | 5 | 25582.18 | 32.47764 | 29.229876 | 3.247764 | 5.846 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---------------|------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Dharwad | 4 | 15484 | 18.5808 | 16.72272 | 1.85808 | 3.345 |
| Gadag | 4 | 20443.67 | 24.5324 | 22.07916 | 2.45324 | 4.416 |
| Gulbarga | 6 | 25044 | 30.0528 | 27.04752 | 3.00528 | 5.410 16 |
| Hassan | 5 | 17493.01 | 20.99161 | 18.892449 | 2.099161 | 3.778 |
| Haveri | 5 | 21907 | 26.2884 | 23.65956 | 2.62884 | 4.732 |
| Kolar | 5 | 25649.66 | 30.77959 | 27.701631 | 3.077959 | 5.540 |
| Koppal | 4 | 18564 | 26.7918 | 24.11262 | 2.67918 | 4.823 |
| Mandya | 3 | 12650 | 15.18 | 13.662 | 1.518 | 2.732 |
| Mysore | 4 | 15683 | 18.8196 | 16.93764 | 1.88196 | 3.388 |
| Raichur | 4 | 15410 | 20.658 | 18.5922 | 2.0658 | 3.718 |
| Ramnagar | 2 | 9525 | 11.43 | 10.287 | 1.143 | 2.057 |
| Shimoga | 8 | 32391 | 48.036 | 43.2324 | 4.8036 | 8.646 |
| Tumkur | 8 | 20292.58 | 24.3511 | 21.91599 | 2.43511 | 4.383 |
| Udupi | 1 | 4382 | 5.2584 | 4.73256 | 0.52584 | 0.947 |
| Uttar Kanadda | 3 | 14867.66 | 22.30149 | 20.071341 | 2.230149 | 4.014 |
| Total | 119 | 491469.56 | 632.68293 | 569.414637 | 63.268293 | 113.88 |

*Part of 14% of 1st installment *i.e.* Rs. 32.88 Crore has been released on 09.04.2010

MAHARASHTRA

| | | | | | | |
|------------|----|----------|----------|----------|---------|------|
| Ahmednagar | 3 | 11722.81 | 14.06000 | 12.65400 | 1.40600 | 0.76 |
| Akola | 1 | 3865.46 | 4.64000 | 4.17600 | 0.46400 | 0.25 |
| Amravati | 8 | 35791.20 | 42.94000 | 38.64600 | 4.29400 | 2.32 |
| Aurangabad | 9 | 48085.97 | 57.69000 | 51.92100 | 5.76900 | 3.12 |
| Beed | 17 | 70503.24 | 84.63000 | 76.16700 | 8.46300 | 4.57 |
| Buldhana | 9 | 41321.00 | 49.60000 | 44.64000 | 4.96000 | 2.68 |
| Chandrapur | 3 | 10574.26 | 12.69000 | 11.42100 | 1.26900 | 0.69 |
| Dhule | 11 | 40567.85 | 48.68000 | 43.81200 | 4.86800 | 2.63 |
| Gadchiroli | 4 | 20031.00 | 24.04000 | 21.63600 | 2.40400 | 1.30 |
| Hingoli | 5 | 24013.00 | 28.81000 | 25.92900 | 2.88100 | 1.56 |
| Jalana | 7 | 30709.00 | 36.84000 | 33.15600 | 3.68400 | 1.99 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-----------------------|-----|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Jalgaon | 7 | 25446.19 | 30.54000 | 27.48600 | 3.05400 | 1.65 |
| Nanded | 9 | 44287.00 | 53.14000 | 47.82600 | 5.31400 | 2.87 |
| Kolhapur | 8 | 39101.20 | 58.65000 | 52.78500 | 5.86500 | 3.17 |
| Latur | 6 | 17746.15 | 21.29000 | 19.16100 | 2.12900 | 1.15 |
| Nandurbar | 4 | 10860.48 | 13.03000 | 11.72700 | 1.30300 | 0.70 |
| Nashik | 11 | 32805.92 | 49.20000 | 44.28000 | 4.92000 | 2.66 |
| Osmanabad | 8 | 37351.00 | 44.83000 | 40.34700 | 4.48300 | 2.42 |
| Parbhani | 10 | 38373.29 | 46.05000 | 41.44500 | 4.60500 | 2.49 |
| Pune | 10 | 46100.16 | 55.32000 | 49.78800 | 5.53200 | 2.99 |
| Raigad | 15 | 49766.00 | 74.66000 | 67.19400 | 7.46600 | 4.03 |
| Ratnagiri | 15 | 67577.00 | 95.22000 | 85.69800 | 9.52200 | 5.14 |
| Sangli | 9 | 34095.18 | 40.92000 | 36.82800 | 4.09200 | 2.21 |
| Satara | 25 | 98227.51 | 121.46000 | 109.31400 | 12.14600 | 6.56 |
| Sindhudurg | 4 | 19283.14 | 28.92000 | 26.02800 | 2.89200 | 1.56 |
| Sholapur | 13 | 48036.97 | 57.66000 | 51.89400 | 5.76600 | 3.11 |
| Thane | 4 | 14947.24 | 17.94000 | 16.14600 | 1.79400 | 0.97 |
| Washim | 2 | 9821.00 | 11.78000 | 10.60200 | 1.17800 | 0.64 |
| Yaotmal | 6 | 24878.77 | 29.85000 | 26.86500 | 2.98500 | 1.61 |
| Total | 243 | 995888.990 | 1255.080 | 1129.572 | 125.508 | 67.774 |
| CHHATTISGARH | | | | | | |
| Raigarh | 4 | 25124.00 | 30.14880 | 27.13392 | 3.01488 | 1.63 |
| Jashpur | 3 | 17612.23 | 21.13468 | 19.02121 | 2.11347 | 1.14 |
| Janjgir-Champa | 3 | 14378.49 | 17.25419 | 15.52877 | 1.72542 | 0.93 |
| Raipur | 3 | 13735.00 | 16.48200 | 14.83380 | 1.64820 | 0.89 |
| Jagdalpur (Bastar) | 3 | 14361.13 | 17.23336 | 15.51002 | 1.72334 | 0.93 |
| Koria | 3 | 11277.69 | 13.53323 | 12.17991 | 1.35332 | 0.73 |
| Korba | 2 | 6800.00 | 8.16000 | 7.34400 | 0.81600 | 0.44 |
| Rajnandgaon | 3 | 14011.00 | 16.81320 | 15.13188 | 1.68132 | 0.91 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|------------------|----|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-------|
| Dhamtari | 2 | 12750.00 | 15.30000 | 13.77000 | 1.53000 | 0.83 |
| Mahasamund | 2 | 10457.43 | 12.54892 | 11.29402 | 1.25489 | 0.68 |
| Durg | 2 | 10000.00 | 12.00000 | 10.80000 | 1.20000 | 0.65 |
| Dantewada | 2 | 6600.00 | 7.92000 | 7.12800 | 0.79200 | 0.43 |
| Kabirdham | 2 | 17238.00 | 20.68560 | 18.61704 | 2.06856 | 1.12 |
| Bilaspur | 3 | 19130.00 | 22.95600 | 20.66040 | 2.29560 | 1.24 |
| Kanker | 2 | 5501.62 | 6.60194 | 5.94175 | 0.66019 | 0.36 |
| Surguja | 2 | 12318.93 | 14.78272 | 13.30444 | 1.47827 | 0.80 |
| Grand Total | 41 | 211295.52 | 253.55462 | 228.19916 | 25.35546 | 13.69 |
| JHARKHAND | | | | | | |
| Deoghar | 1 | 6819.30 | 8.18316 | 7.36484 | 0.81832 | 0.44 |
| E Singhbhum | 2 | 10286.50 | 12.34380 | 11.10942 | 1.23438 | 0.67 |
| Giridih | 1 | 6494.62 | 7.79354 | 7.01419 | 0.77935 | 0.42 |
| Godda | 2 | 12296.45 | 14.75574 | 13.28017 | 1.47557 | 0.80 |
| Gumla | 1 | 8415.77 | 10.09892 | 9.08903 | 1.00989 | 0.55 |
| Jamtara | 1 | 3920.40 | 4.70448 | 4.23403 | 0.47045 | 0.25 |
| Hazaribag | 2 | 9784.45 | 11.74134 | 10.56721 | 1.17413 | 0.63 |
| Khunti | 1 | 6390.00 | 7.66800 | 6.90120 | 0.76680 | 0.41 |
| Pakur | 1 | 5266.80 | 6.32016 | 5.68814 | 0.63202 | 0.34 |
| Palamu | 1 | 5284.34 | 6.34121 | 5.70709 | 0.63412 | 0.34 |
| Ramgarh | 2 | 9967.30 | 11.96076 | 10.76468 | 1.19608 | 0.65 |
| Ranchi | 3 | 21676.93 | 26.01232 | 23.41108 | 2.60123 | 1.40 |
| Saraikele | 1 | 5042.70 | 6.05124 | 5.44612 | 0.60512 | 0.33 |
| W Singhbhum | 1 | 6178.50 | 7.41420 | 6.67278 | 0.74142 | 0.40 |
| Grand Total | 20 | 117824.052 | 141.389 | 127.250 | 14.139 | 7.635 |
| GUJARAT | | | | | | |
| Ahmedabad | 6 | 20000 | 24.00000 | 21.60000 | 2.40000 | 1.30 |
| Amreli | 6 | 25918 | 31.10160 | 27.99144 | 3.11016 | 1.68 |
| Anand | 5 | 21545 | 25.85388 | 23.26849 | 2.58539 | 1.40 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|----------------|-----|--------|-----------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Banaskantha | 6 | 29040 | 43.56000 | 39.20400 | 4.35600 | 2.35 |
| Bharuch | 5 | 20687 | 24.82428 | 22.34185 | 2.48243 | 1.34 |
| Bhavnagar | 6 | 30430 | 36.51670 | 32.86503 | 3.65167 | 1.97 |
| Dahod | 5 | 20002 | 24.00267 | 21.60240 | 2.40027 | 1.30 |
| Dangs | 5 | 26738 | 32.08566 | 28.87709 | 3.20857 | 1.73 |
| Gandhinagar | 3 | 15356 | 18.42732 | 16.58459 | 1.84273 | 1.00 |
| Jamnagar | 6 | 34047 | 51.07022 | 45.96320 | 5.10702 | 2.76 |
| Junagadh | 6 | 29328 | 35.19288 | 31.67359 | 3.51929 | 1.90 |
| Kuchchh | 18 | 105042 | 157.56239 | 141.80615 | 15.75624 | 8.51 |
| Kheda | 4 | 14736 | 17.68380 | 15.91542 | 1.76838 | 0.95 |
| Mehsana | 3 | 15000 | 18.00000 | 16.20000 | 1.80000 | 0.97 |
| Narmada | 5 | 24840 | 29.80794 | 26.82715 | 2.98079 | 1.61 |
| Navsari | 5 | 25610 | 30.73200 | 27.65880 | 3.07320 | 1.66 |
| Panchmahal | 6 | 21705 | 26.04575 | 23.44118 | 2.60458 | 1.41 |
| Patan | 7 | 29250 | 43.13000 | 38.81700 | 4.31300 | 2.33 |
| Porbandar | 3 | 15784 | 18.94039 | 17.04635 | 1.89404 | 1.02 |
| Rajkot | 9 | 36238 | 54.35745 | 48.92171 | 5.43575 | 2.94 |
| Sabarkantha | 6 | 30426 | 36.51079 | 32.85971 | 3.65108 | 1.97 |
| Surat | 3 | 15000 | 18.00000 | 16.20000 | 1.80000 | 0.97 |
| Surendranagar | 8 | 36401 | 54.60219 | 49.14197 | 5.46022 | 2.95 |
| Tapi | 4 | 20000 | 24.00000 | 21.60000 | 2.40000 | 1.30 |
| Vadodara | 7 | 25000 | 29.99983 | 26.99985 | 2.99998 | 1.62 |
| Valsad | 4 | 20084 | 24.10153 | 21.69138 | 2.41015 | 1.30 |
| Grand Total | 151 | 708207 | 930.10927 | 837.09834 | 93.01093 | 50.23 |
| Tripura | | | | | | |
| South Tripura | 3 | 8763 | 13.1445 | 11.8301 | 1.3145 | 0.7098 |
| West Tripura | 4 | 11924 | 17.8860 | 16.0974 | 1.7886 | 0.9658 |
| Dhalai | 1 | 3462 | 5.1930 | 4.6737 | 0.5193 | 0.2804 |
| North Tripura | 2 | 6134 | 9.2010 | 8.2809 | 0.9201 | 0.4969 |
| Total | 10 | 30283 | 45.4245 | 40.8821 | 4.5425 | 2.4529 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|------------------|----|--------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|
| Mizoram | | | | | | |
| Aizawl | 6 | 17265 | 25.8975 | 23.3078 | 2.5898 | 1.3985 |
| Champhai | 1 | 4421 | 6.6315 | 5.9684 | 0.6632 | 0.3581 |
| Kolasib | 1 | 2998 | 4.4970 | 4.0473 | 0.4497 | 0.2428 |
| Lawngtalai | 2 | 9388 | 14.0820 | 12.6738 | 1.4082 | 0.7604 |
| Lunglei | 3 | 15000 | 22.5000 | 20.2500 | 2.2500 | 1.2150 |
| Mamit | 1 | 4663 | 6.9945 | 6.2951 | 0.6995 | 0.3777 |
| Saiha | 1 | 4000 | 6.0000 | 5.4000 | 0.6000 | 0.3240 |
| Serchhip | 1 | 4700 | 7.0500 | 6.3450 | 0.7050 | 0.3807 |
| Total | 16 | 62435 | 93.6525 | 84.2873 | 9.3653 | 5.0572 |
| Nagaland | | | | | | |
| Parent | 2 | 9054 | 14.031 | 12.6279 | 1.4031 | 0.75767 |
| Kohima | 2 | 10854 | 15.831 | 14.2479 | 1.5831 | 0.85487 |
| Dimapur | 2 | 8408 | 12.612 | 11.3508 | 1.2612 | 0.68105 |
| Mokokchung | 2 | 10972 | 16.458 | 14.8122 | 1.6458 | 0.88873 |
| Phek | 2 | 9539 | 14.3085 | 12.87765 | 1.43085 | 0.77266 |
| Wokha | 2 | 10207 | 15.3105 | 13.77945 | 1.53105 | 0.82677 |
| Tuensang | 2 | 9985 | 14.9775 | 13.47975 | 1.49775 | 0.80879 |
| Zunheboto | 2 | 8084 | 12.126 | 10.9134 | 1.2126 | 0.65480 |
| Mon | 2 | 9000 | 13.5 | 12.15 | 1.35 | 0.72900 |
| Kiphire | 2 | 10667 | 16.0005 | 14.40045 | 1.60005 | 0.86403 |
| Longleng | 2 | 8959 | 13.4385 | 12.09465 | 1.34385 | 0.72568 |
| Total | 22 | 105729 | 158.5935 | 142.73415 | 15.85935 | 8.56405 |
| Meghalaya | | | | | | |
| East Khasi Hills | 3 | 4000 | 6.0000 | 5.4000 | 0.6000 | 0.3240 |
| West Khasi Hills | 2 | 5000 | 7.5000 | 6.7500 | 0.7500 | 0.4050 |
| Jaintia Hills | 2 | 5000 | 7.5000 | 6.7500 | 0.7500 | 0.4050 |
| Ri-Bhoi | 3 | 4000 | 6.0000 | 5.4000 | 0.6000 | 0.3240 |
| East Garo Hills | 2 | 4000 | 6.0000 | 5.4000 | 0.6000 | 0.3240 |
| West Garo Hills | 4 | 5000 | 7.5000 | 6.7500 | 0.7500 | 0.4050 |
| South Garo Hills | 2 | 3000 | 4.5000 | 4.0500 | 0.4500 | 0.2430 |
| Total | 18 | 30000 | 45.0000 | 40.5000 | 4.5000 | 2.4300 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|------------------|------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Rajasthan | | | | | | |
| Ajmer | 4 | 23338 | 31.5672 | 28.4105 | 3.1567 | 1.7046 |
| Alwar | 5 | 25981 | 31.1772 | 28.0595 | 3.1177 | 1.6836 |
| Banswara | 2 | 14066 | 16.8792 | 15.1913 | 1.6879 | 0.9115 |
| Baran | 3 | 17372 | 20.8464 | 18.7618 | 2.0846 | 1.1257 |
| Barmer | 16 | 100142 | 150.2130 | 135.1917 | 15.0213 | 8.1115 |
| Bharatpur | 2 | 15024 | 18.0288 | 16.2259 | 1.8029 | 0.9736 |
| Bhilwara | 6 | 33258 | 39.9096 | 35.9186 | 3.9910 | 2.1551 |
| Bikaner | 10 | 80000 | 120.0000 | 108.0000 | 12.0000 | 6.4800 |
| Bundi | 2 | 10242 | 12.2904 | 11.0614 | 1.2290 | 0.6637 |
| Chittorgarh | 4 | 21558 | 25.8696 | 23.2826 | 2.5870 | 1.3970 |
| Churu | 9 | 46550 | 69.8250 | 62.8425 | 6.9825 | 3.7706 |
| Dausa | 2 | 12006 | 14.4072 | 12.9665 | 1.4407 | 0.7780 |
| Dholpur | 2 | 9452 | 11.3424 | 10.2082 | 1.1342 | 0.6125 |
| Dungarpur | 2 | 9460 | 11.3520 | 10.2168 | 1.1352 | 0.6130 |
| Hanumangarh | 3 | 18814 | 28.2210 | 25.3989 | 2.8221 | 1.5239 |
| Jaipur | 6 | 33109 | 41.5767 | 37.4190 | 4.1577 | 2.2451 |
| Jaisalmer | 9 | 80000 | 120.0000 | 108.0000 | 12.0000 | 6.4800 |
| Jalore | 5 | 33647 | 50.4705 | 45.4235 | 5.0471 | 2.7254 |
| Jhalawar | 3 | 15659 | 18.7908 | 16.9117 | 1.8791 | 1.0147 |
| Jhunjhunu | 4 | 20490 | 30.7350 | 27.6615 | 3.0735 | 1.6597 |
| Jodhpur | 20 | 82000 | 123.0000 | 110.7000 | 12.3000 | 6.6420 |
| Karauli | 2 | 11139 | 13.3668 | 12.0301 | 1.3367 | 0.7218 |
| Kota | 2 | 10223 | 12.2676 | 11.0408 | 1.2268 | 0.6625 |
| Nagaur | 11 | 58082 | 87.1230 | 78.4107 | 8.7123 | 4.7046 |
| Pali | 8 | 40500 | 60.7500 | 54.6750 | 6.0750 | 3.2805 |
| Pratapgarh | 1 | 5247 | 6.2964 | 5.6668 | 0.6296 | 0.3400 |
| Rajsamand | 2 | 9993 | 13.4688 | 12.1219 | 1.3469 | 0.7273 |
| Sawai Madhopur | 3 | 15251 | 18.3012 | 16.4711 | 1.8301 | 0.9883 |
| Sikar | 5 | 25665 | 38.4975 | 34.6478 | 3.8498 | 2.0789 |
| Sirohi | 2 | 10232 | 12.2784 | 11.0506 | 1.2278 | 0.6630 |
| Tonk | 4 | 16638 | 19.9656 | 17.9690 | 1.9966 | 1.0781 |
| Udaipur | 3 | 16071 | 20.8569 | 18.7712 | 2.0857 | 1.1263 |
| Total | 162 | 925599 | 1294.9422 | 1165.4480 | 129.4942 | 69.9206 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|--------------------------|----|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| SIKKIM | | | | | | |
| North Sikkim | 1 | 9.75000 | 6500 | 8.77500 | 0.97500 | 0.52650 |
| East Sikkim | 2 | 12.00000 | 8000 | 10.80000 | 1.20000 | 0.64800 |
| Total: | 3 | 21.75000 | 14500 | 19.57500 | 2.17500 | 1.17450 |
| ARUNACHAL PRADESH | | | | | | |
| Anjaw | 1 | 7.41750 | 4945 | 6.67575 | 0.74175 | 0.400545 |
| Changlang | 1 | 5.78250 | 3855 | 5.20425 | 0.57825 | 0.312255 |
| East Kameng | 1 | 6.81300 | 4542 | 6.1317 | 0.6813 | 0.367902 |
| East Siang | 1 | 7.43400 | 4956 | 6.6906 | 0.7434 | 0.401436 |
| Kurung Kumey | 2 | 14.8305 | 9887 | 13.34745 | 1.48305 | 0.800847 |
| Lohit | 2 | 20.9853 | 14999 | 18.88677 | 2.09853 | 1.133206 |
| Lower Dibang Valley | 1 | 4.497 | 2998 | 4.04730 | 0.44970 | 0.2428380 |
| Papum Pare | 1 | 10.08 | 6720 | 9.07200 | 1.00800 | 0.5443200 |
| Upper Subansiri | 1 | 7.854 | 5236 | 7.06860 | 0.78540 | 0.4241160 |
| West Siang | 2 | 15.1755 | 10117 | 13.65795 | 15.1755 | 0.819477 |
| Total: | 13 | 100.86930 | 68255 | 90.78237 | 23.74488 | 5.446942 |
| ASSAM | | | | | | |
| Golaghat | 4 | 21.88440 | 18237 | 19.69596 | 2.18844 | 3.939194 |
| Gopalpara | 2 | 6.55080 | 5459 | 5.89572 | 0.65508 | 1.17904 |
| Kamrup | 3 | 12.91560 | 10763 | 11.62404 | 1.29156 | 2.32481 |
| Jorhat | 1 | 6.07560 | 5063 | 5.46804 | 0.60756 | 0.32808 |
| Sivagar | 2 | 13.50000 | 11250 | 12.15000 | 1.35000 | 0.72900 |
| Karbi Anglong | 8 | 40.07858 | 26719.05 | 36.07072 | 4.00786 | 7.213942 |
| Sonitpur | 4 | 18.16680 | 15139 | 16.35012 | 1.81668 | 2.045458 |
| Darrang | 2 | 10.38000 | 8650 | 9.34200 | 1.03800 | 1.12752 |
| Lakhimpur | 2 | 10.41000 | 8675 | 9.36900 | 1.04100 | 0.56214 |
| N.C.Hills | 1 | 7.92000 | 5280 | 7.12800 | 0.79200 | 1.4256 |
| Dibrugarh | 1 | 5.81760 | 4848 | 5.23584 | 0.58176 | 0.31415 |
| Tinsukia | 1 | 4.80000 | 4000 | 4.32000 | 0.48000 | 0.25920 |
| Bongaigaon | 1 | 6.71040 | 5592 | 6.03936 | 0.67104 | 0.36236 |
| Nagaon | 2 | 9.40920 | 7841 | 8.46828 | 0.94092 | 1.69366 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|--------------------|----|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|------------|
| Nalbari | 2 | 11.20800 | 9340 | 10.08720 | 1.12080 | 0.60523 |
| Baksa | 2 | 7.20000 | 6000 | 6.48000 | 0.72000 | 0.38880 |
| Dhemaji | 2 | 9.48720 | 7906 | 8.53848 | 0.94872 | 1.707697 |
| Kokrajhar | 4 | 14.40000 | 12000 | 12.96000 | 1.44000 | 0.77760 |
| Udalguri | 2 | 7.20000 | 6000 | 6.48000 | 0.72000 | 0.38880 |
| Chirang | 1 | 3.60000 | 3000 | 3.24000 | 0.36000 | 0.19440 |
| Karimganj | 1 | 6.17400 | 5145 | 5.55660 | 0.61740 | 1.11170 |
| Hailakandi | 1 | 2.96400 | 2470 | 2.66760 | 0.29640 | 0.53352 |
| Cachar | 2 | 10.26000 | 8550 | 9.23400 | 1.02600 | 1.84680 |
| Dhubri | 3 | 11.34960 | 9458 | 10.21464 | 1.13496 | 0.61288 |
| Morigaon | 1 | 5.97720 | 4981 | 5.37948 | 0.59772 | 0.32277 |
| Barpeta | 2 | 9.86400 | 8220 | 8.87760 | 0.98640 | 0.53266 |
| Grand Total | 57 | 274.30298 | 220586.1 | 246.8727 | 27.4303 | 32.52702 |
| ORISSA | | | | | | |
| Bargarh | 4 | 25.76400 | 21470 | 23.18760 | 2.57640 | 1.391256 |
| Bolangir | 4 | 22.80000 | 19000 | 20.52000 | 2.28000 | 1.2312 |
| Cuttack | 3 | 19.62720 | 16356 | 17.66448 | 1.96272 | 1.0598688 |
| Keonjhar | 4 | 26.83200 | 22360 | 24.148800 | 2.683200 | 1.448928 |
| Khandhamal | 5 | 31.56000 | 26300 | 28.40400 | 3.15600 | 1.70424 |
| Khurda | 3 | 19.76520 | 16471 | 17.78868 | 1.97652 | 1.0673208 |
| Koraput | 5 | 36.00000 | 30000 | 32.40000 | 3.60000 | 1.944 |
| Malkangiri | 3 | 15.36000 | 12800 | 13.82400 | 1.53600 | 0.82944 |
| Mayurbhanj (OR021) | 5 | 33.36000 | 27800 | 30.02400 | 3.33600 | 1.80144 |
| Nabarangpur | 5 | 33.06000 | 27550 | 29.75400 | 3.30600 | 1.78524 |
| Nuapada | 5 | 23.72640 | 19772 | 21.35376 | 2.37264 | 1.2812256 |
| Rayagada | 4 | 24.55200 | 20460 | 22.09680 | 2.45520 | 1.325808 |
| Kalahandi | 4 | 22.74000 | 18950 | 20.46600 | 2.27400 | 1.22796 |
| Sundergarh | 4 | 25.56000 | 21300 | 23.00400 | 2.55600 | 1.38024 |
| Gajapati | 4 | 26.44800 | 22040 | 23.803200 | 2.6448 | 1.428192 |
| Bouth | 2 | 9.60000 | 8000 | 8.640000 | 0.960000 | 0.5184 |
| Nayagarh | 1 | 6.42000 | 5350 | 5.778000 | 0.642000 | 0.34668 |
| Total: | 65 | 403.17480 | 335979 | 362.85732 | 40.31748 | 21.7714392 |

Statement II*State-wise details of funds released under IWMP during 2009-10*

(Area in ha. & Rs. in crores)

| Sl.No. | State | Projects | | |
|--------|-------------------|-----------------|---------|-------------|
| | | No. of projects | Area | Amount |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 110 | 473441 | 30.6789756 |
| 2. | Bihar | 0 | 0 | 0.0000000 |
| 3. | Chhattisgarh | 41 | 209295 | 13.6919500 |
| 4. | Goa | 0 | 0 | 0.0000000 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 153 | 708208 | 50.2259000 |
| 6. | Haryana | 0 | 0 | 0.0000000 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 36 | 203832 | 16.5103970 |
| 8. | Jammu and Kashmir | 0 | 0 | 0.0000000 |
| 9. | Jharkhand | 20 | 117824 | 7.6350000 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 119 | 491469 | 80.9953170 |
| 11. | Kerala | 0 | 0 | 0.0000000 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 116 | 671009 | 43.4813824 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 243 | 995889 | 67.7700000 |
| 14. | Orissa | 65 | 335979 | 21.7714420 |
| 15. | Punjab | 6 | 35302 | 2.2875700 |
| 16. | Rajasthan | 162 | 925599 | 69.9205700 |
| 17. | Tamil Nadu | 50 | 249524 | 16.1691854 |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | 66 | 349982 | 22.6788336 |
| 19. | Uttarakhand | 0 | 0 | 0.0000000 |
| 20. | West Bengal | 0 | 0 | 0.0000000 |
| | NNE Total | 1187 | 5767353 | 443.8165230 |
| | NE States | | | |
| 21. | Arunachal Pradesh | 13 | 68255 | 5.4459422 |
| 22. | Assam | 57 | 220586 | 32.5270000 |
| 23. | Manipur | 0 | 0 | 0.0000000 |
| 24. | Meghalaya | 18 | 30000 | 2.4300000 |
| 25. | Mizoram | 16 | 62435 | 5.0572350 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|----------|------|---------|-------------|
| 26. | Nagaland | 22 | 105729 | 8.5640460 |
| 27. | Sikkim | 3 | 14500 | 1.1745000 |
| 28. | Tripura | 10 | 30283 | 2.4529200 |
| | NE Total | 139 | 531788 | 57.6516432 |
| | G. Total | 1326 | 6299141 | 501.4681662 |

Subsidy to AAGL

3680. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Alcock Ashdown Gujarat Limited (AAGL) is entitled for subsidy under shipbuilding Subsidy Scheme;

(b) if so, the claims made by the company alongwith the payment made by the Government to AAGL; and

(c) the time by which the full payment is likely to be made towards such subsidy to AAGL?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN):

(a) and (b) Alcock Ashdown (Gujarat) Limited (AAGL) had submitted three applications for in principle approval/ release of Shipbuilding Subsidy as per the following details:

- (i) 2 Nos. 3000T DWT product Tankers for M/s. Gudami International Pvt. Limited, Singapore.
- (ii) 2 Nos. Work Boat cum Supply Vessels for Dolphin Offshore Enterprises (Mauritius) Pvt. Ltd.
- (iii) 4 Nos. 12800 DWT IMO II Chemical Tankers for Sea Tanker Management Company Limited, Cyprus.

With respect to (i) above, the amount of subsidy receivable by AAGL worked out to a total of Rs. 773,34,088/- and this amount has already been released in favour of AAGL in March, 2008.

With respect to (ii) above, this Ministry had granted in principle approval for grant of 30% shipbuilding subsidy in respect of these vessels on 7th August, 2009. The total subsidy in respect of these two vessels comes to approximately Rs. 15.96 crores subject to calculations and submission of requisite documents as per the guidelines. A sum of Rs. 5,25,32,340/- was released to AAGL vide sanction letter dated 5th November, 2009 being the amount admissible as per stage payments. AAGL had vide letter dated 25th February, 2010 submitted a further claim of Rs. 6,44,62,440/- towards balance subsidy. Upon examination, it has been found

that the documents submitted by AAGL are deficient. AAGL has been accordingly requested to provide the required documents as per the guidelines.

With respect to (iii) above, this Ministry has requested AAGL to submit the requisite documents as per the guidelines for grant of in principle approval for shipbuilding subsidy and the same are still awaited from AAGL.

(c) Full payment of subsidy as per the guidelines shall be made to AAGL upon receipt of requisite documents from AAGL.

Construction of Houses for Army Personnel

3681. SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken cognisance that a land measuring 30 acres procured by the Army Welfare Housing Organization (AWHO) in Shatabadi Nagar, Meerut for construction of Houses for serving and retired army personnel and widows of martyrs is lying vacant since 1989;

(b) if so, the reasons for not using the land for the said purpose despite incurring expenditure of crores of rupees on the procurement of the said land;

(c) whether the said land is under the possession of AWHO;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time-frame by which the construction of houses on the said land will be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (e) Army Welfare Housing Organisation (AWHO) was allotted 30 acres of land by Meerut Development Authority (MDA) at Shatabadi Nagar Meerut in 1989. The said land has not yet been handed over to AWHO by MDA. AWHO has filed a case against MDA in National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission at New Delhi for handing over possession of the land to AWHO. Hence, presently no time frame for construction of houses can be set.

*[Translation]***Implementation of Payment of Wages Act, 1936**

3682. SHRI HARI MANJHI:
SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA:

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

(a) whether the Union Government is strictly implementing the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken by the Union Government for strictly/effectively implementation of said Act in every States of the country;

(d) whether the Union Government proposes to constitute a Tripartite Pay Committee to protect the interest of labourers/workers engaged in the organised, unorganised, public and private sectors; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) to (c) The Payment of Wages Act, 1936 is implemented by the Central and State Governments as appropriate Governments in their respective spheres. The details of its implementation in respect of Central sphere in establishments of Railways, Mines and Air Transport Services for the year 2008-09 are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) No, Madam.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement*Implementation of the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 in the Central sphere establishments*

| Year | Central sphere establishments | No. of Inspections Made | No. of Irregularities | | No. of Prosecutions launched |
|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|------------------------------|
| | | | Detected | Rectified | |
| 2008-09 | Railways | 1615 | 10668 | 8346 | 3 |
| | Mines | 3830 | 43350 | 48122 | 1459 |
| | Airt Transport Service | 198 | 1521 | 1928 | 41 |

*[English]***Amendment in Major Port Trusts Act, 1963**

3683. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to amend the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 to facilitate a seamless cooperation of port trusts in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of views/comments received from the various States/state holders in this regard alongwith the view/demands to be incorporated so far?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN):
(a) to (c) A Bill to amend the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 to enable corporatization of Major Port Trusts was introduced in Parliament on 31st August, 2001. The Bill

was referred to Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism & Culture. Recommendations of the Committee contained in its 62nd Report were examined in consultation with Ministry of Law to finalize Government's stand. However, before this exercise could be completed, 13th Lok Sabha was dissolved and the Bill lapsed. It was then decided in consultation with Ministry of Law to process the Bill afresh. In the meantime, a decision was taken with the approval of the then Hon'ble Minister (S,RT&H) that performance of Ennore Port Limited be first evaluated before proceeding further with the Major Port Trusts (Amendment) Bill.

*[Translation]***Grants to NGOs**

3684. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in each State including Rajasthan to whom grants have been provided by his Ministry for executing projects under various rural development schemes during the last three years;

(b) the amount of grants provided to such NGOs during the above period, year wise and State-wise;

(c) the criteria for giving the grants to these NGOs;

(d) the names of the NGOs which have not utilised the grants and those who have been blacklisted, State-wise;

(e) the details of such blacklisted NGOs against whom action has been taken or proposed to be taken in each State alongwith the nature of action taken in the matter; and

(f) the steps taken to check such recurrence in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and shall be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

Dependents of Insured Persons

3685. SHRI P. VISWANATHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to extend the age limit of the dependents of insured persons for availing the Employees' State Insurance (ESI) benefits;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. Amendment in the ESI Act, 1948 to enhance the age limit of dependent children for eligibility to dependent benefits from existing limit of 18 years to 21 years is under consideration of the Parliament. On the recommendation of the Standing Committee, the age limit of the dependant is further proposed to be enhanced to 25 years.

[Translation]

Irregularities in Procurement of Equipments

3686. SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG) has reported a number of irregularities in planning and procurement of equipment and items of stores by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government has taken a decision to take action against erring persons in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Madam, no such irregularities have been pointed out by C&AG in Report of CA-25 of 2009-10. However, the other irregularities pointed out by C&AG have since been replied.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[English]

Land Titles to Low Income Groups

3687. SHRI S.R. JEYADURAI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the State Chief Secretaries has been held in January, 2010 to discuss various issues including the right to land;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the issues discussed therein;

(c) the outcome of the said meeting;

(d) whether the Union Government has urged the State Governments to hand over the "Pattas" (land titles) to low income groups in order to give a fillip to housing activities in the country especially in the rural areas;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of the State Governments on the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. A two day Conference of Chief Secretaries of States/Union Territories was held on 1st - 2nd February, 2010 in New Delhi for exchange of views between the Centre and State/Union Territories on global developments that have a bearing on the country as a whole and also on internal matters that concern the State/UT Governments. The following issues inter-alia were discussed in the Conference:-

- (i) Latest Trends in Technology.
- (ii) Emerging Global Challenges & Opportunities.
- (iii) Internal Trade Outlook.
- (iv) UID Mission.
- (v) Climate Change and National Action Plan on Climate Change
- (vi) Key Security Concerns and the Role of State Governments.

(d) to (f) A scheme has been launched for providing homestead sites to the rural poor for construction of a house. The guidelines of this scheme provide that in the first instance, the State Government will regularize the land as a homestead site if it is presently occupied by a BPL household and if regularization is permissible as per the existing acts and rules. If this not the case, State Government will allot suitable Government land as homestead site to the eligible BPL household. The Government land includes community land (gocher etc.), land belonging to panchayats or other local authorities.

In case suitable Government land is not available for allotment as homestead sites, private land may be purchased or acquired for this purpose. Financial assistance of Rs. 10,000/- per beneficiary or actual, whichever is less, is provided for purchase/acquisition of a homestead site of an area around 100-250 sq.mt. which is shared by Centre and States in the ratio of 50:50 while in the case of Union Territories Central Government funds 100%. The State Governments are also incentivized by allocating additional funds under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) to the extent beneficiaries are provided with homestead site by way of regularization, allotment or purchase/acquisition. The response of the State Governments to these guidelines, is positive. Rs. 157 crore have since been released to five States viz. Bihar, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan and Sikkim for purchase/acquisition of land. As an incentive, Rs. 43.51 crore have been released to the Government of Gujarat for construction of additional 33154 houses.

[Translation]

Pending Rural Development Projects/Proposals

3688. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the rural development projects/proposals pertaining to various States including Uttar Pradesh lying pending with the Union Government for approval as on date, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for their pendency and the time by which each such project/proposals is likely to be approved;

(c) whether the concerned State Governments have requested to the Union Government for early approval of the same; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) State-wise details of the projects/proposals lying pending under the special projects of Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY) and Integrated Watershed Development Programme (IWDP) during 2009-10 are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (d) The reasons for their pendency are mainly due to non submission of the proposals in accordance with the programme guidelines and required documents such as utilization certificate, audit report of expenditure and physical outcome/progress. The proposals are immediately approved subject to fulfillment of requisite conditions.

Statement

State-wise pending proposals for special projects under SGSY and IWDP

| Sl.No. | State | Pending Projects/proposals | |
|--------|-------------------|----------------------------|------|
| | | SGSY (Special) | IWDP |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 2 | 4 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 25 | 17 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-------|-------------------|-----|-----|
| 3. | Assam | 6 | 11 |
| 4. | Bihar | 5 | 0 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 5 | 4 |
| 6. | Goa | 1 | 0 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 8 | 1 |
| 8. | Haryana | 2 | 0 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 8 | 19 |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | 3 | 14 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 6 | 8 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 6 | 28 |
| 13. | Kerala | 4 | 7 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 25 | 5 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 20 | 57 |
| 16. | Manipur | 19 | 1 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 1 | 0 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 1 | 8 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 24 | 0 |
| 20. | Orissa | 8 | 5 |
| 21. | Punjab | 2 | 1 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 7 | 7 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 1 | 0 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 2 | 0 |
| 25. | Tripura | 1 | 0 |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | 10 | 11 |
| 27. | Uttaranchal | 4 | 0 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 8 | 0 |
| 29. | Multi State | 15 | 0 |
| Total | | 229 | 208 |

*[English]***Empowerment of Weaker Sections**

3689. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any mechanism is in place to assess the success achieved by various programmes aimed at empowerment of weaker sections in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated for implementation of schemes aimed at empowerment of weaker sections during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) In order to assess the effectiveness of implementation of its various schemes, the Ministry sponsors evaluation studies through independent evaluation agencies. Moreover, the impact of various schemes is also reviewed from time to time with State Governments and other implementing agencies. Besides, Nodal Officers have also been appointed for each State to regularly interact with the State Governments and review the progress of the Schemes of the Ministry.

(c) The plan funds allocated under various schemes of the Ministry implemented for educational, economic and social empowerment Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes during the last three years are as follows:

| | (Rs. in crore) | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|---------|---------|
| Schemes/Programmes for Welfare of: | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
| Scheduled Castes | 1521.50 | 1815.50 | 1900.00 |
| Other Backward Classes | 177.50 | 237.50 | 245.00 |

*[Translation]***Social Security Schemes for Poor People**

3690. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large segment of population in the country is still poor;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith their social and educational condition; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the condition of poor people with reference to special social security schemes started/proposed to be started by the Government in the future for the welfare of poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Buildings for Telephone Exchanges

3691. SHRI BHOOPENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to acquire land for the construction of buildings for telephone exchanges in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of telephone exchanges constructed and installed in the country during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) the funds allocated, released and incurred in this regard during the said period; and

(d) the time by which the pending telephone exchanges are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Madam, BSNL and MTNL acquire land for the construction of buildings for telephone exchanges in the country as per the market requirement.

(b) to (d) The current financial year has just commenced and hence the Information in respect of the financial year 2009-10 and last three years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 is given below.

The details of telephone exchange buildings constructed by BSNL in the country during the financial years of 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and the financial year 2009-10, State-wise are as per column no. (iii) and (iv) respectively of Statement-I. The details of funds allocated, released and incurred by BSNL in this regard during the said period is as per column no. (v) to (x) of Statement-I. The details of the status of the pending construction works and the time by which it is likely to be completed are as per column no. (xi) & (xii) of statement-I.

MTNL in Delhi has applied to Delhi Development Authority (DDA) for acquiring one land/plot in Rohini Sector 28. In MTNL Mumbai, there is a proposal to acquire a single plot reserved for MTNL in Mira Road, Bhayandar Municipal Corporation Development Plan for construction of Telephone Exchanges on Survey No. 151/2 (Pt.), 151/3 (Pt.) and 152 (Pt.) at Navghar, Taluka Bhayandar, Distt. Thane measuring 3250 sqmt. Details of funds allocated released and incurred in this regard in respect of MTNL during the said period is given at Annexure II. Details of the status of the pending construction works and details of time by which the pending construction work is likely to be completed in respect of MTNL is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement I

| Sl.No. | Telecom Circle | Telephone Exchanges constructed during last 3 years | Telephone Exchanges constructed during Current year (2009-10) | Last three financial years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 | | | Financial Year 2009-10 (unaudited) | | | Work in Progress | Target time of completion |
|--------|----------------|---|---|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | funds allocated (in Lakhs) | funds released (in Lakhs) | funds incurred (in Lakhs) | funds allocated (in Lakhs) | funds released (in Lakhs) | funds incurred (in Lakhs) | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 37 | 8 | 762.87 | 649.35 | 649.35 | 152.08 | 104.61 | 104.61 | 5 | June, 2010 |
| 2. | Assam | 26 | 2 | 851.54 | 851.54 | 576.88 | 187.52 | 187.52 | 95.54 | 15 | Upto April, 2010 |
| 3. | Bihar | 3 | 0 | 124.83 | 84.57 | 84.57 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Nil | NA |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | 5 | 9 | 29.14 | 34.38 | 34.38 | 15.96 | 15.96 | 15.96 | 9 | Upto Aug., 2010 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|-----|-------------------|-----|-----|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|-----|--|
| 5. | Gujarat | 38 | 6 | 301.06 | 226.2 | 226.2 | NIL | NIL | NIL | 6 | Upto March, 2011 |
| 6. | Haryana | 9 | NIL | 681 | 681 | 681 | NIL | NIL | NIL | 3 | 2 Works in March, 2010 and 1 work in March, 2011 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 1 | 3 | 285 | 294 | 265 | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL |
| 8. | Jharkhand | 3 | NIL | 90.92 | 90.92 | 90.92 | 21.5 | 21.5 | 21.5 | NIL | NIL |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 9 | 0 | 281 | 166.12 | 166.12 | 141 | 33.44 | 33.44 | 2 | July, 2010 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 98 | 5 | 1611 | 1506 | 1506 | 444 | 302 | 302 | 72 | By 2010 |
| 11. | Kerala | 73 | 1 | 1176.35 | 1176.35 | 1176.35 | 225 | 321.21 | 321.21 | 3 | March, 2010 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 33 | NIL | 2479.5 | 2465.5 | 2465.5 | 959.65 | 588.65 | 588.65 | 50 | May, 2010 |
| 14. | NE-I | 10 | 0 | 166.11 | 142.56 | 142.56 | NIL | NIL | NIL | 2 | June, 2010 |
| 15. | NE-II | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL |
| 16. | Delhi | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL |
| 17. | Orissa | 23 | 1 | 28.39 | 19.4 | 19.4 | 7.04 | 7.04 | 7.04 | 6 | April, 2010 |
| 18. | Punjab | 6 | NIL | 598 | 598 | 598 | 257 | 257 | 257 | NIL | NIL |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 53 | NIL | 3.9 | 3.56 | 3.56 | NIL | NIL | NIL | 2 | January, 2010 |
| 20. | Sikkim | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL |
| 21. | Tamil Nadu | 19 | 6 | 927.02 | 927.02 | 927.02 | 630.76 | 561.81 | 561.81 | 20 | Upto June, 2010 |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL |
| 23. | Uttaranchal | 1 | 1 | 83.36 | 76.74 | 76.74 | 118.63 | 96.38 | 96.38 | 1 | June, 2010 |
| 24. | West Bengal | 2 | 1 | 133.1 | 130.6 | 130.6 | 30.55 | 26.18 | 26.18 | NIL | NIL |

Statement II*Funds Allotted & Expenditure incurred & under construction work in MTNL*

| Sl. No. | Circle/State | Number of telephone exchange building construction during 2009-10 and in the previous 3 years | Budget allocated (in crores) | Expenditure incurred (in crores) | Under construction works | The time of which the pending construction work is likely to be completed |
|---------|--------------|---|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 1. | Delhi | 14 | 206.7 | 129.90 | 2 | Upto December, 2010 |
| 2. | Mumbai | 13 | 17.6 | 20.37 | 6 | 1 in April 2010 1 in January, 2011 2 in April, 2011 1 in July, 2011 and 1 in July 2012 |

World's Social Status Report

3692. SHRI LALJI TANDON:
 DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY:
 SHRI RAMESH BAIS:
 SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the report of United Nations on World's Social Status particularly dalit women in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the position of India therein;

(c) whether the country is lagging behind several countries including its neighbouring countries in terms of upliftment of dalits;

(d) if so, the findings of the report alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (e) The report is one of the publications of United Nations, which is not inter governmentally engotiated or acknowledged. The report has not used any official statistics or reports.

However, the Government is implementing several Schemes for the social, educational and economic empowerment of Scheduled Castes, in the country.

Efficiency of Mail Transmission

3693. DR. BHOLA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Posts has posted the test letters to Members of Parliament to test the efficiency of mail transmission and delivery services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there has been some delay in delivery of these letters to the Members of Parliament;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Yes, Madam. Test letters were posted to Members of Parliament to test the efficiency of mail transmission and deliver.

(b) A total of 56 test letters were posted to 28 Members of Parliament who are Members of Standing Committee on Information Technology. The said test letters were posted to their Delhi addresses as well as their residential addresses in respective States. These test letters were posted on 18.11.09 at 1500 hrs. at Sansad Marg Head Post Office, New Delhi.

(c) Yes, Madam. Delay was noticed in some cases.

(d) The incidents of delay in delivery of mail could arise as a result of the dependence of the Department on mail-carrying agencies that are not within the control of the Department and occasionally because of sudden increase in mail volumes received at mail offices/post offices.

(e) In order to improve the quality of mail transmission and delivery services, an initiative has been taken to optimize mail office network, improve quality, enhance efficiency of network and reduce cost of operations.

Other measures taken by the Department of Posts to improve mail transmission and delivery services are;

1. Regular monitoring of mail routing and delivery is undertaken by posting Test Letters and Trial Cards.
2. Surprise checks on delivery of mails by the supervisory staff and officers.
3. Live mail survey at regular intervals both in rural and urban areas to identify weak links and streamline the mail transmission and delivery system.

4. To cope up with the seasonal mails, separate centers with adequate manpower are opened to give expeditious handling to such mail.
5. Enhanced use of Pin Code and its popularization.
6. Vehicles have been provided to postmen in the North-East Circle to increase the efficiency of mail delivery.

[English]

Condition of Rubber Plantations Workers

3694. SHRI ANTO ANTONY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study regarding the socio-economic and health conditions of rubber plantations workers;

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

(c) whether such workers are suffering any type of communicable diseases;

(d) if so, whether it had any impact on the rubber production in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Government has not taken up any separate study regarding the Socio-Economic and Health conditions of the workers in the Rubber Plantation Sector on an all India level. The Vector Control Research Centre, Puducherry in collaboration with Rubber Board is conducting a study in 3 selected localities in Kerala in view of the outbreak of Chikungunya during 2007-08. As on date, there is no other proposal to conduct study on the Socio-Economic and Health conditions of the workers in the Rubber Plantations on an all India level.

(c) to (e) The Rubber Plantation workers are not specifically vulnerable to any type of communicable diseases. However, there was an outbreak of 'Chikungunya' disease in the State of Kerala in the year 2007-08. Rubber Plantation workers were also affected by the same. The spread of Chikungunya in 2007 had resulted in loss of a number of tapping days and the

productivity per ha. of rubber plantation came down and the production came down to 7.53 Lakh MTs during 2007-08 from the previous year's 7.83 lakh MTs.

A number of measures have been taken up by the Rubber Board for aiding the workers and for prevention and eradication of Chikungunya disease. This included reimbursement of medical expenditure, organizing medical camps and awareness campaigns among growers and workers on prevention of the disease and a collaborative research project with Vector Control Research Centre, Puducherry.

Special Funds for Handicapped

3695. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:
SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up of special funds for the handicapped in special employment exchanges and general employment exchanges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to provide more employment to handicapped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) A Scheme of Incentive to the Private Sector for Employment of Physically Challenged Persons has been launched, w.e.f. 01.04.2008. Under this Scheme, the Government of India provides the employer's contribution for Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees State Insurance (ESI) for 3 years, for employees with disabilities employed in the private sector on or after 01.04.2008, with a monthly salary upto 25,000. Similarly 20 Vocational Rehabilitation Centres (VRCs) are functioning in the Country with a view to provide economic rehabilitation assistance to persons with disabilities. In order to enhance the employability of persons with disabilities, Skill Development Initiative Scheme (SDIS) based on Modular Employable Skill has been introduced in VRCs from the financial year 2010-11.

Satellite Town Programme

3696. SHRI S. SEMMALAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be please to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to expand the Satellite Town Programme in the other towns of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the measures initiated under the said programme has yielded the desired results;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Urban Development has launched a pilot scheme for Urban Infrastructure Development in Satellite Towns around seven Mega cities. There is no proposal to extend it to other towns.

(c) to (e) The scheme has been launched recently and is in initial stages.

[Translation]

Revealing of Irregularity by C&AG

3697. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether unnecessary expenditure and irregularities have been revealed by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG) in some circles of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any action in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Madam, no such

unnecessary expenditure has been revealed by the C&AG. However, some of the irregularities pointed out by the C&AG in the Report No. CA 25 of 2009-10 and PA 27 of 2009-10 is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) to (e) All the issues raised by C&AG in these reports are replied by BSNL to DOT in the form of Action Taken Note for its submission to the C&AG.

Statement

(i) Report No. CA 25 of 2009-10:

| Para No. | Subject |
|----------|--|
| 3.3 | Avoidable payment of spectrum charges by CMTS |
| 3.4 | Excess payment of service tax |
| 3.8 | Irregular extra expenditure on hiring of personnel |
| 3.11 | Avoidable irregular expenditure on deployment of Security guards |
| 3.13 | Excess payment of PLI |
| 3.14 | Undue favour to contractor |
| 3.16 | Excess payment of commission to franchisees |

(ii) Report No. PA 27 of 2009-10:

| Para No. | Subject |
|----------|---|
| 3.8.2.7 | Irregular procurement of OFC |
| 3.8.3.1 | Irregular execution of OAN works |
| 3.8.3.2 | Irregular expenditure on execution of works |
| 3.8.3.3 | Irregular expenditure on splitted works |

[English]

Cases of Suicides in IT Sector

3698. SHRI M. K. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of cases of suicides are increasing in the Information Technology (IT) sector in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

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

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) There have been some media reports from time to time about cases of suicide in IT/ITES companies. However, as per the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) such data is not tracked. Such data is also not tracked by the Department of Information Technology.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Housing Schemes for Handicapped and Old Age Persons

3699. SHRIMATI PRIYA DUTT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reduced the grant-in-aid for housing schemes of handicapped and old-aged persons;

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

(c) the details of the grant-in-aid provided for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Privatisation of Insurance Companies

3700. SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY:
SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE:

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

(a) whether there are proposals to raise the limit of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in insurance sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government insurance companies including Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) are on the verge of being privatized to source their capital requirements; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) FDI upto 26% is presently allowed in the Insurance sector. The Government introduced the Insurance Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2008 in the Rajya Sabha on 22.12.2008. The Bill, inter-alia, provides for enhancement of holdings of equity shares by a foreign company, either by itself or through its subsidiary companies or its nominees in Indian Insurance Companies from 26% to 49% except in case of insurance co-operative societies where the limit continues to be 26%.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

EPF Dues against RRBs

3701. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the management of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are complying with statutory provision of Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) Act, 1952 (Sections 40, 40A, 59, 72 and 73) and Employees Pension Scheme, 1995 (Sections 17A and 223);

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

(c) the details of RRBs filed to pay the balance of Provident Fund and Pension to the staff members who have retired or expired during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the Provident Fund and Pension Fund balance of each RRBs as on 31 March, 2010 lying with Provident Fund Commissioner on the part of employer and employee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) Yes, Madam. The Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) are covered under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.

(b) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c): Payment of Provident Fund and Pension to employees of a covered Regional Rural Bank is not effected directly by the bank but it is disbursed through field offices of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation. However, Provident Fund of exempted Regional Rural Banks is disbursed to its employees directly by the Provident Fund Trust of the Bank.

The State-wise details of RRBs, which have failed to pay the balance of Provident Fund and Pension to their staff members who have retired or expired are not maintained.

(d) The information is available as on 31st March, 2009 which is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement I

State-wise List of RRBs

| State | Name of the Bank |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 |
| Andhra Pradesh | Andhra Pradesh Gramin Vikas Bank |
| Andhra Pradesh | Deccan Grammena Bank |
| Andhra Pradesh | Chaitanya Godavari Grameena Bank |
| Andhra Pradesh | Andhrapragathi Grameena Bank |
| Andhra Pradesh | Sapthagiri Grameena Bank |
| Andhra Pradesh | Kanakaduraa Grameena Bank |
| Bihar | Magadh Gramin Bank |
| Bihar | Bhojpur Rohtas Gramin Bank |
| Bihar | Nalanda Gramin Bank |
| Bihar | Patliputra Gramin Bank |

| 1 | 2 |
|--------------|--|
| Bihar | Uttar Bihar Kshtriya Gramin Bank |
| Bihar | Bihar Kshtriya Gramin Bank |
| Bihar | Uttar Bihar Kshtriya Gramin Bank, Muzzafarpur |
| | Uttar Bihar Kshtriya Gramin Bank, Siwan |
| Bihar | Uttar Bihar Kshtriya Gramin Bank, Darbhanga |
| Bihar | Uttar Bihar Kshtriya Gramin Bank, Madhubani |
| Bihar | Uttar Bihar Kshtriya Gramin Bank, Chapra |
| Bihar | Uttar Bihar Kshtriya Gramin Bank, Begusarai |
| Bihar | Uttar Bihar Kshtriya Gramin Bank, Gopalganj |
| Bihar | Uttar Bihar Kshtriya Gramin Bank, Samastipur |
| Bihar | Uttar Bihar Kshtriya Gramin Bank, EW Champaran |
| Chhattisgarh | Bastar Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Chhattisgarh | Surguja Kshetriya Gramin bank |
| Chhattisgarh | Raigarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Chhattisgarh | Drug Rainandgaon Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Chhattisgarh | Bilaspur Raipur Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Delhi | NIL |
| Goa | NIL |
| Gujarat | Dena Gujarat Gramin Bank |
| Guiarat | Dena Gujarat Gramin Bank, Patan |
| Gujarat | Saurashtra Gramin Bank |
| Gujarat | Sabarkantha Gandhinagar Gramin Bank |

| 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
|------------------|---|----------------|---|
| Gujarat | Vadodara Guiarat Gramin Bank | Karnataka | Vishveshwaraya Grameena Bank |
| Haryana | Gurgaon Gramin Bank | Karnataka | Karnataka Vikasa Grameena Bank |
| Haryana | Haryana Gramin Bank | Karnataka | Primary Co-op. Agricultural Rural Dev. Bank Ltd., Channapatna |
| Himachal Pradesh | Parvatiya Gramin Bank | Karnataka | Primary Co-op. Agricultural Rural Dev. Bank Ltd., Ramanagaram |
| Himachal Pradesh | Himachal Gramin Bank | Karnataka | Abhyudaya Mehila Urban Co-op. Bank Ltd., Channapatna |
| Himachal Pradesh | Kanra Co-on. Pry. Agri. Rural Dev. Bank | Karnataka | Bangalore Central Co-op. Bank Ltd. |
| Himachal Pradesh | HP State Co-op. Bank Agri & Rural Dev. Bank | Karnataka | Ramanagaram Urban Co-op. Bank Ltd., Ramanagaram |
| Himachal Pradesh | The Sihal Co-op. Agri | Karnataka | Primary Co-op. Agricultural & rural Dev. Bank Ltd., Devanahalli |
| Jharkhand | NIL | Karnataka | Textile Manufacturers Co-op. Bank Ltd., Gandhinagar |
| Kerala | Tirur Co-operative Rural Bank | Madhya Pradesh | Satpuda Regional Rural Bank |
| Kerala | Badagara Co-op. Rural Bank | Madhya Pradesh | Mahakaushal Rural Bank |
| Karnataka | DCARD Bank, Sira | Madhya Pradesh | Madhya Bharat Gramin Bank |
| Karnataka | DCARD Bank, Chikkanahalli | Madhya Pradesh | Madhya Bharat Gramin Bank, Damoh |
| Karnataka | DCARD Bank, Tiptur | Madhya Pradesh | Rajgarh Sehore Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Karnataka | DCARD Bank, Kunigal | Madhya Pradesh | Satpuda Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Karnataka | DCARD Bank, Madhugiri | Madhya Pradesh | Chambal Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Karnataka | Pavagada Taluk DCARD Bank | Madhya Pradesh | Gwalior Datia Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Karnataka | Turuvekere Taluk DCARD Bank | Madhya Pradesh | Shivpuri-Guna Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Karnataka | DCARD Bank, Gubbi | | |
| Karnataka | DCARD Bank, Korategere | | |
| Karnataka | Tumkur Taluk DCARD Bank | | |
| Karnataka | DCARD Bank, Magadi | | |
| Karnataka | Chikmanglur Kodagu Grameena Bank | | |
| Karnataka | Pragathy Grameena Bank, Bellary | | |
| Karnataka | Krishna Grameena Bank | | |
| Karnataka | Kalpatharu Grameena Bank | | |

| 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
|----------------|---|------------|--|
| Madhya Pradesh | Dhar Jhabua RR Bank | N-E Region | Lakhini Gaolia Bank |
| Madhya Pradesh | Khandwa Khargone RR Bank | N-E Region | Meghalaya Rural Bank |
| Madhya Pradesh | Dewas Shajapur RR Bank | N-E Region | Mizoram Rural Bank |
| Maharashtra | Maharashtra State Agri & Rural Dev. Bank Ltd. | N-E Region | Assam Gramin Bikash Bank |
| Maharashtra | Pune Distt. Co-op. Land Dev. Bank | N-E Region | Monipur Rural Bank |
| Maharashtra | Maharashtra State Co-op. Land Dev. Bank | N-E Region | Nagaland Rural Bank |
| Maharashtra | Maharashtra State Sah. Agri. and Rural Dev. Bank Ltd. | N-E Region | Arunachal Pradesh Rural Bank |
| Maharashtra | Maharashtra State Sah. Agri. and Rural Dev. Bank Ltd. | Orissa | Kalinga Gramya Bank |
| Maharashtra | Maharashtra State Sah. Agri. and Rural Dev. Bank Ltd. | Orissa | Neelanchal Gramya Bank |
| Maharashtra | Maharashtra State Sah. Agri. and Rural Dev. Bank Ltd. | Orissa | Baitarani Gramya Bank |
| Maharashtra | Maharashtra State Sah. Agri. and Rural Dev. Bank Ltd. | Orissa | Utkal Gramya Bank |
| Maharashtra | Maharashtra State Sah. Agri. and Rural Dev. Bank Ltd. | Orissa | Rushikulya Gramya Bank |
| Maharashtra | Maharashtra State Sah. Agri. and Rural Dev. Bank Ltd. | Punjab | Malwa Gramin Bank |
| Maharashtra | Maharashtra State Sah. Agri. and Rural Dev. Bank Ltd. | Punjab | Faridkot Bhatinda Ksetriya Gramin Bank |
| Maharashtra | Maharashtra State Sah. Agri. and Rural Dev. Bank Ltd. | Punjab | Punjab Gramin Bank |
| Maharashtra | Solapur Gramin Bank | Rajasthan | Jaipur Thar Gramin Bank |
| Maharashtra | Mahatama Jyotiba Phule Gramin Bank | Rajasthan | Shekhawati Gramin Bank |
| Maharashtra | Latur Gramin Bank | Rajasthan | Baroda Raj, Gramin Bank |
| Maharashtra | Maharashtra State Co-op. Agri. & Rural Dev. Bank, Usmanabad | Rajasthan | Alwar Bharatpur Amchalik Gramin Bank |
| Maharashtra | Bhandara Gramin Bank | Rajasthan | Arawali Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Maharashtra | Chandrapur Gadchiroli Gramin Bank | Rajasthan | Hadoti Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Maharashtra | Vidharbah Kshetra Gramin Bank, Akola | Rajasthan | Bundi Chittor Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Maharashtra | Vidharbah Kshetra Gramin Bank, Buldana | Rajasthan | Baroda Raj. Gramin Bank, Dungapur |
| Maharashtra | Vidharbha Khsetra Gramin Bank, Yewatmal | Rajasthan | Mewar Aanchalik Gramin Bank, Udaipur |
| | | Rajasthan | Baroda Raj. Gramin Bank, Bhilwara |

| 1 | 2 |
|---------------|--|
| Rajasthan | Marwar Gramin Bank |
| Rajasthan | Ganganagar Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Tamil Nadu | Pandian Grama Bank |
| Uttarakhand | Uttaranchal Gramin Bank |
| Uttarakhand | Uttaranchal Gramin Bank, Dehradun |
| Uttarakhand | Almora Nainital Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Uttarakhand | Pithoragarh Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Uttar Pradesh | Kisan Gramin Bank, Badaun |
| Uttar Pradesh | Sarv UP Baroda Gramin Bank |
| Uttar Pradesh | Sarv UP Baroda Gramin Bank, Shahjahanpur |
| Uttar Pradesh | Prathma Bank |
| Uttar Pradesh | Poorvanchal Kshetriva Gramin Bank |
| Uttar Pradesh | Balia Kshetriva Gramin Bank |
| Uttar Pradesh | Devi Patan Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Uttar Pradesh | Muzaffarnagar Kshetriya Gramin Bank |
| Uttar Pradesh | Vidur Gramin Bank |
| Uttar Pradesh | Hindon Gramin Bank |
| Uttar Pradesh | Shreyash Gramin Bank, Aligarh |
| West Bengal | Pashimbanga Gramin Bank |
| West Bengal | Burdwan Gramin Bank |
| West Bengal | Mallabhum Gramin Bank |
| West Bengal | Nadia Gramin Bank |
| West Bengal | Sagar Gramin Bank |
| West Bengal | Uttarbanga Kshetriya Gramin Bank |

| 1 | 2 |
|-------------|--|
| West Bengal | Dakhin Dinajpur Distt. Co-op. Agricultural & Rural Dev. Bank |
| West Bengal | Bangio Gramin Bikash Bank (Exempted) |
| West Bengal | Murshidabad Gramin Bank |

Statement II

*Implementation of Provisions of EPF Act by
RRB (As on 31.3.2009)*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

| Sl.No. | State | EPF Balance | Pension Fund Balance |
|--------|------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 11284.49 | 1865.43 |
| 2. | Bihar | 263.61 | 37.46 |
| 3. | Chhattisgarh | 7481.05 | 1204.27 |
| 4. | Delhi | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5. | Goa | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 5518.44 | 360.92 |
| 7. | Haryana | 5626.38 | 771.60 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 3323.25 | 136.37 |
| 9. | Jharkhand | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 16492.84 | 3418.90 |
| 11. | Kerala | 264.18 | 50.65 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 6217.84 | 1187.94 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 5505.83 | 1274.74 |
| 14. | N-E Region | 4121.20 | 832.89 |
| 15. | Orissa | 13760.00 | 2926.00 |
| 16. | Punjab | 3569.72 | 323.01 |
| 17. | Rajasthan | 14948.29 | 2532.37 |
| 18. | Tamil Nadu | 35.70 | 0.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|----|---------------|-----------|----------|
| 19 | Uttarakhand | 1659.05 | 396.70 |
| 20 | Uttar Pradesh | 17130.60 | 2815.20 |
| 21 | West Bengal | 14996.88 | 3424.04 |
| | Total | 132199.35 | 23558.49 |

Modification of Brahmos Missile

3702. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:
SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:
SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:
SHRI RAJIAH SIRICILLA:
SHRI P. BALRAM:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to modify or test different versions of the Brahmos missile to be used by the three services of the Armed Forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the vertical launch of the Missile conducted recently has been successful;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the parts of the missile are also being manufactured in the Kerala Hitech Industries of Thiruvananthapuram; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the infrastructure so far developed there?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Brahmos Supersonic Cruise Missile has been developed initially as Anti-ship version for launch from ship-to-ship for the Indian Navy and Inducted into Service. Later, land-to-land version has been developed for the Indian Army and Air Force. This version has been inducted into the Army and is under production for Army and Air Force. Test has also been carried out from ship-to-land target. Coastal battery from Mobile Complex on land-to-ship is also available for the Indian Navy. Brahmos Missile is ready for launch from underwater platform to enable it to be used in submarines. Air-version of the Missile is also being developed for SU-30 MK-I for Indian Air Force, to be ready in 2012.

(c) and (d-) Yes, Madam. The missile proved yet another capability to be launched vertically from a naval warship and maneuvered to hit the target ship, thereby meeting the Navy's requirement.

(e) and (f) Some parts of the missile components and the air borne launcher are currently being produced in Thiruvananthapuram complex of Brahmos Aerospace. It is planned to set up the integration complex in the adjacent land belongs to IAF, so that the manufacturing of the missile can be from the Thiruvananthapuram complex. DRDO has provided Rs 50 Cr, as the first installment for the facility realisation.

[Translation]

Exemptions to Importers

3703. SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether taxes have been relaxed particularly for the Indian exporters so that the selling and purchasing of the Indian goods remains easy and beneficial in view of the competition in the international market;

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

(c) the exemptions provided during each of the last three years;

(d) whether providing such exemptions were necessary and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) to (e) Foreign Trade Policy provides for duty exemption/remission schemes namely, Advance Authorisation, Duty Free Import Authorisation (DFIA), Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB), Duty Drawback Schemes for the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) Units, where taxes and duties incurred on the inputs required to manufacture the export products are sought to be exempted/reimbursed. In addition, other Schemes in operation are for Units operating under 100% EOU /EHTP/STP/BTP and SEZ Schemes. These Schemes are based on the commitment of the Government as per international practice that "Goods and Services are exported and not the Taxes and Levies".

Benefits allowed under the Duty Remission Schemes of Advance Authorisation, DEPB and DFIA during last 3 years are given in the enclosed statement.

These schemes are reviewed from time to time and need based amendments are made. Details of the Schemes are available in the public domain, on the websites <http://dgft.gov.in> and <http://cbec.gov.in>.

Statement

Benefits allowed under the Duty Remission Schemes of Advance Authorisation, DEPB and DFIA during 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 (April, 2009 to January, 2010)

(Value in Crores)

| Schemes | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 (April 2009 to January, 2010) |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| | CIF Value/ Duty Credit* | CIF Value/ Duty Credit* | CIF Value/ Duty Credit* | CIF Value/ Duty Credit* |
| Advance Authorisation | 160079 | 136015 | 104333 | 60395 |
| DEPB | 4605 | 5499 | 7713 | 6587 |
| DFIA | 14763 | 9145 | 8779 | 6931 |

*CIF values under Advance Authorisation and DFIA Schemes and Duty Credit under DEPB Scheme.

[English]

Increase in Allocations for Disabilities Schemes

3704. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is set to receive priority sector tag with the increase in the allocations for schemes and institutions linked to disabilities for 2010;

(b) if so, the details of the amounts budgeted against the schemes run by the Ministry and rise in percentage-wise figures against the previous years;

(c) whether the mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the said schemes at the grass root level is unable to check misutilisation of funds; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) and (b) The details of budget allocation for the year 2010-11 and the percentage-wise increase therein in schemes in the disability sector, are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) Several measures are in place for effective monitoring of the utilization of the allocated funds in the Disability Sector, which include inspection of the functioning of the grantee organizations, obtaining their periodic progress report, audited statement of accounts, utilization certificates etc.

Statement

| Schemes | Budget 2009-10 (Rs. in Crore) | Budget 2010-11 (Rs. in Crore) | % increase |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP) | 79.00 | 100.00 | 26% |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|-------|--------|---------|
| Deen Dayal Rehabilitation Scheme | 76.00 | 120.00 | 58% |
| National Institutes | 49.00 | 60.00 | 22% |
| National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation | 9.00 | 50.00 | 456% |
| Scheme for implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 | 20.00 | 100.00 | 400% |
| Scheme of Incentives to Employers in the Private Sector for providing employment to Persons with Disabilities | 15.00 | 8.00 | (-) 46% |

Deterioration in Output of IDSA

3705. SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the output of Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) in terms of research projects and reports has deteriorated in quality and quantity in the recent years;

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

(c) whether there is any mechanism to undertake periodic evaluation of the research reports submitted by the civilians and military personnel under fellowship scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there have been reports of IDSA having converted a part of its premises for other purposes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) There has been no deterioration in the quantitative research output of Institute of Defence Studies & Analyses (IDSA) in recent years. IDSA has various mechanisms for ensuring the quality of the research output of scholars, including through peer reviews, anonymous reviews through reputed scholars and annual appraisal reports.

(e) and (f) IDSA has entrusted the management of certain residential and conference facilities on its premises to a private agency through an agreement.

[Translation]

Operation Vijay of BSNL

3706. SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any campaign called "Operation Vijay" was launched by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) between August and September 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the objectives of the said campaign; and

(c) the duration of the said campaign and the number of retailers and PCO booth-holders under the Rajasthan Circle who were contracted in this regard and the major problems pointed out by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (c) Madam, a project with name 'Project Vijay' was launched by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BNSL) in Rajasthan along with 11 other circles in July 2009. BSNL launched this initiative in order to strengthen 'Sales & Distribution'

for its 'Consumer Mobility' business. Objectives of the Project Vijay were as following:

- Build distinctive channel management capabilities;
- Expand retailer reach of BSNL mobility products;
- Arrest sales troughs and increase baseline sales momentum.

As part of Project Vijay, approximately 57,000 retailers (including PCO holders) were contacted in Rajasthan Circle. This exercise was conducted to include them in BSNL channel network so that BSNL product can also be made available at their outlets and most of the retailers surveyed were interested in selling BSNL products. Based on survey, it was found that the availability of the SIM cards and recharge coupons with the retailers was not satisfactory and required improvement.

Initiatives & Timelines: Several initiatives were launched under this project. Following are the details of those initiatives along with timelines wherever applicable.

- **Creation of Channel Management Team (CMT):** A channel management team comprising of 318 BSNL employees from 24 SSAs of Rajasthan was created. Several new roles e.g. Franchisee Manager, Retailer Manager, Retailer Manager Coordinator, SSA Sales Head, Circle Nodes, Rollout Manager were created and responsibilities were defined for each role. Primary responsibility of this team was to drive implementation of Project Vijay in Rajasthan circle. Team members were trained on objectives and design of the project. Team creation and training was carried out from July 2009 to September 2009.
- **Market Retailer Survey:** BSNL teams carried out survey in the market to identify telecom retailers. Approximately 57,00 retailers were surveyed across Rajasthan and data of these retailers was uploaded on Sanchar Soft, BSNL's inventory management software. Market Retailer Survey was conducted between August 2009 to September 2009.

- **Field Implementation:** BSNL's Channel management team started working on ensuring that all surveyed retailers have BSNL products at their outlets, retailers are regularly served by franchisees appointed by BSNL and any issues or complaints by retailers are addressed. This is an ongoing activity.

[English]

Violation of Labour Laws by BIL

3707. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEV GAIKWAD:
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL
KHATGAONKAR:

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

(a) whether workers are hard pressed working in shifts and several safety measures and various labour laws are being overlooked by the construction company Brahamputra Infrastructure Limited (BIL);

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of workers/labourers died as a result thereof during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to blacklist the Brahamputra Infrastructure Limited (BIL);

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of workers engaged in said company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):
(a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Construction of Dry Dock Under TRP

3708. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated and released for construction of Dry Dock facilities at Bambooflat in Andaman and Nicobar Islands under Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme (TRP);

(b) whether the land has been identified and allotted for the purpose;

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

(d) whether the pre-project formalities like studies, clearances, approval, etc. have been completed;

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

(f) the time by which such construction work is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN):

(a) No funds have been allocated for construction of Dry Dock facilities at Bambooflat in Andaman and Nicobar Islands under Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme (TRP).

(b) and (c) Andaman and Nicobar Administration (Port Management Board) has identified land at Shore Point, in Bambooflat, Port Blair, as the site for construction of Dry Dock.

(d) to (f) No, Madam. Re-tendering for appointment of consultant for conducting Techno Economic feasibility studies and Transaction Advisory services is under progress. The work will commence only after analyzing the Techno Economic feasibility study.

[*Translation*]

Ban on Foreign Workers

3709. SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian and foreign workers at present in the country, separately, State-wise;

(b) the number of foreign workers working in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to ban the foreign workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) and (b) State-wise details of foreign nationals who have come on Employment visa and working in the country are not centrally maintained.

(c) and (d) It had come to the notice of the Government that a large number of foreign nationals coming for execution of projects/contracts in India come on Business visa. The matter has been reviewed by the Government and it has been decided that henceforth Business visas will be issued only to *bona fide* businessmen who want to visit India to establish an industrial/business venture or to explore possibilities to set up industrial business venture in India or who want to purchase/sell industrial products or commercial products or consumer durables etc. It has also been decided that all foreign nationals coming for execution of projects/contracts in India will have to come only on an Employment Visa and that such visa will be granted only to skilled and qualified professional appointed at senior level, skilled position such as technical expert, senior executive or in a managerial position etc. and will not be granted for jobs for which a large number of qualified Indians are available. Suitable guidelines have been Business visa regime accordingly.

[*English*]

Subsidy on Basic Facilities to Industrial Complexes

3710. SHRI RAJU SHETTI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides subsidy for roads, water supply, drainage etc. to set up industrial complexes in the rural and urban areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the Central Grants being given to such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) being administered by the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion is meant for upgradation of infrastructure in existing functional industrial clusters.

However, under the 'Micro and Small Enterprises - Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP)' of Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Central grant is provided for development of infrastructure such as road, water supply, drainage and power supply etc, in new existing industrial areas estates/clusters. Assistance under this programme is 60% of the project cost up to Rs. 10 crore (excluding cost of land) in general cases and 80% of the project cost up to Rs. 8 crore for North Eastern States and Hill States, industrial areas/estates with more than 50% (i) micro (ii) women owned (iii) SC/ST units. The remaining amount is borrowed from SIDBI Banks/Financial Institutions or equity from State/UT Government.

Violation of CVC Guidelines

3711. SHRI R. DHYUVANARAYANA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the case of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) tender in 2007, post tender negotiations forced the bidder to reduce price from the originally quoted \$1007 per line to \$90 per line in the country;

(b) if so, whether in the case of current BSNL tender for 43 million GSM lines the lowest bidder has brought down the prices during post-tender negotiations to the extent of 40 per cent of the original bid price;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has ruled out post-tender negotiations as it is violative of the extant CVC guidelines; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Madam, no post tender negotiations were held in 2007 (*i.e.* GSM Phase V tender).

(b) and (c) Separate tenders for 25 million lines each by North, West and South zones and for 18 million lines by the East zone were floated on 01.05.2008 to meet requirements spread over three to four years.

The above tenders were further divided into four parts as detailed below:

- (i) Part I for 2G elements, Core and VAS elements
- (ii) Part II for 3G elements
- (iii) Part III for infrastructure items
- (iv) Part IV for operation and billing Sub-systems.

M/s Ericsson India Ltd was only successful bidder for parts I & part II of the tender floated by BSNL in North & East zone, totaling 43 million lines. After negotiations, the bidder had offered a discount of around Rs. 5870 crores which comes to about 32% of originally quoted price. The offered prices were not accepted by BSNL.

(d) and (e) Central Vigilance Commission probing the deal has remarked that commission's guideline discourage negotiations and negotiations have been permitted only under exceptional circumstances.

[Translaction]

Changes in Recruitment Process

3712. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:
SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made remarkable changes in the recruitment process for defence personnel and made it more transparent;

(b) if so, whether the said procedure has been put in force; and

(c) the salient features of the same?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam, Recently changes have been made in the recruitment process for Sailors in the Indian Navy in August, 2007.

(c) The method of shortlisting of candidates and preparation of merit list has been made more transparent and candidate friendly. Salient features are detailed in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

- (i) There are no open recruitment rallies being conducted by the Navy. Only the short listed candidates, considered eligible are invited to appear in the recruitment process.
- (ii) The naval personnel, being deputed for recruitment duties to various centres, are rotated at regular intervals. The temporary nature of duties helps in preventing the personnel from interaction with local population for a period not more than necessary.
- (iii) The recruitment is carried out in full public view and the results are declared on the day of the recruitment itself. The whole process is completed in one day.
- (iv) Two different authorities are involved in the preparation of question papers and the conduct of recruitment. The question papers are being revised to make them less predictable.
- (v) Identification of candidates is being made based on Biometrics system to prevent cases of impersonation.
- (vi) The application forms are being regularly revised and visible identification marks of the candidates are being obtained. The candidates are matched with their identification marks at the time of written, physical and medical examination.
- (vii) The applications from the eligible candidates are being received centrally at the Directorate of Manpower Planning and Recruitment/Integrated Headquarters of Ministry of Defence (navy), New Delhi and the short listed candidates are sent the Call Letters-cum-Admit Cards for the recruitment examination directly.
- (viii) The State Governments have been requested to maintain vigilance against agents/touts engaged in providing assistance to undeserving candidates.
- (ix) Recruitment being a sensitive issue close supervision is exercised on all the activities connected with the process.
- (x) There is no element of arbitrariness in the system. The responsibilities of recruitment are shared by a group of Naval Officers.

Allocation of Works to Private Company

3713. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *ALIAS* LALAN SINGH:

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

- (a) whether works are out sourced to private companies by Government organisations in the country;
- (b) if so, whether tenders are invited from private companies before allocating works to them;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether there is a practice of having informal talks regarding fixation of prices even after inviting the tenders;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether due to this double practice chances of corruption are increasing; and (g) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. Works out sourced to private companies by BSNL and MTNL includes laying of underground Poly Insulated Jelly Filled (PIJF) cables, Optical Fiber (OF) cables, construction & maintenance of civil and electrical work, house keeping work based on tender process.

(d) and (e) In normal circumstances the practice of having talks regarding fixation of prices after inviting the tender is not done. Only in exceptional situation talk is done with L-1 bidders, as per Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)/Government Guidelines. Talks with the private firms is permitted with L-1 bidders only in exceptional situations. Such exceptional situations would include the procurement of proprietary item, items with limited source of supply and items where there is suspicion of cartel formation. The justification and details of such talks is duly recorded without any loss of time. This is done as per CVC guidelines to reduce cost of procurement.

(f) and (g) No, Madam.

*[English]***Losses of Postal Articles**

3714. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether all District Headquarters have not been covered by the Speed Post network in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to cover all the District Headquarters by the Speed Post network;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be covered in the country;

(e) whether the Government has received complaints in regard to loss of postal articles and delay in postal delivery in the country;

(f) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; and

(g) the steps taken /being taken by the Government to improve the postal services in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Speed Post network is not available at some District Headquarters. The State-wise details is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) No, Madam. At present, proposal regarding covering the district headquarters, where Speed Post facility is not available, under Speed Post network is not under consideration. The network of Speed Post Service is extended taking into account the market requirements, customer needs, potential business, transport connectivity available etc.

(e) and (f) The details of complaints relating to Postal article received for loss of articles/delay in transit during the last three years are as under:

| Year | Total mail traffic in million | Delay in delivery (a) | No. of complaints | | Percentage of complaint traffic ration |
|---------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------|--|
| | | | Loss of articles (b) | Total (a+b) | |
| 2006-07 | 6677.18 | 155099 | 5693 | 160792 | 0.002 |
| 2007-08 | 6391.15 | 174354 | 9902 | 184256 | 0.003 |
| 2008-09 | 6540.90 | 205043 | 7479 | 212522 | 0.003 |

(g) Yes, Madam. The Department has chalked out an appropriate strategy to face the challenges and to improve the postal services in the country and has taken a number of steps in this regard. Under the current five year Plan, a number of Schemes are being implemented for improving the Access to postal network, streamlining Mail operations, Technological upgradation & Modernization of post offices, business expansion and marketing of postal products & services.

In addition, some of the major steps taken by the Department to improve the postal services are as under:

- Introduction of web based Track and Trace

system called "SpeedNet" for Speed Post articles.

- Introduction of One India One Rate in respect of Speed Post articles weighing upto 50 gms.
- Deployment of International Postal System software at Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Delhi for tracing of international Speed Post articles.
- Technological upgradation of major Speed Post Centres for improving the efficiency of the operations.
- Induction of dedicated Aircraft for carriage of mails for North East sector.

Statement

List of District Headquarters, State-wise, where Speed Post network is not available

| Sl.No. | State | District Headquarters |
|--------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | Meghalaya | Baghmara |
| 2. | | Willamnagar |
| 3. | Nagaland | Kiphire |
| 4. | | Longleng |
| 5. | Arunachal Pradesh | Hawai |
| 6. | | Tezu |
| 7. | | Yinkiyong |
| 8. | | Changlang |
| 9. | | Roing |
| 10. | | Daporijo |
| 11. | | Anini |
| 12. | | Koloriang |
| 13. | Jammu and Kashmir | Shopian |
| 14. | | Kulgam |
| 15. | | Poonch |
| 16. | Assam | Barama |
| 17. | Himachal Pradesh | Keylong |
| 18. | Rajasthan | Pratapgarh |

Training Programmes Organised by CBWE

3715. SHRI JAYWANT GANGARAM AWALE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of training programmes organised/ conducted by the Central Board for Workers Education

(CBWE) during each of the last three years and the current year in the country including North Eastern Region, State-wise;

(b) the number of workers/persons benefited therefrom during the said period, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government has satisfied with the progress and implementation of such programmes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) During the Financial Years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 (by February, 2010), the total number of training programmes conducted by CBWE and workers trained was as under:

| Financial Year | Number of Training Programmes | Number of Workers Trained |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2006-07 | 8323 | 285878 |
| 2007-08 | 8520 | 295798 |
| 2008-09 | 6802 | 230816 |
| 2009-10 (by February 2010) | 6759 | 228158 |

State-wise break-up is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) The working of CBWE is being reviewed from time to time by various agencies. It has been appreciated by Second National Commission on Labour as well as the Indian Labour Conference in their 41st Session held in the year 2007. The functioning of CBWE was also studied by M/s Educational Consultants India Ltd. (Ed. CIL), a Government of India Enterprise of the Ministry of Human Resources Development. Ed. CIL in its report has appreciated the work of CBWE & recommended for its expansion at all levels.

Statement

| Sl.No. | State of Name | 2006-07 | | 2007-08 | | 2008-09 | | 2009-10(by Feb.2010) | |
|--------|-------------------|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| | | Prog. | Participants | Prog. | Participants | Prog. | Participants | Prog. | Participants |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 550 | 19771 | 527 | 19093 | 413 | 14547 | 414 | 13949 |
| 2. | Assam | 314 | 11434 | 360 | 13684 | 255 | 9424 | 233 | 8371 |
| 3. | Bihar | 141 | 5184 | 97 | 3684 | 77 | 3009 | 74 | 2664 |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | 212 | 7125 | 199 | 6747 | 173 | 5403 | 190 | 6075 |
| 5. | Delhi | 228 | 8034 | 224 | 7749 | 205 | 7013 | 141 | 5020 |
| 6. | Goa | 131 | 4430 | 131 | 4339 | 169 | 5657 | 165 | 5322 |
| 7. | Gujrat | 486 | 16110 | 545 | 17128 | 514 | 16169 | 375 | 12319 |
| 8. | Haryana | 180 | 5654 | 163 | 5356 | 130 | 3923 | 96 | 3208 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 121 | 3971 | 99 | 3268 | 64 | 2024 | 72 | 2494 |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | 114 | 3975 | 144 | 5135 | 93 | 3478 | 78 | 2870 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 339 | 11642 | 411 | 14400 | 348 | 12127 | 333 | 12407 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 610 | 20091 | 650 | 21693 | 423 | 14400 | 407 | 12697 |
| 13. | Kerala | 347 | 12123 | 371 | 13006 | 267 | 9203 | 296 | 8938 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 631 | 20961 | 637 | 21599 | 464 | 16492 | 430 | 16468 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 737 | 24242 | 733 | 24362 | 603 | 19397 | 669 | 21831 |
| 16. | Manipur | 218 | 8103 | 193 | 7144 | 150 | 5272 | 167 | 5830 |
| 17. | Orissa | 392 | 13693 | 414 | 14975 | 301 | 10464 | 359 | 12165 |
| 18. | Punjab | 150 | 5049 | 167 | 5698 | 121 | 4153 | 124 | 4574 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 212 | 7323 | 195 | 7092 | 150 | 5165 | 189 | 6584 |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 670 | 23649 | 646 | 23328 | 563 | 19083 | 638 | 21621 |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh | 878 | 30947 | 993 | 34795 | 793 | 27129 | 795 | 26275 |
| 22. | West Bengal | 662 | 22367 | 621 | 21523 | 526 | 17284 | 514 | 16476 |
| Total | | 8323 | 285878 | 8520 | 295798 | 6802 | 230816 | 6759 | 228158 |

Fake Scheduled Castes Certificates

3716. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints from various States including National Commission for Scheduled Castes of Guwahati about jobs in Government offices on the basis of fake Scheduled Castes (SC) certificates;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government to address such fake appointments;

(d) whether action in respect of several cases are still pending; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (e) Issuance and verification of caste certificates is the responsibility of concerned State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

The National Commission for Scheduled Castes State Office, Guwahati had, however, intimated its Headquarters Office in January, 2010, that one case of irregular appointment in the Central Government with fake Scheduled Caste certificate was detected by it.

In regard to appointments in Central Government against the reserved vacancies, extant instructions of Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms, provide that the appointment would be provisional, and would be subject to verification of caste certificate. In case the claim to belong to Scheduled Caste is found false on verification, the services will be terminated and without prejudice to such further action as may be taken under provisions of the Indian Penal Code for production of false certificate.

[*Translation*]

Streamlining of Telecom Facilities

3717. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recovered five per cent of the total income of all telecom operators to streamline the telecommunications facilities in rural areas;

(b) if so, the amount recovered by the Government from each telecom operator in the country particularly in Jharkhand during the last three years;

(c) the amount spent by the Government to streamline telecommunication facilities in proportion to the amount recovered from Telecom Operators in the country particularly in Jharkhand during the said period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. A Statement-I indicating the amount of Licence Fee (including 5% USOF Levy) recovered by the Government from each telecom operator in the country during the last three years is enclosed. There is no separate licence area for Jharkhand which is a part of Bihar Circle for this purpose. The amount recovered from each Telecom operator by the Government in the State of Bihar including Jharkhand is given in the enclosed Statement-II

(c) and (d) Detailed statements indicating the the amount spent by the Government to streamline telecommunication facilities in the country including Jharkhand during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-III and VI respectively.

Statement I

Detail of USO collection from 2007-08 to 2009-10

| Name of Licensee | Service Area | Service | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
|--------------------|--------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Aircel Ltd. | Chennai | CMTS | 22.56 | 22.52 | 19.03 |
| | Tamil Nadu | CMTS | 39.62 | 61.11 | 80.85 |
| Total Aircel Ltd. | | | 62.18 | 83.63 | 99.88 |
| Bharti Airtel Ltd. | Chennai | UASL | 1.68 | — | — |
| | Delhi | UASL | 110.36 | 121.65 | 120.64 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|--------------------------|-------------------|------|--------|----------|----------|
| | Kolkata | UASL | 26.74 | 32.42 | 31.56 |
| | Mumbai | UASL | 53.98 | 57.88 | 56.63 |
| | Andhra Pradesh | UASL | 61.82 | 133.00 | 178.83 |
| | Gujarat | UASL | 25.30 | 42.42 | 44.25 |
| | Himachal Pradesh | UASL | 11.27 | 13.22 | 16.41 |
| | Haryana | UASL | 9.22 | 15.96 | 15.21 |
| | Karnataka | UASL | 96.64 | 158.53 | 189.00 |
| | Kerala | UASL | 23.62 | 30.56 | 27.86 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | UASL | 30.05 | 51.14 | 56.78 |
| | Maharashtra | UASL | 49.80 | 65.21 | 66.41 |
| | N.E. | UASL | 8.13 | 11.83 | 15.87 |
| | Punjab | UASL | 37.63 | 61.64 | 72.68 |
| | Rajasthan | UASL | 47.21 | 102.83 | 90.39 |
| | Tamil Nadu | UASL | 88.67 | 119.29 | 130.34 |
| | Uttar Pradesh (E) | UASL | 23.00 | 26.74 | 30.20 |
| | Bihar | UASL | 30.23 | 47.87 | 96.32 |
| | Jammu Kashmir | UASL | 18.80 | 25.46 | 20.66 |
| | Orissa | UASL | 16.72 | 25.33 | 36.70 |
| | Uttar Pradesh (E) | UASL | 49.66 | 80.71 | 73.15 |
| | West Bengal | UASL | 19.50 | 30.05 | 35.03 |
| | Assam | UASL | 13.42 | 18.28 | 23.39 |
| | All India | VSAT | 0.92 | 1.35 | 1.40 |
| | All India | ILD | 29.71 | 42.70 | 25.27 |
| | All India | NLD | 89.45 | 175.20 | 225.17 |
| Total Bharti Airtel Ltd. | | | 973.55 | 1,448.85 | 1,680.05 |
| Vodafone Essar Ltd. | Mumbai | CMTS | 91.61 | 90.67 | 81.85 |
| | Chennai | CMTS | 18.59 | 21.84 | 20.75 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---------------------------|-------------------|------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Delhi | CMTS | 74.42 | 70.88 | 64.01 |
| | Kolkata | CMTS | 27.60 | 32.58 | 33.53 |
| | Andhra Pradesh | CMTS | 42.95 | 44.54 | 42.50 |
| | Gujarat | CMTS | 71.38 | 76.25 | 44.24 |
| | Haryana | CMTS | 13.87 | 19.01 | 19.19 |
| | Karnataka | CMTS | 57.07 | 43.70 | 40.99 |
| | Kerala | CMTS | 21.91 | 45.44 | 37.85 |
| | Maharashtra | CMTS | 42.26 | 62.05 | 58.31 |
| | Punjab | CMTS | 30.41 | 23.15 | 25.18 |
| | Rajasthan | CMTS | 35.29 | 41.63 | 45.04 |
| | Tamil Nadu | CMTS | 34.27 | 61.08 | 58.39 |
| | Uttar Pradesh (E) | CMTS | 40.71 | 67.59 | 79.21 |
| | Uttar Pradesh (W) | UASL | 33.19 | 40.87 | 41.35 |
| | West Bengal | UASL | 27.77 | 41.16 | 46.64 |
| | All India | NLD | 11.43 | 44.44 | 80.62 |
| | All India | ILD | 1.98 | 8.41 | 15.98 |
| Total Vodafone Essar Ltd. | | | 676.72 | 835.29 | 835.63 |
| Idea Cellular Ltd. | Delhi | CMTS | 28.81 | 30.71 | 28.09 |
| | Andhra Pradesh | CMTS | 38.73 | 73.85 | 77.07 |
| | Gujarat | CMTS | 28.52 | 46.66 | 52.10 |
| | Himachal Pradesh | CMTS | 1.38 | 1.15 | 1.26 |
| | Haryana | CMTS | 12.54 | 17.45 | 19.05 |
| | Kerala | CMTS | 28.48 | 53.50 | 63.54 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | CMTS | 28.19 | 47.83 | 57.16 |
| | Maharashtra | CMTS | 60.01 | 104.60 | 119.77 |
| | Rajasthan | CMTS | 12.18 | 9.46 | 11.19 |
| | Uttar Pradesh (E) | CMTS | 17.68 | 14.93 | 21.76 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Uttar Pradesh (W) | CMTS | 25.35 | 48.79 | 58.42 |
| | Mumbai | 0 | — | 2.48 | 9.11 |
| | All India | NLD | 6.09 | 14.60 | 35.87 |
| Total Idea Cellular Ltd. | | | 287.96 | 466.01 | 554.39 |
| Reliance Telecom Ltd. | Kolkata | CMTS | 2.05 | 2.23 | 6.87 |
| | Assam | CMTS | 9.76 | 13.90 | 15.08 |
| | Bihar | CMTS | 13.80 | 16.98 | 19.85 |
| | Himachal Pradesh | CMTS | 2.98 | 4.61 | 4.72 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | CMTS | 16.02 | 13.83 | 21.74 |
| | N.E. | CMTS | 4.64 | 4.01 | 2.40 |
| | Orissa | CMTS | 6.11 | 9.71 | 14.50 |
| | West Bengal | CMTS | 9.50 | 5.62 | 8.88 |
| Total Reliance Telecom Ltd. | | | 64.87 | 70.89 | 94.04 |
| Reliance Communication Ltd. | Andhra Pradesh | UASL | 40.09 | 41.56 | 28.99 |
| | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | UASL | — | — | — |
| | Bihar | UASL | 18.09 | 20.86 | 17.50 |
| | Chennai | UASL | 4.95 | — | — |
| | Delhi | UASL | 42.22 | 36.64 | 37.03 |
| | Gujarat | UASL | 27.18 | 23.99 | 17.73 |
| | Haryana | UASL | 8.40 | 7.28 | 5.97 |
| | Himachal Pradesh | UASL | 2.77 | 2.37 | 1.67 |
| | Jammu Kashmir | UASL | 1.48 | 0.15 | 0.85 |
| | Karnataka | UASL | 31.12 | 29.75 | 23.85 |
| | Kerala | UASL | 22.26 | 18.80 | 14.76 |
| | Kolkata | UASL | 23.17 | 18.01 | 8.80 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | UASL | 21.77 | 22.73 | 17.50 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|--------------------------|-------------------|------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Maharashtra | UASL | 35.26 | 31.29 | 22.68 |
| | Mumbai | UASL | 52.80 | 47.40 | 45.30 |
| | Orissa | UASL | 6.81 | 5.56 | 3.69 |
| | Punjab | UASL | 11.37 | 8.06 | 6.12 |
| | Rajasthan | UASL | 17.70 | 16.14 | 13.26 |
| | Tamil Nadu | UASL | 33.06 | 33.18 | 27.29 |
| | Uttar Pradesh (E) | UASL | 25.64 | 31.59 | 25.68 |
| | Uttar Pradesh (W) | UASL | 19.33 | 21.15 | 15.42 |
| | West Bengal | UASL | 9.40 | 9.35 | 6.11 |
| | All India | NLD | 56.92 | 82.57 | 122.07 |
| | All India | ILD | 36.05 | 38.28 | 25.14 |
| Total Communication Ltd. | | | 547.83 | 546.71 | 487.41 |
| Tata Teleservices Ltd. | Andhra Pradesh | UASL | 41.51 | 39.66 | 54.86 |
| | Bihar | UASL | 8.95 | 13.01 | 15.97 |
| | Chennai | UASL | 7.32 | 3.69 | 1.54 |
| | Delhi | UASL | 39.78 | 47.09 | 54.29 |
| | Gujarat | UASL | 16.37 | 15.02 | 20.98 |
| | Haryana | UASL | 7.59 | 9.46 | 12.08 |
| | Himachal Pradesh | UASL | 1.36 | 1.40 | 1.55 |
| | Karnataka | UASL | 22.36 | 24.47 | 33.71 |
| | Kerala | UASL | 7.22 | 8.24 | 10.45 |
| | Kolkata | UASL | 10.62 | 12.16 | 5.77 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | UASL | 6.79 | 7.41 | 12.27 |
| | Orissa | UASL | 3.19 | 4.08 | 8.27 |
| | Punjab | UASL | 9.86 | 10.59 | 12.83 |
| | Rajasthan | UASL | 11.38 | 13.49 | 12.76 |
| | Tamil Nadu | UASL | 12.53 | 15.26 | 23.53 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|------------------------------|-------------------|------|--------|--------|--------|
| | Uttar Pradesh (E) | UASL | 7.90 | 10.33 | 10.98 |
| | Uttar Pradesh (W) | UASL | 10.19 | 14.01 | 20.82 |
| | West Bengal | UASL | 4.75 | 6.03 | 7.52 |
| | Maharashtra | UASL | 32.34 | 32.33 | 36.08 |
| | Mumbai | UASL | 46.37 | 44.19 | 47.15 |
| | All India | NLD | 0.67 | 12.76 | 22.42 |
| Total Tata Teleservices Ltd. | | | 309.05 | 344.68 | 425.83 |
| Dishnet Wireless Ltd. | Assam | UASL | 16.64 | 15.46 | 17.71 |
| | Bihar | UASL | 2.10 | 4.95 | 8.85 |
| | Himachal Pradesh | UASL | 0.21 | 0.30 | 1.03 |
| | Jammu and Kashmir | UASL | 3.12 | 5.43 | 10.41 |
| | N.E. (I) | UASL | 13.13 | 9.95 | 10.04 |
| | Orissa | UASL | 3.93 | 3.91 | 5.84 |
| | West Bengal | UASL | 2.65 | 3.90 | 6.33 |
| | Kerala | UASL | — | 0.02 | 1.42 |
| | Kolkata | UASL | — | 0.87 | 2.94 |
| | All India | NLD | 0.11 | 1.81 | 6.84 |
| | All India | ILD | — | 1.14 | 3.22 |
| Total Dishnet Wireless Ltd. | | | 41.88 | 47.74 | 74.63 |
| BPL Mobile Comm. Ltd. | Mumbai | CMTS | 25.97 | 24.55 | 23.85 |
| Total BPL Mobile Comm. Ltd. | | | 25.97 | 24.55 | 23.85 |
| Shyam Telelink Ltd. | Rajasthan | UASL | 24.12 | 5.36 | 5.14 |
| Total Shyam Telelink Ltd. | | | 24.12 | 5.36 | 5.14 |
| HFCL Infotel Ltd. | Punjab | UASL | 8.40 | 7.18 | 5.14 |
| Total HFCL Ltd. | | | 8.40 | 7.18 | 5.14 |
| Spice Comm. Ltd. | Karnataka | CMTS | 21.03 | 24.84 | 25.45 |
| | Punjab | CMTS | 26.32 | 32.32 | 32.69 |
| | All India | ILD | — | — | 0.69 |
| | All India | NLD | 0.02 | 0.73 | 1.16 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------|--------|-------|-------|
| Total Spice Comm. Ltd. | | 47.37 | 57.89 | 59.99 | |
| Commercial VSAT | | | | | |
| Tata services Ltd. | All India | VSAT | 0.34 | 0.72 | 0.39 |
| TVC Ltd. | All India | VSAT | 0.71 | 1.08 | 1.44 |
| Comsat Max | All India | VSAT | 1.08 | 1.74 | 1.15 |
| Essel Shyam Comm. Ltd. | All India | VSAT | 0.76 | 0.50 | 0.50 |
| Gujarat Narmada Valley Fert. | All India | VSAT | 0.19 | | |
| HCL Comnet Systems | All India | VSAT | 0.87 | 0.42 | 0.57 |
| ITI Limited | All India | VSAT | 0.15 | 0.01 | — |
| Infinium (India) | All India | VSAT | — | 0.08 | 0.19 |
| Hughes Escorts Comm. Ltd. | All India | VSAT | 1.82 | 1.85 | 3.88 |
| Total Commercial VSAT | | | 5.92 | 6.40 | 8.12 |
| ILD | | | | | |
| VSNL | All India | ILD | 281.55 | 31.03 | 21.75 |
| Verizone Communications Ltd. | All India | ILD | — | — | 12.97 |
| Cable and Wireless Ltd. | All India | ILD | — | 4.27 | 8.11 |
| Equant Network Service Ltd. | All India | ILD | — | 3.14 | 8.62 |
| Sify Communications Ltd. | All India | ILD | 0.37 | 0.85 | 0.83 |
| AT&T Global Network Svcs (I) Pvt. | All India | ILD | 13.33 | 18.63 | 21.16 |
| BT&T Global Communications (I) Ltd. | All India | ILD | 5.29 | 14.02 | 20.24 |
| P3 Technology Pvt. Ltd. | All India | ILD | — | — | 0.02 |
| Total ILD | | | 300.53 | 71.94 | 93.70 |
| IP-II | | | | | |
| Hughes Escorts Comm. Ltd. | All India | IP-II | 0.81 | — | 0.17 |
| Tata Power Company Ltd. | All India | IP-II | — | — | 0.39 |
| Tata Power Broadband Co. Ltd. | All India | IP-II | 0.94 | — | — |
| Power Grid Corpn. of India Ltd. | All India | IP-II | 2.67 | — | — |
| Gas Authority of India Ltd. | All India | IP-II | 1.18 | — | 0.73 |
| Rail Tel Corporation | All India | IP-II | 1.19 | — | — |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------|----------|----------|----------|
| Total IP-II | | | 6.79 | | 1.29 |
| NLD | | | | | |
| VSNL | All India | NLD | 24.07 | 39.06 | 38.04 |
| MTNL | All India | NLD | 0.07 | 0.07 | — |
| Power Grid Corpn. of India | All India | NLD | 6.25 | 7.36 | 8.01 |
| HCL Infnit Ltd. | All India | NLD | — | — | 3.15 |
| BT Global Comm. Pvt. Ltd. | All India | NLD | — | — | 0.18 |
| Tulip IT Services Ltd. | All India | NLD | 4.55 | 1.18 | 2.61 |
| RailTel Corpn. of India | All India | NLD | — | 4.71 | 12.75 |
| Sify Communications Ltd. | All India | NLD | 5.74 | 7.05 | 6.69 |
| AT&T Global Network Services (I) Pvt. | All India | NLD | 0.00 | — | 0.25 |
| Verizone Communications Ltd. | All India | NLD | — | — | 1.88 |
| Cable and Wireless Ltd. | All India | NLD | — | 0.45 | — |
| Citicaom Network Ltd. | All India | NLD | — | 0.11 | 0.40 |
| Total NLD | | | 40.69 | 59.99 | 73.96 |
| MTNL | Delhi & Mumbai | | 207.30 | 213.09 | 150.72 |
| Total MTNL | | | 207.30 | 213.09 | 150.72 |
| BSNL | All India | | 1,709.63 | 1,491.88 | 1,332.11 |
| Total BSNL | | | 1,709.63 | 1,491.88 | 1,332.11 |
| PMRTS | | PMRTS | 1.40 | 7.45 | 0.96 |
| ISP | | ISP | 9.77 | 15.27 | 18.70 |
| Grand Total | | | 5,351.93 | 5,804.80 | 6,025.54 |

Statement II

Amounts recovered by the Government from each operator in Bihar (including Jharkhand) during the last three years from 2007-08 to 2009-10

(Amount in Crores of Rs.)

| Name of Licensee | Service | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 | Total |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Reliance Telecom Ltd. | CMTS | 13.80 | 16.98 | 20.73 | 51.51 |
| Reliance Communications Ltd. | UASL | 18.09 | 20.86 | 17.50 | 56.45 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|------------------------------|------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Tata Teleservices Ltd. | UASL | 8.95 | 13.01 | 15.97 | 37.93 |
| Bharti Airtel Ltd. | UASL | 30.23 | 47.87 | 96.34 | 174.44 |
| Dishnet Wireless Ltd. | UASL | 2.10 | 4.95 | 8.86 | 15.91 |
| Vodafone Essar Spaceted Ltd. | UASL | — | 1.06 | 10.33 | 11.39 |
| Unitech Wireless Ltd. | UASL | — | — | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| Shyam Telelink Ltd. | UASL | — | — | 0.23 | 0.23 |
| Total | | 73.18 | 104.73 | 170.21 | 348.12 |

Statement III*Activity-wise expenditure under USO schemes during the last three years in the country*

(Rs. in crores)

| Acitivity | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| MARR | 256.93 | 176.48 | 200.91 |
| MOB-I | — | 4.49 | 51.04 |
| RCP | 19.69 | 8.86 | 7.74 |
| RDEL | 849.78 | 1303.34 | 1936.57 |
| Uncovered | 44.73 | 18.65 | 36.88 |
| Uncovered-II | | | 38.40 |
| VPT Opex | 118.87 | 88.17 | 85.89 |
| Wirelines-BB | | | 42.57 |
| Grand Total | 1290.00 | 1600.00 | 2400.00 |

MARR-A

MOB-I

RCP

RDEL

UNCOVERED

UNCOVERED-II

VPT OPEX

WIRELINE-BB

Statement IV*Universal Service Provides (USP) wise amount disbursed from USOF during the last three years*

(Rs. in crores)

| | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| BSNL | 814.84 | 1221.62 | 2009.06 |
| DWL | | | 0.99 |
| GTL | | 3.74 | 6.01 |
| KEC | | | 6.61 |
| QTIL | | 0.54 | 0.66 |
| RCOM | | | 3.29 |
| RIL | 244.71 | 179.66 | 83.20 |
| TATA | 145.87 | 154.97 | 184.57 |
| TTML | 84.58 | 39.41 | 98.98 |
| VECL | | | 1.56 |
| VESL | | 0.06 | 5.05 |
| Grand Total | 1290.00 | 1600.00 | 2400.00 |

BSNL
 DWL
 QTIL
 RCIL
 RCOM
 TTML
 VECL
 VESL

Statement V*Amount disbursed from USOF during the last three years in Jharkhand across all USOF schemes*

(Rs. in crores)

| Activity | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-110 |
|----------|---------|---------|----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| MAAR | 2.15 | 0.00 | 0.83 |
| MOB-I | | | 1.13 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| RCP | 0.13 | 0.00 | 0.04 |
| RDEL | 2.19 | 1.01 | 0.90 |
| Uncovered | 1.05 | 0.02 | 0.20 |
| VPT Opex | 4.06 | 0.00 | 1.35 |
| Wireline-BB | | | 0.43 |
| Grand Total | 9.59 | 1.03 | 4.88 |
| MARR-A | | | |
| MOB-I | | | |
| RCP | | | |
| RDEL | | | |
| Uncovered | | | |
| VPT Opex | | | |
| Wireline-BB | | | |

Statement VI*USP-wise disbursement in Jharkhand during the last three years*

(R. in crores)

| | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| BSNL | 9.59 | 1.03 | 4.28 |
| RCIL | | | 0.59 |
| Grand Total | 9.59 | 1.03 | 4.88 |
| BSNL | | | |
| RCIL | | | |

*[English]***Insured Postal Articles**

3718. SHRI MUKESH BHAIKAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of fraud from insured articles in Post Offices have been increasing in the country;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

(c) However, it is mentioned that provisions for according special treatment to the insured articles are prescribed in Departmental manuals. Further instructions

are also issued from time to time keeping in view the modus operandi of abstractions from such articles. Services of the Central Checking Squad as well as those at the Circle and the Regional levels are also utilized for preventive measures.

[Translation]

Wholesale Price Index

3719. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the basis of compilation and number of items covered in Wholesale Price Index (WPI);

(b) the details of annual rate of inflation based on WPI has been increasing due to continuously rising of food articles during the last year; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the basis of compiling the WPI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) The current series of Wholesale Price Index (WPI) is compiled with base year 1993-94. It is compiled based on 1918 quotations covering 435 items.

(b) The annual rates of inflation based on monthly WPI for 'All Commodities' and 'Food Articles' during the last year were as follows:

| | Wt. (%) | Rate of Inflation based on monthly WPI | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------|--|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| | | Apr. 09 | May 09 | Jun. 09 | Jul. 09 | Aug. 09 | Sep. 09 | Oct. 09 | Nov. 09 | Dec. 09 | Jan. 10 | Feb. 10 | Mar. 10* |
| All Commodities | 100.00 | 1.31 | 1.38 | -1.01 | -0.54 | -0.17 | 0.46 | 1.46 | 5.55 | 8.10 | 9.44 | 9.89 | 9.90 |
| Food Articles | 15.40 | 8.59 | 8.45 | 10.89 | 14.16 | 14.08 | 14.20 | 12.99 | 18.66 | 20.04 | 18.41 | 17.79 | 16.65 |

*Figures of February, 2010 and March, 2010 are provisional.

(c) The Government has initiated the process for revising the base year of WPI from 1993-94 to 2004-05 together with an enlargement of the commodity basket to better reflect the structural changes in the economy.

[English]

Investment by Indian Industries to Abroad

3720. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government allows Indian Industries/companies to invest abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of companies where substantial investment has been made during the last year and management control has been taken over;

(c) whether the Government is providing any incentives including logistic support to such Indian companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) As per Notification No. 120/RB-2004 dated 7th July, 2004, under the Foreign Management Exchange Act, 1999, an eligible "Indian party", (*i.e.* an Indian company incorporated in India or a body created under an Act of Parliament or a partnership firm registered under the Indian Partnership Act, 1932), is eligible to make overseas direct investment upto 400% of the net worth of the company under Automatic Route if the company complies with the conditions of Regulation 6&7 of the said Notification. No specific permission from Government is required in such cases. If more than one such company, body or entity make an investment in the foreign entity, all such companies or bodies or entities shall together constitute the "Indian party". As informed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), investment made abroad by 10 top companies (actual outflows) during April 01, 2008 to

March 31, 2009 are as given in the Table below:

(USD Mn.)

| Name of the Company | Total Outflow @ |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. ONGC Videsh Ltd. | 2910.30 |
| 2. Hindalco Industries Ltd. | 2153.96 |
| 3. Tata Motors Ltd. | 1502.57 |
| 4. Tata Steel Ltd. | 992.61 |
| 5. Suzlon Energy Ltd. | 543.39 |
| 6. United Phosphorous Ltd. | 361.00 |
| 7. Reliance Natural Resource Ltd. | 275.00 |
| 8. ABAN Offshore Ltd. | 268.29 |
| 9. Videocon Industries Ltd. | 261.04 |
| 10. Reliance Industries Ltd. | 219.19 |

@ Data Provisional.

No specific information is available regarding management control having taken over by these companies due to the investment made.

(c) and (d) The investments made are on the basis of decisions taken and in the larger interest of the companies themselves. Therefore, the question of incentives by the Government does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Speed Post Services

3721. SHRI RAMESH BAIS:
SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:
SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE:
SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI:
SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:

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

(a) whether the Speed Post network covers the entire country particularly to accommodate the needs of the corporate sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to meet the requirement of the corporate sector for handling bulk mail especially in the uncovered places/small towns;

(d) the number of complaints received for loss of articles/delay in transit during the last three years in this regard; and

(e) the follow up action taken thereon by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Yes, Madam. The Speed Post network covers all the States in the country and caters to the needs of the Corporate Sector.

(b) The Speed Post network comprises of 315 National Centres and 986 State Speed Post Centres spread across the length and breadth of the country. It provides value-added services like Book Now Pay Later (BNPL), free pick up from customers' premises, computerized billing etc. for corporate customers.

(c) The network of Speed Post Service is extended taking into account the market requirements, customer needs, potential business, transport connectivity available etc.

(d) The details of complaints relating to Speed Post received for loss of articles/delay in transit during the last three years are as under:

| Year | Speed Post Traffic | No. of complaints | Complaint percentage w.r.t. traffic |
|---------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2006-07 | 12.86 Cr | 43754 | 0.034% |
| 2007-08 | 17.73 Cr | 51258 | 0.028% |
| 2008-09 | 21.14 Cr | 59729 | 0.028% |

(e) A mechanism has been set up in the department for prompt disposal of complaints through Customer Care Centre in all Postal Divisions Instructions are issued to Divisions for cent-percent handling & settlement of web-based complaints. All Speed Post complaints are to be handled/settled in a period of maximum 15 days and the pendency of Speed Post complaints in the States is closely monitored. Department has introduced Customer Call Centres in major cities and provided the Track & Trace system to help the customers to track their Speed Post articles.

Construction of Boys and Girls Hostels

3722. SHRIMATI YASHODHARA RAJE SCINDIA:
Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposals for construction of boys and girls hostel buildings under the Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana across the country including Madhya Pradesh;

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

(c) the present status of those proposals, State-wise;
and

(d) the reasons for pendency and the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (c) A Statement indicating State-wise details of proposals received and processed during 2009-10 under Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana is enclosed.

(d) The proposal must be complete in all respect and should be accompanied with requisite information/documents for sanction of admissible financial assistance. The clearance of proposals, therefore, depends upon satisfactory response of the implementing agencies to all such essential requirements.

Statement

| Sl. No. | Name of the State/UT/NGO/University etc. from whom proposal was received using 2009-10 | SC Boys Hostel | | SC Girls Hostel | |
|---------|--|--|----------------|--|--|
| | | No. of proposals received during 2009-10 | Present Status | No. of proposals received during 2009-10 | Present Status |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1 | Under process | 1 | Under process |
| 2. | Assam | 1 | Under process | 2 | Under process |
| 3. | Bihar | 1 | Under process | 2 | Under process |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | 1 | Approved | 1 | Under process |
| 5. | IP University, Delhi | 1 | Under process | 1 | Under process |
| 6. | Gujarat | 1 | Under process | 2 | Under process |
| 7. | Haryana | 2 | Under process | 2 | Under process |
| 8. | H.P. | 1 | Under process | 2 | Under process |
| 9. | Jharkhand | 1 | Under process | 1 | Under process |
| 10. | Karnataka | 1 | Under process | 2 | One proposal approved, one under process |
| 11. | Kerala | 1 | Approved | 1 | Under process |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------|----------------|----|--|----|--|
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 2 | One proposal approved, one under process | 2 | One proposal approved, one under process |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 2 | Under process | 1 | Under process |
| 14. | Orissa | - | - | 1 | Under process |
| 15. | Punjab | - | - | 1 | Under process |
| 16. | Rajasthan | 2 | One proposal approved, one under process | 3 | One proposal approved, two under process |
| 17. | Tamil Nadu | 2 | Under process | 1 | Under process |
| 18. | Tripura | 1 | Under process | 1 | Under process |
| 19. | Uttar Pradesh | 2 | Under process | 2 | Under process |
| 20. | Uttarakhand | 1 | Under process | 2 | One proposal approved, one under process |
| 21. | West Bengal | 1 | Under process | 2 | Under process |
| 22. | Puducherry | 1 | Under process | 1 | Approved |
| Total | | 27 | | 34 | |

Unauthorised Activities in SEZs

3723. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *alias* LALAN SINGH:
SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA:

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

(a) whether certain unauthorised activities being carried out in approved Special Economic Zones (SEZs) have come to the notice of the Government;

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

(c) whether the Government has formulated any guidelines to regulate the activities in SEZs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) to (d) The functioning of the SEZs is governed by a three tier administrative set up. The Board of Approval is the apex body and is headed by the Secretary, Department of Commerce. The Approval Committee is the body at the Zone level dealing with approval of units in the SEZs and other related issues. The Approval Committee consists of Development Commissioner, Customs Authorities and representatives of State Government. The performance of the SEZ units are monitored annually by the Unit Approval Committee and units are liable for penal action under the provision of Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, in case of violation of the conditions of the approval. Hence, there are enough safeguards in the SEZ Scheme to prevent unauthorised activities in SEZs.

*[English]***Utilisation of Funds under MGNREGS**

3724. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether controlling of funds meant for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) by the sarpanches single handedly has altered the dynamics of Panchayati Raj system in the villages;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken/being considered by the Government to ensure scrupulous utilization of funds;

(c) whether purchasing and hiring of 'material' by sarpanches is leading to large scale manipulation and siphoning of funds; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (d) Funds meant for Mahatma Gandhi NREGA are not controlled single handedly by the sarpanches. Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Operational Guidelines in para 8.5.1 provide that each Gram Panchayat will have a single bank account for the purpose of implementing NREGS works. This NREGS account will be operated jointly by the President and the Secretary of the Gram Panchayat.

To ensure scrupulous funds under the Act, the Ministry has taken the following steps:

- (i) ICT based MIS to make data available to public scrutiny, inclusive of job cards, employment demanded and allocated, days worked, muster rolls, shelf of works, funds available/spent and fund to various implementing agencies, social audit findings, registering grievances and generating alerts for corrective action.
- (ii) The progress of the implementation of the Act is regularly reviewed and monitors in Performance Review Committee meetings which are held on quarterly basis, State-specific reviews and visits by NLMs and Central Council members.
- (iii) Vigilance & Monitoring Committee has been set up at State and District level.

Regularisation of Contract Labourers/Workers

3725. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR ROY:
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:
SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP:
DR. ANUP KUMAR SAHA:
SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:

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

(a) the number of non-musterroll, contract and casual workers appointed in the Central Government, Public Sector Undertakings and private sector during each of the last three years and the current year, separately, State-wise and sectorwise;

(b) the percentage of such workers out of the total workforce at present in the country;

(c) whether the Government has formulated any policy for regularization of the above workers;

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

(e) the number of contractors approved as per Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 by the Competent Authority in the country, State-wise; and

(f) the number of workers/labourers registered/working under such registered contractors in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) The Central Government is the appropriate authority only for the establishments falling under Central Sphere Under the contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970. The information in respect of these establishments is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The percentage of contract work force in the Central Sphere as given in Annexure was 51.2% during 2006-07, 49.9% during 2007-2008, 50.7% during 2008-09 and 41.5% (provisional) for the year 2009-10.

(c) and (d) The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 does not have specific provisions for regularization of contract labour. However, as per the decision of apex Court, when contract labour is prohibited and the contracts are sham, ruse or camouflage, the contract labourer are entitled to regularization. The question whether a contract is sham, ruse or camouflage is to be decided by the Industrial

Adjudicator *i.e.* Labour Court, Tribunals. Whenever any request is received for prohibition of contract labour, Central Advisory Contract Labour Board investigates and takes appropriate action.

(e) During 2008-2009, 10389 licenses were issued to contractors in the Central Sphere.

(f) Same as given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Regularisation of Contract Labourers/Workers.

Number of Non-mustroll, contract and casual workers

| Sl.No. | Regions | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 (Upto Feb) |
|--------|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | Ahemedabad | 33,000 | 33,500 | 34,500 | 36,000 |
| 2. | Ajmer | 28,561 | 26,997 | 28,194 | 10,058 |
| 3. | Asansol | 9540 | 10258 | 9888 | 4971 |
| 4. | Bangalore | 26,045 | 25,178 | 26,644 | 24,225 |
| 5. | Bhubneswar | | 26,250 | 32,260 | 36,350 |
| 6. | Chandigarh | 1,50,050 | 1,57,390 | 1,63,580 | 1,40,000 |
| 7. | Chennai | 93,273 | 1,27,707 | 1,55,843 | 1,60,170 |
| 8. | Cochin | 16,436 | 18,820 | 27,957 | 14,750 |
| 9. | Dehradun | 4,610 | 16,818 | 18,413 | 4,042 |
| 10. | Dhanbad | 15,391 | 15,432 | 15,193 | 15,504 |
| 11. | Guwahati | | 50,150 | 50,107 | 44,320 |
| 12. | Hyderabad | 18,120(P) | 18,159(P) | 18,500(P) | 18,442(P) |
| 13. | Jabalpur | 29,159 | 15,293 | 17,803 | 2,123 |
| 14. | Kanpur | 13,763 | 15,825 | 20,458 | 2,596 |
| 15. | Kolkata | 33,789 | 33,557 | 20,127 | - |
| 16. | Mumbai | 10,728 | 19,857 | 16,259 | 17,518 |
| 17. | New Delhi | 30,610(P) | 30,101(P) | 29,878(P) | 29,510(P) |
| 18. | Patna | 331 | 09 | 09 | - |
| 19. | Raipur | - | 15,080 | 16,630 | 16,617 |
| | Total | 5,13,406 | 6,56,381 | 6,99,243 | 5,77,196(P) |
| | Actual Contract Workers | 10,01,947 | 13,13,746 | 13,77,610 | 13,87,784(P) |
| | | 51.2% | 49.9% | 50.7% | 41.5% |

Affiliation to ITIs/ITCs

3726. DR. G. VIVEKANAND:
SHRI JOSEPH TOPPO:

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

(a) the criteria adopted by the National Council for Vocational Training for providing affiliation to the Industrial Training Institutes/Centres (ITIs/ITCs) in the country;

(b) the number of proposals received, cleared and pending with the Union Government regarding affiliation of ITIs/ITCs in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for the pendency;

(d) whether the Union Government has received complaints regarding discrimination in affiliation of ITIs/ITCs in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):
(a) A copy of guidelines followed by the National Council for Vocational Training for providing affiliation to the Industrial Training Institutes/Centres (ITIs/ITCs) is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c) A Statement-II indicating the number of proposals received, cleared and pending as on 31st at March, 2010 regarding affiliation of ITIs/ITCs year-wise and state-wise is enclosed.

Major reasons for pendency/non approval of the proposals are non-fulfillment of space norms, qualification of instructors, shortage of tools & equipments as well as non availability of requisite electrical power connection/load.

(d) and (e) Grievances from affected institutes are received from time to time. They are examined in the light of directions of NCVT and decisions of the Sub-committee dealing with affiliation and corrective action taken on fulfillment of prescribed norms.

Statement I

Procedure for grant of affiliation with NCVT to trades/units of Government Pvt.

Institutes (ITIs/ITCs)

- (i) State Director In-charge of the Craftsmen Training Scheme will notify in the leading newspapers of the State to receive particulars from an agency seeking permission to start training under Craftsmen Training Scheme for the August/February session of the following year. The last date for the receipt of the applications will be 31st December of each year.
- (ii) The applications received by the State Directors after 31st December are not normally entertained. However, the applications received up to 10th January, of the following year could be given consideration, if a late fee of Rs. 100/- is deposited by the applicant.
- (iii) The State Director, will scrutinise the application and after ascertaining their authenticity and financial position, shall convey provisional permission by the end of February to the eligible applicant and ask him to make all necessary arrangement for running the course.
- (iv) The Management of the Institute shall make all necessary arrangements and provide necessary infrastructural facilities for the proposed trades/units as per the prescribed NCVT norms and would inform the state Director of the arrangements so made.
- (v) (a) The State Director, if satisfied with the arrangements of the Institute, shall carry out a preliminary inspection of the institute.
- (v) (b) Joint Action Plan - State Director dealing with Craftsmen Training Scheme in consultation with coordinating offices of DGE&T for the region *i.e.* Regional Director, RDAT/Director, FTI Bangalore, as the case may be, shall prepare a Joint Action Plan and constitute standing committee for inspection of trades/units of ITIs and ITCs for the State/UT concerned.

2. Composition of Standing Committee:

The Trade/Unit for which affiliation to NCVT is sought is inspected by a Standing Committee constituted by the State Director In-charge of Craftsmen Training. It has the following members:

(a) Two members should be nominated by the SCVT (one from the Industry and the other from Labour).

(b) One member should be nominated by the Secretary of the NCVT/designated officer; he/she should be from one of the DGE&T offices/institutes/Directorates of Apprenticeship Training, etc.

(c) State Director in-charge of Craftsmen Training or one of his senior Officers having good experience of vocational training.

(d) The Committee may also co-opt one/two experts in the relevant trade/trades.

The members should not be below the rank of Assistant Director of Training in case of Govt. employees and in case of private sector, he/she should be holding a senior position equivalent to Chief Manager/Sr. Manager and Senior Office bearer of Trade Union in case of a Trade Union.

The Standing Committee with a minimum of three members (at least one of whom should be a representative of NCVT and one representative of State Director), should inspect the Institute to verify that the information furnished by the institute in the prescribed proforma (Annexure III) is correct and the Trade/Unit has been equipped as per prescribed norms in respect of tools, equipments, machinery, building, land, furniture, power supply, appointment of qualified instructors, etc. The ITI/ITC and Standing Committee ensure that the tools and equipments are as per the latest syllabus of the trade.

(i) The Standing Committee after verifying available infrastructural facilities and the arrangements made for starting training may recommend permanent affiliation for the deserving trades/units only.

(ii) The State Director may seek permanent affiliation by forwarding the inspection report (Annexure III) to the Secretary, NCVT, NEW DELHI.

(iii) The inspection reports are scrutinized in DGE&T, for ascertaining compliance of norms. Then these reports along with appraisal of DGE&T are placed before the sub-Committee of NCVT dealing with affiliation which takes final view on affiliation. Final orders conveying grant of affiliation are issued by the Secretary, NCVT after the approval of the Subcommittee of NCVT dealing with affiliation.

3. Effective date of affiliation

As per affiliation procedure the effective date of affiliation is as follows:-

(a) Affiliation granted by sub committee of NCVT dealing with affiliation between 1st January to 30th June will be effective from the session beginning August of the same year

(b) Affiliation granted by sub committee of NCVT dealing with affiliation between between 1st July to 31st December will be effective from the session beginning February of next year.

4. Only one Inspection in a Session:

Only one inspection for August session and another for February session of every year is allowed for the respective session, thus in a year only two inspections are allowed to be conducted by the standing committee inspection team.

5. Bar on inspection for one year if institute refuses to get inspected on due date

The institute, which refuses to get inspected after fixing the date for inspection or requests for postponement of inspection after fixing the date, shall be debarred from inspection for one year.

6. Limiting number of inspections in a single day

The inspection of not more than two ITIs/ITCs shall be carried out in a single day. Thorough and complete inspection must be carried out during working hours only in presence of the institute management.

7. Departmental Inspection report (DIR) for 3rd Unit (3rd Shift)

3rd Unit (3rd Shift) Departmental Inspection Reports (DIRs) may be considered to grant the affiliation. Proof of affiliation for base unit must be attached with DIR.

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
|-------|-------------------|------|------|----|------|------|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| 9. | Daman and Diu | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 10. | Delhi | 12 | 12 | 0 | 13 | 12 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| 11. | Goa | 10 | 10 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 12. | Gujarat | 37 | 37 | 0 | 127 | 78 | 49 | 102 | 68 | 34 | 9 | 9 | 0 |
| 13. | Himachal Pradesh | 29 | 26 | 3 | 134 | 126 | 8 | 154 | 141 | 13 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| 14. | Haryana | 2 | 2 | 0 | 69 | 63 | 6 | 84 | 79 | 5 | 9 | 9 | 0 |
| 15. | Jammu and Kashmir | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 16. | Jharkhand | 37 | 35 | 2 | 57 | 50 | 7 | 47 | 46 | 1 | 9 | 9 | 0 |
| 17. | Karnataka | 685 | 640 | 45 | 598 | 546 | 52 | 517 | 481 | 36 | 71 | 68 | 3 |
| 18. | Kerala | 26 | 24 | 2 | 172 | 137 | 35 | 156 | 153 | 3 | 18 | 18 | 0 |
| 19. | Lakshadweep | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 20. | Madhya Pradesh | 30 | 30 | 0 | 38 | 36 | 2 | 87 | 85 | 2 | 18 | 16 | 2 |
| 21. | Maharashtra | 150 | 149 | 1 | 386 | 371 | 15 | 666 | 581 | 85 | 58 | 49 | 9 |
| 22. | Manipur | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 23. | Meghalaya | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 24. | Mizoram | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 25. | Nagaland | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 26. | Orissa | 190 | 190 | 0 | 457 | 424 | 33 | 216 | 183 | 33 | 30 | 28 | 2 |
| 27. | Puducherry | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 28. | Punjab | 73 | 63 | 10 | 82 | 81 | 1 | 129 | 108 | 21 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| 29. | Rajasthan | 350 | 334 | 16 | 623 | 613 | 10 | 338 | 296 | 42 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 30. | Sikkim | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 31. | Tamil Nadu | 61 | 61 | 0 | 70 | 65 | 5 | 62 | 57 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| 32. | Tripura | 6 | 6 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 33. | Uttar Pradesh | 92 | 91 | 1 | 238 | 236 | 2 | 512 | 496 | 16 | 53 | 51 | 2 |
| 34. | Uttarakhand | 11 | 10 | 1 | 27 | 17 | 10 | 15 | 14 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 35. | West Bengal | 15 | 15 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 21 | 17 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | 2039 | 1955 | 84 | 3455 | 3164 | 291 | 3568 | 3205 | 363 | 292 | 272 | 20 |

Note:- (a) Proposals mean any new proposal relating to affiliation of new ITI/ITC or new unit/additional units in existing ITI/ITC.

*Proposals received include the pending proposal of previous year and new proposals received during that year.

**proposals cleared include proposal processed at DGE&T *i.e.* proposals approved and pending for clarification.

***Pending indicates that proposals could not be processed.

Increase in Telecom Charges

3727. SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN:
 SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI:
 DR. SANJAY SINH:
 SHRI RAMESH RATHOD:
 SHRI SANJAY SINGH CHAUHAN:
 SHRI PREMDAS:

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

(a) Whether some telecom companies including Airtel are charging exorbitant rates in the guise of STD, monthly rental or roaming charges since Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is unable to exercise its authority and control over them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) whether some telecom companies have been charging STD and roaming charges for the users while roaming from one place to another using the same network;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to protect the interest of consumers and exercise great control over malfunctioning/deficient services of private telecom companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Regulation of Tariff has been mandated to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) vide the TRAI Act of 1997. As per the existing guidelines of TRAI, tariff for telecom services are under forbearance except with regard to Fixed Line Service in Rural Areas, National Roaming Service and Leased Line Service. Thus, the Telecom Companies including Airtel have the flexibility to offer a combination of tariffs for various components including STD and Monthly rental. The roaming charges are subject to the ceilings prescribed by TRAI.

However, Telecom companies are required to report to TRAI any new tariff for telecom services and changes in tariff within 7 days after its implementation for

information and record of TRAI after conducting a self check to ensure that the tariff plans are consistent with the regulatory principles in all respects. Currently, telecom service providers are offering variety of tariff plans according to needs of customers and competitive scenario. The telecom tariff levels in the country have shown a continuous downward trend.

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

(d) and (e) Government of India has issued licenses for mobile services separately for each circle/Metro areas on local service area (LSA) basis. As per TRAI Regulations, roaming charges are not levied when the user is going from one place to another place within the licensed service area and uses the same network. However, roaming charges become payable when subscriber uses the service outside the licensed service area of his operator. STD charges are payable on outgoing calls according to the tariff plan chosen by the subscriber.

(f) TRAI has been issuing various Regulations and Directions with the objective of protecting the interest of consumers and keeping regular checks and monitoring on the quality of services being provided by service providers including private telecom companies. This includes, inter-alia, various reporting requirements mandated by TRAI.

Use of Agricultural Land by Industries

3728. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL:
 DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:
 SHRI RAMKISHUN:
 DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
 SHRI MURARI LAL SINGH:
 SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to fix any time-limit for setting up of industries on the agricultural land which has been acquired but lying vacant for a long period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to transfer such land to the farmers in case these land are not utilized for the industrial purpose within the proposed time-limit;

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

(e) the criteria fixed by the Government regarding allotment of unfertile/cultivable land for industrial purpose to ensure industrial development of the country without disturbing sectoral balance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) to (d) The National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy (NRRP), 2007 inter-alia, provides the time limit for setting up of industries on acquired land. As per this policy, if land compulsorily acquired for a project or part thereof, remains unutilized for the project for a period of five years from the date of taking over the possession by the requiring body, the same shall revert to the possession and ownership of the appropriate Government without payment of any compensation or remuneration to the requiring body. (Section 6.24.2).

(e) The National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy (NRRP), 2007 also prescribes the guidelines that only the minimum area of land commensurate with the purposes of the project may be acquired and as far as possible projects may be set up on waste land, degraded land or un-irrigated land. It further provides that "acquisition of agricultural land for non-agricultural use in the project may be kept to the minimum; multi-cropped land may be avoided to the extent possible for such purposes and acquisition of irrigated land, if unavoidable, may be kept to the minimum"(Section 1.4).

[*Translation*]

Industrial Growth

3729. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:
SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:
SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:
SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO:

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

(a) whether the constantly reflected positive industrial/manufacturing growth rate in the country surpassed that of the developed countries during the last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the rank of India in the yearbook of Industrial Statistics;

(c) whether the constant recovery of the industrial growth of the country has projected million of jobs in the country in the coming years;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the growth rate in exports has been a major contributing factor for the constant industrial growth rate in India during the last year; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith percentage of share on GDP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The industrial growth for India, measured in terms of Index of Industrial Production (IIP), increased from 2.8 percent in 2008-09 to 10.1 percent during April-February, 2009-10. Growth of industrial production of selected developed countries as published by Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) for 2009 is given in the enclosed statement. It may be seen that the rate of growth of industrial production in India compares favourably *vis-a-vis* the industrial growth of the selected developed countries.

(c) and (d) The recovery of industrial growth is expected to have a positive impact on the employment opportunities in the country.

(e) The economic slowdown had an impact on the growth of industries with higher export intensity such as textiles, handicrafts, leather, gems and jewellery, and auto-components.

(f) Share of exports to GDP is as follows:

Share of Exports to GDP

(in Percent)

| | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |
|--|---------|---------|
| | 23.5 | 18.6 |

Source: Central Statistical Organisation.

Statement*Industrial Production for the year 2009*

(Growth in Percent)

| Country | Growth |
|----------------|--------|
| Australia | -2.82 |
| Canada | -11.35 |
| France | -12.01 |
| Germany | -17.01 |
| Italy | -17.60 |
| Japan | -21.83 |
| Maxico | -7.28 |
| United Kingdom | -10.75 |
| United States | -9.78 |
| European Union | -13.76 |

Source: OECD

[English]

**Implementation of MGNREGS in
North Eastern States**

3730. SHRI JOSEPH TOPPO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has issued any special directives to North Eastern States regarding implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS); and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) Mahatma Gandhi NREGA is demand based and is uniformly applicable in all the rural areas of the country. No special directives have been issued by the Ministry regarding its implementation in North Eastern States.

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

*[Translation]***Capacity Utilisation of Ports**

3731. SHRI VITTHALBHAI HANSRAJBHAI
RADADIYA:
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the capacity of Indian ports is not being utilised properly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the berthing timing of ships at the Indian Coast is quite high, resulting in delayed loading/unloading of goods;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the corrective action taken in the matter;

(f) the details of works carried out for the development of the ports; and

(g) the progress made by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN):

(a) Madam, the capacity of Indian ports is being utilized properly.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Average turnaround time of India Ports is 3.87 days for the period 2008-09. Average pre-berthing time for the Indian ports is 39.09 hours for the same period.

(e) Marine Infrastructure like procurement of high power tugs, Pilot launches, Marine their scheduled window berthing facility, non-readlines of custom documents etc. The ports are continuously liaising with the vessel and cargo agents towards reducing the pre-berthing delay on account of these factors.

(f) and (g) All the major portshave taken up various berth construction procurement of equipment, port connectivity and channel deeping projects under NMDP.

There are 276 projects at a cost of 55803.73 crores to be taken up under National Maritime Development Projects. Out of these 50 projects at a cost of Rs. 5717.28 crores have been completed. Work is in progress for 74 programmes. The estimated cost of these 74 projects is Rs. 16502.68 crores.

[English]

Expansion Plan of BSNL

3732. SHRI SURESH KASHINATH TAWARE:
SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA:
SHRI S.R. JEYADURAI:

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

(a) whether the tender for expansion plan of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has its reservations on this tender;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to speed up BSNL's expansion plan to enable the company to meet the challenges of private telecom operators in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (d) Madam, the tenders for procurement of GSM equipment under phase VI was floated by the four zones of BSNL on 01.05.2008. The tender was floated for 25 million lines each by North, West and South zones and for 18 million lines by the East zone to meet requirements spread over three to four years.

At the advance state of tender finalization, the Central Vigilance Commission decided to investigate the Phase VI tender and called for the records. Accordingly, the Board decided not to proceed further with the GSM tender till further advice from CVC. The CVC recommended not to operate on the tender of 93 million

GSM lines because of non-competition, high rate and prolonged negotiations. The recommendations of CVC were placed before the Sam Pitroda Committee. The Pitroda Committee also recommended to scrap the tender of 93 million GSM lines. The report of Pitroda Committee in the matter was deliberated by the BSNL board on 05.03.2010 and the board decided to accept the recommendation of Pitroda Committee for dropping of the tender.

(e) As per the recommendation of Pitroda Committee, BSNL has formed a committee to prepare Request For Proposals (RFP) for adopting managed capacity model for expansion of its GSM network.

Special Purpose Tea Fund

3733. DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY- be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up a Special Purpose Tea Fund for improving production and productivity of tea;

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

(c) the steps being taken to improve knowledge of tea growers and increase research and development in tea sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Government has set up a Special Purpose Tea Fund (SPTF) with the objective of large scale uprooting and replanting/rejuvenation of old tea bushes for improving tea production and productivity. It is envisaged to replant/rejuvenate 2.12 lakh hectares of uneconomic tea areas over a period of 15 years commencing from 2007. Financial assistance is provided by way of long term loan (50% of the unit cost) and subsidy (25% of the unit cost). The balance 25% is to be borne by the beneficiaries. The financial assistance provided under SPTF since inception till 31 st March, 2010 towards loan and subsidy is Rs. 28.28 crores and Rs. 54.85 crores respectively covering an area of 12,342 hectares under replantation and 4,136 hectares under rejuvenation.

(c) Under the ongoing Human Resource Development Scheme of Tea Board, training is provided to the stakeholders on various aspects of tea cultivation, field management and tea manufacturing etc. A special training on modern aspects of tea growing is organized for the small growers representing Self Help Groups (SHGs) who, in turn, on completion of the training impart training to other members of the SHGs. Government is also supporting the research and development activities in tea sector through Tea Board by funding the research and other recognized institutions like Darjeeling Tea Research and Development Centre, Tea Research Association and United Planters Association of Southern India - Tea Research Foundation, etc under their Research and Development Scheme.

[Translation]

Pradhan Mantri Adrash Gram Yojana

3734. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR:
SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has finalised the Pradhan Mantri Adrash Gram Yojana announced during the last Budget Session 2009-10; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the same is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) Yes, Madam,

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Internet Subscribers

3735. SHRI SONAWANE PRATAP NARAYANRAO:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be please to state:

(a) whether the number of household Internet subscribers in in the country is less as compared to other countries like China;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) the total number of Internet subscribers in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to make Internet connectivity affordable to common man?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) As per the Internet World States data on top 20 countries with Highest Number of Internet Users; India ranks fourth with 81 million users. China ranks number one with 360 million users.

(c) The total number of Internet subscribers in the country during each of the last three years, state wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) The Steps taken/being taken by the Government to make Internet connectivity affordable to common man, inter-alia are as under:

- Introduction of broadband wireless Access (BWA) services.
- Process of Allotment of spectrum for 3G and BWA services to the private operators through e-auction.
- Providing wire line broadband connections to Gram Panchayats, Higher Secondary Schools, Public Health Centres etc., under Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) scheme.
- Supply of PCs to the rural areas under USOF scheme.
- USOF is working on a scheme for providing financial assistance by way of subsidy for the wireless broadband active infrastructure such as BTS, by utilizing the existing passive infrastructure available with the Telecom service providers. This scheme would provide broadband coverage of about 2 lakh villages.
- Under the National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) access to Internet is facilitated through the Common Service Centres (CSCs). 100,000 CSCs are being set up in Public Private Partnership(PPP) mode covering 600,000 villages. Till date 76,000 CSCs have been set up.

Statement

| Sl.No. | State | Internet subscribers (as on 31.03.2007) | Internet subscribers (as on 31.03.2008) | Internet subscribers (as on 31.12.2009) |
|--------|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 4916 | 6142 | 7229 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 567220 | 755387 | 1084531 |
| 3. | Assam | 42521 | 56975 | 74576 |
| 4. | Bihar (including Jharkhand) | 112424 | 142537 | 206343 |
| 5. | Delhi* | 1293445 | 1362892 | 1715719 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 496554 | 576058 | 832788 |
| 7. | Haryana | 149324 | 203566 | 282696 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 31371 | 43626 | 71419 |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 54915 | 67904 | 90765 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 653331 | 819947 | 1206826 |
| 11. | Kerala (including Lakshadweep) | 555486 | 716552 | 1089104 |
| 12. | Maharashtra (including Goa) | 2088188 | 2460459 | 3070303 |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh (Including Chhattisgarh) | 351840 | 411119 | 580384 |
| 14. | North East** | 34646 | 69702 | 100149 |
| 15. | Orissa | 89194 | 114823 | 185149 |
| 16. | Punjab | 327339 | 418441 | 665558 |
| 17. | Rajasthan | 358886 | 432384 | 628425 |
| 18. | Tamil Nadu (including Punducherry) | 966235 | 1115870 | 1617734 |
| 19. | Uttar Pradesh (including Uttarakhand) | 457810 | 558722 | 753600 |
| 20. | West Bengal (including Sikkim) | 570435 | 714700 | 901238 |
| Total | | 9206080 | 11049790 | 15165037 |

* includes Ghaziabad, Faridabad, NOIDA and Gurgaon

* includes Meghalaya, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura

*[Translation]***Violation of Contract Labour Laws**

3736. SHRI ARJUN ROY:
SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI:

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

(a) whether the instances of violations of laws meant for contract labourers are increasing day-by-day;

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

(c) the number of cases registered and persons found guilty for violation of such laws alongwith the action taken by the Government in this regard during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(d) the extent to which such violations have been curbed as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):
(a) to (d) Details for Central Sphere are given in the enclosed statement. The numbers indicate an uneven trend.

Statement

*Detail of enforcement in Central Sphere
Establishments under Contract Labour
(Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970*

| Sl.No. | Particulars | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 |
|--------|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. | No. of Inspections conducted | 5365 | 6843 | 6925 |
| 2. | No. of Prosecution Launched | 2648 | 3675 | 3573 |
| 3. | No. of convictions | 887 | 1228 | 733 |

*[English]***Participation of Private Players in Ports Activities**

3737. SHRI P. LINGAM:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to allow private players for operating port facilities, transport cargo and also to set up captive berths at major-ports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G. K. VASAN):
(a) and (b) A proposal to allow private players to operate captive berths at major ports for transportation of cargo is presently with the Government, but no final decision has been taken.

Withdrawal of Dredgers by DCI

3738. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has ascertained reasons that led the Dredging Corporation of India (DCI) to withdraw their dredgers from Haldia Port Complex; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the measures taken by the Government to resolve the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN):
(a) DCI is deploying dredgers to KoPT/Haldia as per contractual agreement between KoPT and DCI. The contract inter-alia stipulates deployment of six dredgers. DCI has deployed the committed dredgers at Haldia. It has not withdrawn any committed dredgers from Haldia. Some additional dredgers had been deployed on request from Kolkata/Haldia Port to meet the urgent requirements. The additional dredgers were redeployed to other ports in order to meet/fulfill the contractual obligations there.

(b) Does not arise.

Increase in NFLM Wages

3739. SHRI K. SUGUMARK: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase National Floor Level Minimum (NFLM) wages for the welfare of all workers including unorganised workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any monitoring mechanism/agency to ensure that the minimum wages are paid to the workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):
(a) and (b) The Central Government has increased the

National Floor Level Minimum Wage from Rs. 80/- to Rs. 100/- per day with effect from 01.11.2009. Since the National Floor Level Minimum Wage is a non-statutory measure, the State Governments are persuaded to fix/revise minimum wages in such a way that in none of the scheduled employments the minimum wage is less than National Floor Level Minimum Wage.

(c) and (d) The enforcement of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is secured at two levels. While in the Central sphere, the enforcement is secured through the officers of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), the compliance in the State sphere is ensured through the the event of detection of any case of non-payment or under-payment of minimum wages, they advise the employers to make payment of the shortfall of wages. In case of non-compliance, penal provisions against the defaulting employers are invoked.

National Commission for Tribes

3740. SHRI SOMEN MITRA:
SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP:
SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY:
SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:
SHRI GHANSHYAM ANURAGI:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the recommendations of the National Commission for de-notified Nomadic and Semi-nomadic Tribes headed by Shri Bal Krishna Renke;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the benefit of persons belonging to the de-notified, nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes in the country including those of Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (c) The recommendations of the National Commission for De-notified, Nomadic and Semi Nomadic Tribes are under consideration of the Government.

Connectivity of villages with Road under Missing Link Scheme

3741. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to construct new roads under the Missing Link Scheme alongwith the construction of necessary associated three route for providing connectivity to unconnected rural habitations with the nearest main road or upto the nearest city;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States which have been covered under Missing Link Scheme; and

(d) the time by which remaining States including Rajasthan are likely to be covered under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) There is no separate Missing Link scheme by Government to construct new roads under PMGSY. Since Phases I & II works were cleared before Core Network for the States were finalized, there could be possibility of some roads getting missed. Further, at the time of proposing roads in a Phase, some roads might have been left out due to non availability of land at that point of time. In those cases, States have proposed such roads under Missing Links subsequently. The proposals have been received from Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram and Orissa.

(b) and (c) The details of proposals received and sanctioned under Missing Links were as under:

| Sl.No. | State | No. of roads | Length of roads | Cost (In crore) |
|--------|----------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 416 | 1296.71 | 161.61 |
| 2. | Bihar | 328 | 1183.62 | 532.21 |
| 3. | Karnataka | 68 | 151.71 | 26.19 |
| 4. | Madhya Pradesh | 220 | 1085.36 | 322.99 |
| 5. | Mizoram | 11 | 182.46 | 22.28 |
| 6. | Orissa | 87 | 254.94 | 73.37 |

(d) At present, no proposal is pending for Missing Links from other states including Rajasthan.

Imposition of Carbon Tax by EU

3742. SHRI SANJAY BHOI:
SHRI AMARNATH PRADHAN:

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

(a) whether the European Union (EU) countries are proposing to impose carbon tax on imports from advanced developing countries like India and China;

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

(c) the details of the impact of such tax on Indian exports and the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The EUs Emission Trading System (ETS) is not currently applicable to imports. However, by June, 2011 EC is expected to come up with a report assessing the risk of carbon leakage.

(c) The impact of such tax on Indian exports cannot be assessed without the exact details of the scheme being made available by the EC.

[Translation]

One Rank One Pension for Ex-Servicemen

3743. SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV:
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:
SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken cognisance of the facts that retired defence personnel staged a protest recently demanding One Rank One Pension and returned their gallantry medals to the Government;

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

(c) the reasons for non-acceptance of their demands in spirit; and

(d) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in regard to fulfilment of their actual demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) A Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary to look into the issue of 'One Rank One Pension and other related matters'. After considering all aspects of the issue, and keeping in mind the spirit of the demand several recommendations to substantially improve pensionary benefits of Armed Forces pensioners have been made, which have been accepted and Government orders in implementation of the same have been issued.

(c) Based on the recommendations of 4th CPC (1986), 5th CPC (1996) and Group of Ministers (2005), all of which highlighted the various administrative, financial & legal implications, it has not been found feasible to consider the demand fully.

(d) In view of the reply to part (b) & (c), the question does not arise.

Export of Rice

3744. SHRI GORAKHNATH PANDEY:
SHRI JOSE K. MANI:
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

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

(a) the details of export of Basmati and non-Basmati rice during the last three years, Country-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to restrict the export of Basmati rice in view of rising consumption in the country and if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has allowed export of non-Basmati rice to some African countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether some private exporters were given permission to export non-Basmati rice to these countries over MMTC, STC and other PSUs;

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

(g) whether the said exports were made as commercial transaction or food aid programme to above countries; and

(h) the procedure being followed and the criterion adopted in fixing the price of rice for exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) Madam, the details of export of basmati rice and non-basmati rice are as under:

(Qty: In Lakh tonnes; Value: Rs. in Crores)

| Products | 2007-08 | | 2008-09 | | 2009-10 (April-Oct) | |
|------------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|------------------------|-------|
| | Qty | Value | Qty | Value | Qty | Value |
| Basmati Rice | 11.83 | 4344 | 15.56 | 9477 | 11.43 | 6621 |
| Non-Basmati Rice | 52.86 | 7410 | 9.32 | 1687 | 1.02 | 280 |

Source: APEDA

UAE, Saudi Arabia and Nepal are the prominent countries importing non-basmati rice from India, while UAE, Saudi Arabia and Iran are the prominent countries importing basmati rice from India.

(b) No. of Madam.

(c) and (d) Yes Madam. The Govt. vide notification No. 104... dated 6th May 2009 notified that export of non-basmati rice may be done on the Government account to the allowed 21 African countries.

(e) and (f) No Madam, as per the above notification the exports were to be made through MMTC, STC and PEC. No private operators have been given preference to export non-basmati rice to these countries over these PSUs.

(g) and (h) The said exports were made on diplomatic basis. It was decided that PSUs would supply rice to the designated country on commercial terms.

[English]

Establishment of NKN

3745. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to establish the National Knowledge Network (NKN) to inter-connect all knowledge institutions in the country through high speed data communication network in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along-with its objectives functions, applications and likely impact;

(c) whether the Government has fixed any targets in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof along-with the funds earmarked for this purpose;

(e) the status of implementation of the NKN; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to expedite said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (f) Yes, Madam. Government of India has approved a Project on 25.03.2010 for setting up of the National Knowledge Network (NKN). The outlay approved for the project is Rs. 5990 crore over a time frame of 10 years. NKN is to be implemented by National Informatics Center (NIC). For Financial Year 2009-10 an amount of Rs. 240 crore has been released.

The Objective of the NKN is to interconnect all Universities, Libraries, Laboratories, Hospitals and Agricultural Institutions to share data and resources across the country over the high speed (of gigabit capabilities) information network.

NKN will enable scientists, researchers and students from diverse spheres across the country to work together for advancing human development in critical and emerging areas. NKN will catalyze knowledge sharing and knowledge transfer between stakeholders seamlessly across the nation and globally. NKN is expected to

encourage a larger section of research and educational institutions to create intellectual property. NKN would enable use of specialized applications, which allow sharing of high performance computing facilities, e-libraries, virtual classrooms, and very large databases. NKN will facilitate creation, acquisition and sharing of Knowledge resources among the large participating institutions in the country. It will bridge the existing knowledge gap in the country. It will help the country evolve as a Knowledge Society and spur economic activities in the Knowledge domain.

Agriculture, Education, Health, e-governance and Grid Computing (High Performance Computing). area, the applications that are identified for implementation and delivery on NKN.

In the initial phase, a core Backbone consisting of 15 Points of Presence (PoPs) have been established with 2.5 Gbps capacity. Around 66 institutions of higher learning and advanced research have been connected to the network and 6 virtual classrooms were setup in six IITs.

The core and associated links to about 1500 institutions are likely to be established in a span of 2-3 years.

A High Level Committee (HLC) with members from stakeholder organizations has been constituted, under the Chairmanship of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India. The HLC will oversee, monitor and coordinate all activities related to creation and implementation of the National Knowledge Network (NKN).

Pending Proposals/Projects under SGSY

3746. SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY:
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:
SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals/projects submitted by various States and Union Territories to the Union Government under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) for approval and those out of them cleared during each of the last three years and the current year; State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the reasons for not clearing all the proposals/projects;

(c) the time by which the pending proposals/projects are likely to be approved by the Union Government;

(d) whether the Union Government is aware that many States including Maharashtra have not utilized the funds sanctioned to them under SGSY during the said period;

(e) if so, whether the Union Government has also received any complaints regarding misuse of the said funds during the said period; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRDEEP JAIN): (a) The details of the proposals/projects submitted by various States and Union Territories to the Union Government under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) for approval and those out of them cleared during the last three years and the Current year; State-wise and Union Territory-wise are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) A large number of special project proposals under SGSY are received from State Governments and other Agencies for sanction. Since they are large livelihoods projects, these proposals are scrutinized for their compliance with the guidelines of Special Projects under SGSY. The project proposals which comply with the basic parameters of the guidelines are then appraised through two Inter-Ministerial Committees for screening and approval. These Committees are Project Screening Committee (PSC) and Project Approval Committee. Since receipt of project proposals, their revision by the sponsoring agencies and their appraisal and approval through the above two tier Inter Ministerial Committees is a continuous process, no time frame can be indicated for final clearance of such project proposals.

(d) The funds sanctioned for Special Projects under SGSY are released in three installments and is utilized as per implementation schedule prescribed under the project. Subsequent instalment is released on utilizing a certain minimum percentage of funds with corresponding physical targets.

(e) and (f) Complaints as and when received by MoRD are referred to concerned State Governments for enquiry. Recently, MoRD has received two complaints

relating to Special Projects under SGSY and same have been referred to the concerned State Governments for a detailed enquiry.

Statement

| Name of State/U.T | Total No. of Proposals received | Total No. of Proposals Approved | Total No. of Proposals Returned /Rejected | Total No. of Proposals yet to be cleared by MoRD |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 9 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 38 | 0 | 13 | 25 |
| Assam | 12 | 0 | 6 | 6 |
| Bihar | 21 | 6 | 10 | 5 |
| Chhattisgarh | 14 | 6 | 3 | 5 |
| Goa | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Gujarat | 8 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Haryana | 10 | 1 | 7 | 2 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 17 | 3 | 6 | 8 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 5 | 0 | 2 | 3 |
| Jharkhand | 19 | 5 | 8 | 6 |
| Karnataka | 13 | 2 | 5 | 6 |
| Kerala | 10 | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| Maharashtra | 47 | 7 | 20 | 20 |
| Manipur | 39 | 4 | 16 | 19 |
| Meghalaya | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Mizoram | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 44 | 4 | 15 | 25 |
| Nagaland | 32 | 0 | 8 | 24 |
| Orissa | 40 | 1 | 31 | 8 |
| Punjab | 14 | 3 | 9 | 2 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Rajasthan | 33 | 3 | 23 | 7 |
| Sikkim | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Tamil Nadu | 7 | 0 | 5 | 2 |
| Tripura | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 34 | 5 | 19 | 10 |
| Uttarakhand | 16 | 4 | 8 | 4 |
| West Bengal | 25 | 1 | 16 | 8 |
| Multi State | 136 | 54 | 67 | 15 |
| Total | 653 | 116 | 308 | 229 |

[Translation]

Setting up of Mobile Towers

3747. SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ:

DR. BALIRAM:

SHRI SONAWANE PRATAP NARAYANRAO:

SHRI MAHESH JOSHI:

SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP:

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:

SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN:

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

(a) the total number of Landline/ Mobile telephone subscribers of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of applications seeking Telephone/ Mobile connections from MTNL/BSNL lying pending in the country, as on date, State-wise;

(c) the time by which the said connections are likely to be provided in the country;

(d) the details of the mobile towers installed/likely to be installed by the MTNL/BSNL in the country during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(e) the number of towers out of them made operational; and

(f) the time by which the remaining towers are likely to be made operational in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) State-wise total number of landline/Mobile telephone subscribers of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in the country are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c) In MTNL telephones are available on demand and in BSNL waiting list of landline as on 31.03.2010 is given in enclosed Statement-I. Waiting list of landline subscribers is being cleared progressively, as the landline telephone connections are being provided all over the country depending upon geographical and techno commercial feasibility/viability.

(d) and (e) State-wise detail of the mobile towers installed and operational by MTNL/BSNL in the country during the last three years and the current year is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(f) Does not arise in view of (d) and (e).

Statement I*Details of number of mobile/Landline/waiting list as on 31.3.2010 of BSNL*

| Sl.No. | Name of Circle | Cellular Connections as on 31.3.2010 | Landline Connections as on 31.3.2010 | Waiting list of Landline as on 31.3.2010 |
|--------|-----------------------------|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 117181 | 17989 | 6 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 4227505 | 2107406 | 13582 |
| 3. | Assam | 1034867 | 307725 | 409 |
| 4. | Bihar | 3149837 | 961117 | 1885 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 943760 | 204228 | 0 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 2947716 | 1865968 | 10402 |
| 7. | Haryana | 2466994 | 786644 | 231 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 1188722 | 353228 | 425 |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 872827 | 232013 | 3983 |
| 10. | Jharkhand | 1194117 | 412461 | 17 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 3481327 | 2101485 | 27472 |
| 12. | Kerala | 3593995 | 3345461 | 12645 |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 2350875 | 1025184 | 867 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 4447033 | 2696924 | 35197 |
| 15. | N.E.-I | 426305 | 199442 | 18 |
| 16. | N.E.-II | 510136 | 126847 | 0 |
| 17. | Orissa | 2285999 | 604844 | 630 |
| 18. | Punjab | 3569819 | 1281984 | 179 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 4098819 | 1414030 | 71 |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 4296895 | 1923014 | 2918 |
| 21. | Uttaranchal | 984397 | 284746 | 149 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh (E) | 7721939 | 1409511 | 281 |
| 23. | Uttar Pradesh (W) | 2230529 | 1006123 | 0 |
| 24. | West Bengal | 2117099 | 883961 | 12345 |
| 25. | Kolkata TD | 1795019 | 1270929 | 0 |
| 26. | Chennai TD | 1251371 | 1007296 | 0 |
| | Total | 63305083 | 27830560 | 123712 |

Details of number of mobile/Landline/waiting list as on 31.3.2010 of MTNL

| Sl.No. | Name of Circle | Cellular Connections as on 31.3.2010 | Landline Connections as on 31.3.2010 | Waiting List of Landline as on 31.3.2010 |
|--------|----------------|---|---|---|
| 1. | Delhi | 23,75,109 | 15,66,397 | 0 |
| 2. | Mumbai | 25,92,622 | 20,56,300 | 0 |
| | Total | 49,67,731 | 36,22,697 | 0 |

Statement II

Details of mobile towers (Base Stations) achievement in BSNL's Network during last three years and in the current year only 15 days have last, no data is available of these days

| Sl.No. | Circle | 2007-08 Mobile Tower (Base Stations) addition | 2008-09 Mobile Tower (Base Stations) addition | 2009-10 Mobile Tower (Base Stations) addition |
|-------------------|------------------|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| North Zone | | | | |
| 1. | Haryana | 81 | 288 | 582 |
| 2. | Himachal Pradesh | 32 | 171 | 288 |
| 3. | Jammu Kashmir | 58 | 179 | 502 |
| 4. | Punjab | 100 | 625 | 854 |
| 5. | Rajasthan | 291 | 1014 | 1433 |
| 6. | Uttaranchal | 37 | 260 | 190 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|------|------|------|
| 7. | Uttar Pradesh (E) | 259 | 1000 | 1669 |
| 8. | Uttar Pradesh (W) | 138 | 296 | 674 |
| | Sub-Total | 996 | 3833 | 6192 |
| East Zone | | | | |
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 27 | 28 | 58 |
| 2. | Assam | 255 | 263 | 344 |
| 3. | Bihar | 243 | 654 | 742 |
| 4. | Kolkata (TD) | 103 | 230 | 548 |
| 5. | Jharkhand | 49 | 235 | 522 |
| 6. | N.E.-I | 72 | 33 | 187 |
| 7. | N.E.-II | 29 | 85 | 196 |
| 8. | Orissa | 37 | 42 | 80 |
| 9. | West Bengal | 209 | 516 | 835 |
| | Sub-Total | 1224 | 2586 | 4312 |
| West Zone | | | | |
| 1. | Chhattisgarh | 307 | 265 | 239 |
| 2. | Gujarat | 488 | 390 | 820 |
| 3. | Maharashtra | 928 | 729 | 1446 |
| 4. | Madhya Pradesh | 422 | 496 | 971 |
| | Sub-Total | 2145 | 1880 | 3476 |
| South Zone | | | | |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 176 | 1366 | 1223 |
| 2. | Chennai (TD) | 33 | 171 | 597 |
| 3. | Kerala | 204 | 537 | 1018 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|----|-------------|------|-------|-------|
| 4. | Karnataka | 152 | 882 | 1441 |
| 5. | Tamil Nadu | 160 | 842 | 1196 |
| | Sub-Total | 725 | 3798 | 5475 |
| | Grand Total | 5090 | 12097 | 19455 |

The details of the mobile towers installed and operational in Delhi and Mumbai during the last three years is as under and in the current year only 15 days have last, no data is available of these days

| | Delhi | Mumbai | Total |
|---------|-------|--------|-------|
| 2007-08 | 146 | 86 | 232 |
| 2008-09 | 111 | 57 | 168 |
| 2009-10 | 160 | 61 | 221 |

[English]

G-20 Countries Meeting of Labour and Employment

3748. SHRI MANOHAR TIRKEY:
PROF. RANJAN PRASAD YADAV:

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

(a) the details of labour oriented stimulus programmes aimed at increasing the purchasing power of the vast labour force of the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to represent itself at the meeting of the counterparts of the G-20 countries likely to be held in Washington;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the proposed stand of the Government on the issues *i.e.* job creation, job training, job security, social protection, skill development, etc. in view of the world-wide economic crises; and

(e) the details of purchasing power of the rupee during each of the last three years as measured by the Consumer Price Index for Industrial workers, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) The Government had announced three stimulus packages on 07.12.2008, 02.01.2009 and 24.02.2009, in form of developmental assistance, tax concessions, etc. to counter impact of economic slowdown and promote growth which would be beneficial to the entire economy including the labour force.

(b) and (c) Yes, Madam. A delegation led by Hon'ble Minister for Labour & Employment is attending the meeting.

(d) Ministry of Labour & Employment convened a national tripartite consultation to evolve a national view on various issues to be taken up at G-20 Meeting. The Stand of the Government on the issues is as follows:

(i) More emphasis is needed on creation of more jobs in the near future. In this context, employment intensive manufacturing sector and the micro, small and medium enterprises must be promoted for creation of more and more jobs.

(ii) To put labour on the forefront of economic agenda at international and national levels. This will be helpful not only to discuss and take appropriate action for faster recovery in the labour market but also put check on the jobless recovery.

- (iii) The issue of free flow of technology is to be taken up at the G20 Ministerial meeting. Apart from this, the interest of migrant workers has to be protected as these workers are highly vulnerable for exploitation.
- (iv) Skill Development is important to equip the workforce for new employment opportunities. It is also important to give emphasis on re-skilling of workforce to meet any unforeseen eventuality such as the present economic crisis. Therefore, skill development and international movement of technology to upgrade skills need to be emphasised at the G20 meeting.

(e) Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers is not compiled statewise. As per the information available, the purchasing power of the rupee as measured by the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (Base: 2001 =100) during 2007, 2008 and 2009 is estimated to be 76.34 paise, 70.42 paise and 63.70 paise respectively.

Compilation of Historical Records

3749. SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make the Henderson-Brooks enquiry report on the Sino-Indian conflict of 1962 public;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the report has been tabled in Parliament;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has compiled an official historical record of the 1947 war with Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir, the 1965 war with Pakistan, the 1971 war with Pakistan and the 1999 Kargil conflict;
- (f) if so, the reasons for not putting this historical record in the public domain;
- (g) whether there is no historical record compiled by the Government; and
- (h) if so, the reasons for not commissioning a compilation of the wars that India has fought between 1947-2010?.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): No, Madam. Henderson Brooks Report is a TOP SECRET based on an internal study by the Indian Army, contents of not only extremely sensitive but are of current operational value.

(e) to (h) Yes, Madam. The official historical record of 1947 War with Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir has been compiled and is in the public domain since 1987. The compilation/publication of other historical records has been taken up subsequently starting with 1965 war.

[Translation]

Allocation under Bharat Nirman

3750. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the scheme-wise/component-wise funds sanctioned under 'Bharat Nirman' during the current financial year alongwith the State-wise detail of the funds released and spent so far;

(b) whether the construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), an important component of Bharat Nirman has been held up in the absence of requisite funds during the current financial year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) Bharat Nirman Schemes of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Rural Housing (RH) and Drinking Water Supply (DWS) pertaining to Ministry of Rural Development are being implemented through out the country. The state-wise details of fund allocated and released during the current financial year for Rural Housing and DWS are given in the enclosed Statements-I and II respectively. As regards, PMGSY, no fund has been released to any States in 2010-11. State-wise allocation has not yet been finalized.

(b) Under the PMGSY, all necessary actions are being taken by the Ministry to provide adequate funds to the States/Union Territories/agencies for the ongoing PMGSY rural road projects.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Statement I*Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY)**State-wise Financial Performance 2010-2011*

(Rs. in lakh)

| Sl. No. | Name of the States/UTs | Allocation | Release of Funds |
|---------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | | Central Allocation | Central Release |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 86772.58 | 21693.15 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 3372.56 | 553.90 |
| 3. | Assam | 74575.72 | 17409.89 |
| 4. | Bihar | 256130.00 | 37110.97 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 13418.67 | 3354.67 |
| 6. | Goa | 534.46 | 133.62 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 42555.24 | 9470.95 |
| 8. | Haryana | 5974.79 | 1493.70 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 2107.33 | 500.19 |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | 6545.51 | 1373.11 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 22845.67 | 5711.42 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 33431.11 | 8357.78 |
| 13. | Kerala | 18590.80 | 4647.70 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 26687.27 | 5613.05 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 52329.94 | 12396.18 |
| 16. | Manipur | 2927.55 | 492.95 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 5098.75 | 1274.69 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 1086.60 | 271.65 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 3374.01 | 843.51 |
| 20. | Orissa | 50321.27 | 11739.67 |
| 21. | Punjab | 7389.05 | 1261.55 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 22. | Rajasthan | 21384.64 | 5346.17 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 645.29 | 161.32 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 34741.77 | 8685.45 |
| 25. | Tripura | 6569.52 | 1160.04 |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | 115043.10 | 27773.06 |
| 27. | Uttaranchal | 5767.56 | 926.33 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 69414.01 | 14305.43 |
| 29. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 1100.55 | 0.00 |
| 30. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 183.37 | 0.00 |
| 31. | Daman and Diu | 82.03 | 0.00 |
| 32. | Lakshadweep | 71.12 | 0.00 |
| 33. | Puducherry | 548.16 | 0.00 |
| | Total | 971620.00 | 214162.10 |
| A. | N.E. States | 97650.00 | 22167.95 |
| B. | Non N.E. States | 873970.00 | 191994.15 |
| | Total | 971620.00 | 214162.10 |

Statement II*NRWDP**Allocation 2010-11*

(Rupees in lakh)

| Sl.No. | States | Allocation 2010-11 | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------------|----------|
| | | DDP | Total |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| A. Non DDP/NE States | | | |
| 1. | Bihar | 0.00 | 34146.00 |
| 2. | Chhattisgarh | 0.00 | 13027.00 |
| 3. | Goa | 0.00 | 534.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|-----------|
| 4. | Jharkhand | 0.00 | 16593.00 |
| 5. | Kerala | 0.00 | 14428.00 |
| 6. | Madhya Pradesh | 0.00 | 39904.00 |
| 7. | Maharashtra | 0.00 | 73327.00 |
| 8. | Orissa | 0.00 | 20488.00 |
| 9. | Punjab | 0.00 | 8221.00 |
| 10. | Tamil Nadu | 0.00 | 31691.00 |
| 11. | Uttar Pradesh | 0.00 | 89912.00 |
| 12. | Uttaranchal | 0.00 | 13939.00 |
| 13. | West Bengal | 0.00 | 41803.00 |
| Sub Total A | | 0.00 | 398013.00 |
| B. DDP States | | | |
| 14. | Andhra Pradesh | 3157.00 | 49102.00 |
| 15. | Gujarat | 15425.00 | 54267.00 |
| 16. | Haryana | 10849.00 | 23369.00 |
| 17. | Himachal Pradesh | 513.00 | 13371.00 |
| 18. | Jammu and Kashmir | 1500.00 | 44922.00 |
| 19. | Karnataka | 14628.00 | 64492.00 |
| 20. | Rajasthan | 43928.00 | 116544.00 |
| Sub Total B | | 90000.00 | 366067.00 |
| Sub Total A+B | | 90000.00 | 764080.00 |
| C. Union Territory | | | |
| 21. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0.00 | 101.00 |
| 22. | Chandigarh | 0.00 | 40.00 |
| 23. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 0.00 | 109.00 |
| 24. | Daman and Diu | 0.00 | 61.00 |
| 25. | Delhi | 0.00 | 431.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|
| 26. | Lakshadweep | 0.00 | 24.00 |
| 27. | Puducherry | 0.00 | 154.00 |
| Sub Total C | | 0.00 | 920.00 |
| Grand Total | | 90000.00 | 765000.00 |
| D. North East States | | | |
| 28. | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 12301.00 |
| 29. | Assam | 0.00 | 41281.00 |
| 30. | Manipur | 0.00 | 5461.00 |
| 31. | Meghalaya | 0.00 | 6283.00 |
| 32. | Mizoram | 0.00 | 3571.00 |
| 33. | Nagaland | 0.00 | 5170.00 |
| 34. | Sikkim | 0.00 | 1545.00 |
| 35. | Tripura | 0.00 | 5388.00 |
| Sub Total D | | 0.00 | 81000.00 |
| Grand Total | | 90000.00 | 846000.00 |

Note: No funds have been released to the States so far in 2010-11.

[English]

Wi-MAX based Stations by BSNL

3751. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been implementing the deployment of about 7000 mobile Wi-Max based stations for delivering e-governance and commercial broad-band services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the cost of project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Madam, BSNL

has been implementing the following two projects of WiMAX Base Stations deployment for delivering e-governance and commercial broadband services in the rural areas of the country.

- > Wi-MAX Rural Phase-I IProject for deployment of 1000 base stations to cover 11666 CSC with estimated cost of Rs. 140.85 Crores.
- > WiMAX Rural Phase-II Project with 6863 base station to cover 51939 CSCs with estimated cost of Rs. 1167 Crores.

(c) The target for completion of both the projects is March 2011.

[Translation]

Assistance to Unorganised Workers

3752. SHRI JAGADANAND SINGH:
SHRI SHARAD YADAV:

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

(a) whether a large number of unorganised workers are engaged in household industries such as beedi rolling, agarbatti and papad making etc.;

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

(c) the details of financial assistance provided by the Government to unorganised workers including such workers during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) whether any mechanism exists to ensure whether the funds are actually being utilised for the welfare of such workers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) and (b) A large number of unorganized workers are engaged in occupations such as beedi rolling, agarbatti making, papad making etc. There are about 55 lakh workers engaged in beedi rolling. It is estimated that about 80% of these workers are gharkhata workers (home based workers). The authentic data of workers engaged in Agarbatti and Pappad making is not available.

(c) Statement indicating to financial assistance provided to such workers is enclosed. The Government has constituted Welfare Fund to provide welfare measures to the beedi workers and their family members. These include health care, housing assistance, education to children and group insurance etc. In addition to this, the Government has enacted the Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008. The Act provides for constitution for National Social Security Board. The functions of the Board, inter-alia, include making recommendations to the Central Government regarding formulation of social security schemes viz. life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection and any other benefit as may be determined by the Central Government. The Board has met twice and has recommended extension of Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), Janshree Bima Yojana (JBY) and Old Age Pension to certain categories of unorganized workers.

(d) and (e) The beedi welfare scheme are administered & implemented by the office of the 9 Welfare Commissioners in the field. These schemes are monitored from time to time. The officers and the field staff ensure that the funds are actually utilized for the welfare of these workers.

Statement

Financial assistance to Beedi Workers

| Sl. No. | Salient features of the scheme | 2006-07 | | 2007-08 | | 2008-09 | |
|---------|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| | | No. of Beneficiaries | Expenditure (Rs. in crore) | No. of Beneficiaries | Expenditure (Rs. in crore) | No. of Beneficiaries | Expenditure (Rs. in crore) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Health | | | | | | |
| | Group Insurance | 1258013 | 1.54 | 1051361 | NA | 1080154 | 0.27 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|----|-------------------------------|---------|-------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| | Patients treated | 4344676 | 2.54 | 7772986 | 2.59 | 3827028 | 6.77 |
| | Treatment of T.B. Patients | 745 | 0.36 | 688 | 0.31 | 799 | 0.30 |
| | Cancer | 642 | 0.36 | 144 | 0.23 | 1856 | 0.35 |
| | Spectacles | 1730 | 0.03 | 5083 | 0.12 | 3284 | 0.09 |
| | Maternity benefit | 6810 | 0.68 | 9480 | 0.95 | 5894 | 0.59 |
| | Treatment of Heart disease | 121 | 0.37 | 178 | 0.65 | 213 | 0.01 |
| | Kidney disease | 12 | 0.01 | 31 | 0.07 | 208 | 0.69 |
| 2. | Education | | | | | | |
| | Scholarship | 379785 | 37.48 | 628658 | 72.27 | 9500000 | 100.52 |
| | Supply of books/uniforms | 96855 | 2.35 | 216561 | 3.76 | 178603 | 4.45 |
| 3. | Housing | | | | | | |
| | No. of houses sanctioned | 18808 | 56.72 | 38337 | 109.60 | 23398 | 70.71 |
| 4. | Recreation | 1952 | 0.05 | 1725 | 0.04 | 4333 | 0.07 |
| 5. | Others | | | | | | |
| | Marriage of widows' daughters | 201 | 0.10 | 412 | 0.20 | 606 | 0.30 |
| | Funeral expenses | 838 | 0.31 | 1342 | 0.20 | 1856 | 0.28 |

Telephone Adalats

3753. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the dates on which the telephone Adalats were organised in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of matters presented before these Adalats and the number of matters disposed of during the above period, State-wise;

(c) the details of the relief extended by these Adalats and the rules governing to organise such Adalats;

(d) whether these rules have been violated during the said period; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Welfare of SCs and OBCs

3754. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS:
SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:
SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:
DR. KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI:
SHRI RAJAJIAH SIRICILLA:
SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN:
SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY:
SHRI PREMCHAND GUDDU:
SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be please to state:

(a) the details of centrally sponsored schemes and welfare programmes including social security schemes being implemented by the Government for welfare of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in various States in the country including Tamil Nadu, State-wise;

(b) whether the aims and objectives of the welfare schemes have not been achieved;

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

(d) the details of funds allocated and spent under each scheme during the last three years, State-wise; and

(e) the steps being taken including constitution of central body to monitor the project sanctioned from central funds and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (d) A multi-pronged strategy has been adopted for the educational and socio-economic development of the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs). Major Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented for the development of SCs and OBCs in various States including Tamil Nadu are mentioned in the enclosed Statement-I. During the year 2009-10 a Centrally sponsored pilot scheme of Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY) has been approved for integrated development of 1000 villages with more than 50% SC population in 5 states of the country.

Development of target groups through implementation of these schemes is an ongoing process. Amount of central assistance released under these schemes to

States/UTs, during 2007-08 to 2009-10 is given in the enclosed Statement-II. Release of funds to the States is based on the progress and Utilisation Certificate of the previous years.

(e) The Ministry monitors implementation of these schemes through physical and financial progress reports received from State/UT Administrations. Periodic review meetings of various schemes are also held with various stake holders. Review of schemes is also conducted in the Annual Conference of State Welfare Ministers/ Secretaries of Social Justice.

Statement I

Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)

Scheduled Caste (SC)

1. Post Matric Scholarship for SCs
2. Pre-matric Scholarship for Children of those engaged in unclean Occupations
3. Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana (i) Hostels for SC Boys (ii) Hostels for SC Girls
4. Scheduled Castes Development Corporation
5. Implementation of Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989
6. Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY)

Other Backward Classes (OBC)

1. Post Matric Scholarship for OBC Students
2. Pre-Matric Scholarship for OBC Students
3. Hostels for OBC Boys & Girls

Statement II

*Central Assistance released during 2007-08 to 2009-10 under Post Matric Scholarship for SC Students
(Rs. in lakhs)*

| Sl.No. | State/UT | 2007-08 Amount released | 2008-09 Amount released | 2009-10 Amount released |
|--------|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 24048.4 | 23978.11 | 21182.31 |
| 2. | Assam | 469.82 | 0.00 | 1014.99 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 3. | Bihar | 0.00 | 2692.70 | 1000.00 |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | 482.85 | 100.00 | 0.00 |
| 5. | Goa | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 240.36 | 1556.29 | 2741.34 |
| 7. | Haryana | 494.93 | 369.52 | 6962.57 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 78.84 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 0.00 | 378.47 | 150.00 |
| 10. | Jharkhand | 35.32 | 0.00 | 514.74 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 7020.59 | 3267.91 | 11819.35 |
| 12. | Kerala | 4072.44 | 8132.43 | 3200.00 |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 695.983 | 1699.21 | 3653.86 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 15953.63 | 1000.00 | 13400.00 |
| 15. | Manipur | 139.95 | 163.76 | 185.70 |
| 16. | Meghalaya | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 17. | Orissa | 0.00 | 500.00 | 0.00 |
| 18. | Punjab | 539.8 | 200.00 | 0.00 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 3204.42 | 10340.11 | 5397.72 |
| 20. | Sikkim | 0.00 | 3.44 | 1.00 |
| 21. | Tamil Nadu | 6978.05 | 500.00 | 5369.97 |
| 22. | Tripura | 180.56 | 410.98 | 410.16 |
| 23. | Uttar Pradesh | 22313.71 | 4916.98 | 19967.13 |
| 24. | Uttarakhand | 0.00 | 1089.36 | 789.70 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 358.25 | 3250.23 | 3835.67 |
| 26. | Daman and Diu | 0.33 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 27. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 28. | Delhi | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 29. | Puducherry | 200 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| | Total | 87508.23 | 64549.49 | 101596.21 |

*Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Pre Matric Scholarship to the Children of those
Engaged in Unclean Occupations for the last three Years*

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl.No. | State/UT | 2007-08 Amount released | 2008-09 Amount released | 2009-10 Amount released |
|--------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 0.0 | 0.00 | 2171.5 |
| 2. | Assam | 2.9 | 92.38 | 52.17 |
| 3. | Bihar | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | 0.0 | 110.79 | 192.08 |
| 5. | Delhi | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 6. | Goa | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0.89 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 262.7 | 2820.60 | 3639.90 |
| 8. | Haryana | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | 0.0 | 15.05 | 24.59 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 13. | Kerala | 0.0 | 0.00 | 6.11 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 0.0 | 296.41 | 232.59 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 0.0 | 691.12 | 0 |
| 16. | Orissa | 0.0 | 35.72 | 0 |
| 17. | Puducherry | 0.0 | 2.24 | 7.71 |
| 18. | Punjab | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 0.0 | 1042.42 | 598.95 |
| 20. | Sikkim | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 21. | Tamil Nadu | 41.4 | 678.08 | 971.88 |
| 22. | Tripura | 0.0 | 86.02 | 47.83 |
| 23. | Uttar Pradesh | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 24. | Uttarakhand | 2.9 | 14.72 | 1.55 |
| 25. | West Bengal | 0.0 | 41.73 | 26.27 |
| Total | | 309.9 | 5927.28 | 7974.02 |

Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana

(Rs. in lakhs)

| States/UTs | SC Boy. Hostels | | | SC Girls Hostels | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | 2007-08 Amount released | 2008-09 Amount released | 2009-10 Amount released | 2007-08 Amount released | 2008-09 Amount released | 2009-10 Amount released |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 437.5 | 0 |
| 2. Arunachal Pradesh | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3. Assam | 32.545 | 46.2 | | 67.5 | 2.62 | 0 |
| 4. Bihar | 0 | 340 | | 0 | 335 | 0 |
| 5. Chhattisgarh | 212.115 | 72.645 | 33.75 | 470.865 | 107.43 | 0 |
| 6. Gujarat | 248.48 | 0 | | | 217.44 | 0 |
| 7. Haryana | 3.85 | 0 | 2.98 | 0 | 187.575 | 187.57 |
| 8. Himachal Pradesh | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 9. Jammu and Kashmir | 29.5 | 0 | | 131.5 | 0 | 0 |
| 10. Jharkhand | 211.08 | 83.16 | | 40.33 | 139.148 | 0 |
| 11. Karnataka | 362.5 | 167.5 | | 237.5 | 177.5 | 202.4 |
| 12. Kerala | 0 | 110.337 | 54.75 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 13. Madhya Pradesh | 173.82 | 211.54 | 180.7 | 347.64 | 355.14 | 250 |
| 14. Maharashtra | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 15. Manipur | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 16. Meghalaya | 57.44 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 17. Mizoram | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 18. Nagaland | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 19. Orissa | 91.557 | 755.929 | | 1419.63 | 1914.89 | 0 |
| 20. Punjab | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 113.25 | 0 |
| 21. Rajasthan | 986.8 | 0 | 191 | 21.475 | 339.75 | 1706.75 |
| 22. Sikkim | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 23. Tamil Nadu | 516.338 | 297.326 | | 0 | 256.25 | 0 |
| 24. Tripura | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 27.52 | 0 |

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-------------------|---|---------|----------|--------|-------|----------|---------|
| 25. Uttar Pradesh | | 751.965 | 447.25 | 157.05 | 0 | 6972 | 0 |
| 26. Uttrakhand | | 0 | 41.385 | | 0 | 101.25 | 89.29 |
| 27. West Bengal | | 0 | 0 | | 94.12 | 670.5 | 0 |
| 28. Chandigarh | | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 29. Delhi | | 0 | 0 | | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| 30. Puducherry | | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 100 |
| Total | | 3677.99 | 2573.272 | 620.23 | 3050 | 5862.523 | 2536.01 |

*Central Assistance Released Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Assistance to Scheduled Castes
Development Corporations During 2007-08 to 2009-10*

(Rs. In Lakhs)

| Sl.No. | Name of the State | 2007-08 Amount released | 2008-09 Amount released | 2009-10 Amount released |
|--------|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 396.32 | 0 | 0 |
| 2. | Assam | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3. | Bihar | 179.14 | 0 | 0 |
| 4. | Chandigarh | 33.61 | 62.47 | 0 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 6. | Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 7. | Delhi | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 8. | Goa | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 9. | Gujarat | 0 | 192.16 | 0 |
| 10. | Haryana | 158.53 | 0 | 83.00 |
| 11. | Himachal Pradesh | 120.10 | 194.08 | 200.00 |
| 12. | Jammu and Kashmir | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 13. | Jharkhand | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 14. | Karnataka | 400.00 | 252.29 | 600.00 |
| 15. | Kerala | 176.30 | 559.00 | 617.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 16. | Madhya Pradesh | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 17. | Maharashtra | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 18. | Orissa | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 19. | Puducherry | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 20. | Punjab | 336.00 | 240.00 | 0 |
| 21. | Rajasthan | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 22. | Sikkim | 200.00 | 0 | 0 |
| 23. | Tamil Nadu | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 24. | Tripura | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 25. | Uttar Pradesh | 0 | 400.00 | 0 |
| 26. | Uttaranchal | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 27. | West Bengal | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | 2000.00 | 1900.00 | 1500.00 |

State/UT-wise and year-wise details of central assistance released under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 During 2007-2008, 2008-2009, 2009-2010

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl.No. | States/UTs | 2007-08 Amount released | 2008-09 Amount released | 2009-10 Amount released |
|--------|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 310.49 | 787.56 | 878.79 |
| 2. | Assam | 09.50 | - | - |
| 3. | Bihar | 26.63 | 27.28 | 55.00 |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | 53.27 | 40.748 | 40.64 |
| 5. | Goa | 04.45 | 1.00 | 1.50 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 120.65 | 217.46 | 186.08 |
| 7. | Haryana | 97.83 | 59.93 | 19.59 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 132.56 | 10.45 | 54.80 |
| 9. | Jharkhand | - | - | 39.54 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 10. | Karnataka | 664.37 | 670.38 | 967.18 |
| 11. | Kerala | 98.90 | 135.15 | 361.81 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 856.10 | 574.75 | 1107.11 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 397.31 | 274.98 | 1197.43 |
| 14. | Orissa | 49.74 | 60.00 | 69.58 |
| 15. | Punjab | 60.00 | 50.00 | 76.35 |
| 16. | Rajasthan | 279.34 | 157.89 | 175.66 |
| 17. | Sikkim | 01.90 | 5.95 | 8.18 |
| 18. | Tamil Nadu | 35.00 | 235.14 | 612.15 |
| 19. | Tripura | - | 00.50 | 0.6 |
| 20. | Uttar Pradesh | 553.93 | 931.29 | 904.36 |
| 21. | Uttarakhand | 04.53 | 5.77 | - |
| 22. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 96.05 | 2.65 | 59.23 |
| 23. | Puducherry | 40.79 | 50.00 | 50.00 |
| 24. | Daman and Diu | 3.89 | 4.57 | - |
| 25. | Chandigarh | - | 3.00 | - |
| 26. | Delhi | 9.21 | - | - |
| Total | | 3906.30 | 4306.45 | 6865.58 |

State-wise Expenditure during the last 3 years from 2007-08 to 2009-10 for the welfare of OBCs

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl.No. | Name of State | Pre-matric | | | Post-matric | | | Hostel for OBCs | | |
|--------|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | 2007-08 Amount released | 2008-09 Amount released | 2009-10 Amount released | 2007-08 Amount released | 2008-09 Amount released | 2009-10 Amount released | 2007-08 Amount released | 2008-09 Amount released | 2009-10 Amount released |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 377.5 | 407.9 | 533 | 925.02 | 1676.89 | 2035.00 | 275 | 542.5 | 240 |
| 2. | Bihar | 400.18 | 446.43 | - | 1436.49 | 1977.72 | 1752.00 | - | - | - |
| 3. | Chhattisgarh | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 17.28 | - |
| 4. | Goa | - | 7.68 | - | 48.97 | 38.44 | 16.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|-----|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|----------|----------|---------|---------|--------|
| 5. | Gujarat | 175.64 | 267.24 | 290 | 223.92 | 288.69 | 568.31 | 107.5 | 420 | 120 |
| 6. | Haryana | - | - | 79 | 396.59 | 491 | 563.00 | 0 | 192.5 | 65 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 0 | 27.58 | 28 | - | 22 | - | 0 | - | 0 |
| 8. | Jammu and Kashmir | 46.12 | 0 | - | 210.22 | 188.77 | 0 | - | - | - |
| 9. | Jharkhand | - | 30.55 | - | 143.5 | 444.78 | 282.00 | 126.65 | 156.32 | 81.33 |
| 10. | Kerala | - | - | - | 560.45 | 161.67 | - | - | 241.5 | 89 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 50 | 50 | 50 | 611.8 | 454.43 | 445.57 | 280 | 299.95 | 147.17 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | - | - | 158 | 393.59 | 1425.34 | 1612.00 | 444.31 | 287.11 | 345 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | - | 518.3 | - | 1950.36 | 2307.08 | 2587.00 | - | - | 0 |
| 14. | Orissa | - | 0 | 96 | 51.87 | 441 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| 15. | Punjab | 156 | 124.35 | - | 468.59 | 552 | - | 0 | 0 | - |
| 16. | Rajasthan | - | 0 | - | 431.68 | 754.49 | 833.00 | 84.53 | 283.75 | 17.5 |
| 17. | Tamil Nadu | 150.22 | 100 | 320 | 1099.55 | 1485.45 | 1140.32 | 378 | 472.5 | 189 |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | 779.82 | 894.41 | 1159 | 2022.41 | 3962.88 | 4436.00 | 358.26 | - | 502.2 |
| 19. | Uttarakhand | 0 | - | 135 | - | 18.9.58 | 104.00 | 0 | - | - |
| 20. | West Bengal | 104.05 | 42.56 | 0 | 0 | 740 | - | - | 86.87 | - |
| 21. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | - | - | 4.4 | - | 0 | 0.23 | - | - | 0 |
| 22. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 23. | Daman and Diu | - | - | 9.69 | - | 5.28 | 0 | 0 | - | - |
| 24. | Chandigarh | 0 | 0 | 1.36 | - | 1.09 | 1.03 | - | 0 | - |
| 25. | Delhi | 0 | - | 3.69 | 0 | - | 0 | - | - | 0 |
| 26. | Puducherry | 0 | - | 0 | 84.6 | 41.39 | 0 | - | 24.2 | - |
| 27. | Assam | 68.24 | 40.81 | 51.33 | 1208.32 | 0 | 659.19 | - | 150 | 255 |
| 28. | Manipur | 100 | 125 | 108.36 | 120.56 | 120 | 25.00 | - | 156.23 | - |
| 29. | Tripura | 91.35 | 127.34 | 146 | 128.59 | 193.18 | 230.10 | - | 0 | - |
| 30. | Sikkim | 0 | 6.79 | - | 0 | 5.78 | 7.20 | - | 123.95 | - |
| | Total | 2499.12 | 3216.94 | 3172.83 | 12517.08 | 17968.93 | 17296.95 | 2054.25 | 3454.66 | 2051.2 |

[Translation]

Export of Packaged Fruits

3755. SHRI SAJJAN VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken steps for spreading awareness about the proper storage, packaging and export packaging of fruits;

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

(c) the details regarding fruits exported during the last three years, State-wise and quantity-wise; and

(d) the revenue earned by the Government through

the export of fruits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam the Government has developed specifications and standards for various fruits and vegetables through the Indian Institute of Packaging. The exporters using these specifications for export packaging are also provided financial assistance as a measure of promoting these standards of packaging. National Horticulture Board has developed standards for cold storages, which also help exporters in proper storage of exportable fruits.

(c) and (d) The State-wise export data is not maintained. However the details of exports of fruits, both in value and quantity, are as under:

Quantity in MTs; value in Rs. crores

| Product | 2006-07 | | 2007-08 | | 2008-09 | | 2009-10 (*P) (Apr.-Oct.) | |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| | Quantity | Value | Quantity | Value | Quantity | Value | Quantity | Value |
| Other Fresh Fruits | 177638.30 | 309.97 | 207700.78 | 304.53 | 256767.51 | 430.87 | 125140.69 | 249.04 |
| Grapes | 85897.79 | 301.92 | 96963.57 | 317.83 | 124627.97 | 408.61 | 42495.58 | 202.67 |
| Mangoes | 79060.88 | 141.94 | 54350.80 | 127.42 | 83703.18 | 170.71 | 68792.70 | 169.89 |
| Walnuts | 5062.86 | 118.04 | 6716.49 | 162.08 | 5696.34 | 141.24 | 3848.22 | 76.31 |
| Total | 347659.83 | 871.87 | 365731.64 | 911.86 | 470795.00 | 1151.43 | 240277.19 | 697.91 |

*Provisional; Source: APEDA-DGCI&S

Setting up of EPZs

3756. SHRI PAKAURI LAL:
SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:

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

(a) the State-wise and place-wise details of the Export Processing Zones (EPZs) functioning presently in the country alongwith the details of their export potential and performance in terms of their export volume and value;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up some more export processing zones in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) to (c) In addition to seven Central Government Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and 12 State/Private Sector SEZs set up prior to the enactment of SEZ Act, 2005, formal approval has been accorded to 574 proposals out of which 353 SEZs have been notified. A total of 105 SEZs have commenced export.

A table containing state-wise distribution of SEZs is given in the enclosed statement. Further details about these SEZs including location etc. are available on the website www.sezindia.nic.in.

As on 31st December, 2009, an investment of Rs. 1,28,390.44 crore has been made in SEZs and direct employment for 4,89,831 persons have been generated.

Exports of Rs. 1,52,092.68 crore approx. have been made from SEZs during April-December, 2009 registering a growth of about 127% over the exports for the same period of the previous financial year.

SEZs are setup with the prior written consent of Concurred State Government/Union Territories Government.

Statement

State-wise Distribution of approved Special Economic Zones

| State | Formal Approvals | Notified SEZs | Operational SEZs |
|------------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 103 | 72 | 21 |
| Chandigarh | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Chhattisgarh | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Delhi | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 4 | 2 | 0 |
| Goa | 7 | 3 | 0 |
| Gujarat | 48 | 31 | 10 |
| Haryana | 45 | 32 | 3 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Jharkhand | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Karnataka | 52 | 29 | 15 |
| Kerala | 26 | 17 | 5 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 14 | 6 | 1 |
| Maharashtra | 110 | 57 | 15 |
| Nagaland | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Orissa | 10 | 5 | 1 |
| Puducherry | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Punjab | 8 | 2 | 0 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Rajasthan | 8 | 7 | 3 |
| Tamil Nadu | 69 | 57 | 19 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 34 | 17 | 6 |
| Uttaranchal | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| West Bengal | 23 | 10 | 5 |
| Grand Total | 574 | 353 | 105 |

[English]

Nalanda Ordnance Factory

3757. SHRI BAL KUMAR PATEL:
SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to complete the construction of Nalanda ordnance factory in Bihar during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the percentage of construction work of this factory which is still incomplete and the time by which factory is likely to be started;

(c) the details of cost escalation of the project indicating the revised cost;

(d) the number of staff and officers entrusted with this job who are sitting idle; and

(e) the action plan to complete the project without further delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) and (b) No, Madam. In accordance with the original schedule the project was to be completed by 4.8.2011. For the Bi-Modular Charge System (MBCS) plant the contract had been awarded to M/s IMI Israel after a global tender. In May 2009 the Government had decided to put the contract on hold as there were allegations of payment of illegal gratification in a case registered by the CBI against a former DGOF and others. Contracts with some other companies were also put on hold for the same reason. In an order on writ petitions filed by some of the companies, the Hon'ble Delhi High Court has set-aside

the order putting on hold the above contracts. The Hon'ble High Court has directed that penal action against the aforesaid companies may be taken only after giving them an opportunity for representation and following the principles of natural justice. Accordingly show cause notices have been issued to the companies concerned and a decision will be taken after examining their replies and giving them a hearing. The same procedure has to be followed regarding the contract for the BMCS plant.

Apart from the BMCS Plant the production facility includes three other plants. Contracts for these plants have been placed after global tenders. The present status of these plants is as under:

(i) Nitro Glycerine (NG) Plant:- Civil Work for factory buildings is nearing completion. Most of the equipment has been received. 35% of the construction work remains to be completed.

(ii) Sulphuric Acid/Nitric Acid (SAC/NAC) Plant:- 55% of the civil work for factory buildings remains to be completed.

(iii) Nitro Cellulose (NC) Plant:- 20% of civil work for factory buildings remains to be completed.

(c) The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) approved the revision of the cost of the project from Rs. 941.13 crore to Rs. 2160.51 crore in January 2009.

(d) At present the total manpower deployed is 128. The staff is monitoring activities such as on-going construction of the plants mentioned above, maintenance of infrastructure, coordination with civil authorities and security.

(e) As explained above a decision on the contract has to be taken as per the directions of the Hon'ble Delhi High Court before an action plan for completing the project can be drawn up.

Ship Repair Industry

3758. SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:
SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Shipping companies are entering in a big way in ship repair industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the extent to which they made a dent in this industry and exploited the potential in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN):

(a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

Guidelines for Development of Major Port Projects

3759. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has framed certain guidelines, formulated model documents and model concession agreements etc. for the development of major port projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN):

(a) and (b) The Government has framed the model

documents for award of contract for projects on Public Private Partnership (PPP) basis for Major Ports to bring uniformity and transparency in the bidding process. The following three model documents have been developed:

(i) Request for Qualification (RFQ) which stipulates the minimum technical and financial capacity of the prospective bidders to qualify for the bidding stage;

(ii) Request for Proposal (RFP) which stipulates the terms and conditions for inviting the financial bids from the short listed bidders;

(iii) Model Concession Agreement (MCA) which contains the terms and conditions for the contract which is entered into by the Concessionaire and the Concessing Authority for the PPP Project.

Setting Up of SEZs in Orissa

3760. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Gems and Jewellery and Information Technology (IT) Sector in the State of Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the budgetary allocation proposed for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The following proposals have been approved for setting up of SEZ, in Information Technology (IT) sector in Orissa:-

| Sl.No. | Name of the developer | Location of the SEZ | Sector | Status |
|--------|--|--|--------|--------------------------------|
| 1. | Orissa Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation | Chankaka Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar, | IT | Notified |
| 2. | Orissa Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation | Jatni, District- Khurda, | IT | Accorded Formal Approval |
| 3. | Genpact India | Bhubaneswar | IT | Accorded In-principal Approval |

There is no proposal for setting up of SEZ in Gems and Jewellery sector in Orissa.

SEZs are generally developed by the Private Sector with the prior written consent of concerned State Government/ Union Territory Government.

Seizure Operations of Coast Guard

3761. SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of poaching boats apprehended by the Coast Guard during the last three years;

(b) the total number of ships and merchant vessels saved from distress during the said period; and

(c) the total worth of contraband articles confiscated during the period?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) Indian Coast Guard apprehended 248 boats during the last three years. A total of 116 merchant vessels were provided Search and Rescue assistance during the said period which resulted in saving 333 lives at sea. Contraband articles worth Rs. 37.25 lakhs approximately were confiscated during the period.

Disabled Beneficiaries under MGNREGS

3762. SHRI P.R. NATARAJAN:
SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the

disabled persons are considered ineligible in some States for work under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);

(b) if so, the details of such persons denied work under MGNREGS since its inception in each State of the country and if not, the State-wise total number of disabled benefited thereunder, till date alongwith the nature of work assigned to them;

(c) whether the Government has instructed all the States to treat all at par with suitable employment under this scheme;

(d) if so, the response from the States in this regard; and

(e) the further steps taken by the Government to give priority to such people under MGNREGS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) No such instances have been brought to the notice of the Ministry.

(b) State-wise number of disabled persons benefited under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA so far is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) to (e) Operational Guidelines for Mahatma Gandhi NREGA provide that if a rural disabled person applies for work, work suitable to his/her ability and qualification will have to be given. This may also be in the form of services that are identified as integral to the programme. Provisions of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 will be kept in view and implemented.

Statement

(In Nos)

| Sl.No. | States | No. of Disabled beneficiary individuals | | | |
|--------|-------------------|---|---------|---------|---|
| | | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 upto March,10 (Provoisional) |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 23096 | 46967 | 61496 | 64191 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 10 | 0 | 0 | 333 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------|-----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 3. | Assam | 995 | 2865 | 2945 | 1943 |
| 4. | Bihar | 2231 | 89502 | 16537 | 33567 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 8873 | 8722 | 6477 | 11174 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 9 | 16 | 239 | 10924 |
| 7. | Haryana | 2 | 4 | 3966 | 74 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 14999 | 4079 | 2196 | 1435 |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 209 | 274 | 248 | 644 |
| 10. | Jharkhand | 71 | 53844 | 11431 | 5515 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 1000 | 75 | 1308 | 10227 |
| 12. | Kerala | 34 | 717 | 1072 | 2279 |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 24822 | 30684 | 16344 | 11432 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 549 | 129 | 422 | 409 |
| 15. | Manipur | 0 | 40 | 111 | 513 |
| 16. | Meghalaya | 343 | 212 | 341 | 518 |
| 17. | Mizoram | 5000 | 839 | 996 | 232 |
| 18. | Nagaland | 980 | 3280 | 628 | 172 |
| 19. | Orissa | 803 | 0 | 3318 | 3437 |
| 20. | Punjab | 0 | 1 | 78 | 114 |
| 21. | Rajasthan | 0 | 15268 | 18362 | 10964 |
| 22. | Sikkim | 0 | 17 | 45 | 164 |
| 23. | Tamil Nadu | 601 | 2195 | 4009 | 2175 |
| 24. | Tripura | 1477 | 3351 | 2199 | 12479 |
| 25. | Uttar Pradesh | 14691 | 21309 | 16666 | 51422 |
| 26. | Uttarakhand | 448 | 249 | 412 | 484 |
| 27. | West Bengal | 45158 | 52059 | 32763 | 45486 |
| 28. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | | | 20 | 73 |
| 29. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | | | 2 | 0 |
| 30. | Daman and Diu | | | 0 | 0 |
| 31. | Goa | | | 0 | 3 |
| 32. | Lakshadweep | | | 73 | 0 |
| 33. | Puducherry | | | 68 | 8 |
| 34. | Chandigarh | | | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | 146401 | 336698 | 204772 | 282391 |

*[Translation]***Title of Land for BPL Persons**

3763. SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that a large number of persons living Below Poverty Line (BPL) do not have the title of land;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to bring changes in the policy envisaged for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF (SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI): (a) to (c) Presently, the system of presumptive titles is in operation in the country. The Registration Act, 1908 provides for registration of deeds and documents, not titles. The transaction is recorded, and the transfer of ownership title remains presumptive only. However, on 21st August, 2008, the Union Cabinet approved a Centrally-sponsored scheme, viz., the National Land Records Modernization Programme (NLRMP) with the ultimate goal of ushering in the system of conclusive title with title guarantee in the country.

The activities being supported under the Programme, *inter alia*, include completion of computerization of the records of rights (RoRs), digitization of maps, survey/resurvey using modern technology including aerial photogrammetry, computerization of registration, connectivity amongst the land records and registration offices, land records management centres at tehsil/taluk/circle/block level and training & capacity building of the concerned officials and functionaries.

The activities under the programme are to converge in the district and district is the unit of implementation. All the districts in the country are expected to be covered by the end of the 12th Plan.

During 2008-09 and 2009-10, funds to the tune of Rs. 384.20 crore have been released to the States/UTs towards Central share under the NLRMP and 141 districts in 26 States/UTs have been covered.

*[English]***Cases Registered by Vigilance and Monitoring Department**

3764. DR. PADMASINHA BAJIRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered by the Vigilance and Monitoring Department of his Ministry under various schemes during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Vigilance and Monitoring Department has submitted its report; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government against the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) There is no Vigilance and Monitoring Department in the Ministry of Rural Development. However, Vigilance and Monitoring Committees (V&MCs) are constituted at State and District level to monitor the implementation of major Rural Development programmes. The Guidelines provide that for action on any point pertaining to the State Government, the Committee shall forward their observation/recommendation to them. The Ministry of Rural Development shall be informed of any gross violation noticed. No gross violation has been brought to the notice of the Ministry of Rural Development by the Vigilance and Monitoring Committees.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Pending Money of Scholarship

3765. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the money of scholarship for reimbursement to the students of Other Backward Classes studying in class one to ten and beyond class ten in Rajasthan are still pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the amounts are likely to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (c) Under the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme, it was not possible to release Central assistance to the State Government during 2009-10 since an amount of Rs. 3.10 crore was available with them for which utilization certificates were pending. As regards the Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme, Central assistance of Rs. 8.33 crore was released in 2009-10 after adjusting the unspent amount of Rs. 58.78 lakhs for the year 2008-09 against the admissible demand of Rs. 8.91 crore of the state Government for 2009-10.

NGOs selected under CAPART

3766. SHRI KALIKESH NARAYAN SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Nodal Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) selected under the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) for targeted projects in the backward and unreached areas in the county;

(b) the percentage of increase in grants under this scheme for the current financial year;

(c) whether the Government has prepared any mechanism to evaluate their functioning;

(d) if so the details thereof; and

(e) the details of NGOs delisted after being given grants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) Nodal Non-Government Organisations (NNGOs) were supported under Public Cooperation (PC) scheme of CAPART from 2006-07 to 2007-08. The total number of NNGOs selected by CAPART is 74.

(b) Under PC scheme the budgetary allocation for 2008-09, 2009-10 & 2010-11 is as follows:

| Year | Budget Allocation (in crores) |
|---------|-------------------------------|
| 2008-09 | 10.00 |
| 2009-10 | 10.00 |
| 2010-11 | 27.60 |

The total support for NNGOs were to the tune of Rs. 4.62 crores. Since 2008-09, no NNGO project was supported. The Executive Committee of CAPART in its meeting held on 30.9.2009 had decided to formally close the Nodal NGOs Scheme. No provision in the budget was made separately for NNGOs.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The procedure/mechanism for evaluation of CAPART scheme is given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) No individual NGO has been delisted from the scheme after being given grants. However, since 2008-09 no new project under NNGO was supported by CAPART.

Statement

Mid-term appraisal by CAPART monitors and release of second installment.

Decision to depute Facilitator-cum-Evaluator (FCE) for conducting mid-term evaluation will be based on the following:-

- Progress Report received from the voluntary organisation (VO).
- Utilisation of funds made available/local contributions mobilised in proportion to the release made.
- Failure on the part of the VO to submit the requisite documents in time. Based on the findings by the FCE, second and subsequent installments will be released.

A project may be subjected to one or more mid-term/concurrent evaluations depending upon the nature, duration & seasonalities involved in the implementation of the project.

During the course of mid-term evaluation, the monitor is expected to look into the following:-

- Management of the affairs of the society, fulfilling the legal requirements, etc.
- The authenticity/correctness of the progress report made available in comparison to the field work done.
- Assessment of the quality of physical work, beneficiaries involvement, reasonableness of the amount spent, etc.

- Withdrawal of project fund from the bank and its utilisation.
- Checking of the vouchers and books of accounts.
- Assessment of the benefits accruing from the progress made in the implementation of the project.

Based on these factors, the monitor is expected to make his recommendation for release of the next installment.

The evaluation report will be submitted by the FCE to CAPART within 45 days from the date of receipt of the assignment. The Evaluation report will be examined by CAPART keeping in view the progress reported by the project holder. After examination of the progress report, Receipt & Payment Account, utilisation certificate and the mid-term evaluation report, decision will be taken in regard to the release of second/subsequent installment within 15 days.

The balance grant will be considered for release in six monthly installments keeping in view the satisfactory performance and utilisation of grant released in previous installments and mid-term/concurrent evaluation reports.

10% of the total grant will be retained/withheld and will be reimbursed to the organisation after receipt of satisfactory completion/final progress report/audited receipt & payment and income and expenditure statements of accounts and utilisation certificate. The project holder need not furnish separate utilisation certificate for his 10% amount if a utilisation certificate for the same has been submitted in the final accounts.

Submission of completion report by the VO

The VOs are expected to submit the completion report to CAPART within 30 days of the completion of the project along with the following documents:-

- Completion report in the prescribed format.
- List of beneficiaries clearly stating the number of beneficiaries in accordance with the categorization of gender, SC,ST, OBC, General, BPL, APL and disabled.
- Some action-oriented photographs capturing the achievements at the field level.

- A certificate through the Panchayat or other local authority that the community assets created under the project assisted by CAPART have been handed over to the authorities concerned or user groups.
- Details of arrangements made for the post project land holding of the project by the VO.
- Consolidated audited statements of accounts reflecting the grants received in various installments and utilisation certificate for the grant extended. It should also include local contributions mobilized as per the terms of the sanction order.

Post Evaluation

On receipt of the completion report and other final documents, CAPART will appoint FCE for post evaluation within 15 days which will be carried out to obtain information on the following:-

- To verify whether all the stipulated work has been carried out as per the terms of the sanction order.
- To ascertain beneficiaries' satisfaction in the implementation/creation of the assets.
- To verify the books of accounts and other related documents to ensure proper utilisation of funds.
- To assess the impact of the project and arrangements made for sustainability of the project.

Comprehensive assessment and evaluation of the work of large recipients of CAPART assistance

Comprehensive evaluations of VOs are conducted by CAPART in addition to the periodic evaluations. Such evaluations are normally conducted through professional institutions or teams of experts in the following cases:-

- VOs which have received assistance over Rs. 50 lakhs for a single project; or
- VOs which have received assistance over Rs. 1 crore for different projects during a period of 4 years.

Reduction in Grants-in-Aid for NGOs

3767. SHRI RAMKISHUN:
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the budget allocated under grants-in-aid to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in relation to the Schemes under his Ministry and the quantum of aid disbursed to them during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to reduce grants-in-aid in the next financial year for the NGOs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and shall be laid on the table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Rural Telephone Sector

3768. SHRI MAHESHWAR HAZARI:
SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government has undertaken the modernisation work in Rural Telephone Sector in the country during the last three years and the current year;

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

(c) the benefits likely to be accrued to the said work in the rural areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. BSNL has undertaken various steps for modernisation work in rural telecom sector. Major steps are following:

- (i) Conversion of C-DOT Rural Automatic Exchanges (RAXs) into Access Network RAXs (ANRAXs)
- (ii) Conversion of Single Base Module (SBM) to Remote Switching Units (RSUs).
- (iii) Multy Access Radio Relay (MARR) Village Public Telephone (VPT) replacement. Details are given in the enclosed Statements-I, II and III respectively.

(c) The following benefits are likely to be accrued in the rural areas of the country:—

- (i) Increase in rural teledensity and broadband density;
- (ii) Socio-economic and educational development;
- (iii) Improvement in the quality of telecom connectivity.

Statement I*Conversion of CDOT RAXs in to AN RAXs*

| Sl.No. | Circle | Total No. of CDOT RAXs | Already converted | Converted during | | | | Total converted upto 31.3.10 |
|--------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------|---------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | | | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 28 | 18 | 4 | 6 | — | — | 28 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 2612 | 2593 | 18 | 1 | — | — | 2612 |
| 3. | Assam | 494 | 469 | 22 | 0 | — | — | 491 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|-------|-------------------|-------|-------|-----|-----|----|----|-------|
| 4. | Bihar | 389 | 346 | 43 | 0 | — | — | 389 |
| 5. | Jharkhand | 315 | 309 | 5 | 1 | — | — | 315 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 1748 | 1748 | 0 | 0 | — | — | 1748 |
| 7. | Haryana | 603 | 603 | 0 | 0 | — | — | 603 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 738 | 559 | 110 | 30 | 18 | 2 | 719 |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 222 | 180 | 12 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 212 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 2371 | 2371 | 0 | 0 | — | — | 2371 |
| 11. | Kerala | 46 | 43 | 1 | 1 | — | — | 45 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 2101 | 2095 | 4 | 1 | — | — | 2100 |
| 13. | Chhattisgarh | 212 | 195 | 6 | 5 | 4 | — | 210 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 3942 | 3811 | 127 | 2 | — | 2 | 3942 |
| 15. | N.E.-I | 64 | 44 | 9 | 4 | — | 3 | 60 |
| 16. | N.E.-II | 134 | 84 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 30 | 126 |
| 17. | Orissa | 745 | 745 | 0 | 0 | — | — | 745 |
| 18. | Punjab | 524 | 524 | 0 | 0 | — | — | 524 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 1616 | 1610 | 2 | 1 | — | 2 | 1615 |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 1163 | 1162 | 1 | 0 | — | — | 1163 |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh (E) | 1451 | 1241 | 0 | 210 | — | — | 1451 |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh (W) | 498 | 483 | 15 | 0 | — | — | 498 |
| 23. | Uttaranchal | 340 | 308 | 11 | 0 | 5 | 9 | 333 |
| 24. | West Bengal | 1022 | 986 | 31 | 2 | — | 2 | 1021 |
| Total | | 23378 | 22527 | 425 | 272 | 38 | 59 | 23321 |

Statement II*Conversion of SBMs to RSUs*

| Sl.No. | Circle | Total No. of SBMs | Already converted | Converted during | | | | Total converted upto 31.3.10 |
|--------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------|---------|---------|------------------------------|
| | | | | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 14 | 13 | 1 | 0 | — | — | 14 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|-------|-------------------|------|------|-----|-----|---|----|------|
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 608 | 607 | 1 | 0 | — | — | 608 |
| 3. | Assam | 64 | 60 | 2 | 0 | — | 2 | 64 |
| 4. | Bihar | 63 | 58 | 2 | 3 | — | — | 63 |
| 5. | Jharkhand | 85 | 81 | 4 | 0 | — | — | 85 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 612 | 612 | 0 | 0 | — | — | 612 |
| 7. | Haryana | 80 | 80 | 0 | 0 | — | — | 80 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 195 | 178 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 194 |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 44 | 34 | 1 | 1 | — | 6 | 42 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 481 | 481 | 0 | 0 | — | — | 481 |
| 11. | Kerala | 173 | 167 | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 167 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 459 | 459 | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 459 |
| 13. | Chhattisgarh | 15 | 14 | 0 | 0 | — | 0 | 14 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 1047 | 575 | 37 | 435 | — | — | 1047 |
| 15. | N.E.-I | 15 | 6 | 2 | 1 | — | 2 | 11 |
| 16. | N.E.-II | 34 | 23 | 1 | 0 | — | 6 | 30 |
| 17. | Orissa | 220 | 217 | 0 | 3 | — | — | 220 |
| 18. | Punjab | 643 | 643 | 0 | 0 | — | — | 643 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 709 | 709 | 0 | 0 | — | — | 709 |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 561 | 561 | 0 | 0 | — | — | 561 |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh (E) | 483 | 473 | 0 | 10 | — | — | 483 |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh (W) | 498 | 163 | 329 | 6 | — | — | 498 |
| 23. | Uttaranchal | 81 | 81 | 0 | 0 | — | — | 81 |
| 24. | West Bengal | 103 | 98 | 4 | 0 | 1 | — | 103 |
| Total | | 7287 | 6393 | 393 | 462 | 5 | 16 | 7269 |

Statement III

*Status of MARR VPT Replacement as per USOF Agreement
(As on 31.3.2010)*

| Sl.No. | Circle | MARR VPTs to be replaced by BSNL (Agreement Revised by USOF-Nov. 2008) | Comulative Ach. Till 31.3.2008 | Ach. during 2008-09 | Ach. during 2009-10 | Comulative replacement till March 2010 |
|--------|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 72 | 72 | 0 | 0 | 72 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 10335 | 10332 | 3 | 0 | 10335 |
| 3. | Assam | 9294 | 9137 | 29 | 31 | 9197 |
| 4. | Bihar | 7431 | 7431 | 0 | 0 | 7431 |
| 5. | Jharkhand | 3570 | 3564 | 6 | 0 | 3570 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 4106 | 4087 | 5 | 14 | 4106 |
| 7. | Haryana | 1423 | 1423 | 0 | 0 | 1423 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 949 | 927 | 17 | 5 | 949 |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 2295 | 2185 | 83 | 15 | 2283 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 14571 | 14570 | 1 | 0 | 14571 |
| 11. | Kerala | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 21111 | 21015 | 54 | 42 | 21111 |
| 13. | Chhattisgarh | 5021 | 4825 | 18 | 21 | 4864 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 15222 | 15124 | 25 | 47 | 15196 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | 1056 | 592 | 44 | 242 | 878 |
| 16. | Mizoram | 527 | 377 | 56 | 89 | 522 |
| 17. | Tripura | 318 | 318 | 0 | 0 | 318 |
| 18. | Arunachal Pradesh | 440 | 351 | 43 | 3 | 397 |
| 19. | Manipur | 547 | 420 | 71 | 8 | 499 |
| 20. | Nagaland | 544 | 531 | 1 | 12 | 544 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-------|-------------------|--------|--------|-----|-----|--------|
| 21. | Orissa | 11912 | 11763 | 39 | 84 | 11886 |
| 22. | Punjab | 2135 | 2135 | 0 | 0 | 2135 |
| 23. | Rajasthan | 14574 | 14330 | 219 | 17 | 14566 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 6000 | 6000 | 0 | 0 | 6000 |
| 25. | Uttar Pradesh (E) | 27339 | 27339 | 0 | 0 | 27339 |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh (W) | 9957 | 9957 | 0 | 0 | 9957 |
| 27. | Uttaranchal | 2876 | 2823 | 27 | 26 | 2876 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 11492 | 11458 | 34 | 0 | 11492 |
| Total | | 185121 | 183090 | 775 | 656 | 184521 |

[English]

Software Export

3769. SHRI T.R. BAALU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding value of software exports during the last three years;

(b) the details regarding States contributing substantially to software exports during the last three years; and

(c) the strategy for improving software exports from the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) The value of software and services exports during the last three years is given below:

| Year | Value of exports in US\$ Bn |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| 2007-08 | 40.4 |
| 2008-09 | 47.1 |
| 2009-10 | 49.7 |

(Source: NASSCOM)

(b) A study was conducted in 2008 by NASSCOM regarding the levels of concentration of the IT/ITeS

industry across the country. The study observed that the top 7 locations accounted for over 90% of the exports in this sector as under:

| City | State | Approx. %age Share of Revenue |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bangalore | Karnataka | 36 |
| NCR | New Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh | 17 |
| Mumbai-Pune | Maharashtra | 15 |
| Chennai | Tamil Nadu | 15 |
| Hyderabad | Andhra Pradesh | 14 |
| Others | All other states not listed above | 3 |

(Source : NASSCOM)

(c) The Department of Information Technology, Ministry of Communications & IT, and Government of India constituted a Task Force in August 2009 to suggest measures to stimulate the growth and development of IT, ITES and Electronics Systems Design Manufacturing Industry in the country. The Report of Taskforce suggested measures to stimulate the growth of IT, ITES and Electronics Hardware manufacturing industry in India and outlines the strategy for improving software exports from the country.

For improving software exports from the country Government of India has announced stimulus packages which include following incentives:

1. Government back-up guarantee to Export Credit Guarantee corporation of India Limited (ECGC) to the extent of Rs. 350 crore to enable it to provide guarantees for exports to difficult markets/products.
2. An Additional allocation of Rs. 350 crore for export incentive schemes.
3. To restore Duty Entitlement Passbook Scheme (DEPB) rates to those prevailing prior to November, 2008 and extension of the DEPB Scheme till 31.12.2010.
4. Additional funds of Rs. 1100 crore to be provided for full refund of Terminal Excise Duty/Central Sales Tax.
5. Refund of service tax on foreign agent commissions of up to 10 percent of FOB value of exports and refund of service tax on output services while availing of benefits under Duty Drawback Scheme. The notification vide which the DEPB rates were slashed down was withdrawn in January, 2009.
6. Sun-set clauses for deduction in respect of export profits under sections 10A and 10B of the Income-Tax Act being extended by one more year *i.e.* for the financial year 2010-11.
7. Fringe Benefit Tax on the value of certain fringe benefits provided by employers to their employees to be abolished.

[Translation]

Sagar Prahari Bal

3770. SHRI MADU GOUD YASKHI:
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL
KHATGAONKAR:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to create a new Sagar Prahari Bal (SPB) to strengthen maritime security;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of equipment to be provided to SPB in this regard ; and

(d) the extent to which SPB will boost the capabilities of Navy in coastal surveillance?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) With a view to strengthening coastal security and surveillance, Government has approved 'Sagar Prahari Bal' (SPB) in the Indian Navy, comprising 1000 personnel with 80 fast attack crafts. SPB is meant for shallow water operations with seaward anti-terrorist patrols for security of naval assets, besides for interception at high speeds and to perform search and rescue operations.

Weekly Unemployment Allowance

3771. SHRI RAMASHANKER RAJBHAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to provide weekly unemployment allowance on the pattern followed by some foreign developed countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) No, Madam. There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise

[English]

Eco-friendly Products

3772. SHRI M. VENUGOPALA REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is focusing on eco-friendly products made out of different raw materials like wood, cane and bamboo;

(b) if so, the complete details thereof in the Eleventh Five Year Plan especially in the rural areas, State-wise; and

(c) the incentives and encouragement given to such manufacturers in the Eleventh Five Year Plan especially in Andhra Pradesh compared to other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (c) Ministry of Rural Development has no scheme in operation which is focussed on eco-friendly products. However, the information is being sought from other concerned Ministries/Departments/Agencies.

Reforms in MGNREGS

3773. SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Planning Commission has suggested key reforms in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to incorporate the said reforms in MGNREGS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) No reference from Planning Commission has been received in the Ministry of Rural Development in this regard.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Non-Payment of Funds under NFFWP

3774. SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP:
SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry had allocated 3758 metric tonne foodgrains on 17th May, 2005 under the National Food For Work Programme (NFFWP) for the Chamba district of Himachal Pradesh according to which the State issued foodgrain coupons of Rs. 92.08 lacs to the workers which were not honoured by the Government because the sanctioning of foodgrains was reduced later on and as such the Government has still to pay Rs. 92.08 lacs to the State which has not been paid till date;

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

(c) the time by which the said payment is likely to be made by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (c) Under National Food For Work Programme (NFFWP), wages to the workers were paid in the form of Cash and foodgrains. Para 2.2. Of NFFWP guidelines, however, provide that in case of inadequate availability of foodgrains, wages may be paid in cash.

In 2005-06, the Ministry of Rural Development had allocated 3758 metric tonne foodgrain for Chamba district under NFFWP. Due to inadequate supply of food grains by FCI, the foodgrain allocation was reduced accordingly. NFFWP was subsumed in NREGA with effect from 2.2.2006. The Ministry vide letter dated 10.9.2009 has clarified to the State Government that if certain works were sanctioned and completed before 2.2.2006 and payment of wages is pending on account of merger of NFFWP with NREGA and consequent non-availability of funds under NFFWP, the State Secretary concerned may authorize the District programme Coordinator to make payment of outstanding wages for such works from NREGA budget after verification of works and satisfaction that the claims are genuine and only permissible works were taken up.

[English]

Setting up of Telecom Circles

3775. SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number Telecom Circles in the country, as on date, State-wise;

(b) the name of States which do not have separate Telecom Circles in the country, State-wise; and

(c) the time by which separate Telecom Circles will be provided in all the States of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Madam, BSNL is having 26 (twenty-six) territorial Telecom Circles (including two Telephones Districts of Kolkata and Chennai) in the

country as on date. MTNL is having two telecom circles in Delhi and Mumbai. The details of Territorial Telecom

Circles covering the States/UT in the country are given below:-

| Sl.No. | Name of States/UTs in the country | Name of the Territorial Telecom Circle |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| BSNL | | |
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT) | Andaman and Nicobar Circle |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | Andhra Pradesh Circle |
| 3. | Assam | Assam Circle |
| 4. | Bihar | Bihar Circle |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | Chhattisgarh Circle |
| 6. | Gujarat | Gujarat Circle |
| 7. | Haryana | Haryana Circle |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | Himachal Pradesh Circle |
| 9. | Jharkhand | Jharkhand Circle |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | Jammu and Kashmir Circle |
| 11. | Karnataka | Karnataka Circle |
| 12. | Kerala | Kerala Circle |
| 13. | Maharashtra | Maharashtra Circle |
| 14. | Goa | |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh | Madhya Pradesh Circle |
| 16. | Mizoram | North East-I Circle, HQ at Shillong (Meghalaya) |
| 17. | Tripura | |
| 18. | Meghalaya | |
| 19. | Nagaland | North East-II Circle, HQ at Dimapur |
| 20. | Arunachal Pradesh | |
| 21. | Manipur | |
| 22. | Orissa | Orissa Circle |
| 23. | Punjab | Punjab Circle |
| 24. | Rajasthan | Rajasthan Circle |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|---------------|---|
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | Tamil Nadu Circle Chennai Telephones District |
| 26. | West Bengal | Kolkata Telephones District West Bengal Circle |
| 27. | Sikkim | |
| 28. | Uttar Pradesh | UP (East) Circle |
| 28. | Uttar Pradesh | UP (West) Circle |
| 29. | Uttarakhand | Uttarakhand Circle |
| MTNL | | |
| 1. | Delhi | Delhi Circle |
| 2. | Mumbai | Mumbai Circle |

Note: Rest of the Union Territories (UT) are covered under telecom circles as per list given in reply to para (b) below.

(b) The name of States/Union Territories which are not having separate Telecom Circle of BSNL are as given below, along with the name of telecom circle in which these are presently covered (indicated within the bracket):-

- Goa state (in Maharashtra Telecom Circle)
- Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura (in NE-I Telecom Circle)
- Manipur, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh (in NE-II Telecom Circle)
- Sikkim (in West Bengal Telecom Circle)
- UT Puduchery (in Tamil Nadu Telecom Circle)
- UT Daman & DIU, Dadra and Nagar Havelli (in Gujarat Telecom Circle)
- UT Lakshadweep (in Kerala Telecom Circle)
- UT Chandigarh (in Punjab Telecom Circle)

(c) At present there is no proposal for creation of any further Telecom Circle for states/UT's not having a separate telecom circle.

Dyslexia and Autism in Disabilities List

3776. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently included disorders like Dyslexia and Autism in the list of Persons with Disabilities.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) No Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Amendments to the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, are under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Identification of Subscribers

3777. SHRI RAKESH SINGH:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI JOSEPH TOPPO:
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL
KHATGAONKAR:
DR. SANJAY SINGH:
SHRI IJYARAJ SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Private Telephone Operators have been unable to verify the identity and other credentials of subscribers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has filed any criminal cases against the private cellular service providers for flouting the said rules;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the penalty imposed on telecom companies during the above period, company-wise; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) During verification audit, it is found that some of the subscribers have been enrolled by mobile service providers without proper verification of identity and other credentials of subscribers. As per license condition, the Service Providers are required to ensure adequate verification of each and every customer before enrolling him as subscriber. The Telecom Enforcement, Resource & Monitoring (TERM) Cells of Department of Telecommunications carry out monthly sample audit on subscriber verification. The percentage of passed samples during the Audit by TERM Cell on Photo, Identity, Address (PIA) basis during the last three years is given as under:

| Year | Approximate % of passed samples |
|------|---------------------------------|
| 2007 | 81% |
| 2008 | 84% |
| 2009 | 91% |

(c) to (e) Department of Telecommunication has not registered any criminal case against private cellular service providers in the matter, however approx 160 cases have come to the notice where criminal cases have been registered by respective State Govt. Agencies against the distributor/retailer of Cellular Service Provider or against individuals in this matter for the said period. The details of penalty imposed on telecom service provider, during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statements-I and II respectively.

Statement I

Status of Penalty Imposed for the Period from April 2007 to March 2009

| Sl. No. | Operator | Penalty Imposed (in Rs. Lakhs) |
|---------|----------|--------------------------------|
| 1. | MTNL | 103.7 |
| 2. | BSNL | 1161.25 |
| 3. | Airtel | 1109 |
| 4. | RCL | 874.9 |
| 5. | RTL | 44.63 |
| 6. | IDEA | 295.65 |
| 7. | IDSHNET | 183.81 |
| 8. | VODAFONE | 746.68 |
| 9. | SPICE | 78.31 |
| 10. | TATA | 390.8 |
| 11. | HFCL | 7.35 |
| 12. | BPL | 30.12 |
| 13. | STL | 8.361 |
| Total | | 5034.81 |

Statement II

Status of penalty imposed for J&K, Assam, Haryana, Chennai and Mumbai Service Area for the period from April 2009 to July 2009

| Sl. No. | Operator | Penalty Imposed (in Rs. Lakhs) |
|---------|----------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | MTNL | 15.75 |
| 2. | BSNL | 157.36 |
| 3. | Airtel | 687.5 |
| 4. | RCL | 437.1 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------|----------|---------|
| 5. | RTL | 18.4 |
| 6. | IDEA | 77.08 |
| 7. | IDSHNET | 120.05 |
| 8. | VODAFONE | 112.99 |
| 9. | SPICE | 0 |
| 10. | TATA | 20.54 |
| 11. | HFCL | 0 |
| 12. | BPL | 1.62 |
| 13. | STL | 0 |
| Total | | 1648.39 |

*[English]***Supply of Substandard Food Items**

3778. SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the food items being supplied to the various Military Stations in certain cases have been reported to be of substandard quality;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

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

(e) the action taken against the persons found guilty; and

(f) the steps taken to improve the quality of food items?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Food items are supplied on the basis of approved specifications and mechanisms are in place for testing quality of food items before they are supplied. In case of any instance of sub-standard food items being supplied coming to the notice, administrative and disciplinary action are taken per rules.

(c) to (e) Based on certain complaints, court of Inquiry was instituted resulting in disciplinary action against six officers and administrative action against eighteen.

(f) Improvement in quality of food items is a prime concern of the Government. Continuous efforts are made to improve quality of food items being supplied.

*[Translation]***Connectivity of Laddakh and Tibet under MGNREGS**

3779. SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken to construct Damchuk road across the Leh border to connect Laddakh and Tibet under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the percentage of work carried out in this regard so far;

(c) whether the construction work of this road has been hampered and stopped;

(d) if so, since when alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the construction of the said road is targeted to be restarted and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (e) The information is being collected from State Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

*[English]***Procurement of Aircraft from Russia**

3780. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to purchase MiG-29K fighter jets from Russia;

(b) if so, the total number of fighters to be purchased, cost and other details thereof;

(c) the comparison of its features with F-16 fighter jets of USA;

(d) whether there is proposal to procure some aircraft from USA also;

(e) if so, the time schedule for their procurement; and

(f) the extent to which it will boost the capabilities of Air Force?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (f) contract for acquisition of additional MiG-29K/KUB aircraft for the Navy from Russia was signed in March 2010 at a cost of US\$ 1466.44 million under Option Clause of an existing contract signed in 2004.

The MiG-29K are carrier borne aircraft and have advanced avionics and airborne sensors. The F-16 is a land based aircraft and can carry a slightly larger payload of weapons.

A contract for procurement of maritime reconnaissance aircraft was signed with M/s. Boeing, USA in 2009. The aircraft are scheduled to arrive between 2013 and 2015. Further, procurement of C-130J-30 aircraft under the Foreign Military Sales (FMS) programme of US Government has been finalized in 2008. The delivery of these aircraft would commence from February 2011.

Induction of these platforms would boost the capabilities of the Armed Forces.

SEZs under Foreign Trade ACT

3781. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has brought/proposed to bring the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) under the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act;

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

(c) whether any assessment has been made about the impact of bringing SEZs under the act on the growth and performance of SEZs in the country;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) to (e) Special Economic Zones are administered under the Special Economic zones Act, 2005 and rules made there under. In exercise of powers conferred by Section 21 of the Special Economic Zone Act, 2005, Notification has been issued specifying the acts or omissions punishable under the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 as notified offences for the purpose of the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005.

Vacant Land of VSNL

3782. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of vacant/surplus land available with Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) at the time of its privatization, State-wise and location-wise, and;

(b) the action taken by the Government in respect of this land before privatising VSNL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) The details of the vacant land are given in enclosed Statement.

(b) The surplus land of the VSNL had been retained outside the VSNL's disinvestment process by the Government.

Statement*Details of the Vacant Land*

| Sl.No. | States | Location as per SHA | Declared Surplus (land in acres) at the time of privatization of VSNL |
|--------|-------------|---------------------------|---|
| 1. | Maharashtra | Dighi-Pune | 524.00 |
| 2. | West Bengal | Halishahar-Calcutta | 35.19 |
| 3. | Delhi | Chattarpur-New Delhi | 58.00 |
| 4. | Delhi | Greater Kailash-New Delhi | 70.00 |
| 5. | Tamil Nadu | Padinanallur-Chennai | 85.94 |
| Total | | | 773.13 |

*[Translation]***Exploitation by Placement Agencies**

3783. SHRI LAL CHAND KATARIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of registered and unregistered placement agencies functioning at present in the country, separately, State-wise;

(b) whether the unregistered placement agencies are exploiting the job seekers in the name of employment;

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

(d) the further steps taken by the Government to regulate such unregistered agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) The States/UTs have reported that private placement agencies are neither registered nor any data maintained on them on regular basis.

(b) and (c) Such complaints are dealt with under provision(s) of Indian Penal Code on receipt.

(c) In order to safeguard the interests of job-seekers, Ministry of Labour & Employment issued guidelines on 30.10.2003 to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to consider regulation of the functioning of private placement agencies, as per local needs.

*[English]***Amendment in Indian Postal Act**

3784. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to amend the Indian Postal Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Yes, Madam. It has been decided to replace the existing IPO Act 1898 with a new Post Office Act.

(b) The proposed Post Office Bill is yet to be readied.

(c) No time schedule has been fixed.

Scanning of Survey Documents Proposals

3785. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals/projects submitted by various States pertaining to different sectors of rural

development including scanning of survey documents in taluks during the last three years and the current year; State-wise;

(b) the estimated cost of these projects/proposals;

(c) whether the Government has considered these proposals/projects;

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

(e) the time by which the financial assistance is likely to be released to the States including Maharashtra for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (e) Under the scheme of Computerisation of Land

Records (CLR), proposals were received from the States/UTs for release of funds for computerization of land records, scanning & preservation of land records/digitization of cadastral maps, data centres at tehsil, subdivisions and district levels, monitoring cell at State Headquarters, training of staff etc. Under Strengthening of Revenue Administration and Updating of Land Record (SRA&ULR), proposals were received for release of funds for survey/resurvey, purchase of modern survey equipments, construction of record rooms, strengthening of training institutes etc. The Schemes of CLR and SRA&ULR were merged during 2008-09 with the National Land Records Modernization Programme (NLRMP). The details of funds released under the Programme during 2007-2008, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 for the States including Maharashtra, including for digitization of cadastral maps are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Release of funds under the schemes of CLR, SRA&ULR and the NLRMP during 2007-08 to 2009-10

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl.No. | States/UTs | SRA&ULR | | CLR | | NLRMP | | | | | | Total Releases | | |
|--------|-------------------|---------|------------------------------|---------|--|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|---------|---------|
| | | 2007-08 | 2008-09 & 2009-10 | 2007-08 | Out of total release, funds released for scanning and preservation of land records/digitization of cadastral maps. | 2008-09 & 2009-10 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | | 2009-10 | |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 770.00 | Scheme merged with the NLRMP | | | Scheme merged with the NLRMP | Scheme started in 2008-09 | 4475.47 | 3356.60 | | | | | 4126.60 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0.00 |
| 3. | Assam | 326.00 | | 251.00 | 251.00 | | | | | | | | | 2383.12 |
| 4. | Bihar | 177.53 | | 366.00 | 366.00 | | | 997.97 | 748.48 | 961.06 | | | 720.80 | 2012.81 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 782.58 | | | | | | | | 738.49 | 0.52 | 553.86 | | 1336.44 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 1072.00 | | 133.11 | 128.16 | | | 953.93 | 9.30 | 715.45 | | | | 1920.56 |
| 7. | Goa | 55.50 | | 90.00 | 30.00 | | | | | | | | | 145.50 |
| 8. | Haryana | | | 164.14 | 107.64 | | | 380.08 | 285.06 | 1833.26 | 264.10 | 1374.94 | 1824.14 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------|-------|---------|---------|---|---|------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-----------|----------|-------------|
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 214.50 | | 218.21 | 167.44 | | | 957.78 | 76.43 | 488.95 | 196.07 | | 326.82 | 1248.48 |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | 65.00 | | | | | | 87.50 | | 65.63 | | | | 130.63 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0.00 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 1298.88 | | 150.28 | | | | | | | | | | 1449.16 |
| 13. | Kerala | 475.00 | | 0.90 | 0.90 | | | | | | 934.39 | 31.83 | 700.79 | 1176.69 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 1015.68 | | 987.75 | 987.75 | | | 1688.45 | 132.17 | 1266.33 | 9463.64 | | 4168.04 | 7437.80 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 86.00 | | 169.00 | 169.00 | | | 4924.025 | 91.20 | 3693.01 | 1051.71 | 21.28 | 788.78 | 4736.79 |
| 16. | Manipur | | | 72.19 | 3.00 | | | 224.705 | 2.03 | 168.53 | | | | 240.72 |
| 17. | Mehalaya | | | | | | | 575.238 | 21.12 | 431.43 | 256.43 | 14.40 | 192.32 | 623.75 |
| 18. | Mizoram | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0.00 |
| 19. | Nagaland | | | | | | | 78.63 | | 58.97 | | | | 58.97 |
| 20. | Orissa | 700.35 | | 704.05 | 434.05 | | | 1232.363 | | 924.27225 | 1956.30500 | 112.30000 | 1467.22 | 3795.89 |
| 21. | Punjab | | | 279.63 | 60.36 | | | 1085.5505 | 53.77 | 814.17 | | | | 1093.80 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 562.80 | | 117.46 | 89.56 | | | | | | 5202.58 | | 3901.94 | 4582.20 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 40.00 | | | | | | 12.48 | 5.48 | 9.36 | | | | 49.36 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 194.95 | | 10.80 | | | | | | | | | | 205.75 |
| 25. | Tripura | 530.31 | | 127.53 | | | | 362.2345 | 13.11 | 271.68 | | | | 929.52 |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | 721.00 | | 91.86 | 51.26 | | | 1795.33 | 101.94 | 1346.50 | 94.50 | | 70.86 | 2230.22 |
| 27. | Uttarakhand | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0.00 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 1117.90 | | 106.85 | 106.85 | | | 5322.0595 | | 3991.55 | 4352.71 | | 3264.54 | 8480.84 |
| 29. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | | | | | | | 72.13 | 0.41 | 25.71 | | | 28.39 | 54.10 |
| 30. | Chandigarh | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0.00 |
| 31. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 69.74 | | | | | | 44.9 | | 24.29 | | | 33.68 | 127.71 |
| 32. | Delhi | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0.00 |
| 33. | Daman and Diu | | | | | | | | | | 138.30 | 11.02 | 103.72 | 103.72 |
| 34. | Lakshdweep | 5.26 | 25.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | | 221.88 | 0.48 | 4.21 | 34.47 |
| 35. | Puducherry | 41.36 | 58.64 | 2.04 | | | | 302.57 | 17.93 | 190.00 | | | 36.93 | 326.93 |
| Total All States/UTs | | 10322.33 | | 4124.40 | 2956.01 | | | 25573.3705 | 524.89000 | 18875.96225 | 29809.38500 | 455.93 | 19543.96 | 52866.65225 |

[Translation]

Charging of Money from Telecom Companies

3786. SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is formulating a scheme to charge the money from the mobile companies which are allotting numbers in excess after a certain limit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government to ascertain the number of consumers listed by each mobile company and the services being provided to the consumers by the said companies in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (e) Madam, TRAI has released a consultation paper on "Efficient Utilization of Numbering Resources" on 2001-2010. In the consultation paper TRAI has thrown open various issues involved in the matter inter alia including the issue of pricing of numbering resources for the comments from stake holders. The Department of Telecommunications is presently not charging any fee from the service providers for the allotment of mobile numbers.

[English]

Pre-Consultation Paper on 4G Spectrum

3787. SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:
SHRI ANANDARAO ADSUL:
DR. KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI:

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

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has floated pre-consultation paper on 4G spectrum without setting 2G spectrum issues in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to settle the 2G spectrum issues in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) TRAI has issued only the pre-consultation paper to identify the issues involved in introduction of 4G such as allocation & pricing of spectrum for such services and issues related to licensing etc. The objective at this stage is to prepare a consultation paper for wider deliberation, so as to result in recommendations enabling the Government to take appropriate decision or for appropriate Regulations by the Authority.

Consultations on 2G spectrum issues have been completed and the recommendations are expected from TRAI.

(c) The Government shall examine the recommendations after it is received from TRAI for taking decision in the matter.

No Service Zone Area

3788. SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of cellular service operators are breaching the guidelines of 'No service zone area' alongside the international borders of the country including Punjab:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Madam, as per existing guidelines, presently no area is categorized as "No service zone area" for providing mobile service alongside the international borders of the country including Punjab. The earlier conditions of 'No service zone' putting restrictions on placement of mobile towers in 500 meter width along the international border within Indian Territory has been removed in July 2008 subject to the condition that signal emanating from the base station, cell site or Radio transmitter fade out when nearing or about to cross such borders.

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

Industrial Infrastructural Upgradation Scheme

3789. SHRI JOSE K MANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received from each State including Kerala under the Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the present status of these proposals; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) to (c) State-wise list of proposals received under Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) during last three years and the current year and their status is given in the enclosed Statement.

The IIUS has been recast in 2009. "In Principle" approval to eight projects and "Final" approval to one project have been given under the recast IIUS. After "Final" approval to these projects is granted, the entire fund allocated for new projects under the recast IIUS would stand committed.

Statement*State wise list of project received*

| Sl.No. | State | Name of the | Location | Status |
|-------------------|---------------|---|---|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Year-2007: | | | | |
| 1. | Kerala | IT Park | Beach Road, Kasaragod | Since, the entire fund allocated for IIUS was committed to the already these proposals could not be considered. The IIUS has been recast in 2009 and revised proposals under the recast Scheme have not been received. |
| 2. | | Textile Cluster | Kannur | |
| 3. | Tamil Nadu | Textile Cluster | Perumdurai, Erode Distt. | |
| 4. | Uttar Pradesh | Chemical Cluster | Kanpur Dehat | |
| 5. | | Rubber Plastic & Engineering Cluster | Panki Industrial Areas, Kanpur | |
| 6. | | Engineering Cluster | Sikandrabad Indl. Area, Bulandshahar | |
| 7. | | Engineering Cluster | Bulandshahar Road Indl. Area, Site-I, Ghaziabad | |
| 8. | | Engineering Cluster | Sahibabad Indl. Area, Site-IV, Ghaziabad | |
| 9. | Maharashtra | Engineering Cluster | Nashik, Maharashtra | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------------------|------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|
| Year-2008: | | | | |
| 1. | Punjab | Hand Tools Cluster | Jalandhar | Since the entire fund allocated for IIUS was committed, this project could not be considered. |
| Year-2009: | | | | |
| 1. | Bihar | Handloom Cluster | Bhagalpur | "In Principle" approval has been given under the recast IIUS. |
| 2. | Assam | Bamboo Based Cluster | Jagiroad, Distt-Morigaon | -do- |
| 3. | Gujarat | Petrochemical/Dyes Intermediates Cluster | Vadodara | Not approved |
| 4. | | Textile Cluster | Narol, Ahmedabad | "In Principle" approval has been given under the recast IIUS. |
| 5. | Himachal Pradesh | Pharmaceuticals & Allied Industries Cluster | Baddi Barotiwala, District-Solan | "In Principle" approval has been given under the recast IIUS. |
| 6. | Karnataka | Printing Cluster | Bangalore | Not approved |
| 7. | Maharashtra | Automobile Cluster | Aurangabad | "In Principle" approval has been given under the recast IIUS. |
| 8. | | Kolhapur Foundry & Engineering Cluster | Kolhapur | "In Principle" approval has been given under the recast IIUS. |
| 9. | | Dall Mill Cluster | Nagpur | Not approved |
| 10. | | Baramati Industrial Cluster | Baramati | Not approved |
| 11. | Orissa | Industrial Cluster | Mancheswar | Not approved |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|---|
| 12. | | Plastic, Polymers and Allied Cluster | Balasore | "Final" approval given under the recast IIUS |
| 13. | Punjab | Knitwear & apparel Cluster, | Ludhiana | Appraisal report of Project Management Agency is awaited for consideration under the recast IIUS. |
| 14. | | Hand Tools Cluster | Jalandhar | "In Principle" approval has been given under the recast IIUS. |
| 15. | Tamil Nadu | Engineering Industrial Cluster | Hosur | Not approved |
| 16. | | Engineering Cluster | Trichy | "In Principle" approval has been given under the recast IIUS. |
| 17. | | Sivakasi Printing Cluster | Sivakasi | Not approved |
| 18. | Tripura | Multi-Industry Cluster Bodhjungnagar | Agartala | Not approved |

Year-2010:

No proposal has been received during 2010 (up to date).

Training Academy for Workers/Labourers

3790. SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up an academy to impart advanced training to construction workers and other technical labourers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the location identified and the funds allocated for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) and (b) Vocational training being concurrent subject, responsibility of formulating norms and standards lies with Central Government and setting up of training institutions to impart skills in various sectors lies with respective State Governments. Government of Andhra Pradesh has set up National Academy of construction (NAC) at Hyderabad, to provide skill training to construction workers.

Considering the increased demand of trained construction workers across the country, all the State Governments were requested to set up State Construction Academy in their respective states to impart training to construction workers. No fund has been allocated by the Central Government to any of the State

Governments as it was required to be set up from cess to be collected from builders & developers, as has been done in Andhra Pradesh.

National fund for People with Disabilities

3791. SHRI SUBHASH BAPURAO WANKHEDE:
SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated and released under National Fund for People with Disabilities during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether the said fund has been fully utilised by the State Governments/Non Governmental Organisations; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) Funds are not allocated or released State-wise from National Funds for People with Disabilities.

(b) and (e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to SCs

3792. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new scheme has been formulated by Dr. Ambedkar Institute to provide financial assistance to the Scheduled Castes (SCs) for treatment in certain Government hospitals;

(b) if, so, the details thereof;

(c) whether publicity of this scheme has been made among the targeted beneficiary group; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): The Scheme is meant to provide medical treatment facility to the patients belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Communities having an annual family income upto Rs. 1,00,000/- and who are suffering from kanor ailments which need surgery related to kidney, heart, liver, cancer, brain or any other life threatening disease including knee surgery and spinal surgery.

All Central/State Govt. Hospitals, State Govt. Medical Colleges attached Hospitals recognized by State Govt., Hospitals fully funded by either the State Govt. or Central Govt. all CGHS approved Hospitals, State Govt. Hospitals in District Headquarters where surgery treatment facility of the above disease is available are covered under the scheme.

75% of the estimated cost of the treatment is admissible, with a maximum limit of Rs. 1,00,000/- in each case. Admissible medical and is paid, directly to the Hospital.

(c) and (d) The copies of the scheme have been sent to the State Governments for giving adequate publicity to the scheme. The scheme is also available on the website of the Dr. Ambedkar Foundation.

Profit Earned by MTNL/BSNL

3793. SHRI IJYARAJ SINGH:
SHRI ANJANKUMAR M. YADAV:

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

(a) the investments made in Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the net profit earned by MTNL and BSNL during the last three years;

(c) whether profit earned by MTNL and BSNL is not commensurate with investments made therein due to poor performance of said telecom companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) MTNL and BSNL do not receive investments/grants from the Government.

(b) The details of profit earned by MTNL and BSNL during last three years is as below:

| BSNL | | MTNL | |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Financial Year | Profit (Rs. in crore) | Financial Year | Profit (Rs. in crore) |
| 2006-07 | 7805.87 | 2006-07 | 681.74 |
| 2007-08 | 3009.39 | 2007-08 | 586.89 |
| 2008-09 | 574.85 | 2008-09 | 211.72 |

(c) No, Madam. The decline in profit is mainly on account of reduction in revenue (due to rapidly falling Telecom tariffs in view of fierce competition from Private Telecom Service Providers) and increase in staff expenditure which is due to implementation of pay committee's recommendations.

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

[English]

Computerisation of Admission and Trade Test Procedures

3794. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be please to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted a detailed project report for the Computerisation of Admission and Trade Test procedures to the Union Government for approval;

(b) if so, the Government has considered the request for the Kerala Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (d) No such proposal has been received in the Department of Information Technology.

Code of Conduct for Coast Guard

3795. SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA:
SHRI S.R. JEYADURAI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coast Guard represents at the meetings of the Empowered committee on Deep Sea Fisheries;

(b) if so, whether the Coast Guard has assured full cooperation to fishermen in their activities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof including the code of conduct for the Coast Guard in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) Coast Guard attends the meeting of the Empowered Committee on Marine Fisheries, constituted in Ministry of Agriculture which considers the issues related to operation of deep sea fishing vessels. The Coast Guard renders assistance to fishermen in times of distress or in the even of natural calamity, instills a sense of confidence in them through rescue mission and community interaction programmes, besides enforcing, monitoring control and surveillance of the deep sea fishing vessels as per the letter of permission (LoP) scheme of Ministry of Agriculture. While searching vessel the Coast Guard officers conduct themselves as per laid down procedure. A boarding clearance certificate for proper conduct is also taken.

Pension and Medical Facilities to Journalists

3796. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:
SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:
SHRI P. BALRAM:

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

(a) whether the Government provides pension and medical facilities to accredited journalists and press workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the status of existing guidelines in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposal for set up a permanent wage-fixation mechanism for future; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) and (b) According to the information received from the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare extends Central Government Health Scheme facility to Journalists accredited at the Headquarters of the Government of India, as per the guidelines issued in this respect.

In addition, newspaper employees are entitled to benefits under Labour Laws like the Employees State Insurance Act, 1948 and Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

Installation of net Services

3797. SHRI RAMESH RATHOD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been offering free installation of services and downloading of content in the rural areas of the country during the next Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Madam, free installation of net services and downloading of contents is being offered by BSNL from time to time as a promotional offer for a limited period and to a focused targeted rural customer base.

BSNL offers free installation under rural broadband plans which are assisted under Universal Service Obligation Fund scheme. BSNL is offering free Games on Demand, free music & video on demand and free web conferencing service to all rural new broadband users who are getting registered upto 25th April 2010, for limited period.

One Time Settlement Scheme

3798. SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to implement one time settlement scheme in National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation on the lines of other Scheduled banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) No Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The approved Lending Policy of National Scheduled Castes Finance & Development Corporation (NSCFDC) does not contain any provision for one time settlement of loan.

Losses due to Cyber Crime

3799. SHRI RAJIAH SIRICILLA:
SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:
SHRI P. BALRAM:
SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:

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

(a) whether Indian companies have suffered losses due to cyber crime in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the amount of losses during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to check the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) and (b) As per the data maintained by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the cases of Cyber Crime registered under the Information Technology Act and Indian Penal Code (IPC) & related sections are 142, 217, 288 and 311, 339, 176 cases during the year 2006, 2007 and 2008, respectively. Additionally Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has also registered one case in the year 2007, three cases in 2009 and one case in 2010 (upto 31.3.10) under the provisions of the Information Technology Act along with other Acts.

The reported cyber crime cases which have caused financial loss are in the nature of phishing, hacking into the billing softwares, hacking of the subscriber details, fraudulent use of Credit Cards on online purchasing (purchase of air travel tickets, rail tickets and counterfeiting of software). The total financial loss due to cyber crime as registered by CBI during the year 2007 and two out of three cases in 2009 is estimated to be Rs. 213306. However, the exact financial loss caused in all reported cyber crime cases is difficult to ascertain as such data is not maintained by the NCRB.

(c) The Information Technology Act 2000 as amended by the Information Technology (Amendment) Act 2008 has been enforced on 27.10.2009. The Section 43A mandates all the companies to implement reasonable security practices to prevent leakage of data and therefore the losses. The provision provides for award of compensation to the victims by the companies for the loss caused due to such leakage of sensitive information collected and maintained by the Companies. The Section 72A, on the other hand, provides for punishment for leakage of information.

The NASSCOM and Data Security council of India regularly conduct Cyber Security Awareness programmes for Information Technology Companies, banks, public sectors, manufacturing companies and others throughout the country to promote the implementation of the best security practices.

Usage of Non-Genuine Software

3800. SHRI VARUN GANDHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be please to state:

(a) and (b) The infected/non-genuine/pirated software can adversely affect the security of Internet. The infected/pirated/non-genuine software compromise the system and become source for spreading malicious software like virus, worm, Trojan or bot infection. The computer system running such software spread the infection at a very fast rate through the Internet. The infected system may also be used to launch cyber attacks onto other computer system/networks.

(c) The Copyright Act was amended so as to check infected and non-genuine software. These amendments provide for simplification of certain concepts and rights, enhancement of penal provisions and collective administration. The Government has also set up a

Copyright Enforcement Advisory council, including representatives of leading copyright agencies and organizations to review the progress of enforcement of the Copyright Act periodically and advise the Government regarding measures on policy and implementation for improving the enforcement of the Act. Government agencies, NASSCOM officials, police and various other law enforcement agencies are committed to enforce copyright laws and eradicate the menace of software piracy. Further, instructions have been issued to various Government Departments to only use legal copies of software.

Government has been supporting Anti-Piracy campaign of NASSCOM which includes (i) Strict implementation of Code of Conduct for member companies of NASSCOM, (ii) distribution of brochures and stickers explaining about "Software Piracy and the Law; (iii) Anti Piracy Billboards, Hotline for piracy complaints.

The Government has set up Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), which has taken several steps for preventing security incidents arising due to malicious code software.

Cost Margin of Shipping Sector

3801. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the falling demand in the shipping sector has adversely impacted cost margin;

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

(c) the action plan prepared by the Government in this regard for the remaining Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN):
(a) Yes, Madam. Shipping demand is a derived demand and is dependent on trade volumes for creating demand for shipping services. In this context the global economic crisis which started in September, 2008 had a major impact on global trade. In 2009 it is estimated that the world GDP shrank by 1.1%

(b) In the container segment, the ships which were earlier carrying full load of containers had to be operated carrying considerably fewer containers. With the high fixed costs continuing to be incurred in the shipping

operations, the cost per unit increased. Also in view of the lower demand, the freight rates declined.

For the tanker sector, the global oil demand turned out much weaker mainly due to the slump in oil consumption in the west. It is estimated that on a year on year basis tanker freight rates across crude and product tankers declined by about 60% on a year on year basis with owners having to operate at below breakeven levels for virtually the entire year. Similarly, the LPG Sector too followed the same pattern, with very large gas carriers (VLGC) suffering a 60% fall in time charter rates and an increase in idling due to lack of cargoes.

The dry bulk sector had felt the impact of the global crisis immediately. The issuance of letters of credit, an instrument vital to the carrying on of international trade, had reduced considerably in the aftermath of the crisis.

(c) Government had introduced tonnage tax regime for shipping sector in 2004. Further, Indian shipping industry has been provided cargo support through right of first refusal & policy of FOB import is being followed for Government owned/controlled cargoes. Further, chartering of vessels for movement of cargo on private account is regulated through the Director General of Shipping taking into consideration the availability of Indian flag vessels. These measures are likely to be continued in the remaining period of eleventh Five Year Plan to support Indian shipping Industry.

Post Matric Scholarship for OBC Girls and Boys

3802. DR. NILESH NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Post Scholarship for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) Girls and Boys Scheme is being implemented in various States in the country including Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated and utilized during each of the last three years and the current years State-wise including Maharashtra;

(c) whether the said funds were fully utilized by the Government of Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) and (b) Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is implementing Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for OBC students in various States/UTs including Maharashtra. During 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 a sum of Rs. 100 crore, Rs. 134 crore and Rs. 135 crore respectively were allocated under the Post-matric Scholarship Scheme. A statement indicating State wise funds released during the last three years is annexed. Ministry releases funds to the State Governments/UT Administrations on the basis of utilization of funds released during previous years. Funds have so far not been released to any State/UT during 2010-11.

(c) to (e) Utilisation certificate has been received from the State Government for the funds released till 2008-09. Against funds released in 2009-10, utilization certificate for Rs. 5.41 crore has been received so far.

Statement

State-wise Central assistance released during the last three years from 2007-08 to 2009-10 under Post-matric Scholarship Scheme for OBCs

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl.No. | Name of State | 2007-08 Amount Released | 2008-09 Amount Released | 2009-10 Amount Released |
|--------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 925.02 | 1676.89 | 2035.00 |
| 2. | Bihar | 1436.49 | 1977.72 | 1752.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|-----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 3. | Chhattisgarh | - | - | - |
| 4. | Goa | 48.97 | 38.44 | 16.00 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 223.92 | 288.69 | 568.31 |
| 6. | Haryana | 396.59 | 491.00 | 563.00 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | - | 22.00 | - |
| 8. | Jammu and Kashmir | 210.22 | 188.77 | - |
| 9. | Jharkhand | 143.50 | 444.78 | 282.00 |
| 10. | Kerala | 560.45 | 161.67 | - |
| 11. | Karnataka | 611.80 | 454.43 | 445.57 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 393.59 | 1425.34 | 1612.00 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 1950.36 | 2307.08 | 2587.00 |
| 14. | Orissa | 51.87 | 441.00 | - |
| 15. | Punjab | 468.59 | 552.00 | - |
| 16. | Rajasthan | 431.68 | 754.49 | 833.00 |
| 17. | Tamil Nadu | 1099.55 | 1485.45 | 1140.32 |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | 2022.41 | 3962.88 | 4436.00 |
| 19. | Uttarakhand | - | 189.58 | 104.00 |
| 20. | West Bengal | - | 740.00 | - |
| 21. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | - | - | 0.23 |
| 22. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | - | - | - |
| 23. | Daman and Diu | - | 5.28 | - |
| 24. | Chandigarh | - | 1.09 | 1.03 |
| 25. | Delhi | - | - | - |
| 26. | Puducherry | 84.60 | 41.39 | - |
| 27. | Assam | 1208.32 | - | 659.19 |
| 28. | Manipur | 120.56 | 120.00 | 25.00 |
| 29. | Tripura | 128.59 | 193.18 | 230.10 |
| 30. | Sikkim | 0.00 | 5.78 | 7.20 |
| | Total | 12517.08 | 17968.93 | 17296.95 |

Refund of Entry Fee

3803. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision for surrender of licence and refund of entry fee paid by the telecom operators in case a telecom operator wishes to opt out of certain circles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some telecom companies have opted for surrender of licence in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Madam, as per the terms and conditions of Unified Access Services (UAS) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) licence agreement, LICENSEE may surrender the LICENSE, by giving notice of at least 60 Calendar days in advance. In that case it shall also notify all its customer of consequential withdrawal of SERVICE by sending a 30 Calendar days notice to each of them. The LICENCE shall pay all fees payable by it till the date on which the surrender of the LICENCE becomes effective. The effective date of surrender of Licence will be 60 Calendar days counted from the date of receipt of such notice by the licensor.

One time entry fee paid by the LICENSEE prior to signing of the UAS/CMTS licence agreement is non-refundable.

(c) and (d) No UAS/CMTS licence has been surrendered during the last three years.

Setting up of Shipyards

3804. SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up International size shipyards in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the locations identified for the purpose;

(c) the time by which such shipyards are likely to be constructed;

(d) whether coastal States including Tamil Nadu have forwarded proposal to the Union Government for setting up of an International size shipyard in the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Union Government thereon State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) to (e) No, Madam. Private investors have already gone ahead with plans to create new international size shipyards. On the West Coast, Pipavav Shipyard has come up with sufficient capacity to build Very Large Crude Carriers (VLCC). The dry dock is nearing completion. On the East Coast, M/s L&T has announced plans and reportedly acquired land for a large shipyard near Chennai. The Government stake in the form of equity or grant or loan has not been sought by any agencies. Hence, it has been decided that Government may act as facilitator and for the time being setting up of international size shipyard on West Coast and East Coast may not be pursued by the Government.

Procurement of Heavy Machine Guns

3805. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Army has floated a global Request For Information (RFI) for procurement of heavy machine guns;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the offers received from the firms;

(c) whether the present heavy machine guns have outlived their lives; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and other steps taken or being taken by the Government to meet the requirement of the Army?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) A Request for Information for procurement of Heavy machine Gun was issued by the Army on 16th March, 2010. Based on the responses received to the Request for Information, the procurement action will follow as per the extant Defence Procurement Procedure. The Government constantly reviews the security environment and takes necessary steps for induction of appropriate equipment required by the Armed Forces.

Grants to Voluntary Organisations

3806. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposals from Gujarat for grants to voluntary organizations for rehabilitation of disabled persons, integrated programme for the old age people and prevention of alcoholism and misuse of drugs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) and (b) During 2009-10, 51 proposals including 22 new proposals under Deendayal disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS), 9 proposals under the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/appliances (ADIP), 21 proposals including 14 new proposals under the scheme of Assistance for Prevention of alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse, and 8 new proposals under the Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP) were received. An amount of Rs. 57.40 lakhs under DDRS, 49.45 lakhs, under ADIP scheme, Rs. 37.21 lakhs under Scheme of Assistance for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse has been released in the year 2009-10.

Ongoing Schemes Projects in Karnataka

3807. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details ongoing schemes and projects relating to Rural Development in Karnataka;

(b) the details of complaints and suggestions if any, received in regard thereto; and

(c) the action taken thereon and the amount involved in each scheme/project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development through the State Government and Union Territory Administration implements the major schemes namely, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana

(SGSY), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP), National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) and Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) in rural areas of the country including Karnataka.

(b) and (c) 13 complaints were received under MGNREGA from Karnataka State. The complaints and suggestions are received from the individuals/Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) are immediately sent to the concerned State Governments for necessary action and remedial measures.

Restructuring of BSNL

3808. SHRI P. VISWANATHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the high level Committee headed by Sam Pitroda has submitted its recommendations to the Union Government regarding restructuring of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to implement its recommendations;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (d) Madam, Government constituted an expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Sh. Sam Pitroda in January 2010 to review the performance of BSNL and suggest measures for improving overall performance of the company. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government. The recommendations of Pitroda Committee were deliberated in the 126th Meeting of BSNL Board on 10.03.2010. After detailed discussion, the board broadly agreed to all the recommendations of the Committee. These recommendations involve various issues which require further examination by the Government.

(e) Does not arise in view of (a) to (d) above.

Closure of Tea Estates

3809. SHRI M. ANANDAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of tea gardens in the country have closed down especially in North Bengal and Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names, owner company, area, date of closure and number of workers affected in each of the tea estates; and

(c) the details regarding reasons for such closure alongwith the action being taken by the Government to reopen the closed tea gardens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) There were 33 listed closed tea gardens as on 1st April, 2007. Two more gardens in Darjeeling district of West Bengal were closed after 1/4/2007 taking the total number to 35 which includes 17 in Kerala, 16 in West Bengal and 2 in Assam. Of these, 22 gardens have been reopened. There are 13 tea gardens reported to be closed as on 20th March, 2010. These include 8 in West Bengal and 5 in Kerala. The

details showing the names, owner company, area, date of closure and number of workers in each of these closed tea estates are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The main reasons for sickness/closure include inherent weaknesses of the gardens due to poor yields arising out of poor condition of the gardens and factories (affecting tea quality and price realizations), poor garden management, frequent changes of garden managers and the management's excessive reliance on banks debt with negligible fresh equity infusion. In some of the gardens, the neglect was due to ownership disputes, protracted litigation and diversion of funds from tea gardens to other activities and in many cases strained relationship between management and garden workers.

The Government of India has announced a rehabilitation package for revival of closed tea gardens. The package provides for restructuring of outstanding banks loans, sharing of the accumulated interest 1/3rd each by the banks, Central Government and the beneficiaries, interest subsidy on working capital loans, deferred payment of arrear towards PF liabilities, complete waiver of outstanding loan under the loan schemes of Tea Board and priority in providing developmental assistance under the ongoing developmental schemes of Tea Board.

Statement

| State | Sl.No. | Name of Closed Tea Estates | Owner Company under | Area Closure tea (in hectares) | Date of closure of workers | Number |
|-------------|--------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Kerala | 1. | Kollikanam | RBT LTD. | 298.67 | 01.01.2004 | 657 |
| | 2. | Thungamally | RBT LTD. | 342.05 | 01.12.2003 | 753 |
| | 3. | Mount | RBT LTD. | 214.05 | 01.04.2003 | 471 |
| | 4. | Peermade | PEERMADE TEA CO. | 331.50 | Dec. 2000 | 729 |
| | 5. | Lone Tree | PEERMADE TEA CO. | 304.25 | Dec. 2000 | 660 |
| West Bengal | 1. | Ramjhora | HANUAN TEA CO. LTD. | 462.35 | 10.08.2002 | 1103 |
| | 2. | Katalguri | PINK CITY CO. PVT. LTD. | 499.29 | 22.07.2002 | 1147 |
| | 3. | Raimatong | THE BUXA DOORS TEA CO. | 491.70 | 04.03.2006 | 1254 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---|----|------------|--------------------------|--------|------------|------|
| | 4. | Kalchini | THE BUXA DOORS TEA CO. | 742.15 | 04.03.2006 | 1978 |
| | 5. | Red Bank | NEW RED BANK TEA CO. | 368.40 | 2004 | 881 |
| | 6. | Dheklapara | DHEKLAPARA TEA CO. LTD. | 197.37 | 11.03.2006 | 604 |
| | 7. | Poobong | POOBONG TEA CO (P) LTD. | 168.48 | 06.05.2007 | 372 |
| | 8. | Ringtong | RIGNTONG TEA CO (P) LTD. | 338.12 | 11.02.2008 | 837 |

Wireline Technology in Villages

3810. SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has asked to the Universal Service Obligation Fund, Administrator to prepare a detailed project report on the need and cost for laying an Optical Fibre Cable network in rural areas to boost broadband usage in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of villages in the country connected through wireline technology during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether a large number of villages in the country still remain to be connected;

(e) if not, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(f) the time by which all the villages are likely to be connected with wireline or wireless technology in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Universal Service Obligation Fund (USFO) has been requested to map all the existing Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) on a GIS platform within two months to get a

better estimate of additional OFC required. A Detailed Project Report (DPR) is to be prepared by USOF including the following:-

- (i) Estimation of growth of broadband connections in rural areas for next 20 years.
- (ii) Suggestion of the optimum depth to which OFC should be laid (blocks, large villages or all gram panchayats etc.) to provide adequate broadband speeds (2 Mbps) in rural areas and meet broadband requirements of all operators.
- (iii) Cost estimate for the project along-with economic rate of return calculations.
- (iv) Phasing of project funding requirements from USOF and
- (v) System of implementation.

(c) 57,926 villages have been covered with Village Public Telephone (VPT) facility in the country during the last three years (2006-09). State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(d) to (f) Yes, Madam. As on 31.03.2010, out of total 5,93,601 inhabited villages in the country, as per Census 2001, 24,216 villages are still to be covered with VPT facility. The remaining inhabited uncovered villages in the country will be provided with VPT facility by February, 2011. The State-wise details of uncovered villages are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement I*Number of Villages covered with Village Public Telephone facility during last three years*

| Sl.No. | Name of the Circle | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | | Total | Total No of villages provided with village public telephone in last three years. |
|--------|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------|--|
| | | under Bharat Nirman | under Bharat Nirman | under Bharat Nirman | under New VPT Agreement | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7=5+6 | 8=3+4+7 |
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0 | 0 | 0 | 91 | 91 | 91 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 190 | 68 | 10 | 873 | 883 | 1141 |
| 3. | Assam | 5117 | 352 | 118 | 519 | 637 | 6106 |
| 4. | Bihar | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1250 | 1250 | 1250 |
| 5. | Jharkhand | 668 | 740 | 97 | 541 | 638 | 2046 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 1144 | 691 | 13 | 1521 | 1534 | 3369 |
| 7. | Haryana | 0 | 0 | 0 | 231 | 231 | 231 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 572 | 64 | 94 | 986 | 1080 | 1716 |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 873 | 231 | 125 | 53 | 178 | 1282 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 0 | 0 | 0 | 829 | 829 | 829 |
| 11. | Kerala | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 4088 | 238 | 31 | 2057 | 2088 | 6414 |
| 13. | Chhattisgarh | 1143 | 471 | 36 | 265 | 301 | 1915 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 2555 | 538 | 53 | 2641 | 2694 | 5787 |
| 15. | North-East I | 147 | 249 | 130 | 0 | 130 | 526 |
| 16. | North-East II | 187 | 511 | 121 | 355 | 476 | 1174 |
| 17. | Orissa | 515 | 1037 | 1368 | 928 | 2296 | 3848 |
| 18. | Punjab | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 3996 | 1283 | 627 | 3919 | 4546 | 9825 |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 0 | 0 | 0 | 482 | 482 | 482 |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh(E) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5966 | 5966 | 5966 |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh(W) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 629 | 629 | 629 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7=5+6 | 8=3+4+7 |
|-------|-------------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|---------|
| 23. | Uttarakhand | 1087 | 715 | 201 | 377 | 578 | 2380 |
| 24. | West Bengal | 0 | 0 | 0 | 911 | 911 | 911 |
| Total | | 22282 | 7188 | 3024 | 25432 | 28456 | 57926 |

Note: (i) VPTs are being provided as per the agreements with USOF, DOT.

(ii) New VPT agreement was signed in Feb. 2009.

Statement II

Status of Inhabited Villages of Census 2001 covered with Village Public Telephone (VPT) facility (As on 31.03.2010)

| Sl.No. | Name of Circle | No. of Inhabited villages as per Census 2001 | Covered by BSNL | Covered by PBSO* | Total Covered Villages | Balance Uncovered Villages |
|--------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 501 | 337 | 0 | 337 | 164 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 26,613 | 233333 | 845 | 24178 | 2435 |
| 3. | AS | 25,124 | 23992 | 0 | 23992 | 1132 |
| 4. | BH | 39,032 | 38891 | 0 | 38891 | 141 |
| 5. | Jharkhand | 29,354 | 27733 | 0 | 27733 | 1621 |
| 6. | Gujarat | 18,159 | 16905 | 1130 | 18035 | 124 |
| 7. | Haryana | 6,764 | 6683 | 0 | 6683 | 81 |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | 17,495 | 17300 | 0 | 17300 | 195 |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | 6,417 | 5994 | 0 | 5994 | 423 |
| 10. | KTK | 27,481 | 27419 | 0 | 27419 | 62 |
| 11. | KL | 1,372 | 1372 | 0 | 1372 | 0 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 52,117 | 51986 | 0 | 51986 | 131 |
| 13. | Chhattisgarh | 17,744 | 18101 | 0 | 18101 | 1643 |
| 14. | Mharashtra | 41,442 | 39319 | 878 | 40197 | 1245 |
| 15. | NE-I | - | - | - | - | - |
| | MEG | 5,782 | 3428 | 0 | 3428 | 2354 |
| | MIZ | 707 | 704 | 0 | 704 | 3 |
| | TRI | 858 | 858 | 0 | 858 | 0 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-----|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 16. | NE-II | - | - | - | - | - |
| | ARP | 3,863 | 1677 | 0 | 1677 | 2186 |
| | NAG | 1,278 | 1260 | 0 | 1260 | 18 |
| | MANI | 2,315 | 2079 | 0 | 2079 | 236 |
| 17. | OR | 47,529 | 43222 | 0 | 43222 | 4307 |
| 18. | Punjab | 12,301 | 12061 | 0 | 12061 | 240 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 39,753 | 38803 | 572 | 39375 | 378 |
| 20. | TN | - | - | - | - | - |
| | TN | 13,837 | 13826 | 0 | 13826 | 11 |
| | Chennai TD | 1,655 | 1655 | 0 | 1655 | 0 |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh(E) | 74,161 | 74123 | 0 | 74123 | 38 |
| 22. | Uttar Pradaesh(W) | 23781 | 23636 | 0 | 23636 | 145 |
| 23. | UAL | 15,761 | 14814 | 0 | 14814 | 947 |
| 24. | WB | - | - | - | - | - |
| | WB | 37062 | 33484 | 0 | 33484 | 3578 |
| | Sikkim | 450 | 398 | 0 | 398 | 52 |
| | Kolkata TD | 893 | 567 | 0 | 567 | 326 |
| | Total | 5,93,601 | 5,65,960 | 3,425 | 5,69,385 | 24,216 |

*PBSO stands for Private Basic Service Operators

Funds to Town Panchayats under MGNREGS

3811. SHRI S.R. JEYADURAI:
SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether town panchayats in the country including Tamil Nadu are not getting any resources/funds from the Government for various employment oriented schemes including Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to include town panchayats for making them eligible to get allocations/funds from the Government for various rural schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) No funds/resources under rural development schemes including Mahatma Gandhi NREGA are released by the Central Government directly to town Panchayats in the country including Tamil Nadu.

(c) No proposal is presently under consideration of the Government to include town panchayats for making them eligible to get allocations/funds from the Government for various rural schemes.

[*Translation*]

Low Wages to Agricultural Labourers

3812. SHRI MAHESH JOSHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government to assess the extent of poverty and starvation being faced by agricultural labourers due to low wages in the country;

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

(c) whether the agricultural production is being affected as a result thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) As per available information, no such survey has been conducted by the Government.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Benefits of Land Reforms to Tribals

3813. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pending cases relating to allotment of land to tribals in each State of the country as on date despite the prescribed provisions under the Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 meant for the purpose;

(b) the reasons for their pendency;

(c) whether the expert Committee constituted by the Government on land reforms in its report has also highlighted injustice to tribals and this problems as the root causes of rising trend of naxalism in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(e) the effective steps taken by the Government to ensure benefits of land reforms/retailed laws to tribals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI): (a) and (b) The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 seeks to recognise and vest the forest rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded. Regarding allotment of Land to tribals, land and its management falls within the exclusive legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the respective States as provided under Entry No. 18 of List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. The role of the Central Government in the field of land reforms is only of an advisory and co-ordinating nature. However, the State Governments/UT Administrations have been requested from time to time for effective implementation of land reform programmes/ schemes including distribution of ceiling surplus land to the eligible rural poor. As per information received from the States/UTs, on implementation of land ceiling laws, as on 30.9.2009, an area of 69.93 lakh acres has been declared surplus, of which 61.40 lakh acres has been taken possession of, and 50.03 lakh acres has been distributed to 56.43 lakh beneficiaries. Out of the total 50.03 lakh acres distributed, 18.60 lakh acres, 7.88 lakh acres and 23.55 lakh acres has been distributed to SCs, STs and other beneficiaries respectively. State-wise details including area and cases pending is given in the enclosed Statements-I to III.

(c) to (e) With a view to looking into the unfinished task in Land Reforms, a "Committee on State Agrarian Relations and the Unfinished Task in Land Reforms" under the Chairmanship of Minister of Rural Development was constituted vide Resolution dated 9.1.2008. The terms of reference of the committee, *inter-alia*, included in-depth review/examination of issues related to land ceiling programme, access of the poor to common property resources, distribution of Bhoodan land in the States, tenancy and sub-tenancies, alienation of tribal lands, land use aspects, homestead rights, modernization of land management, effective implementation of land reform programmes etc. The Committee has submitted its report.

Statement I

*Progress Report (Cumulative) on implementation of land ceiling laws
(distribution of ceiling surplus land)—As on 30.09.2009*

(Area in Acres)

| Sl.No. | States/UTs | Area declared surplus | Area taken possession | Area distributed to individual beneficiaries | Total No. of beneficiaries | SC/ST beneficiaries | | | |
|--------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------|--------|------------------|--------|
| | | | | | | SC beneficiaries | | ST beneficiaries | |
| | | | | | | No. | Area | No. | Area |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 844509 | 657691 | 597367 | 536846 | 227052 | 236546 | 86356 | 121913 |
| 2. | Assam | 613405 | 575337 | 545875 | 445862 | 43723 | 86069 | 42365 | 58986 |
| 3. | Bihar | 523504 | 431310 | 353358 | 461136 | 271437 | 202892 | 41973 | 34156 |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | 75081 | 72183 | 60681 | 27452 | 6057 | 10367 | 9608 | 29047 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 238283 | 179336 | 161670 | 36683 | 17104 | 101121 | 15233 | 34599 |
| 6. | Haryana | 105783 | 101932 | 101166 | 29351 | 12687 | 43672 | 0 | 0 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 316556 | 304895 | 6167 | 6259 | 3912 | 2727 | 329 | 245 |
| 8. | Jammu and Kashmir | 8836 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 9. | Jharkhand | 0 | 0 | 860 | 1316 | 487 | 310 | 328 | 277 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 249500 | 151545 | 125180 | 31652 | 18392 | 69884 | 2252 | 8196 |
| 11. | Kerala | 131352 | 95688 | 69351 | 158042 | 59048 | 24725 | 7528 | 6089 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 223264 | 190449 | 134202 | 47061 | 16046 | 38911 | 18385 | 51315 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 725607 | 670807 | 634149 | 139753 | 41039 | 158810 | 29998 | 100436 |
| 14. | Manipur | 1830 | 1685 | 1682 | 1258 | 82 | 128 | 70 | 97 |
| 15. | Orissa | 190405 | 172643 | 159656 | 143100 | 48990 | 51275 | 53077 | 66310 |
| 16. | Punjab | 143922 | 104261 | 98642 | 28317 | 11395 | 41474 | 216 | 743 |
| 17. | Rajasthan | 614172 | 573217 | 457082 | 83693 | 30347 | 145567 | 12070 | 50509 |
| 18. | Tamil Nadu | 208383 | 200339 | 190003 | 150413 | 66401 | 71262 | 236 | 320 |
| 19. | Tripura | 1995 | 1994 | 1599 | 1424 | 256 | 218 | 359 | 448 |
| 20. | Uttar Pradesh | 368216 | 339343 | 262858 | 303842 | 207321 | 184567 | 487 | 974 |
| 21. | West Bengal | 1404556 | 1313874 | 1039857 | 3007630 | 1112418 | 388857 | 539925 | 222991 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|------------------------|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| 22. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 23. | Delhi | 1132 | 394 | 394 | 654 | 495 | 277 | 0 | 0 |
| 24. | Puducherry | 2326 | 1286 | 1070 | 1464 | 858 | 640 | 0 | 0 |
| Total of Land in Acres | | 6992617 | 6140209 | 5002869 | 5643208 | 2195547 | 1860299 | 860795 | 787651 |

Statement II

(Area in Acres)

| Sl.No. | States/UTs | Other beneficiaries | | Area Declared Surplus | Total No. of cases and area involved in litigation | | Revenue | | High Courts | | Supreme Court | |
|--------|-------------------|---------------------|--------|-----------------------|--|--------------|---------|------|-------------|------|---------------|-----|
| | | No. | Area | | Area | No. of cases | Area | No. | Area | No. | Area | No. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 223438 | 238908 | 241742 | 127724 | 2113 | 85132 | 1072 | 33014 | 834 | 9578 | 207 |
| 2. | Assam | 359774 | 400820 | 67530 | 38461 | 112 | 34459 | 109 | 4002 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| 3. | Bihar | 147726 | 116310 | 170146 | 113981 | 1617 | 78651 | 1007 | 34248 | 546 | 1082 | 64 |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | 11787 | 21267 | 14400 | 20921 | 210 | 15310 | 153 | 4919 | 56 | 692 | 1 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 4346 | 25950 | 76613 | 39646 | 595 | 7760 | 256 | 24489 | 303 | 7397 | 36 |
| 6. | Haryana | 16664 | 57494 | 4617 | 4543 | 201 | 1376 | 71 | 3048 | 124 | 119 | 6 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 2018 | 3195 | 310389 | 8072 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 8. | Jammu and Kashmir | 0 | 0 | 8836 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 9. | Jharkhand | 501 | 273 | 0 | 8411 | 123 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 11008 | 47100 | 124320 | 63034 | 2314 | 18583 | 828 | 45451 | 1486 | 0 | 0 |
| 11. | Kerala | 91466 | 38537 | 62001 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 12630 | 43976 | 89062 | 55156 | 874 | 41323 | 642 | 11774 | 216 | 2059 | 16 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 68716 | 374903 | 91458 | 29003 | 482 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 14. | Manipur | 1106 | 1457 | 148 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 15. | Orissa | 41033 | 42071 | 30749 | 15158 | 295 | 6499 | 165 | 8536 | 127 | 123 | 3 |
| 16. | Punjab | 16706 | 56425 | 45280 | 27884 | 687 | 14672 | 442 | 8307 | 227 | 4905 | 18 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
|-------|---------------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|-------|-----|
| 17. | Rajasthan | 41276 | 261006 | 157090 | 72190 | 905 | 48569 | 683 | 22177 | 215 | 1444 | 7 |
| 18. | Tamil Nadu | 83776 | 118421 | 18380 | 8044 | 152 | 1657 | 49 | 5748 | 97 | 639 | 6 |
| 19. | Tripura | 809 | 933 | 396 | 59 | 8 | 29 | 5 | 30 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| 20. | Uttar Pradesh | 96034 | 77317 | 105358 | 43431 | 2272 | 4570 | 239 | 37732 | 1904 | 1129 | 129 |
| 21. | West Bengal | 1355287 | 428009 | 364699 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 22. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 23. | Delhi | 159 | 117 | 738 | 183 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 24. | Puducherry | 606 | 430 | 1256 | 929 | 41 | 144 | 11 | 776 | 28 | 9 | 2 |
| Total | | 2586866 | 2354919 | 1990608 | 677850 | 13020 | 358734 | 5732 | 244271 | 6170 | 29176 | 495 |

*The total figure does not tally with the total of relevant columns as some States/UTs have not given the details of area involved in litigation and number of cases in Revenue Courts.

**The figure does not tally with the difference of column 3 and 5 as Govt. of Jharkhand has indicated only area distributed and has not indicated area declared surplus.

Statement III

| Sl.No. | States/UTs | Area not available for distribution | | | Total area not available for distribution | Net area available for distribution |
|--------|-------------------|---|--------------------------|------------------|---|---|
| | | Reserved/ Transferred for public purpose | Unfit for cultivation | Misc. reasons | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 18554 | 18986 | 13322 | 178586 | 68556 |
| 2. | Assam | 17250 | 17250 | 4006 | 76967 | 0 |
| 3. | Bihar | 1246 | 2 | 32166 | 147395 | 22751 |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | 4029 | 3678 | 252 | 28880 | 0 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 0 | 2057 | 5449 | 47152 | 29461 |
| 6. | Haryana | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4543 | 74 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8072 | 0 |
| 8. | Jammu and Kashmir | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 9. | Jharkhand | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8411 | 0 |
| 10. | Karnataka | 11360 | 1191 | 40247 | 116832 | 7488 |
| 11. | Kerala | 12601 | 0 | 0 | 12601 | 49400 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---------------------|------------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|--------|
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 8876 | 20759 | 3343 | 88134 | 928 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 0 | 0 | 0 | 29003 | 62455 |
| 14. | Manipur | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 148 |
| 15. | Orissa | 4959 | 2390 | 1105 | 23612 | 7137 |
| 16. | Punjab | 0 | 4451 | 11248 | 43583 | 1697 |
| 17. | Rajasthan | 63900 | 4829 | 4294 | 145213 | 11877 |
| 18. | Tamil Nadu | 10185 | 0 | 0 | 18229 | 151 |
| 19. | Tripura | 242 | 57 | 47 | 405 | 0 |
| 20. | Uttar Pradesh | 21439 | 37186 | 3302 | 105358 | 0 |
| 21. | West Bengal | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 364699 |
| 22. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 0 |
| 23. | Delhi | 0 | 0 | 0 | 183 | 555 |
| 24. | Puducherry | 94 | 0 | 159 | 1182 | 74 |
| Total Area in Acres | | 174735 | 112836 | 118940 | 1084361 | 627451 |

*The figure does not tally with the difference of columns 16 and 28 as data in respect of the States of Assam, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Tripura & D & N Haveli is not complete.

[English]

[Translation]

Appointment of Disabled Persons in Higher Posts

3814. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA:
SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal/suggestions have been received to the effect that only disabled persons are appointed as Chairperson or on the positions of importance in Commission for the disabled and various Government institutions for the welfare of the disabled; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) and (b) No Such proposal is under consideration.

Prohibition of Liquor on Ambedkar's Birth Anniversary

3815. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken/ proposes to take any steps to prohibit sale of liquor on the birth anniversary of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (c) "Purchase and sale of intoxicating liquors" is a State subject, as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

Evaluation of Pension of Co-operative Bank Employees

3816. SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Labour Commissioner for evaluation of pension of co-operative bank employees who were working at district level and retired since 2005;

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

(c) whether the Committee has submitted or likely to be submitted its report to the Government; and

(d) if so, the details of recommendations alongwith the time by which these recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) No Committee has been constituted by the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) for evaluation of pension of co-operative bank employees who were working at district level and retired since 2005.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Retail Business in the Country

3817. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foreign and domestic capital investment in retail business in the country; and

(b) the details of foreign/corporate companies which have been given permission to do retail business in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) As per the extant policy, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is not permitted in retail trade except in Single Brand retail where FDI up to 51%, with prior Government approval is allowed. So far, Government has approved 55 proposals for Single Brand Retail with FDI up to 51%. Statement showing the details of the approvals is enclosed.

Statement

Approved Single Brand retail trade proposals (15.04.2010)

Proposals approved in 2006

| Sl.No. | Name of the applicant | Name of the foreign investor | Activities | Foreign Equity participation | Status |
|--------|----------------------------|--|--|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | M/s Moja Shoes | M/s Tano India Private Equity Fund l/and or subsidiaries | Retail trading of all types of footwear, sportswear, boots, slippers, sandals, athletic shoes and apparels of "Nike Brand" through exclusive retail outlets owned by the company | Rs. 285.30 lakh (20%) | Approval letter issued on 31.5.2006 |
| 2. | M/s LV Trading India | M/s Louis Vuitton Malletier | Retail trading of LVM products including Diary refills paper, 2. Pens and pens refills, 3. Shoes, 4. Trunks travel bags/purses, 5. Other articles of leather, 6. Sunglasses, 7. Watches, 8. Other articles of plastic, 9. Jewellery imitation, 10. Ties, 11. Textile (scarfs and shawls), 12. Umbrellas, 13. Ready to wear | Rs. 570.00 lakh (51%) | Approval letter issued on 29.8.2006 |
| 3. | M/s Lladro Commercial S.A. | M/s Laldro Commercial S.A. | To set up a joint venture by M/s Laldo and SPA Agencies for establishing a network boutiques for marketing the products of LLADRO | Rs. 585.00 lakh (26%) | Approval letter issued on 19.10.2006 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-----|---------------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 4. | M/s Fun Fashion India Pvt. Ltd. | M/s Fendi International, SA | Retail trading of Fendi products including shoes, wearing apparel, Trunks/travel bags/purses, sunglasses, watches, jewellery imitation, textiles | Rs. 10.30 lakh (51%) | Approval letter issued on 7.11.2006 |
| 5. | M/s Damro Furniture Pvt. Ltd. | M/s Damro Export Pvt. Ltd. Sri Lanka | Retail trading of knock Down furniture under the single brand name of DAMRO | Rs. 17.17 lakh (51%) | Approval letter issued on 19.10.2006 |
| 6. | M/s RINO Greggio Argenterie, S.P.A. | M/s RINO Greggio Argenterie, S.P.A. | Retail trading of silver items | 51% | Approval letter issued on 19.10.2006 |
| 7. | M/s Mitsui Automotive Investment B.V. | M/s Mitsui Automotive Investment B.V. | Retail trading of Toyota Make cars | Rs. 102.00 lakh (51%) | Approval letter issued 6.11.2006 |
| 8. | M/s RMENEGILDO ZEGNA DITALTA SPA | M/s ERMENEGILEDO ZEGNA HOLDITALTA SPA | Setting up of ZEGNA retail stores for marketing (Ready to wear (b) Wootwear (c) Leather goods (d) Fragrance (e) Christmas gifts etc. | Rs. 153.00 lakh (51%) | Approval letter issued on 28.12.2006 |
| 9. | M/s Etamint, Belgium | M/s Etamint, Belgium | Retrail trading of ETAM products. In women's fashions (ready-to-wear, lingerie and accessories) | Rs. 100.00 lakh (50.01%) | Approval letter issued on 9.1.2007 |
| 10. | M/s Lee Cooper International Ltd. | M/s Lee Cooper International Ltd. | Retail trading of Lee Cooper products in fashion category (men's ready-to-wear) | Rs. 90.00 lakh (50%) | Approval letter issued on 5.3.2007 |
| 11. | M/s Fabindia Overseas Pvt. Ltd. | M/s Fabindia Inc., USA M/s WCP Mauritius Holdings | Retrail trading of Fabindia products including handicrafts, garments, accessories, home furnishings etc. | 51% | Approval letter issued on 5.3.2007 |

Proposals approved in 2007

| | | | | | |
|----|--|---|--|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | M/s Socomc SA | M/s Socomec SA, France | Retail trading of single SOCOMEC Brand UPS systems and related accessories | 50% | Approval letter issued on 26.3.2007 |
| 2. | M/s Grotto SPA | M/s Grotto SPA Italy | Retail trading under single brand of GAS brand in fashion categories | 50% | Approval letter issued on 3.5.2007 |
| 3. | M/s Mahtani Fashions Pvt Ltd. | M/s Sin Rong Pvt. Ltd. | Retail trading under the brand name VI-GA in footwear | 51% | Approval letter issued on 13.4.2007 |
| 4. | M/s Wah Luen Electronic Tools Co. Ltd. | M/s Wah Luen Electronic Tools Co. Ltd. China | Retail trading of Electronic Goods and Tools sold under the single brand name of "CT Brand" | 51% | Approval letter issued on 24.7.2007 |
| 5. | M/s Signature Kitchens India Pvt. Ltd. | M/s Signature Kitchen, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | Retail trading of modular kitchens & kitchen cabinets, accessories, cooking range equipments, ovens, chimneys, wardrobes, solar powered and other non-conventional energy based cooking equipment of "Signature Kitchen" | 51% (Rs. 38.40) | Approval letter issued on 1.2.2008 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-----|---|---|---|--------|---|
| 6. | M/s Christian Dior Trading India Pvt. Ltd. | M/s Christian Dior Couture, Paris, France | Retrail trade of luxury ready-to-wear fashion, menswear, women wear, accessories and luxury goods of the brand "Christian Dior" | 51% | Approval letter issued on 4.6.2007 |
| 7. | M/s Forever New Apparels Pvt. Ltd. | M/s Forever New Clothing Pvt. Ltd., Australia | Retail trading of Fashion clothing, handbags, belts, jewellery and other accessories under single brand name "Forever New" | 51% | Approval letter issued on 6.11.2007 |
| 8. | M/s Khanna Speciality Retail Distributors Pvt. Ltd. | Hermes International France | Retail and wholesale trading of Leather Goods, men's and women's ready to wear, perfumes and cosmetics, stationery and diaries, footwear and related accessories, enamel products, art of living products, tableware, saddlery and riding gear, jewellery and accessories, luggage and bags, silk and textile items and accessories, pets items, babies ready to wear and accessories under single brand "Hermes" | 51% | Approval letter issued on 18.6.2007 |
| 9. | M/s Trio Sports Wear Pvt. Ltd. | M/s Trio Selection Inc., Canada | Retail trading in all types of sports goods, apparels, lifestyle products, garments, accessories and other merchandising items under the trade name "Groggy" | 33.33% | Approval letter issued on 6.11.2007 |
| 10. | M/s Tod's Retail India Pvt. Ltd. | M/s Tod's Hong-Kong Ltd. M/s Tod's Internatinal B.V. | Retail trading in men's and women ready-to-wear, shoes, leather jackets and accessories under brand name of "TOD" | 51% | Approval letter issued on 7.9.2007 |
| 11. | M/s Diesel Fashion India Arvind Pvt. Ltd. | Diesel International BV | Retail trading of men's and women ready to wear and accessories under brand name of Diesel | 51% | Approval letter issued on 7.9.2007 |
| 12. | M/s Dolce Gabbana | M/s Dolce Gabbana | Retail trading of two brand Doice gabbana and D&G Doice & Gabbana | 51% | Approval letter issued on 7.12.2007 FDI Rs. 3650.00 lakh |
| 13. | M/s LA Sovereign Bicycles Pvt. Ltd. | M/s LA Bicycles (Thailand) M/s Indus Trading Co., Thailand | Retail trading of Bicycles, toys, e-bikes and their parts and accessories under the brand name of LA Sovereign | 51% | Approval letter issued on 6.11.2007 |
| 14. | M/s Crystal Ball Fashions Pvt. Ltd. | M/s Rene Derhy, France | Retail trading of apparels and accessories under the brand name of "Derhy" | 50% | Approval letter issued on 1.2.2008 |
| 15. | M/s Crocs Inc. | M/s Crocs Ind. USA | Trading of footwear, apparel and charms under single brand "Crococs" | 51% | Approval letter issued |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-----|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|-----|-------------------------------------|
| 16. | M/s Richmond Services B.V. | M/s Richmond Services B.V. | Trading of jewellery, watches, writing instruments, lighters, leather, bags, eyewear, perfumes, gift articles, crockery etc. under the single brand Cartier | 51% | Approval letter issued on 10.4.2008 |

Proposals approved in 2008

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|--|---|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | M/s Giordao Fashions (India) Pvt. Ltd. | Giordano Mauritius Ltd. | Retrail trading of merchandise under the single brand name Giordano | 51% (Rs. 509.00 lakh) | Approval letter issued on 10.7.2008 |
| 2. | M/s Power Plate India (Pvt.) Ltd. | Power Plate India Holdings Ltd. | Retrail trading of fitness equipment under the single brand Power Plate | 50% | Approval letter issued on 10.4.2008 |
| 3. | M/s Georgio Armani Holding BV | M/s Georgio Armani Holding BV | Retrail trading of Armani Products in India including clothing, footwear, leather products, watches, perfumes, eyewear, jewellery, phones, sports gears and other accessories | 51% | Approval letter issued on 10.4.2008 |
| 4. | M/s Pearle Europe | M/s Pearle Europe, Netherlands | Retail trading of optical products under the brand name Vision Express | 50% | Approval letter issued on 10.7.2008 |
| 5. | M/s Wear International Retail Pvt. Ltd. | M/s LERROS Moden GmbH | Retail trading of yarns, fabrics, garments and other made-up articles under the brand name LERROS | 50.73% | Approval letter issued on 16.1.2009 |
| 6. | M/s Hallmark Group Ltd. | M/s Hallmark Group Ltd. | Retail trading of famous national stamps and recreated as engraved solid and replicas plated with gold | 51% US D 50,000 | Approval letter issued on 29.7.2008 |
| 7. | M/s Marks & Spencer PLC | M/s Marks & Spencer PLC | Retail trading of single brand under brand name Marks & Spencer-clothing, lingerie, electrical equipment and appliances etc. | 51% (Rs. 0.51 lakh) | Approval letter issued on 10.7.2008 |
| 8. | M/s Piquadro S.P.A. | M/s Piquadro S.P.A., Italy | Retail trading of briefcases, handbags, computer cases/trolleys, diaries, shoes, sportswear etc. under single brand "Piquadro" | 51% (Rs. 153.00 lakh) | Approval letter issued on 7.8.2008 |
| 9. | M/s Ferragamo International B.V. | M/s Ferragamo International B.V. Netherlands | Retail trading of clothing, bags, shoes, accessories under the brand name Salvatro Ferragamo | 51% (Rs. 3000.00 lakh) | Approval letter issued on 7.8.2008 |
| 10. | M/s Aran Kitchenworld (I) Pvt. Ltd. | M/s Aran World S.R.L. Italy | 49% FDI for Retail trading in modular kitchen & accessories under the brand name "ARAN" | 49% | Approval letter issued on 9.9.2008 |
| 11. | M/s CELIO International | M/s CELIO International | Retail trading of single brand products under the brand name Cello. The products to be sold include sweaters, fineknits, trousers, shirts, leather garments, scarf, belt etc. | 50.01% | Approval letter issued on 16.9.2008 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-----|--|--|--|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 12. | M/s S. Oliver Bernd Gmbh & Co. | M/s S. Oliver Bernd Gmbh & Co. | Retail trading of readymade garments and accessories | 50% | Approval letter issued on 12.11.2008 |
| 13. | M/s Reliance Paul and Shark Fashions Pvt. Ltd. | M/s Dama S.P.A., S.P.A., Italy | Retail trading of knitwear, sweaters, shoes, shirts, pants etc. under the brand name of "Paul and Shark" brand | 50% | Approval letter issued on 15.1.2009 |
| 14. | M/s Doral Capital S.A. | M/s Doral Capital S.A. Luxembourg | Retail trading of men's and women's wear/apparel accessories etc. under the brand name "BOGGI" | 51% | Approval letter issued on 15.1.2009 |
| 15. | M/s Toy Watch India Pvt. Ltd. | Ms/ Cool Toy Watch S.r.l. Italy | Retail trading of watches under single brand "Toy Watch" | 51% | Approval letter issued on 15.1.2009 |
| 16. | M/s Louis Vuitton Malletier | M/s Louis Vuitton Malletier | Setting up of a holding company for consolidation existing investments including investments in retail | 100% | Approval letter issued on 12.11.2008 |
| 17. | M/s Austria Puma Dassler Gesellschaft m.b.H. Austria | M/s Austria Puma Dassler Gesellschaft m.b.H. Austria | Retail trading of single brand products Puma | 51% | Approval letter issued on 15.1.2009 |
| 18. | M/s Indo Prime Visual Technologies Pvt. Ltd. | M/s Indo International S.A., Spain | Single Brand retailing of "Indo" brand ophthalmic machinery items | 50% (Rs. 54.00 lakh) | Approval letter issued on 1.4.2009 |
| 19. | M/s Case Decor (P) Ltd. | M/s Poltrona Frau S.P.A., Italy | Single Brand retailing of furniture products under the brand "PORTRONA FRAU" | 50% | Approval letter issued on 18.3.2009 |

Proposals received in 2009

| Sl.No. | Name of the applicant | Name of the foreign investor | Activities | FEP | Status |
|--------|---|--------------------------------|--|-----|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | M/s Nokia Corporation, Finland | M/s Nokia Corporation, Finland | Retailing of mobile phones and accessories under the single brand name Nokia | 51% | Approval letter issued on 5.5.2009 |
| 2. | M/s Damas LLC | M/s Damas LLC Dubai | Retailing of Damas Jewellery and watches | 51% | Approval letter issued on 15.6.2009 |
| 3. | M/s Oviessse S.P.A. Italy | M/s Oviessse S.P.A. Italy | Retail trade Oviessse branded products including men's, women's and Children's apparel, underwear. Shoes and accessories | 51% | Approval letter issued on 29.7.2009 |
| 4. | M/s Industria de Diseno Textil, Sociedad Anonima (Inditex S.A.) | M/s Inditex S.A., Spain | Retail trade of clothing, apparel, footwear accessories, fragrance and cosmetics products under the "ZARA" trademark | 51% | Approval letter issued on 21.8.2009 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|----|---|---|--|-----|--------------------------------------|
| 5. | M/s L'Occitane Singapore Pvt. Ltd. | M/s L'Occitane Singapore Pvt. Ltd. | Retail trade of soaps, perfumery and cosmetic products under the brand name L'Occitane | 51% | Approval letter issued on 29.9.2009 |
| 6. | M/s FIAAM S.P.A., Italy | M/s FIAAM S.P.A., Italy | Single brand retail trading of the lead acid batteries under the brand name 'FIAMM' | 40% | Approval letter issued on 20.11.2009 |
| 7. | M/s Luxury Goods Retail Pvt. Ltd. | M/s GUCCI Group NV | Single brand retail trading of ready-to-wear children garments, handbags, small leather goods, luggage, shoes, watches, jewellery, gift items, fragrances, eyewear and other luxury goods under the brand name GUCCI | 51% | Approval letter issued on 11.12.2009 |
| 8. | M/s Burberry International Holdings Ltd. U.K. | M/s Burberry International Holdings Ltd. U.K. | Single brand retail trading of (a) rainwear and waterproof outerwear (b) leisurewear, coats, jackets (c) suits for men and children (d) ladies wear etc. | 51% | Approval letter issued on 7.12.2009 |
| 9. | M/s Mothercare U.K. Ltd. | M/s Mothercare U.K. Ltd. | Single brand retail trading of mothercare products including maternity clothing, nursery and feeding products, toiletries, pushchairs, toys, home and car safety products etc. | 30% | Approval letter issued on 3.3.2010 |

| Sl.No. | Year | No. of Approvals |
|--------|------|------------------|
| 1. | 2006 | 11 |
| 2. | 2007 | 16 |
| 3. | 2008 | 19 |
| 4. | 2009 | 9 |
| Total | | 55 |

[English]

Reimbursement of Telephone Bills

3818. SHRI P. KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated a plan for its employees seeking reimbursement of Telephone Bills to avail the Telephone Services of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)/Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which it will help the Government owned telecom companies whose revenues have steadily declined?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) The Government officers under Government of India except those posted in Department of Telecommunications (DoT) are at liberty to avail telecom service from any telecom operator and claim reimbursement within the maximum ceiling fixed by Government of India. The telephone facilities to the employees posted in DoT are provided as service connection free of charge by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) in their respective service area.

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

Sops to Labour-Intensive Sectors

3819. SHRI P.C. GADDIGOUDAR:
SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:

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

(a) whether it is proposed to offer sops to labour-intensive sectors such as handloom, handicraft and leather etc.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the action plan of the Government to effect further improvement in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The Government of India has announced incentives for various labour intensive sectors including handloom, handicrafts and leather from time to time under the Foreign Trade Policy, to improve export performance of these sectors, and also to arrest and reverse the decline in exports in the wake of the recent global economic slowdown. The details of the incentives announced for these sectors are given in the enclosed Statement.

Further, the Government and RBI closely monitor the economic development in the country, and internationally, on a continuous basis, and need based measures are taken from time to time, keeping in view the financial and overall economic implications.

Statement

A number of incentives have been announced for labour intensive sectors like handlooms, handicrafts, leather, Textiles, handmade carpets, Marine, Gems and Jewellery and Engineering, so that they are able to withstand the demand recession and improve their export performance.

Incentive to handloom Sector in the Foreign Trade Policy 2009-14

1. Under Focus Product Scheme:

- Handloom products covered under 31 ITC HS codes have been incentivised. Their exports to all countries are entitled to Duty Credit Scrip incentive @2% of FOB value of exports.
- To facilitate export of handlooms, requirement of 'Handloom Mark' for availing Focus Product Scheme benefit has been dispensed with.

2. Under Focus Market Scheme:

- Exports of all handloom products to notified 110 countries under Focus Market Scheme in the

Foreign Trade Policy 2009-14 are entitled to Duty Credit Scrip incentive @3% of FOB value of exports.

3. Status holders belonging to handlooms sector shall also be eligible for additional Duty Credit Scrip @1% of the FOB value of past exports, as this additional incentive has been provided to textiles sector. The duty credit scrips can be used for procurement of capital goods with Actual User condition. This facility shall be available upto 31.3.2010.

4. Benefit of 2% Interest Subvention allowed.

Incentive to Handicrafts Sector in the Foreign Trade Policy 2009-14

1. Under Focus Product Scheme:

- All handicraft products have been categorized as Special Focus Products, and their exports to all countries are entitled to higher Duty Credit Scrip incentive @5% of FOB value of exports, as against the normal rate of 2% for Focus Products.

2. Status holders belonging to Handicraft Sector shall also be eligible for additional Duty Credit Scrip @1% of the FOB value of past exports. The duty credit scrips can be used for procurement of capital goods with Actual User condition. This facility shall be available upto 31.3.2011.

3. Handicraft sector has been included under Zero Duty EPCG Scheme, which allows import of Capital Goods for pre-production/production and post production at zero customs duty, subject to stipulated export obligation.

4. Benefit of 2% Interest Subvention allowed.

Incentive to Leather Sector in the Foreign Trade Policy 2009-14

1. Under Focus Product Scheme:

- Duty Credit Scrip incentive to the leather products and leather footwear sector @ 2% of FOB value of exports.

2. Leather sector included under Status Holder Incentive Scrip Scheme for grant of 1% additional scrip.

3. Re-export of unsold hides/skins, imported under bonded warehouse, allowed on payment of 50% of stipulated export duty.
4. Under Focus Market Scheme:
 - Exports of all Leather products and Leather Footwear to notified 110 countries under Focus Market Scheme in the Foreign Trade Policy 2009-14 are entitled to Duty Credit Scrip incentive @ 3% of FOB value of exports.
5. Benefit of 2% Interest Subvention allowed to SMEs.

Incentive to Handmade Carpets in the Foreign Trade Policy 2009-14

1. Technical textiles, Flax fabrics, Silk, silk yarn and Silk fabrics, coir products, jute products incentivised under FPS @ 2%.
2. Textile products under Chapter 60 (fabrics), Chapter 63 (made ups), all Readymade Garments, Cotton Woven fabrics, and Synthetic Textile fabrics have been included under Market Linked Focus Product Scheme for grant of Duty Credit Scrip Incentive at the rate of 2% of FOB value of exports to 15 countries.
3. Readymade garments also incentivised for exports to EU and USA for six months from 1.4.2010 to 30.9.2010 under Market Linked Focus Product Scheme for grant of Duty Credit Scrip Incentive at the rate of 2% of FOB value of exports.
4. Textile sector (excluding units availing benefits under (TUFS) included under Zero Duty EPCG Scheme.
5. Textile sector (excluding units availing benefits under TUFS) also included under Status Holder Incentive Scrip Scheme for grant of 1% additional scrip.
6. Exports of all textile products to notified 110 countries under Focus Market Scheme in the Foreign Trade Policy 2009-14 are entitled to Duty Credit Scrip incentive @ 3% of FOB value of exports.
7. Benefit of 2% Interest Subvention allowed to SMEs.

Incentive to Marine Sector in the Foreign Trade Policy 2009-14

1. Fisheries have been included in the sectors which are exempted from maintenance of average EO under EPCG Scheme (subject to the condition that Fishing Trawlers, boats, ships and other similar items shall not be allowed to be imported under this provision). This would facilitate the marine sector which has been affected by the downturn in exports.
2. Additional flexibility under Target Plus Scheme (TPS)/Duty Free Certificate of Entitlement (DFCE) Scheme for Status Holders has been granted to Marine sector, allowing enhanced flexibility for imports.
3. Benefit of 2% Interest Subvention allowed to SMEs.

Incentive to Gems and Jewellery Sector in the Foreign Trade Policy 2009-14

1. To neutralize duty incidence on gold Jewellery exports, Duty Drawback has been allowed on such exports.
2. A new facility to allow import on consignment basis of cut & polished diamonds for the purpose of grading/certification purposes has been introduced.
3. It is planned to make India an International diamond trading hub, and establish more Diamond Bourses in the coming years.
4. To address the problems relating to dollar credit needs of the exporters (particularly in diamond sector), a committee has been constituted with Finance Secretary, Commerce Secretary and Chairman, IBA. The Committee would meet periodically to resolve these problems.
5. Benefit of 2% Interest Subvention allowed to SMEs.

Incentive to Engineering Sector in the Foreign Trade Policy 2009-14

1. A number of engineering products including bicycle parts, agricultural sectors, flanges of iron and steel, castings etc., have been included in

Focus Product Scheme, eligible for Duty Credit Scrip incentive at the rate of 2% of FOB value of exports.

2. A number of engineering products like bicycles, parts of agriculture and horticulture machinery, sewing machines and parts, all types of hand-tools, staplers and stapling machines, parts of soldering the brazing machines, nuts bolts etc. have been categorized as Special Products under Focus Product Scheme, eligible for duty Credit Scrip incentive at the rate of 5% of FOB value of exports.
3. Engineering products like motorcycles, passenger cars, public transport vehicles, auto components, light engineering products such as stoves, cookers, table and kitchenware of aluminum, padlocks, hinges etc., machine tools, earth moving equipments, towers for transmission lines, electrical and power equipments, steel tubes and pipes, galvanized colour coated sheets, compressors, structures and parts of structures of iron and steel, scaffolding, aluminium conductors, copper cathodes, wheels for earth moving equipments, empty LPG cylinders etc. have been included for Market Linked Focus Product scheme for grant of incentive on export to 15 countries @ 2% of FOB.
4. Project Exports made eligible for incentive under Focus Product scheme.
5. Specified sub sectors in engineering included under Zero Duty EPCG Scheme.
6. Specified sub sectors in engineering (excluding Iron & steel & non-ferrous metals in primary and intermediate form, automobiles & two wheelers, nuclear reactors & parts, and ships, boats and floating structures) also included under Status Holder Incentive Scrip Scheme of 1% additional scrip.
7. Exports of all engineering products to notified 110 countries under Focus Market Scheme in the Foreign Trade Policy 2009-14 are entitled to Duty Credit Scrip incentive @ 3% of FOB value of exports.
8. Benefit of 2% Interest Subvention allowed to SMEs.

[Translation]

Compensation to Families of Martyrs

3820. SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN:
SHRI RAVNEET SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received representations from Officers and Personnel Below Officer Ranks who had served in Armed Forces during 1962, 1965 and 1971 wars;

(b) if so, the details thereof including their demands;

(c) whether several facilities *i.e.* Exservicemen Contributory Health Scheme, special pension, CSD Canteen facilities have been denied to them;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government proposes to take certain policy decisions to ameliorate the sufferings of the said war veterans; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) and (b) Representations have been received from officers and personnel Below Officer Ranks who had served in the Armed Forces during 1962, 1965 and 1971 wars and their demand relates to grant of pension and ECHS facilities.

(c) and (d) All eligible Ex-servicemen Officers and Personnel Below Officer Ranks (PBORs) who have served in the above mentioned wars, are granted special pension, canteen and Ex-servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) facilities as per their entitlement and eligibility.

(e) and (f) Welfare of ex-servicemen is a continuous process and all eligible ex-servicemen are in receipt of entitled facilities. All efforts are made on an on-going basis by the Department of Ex-servicemen Welfare to address the concerns of ex-servicemen.

Increase in Capacity of Mobile Tower

3821. SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to increase the installed capacity of mobile towers within 100 Km. range of the Rajasthan border in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the mobile towers installed by private telecom companies are more than that of the Public Sector Telecom Company in the said areas of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to improve the telecom services being provided by Public Sector Telecom Company in the said area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Madam, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has about 321 number of working mobile base base stations within 100 km of International border in Rajasthan. BSNL has planned addition of about 169 mobile base stations in this area.

(c) and (d) As on 31.03.2010, BSNL is having 4538 mobile towers in the Rajasthan Telecom Circle as compared to around 22000 mobile towers of private telecome companies

(e) The steps taken by the Government to improve the telecom services being provided by BSNL in the said area are given below:

- (i) BSNL plans to expand the Mobile service coverage to all the villages having population more than 1000 progressively in next three years.
- (ii) RF optimization is being done.
- (iii) Network performance parameters are being monitored on regular basis and corrective action is being taken.

[English]

CII Report on Defence Sector

3822. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL
KHATGAONKAR
SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Confederation of Indian Industry, in association with a global consultancy firm, has prepared a comprehensive report on defence sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the main recommendations;

(c) whether the Government has examined the report;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) to (e) The report is under examination in the Ministry.

Post Offices in Rented Buildings

3823: SHRI PURNMASI RAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices in the country including Mumbai;

(b) whether some landlords have requested postal authorities to vacate their premises;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to vacate rented accommodation and to build their own accommodation including Rane Day Road post office in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) The total Nos. of Post Offices in the country including Mumbai are 1,55,015 as on 31.03.2009.

(b) Yes, Madam. Some landlords have requested postal authorities to vacate their premises.

(c) The information is being collected.

(d) Departmental buildings are constructed to house larger Post Offices functioning in rented buildings. An outlay of Rs. 107.81 crores under the Plan Scheme

“Estates Management for construction of buildings for Post Offices, Administrative Offices, Staff quarters and Purchase of Land during the Eleventh Plan has been approved.

On receipt of a request from the owner in the year 2005 to vacate Rane Day Post Office building, efforts were made by the Department to search alternative accommodation by floating of one tender each in the years 2006, 2007 and 2008 but there was no response. There is no proposal to build departmental accommodation for Rane Day Post Office.

Construction of Trans-shipment Port

3824. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to construct a trans-shipment port with bunkering facilities at Great Nicobar in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Techno-economic feasibility study has been conducted in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Madam. The Feasibility report for Trans-shipment Port at Great Nicobar Island is under preparation. A decision regarding construction of the port can be taken only after feasibility report is available.

[Translation]

Provision of Travel Related Services

3825. DR. BHOLA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Posts has entered into an agreement with a private company regarding travel related services in the country;

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

(c) the benefits likely to be incurred by the Department of Posts as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b)

Yes, Madam, Seven Postal Circles have entered into agreements with two private companies regarding travel related services and the details are given below:

| Sl.No. | State | Name of Postal Circle | Name of Company |
|--------|------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Assam | Assam | M/s ARM-I Solution Pvt. Ltd. |
| 2. | Delhi | Delhi | M/s Thomas Cook India Ltd. |
| 3. | Gujarat | Gujarat | M/s ARM-I Solutions Pvt. Ltd. |
| 4. | Haryana | Haryana | M/s ARM-I Solutions Pvt. Ltd. |
| 5. | Karnataka | Karnataka | M/s ARM-I Solutions Pvt. Ltd. |
| 6. | Kerala | Kerala | M/s ARM-I Solutions Pvt. Ltd. |
| 7. | Tamil Nadu | Tamil Nadu | M/s ARM-I Solutions Pvt. Ltd. |

The agreement with M/s ARM-I Solutions Pvt. Ltd. is for sale of Air, Rail, & Bus tickets and the agreement with M/s Thomas Cook India Ltd. is for sale of Air & Rail tickets, Visa services, Travel Insurance Services and Foreign Exchange.

(c) Department of Posts is being developed as a one-stop shop to provide a range of utility services to the public including travel related services. Apart from providing convenience to the public, this will also bring additional revenue to the Department.

[English]

Workers Engaged in Ship Breaking Industry

3826. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken the cognisance of the allegations leveled by a special reporter of the United Nations regarding the unhealthy living condition of the workers engaged in ship breaking industry in the country; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps taken to address such problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]***Vacant Posts of Gramin Dak Sevaks**

3827. SHRI BHOOPENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of vacant posts of Gramin Dak Sevaks, Branch Postmasters, Postman and Mail carriers in Post Offices of the country, State-wise;

(b) the time by which the said vacancies are likely to be filled up;

(c) whether the work is getting affected due to posts of Gramin Dak Sevaks lying vacant;

(d) if so, whether the Government is contemplating to reduce the required period in postman cadre for appearing in examination for Postal Assistant from three years to one year thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) As on 01.03.2010, 32793 posts of Gramin Dak Sevaks (Branch Postmasters, Postman and Mail Carriers) are lying vacant in the country. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The Department has issued guidelines for filling up of the vacant posts of Gramin Dak Sevaks subject to fulfillment of functional justification & financial viability. The Heads of Circles have been given powers for according approval to fill up vacant posts, if they are required for operational reasons, even if condition of financial viability is not fulfilled.

(c) No, Madam. The work is being managed either by recombination of duties or by making substitute arrangements.

(d) No, Madam.

(e) Model Recruitment Rules framed by Nodal Ministry are followed in such cases. Further, Postman have to complete a probation period of two years after appointment and before successful completion of the probation period, they cannot be permitted to appear for examination conducted for filling up promotional vacancies of Postal Assistant.

Statement

State-wise details of Vacant Posts of Gramin Dak Sevaks in the country as on 1.3.2010

| Sl.No. | Name of State | Number |
|--------|-------------------|--------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1435 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 74 |
| 3. | Assam | 388 |
| 4. | Bihar | 1868 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 1318 |
| 6. | Delhi | 223 |
| 7. | Goa | 42 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 1754 |
| 9. | Haryana | 348 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | 421 |
| 11. | Jammu and Kashmir | 112 |
| 12. | Jharkhand | 219 |
| 13. | Karnataka | 610 |
| 14. | Kerala | 599 |
| 15. | Madhya Pradesh | 2911 |
| 16. | Maharashtra | 2820 |
| 17. | Manipur | 44 |
| 18. | Meghalaya | 116 |
| 19. | Mizoram | 100 |
| 20. | Nagaland | 25 |
| 21. | Orissa | 3192 |
| 22. | Punjab | 658 |
| 23. | Rajasthan | 2087 |
| 24. | Sikkim | 0 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------|---------------|-------|
| 25. | Tamil Nadu | 1838 |
| 26. | Tripura | 134 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | 6064 |
| 28. | Uttaranchal | 332 |
| 29. | West Bengal | 3061 |
| Total | | 32793 |

[English]

Review of SEZs

3828. SHRI R. DHROVANARAYANA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a panel set up by the Government has recommended a comprehensive review of the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) Act and also a ban on the transfer of farm land for these projects;

(b) whether the SEZs are acting as mere real estate agents while securing tax breaks of sorts;

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

(d) whether the Government is considering special purpose vehicles for development, earning rents, dividends and capital gains for its farmer share holders and thus promote the SEZ concept; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) Land is a State subject. Land for SEZs is procured as per the policy and procedures of the respective State Governments. Further, pursuant to the decision of empowered Group of Ministers (EGOM) in its meeting held on 5th April, 2007, the State Governments have been informed on 15 June, 2007 that the Board of Approval will not approve any SEZs where the State Governments have carried out or propose to carry out compulsory acquisition of land for such SEZs after 5th April, 2007.

(b) and (c) In terms of Rule 11(9) of the SEZ Rules, 2006, sale of land in SEZ is not allowed. Processing area is uniformly fixed at minimum 50% of the total

area of all SEZs. Various activities regarding social infrastructure carried out in the non-processing area within SEZ which are eligible for tax benefits are already notified. Quantum of houses, commercial area, hospital and educational institutions are decided by the Board of Approval after an assessment of the functional requirement of the zone including its employees.

(d) and (e) Insofar as relief and rehabilitation package for any affected person is concerned, these vary from State to State depending upon the provisions of the State policies.

[Translation]

Irregularities in Export of Wheat

3829. SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI:
SHRI IYARAJ SINGH:

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

(a) the details regarding export of wheat during the last three years, country-wise;

(b) whether certain irregularities regarding export of wheat have been noted by the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) Madam, the export of wheat is prohibited vide notification No. 44 (RE-2006)/2004-2009 dated February 9, 2007. However, a small quantity of wheat has been exported to some countries on diplomatic basis after giving relaxation in the prohibition. The details are as under:

| (Qty: In tons) | | |
|----------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Year | Quantity | Leading importing countries |
| 2007-08 | 237 | Nepal, UAE, USA |
| 2008-09 | 1121 | Nepal, Myanmar, Bangladesh |
| 2009-10 (Upto Dec., 09) | 23 | Nepal |

(b) and (c) No Madam. Do not arise.

*[English]***Pensionary Benefits to BSNL Employees**

3830. SHRI ANADRAO ADSUL:
SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:

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

(a) whether at the time of formation of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) employees who have opted to join BSNL were assured that the Union Government will provide pensionary benefits to them;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether those employees of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) have been provided the merger of fifty per cent dearness allowance relief with pension w.e.f. 1 April, 2004 and extend the benefit of Sixth Central Pay Commission w.e.f. January, 2006;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The BSNL optees are covered by Rule 37-A of CCS (Pension) rules, 1972 which contains relevant provisions for the same.

(c) to (e) Orders related to merger of fifty per cent dearness allowance relief with pension w.e.f. 01.04.2004 are applicable to central Government employees only and not to BSNL optee employees. While sixth central pay commission recommendations are meant for central Government employees, the applicable benefits of these recommendations have been extended to BSNL optee employees as per Rule 37-A of CCS (Pension) rules, 1972.

Implementation of Draft System

3831. SHRI MUKESH BHAIKAVADANJI GADHVI:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Posts has any proposal to start Draft system in the post offices of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the alternatives have been made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

(c) The Department of Posts already has Indian Postal Orders, which are of various denominations ranging from Rs. 1/- to Rs. 100/-. These can be purchased and encashed in any Post Office in the country.

*[Translation]***Cases under CVC**

3832. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases related to Government owned and Private Telecom Companies referred to Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) during the last three years;

(b) the number of cases in which the report has been submitted to the Union Government; and

(c) the total number of persons found guilty and the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) During the three years, 360 cases relating to Government owned and Private Telecom Companies have been referred to CVC.

(b) In 202 cases, the report has been submitted to the Government.

(c) 180 persons have been found guilty against whom the action has been initiated by the competent Disciplinary Authorities concerned as per the advice of Central Vigilance Commission.

*[English]***FDI Policy**

3833. SHRI UDAY SINGH:
SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to further streamline the existing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy to overcome various hurdles in the country;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The 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 policy on FDI is reviewed on an ongoing basis through an inter-ministerial consultation process, with a view to rationalizing/simplifying the policy and attracting FDI in more industries and sectors.

Payment of Wages under MGNREGS

3834. PROF. RANJAN PRASAD YADAV:
SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the number of complaints about non-payment/untimely payment of wages to workes under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) is increasing day-by-day;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints received by the Union Government during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government has issued any directions to the State Governments in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken for effective implementation of the scheme; and

(e) the other effective action being taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government to ensure payment to MGNREGS workers in time as well as to provide allowance to the unemployed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) Mahatma Gandhi NREGA was launched in 200 districts on 2.2.2006. 130 additional districts were brought under the Act during 2007-08 and all the remaining rural areas in the country have been covered under the Act

from 1.4.2008. During the last three years of its implementation, a total of 96 complaints regarding non-payment of wages and 36 complaints regarding untimely payment of wages have been received in the Ministry. State-wise number of complaints are as given below:

| Sl.No. | State | Number of complaints relating to non-payment of wages | Number of complaints relating to untimely payment of wages |
|--------|----------------|---|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 3 | 1 |
| 2. | Assam | 4 | 0 |
| 3. | Bihar | 5 | 4 |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | 2 | 1 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 2 | 2 |
| 6. | Haryana | 1 | 1 |
| 7. | Jharkhand | 6 | 2 |
| 8. | Karnataka | 2 | 0 |
| 9. | Kerala | 2 | 0 |
| 10. | Madhya Pradesh | 17 | 4 |
| 11. | Maharashtra | 2 | 1 |
| 12. | Orissa | 2 | 2 |
| 13. | Punjab | 1 | 1 |
| 14. | Rajasthan | 7 | 4 |
| 15. | Uttar Pradesh | 35 | 10 |
| 16. | Uttarakhand | 1 | 1 |
| 17. | West Bengal | 4 | 2 |
| Total | | 96 | 36 |

(c) to (e) With a view to ensure transparency in the payment of wages to Mahatma Gandhi NREGA workers, the following steps have been taken:

(i) Payment of wages through accounts of the workers in banks/post offices has been made mandatory. To cover the gaps in financial

services and outreach, Rural ATM, hand held devices, smart cards and biometrics have been initiated.

- (ii) Instructions have been issued on 7.9.09 directing all States to appoint ombudsman at district level for grievance redressal in a time bound manner.
- (iii) The progress of the implementation of the Act is regularly reviewed and monitored in Performance Review Committee meetings which are held on quarterly basis, State-specific reviews and visits by NLMs and Central Council members.
- (iv) Scheme of Independent monitoring by Eminent Citizens has been approved.

Unemployment allowance under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA becomes payable if an applicant is not provided employment within 15 days of receipt of his application seeking employment or from the date from which the employment has been sought in the case of an advance application, whichever is later. Unemployment allowance is paid by the concerned State Government from its own resources.

[Translation]

District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees

3835. SHRI NARAYAN SINGH AMLABE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are any statutory provisions for organizing regular meetings of the District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees constituted by the Government;
- (b) if so, whether the meetings of the said

committees are being held regularly in every district of the country including Madhya Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor indicating the number of meetings held during the last three years in each State with particular reference to Madhya Pradesh;

(d) whether there is any provision for action against the concerned officials for not calling the meetings regularly; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) There are no statutory provisions for organizing meetings of the District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees. The Guidelines issued by the ministry of Rural Development provide that meetings of the Vigilance and Monitoring Committees (V&MCs) at State and District level be held at least once in every quarter.

(b) The meetings of the District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees in the country, including Madhya Pradesh, are not being held every quarter regularly.

(c) The information received from various States/ UTs show that 912, 609 and 374 meetings of District level V&MCs were held during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 respectively. The State-wise and year-wise list of the meetings held is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) and (e) The Member Secretary of the Vigilance and Monitoring Committee has to convene the meeting on the direction of the Chairman. There is no provision for action for meeting of a Committee being not convened.

Statement

District Level Vigilance & Monitoring Committee meetings held during 2007-08, 2008-09 & 2009-10

| Sl.No. | Name of States | No. of Districts where meetings held | No. of Meetings of District level V & MCs | No. of Districts where meetings held | No. of Meetings of District level V & MCs | No. of Districts where meetings held | No. of Meetings of District level V & MCs |
|--------|----------------|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| | | 2007-08 | | 2008-09 | | 2009-10 | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 22 | 42 | 19 | 29 | 11 | 13 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-----|-------------------|----|-----|----|----|----|----|
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 14 | 18 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 10 |
| 3. | Assam | 22 | 25 | 11 | 15 | 25 | 33 |
| 4. | Bihar | 37 | 45 | 35 | 43 | 31 | 40 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 16 | 36 | 10 | 12 | 5 | 5 |
| 6. | Goa | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2 | — | — |
| 7. | Gujarat | 25 | 60 | 25 | 60 | 15 | 23 |
| 8. | Haryana | 19 | 25 | 10 | 13 | 13 | 15 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 11 | 17 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | 9 | 9 | 2 | 2 | | |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 20 | 33 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 7 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 26 | 41 | 15 | 16 | 26 | 35 |
| 13. | Kerala | 14 | 40 | 14 | 32 | 11 | 15 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 48 | 76 | 40 | 63 | 22 | 26 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 32 | 59 | 22 | 38 | 17 | 20 |
| 16. | Manipur | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 11 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 8 | 15 | 8 | 11 | 8 | 8 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 9 | 9 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| 20. | Orissa | 30 | 49 | 20 | 34 | 29 | 31 |
| 21. | Punjab | 17 | 28 | 7 | 8 | 11 | 11 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 31 | 47 | 26 | 41 | 9 | 13 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 29 | 57 | 29 | 51 | 14 | 15 |
| 25. | Tripura | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 26. | Uttaranchal | 13 | 17 | 13 | 13 | 7 | 7 |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | 70 | 105 | 44 | 63 | 21 | 23 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-------|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 28. | West Bengal | 18 | 34 | 11 | 15 | 1 | 1 |
| 29. | Andaman and Nicobar islands | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | | |
| 30. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 1 | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| 31. | Daman and Diu | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 32. | Lakshadweep | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | | |
| 33. | Puducherry | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | |
| Total | | 562 | 912 | 405 | 609 | 306 | 374 |

Water Conservation Schemes

3836. SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAV:
SHRI ARJUN MUNDA:
SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR:
SHRI SONAWANE PRATAP NARAYANRAO:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the existing water conservation schemes being implemented by the Government alongwith the districts covered/to be covered thereunder in each State of the country;

(b) whether the Government is considering any new scheme for digging of ponds in villages to promote water conservation;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the funds allocated/released/utilised and achievements made under each such scheme during the last three years, Statewise and year-wise;

(e) the details of funds, if any, provided to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for this purpose during the said period and the amount utilised by them so far State-wise and year-wise;

(f) whether the Government has issued any fresh directions/guidelines on water conservation in villages recently; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the response of the States thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI): (a) Water conservation is one of the activities of watershed development schemes. The Department of Land Resources has been implementing three watershed schemes namely Desert Development Programme (DDP), Drought Prone Areas programme (DPAP) and Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP). Since 26.02.2009, the above three schemes have been consolidated into a single programme called as Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP). The coverage of IWMP extends to all the districts of all the States. The details of the districts covered under these schemes in each state of the country are given the enclosed statement-I

(b) and (c) No Madam. However, construction of water bodies including ponds is part of soil & water conservation measures under IWMP.

(d) and (e) The watershed schemes are implemented by releasing the funds by the Central Government to District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs)/Zilla Panchayats (ZPs)/State Level Nodal Agencies (SLNA). Since watershed schemes are demand driven schemes, no budget allocation has been made. However, State-wise central assistance released under watershed schemes during each of the last three years are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(f) and (g) No Madam.

Statement I*Districts covered under watershed programmes*

| Sl.No. | State | No. of Districts covered under watershed programmes | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|---|-----|------|------|
| | | DPAP | DDP | IWDP | IWMP |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 11 | 1 | 20 | 12 |
| 2. | Bihar | 6 | | 31 | |
| 3. | Chhattisgarh | 9 | | 14 | 15 |
| 4. | Goa | | | 2 | |
| 5. | Gujarat | 14 | 6 | 20 | 26 |
| 6. | Haryana | | 7 | 13 | |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 3 | 2 | 9 | 12 |
| 8. | Jammu and Kashmir | 6 | 2 | 12 | |
| 9. | Jharkhand | 15 | | 13 | |
| 10. | Karnataka | 17 | 6 | 23 | 27 |
| 11. | Kerala | | | 13 | |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | 26 | | 44 | 32 |
| 13. | Maharashtra | 25 | | 30 | 29 |
| 14. | Orissa | 8 | | 23 | 24 |
| 15. | Punjab | | | 11 | 3 |
| 16. | Rajasthan | 11 | 16 | 19 | 31 |
| 17. | Tamil Nadu | 18 | | 24 | 24 |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | 15 | | 53 | 46 |
| 19. | Uttaranchal | 7 | | 13 | |
| 20. | West Bengal | 4 | | 4 | |
| North Eastern States | | | | | |
| 1. | Arunachal Pradesh | | 17 | 10 | |
| 2. | Assam | | 23 | 26 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------------|-----------|-----|----|------|-----|
| 3. | Manipur | | 9 | | |
| 4. | Meghalaya | | 7 | 7 | |
| 5. | Mizoram | | | 8 | 8 |
| 6. | Nagaland | | | 10 | 11 |
| 7. | Sikkim | | | 5 | 2 |
| 8. | Tripura | | | 2 | 2 |
| Grand Total | | 195 | 40 | 4772 | 361 |

Statement II*DOLR-Funds released under watershed programme during last three years*

| State | DPAP | | | | DDP | | | | IWDP | | | | IWMP |
|-------------------|---------------|---------|---------|--------|---------------|---------|---------|--------|---------------|---------|---------|--------|-------|
| | Fund released | | | | Fund released | | | | Fund released | | | | |
| | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 | Total | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 | Total | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 | Total | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 56.24 | 55.87 | 37.38 | 149.49 | 28.3 | 35.02 | 8.68 | 72.00 | 37.13 | 44.43 | 34.35 | 115.91 | 34.12 |
| Bihar | 0.2 | 0 | | 0.2 | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2 | 7.32 | 5.71 | 15.03 | |
| Chhattisgarh | 13.92 | 24.38 | 20.76 | 59.06 | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 25.75 | 30.44 | 13.82 | 70.01 | 16.32 |
| Goa | | | 0.00 | 0 | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| Gujarat | 16.34 | 39.33 | 51.31 | 106.98 | 65.59 | 75.13 | 113.63 | 254.35 | 23.57 | 31.87 | 23.69 | 79.13 | 54.10 |
| Haryana | | | 0.00 | 0 | 28.74 | 10.26 | 27.22 | 66.22 | 4.45 | 4.28 | 3.87 | 12.60 | |
| Himachal Pradesh | 8.35 | 8.59 | 4.03 | 20.97 | 2.17 | 6.45 | 0.00 | 8.62 | 27.86 | 23.48 | 13.51 | 64.85 | 18.71 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 0 | 6.4 | 3.87 | 10.27 | 7.39 | 2.76 | 9.45 | 19.60 | 5.97 | 4.55 | 11.21 | 21.73 | 2.29 |
| Jharkhand | 0 | 2.9 | 0.00 | 2.9 | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2.9 | 8.41 | 3.07 | 14.38 | 9.81 |
| Karnataka | 44.46 | 57.76 | 54.06 | 156.28 | 35.07 | 49.47 | 43.79 | 128.33 | 22.92 | 46.2 | 35.33 | 104.45 | 84.86 |
| Kerala | | | 0.00 | 0 | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2.1 | 11.46 | 3.20 | 16.76 | 0.76 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 53.16 | 56.97 | 47.56 | 157.69 | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 16.47 | 28.76 | 28.90 | 74.13 | 47.89 |
| Maharashtra | 54.21 | 64.03 | 79.79 | 198.03 | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 56.97 | 60.44 | 37.55 | 154.96 | 72.39 |
| Orissa | 23.93 | 25.13 | 43.30 | 92.36 | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 17.94 | 33.54 | 27.45 | 78.93 | 24.91 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Punjab | | 0.00 | 0 | | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | 2.5 | 3.6 | 2.90 | 9.00 | 3.32 |
| Rajasthan | 13.96 | 18.1 | 18.71 | 50.77 | 98.18 | 216.87 | 101.39 | 416.44 | 48.45 | 45.26 | 22.52 | 116.23 | 74.44 |
| Tamil Nadu | 32.01 | 35.49 | 14.48 | 81.98 | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 27.07 | 34.6 | 11.22 | 72.89 | 19.82 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 49.4 | 39.72 | 25.11 | 114.23 | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 55.82 | 70.58 | 46.38 | 172.78 | 27.95 |
| Uttaranchal | 14.62 | 7.07 | 4.11 | 25.8 | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 16.67 | 24.64 | 7.60 | 48.91 | 1.68 |
| West Bengal | 2.68 | 6.57 | 0.00 | 9.25 | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2.62 | 7.14 | 5.46 | 15.22 | 0 |
| Total | 383.48 | 448.31 | 404.47 | 1236.26 | 265.44 | 395.96 | 304.16 | 965.56 | 399.16 | 521.00 | 337.74 | 1257.90 | 493.37 |
| North Eastern States | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Arunachal Pradesh | | | | | | | | | 15.64 | 32.27 | 26.68 | 74.59 | 6.99 |
| Assam | | | | | | | | | 27.05 | 38.93 | 21.52 | 87.50 | 36.23 |
| Manipur | | | | | | | | | 4.5 | 11.18 | 10.97 | 26.65 | |
| Meghalaya | | | | | | | | | 5.47 | 9.42 | 15.95 | 30.84 | 3.74 |
| Mizoram | | | | | | | | | 31.29 | 26.5 | 36.7 | 94.49 | 6.36 |
| Nagaland | | | | | | | | | 29.64 | 27.53 | 7.5 | 64.67 | 10.21 |
| Sikkim | | | | | | | | | 3.86 | 2.6 | 8.45 | 14.91 | 2.32 |
| Tripura | | | | | | | | | 0 | 1.58 | 0.39 | 1.97 | 3.60 |
| Total | | | | | | | | | 117.45 | 150.01 | 128.16 | 395.62 | 69.45 |
| Grand Total | 383.48 | 448.31 | 404.47 | 1236.26 | 265.44 | 395.96 | 304.16 | 965.56 | 516.61 | 671.01 | 465.90 | 1653.52 | 562.82 |

Cases of Atrocities on SC/ST Persons

3837. SHRI BHISMA SHANKER *ALIAS* KUSHAL
TIWARI:
SHRI RAM SUNDAR DAS:
SHRI AHIR VIKRAMBHAJ ARJANBHAJ
MADAM:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered, disposed and
pending under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled
Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 during the

last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for early
disposal of these pending cases;

(c) whether the Government has appointed/propose
to appoint any representatives in the States to monitor
the cases of atrocities on the persons belonging to SC/
ST;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) As per data provided by National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, State/Union territory wise number of cases of offences registered, disposed of and pending with Police, under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, during 2006 to 2008, is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The Act is implemented by the concerned State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Rule 7(2) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities), Rules, 1995, stipulates that the investigating officer shall complete the investigation on top priority within thirty days.

(c) and (e) Rule 16 and Rule 17 of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995, provide for setting up of State Level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Minister and District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees under the Chairpersonship of the District Magistrate to review the implementation of the provisions of the Act. Such Committees have been set up in the States/UTs of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Daman & Diu, NCT of Delhi and Puducherry.

Statement

State/Union Territory-wise number of cases registered, disposed of and pending with by Police, under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 during 2006 to 2008

| State/UT | Number of cases registered by Police during the year 2006-2008, including the cases brought forward from previous years | Number of cases disposed by Police during 2006 to 2008 | Number of cases pending with Police at end of the year 2008 |
|-------------------|---|--|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 18783 | 13553 | 5230 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 131 | 122 | 9 |
| Assam | 1801 | 840 | 961 |
| Bihar | 16896 | 7242 | 9654 |
| Chhattisgarh | 3835 | 3311 | 524 |
| Goa | 20 | 11 | 9 |
| Gujarat | 4063 | 3721 | 342 |
| Haryana | 990 | 857 | 133 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 318 | 261 | 57 |
| Jharkhand | 3294 | 1712 | 1582 |
| Karnataka | 8158 | 6722 | 1436 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Kerala | 2561 | 1735 | 826 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 16489 | 15485 | 1004 |
| Maharashtra | 5273 | 3887 | 1386 |
| Manipur | 87 | 1 | 86 |
| Meghalaya | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Mizoram | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nagaland | 190 | 115 | 75 |
| Orissa | 18937 | 4994 | 3943 |
| Punjab | 835 | 496 | 339 |
| Rajasthan | 16491 | 15391 | 1100 |
| Sikkim | 84 | 50 | 34 |
| Tamil Nadu | 5218 | 4017 | 1201 |
| Tripura | 72 | 58 | 14 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 21017 | 18881 | 2136 |
| Uttaranchal | 214 | 186 | 28 |
| West Bengal | 155 | 53 | 102 |
| Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 24 | 18 | 6 |
| Chandigarh | 8 | 2 | 6 |
| Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 25 | 18 | 7 |
| Daman and Diu | 7 | 3 | 4 |
| Delhi | 203 | 48 | 155 |
| Lakshadweep | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Puducherry | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Total | 136187 | 103793 | 32394 |

Note: (i) The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 does not extend to State of Jammu & Kashmir.

(ii) Calendar year-wise, data is obtained from National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs; and is not available for 2009. Data for 2010, would become due after completion of the calendar year.

*[English]***Workers Engaged at CWG Sites**

3838. SHRI BIBHU PRASAD TARAI:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

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

(a) whether any Committee has been appointed/constituted by the Delhi High Court to inquire into the condition of workers at the Commonwealth Games (CWG) construction site;

(b) if so, the terms of reference and its composition thereof;

(c) whether the said Committee has submitted its report; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the follow-up action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):
(a) and (b) A statement is Annexed.

(c) and (d) The Committee has submitted its report to the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. Since the Committee was constituted by Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, further action taken in the matter will depend upon the orders passed by the Hon'ble High Court.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Hon'ble High Court of Delhi while considering a WP (Civil) No. 524/2010 in People Union for Democratic Rights and 2 others Vs Union of India and two others set up a Monitoring Committee on 3.2.2010 with the following composition:

1. Shri R.D. Srivastava, Labour Secretary, Government of Delhi
2. Shri A.K. Singh, Labour Commissioner, Government of Delhi
3. Ms Arundhati Ghose, Former Indian Ambassador to the UN
4. Shri Lakshmidhar Mishra, Special Rapporteur, NHRC

The Committee was mandated to visit Commonwealth Games Construction sites, looking into

the complaints of the petitioners on harsh and unsafe working and living conditions and violation of provisions of labour laws as applicable to the establishments executing building and construction work at Commonwealth Games sites as also functioning of the Welfare Board for NCT of Delhi constituted under Section 18 of the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and conditions of Service) Act, 1996.

*[Translation]***Implementation of PMGSY**

3839. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:
DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:
SHRI MANOHAR TIRKEY:
YOGI ADITYA NATH:
SHRI PREMCHAND GUDDU:
SHRI S. PAKKIRAPPA:
SHRI MAHESH JOSHI:
SHRI KAMAL KISHOR "COMMANDO":
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:
SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ:
SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA:
SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages connected with roads, total roads constructed, length of roads completed etc. under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during each of the Tenth and Eleventh Five Year plan State-wise;

(b) the funds allocated/released/utilized during the above period;

(c) the reasons for under-utilisation of allocated funds;

(d) the time by which all the remaining villages are likely to be connected with the roads;

(e) the details of the projects under PMGSY presently under implementation in each State alongwith the names of agencies appointed by the Central Government and by State Governments respectively in each State to implement these projects;

(f) the details of projects which are running behind the schedule in each State alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(g) the existing mechanism to ensure timely completion of the projects alongwith the provision of action against the persons held responsible for delay in completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) was launched on 25th December, 2000. Since beginning of the programme and up to the end of 10th Five Year Plan 36,694 habitations have been provided all weather road connectivity, 38,876 Roads have been constructed and 1,20,577 Km. road length has been completed. State-wise progress is given in the enclosed statement-I. In the 11th Five Year plan 30,745 habitations have been provided all weather road connectivity, 29,729 roads have been constructed and 1,42,557 Km. road length has been completed till February, 2010. State-wise progress during 11th Five Year Plan is given in the enclosed statement-II.

(b) The funds allocated/released and utilized up to 10th and during 11th Five Year Plan is as under:

| FY | Fund allocated (Cr.) | *Fund released (Cr.) | **Fund utilized/ Exp. Incurred (Cr.) |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 2000-01 | 2,500 | 2,435 | |
| 2001-02 | 2,500 | 2,500 | |
| 2002-03 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 6,529.93 |
| 2003-04 | 2,325 | 2,325 | |
| 2004-05 | 2,468 | 2,461 | 3077.45 |
| 2005-06 | 4,220 | 4,220 | 4100.39 |
| 2006-07 | 6,274 | 6,274 | 7304.27 |
| Total (upto 10th FY Plan) | 22,787 | 22,715 | 21012.04 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------------|
| 2007-08 | 11,000 | 11,000 | 10,618.69 |
| 2008-09 | 15,280 | 15,280 | 15,161.98 |
| 2009-10 | 17,840 | 17,840 | 16,383.35*** |
| Total (11th FY Plan) | 44,120 | 44120 | 42,164.02 |

*Funds released comprise of releases for projects and administrative expenses to the States, funds releases to NRRDA to meet its expenses and for payment of interest on loan taken from NABARD.

**Expenditure shown is expenditure on the projects only.

***Expenditure is up to Feb., 2010.

(c) The funds available for the programme has been utilized by the implementing agencies.

(d) It is targeted to provide all weather road connectivity to all habitations with population of 1000 persons and more (500 persons and more in population in Hill States and Schedule V area) by March 2012. Eligible balance Habitations of lower population would be connected subsequently.

(e) State wise details of the projects sanctioned under PMGSY and under implementation are given in the enclosed statement-III.

Projects under PMGSY are implemented through State Rural Road Development Agency (SRRDA) in each State. Usually these projects are implemented through the agencies of the State governments called Project Implantation Units (PIUs). In addition to these, Some Public Sector Undertakings of Government of India have also been engaged in Bihar, Jharkhand and Tripura for execution of the projects as per detail given below:

- Bihar:
1. Central Public Works Department (CPWD)
 2. IRCON International Limited (IRCON)
 3. National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited (NBCC)
 4. National Projects Construction Corporation Limited (NPCC)

5. National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited (NHPC)
- Tripura: 1. National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited (NBCC)
2. Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited (HSCL)
- Jharkhand: 1. National Projects Construction Corporation Limited (NPCC)
2. Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited (HSCL)
3. National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited (NBCC)
- (f) Rural Road is State subject and State Government is primarily responsible for timely execution of the projects under PMGSY. On an average, about 2 to 2^o years are required for completion of the works.
- The State-wise detail of Road works sanctioned up to March'08 and completed up to Feb'2010 along with the balance road works yet to be completed is given in the enclosed Statement-IV. Some of the reasons for delay in completion of road works are:
- (i) Inadequate institutional capacity in some states,
- (ii) Inadequate contracting capacity,
- (iii) Non availability of land including issues related to forest clearance,
- (iv) Law & order related issues in some states, and
- (v) Incidence of natural calamities in some states.
- (g) To ensure timely completion of the projects there is a provision of liquidated damages in Standard Bidding Document. No provision for action against persons responsible for delay has been laid down under the Programme.

Statement I*Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana**Progress upto 10th Five Year Plan*

(Length in km.)

| Sl.No. | State | Progress upto 10th Plan | | |
|--------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-------|
| | | Total Physical Progress | | |
| | | Physical | | |
| | | Habs | Length | Roads |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 862 | 10,429.29 | 4,019 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 133 | 1,347.19 | 350 |
| 3. | Assam | 1,942 | 2,828.16 | 862 |
| 4. | Bihar | 1,346 | 2,680.51 | 842 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 2,179 | 7,670.98 | 1,320 |
| 6. | Goa | 2 | 158.70 | 72 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|-------------------|--------|------------|--------|
| 7. | Gujarat | 1,234 | 2,947.10 | 1,427 |
| 8. | Haryana | — | 1,481.40 | 91 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 1,100 | 4,181.65 | 640 |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | 40 | 138.12 | 63 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 921 | 2,539.97 | 480 |
| 12. | Karnataka | 303 | 5,287.33 | 1,609 |
| 13. | Kerala | 225 | 423.07 | 236 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 4,034 | 13,831.76 | 3,016 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 919 | 4,844.82 | 1,864 |
| 16. | Manipur | 56 | 876.90 | 528 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 134 | 700.26 | 298 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 53 | 1,114.73 | 68 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 31 | 1,583.37 | 174 |
| 20. | Orissa | 2,604 | 6,656.23 | 2,023 |
| 21. | Punjab | 406 | 1,241.77 | 475 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 5,849 | 20,559.57 | 5,893 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 55 | 1,690.90 | 89 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 1,636 | 3,568.68 | 1,943 |
| 25. | Tripura | 205 | 612.68 | 241 |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | 7,140 | 16,180.66 | 9,269 |
| 27. | Uttaranchal | 98 | 607.96 | 147 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 3,187 | 4,402.59 | 837 |
| | Total | 36,694 | 120,577.24 | 38,876 |

Statement II*Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana**Progress during 11th Five Year Plan*

| Sl.No. | State | Progress upto 11th Plan | | |
|--------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| | | Progress upto Feb., 2010 | | |
| | | Physical | | |
| | | Habitations | Length | No. of Roads |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 24 | 6,216.80 | 1,418 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 82 | 1,117.76 | 97 |
| 3. | Assam | 3,425 | 5,115.77 | 775 |
| 4. | Bihar | 1,773 | 5,902.59 | 917 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 2,504 | 8,007.35 | 2,024 |
| 6. | Goa | — | — | — |
| 7. | Gujarat | 683 | 3,180.84 | 1,040 |
| 8. | Haryana | 1 | 2,367.83 | 231 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 659 | 4,211.81 | 692 |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | 621 | 1,173.46 | 198 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 670 | 1,762.19 | 261 |
| 12. | Karnataka | — | 6,168.54 | 964 |
| 13. | Kerala | 105 | 526.98 | 262 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 5,289 | 21,809.21 | 4,875 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 143 | 9,222.18 | 1,911 |
| 16. | Manipur | 65 | 1,141.25 | 117 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 33 | 126.43 | 37 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 26 | 556.89 | 31 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 43 | 954.95 | 46 |
| 20. | Orissa | 2,120 | 7,656.31 | 1,568 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|---------------|--------|------------|--------|
| 21. | Punjab | — | 2,358.45 | 174 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 4,529 | 24,134.39 | 5,008 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 71 | 563.76 | 67 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 312 | 2,987.74 | 1,484 |
| 25. | Tripura | 636 | 762.05 | 278 |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | 3,608 | 18,070.42 | 4,445 |
| 27. | Uttaranchal | 314 | 2,068.03 | 163 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 3,043 | 4,392.58 | 646 |
| Total | | 30745* | 142,556.56 | 29,729 |

*Note: Total Number of habitations connected is after adjustment by a State of overreporting in earlier year.

Statement III

Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

Road Workd Sanctioned, completed and Balance as on Feb., 2010

| # | States | Roads cleared upto Feb., 2010 | Roads completed upto Feb., 2010 | Balance |
|-----|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 6,196 | 5,437 | 759 |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 687 | 447 | 240 |
| 3. | Assam | 4,643 | 1,637 | 3,006 |
| 4. | Bihar | 9,216 | 1,759 | 7,457 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 5,320 | 3,344 | 1,976 |
| 6. | Goa | 90 | 72 | 18 |
| 7. | Gujarat | 3,082 | 2,467 | 615 |
| 8. | Haryana | 420 | 322 | 98 |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 2,100 | 1,332 | 768 |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | 885 | 261 | 624 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 1,930 | 741 | 1,189 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-------|----------------|---------|--------|--------|
| 12. | Karnataka | 3,204 | 2,573 | 631 |
| 13. | Kerala | 953 | 498 | 455 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 12,271 | 7,891 | 4,380 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 4,891 | 3,775 | 1,116 |
| 16. | Manipur | 954 | 645 | 309 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 409 | 335 | 74 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 191 | 99 | 92 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 249 | 220 | 29 |
| 20. | Orissa | 7,519 | 3,591 | 3,928 |
| 21. | Punjab | 761 | 649 | 112 |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 11,705 | 10,901 | 804 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 380 | 156 | 224 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu | 4,970 | 3,427 | 1,543 |
| 25. | Tripura | 959 | 519 | 440 |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | 15,708 | 13,714 | 1,994 |
| 27. | Uttaranchal | 624 | 310 | 314 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 2,327 | 1,483 | 844 |
| Total | | 102,644 | 68,605 | 34,039 |

Statement IV*Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana**Road Workd Cleared/Sanctioned, upto March, 2008, Completed and Balance on Feb., 2010*

| # | States | Roads cleared upto March, 2008 | Roads completed upto Feb., 2010 | Balance |
|----|-------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh* | 4,968 | 5,437 | — |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | 519 | 447 | 72 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|-------------------|--------|--------|-------|
| 3. | Assam | 2,062 | 1,637 | 425 |
| 4. | Bihar | 3,310 | 1,759 | 1,551 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | 4,271 | 3,344 | 927 |
| 6. | Goa | 90 | 72 | 18 |
| 7. | Gujarat* | 2,392 | 2,467 | — |
| 8. | Haryana* | 284 | 322 | — |
| 9. | Himachal Pradesh | 1,929 | 1,332 | 597 |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir | 445 | 261 | 184 |
| 11. | Jharkhand | 982 | 741 | 241 |
| 12. | Karnataka* | 2,483 | 2,573 | — |
| 13. | Kerala | 765 | 498 | 267 |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh | 9,694 | 7,891 | 1,803 |
| 15. | Maharashtra | 4,148 | 3,775 | 373 |
| 16. | Manipur | 849 | 645 | 204 |
| 17. | Meghalaya | 373 | 335 | 38 |
| 18. | Mizoram | 144 | 99 | 45 |
| 19. | Nagaland | 237 | 220 | 17 |
| 20. | Orissa | 5,412 | 3,591 | 1,821 |
| 21. | Punjab* | 627 | 649 | — |
| 22. | Rajasthan | 11,186 | 10,901 | 285 |
| 23. | Sikkim | 221 | 156 | 65 |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu* | 2,604 | 3,427 | — |
| 25. | Tripura | 881 | 519 | 362 |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | 15,183 | 13,714 | 1,469 |
| 27. | Uttaranchal | 488 | 310 | 178 |
| 28. | West Bengal | 1,718 | 1,483 | 235 |

*States also completed some work cleared after March, 2008.

*[English]***Ban on FDI in Cigarette Manufacturing**

3840. CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH:
SHRI MOHAMMED E.T. BASHEER:
SHRI SANJAY BHOI:

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to ban Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in cigarette manufacturing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the ban on FDI in cigarette manufacturing is likely to affect the existing foreign players' for future investments; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) to (d) The Government has recently approved a proposal to prohibit Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in manufacturing of cigarettes and to include the activity in the list of activities prohibited for FDI. The decision of the Government is expected to enhance public accountability by way of the Government's commitment towards proliferation of anti-smoking regime in the country.

*[Translation]***Strengthening of Coastal Security System**

3841. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PATIL GAWALI:
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:
SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA:
SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Navy has decided to deploy some warships and also procure small submarines to

strengthen coastal security and also to keep a vigil on the coastal boundaries touching the neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating schedule of their induction;

(c) whether it is also proposed to install radars along the coast-line, including the Gujarat Coast, to monitor movement of vessels in the high-sea;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action plan to strengthen Indian Coast Guard in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (e) Government has accorded top priority to coastal security by way of increased coastal surveillance and deployment of assets of both Navy and Coast Guard. An integrated approach has been put in place. The intelligence-sharing mechanism has been streamlined through the creation of Joint Operation Centres and multi-agency coordination mechanism. Joint and operational exercises are talking place on regular basis between Navy, Coast Guard, Coastal Police and Customs in order to check the effectiveness of the new systems. Further, procurement of assets and their induction in the Force and augmentation of the Indian Coast Guard, both in terms of assets and manpower, is an important ongoing process. Installation of radars covering the country's entire coastline is an essential part of this process.

Induction of INSAS Rifles

3842. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the army has refused to induct the INSAS Rifles being supplied from the Ordnance Factory Board,

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

(c) whether the Directorate General of Infantry has invited global tenders for replacement of the INSAS Rifles;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action being taken to equip the army with state-of-the-art weapons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No, Madam.

(e) Modernization of Infantry is an ongoing process and all weapons requiring up-gradation or replacement with state of the art weapons are considered by the Government on requirement basis.

Missile Defence System

3843. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH *ALIAS* LALAN SINGH:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJAJIAH SIRICILLA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the interceptor missile test conducted recently has proved to be a failure;

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

(c) the impact thereof on the indigenous development of Ballistic Missile Defence System in the country; and

(d) the future action plan being proposed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) Information can not be divulged in the interest of National Security.

[English]

UASL Licences

3844. SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN:
SHRI RAMESH RATHOD:

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

(a) whether Universal Access Service Licences (UASLs) have been issued to companies without ascertaining the actual ownership of the companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (e) The Unified Access Services (UAS) licences are issued in terms of the extant Guidelines dated 14.12.2005 for grant of UAS Licences and based on the information/certificates/undertaking submitted by the applicant companies alongwith their applications. Government has received complaints for violation of substantial equity clause of the said guidelines by the following companies who obtained UAS licences in year 2008:

(i) M/s. Loop Telecom Limited

(ii) M/s Swan Telecom Pvt. Limited and

(iii) M/s Datacom Solutions Pvt. Limited.

These complaints were examined by the Government and presently no violation of substantial equity clause of the said guidelines have been found.

Provision of IMEI Number

3845. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL:
SHRI S.S. RAMA SUBBU:
SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA:

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

(a) whether the Government has banned the use of mobile phones without International Mobile Equipment Identity (IMEI) number in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of connections disconnected in the country, State-wise and Company-wise; and

(c) the action taken/being taken by the Government against the persons who are selling mobile phones without IMEI number in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Madam, the Government

has instructed to all the Cellular Mobile Service/Unified Access Service Licensees that calls from mobile handsets with any International Mobile Equipment identity (IMEI) number which is not available in the latest updated IMEI database of Global System for Mobile Communications Association (GSMA) alongwith without IMEI or all zeroes as IMEI, are not processed and rejected with effect from 24 hrs of 30th November 2009.

(b) Madam, the mobile connection being used in a handset with any IMEI number which is not available in the latest updated IMEI database of GSMA alongwith without IMEI or all zeroes as IMEI, cannot use mobile services after implementation of the instructions referred in (a) above. However, the mobile service can be availed by the subscriber using a handset with valid IMEI.

(c) Madam, the import of mobile handsets without IMEI or with all zeroes IMEI is prohibited in the country.

[Translation]

Permanent Commission to Women Officers

3846. SHRI ARJUN MUNDA:
DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi High Court, in a recent judgement, has held that the women joining armed forces prior to 2006 be allowed permanent commission and also to continue in service;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action, if any, taken/proposed to be taken to implement the said judgement?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, in their judgement dated 12th March, 2010 have passed certain directions on Petitions filed with regard to Terms and Conditions of service of women Short Service Commissioned Officers. Necessary action has been initiated to examine the matter.

[English]

Distribution of Funds through E-Panchayati Raj Institutions

3847. SHRI SURESH KASHINATH TAWARE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the projects/schemes for rural development are suffering from alleged grassroot level corruption;

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

(c) whether the Government is considering to distribute the funds through e-Panchayati Raj Institutions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) No, Madam. The progress reports from the State Governments has shown that the status of implementation of rural development programmes is satisfactory in most of the States and Union Territories. The progress in some States of North East is relatively low due to far flung locations and terrains.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Rural Development is not presently considering to distribute the funds through e-Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Trade Deficit

3848. DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:
SHRI SANJAY SINGH CHAUHAN:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:
SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO:
SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY:

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

(a) whether the trade deficit in the country is continuously increasing on account of rise in import over the last three years and the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof including items showing improvement and the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantum of export/import undertaken during the last three years;

(d) whether the Government has conducted any study to ascertain the reasons for the trade deficit; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the measures being taken to maintain balance of trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) to (c) India's merchandise export and import figures for the period 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and for the period April to February, 2009-10 in US Dollar terms, are given in the enclosed Statement-I. The increase in trade deficit during 2007-08 and 2008-09 was predominantly accounted for by higher imports of petroleum crude/products, fertilizers, and raw material and machinery/equipment required for Indian industry. However, the trade deficit during April 2009 to February, 2010 has reduced in comparison to the same period last year, mainly on account of reduced prices of crude petroleum in the 1st three quarters of 2009-10 leading to reduced import bill; and the progressive reduction in

the decline in exports; and positive growth in exports on month to month basis since November, 2009.

(d) and (e) The Government and RBI have been closely monitoring the economic development in the country and internationally on a continuous basis. To reduce the trade deficit and to boost the export performance by way of extending support to the exporting sectors, various measures have been taken by the Government and RBI in the form of stimulus packages including the announcements made in the Budget, 2009-10 and 2010-11; in the foreign Trade Policy (FTP), 2009-14; and thereafter in January/March 2010. Government has sought to provide support/incentives to the different export sectors which have been adversely affected by the global economic slowdown. Sectoral performance reviews are being conducted at regular intervals. Some of the various measures undertaken are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement I

Trade deficit figures for 2006-07, 2007-08, & 2009-10 (April-February)

(Value in Million Dollars)

| Period | Import* | Export* | Trade Deficit* |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|----------------|
| 2006-07 | 185735 | 126414 | 59321 |
| 2007-08 | 251654 | 163132 | 88522 |
| 2008-09 | 303696 | 185295 | 118401 |
| 2008-09 (April-February) | 287099 | 172379 | 114721 |
| 2009-10 (April-February) | 248401 | 152983 | 95418 |

(Source: DGCI&S)

*2008-09 data includes imports & exports from all SEZs, whereas 2006-07 and 2007-08 data does not include imports & exports from a majority of SEZs.

Statement II

Steps taken by Government/RBI (Including the announcements made in the budget, 2009-10 & 2010-11 and the foreign trade policy, 2009-14 to address the concerns of exporters arising out of present global economic low down

(A) Measures taken by the Government:

(1) Interest subvention of 2% provided to

30.09.2009, extended upto 31.3.2010, to the following labour intensive sectors for exports:-

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

(This facility has been further extended upto 31.3.2011 in the Budget 2010-11, to the sectors- handlooms, Handicrafts, Carpets and SMEs);

- (2) Additional funds of Rs. 350 crore provided (in December 2008) for Handicraft items etc. in Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana (VKGUY);
- (3) Market Linked Focus Product Scheme extended for bicycle parts, Motor Cars and Motor Cycles, apparels and Clothing accessories, Auto Components etc. for exports from 1.4.09 to 30.09.09;
- (4) Higher Support for Market and Product Diversification extended in FTP, 2009-14:
- (a) The incentive available under Focus Market Scheme (FMS) raised from 2.5% to 3%;
- (b) The incentive available under Focus Product Scheme (FPS) raised from 1.25% to 2%;
- (c) 26 new markets added under Focus Market Scheme. These include 16 new markets in Latin America and 10 in Asia-Oceania;
- (d) A large number of products (527 new products at 8 digit level and 82 new Handicraft products) from various sectors included for benefits under FPS;
- (e) Market Linked Focus Product Scheme (MLFPS) greatly expanded by inclusion of products classified under as many as 1500 products at 8 digit level for export to 13 new countries (Algeria, Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Brazil, Mexico, Ukraine, Vietnam, Cambodia, Australia and New Zealand);
- (f) MLFPS benefits also extended for export to additional new markets for certain existing products, like auto components, motor cars, bicycle and its parts and apparels, among others;
- (g) Focus Product Scheme benefit extended for export of 'green technology products'; and for exports of some products originating from the North East;
- (h) Project Exports and a large number of manufactured goods covered under FPS and MLFPS;
- (5) Additional support provided for Market and Product Diversification in January/March, 2010, based on sectoral performance analysis:

Announcements made in January, 2010:

- (i) 112 new products added under FPS at 8 digit level, eligible for benefits @2% of FOB value of exports to all markets; Major sectors include Engineering, Electronics, Rubber, Chemicals, Plastics, Carton boxes and Egg powder;
- (ii) 113 new products at 8 digit level given higher benefits @5% of FOB value of exports under Special FPS on exports to all markets; Major Sectors include Hand Tools, parts of Agriculture & Horticulture Machinery, sewing machines and parts, liquid pumps, nuts, bolts, washers, screws, staplers and parts of machinery for soldering, brazing and welding.
- (iii) 1837 new products added under MLFPS at 8 digit level eligible for benefits @2% of FOB value of exports to specified markets; Major Sectors include machine tools, earth moving equipments, transmission towers, electrical & power equipments, steel tubes, pipes and galvanized sheets, compressors, Iron and Steel Structures, Auto components, Three wheelers and cotton woven fabric (Chemicals have been included for providing benefit for a limited period of 6 months).
- (iv) Two new major markets, viz., China and Japan, have been added under MLFPS;
- (v) Sesame seeds and minor coconut products added under Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana (VKGUY);
- (vi) Timor Leste added under Focus market Scheme (FMS).

Announcements made in March 2010:-

- (i) More than 200 new products added under *Market Linked Focus Product Scheme (MLFPS)* at 8 digit level, eligible for benefits @2% of FOB value of exports to 15 specified markets.

Out of these,

- i. 128 products from electronic sector at 8 digit level. Major items include Colour TV sets, Desktops and notebooks, Audio systems & subsystems, Telephone sets for wired services, Data cables, LAN cables, Printed circuits, Semiconductor devices etc.

- II. 34 products from Engineering sector at 8 digit level incentivized. Major items include Aluminium conductor, Empty LPG cylinders, Bicycle mirrors and dynamo lighting sets, to name a few.
- III. 39 products from Agrichemicals and pesticides sector.
- (ii) Nearly 300 products from Apparels and Readymade Garments sector at 8 digit level incentivized for 6 months exports to EU and USA.
- (6) Adequate funds provided to ensure full refund of pending claims of CST/Terminal Excise duty/ Duty drawback on deemed exports;
- (7) Exporter friendly and the popular Duty Neutralisation Scheme *i.e.*, Duty Entitlement Passbook (DEPB) Scheme extended upto 31st December, 2010;
- (8) DEPB rates for all items where they were reduced in November, 2008 restored to higher rates from retrospective effect and the adhoc increase in DEPB rates from 1% to 3% since 2007, continued;
- (9) Duty Drawback rates on certain items restored to higher rates effective from 1st September, 2008; Duty drawback rates retained at the same level inspite of reduction in Excise tariff across the board and customs tariff for few items; Duty drawback rates announced for the first time for precious metal jewellery items;
- (10) DEPB and Freely Transferable Incentive Schemes provisionally allowed without awaiting receipt of Bank Realisation Certificate (BRC);
- (11) Export Obligation Period under Advance authorization Scheme enhanced from 24 months to 36 months without payment of composition fee;
- (12) To aid technological upgradation of our export sector, EPCG Scheme at Zero Duty has been introduced for certain sectors. The scheme shall be in operation till 31.3.2011;
- (13) To accelerate exports and encourage technological upgradation, additional Duty Credit Scrips shall be given to Status Holders @1% of the FOB value of past exports of certain sectors for procurement of capital goods. This facility shall be available upto 31.3.2011.
- (14) Facility of no recovery of incentives granted to exporters, subject to RBI specifically writing off the export proceed realization alongwith a certificate from Indian Missions abroad;
- (15) A number of measures taken to reduce transaction cost for the exporters such as abolition of application fee on all incentive schemes; application fee reduced for duty neutralization schemes; target to implement e-Trade Project in a time bound manner to bring all stakeholders including Customs, DGFT, Banks, Ports, Airlines etc. on a common platform; Duty Neutralisation Schemes such as Advance authorisation and EPCG schemes brought under E-commerce mechanism;
- (16) To promote Brand India through six or more "Made in India" Shows, to be organized across the World every year;
- (17) 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. ECGC is now able to widen its coverage;
- (18) Additional funds provided to the Ministry of Textiles to clear the backlog claims of textile units under Technology Upgradation Fund (TUF);
- (19) Additional resources made available under MDA and MAI Schemes;
- (20) Additional items allowed within the existing duty free imports entitlement for the following employment oriented sectors:
- (21) Fringe Benefit Tax (FBT) abolished;
- (22) Section 10A and 10B (Sunset clauses for STPI and EOUs schemes respectively), taxation benefit of 'unit vis-a-vis assessee';
- (23) Value limit on duty free import of commercial samples enhanced from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 3 lakh per annum (Budget announcement, 2010-11).
- (24) Some pending issues relating to Service Tax refund on exports—resolved. Some of these are:

- (i) Exemption from Service tax on services linked to exports:
- (a) On service related to transport of export goods by road from any CFS or ICD to the port or Airport and on service related to transport of export goods by road directly from their place of removal, to an ICD, a CFS, a port or airport;
- (b) Services provided by Foreign Agent Commission service.
- (ii) Procedure for refund of service tax simplified by allowing refund on self certification, in case refund claim does not exceed 0.25% of FOB value of exports; and certification by Chartered Accountant in case of others;
- (iii) Time period for filing refund claim increased to 1 year from the date of export (as against half-yearly).
- (25) For Fast Track Resolution of a number of procedural issues thereby reducing delays for the exporters, a Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Finance Secretary including Secretaries of Department of Revenue and Commerce; A number of issues sorted out accordingly;
- (26) A Committee under the Chairmanship of Finance Secretary has been constituted to resolve all problems related to Non-availability of Dollar Credit to exporters by the concerned Banks;
- (27) To enable support to Indian industry and exporters, especially the MSMEs, in availing their rights through trade remedy instruments, a Directorate of Trade Remedy Measures proposed to be set up;
- (28) 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%. Excise Duty was further reduced by another 2% on certain products like Leather etc.;
- (29) 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.
- (30) Adjustment Assistance Scheme, initiated in December '08 by ECGC, to provide enhanced additional coverage of 5% subject to a maximum of 95% to all MSMEs and to non-MSME jewellery, leather, engineering products, carpets, project goods, auto components and chemicals, continued till March, 2010;
- (31) Insurance Risk Cover by ECGC for export finance extended by banks to MSME exporters, which was increased from 75% to 85% has been extended till 31.03.2010.
- (32) To protect the domestic manufacturing industry from dumped/cheap imports, in particular, from China, import restrictions imposed on some items like auto forged components, HR coil, Carbon Black, Polyester Filament Yarn (PFY) and Radial Tyres (Bus & Trucks); subsequently withdrawn for PFY, HR Coils and Carbon black.
- (33) Mega Handloom clusters in West Bengal and Tamil Nadu and Powerloom cluster in Rajasthan and New Mega clusters for carpets in Srinagar and Mirzapur approved;
- (34) Jaipur, Srinagar and Anantnag recognised as 'Towns of Export Excellence' for handicrafts; Kanpur, Dewas and Ambur recognised for leather products; and Malihabad for horticultural products;
- (35) Basic customs duty of 5% on Rough/Unworked corals abolished;
- (36) Regular monitoring mechanism:-
- (a) The situation 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 constituted the following two High Level Committees for deliberating the issues on regular basis;
- (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.

(B) Measures taken by RBI:

- I. Increase in Liquidity to the banks for improving credit flow, by:

- (i) Reducing CRR, SLR, Repo rate and Reverse Repo rate (from Oct '08, CRR reduced from 9% to 5% (modified to 5.5% on 13.02.10 and further enhanced to 5.75% w.e.f. 27.2.2010), SLR reduced from 25% to 24% (restored to 25% in Oct. 09), Repo Rate reduced from 7.5% to 4.75% (now modified to 5% w.e.f. 20.03.10). and Reverse Repo Rate reduced from 6% to 3.25% (now modified to 3.5% w.e.f. 20.03.10).
- (ii) Refinance facility to the EXIM Bank for an amount of Rs. 5000 crores for providing pre-shipment and post-shipment credit in Rs. or dollars;
- (iii) A special re-finance facility put in place for banks for the purpose of extending finance to exports, micro and small enterprises, mutual funds and NBFCs. Provisioning requirements had been lowered. Export Credit Refinance facility for commercial banks increased to 50% (now restored to 15% on 27.10.2009) of the outstanding Rupee Export Credit.

- II. Increase in FOREX Liquidity:

- (i) RBIs assurance for continued selling of foreign exchange (US\$) through banks, to augment supply in the domestic foreign exchange market;
- (ii) Interest rates on export credit in foreign currency has been reduced to LIBOR + 200 basis points in February 2010 from the earlier LIBOR + 350 basis points.

- III. Easing of Credit Terms:

- (i) The period of pre-shipment and post-shipment Rupee Export Credit enhanced by 90 days each;

- (ii) Time period of export realization for non-status holder exporters increased to 12 months, at par with the Status holders. This facility which was available upto 03.06.09, has been extended for one more year.
- (iii) PSU Banks, consequent to measures announced by RBI, reduced the margin money on Guarantees for export units.

Fresh Census of BPL People

3849. DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL:
SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA:
SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:
SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of BPL persons in the country as on date as per the list prepared by the Central Government and other Expert Committees constituted in the matter, State-wise;

(b) whether several State Governments have raised objection on the BPL list prepared and released by the Central Government;

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

(d) whether keeping in view the continuous controversy over the accurate headcount of people Below Poverty Line ratio, the Union Government has decided to plan a pilot project to test methodology of BPL survey besides asking the States to report local concerns which needs to be factored in final questionnaire;

(e) if so, whether the Union Government has also decided to have a fresh look for having a new statistics of Below Poverty Line (BPL) people;

(f) if so, whether the guidelines for next round of BPL census in rural areas has been finalised and issued to State Governments;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the time by which the fresh round of BPL census is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (c) The number of persons living Below the Poverty Line in the country is estimated by the Planning Commission. However, the Ministry of Rural Development provides financial and technical support to States/UTs in form of methodology and guidelines to conduct the BPL Census for identification of households living below the poverty line. Thus the BPL lists are prepared by respective State Governments/UT Administrations and not by the Central Government.

(d) to (h) For conducting the BPL Census for the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the Ministry, on 12th August, 2008, constituted an Expert Group, to advise it on the suitable methodology. The Expert Group submitted its report on 21st August 2009. The report of the Expert Group has been circulated among the State Governments/UT administrations and the concerned Central Ministries for their comments. It has also been posted on Ministry's website at www.rural.nic.in.

The methodology is being examined in consultation with State Governments and experts and guidelines will be prepared once the methodology is finalized. There is a proposal for pre-testing the methodology to enable finalisation of the same.

Welfare and Upliftment of Labourers/Workers

3850. SHRI SONAWANE PRATAP NARAYANRAO:
SHRI P.K. BIJU:
SHRI ANTO ANTONY:
SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM
WAKCHAURE:
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:
SHRI S. PAKKIRAPPA:
SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:
SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO:

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

(a) the percentage and number of labourers/workers both organised and unorganised engaged in different sectors including, agricultural, industrial, service sectors during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and sector-wise;

(b) the details of schemes/programmes being run by the Government for the safety, security, welfare and

upliftment of such labourers/workers during the said period, sector-wise;

(c) the salient features of such schemes/programmes alongwith the number of labourers/workers benefited therefrom during the said period, State-wise, sector-wise and year-wise;

(d) the funds allocated, released and expenditure incurred under such schemes/programmes during the said period, State-wise, year-wise and schemes/programmes-wise;

(e) whether the Union Government has received requests from various States for allocation of additional assistance to States under such scheme/programmes;

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

(g) the steps taken by the Union Government to stop exploitation of labourers/workers engaged in such sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) According to the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) in 2004-05, the total number of labourers was 45.9 crore. Out of which about 94% of the total workforce were in unorganised sector and remaining 6% were in the organized sector. Out of 94% workers in the unorganized sector, 58.4% were in agriculture sector, 18.2% in Industrial and 23.4% in services sector. The annual figures are not available.

(b) to (d) The organized workers are covered under social security legislations *i.e.* Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948. The Government is implementing various schemes providing for social security to the workers in the unorganized sector. A Statement showing financial assistance under some of the schemes under Schedule-I of the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 is given in the enclosed Statement-I. A statement showing financial assistance under welfare schemes for beedi workers is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) and (f) Requests from the State Governments for additional allocation as and when received are examined and funds are allocated for different social security schemes depending upon the availability of resources.

(g) The Government has initiated several measures for the protection of the labourers in the unorganised sector. Various labour laws like the Minimum Wages Act, 1948; the Workmen Compensation Act, 1923; the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976; the Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, Contract Labour

(Abolition & Prohibition) Act, 1970, Inter-State Migrant Workmen (RECS) Act, 1979 etc. are applicable to the labour in the unorganized sector also. Recently the Unorganized Workers' social Security Act has been enacted to provide social security to the unorganized workers.

Statement I

(Rs. in crores)

| Sl.No. | Salient features of the scheme | Allocation | | | Expenditure | | |
|--------|---|------------|----------|----------------------------------|-------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| | | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 |
| 1. | (i) Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme providing for old age pension to BPL family at the age of 65 yrs. (ii) National Family Benefit Scheme assistance to destitute bread earners. | 2489.61* | 2889.73* | 45000* | 1968.27* | 3121.93* | 4055.82* |
| 2. | Janani Suraksha Yojana for safe motherhood. | 135.51 | 250.00 | 1281.47 | 258.32 | 880.17 | 1241.33 |
| 3. | Handloom Weavers' comprehensive Welfare Schemes providing for health insurance and life & disability cover to handloom weavers. | 40 | 115.60 | 124.00 | 40 | 115.58 | 123.92 |
| 4. | Handicraft Artisans' comprehensive Welfare Schemes providing for health insurance and life & disability cover to artisans. | 5.60 | 80.08 | 83.91 | 5.01 | 76.08 | 83.91 |
| 5. | National Scheme for welfare of Fisherman and Training & Extension providing housing assistance, insurance and training. | 23.81** | 21.38** | 25.00** | 7.51 | 6.38 | 13.17 |
| 6. | Janashree Bima yojana providing for life and accidental cover to BPL and marginally above BPL persons. | 500** | - | - | 132.79 | 2.04.50 | 267.13 |
| 7. | Aam Admi Bima Yojana providing for life and accidental cover to landless rural household | - | 1000*** | 500*** (scholars hip fund) | - | 44.81 | 43.53 (includes scholarship) |
| 8. | Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana providing for smart card based cashless health insurance cover of Rs. 30,000 to BPL families in unorganised sector. The scheme became operational from 01.04.2008 | - | - | 250 | - | - | 101.65 |

*includes five components of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) viz. Indira Gandhi Old Age Pension Scheme, National Family Benefit Scheme, Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme, Indira Gandhi Disability Pension Scheme, and Annapurna.

**This is combined allocation for all four components i.e. Development of Model Fishermen Villages, Group Accident Insurance, Saving-cum-Relief and Training-cum-Extension

***This is a corpus fund

Statement II*Financial assistance to Beedi Workers*

| Sl.No. | Salient features of the scheme | 2006-07 | | 2007-08 | | 2008-09 | |
|--------|---|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| | | No. of Beneficiaries | Expenditure (Rs. In Crore) | No. of Beneficiaries | Expenditure (Rs. In Crore) | No. of Beneficiaries | Expenditure (Rs. In Crore) |
| 1. | Health Group Insurance | 1258013 | 1.54 | 1051361 | NA | 1080154 | 0.27 |
| | Patients treated | 4344676 | 2.54 | 7772986 | 2.59 | 3827028 | 6.77 |
| | Treatment of T.B. Patients | 745 | 0.36 | 688 | 0.31 | 799 | 0.30 |
| | Cancer | 642 | 0.36 | 144 | 0.23 | 1856 | 0.35 |
| | Spectacles | 1730 | 0.03 | 5083 | 0.12 | 3284 | 0.09 |
| | Maternity benefit | 6810 | 0.68 | 9480 | 0.95 | 5894 | 0.59 |
| | Treatment of Heart disease | 121 | 0.37 | 178 | 0.65 | 213 | 0.01 |
| | Kidney disease | 12 | 0.01 | 31 | 0.07 | 208 | 0.69 |
| 2. | Education Scholarships | 379785 | 37.48 | 628658 | 72.27 | 9500000 | 100.52 |
| | Supply of books/uniforms | 96855 | 2.35 | 216561 | 3.76 | 178603 | 4.45 |
| 3. | Housing No. of houses sanctioned | 18808 | 56.72 | 38337 | 109.60 | 23398 | 70.71 |
| 4. | Recreation | 1952 | 0.05 | 1725 | 0.04 | 4333 | 0.07 |
| 5. | Others Marriage of widow's daughters | 201 | 0.10 | 412 | 0.20 | 606 | 0.30 |
| | Funeral expenses | 838 | 0.31 | 1342 | 0.20 | 1856 | 0.28 |

Low Cost Housing for Defence Personnel

3851. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Army Welfare Housing Organisation (AWHO) has decided to develop low cost housing for defence personnel and Para Military Forces at sixty four locations across the country as reported recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the locations identified for the purpose and criteria for selection of the locations/States in the country;

(c) the present status of implementation of the proposed projects indicating the number of houses likely to be constructed; and

(d) the criteria for the allotment of these houses to defence personnel and Para Military Forces?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) Army Welfare Housing Organisation (AWHO) as a welfare measure constructs houses for the serving/retired personnel of Army and their widows. Approximately 20,000 houses have been constructed at 34 different stations. Construction of 3,400 houses has been taken up at 12 stations.

AWHO does not construct houses for Para Military Forces.

AWHO also constructs low cost housing for the serving Junior Commissioned Officers/Other Ranks under the Jai Jawan Awas Yojna. Under the scheme houses have been constructed in Jaipur and Pune while construction has been taken up in Allahabad.

AWHO constructs houses at a particular station based on demand and availability of land.

The allotment of houses is made through draw of lots in case the demand exceeds the availability. In case the demand of serving Personnel Below Officer Rank (PBOR) is not sufficient then the same are offered to retired PBOR.

CECA between India and Indonesia

3852. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of trade between India and Indonesia during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government proposes to conclude a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) with Indonesia;

(c) if so, the details and the present status thereof; and

(d) the details of area identified for CECA between the two countries and the benefits likely to be accrued therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) The details of Import & Export between India & Indonesia during the last 3 years are as under:-

| Value in US\$ Million | | | |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|-------------|
| Year | Import | Export | Total Trade |
| 2006-07 | 4181.96 | 2032.96 | 6214.92 |
| 2007-08 | 4821.25 | 2164.17 | 6985.42 |
| 2008-09 | 6666.34 | 2559.82 | 9226.16 |

(b) to (d) The India-Indonesia Joint Study Group (JSG) has recommended negotiations for a bilateral Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) between the two countries covering Trade In Goods, Trade In Services, Investment and Other Areas of Cooperation. The recommendations of JSG are under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Applications for Issue of Licences

3853. SHRI ARJUN ROY:
RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government has received applications for issuing licences for mobile telephone services in the country;

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

(c) whether the number of applications that have not been sanctioned for issuing licences;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of applications sanctioned and rejected during the last three years and the current year and the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (e) Madam, as per guidelines dated 14.12.2005 for grant of Unified Access Services Licences (UASL), Government has been receiving UASL applications on continuous basis. However, in terms of Press Release dated 24.09.2007 (which appeared in the newspapers on 25.09.2007), it has been decided that new UASL applications will not be accepted by Department of Telecom (DoT) after 01.10.2007 till further orders. As

on 25.09.2007, there were 232 UASL applications pending from 22 companies in 22 service areas and 343 UASL applications were received from 26.09.2007 to 01.10.2007 from 26 companies in 22 service areas.

So far, Government has processed only those 232 UASL applications which were received upto 25.09.2007, out of which 122 UAS Licences have been issued to 17 eligible applicant companies in 22 service areas and rest are rejected. Company-wise details of sanction and rejection of these UASL applications alongwith reason of rejection are given in the enclosed statement-I. Company-wise list of 343 UASL applications received from 26.09.2007 to 01.10.2007 from 26 companies in 22 service areas is given in the enclosed statement-II.

Further, based on the observations of the Hon'ble TDSAT (Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal) and the Report of the Spectrum Committee, the Government has sought the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on 22.07.2009 on the policy of no capping on the number of Access Service providers in each service area in terms of pending applications for grant of new UAS licenses received from 26.09.2007 to 01.10.2007

Statement I

Company-wise details of 232 UASL applications which were pending as on 25.9.2007

| Sl.No. | Name of Applicant Company | Number of Applications Applied | Number of UAS licences issued | Number of Applications Rejected | Reasons of rejection |
|--------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1. | By Cell Telecom India Pvt. Ltd. | 5 | 0 | 5 | Security clearances and FIPB approvals granted to the company were withdrawn. The matter is sub-judice before the High Court of Delhi. |
| 2. | Tata Teleservices Ltd. | 3 | 3 | 0 | |
| 3. | Idea Cellular Ltd. | 9 | 9 | 0 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-----|---|----|----|----|---|
| 4. | Spice Communications Pvt. Ltd. | 20 | 4 | 16 | The company could fulfill the requirement of networth only for 4 applications. |
| 5. | Swan Telecom Pvt. Ltd. | 14 | 13 | 1 | Telecom related activity were not aprt of the Memorandum & Article of Association of the company on the date of UASL application for Jammu and Kashmir service area. |
| 6. | Cheetah Corporate Services Pvt. Ltd. | 2 | 0 | 2 | Telecom related activity were not part of the Memorandum & Article of Association of the company on the date of UASL applications. |
| 7. | HFCL Infotel Ltd. | 21 | 0 | 21 | Applications withdrawn by the Company. |
| 8. | S Tel Ltd. | 6 | 6 | 0 | |
| 9. | Parsvnath Developers Ltd. | 22 | 0 | 22 | Telecom related activity were not part of the Memorandum & Article of Association of the company on the date of UASL applications. The matter is sub-judice before the High Court of Delhi. |
| 10. | Datacom Solutions Pvt. Ltd. | 22 | 21 | 1 | The company did not comply the conditions of Letter of Intent for Punjab Service area. |
| 11. | Shippingstop Dot Com (India) Private Ltd. | 21 | 21 | 0 | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-----|--|-----|-----|-----|--|
| 12. | Allianz Infratech (P) Ltd. | 22 | 2 | 20* | Paid-up equity of the company was insufficient for all the 22 service areas. 2 UAS licence were issued to the company within the paid up equity of Rs. 10 crore. |
| | | | | | *These 20 UASL applications are pending for final decision as the matter is sub-judice before the High Court of Delhi. |
| 13. | Adonis Projects Pvt. Ltd. | 6 | 6 | 0 | |
| 14. | Aska Projects Ltd. | 3 | 3 | 0 | |
| 15. | Azare Properties Ltd. | 1 | 1 | 0 | |
| 16. | Hudson Properties Ltd. | 1 | 1 | 0 | |
| 17. | Nahan Properties Pvt. Ltd. | 6 | 6 | 0 | |
| 18. | Unitech Builders & Estates Pvt. Ltd. | 1 | 1 | 0 | |
| 19. | Unitech Infrastructures Pvt. Ltd. | 1 | 1 | 0 | |
| 20. | Volga Properties Pvt. Ltd. | 3 | 3 | 0 | |
| 21. | Shyam Telelink Limited | 21 | 21 | 0 | |
| 22. | Selence Infrastructure Private Limited | 22 | 0 | 22 | The company was having FDI more than 49% without any FIPB approval. |
| | Total | 232 | 122 | 110 | |

Statement II*List of pending 343 UASL applications which were received from 26.9.2007 to 1.10.2007*

| Sl.No. | Name of Applicant Company | Number of Applications Applied |
|--------|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. | ByCell Telecom India Pvt. Ltd. | 17 |
| 2. | S Tel Ltd. | 16 |
| 3. | JSW Power Trading Company Limited | 15 |
| 4. | Bhubaneshwar I.T. Park Developers Ltd. | 22 |
| 5. | Tulip IT Services Ltd. | 6 |
| 6. | Ortel Communications Ltd. | 1 |
| 7. | Videocon Industries Limited | 22 |
| 8. | Electrotherm (India) Pvt. | 1 |
| 9. | Next Generation Telecommunications (Pvt.) Ltd. | 22 |
| 10. | Meta Telecom Pvt. Ltd. | 7 |
| 11. | Avnija Properties Ltd. | 22 |
| 12. | RSK Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. | 1 |
| 13. | AT&T Global Network Services India Pvt. Ltd. | 22 |
| 14. | Sterlite Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. | 22 |
| 15. | HMT Telecom Pvt. Ltd. | 13 |
| 16. | Silicon Infowavs Pvt. Ltd. | 6 |
| 17. | Satvik Hightech Builders Pvt. Ltd. | 22 |
| 18. | Celleburm Com Pvt. Ltd. | 22 |
| 19. | BPTP Ltd. | 16 |
| 20. | Ispat Industry Ltd. | 6 |
| 21. | Balasore Alloys Ltd. | 2 |
| 22. | Gontermann-Pipers (India) Ltd. | 1 |
| 23. | Prithvi Information Solutions Ltd. | 22 |
| 24. | Moser Baer Infrastructure Limited | 22 |
| 25. | ACME Tele Power Ltd. | 12 |
| 26. | Anjney Loys Pvt. Ltd. | 3 |
| Total | | 343 |

*[English]***Rail and Road Connectivity with Major Ports**

3854. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:
DR. SANJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the major ports depend heavily on Ministries of Railways and Road Transport and Highways for providing connectivity to the ports for collection and dispersal of cargo;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Major Port Trusts have developed any mechanism for coordination with Ministries of Railways and Road Transport and Highways for providing such connectivity to the major ports at the earliest;

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

(e) the other steps taken by the Major Port Trusts for construction of rail links and roads to provide efficient connectivity to the ports?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN):

(a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Major Ports depend heavily on Ministry of Railways and Road Transport & Highways for providing connectivity to the Ports for collection and dispersal of cargo. All Major Ports are already provided with rail and road connectivity. Similarly, road connectivity projects are included in National Highways Development Programme for improvement of roads connecting 12 Major Ports in the country. At present, there are 8 on-going rail connectivity projects and 6 road connectivity projects. Each major port should preferably be connected by four lane road connectivity and double line of rail connectivity.

(c) to (d) Yes, Madam. Coordination meetings are held as and when required. Further, an Apex level committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Railway Board with officers of Ministry of Shipping and Ministry of Railways for coordination with regard to connectivity and operational level committee involving port officers to deal with issues in the field.

(e) Major Port Trusts are maintaining the road and rail network within the Port area. They are also joining hands with Railways and National Highways by forming Special Purpose Vehicles for construction of Rail and Road links.

*[Translation]***Impact of ASEAN FTA**

3855. SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE:
SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA:
SHRI BIBHU PRASAD TARAI:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

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

(a) the details of volume and value of trade with ASEAN countries during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the areas/sectors likely to gain additional market access with the signing of ASEAN Agreement;

(c) whether the Government has sponsored/ conducted any study to assess the impact of implementation of ASEAN Agreement especially on farmers from coastal states of the country;

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

(e) whether a recent study conducted by Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM) states that Indo- ASEAN Free Trade Agreement (FTA) may cause damage to key sectors of Indian economy and domestic plantation farmers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the consultations held with State Governments and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) India's Trade with ASEAN countries during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 was to the tune of US\$ 30715.91 million, US\$ 39088.33 million and US\$ 45343.59 million respectively. The figure for the current year (April-September, 2009) is US\$ 20187.69.

(b) With the signing of the India-ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement, additional market access is likely for India's export of several products including Machinery & Machine Parts, Steel & Steel Products, Oilcake, Wheat, Buffalo Meat, Automobiles & Auto Components, Chemicals, Synthetic Textiles, etc.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) the Associated Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ASSOCHAM) has released a publication titled 'India – ASEAN FTA: A Major Breakthrough' in February 2010. Comprehensive protection of the plantation and other sensitive sectors has been ensured under the India – ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement. Hence, inferences made in ASSOCHAM's publication regarding adverse consequences on the Indian economy are not valid.

[English]

Bailout Package for BSNL

3856. SHRI K. SUGUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has requested the Government to grant Rs. 8600 crore bailout and an extension of moratorium on interest payment of Government loans worth Rs. 7000 crore;

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

(c) whether the BSNL has also demanded to the Government to instruct Central and State Governments to mandatorily subscribe to its services to increase its revenue and get relief from the fiscal burden; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Madam, no proposal on the grant of Rs. 8600 crores bailout has been received by the Department of Telecommunications from Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). However, BSNL has requested for extension of moratorium on payment of interest on national Government Loan of Rs. 7500 crores upto 31.03.2008 and withdrawal of penalty and pre-payment charges.

The moratorium on payment of interest was initially upto 31.3.2004, which was further extended to 31.3.2005 as one of the packages of relief measures to BSNL to support it for discharging social obligation of providing

telecommunication facilities in rural, remote and commercially unviable areas of the country.

(c) and (d) BSNL, during presentation on review of its performance has requested that centre/state Governments and PSUs may be asked to avail telecom services from Government owned PSUs like BSNL and MTNL. The Government constituted an expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Shir Sam Pitroda in January 2010 to review the performance of BSNL and suggest measures for improving overall performance of the company. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government. The committee has not given any recommendation in the matter.

Employment to Educated Youths under MGNREGS

3857. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide employment to educated youth passed up to 12th Standard under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a high powered committee has been constituted in this matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) Mahatma Gandhi NREGA provides for enhancement of livelihood security of the households in rural areas of the country by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Thus, all rural adults, irrespective of their educational qualification, are eligible for employment in accordance with the provisions of the Act subject to a maximum of 100 days per household in a financial year.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Export of Defence Equipment**

3858. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has registered an increase in export of defence equipments;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of equipments exported during the last three years;

(c) the countries from which proposals for purchase have been received; and

(d) the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) No, Madam.

(b) The export of defence equipment during the last three years is as under:

| | (Rs. in crores) |
|-----------|-----------------|
| 2007-2008 | 187.43 |
| 2008-2009 | 385.41 |
| 2009-2010 | 171.63 |

The equipment exported during the last three years arms and ammunitions, aircraft components and services, communication equipments, radars, night vision devices and harbour tugs.

(c) Proposals for purchase have been received and also executed from time to time from different countries viz. USA, Russia, Israel, Italy, UK, Suriname, Indonesia, Malaysia, Switzerland, Kenya, Oman, Turkey, Bangladesh, Australia, New Zealand, Belgium, Nepal, Chile, Egypt, Sri Lanka, Botswana, Uganda, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, Ecuador, Mauritius, Namibia, Romania, Algeria, Thailand, Syria, UAE and Vietnam.

(d) The decision is taken by the government on a case to case basis taking into account all relevant factors and in consultation with MEA.

*[English]***Fund for Unorganised Workers**

3859. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:

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

(a) whether the Government has decided to set up a National Social Security Fund and National Welfare Fund for all workers engaged in unorganised sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated for the purpose during each year of the Eleventh Plan and the number of workers who are likely to be benefited therefrom;

(c) whether the Government has started an initiative 'Swaralamban' to encourage the workers/people from the unorganized sector to subscribe to New Pension Scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the role of State Government in implementing these programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) In the Budget Speech for the year 2010-2011, the Finance Minister has proposed to set up National Social Security Fund for unorganised sector workers with initial allocation of Rs. 1,000 crore. This fund will support schemes for weavers, toddy tappers, rickshaw pullers, bidi workers etc. There is, however, no proposal to set up a National Welfare Fund for unorganised workers.

(c) to (e) In the Budget Speech for the year 2010-2011, the Finance Minister stated that to encourage the people from the unorganised sector voluntarily save for the retirement and to lower the cost of operations of the New Pension Scheme (NPS), Government will contribute Rs. 1000 per year each NPS account opened in the year 2010-11. This initiative, 'Swavalamban' will be available to those who join NPS, with a minimum contribution of Rs. 1000 and a maximum contribution of Rs. 12000 per annum during the financial year 2010-11. The scheme will be available for another three years. An allocation of Rs. 100 crore has been made for the current financial year. It will benefit about 10 lakh NPS subscribers of the unorganized sector. State Governments

would also be appealed to contribute a similar amount to the scheme and participate in the scheme.

[Translation]

Task Force/Separate Cell for Child Labourers

3860. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI C. RAJENDRAN:
SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR:

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

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to constitute a task force/separate cell with the help of Police, State Labour Department, Local Administration and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) to free and eliminate the child labourers in the country;

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

(c) whether the Union Government also proposes to set up a Special Assistance Fund for the education and livelihood of rescued child labourers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) and (b) No, Madam. However, a Protocol on Prevention, Rescue, Repatriation and Rehabilitation of Trafficked and Migrant Child Labour, which envisages pre-rescue and rescue operations, rehabilitation and prevention, was issued to the State/UT Governments.

(c) and (d) No, Madam. Government is already implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for the rehabilitation of children withdrawn from work. Under the Scheme, the children enrolled in the schools are provided with bridge education, vocational training, stipend, nutrition, health care facilities etc.

[English]

Eligibility for Gratuity

3861. SHRI R. THAMARASELVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any representation/demand from various stockholders to

reduce the eligibility for receiving gratuity from five years service to one year service; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) and (b) Yes Madam, the Government has received representations in this regard. Gratuity is only a terminal benefit granted to an employee in addition to provident fund, pension, ESI benefits and bonus etc. in cases of superannuation, death, resignation, permanent disablement. If this benefit is granted only after one year service, it may not be called a terminal benefit and becomes part of the wages which is not the intention and object of the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972. Secondly, the payment of gratuity is employer's liability and therefore the paying capacity of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises is also required to be taken into consideration.

Survey to Assess Reasons of Unemployment

3862. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:
SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:
SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP:

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

(a) whether the Government has made any study/survey to assess the reasons of unemployment in the country including hilly areas; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) and (b) Reliable estimates on various characteristics pertaining to employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation. Last such survey was conducted during 2004-05. But this survey does not provide any information to assess reasons of unemployment in the country. However, the survey provides information at the national level about the reasons of loss of employment for those who were ever employed. Details are given below:

Per 1000 distribution of unemployed (15-59 yrs.) who ever worked by reason for break in employment

| Reason for break in employment | All-India | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|------|-------|------|
| | Rural | | Urban | |
| Loss of earlier job | 35 | 13 | 121 | 34 |
| Quit earlier job | 43 | 54 | 160 | 232 |
| Lay-off without pay | 9 | 2 | 17 | 29 |
| Unit closed | 27 | 8 | 90 | 52 |
| Lack of work in the enterprise | 189 | 116 | 149 | 114 |
| Lack of work in the area | 519 | 676 | 239 | 241 |
| Others | 173 | 132 | 223 | 298 |
| All (including n.r.*) | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 | 1000 |

*n.r.=not reported

SCs/STs Finance Commission

3863. SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to increase the budgetary allocation to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes (SCs/STs) Finance Commission; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) Government has neither constituted a Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (SCs/STs) Finance Commission nor any such proposal is under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana

3864. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana to meet the specific needs of women farmers is being

launched as a sub-component of the National Rural Livelihood Mission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. Following the Finance Ministers' Budget Speech, Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana is being designed as a sub—component of the proposed National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) with the aim to achieve socio-economic and technical empowerment of the rural women farmers, predominantly small and marginal farmers. The Planning Commission has allocated Rs. 100 crore for taking up the Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana. The proposal for NRLM is yet to be approved by the Cabinet. The details of the Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana are being drawn up.

[*Translation*]

Performance of Works undertaken under PMGSY

3865. DR. SANJAY SINGH:
RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether national level quality monitors have carried out any inspection of the works executed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether around 35 percent works have been found unsatisfactory; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) Yes Madam.

(b) During the period January, 2007 to December, 2009, National Quality Monitors (NQMs) have inspected 2,542 completed works and 11,453 ongoing works.

(c) No. Sir. Out of the works inspected, 18% of the ongoing works and 10% of the completed works were found unsatisfactory.

(d) The findings of the NQMs have been shared with the State Governments and they have been asked to take necessary action on these observations and send Action Taken Report to National Rural Road Development Agency (NRRDA).

Underground and Overhead Telephone Cables

3866. SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an assurance has been given by the Government to change the underground and overhead cables laid from the telephone exchanges situated in different parts of the country especially in Bahedakhaal in development block Kot in district Pauri Garhwal;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Madam, no assurance for changing all the underground and overhead cables laid from the telephone exchanges has

been given by BSNL and MTNL. The decision for changing the faulty/damaged/underviceable cable is being taken on case to case basis. In case of Bahedakhaal exchange, the work order for replacement of damaged underground cable was issued but the work could't be completed due to various difficulties in the area. However, service to almost all the affected telephone subscribers have been restored by converting the land line telephone into WLL telephone; the exception being where the subscriber has not accepted WLL connection.

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

[English]

Expansion of MGNREGS

3867. SHRI MANOHAR TIRKEY:
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:
SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO:
SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI KALIKESH NARAYAN SINGH DEO:
SHRI KAMAL KISHOR "COMMANDO":
SHRI RAJU SHETTI:
SHRI VARUN GANDHI:
SHIR K.P. DHANAPALN:
SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL:
SHRI JAYARAM PANGI:
SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI:
SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR:
SHRI GORAKHNATH PANDEY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of permissible activities under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS);

(b) whether any discussions were held in the meeting of Central Employment Guarantee Council in August, 2009 for including new works thereunder;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has decided to widen the scope of this scheme and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has recieved any requests from various quarters including public representatives/individuals/State Government/organisations

etc. for inclusion of more activities/sections of people under MGNREGS since its inception;

(f) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(g) whether a number of obstructions have arisen in widening the scope of MGNREGS and the Government has set up an expert committee to clear them; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to remove the same and implement the scheme effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) Activities which are permissible under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA have been given in the their order of priority in para 1 of Schedule-I of the Act and are as given below:

- (i) water conservation and water harvesting;
- (ii) drought proofing (including afforestation and tree plantation);
- (iii) irrigation canals including micro and minor irrigation works;
- (iv) provision of irrigation facility, horticulture, plantation and land development facilities on land owned by households belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes or to Below Poverty Line Families or to beneficiaries of land reforms or to the beneficiaries under the Indira Awas Yojna of the Government of India or that of the small and marginal farmers as defined in the Agriculture Debt Waiver and debt Relief Scheme, 2008;
- (v) renovation of traditional water bodies including desilting of tanks;

(vi) land development;

(vii) flood control and protection works including drainage in water logged areas;

(viii) rural connectivity to provide all-weather access;

(ix) construction of Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra as village knowledge Resource Centre and Gram Panchayat Bhavan at gram panchayat level.

(x) any other work which may be notified by the Central Government in consultation with the State Government.

(b) and (c) Yes, Madam. In the meeting of Central Employment Guarantee council held on 18th August, 2009, inclusion of new works as permissible activities under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA was discussed.

(d) Construction of Bharat Nirman Rajiv Gandhi Sewa Kendra as village Knowledge Resource Centre and Gram Panchayat Bhawan at Gram Panchayat level has been included as a permissible activity in para 1 of Schedule 1 of the Act vide Notification dated 11.11.2009.

(e) Yes, Madam. Proposals have been received from a number of State Governments for inclusion of new works as permissible activities under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA.

(f) Details of works proposed by various States are given in the enclosed Statement.

(g) and (h) Some of the members of the Central Employment Guarantee Council sought clarifications in this regard which were duly provided to them.

Statement

| Sl.No. | Name of Proposing State | Details of Work proposed |
|--------|-------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Himachal Pradesh | i. Wall protection or barbed wire fencing around the agricultural fields for crop protection to check the menance of wild animals. |
| 2. | West Bengal | i. Preparation of mud block/brick under NREGA under Para 1 (ix) of Schedule 1. ii. Tea plantation |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|----|-------------------|--|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. Construction of tanks iv. Compost pit and bio fertilize |
| 3. | Gujarat | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Manufacturing of mud bricks for the use of construction of Anganwadi, Indira Awas Houses |
| 4. | Kerala | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Proposal for inclusion of soak pit and garbage pit in the land of BPL, SC, ST and beneficiaries of land reforms/IAY as per Para 1 (ix) of Schedule 1 of NREGA. ii. Construction of Houses, iii. soak pits, iv. Open dug wells, v. compost pits, vi. Rain water harvesting (RWH) structure. vii. Construction and maintenance of public assets (anganwadis/schools/hospitals/crechegodowns/markets/work sheds) viii. Waste Management (sewerage, street sweeping, collection and disposal of waste, biogas) ix. Coastal/fisheries sector (shore protection, fish landing centers, artificial roof, drying yard, boat jetties. x. Paddy xi. Horticulture xii. Abandoned plantation work. |
| 5. | Madhya Pradesh | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Inclusion of preparation of biodynamic compost fertilizer in the list of permissible works as per Para 1 (ix) of Schedule 1 of NREGA. ii. Extension of anganwadis timing by paying them from NREGA. iii. Taking up of project for anganwadis building keeping 60:40 ratio. |
| 6. | Jammu and Kashmir | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Construction/laying of drains in villages. ii. Digging of wells and setting up of hand pumps. iii. Construction of kitchen-cum-store under Mid-day meal scheme. iv. Construction of culverts/nallah crossings in collaboration with Forest Department. v. Removal of snow from roads during winter. |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|----------------|--|
| 7. | Karnataka | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Construction of toilet pits under sanitation campaign with labor component from NREGA. ii. Construction of vermi compost units. iii. Construction of compound walls for schools buildings and other Government properties. iv. Support construction of houses under various schemes like IAY, VAMBAY and Ashraya. The unskilled labor component and earth work to be made out of the NREGS fund. v. Inclusion of brick making activities. vi. Proposal approved by the Karnataka State Employment Guarantee Council and forwarded by Secretary (RD & PR), Karnataka. |
| 8. | Rajasthan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Construction of houses for the BPL in rural areas by devetailing with India Awaas Yojana. ii. Individual Household latrines for BPL under TSC by devetailing with Total Sanitation Campaign. iii. Boundary wall for schools. iv. Removal of sand from roads in Desert areas during summers. v. Repair of rural roads (shoulder Strengthening and repair by gravelling). vi. Construction of water courses and lining of water courses in canal areas. vii. Erection of poles under Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Programme. viii. Provide soil cover in waste lands through transportation of soil from others sources like Tanks beds etc. |
| 9. | Andhra Pradesh | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Gravel roads connectivity to agriculture Fields. ii. Consturction of kachha drains and Connecting to natural drains. iii. Formation of approach roads with granular sub base to burial grounds. iv. Construction of biogas plants. v. Removal of silts from ponds |
| 10. | Uttar Pradesh | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Mid day meal cook may be allowed and paid from NREGA. ii. Wages to workes engaged in construction of houses under IAY and iii. Inclusion of horticulture |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-----|-------|--|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iv. Construction of boundary wall of schools, Panchayat ghars, community centers etc. v. Construction of playgrounds in villages and Government owned schools and colleges. vi. Community Cattle sheds with facility for stall feeding, collection of cattle dung in a Compost Pit, drain for collection of cow urine for organic pesticide use etc. vii. Gree fodder development viii. Nutrient Pest Management (NPM) and Organic cultivation |
| 11. | Assam | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Boatman for providing relief and rescue Operation during flood. ii. For relief distribution work. iii. Construction of temporary relief camps. iv. Restore the breaches of embankment of river due to flood. v. Plantation and nursery on Government, Community, road side, and canal side land. |

*[Translation]***Shortage of Staff in ESI Hospitals/ Dispensaries**

3868. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM
WAKCHAURE:
SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:
SHRI MUKESH BHAIKAVDANJI GADHVI:
SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

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

(a) the number of vacant posts of specialists men/women doctors, nurses, para-medical and other categories of employees in Employees State Insurance (ESI) hospitals/dispensaries, State-wise;

(b) whether the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) proposes to set up medical colleges, nursing colleges etc. to meet such shortages in ESI hospitals/ dispensaries in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which such colleges are likely to be set up, State-wise; and

(d) the funds allocated by the Government for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) The vacant post of Specialists Doctors/Para-medical including nurses and other categories of employees in ESI Hospitals/Dispensaries State-wise is given in the enclosed statement-I

(b) and (c) Yes, Madam. Details of medical colleges, dental colleges etc. proposed to be set up as on date (State-wise) is given in the enclosed statement-II.

These Medical Education Projects are in various stages of implementation. These are long term projects likely to take 3 to 5 years for completion.

(d) Tentative budget allocation for these projects for the years 2009-10 and 2010-11 are Rs. 324 crores and Rs. 765 crorerer respectively. The funds are released for the above projects as per the progress achieved.

Statement I*Vacancy position in respect of various categories of staff in ESI Hospital, State-wise as on 31.3.2009*

| Sl.No. | State/U.T. | Specialist Doctors including Woman Doctors | Para-Medical including Nursing Staff | Others |
|--------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 26 | 65 | 108 |
| 2. | Assam | 6 | 8 | 24 |
| 3. | Bihar | 9 | 75 | 77 |
| 4. | Chandigarh Admn. | 6 | 10 | 8 |
| 5. | Chhattisgarh | Nil | 28 | 31 |
| 6. | Delhi (including all Model Hospital) | 336 | 2276 | 1169 |
| 7. | Goa | Nil | 5 | 7 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 19 | 354 | 245 |
| 9. | Haryana | 20 | 70 | 76 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | Nil | 12 | 6 |
| 11. | Karnataka | 101 | 229 | 171 |
| 12. | Kerala | 20 | 52 | 191 |
| 13. | Madhya Pradesh | 12 | 168 | 114 |
| 14. | Maharashtra | 37 | 376 | 423 |
| 15. | Meghalaya | Nil | 5 | 4 |
| 16. | Orissa | 19 | 55 | 79 |
| 17. | Puducherry | 1 | 30 | 5 |
| 18. | Punjab | 5 | 73 | 179 |
| 19. | Rajasthan | 11 | 32 | 51 |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 13 | 490 | 712 |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh | 77 | 225 | 96 |
| 22. | Uttaranchal | Nil | 9 | 5 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| 23. | West Bengal | 72 | 380 | 903 |
| 24. | Jammu and Kashmir | Nil | 11 | 11 |
| 25. | Jharkhand | 7 | 190 | 221 |

Statement II*Proposed ESI Medical Institutions in the Country*

| Sl.No. | States | Institutions | Attached ESI Hospitals |
|--------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | PGIMSR Medical College | Sanath Nagar, Hyderabad |
| 2. | | | Dental College Nacharam, Hyderabad |
| 3. | Gujarat | Medical College | Naroda, Ahmedabad |
| 4. | | PGIMSR | Bapu Nagar, Ahmedabad |
| 5. | Karnataka | PGIMSR Medical College | Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore |
| 6. | | PGIMSR | Indira Nagar, Bangalore |
| 7. | Kerala | Medical College | Paripally, Kollam |
| 8. | | | Dental College Ezhukone, Kollam |
| 9. | Madhya Pradesh | Medical College | Dental College Nanda Nagar, Indore |
| 10. | Maharashtra | PGIMSR Medical College | Mulund & Thane, Mumbai |
| 11. | | PGIMSR | Andheri (East), Mumbai |
| 12. | | PGIMSR | Parel, Mumbai |
| 13. | | | Dental College Vashi, Navi Mumbai |
| 14. | New Delhi | PGIMSR Medical College | Basaidarapur, New Delhi |
| 15. | | | Dental College Rohini, Delhi |
| 16. | Tamil Nadu | PGIMSR Medical College | K.K. Nagar, Chennai |
| 17. | | PGIMSR | Ayanavarqam, Chennai |
| 18. | | Medical College | Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 19. | West Bengal | PGIMSR | Medical College |
| | | | Dental College |
| | | | Joka, Kolkata |
| 20. | | | Medical College |
| | | | Baltikuri, Kolkata |
| 21. | | PGMISR | |
| | | | Manicktala, Kolkata |
| 22. | Punjab | | Dental College |
| | | | Bharat Nagar, Ludhiana |
| 23. | Uttar Pradesh | | Dental College |
| | | | Pandu Nagar, Kanpur |
| 24. | Haryana | | Medical College |
| | | | ESI Hospital, NH-3, Faridabad |
| 25. | Bihar | | Medical College |
| | | | Patna (Green Field Project) |
| 26. | Himachal Pradesh | | Medical College |
| | | | Mandi (Green Field Project) |
| 27. | Rajasthan | | Medical College |
| | | | Alwar (Green Field Project) |
| 28. | Orissas | | Medical College |
| | | | Bhubneshwar (Green Field Project) |
| 29. | Karnataka | | Medical College |
| | | | Gulbarga-(Green Field Project) |
| Total 16 States | | 12 (PGIMSR) | 17 (Medical Colleges) |
| | | | 9 (ESI Dental Colleges) |

Note: PGIMSR = Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences & Research for M.D./M.S./Diploma Courses.

[English]

Helicopter Assembly Unit

3869. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a foreign firm is likely to set up a helicopter assembly unit in Hyderabad in near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the details of financial implications and private participation in this regard;

(c) the details of Memorandum of Understandings signed in this regard; and

(d) the time by which the unit is likely to be functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) The Ministry of Defence has not received any such proposal.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Import of Defence Equipments

3870. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of defence equipments are imported;

(b) if so, the details of deals finalized for procurement of various types of equipments during the last three years;

(c) the names of the countries from which most of the equipments are being imported;

(d) the total expenditure incurred on import of the equipments during each of the last three years;

(e) whether some of the imported defence systems have been found to be defective and unreliable;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(g) the steps taken to indigenously produce the said equipments

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (g) Procurement of defence equipment is made by the Government from various indigenous as well as foreign sources to meet the requirements of Armed Forces. This is a continuous process based on the technological changes, threat perception and available resources. The import option is exercised when it is necessary to procure the items within a definite timeframe on operational grounds to bridge the capability gaps and normally when such equipment cannot be sourced indigenously within a specified timeframe.

A number of contracts for procurement of various defence equipment to meet the requirements of the armed forces have been signed during the last three years. Total expenditure on import of the equipment in the last three years is as follows:

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Financial Year 2006-2007 | - | Rs. 5485.58 Crore |
| Financial Year 2007-2008 | - | Rs. 10123.36 Crore |
| Financial Year 2008-2009 | - | Rs. 10156.98 Crore |

Major countries from which the imports are made at present include Russia, the USA, the UK, France, Germany and Israel.

Necessary provisions are included in the contracts to ensure that the defence equipment are in defect free state when deliveries are taken. There are safeguards in the contracts against subsequent defects/failures.

Government has taken various policy initiatives to promote indigenization of defence production with the ultimate goal of self reliance in the defence sector. The Defence Procurement Procedure provides for "Make" category for Indigenous Research, Design, Development and production of systems. These include high technology complex systems. Further, a new category 'Buy & Make

(Indian)' has been included as an amendment to Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) 2008 with effect from 1st November, 2009 in order to encourage participation by Indian Industry.

Salary Limit for Provident Fund

3871. SHRI SANJAY SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the existing salary limit for availing the benefits of Provident Fund by the employees in the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to increase such ceiling for the benefits of employees;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government has consulted various stakeholders in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the stockholders thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

(a) The existing salary limit under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 for availing benefits of Provident Fund by the employees is Rs. 6,500/-.

(b) to (e) The Central Board of Trustees is a tripartite body of employees' representative, employees' representatives and representative from the Central and State Governments who give their views on the subjects considered in its meetings. The proposal for enhancement of wage ceiling, as per the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour in its 39th Report, was placed before the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund in its 189th Meeting held on 9th April, 2010 and the same was deferred.

[English]

Implementation of KRC Report

3872. SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the recommendations made by the Kargil Review Committee (KRC) and the Group of Ministers pertaining to Defence establishments and the follow-up action taken thereon;

(b) the recommendations made by the Kargil Review Committee and the Group of Ministers which have not been implemented and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has not implemented the recommendation to appoint a Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) as the point persons for single point Military advice to the Government;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the mandate of the Integrated Defence Planning Staff;

(f) whether it has been able to achieve the objective of better coordination in terms of inter-operability between the three Services;

(g) the experience of the Tri-Services Command in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(h) whether despite an Unified Command because of separate staffing command and control structures in the three Services, unification of operations has not been achieved; and

(i) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (i) The Report of the Group of Ministers on National Security has six chapters. The Ministry of Defence has been designated as the nodal Ministry for implementation of Chapter VI on 'Management of Defence', which contains 75 recommendations. Out of these, 63 recommendations have been implemented and action on four recommendations is in various stages of progress.

Eight recommendations of the Report relate to the establishment of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). A decision on this matter would be taken after completion of the ongoing consultations with political parties.

The HQ Integrated Defence Staff HQ IDS) has been created to enhance jointness and build synergy amongst the Armed Forces, including in the areas of Long Term Plans, force capabilities, joint training, intelligence, capital acquisition, joint doctrines, etc. The Andaman & Nicobar

Command (ANC) has been created to exercise control over tri-service and Coast Guard assets deployed in the Andaman & Nicobar (A&N) Islands and joint exercises/operations are being carried out from time to time. These arrangements are considered to be adequate for the present.

Smart Card to ESI Beneficiaries

3873. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to issue Smart Cards to Employees State Insurance (ESI) beneficiaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such beneficiaries likely to avail the benefit of ESI hospitals in all parts of the country by using Smart Cards;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the above facility is likely to be extended throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The ESI Corporation has embarked upon the IT-enablement Project "Panchdeep" which has five main components. The component 'Pehchan' covers issue of Smart Cards. All service-related issues pertaining to identification, authentication and verification of Insured Persons are covered under 'Pehchan'.

(c) and (d) Under the component of 'Pehchan', the ESI Corporation is going to issue two cards to Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Beneficiaries, one for the Insured Person and the other for the family of the beneficiaries. These cards will be accepted in all ESI Institutions including hospitals across the country.

(e) The facility is likely to be extended through out the country by September, 2010.

Border Trade with Neighbouring Countries

3874. SHRI PREMDAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps are being taken by the Government to ensure an increase in trade with our

neighbouring countries surrounding the North East, including Sikkim;

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

(c) the details regarding extent of border trade and the list of items being traded during the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether the Ministry proposes to expand this list so that a more comprehensive trade regime is ushered in; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the process is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. In order to improve commercial relations with neighbouring countries, the

Government of India has signed the South Asia Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA). India also provides preferential trade exchange to the neighbouring countries under Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) and Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA) as well as under Duty Free Tariff Preferential (DFTP) Scheme. Besides, GOI has a number of bilateral agreement and discussions which helps deliberating upon and resolving certain vexed issues relating to trade and nontrade barriers. Several other initiatives for facilitating trade such as exchange of trade delegations, participation in fairs and exhibitions, organisation of buyers sellers meets are also organized/ facilitated from time to time.

(c) Fish, Agriculture Products, Sports Goods, Toys, Medical Equipments and Electrical Goods etc. are the main items being traded. The details of import and export to the neighbouring countries during the last three years is given below:-

(Rs. In Crores)

| Sl.No. | Country | 2006-2007 | | 2007-2008 | | 2008-09 | | 2009-2010(April 09 September 09) | |
|--------|------------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| | | Export | Import | Export | Import | Export | Import | Export | Import |
| 1. | Bangladesh | 7365.96 | 1033.90 | 11743.21 | 1034.68 | 11317.21 | 1418.46 | 5105.81 | 521.70 |
| 2. | Bhutan | 260.18 | 640.00 | 348.85 | 782.60 | 509.27 | 687.86 | 235.19 | 314.36 |
| 3. | China | 37529.78 | 79008.60 | 43597.41 | 109116.06 | 42661.33 | 147605.59 | 19061.33 | 72444.37 |
| 4. | Myanmar | 633.74 | 3540.94 | 746.19 | 3259.28 | 1017.76 | 4240.76 | 458.05 | 2872.02 |
| 5. | Nepal | 4201.38 | 1384.51 | 6063.48 | 2527.25 | 7155.57 | 2255.67 | 2856.28 | 1020.97 |

(Source DGCI&S)

(d) and (e) No, Madam.

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, we take up Papers to be laid on the Table.

Shri G.K. Vasani

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASANI):
I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2008-2009.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited, Kolkata, for the

- year 2008-2009, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2103/15/10]
- (3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding— (Hindi and English versions) between the Dredging Corporation of India Limited and the Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways for the year 2009-2010.
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2104/15/10]
- (4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of Section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958:-
- (i) The Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Sewage from Ships) Rules, 2010 published in the Notification No. G.S.R. 13(E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th January, 2010.
- (ii) The Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Harmful Substances Carried by Sea in Packaged Form) Rules, 2010 published in the Notification No. G.S.R. 14(E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th January, 2010.
- (iii) The Merchant Shipping (Control of Pollution by Noxious Liquid Substances in Bulk) Rules, 2010 published in the Notification No. G.S.R. 15(E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th January, 2010.
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2105/15/10]
- THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): I beg to lay on the Table:-
- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs, Trade Marks and Geographical Indications, Mumbai, for the year 2008-2009, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2106/15/10]
- (3) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, for the year 2010-2011.
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2107/15/10]
- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council, Hyderabad, for the year 2008-2009, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council, Hyderabad, for the year 2008-2009.
- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2108/15/10]
- (6) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of Section 30 of the Tobacco Board Act, 1975:-
- (i) G.S.R. 611(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th March, 2010, authorising Tobacco Board to purchase the excess/ unauthorized tobacco by charging penalties in the State of Karnataka.
- (ii) G.S.R. 612(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th March, 2010, relaxing the provisions of Section 10 of the Tobacco Board Act in the State of Karnataka.
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2109/15/10]
- (7) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the PEC Limited and the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry for the year 2010-2011.
[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2110/15/10]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi, for the year 2008-2009, alongwith Audited Accounts.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2111/15/10]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence for the year 2010-2011.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2112/15/10]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Labour and Employment, for the year 2010-2011.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2113/15/10]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MUKUL ROY): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Cochin Shipyard Limited and the Ministry of Shipping for the year 2010-2011.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2114/15/10]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. GANDHISELVAN): On behalf of Shri D. Napoleon, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the year 2009-2010.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 2115/15/10]

- (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 National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2008-2009.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2008-2009, 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 2116/15/10]

12.01 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

10th to 20th Reports

[*Translation*]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Varanasi): Madam Speaker, I beg to present following reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Finance (2009-10).

1. Tenth Report on The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Amendment) Bill, 2009.
2. Eleventh Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of Finance (Departments of Economic Affairs, Expenditure, Financial Services and Disinvestment).
3. Twelfth Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue)
4. Thirteenth Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of Planning.
5. Fourteenth Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

6. Fifteenth Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.
7. Sixteenth Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in First Report (15th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Ministry of Finance (Departments of Economic Affairs, Expenditure, Financial Services and Disinvestment)
8. Seventeenth Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Second Report (15th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue).
9. Eighteenth Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report (15th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Ministry of Planning.
10. Nineteenth Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fourth Report (15th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
11. Twentieth Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifth Report (15th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

12.01 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY

215th to 217th Reports

[Translation]

SHRI GORAKHNATH PANDEY (BHADOHI): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Industry.

1. Two Hundred and Fifteenth Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises (Department of Heavy Industry)
2. Two Hundred and Sixteenth Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises (Department of Public Enterprises.)

3. Two Hundred and Eventeenth Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of Mirco, Small and Medium Enterprises.

12.02 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 3rd Report of the Standing Committee on Labour on Demands for Grants (2009-10), pertaining to the Ministry of Labour and Employment*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): Madam, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Mallikarjun Kharge, I beg to lay the Statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Labour on Demands for Grants (2009-10), as per the Direction issued by the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha in pursuance of Rule 389 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, on 1st September, 2004.

The Third Report of the Committee concern the Ministry of Labour and Employment, which was laid on the Table of the House on 17.12.2009. I would like to mention that the Ministry had submitted to the Committee, the Action Taken Report on this Report on 25.02.2010, which has been taken note of by the Committee.

The status of implementation of the recommendations of the Committee contained in the Third Report, is indicated in the Annexure to my Statement circulated among the hon. Members. I would not like to take the valuable time of the House to read out all the contents of this Annexure.

I would request that this might be considered as read.

12.04 hrs.

MOTION RE: FOURTEENTH REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): I beg to move:

*Laid on the table and also placed in Library, See No. 2117/1510.

"That this House do agree with the Fourteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on 16th April, 2010."

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Fourteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on 16th April, 2010."

The motion was adopted.

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, we take up 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Ghatal): Madam Speaker, before you go in for the 'Zero Hour' I would like to submit to you that I had submitted to you a letter on the question of procedure of Cut Motions.

I am quoting the Article 113 of the Constitution. It says that...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: I have received your notice, and I am seized of the matter.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Madam, please give me one minute. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: I am seized of the matter.

Now, we move on to 'Zero Hour'. Shri Rajnath Singh.

12.04¹/₂

SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS

- (i) **Re: Reported mismanagement and carelessness in maintaining wheat and rice buffer stock.**

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SINGH (Ghaziabad): Madam Speaker, I am thankful to you for allowing me to raise an important issue concerning the villages, poor and farmers of the country in this House.

Madam, you will accept the fact that every citizen of this country has a right to life and this right is a

fundamental right of every citizen. But today the irony is that the Government is breaching the fundamental right of life. Three days ago, I received information that lakh of tonnes of wheat and rice laying in the open in various godowns of FCI in the country have got thoroughly rotten.

This rotten wheat is being mixed with normal wheat and supplied to the poor people of the country. When I got the information, I personally visited two godowns of FCI at Palwal in Haryana and inspected the wheat bags, the wheat which I saw inside those bags brought tears to my eyes as would have happened to every sensitive person. I have already told you how this rotten wheat is being mixed with normal wheat and supplied to the poor people to eat. Madam, if you permit me, I can place 1-2 samples of the wheat before you on your table.

I would like to place it on your table but with your permission.

MADAM SPEAKER: Leave it now, please.

SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: Madam, this is the condition of wheat being supplied.

MADAM SPEAKER: Leave it now, please.

SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: This wheat mixed with normal wheat is being provided to common people. I would like to congratulate farmers and feel that the Parliament of India should also congratulate the farmers for they have produced two times or 2¹/₂ times more food grains than required for PDS. The country has buffer stock norms of just 200 lakh not tonnes but more than 453.33 million tonnes already has been stocked in the godowns of FCI. However, the poor of the country are not getting the wheat. The wheat stocked in 2007-2008 is getting rotten in the open. I would like to know why it is not being supplied? Today poor are starving to death. We daily read news of starvation deaths. But the Government is not able to provide food to the poor despite having adequate stock of wheat and rice. That is why this Government have not moral right to be in power.

Madam Speaker, I would like to submit that instructions should be issued by you to the Minister of Food and the Government to issue a statement regarding the actual position in this regard. So far as I know a Committee was constituted in 1968 under the chairmanship of Dr. Panje which, in its report, had said

that 9.33% of the foodgrains produced in the country get thoroughly damaged and rotten. But post 1968, no committee has been constituted to assess the percentage of the total foodgrains produced by hard working farmers which get rotten. Once I read in newspapers that even today the foodgrains costing more than about Rs. 60,000 crore get damaged and do not reach the poor but the Government are not concerned.

Madam Speaker, I would like to request that instructions should be issued to release a statement in this regard as no other issue is as much important as this one because the issue is basically related to the right of life.

The other instruction which need to be issued is that rotten wheat in no case should be mixed with normal wheat to sell through PDS. A committee should be constituted to ascertain and assess the quality of foodgrains which have got rotten in the godowns of the FCI and the Parliament should be informed about it. And the responsibility should be fixed to find out the persons who are responsible for a serious crime like this. The people need to be identified and punished. I would simply like to request this the have given me the opportunity to raise the issue, I am thankful to you.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Varanasi): Madam, a JPC should be appointed to investigate the whole affairs of the Food Corporation of India. So, you are requested to appoint a Joint Parliamentary Committee immediately. This is very necessary to appoint a JPC.
...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Speak after him, please.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Mainpuri): Madam, this is a very serious issue that wheat is rotting...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please let him finish first.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Madam, there is another serious crisis that godowns are full and stock is lying in the open. Wheat is not being procured from the farmers this year. This is another important issue. Wheat is rotting. This is a fact that people are dying from starvation, such reports are daily appearing in the newspapers. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: All right, please sit down now.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Madam, farmers' wheat is not being procured this year also. The Indian population comprises of 72 percent farmers, would India be able to make progress without its farmers? I would like to say it loud and clear that if India is to make progress, farmers should be brought in the foreground. There are 72 percent farmers and this wheat is not being procured. Declaration for procurement was made, arrangements were made, but wheat is not being procured. Weighing machines have been installed, but wheat is not being procured. The farmer is forced to sell it @ Rs. 900 in the open market instead of @ Rs. 1100 as fixed by the Government. Such is the condition today.

MADAM SPEAKER: All right, please sit down now.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Madam, the issue raised is a serious one. The new crop of wheat has arrived and hon. members from both sides have referred to old stock of wheat which is already rotting in the open. So new procurement would not be made. We do not know the temperament of weather. It can not be predicted. I would like to submit that the biggest problem is this that procurement is made only in some parts of the country, no procurement is done in the remaining parts. The real problem is godowns, I am not talking of cold storages, but of godowns. The serious crisis India is facing is that of godowns, of storage. When foodgrains are rotting and lying in the open, who is going to buy new wheat. When there is no procurement, what would be the condition of the country, moreover, when weather has changed. Another question I wanted to raise earlier is related to IPL. I had not raised the issue of Tharoor.
...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: This is not the issue.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I alone have not raised Tharoor's issue. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Jagdambika Pal ji.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Madam, there is IPL Scam, and betting. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: This is diversion. Let's stick to this issue only.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Madam, this is a serious problem in which all the scamsters are involved. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you, sit down, please.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that you have removed the hon. Minister here, but what about the scams. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: This word come after it.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: It is not over.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Madam, I will bring to the notice of the hon. Food Minister the matter which has been raised by Shri Rajnath Singh and also by Shri Sharad Yadav.

MADAM SPEAKER: All right. Thank you.

But the matter continues and it will end with Shri Jagdambika Pal.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (DOMARIYAGANJ): Madam, I am highly grateful to you. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: This is diversion from the subject. You are taking that also.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER : Jagdambika Pal Ji, please speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: What Sharad Yadav Ji has said will also be considered. I would try my best to reply in one go. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Madam, I would like to bring one very important issue to the notice of the august House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down, we are just taking that issue. The matter will soon be taken up. Let him speak. Only Jagdambika Pal Ji's speech will go on record.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Madam, I would like to bring a very important issue to the notice of this august House. The Rabi crop is ready for harvest and reaching Khalihaans. The wheat supposed to be procured by the Central Government under Central Pool from the States is not being procured, and as a result, the farmers are forced to sell the wheath @ Rs. 875/- per quintal and @ Rs. 900/- per quintal to the middlemen. The Central Government has to procure 40 lakh metric tonnes of wheat from the Government of Uttar Pradesh. The Government has assured to set up 4406 procurement centers.

Wheat procurement centres have not been set up in Uttar Pradesh so far. ...*(Interruptions)* You sit down. Please do not interrupt me. What is this? ...*(Interruptions)* Learn to hear others. The hon. Speaker has permitted me to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Only 1.15 lakh metric tonnes of wheat have been procured in place of 40 lakh metric tonnes. ...*(Interruptions)* Madam Speaker, please stop him. What is the use of speaking under such conditions. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Jagdambika Pal is saying.

*(Interruptions) ... **

[*Translation*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Why have you got up Umashankarji? You sit down please.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Madam Speaker, only 1.15 lakh MTs of wheat have been procured so far instead of 40 lakh MTs. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Your point is made, please sit down now.

MADAM SPEAKER: You sit down. You have made your point.

Let Shri T.R. Balu speak. Punia ji, you sit down please.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Why have you stood up? You sit down. Your party president has said everything in detail. Ramkishunji, now you also sit down please.

...(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Only Shri T.R. Baalu's statement will go on record.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Let us have some order in the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU (Sriperumbudur): Madam, I am surprised to understand that a grand old lady, the mother of slain Pirabhakaran, who has been suffering because of acute paralytic attack, who was traveling from Kaula Lumpur to Chennai to avail medical facilities at Chennai,

has been deported by the immigration authorities on Sunday night. This has happened in spite of having a valid visa, after due verification, to travel from Kaula Lumpur to Chennai and have the medical treatment at Chennai itself for about six to eight months.

The State Government in charge of law and order was kept in dark throughout the episode. Neither the passenger nor the Government of India has intimated about the sad episode. Mrs. Parvathi was in Tamil Nadu up to 2003. She never had any criminal background. From 2003 to early 2010 she was in Sri Lanka. She has sought refuge in Malaysia and the Sri Lankan Government has permitted it. This is an ample example that the particular passenger had never had any criminal background. In spite of having issued a visa to travel from Kaula Lumpur to Chennai to avail of medical treatment, this particular lady has been deported by the immigrant authorities.

I want to know the problem that has arisen for not allowing her into Chennai. I was told that in 2003 the then AIADMK Government had requested the Central Government not to allow her back to India. If this is the matter, why the present Government has not consulted the State Government in the present scenario and the present status prevailing? I want to know why the State Government of Tamil Nadu was kept in the dark during the whole episode. When the visa was issued by the High Commission of Kaula Lumpur to travel from Kaula Lumpur to Chennai and to stay in Tamil Nadu for about six to eight months to have medical treatment, why she has been denied entry into Chennai? I want to have a clarification from the Government of India as the people of Tamil Nadu want to know.

...(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saran): I want to say something with regard to IPC. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You sit down. I have listened. I have said that I would give you time to speak on that issue. You, please sit down. Let Prashanta Kumar ji speak.

[*English*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing is going into the record.

*(Interruptions) ... **

****SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR (Balurghat):** Hon. Speaker Madam, You must be aware of the calamity which struck West Bengal and Bihar in the wee hours of 14th April 2010. All my esteemed colleagues also know about the cyclone in Bengal Through newspapers and visual media. Due to that severe tornado, North Dinajpur of Bengal, Purnia, Katihar and Kishanganj of Bihar have been ruined. More than 120 people have died in this storm. In Dingajpur, 43 persons have lost their lives. Thousands of people have been rendered homeless. Numerous houses homesteads have collapsed – the entire region is devastated. The Government of West Bengal has tried to extend its helping hand in all possible manners. It has announced the release of compensation to the helpless people financial assistance and rehabilitation have been already declared. Temporary shelters and tarpauline sheets have been distributed among the affected population.

But there is a need to send a central team urgently to the cyclone – affected areas on behalf of the Central Government to take stock of the situation. Immediately, Rs. 1000 crore and Rs. 500 crore should be released from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund to Bihar and West Bengal respectively. We, as representatives of the people should visit the places and assess the range of devastation. This Government claims to be a Government for the poor people, the common man. So if the Members of Parliament or the representatives of the ruling Government do not stand by our people in time of crisis, then we would be sending across a wrong message.

SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Madam, this happened in my constituency. The hon. Member is not saying correctly. He is misleading the House.
...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: If you take up the issue, I will give you a chance.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR: It is our duty to be with the displaced, devastated, hapless countrymen when they need us the most. Thus through you I would urge upon the Government to do the needful without wasting any more time. Central assistance should be rushed to the affected areas so that the people who

have lost everything are able to stand up on their our feet once again.

With this request, I thank you for allowing me to speak in Zero Hour and conclude my speech.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you so much. Shri Vishwa Mohan Kumar, Shri Pulin Bihari Baske, Shri S.K. Saidul Haque, and Dr. Ramchandra Dome will associate with this issue. You are not speaking. You will just associate yourself with this issue. All others who want to associate may send their names to the Table. Shri Advaniji to speak now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI: Madam, the hon. Member Shri Prasanta Kumar Majumdar has given wrong information. That had happened on 13th night. It is in my constituency. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: I will allow you afterwards. Thank you.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Ghatal): Madam, I have given a notice. I am repeatedly drawing your attention. Please allow me.

MADAM SPEAKER: All right; I will allow you.

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): Madam, issues raised using the zero-hour are normally meant for drawing the attention of the House and the country. There is no response from the government. Just now, I was listening to Shri Baalu ji, who is a leader of main ally of UPA Govt. Though he is not a Minister at present. However, I do not understand what has happened? He has said that a Tamilian wanted to come to India from Kualalampur for treatment. The said person had no criminal background, but he was not given permission for treatment and was deported without any consultation with the state government. I would like the government to make a statement in this regard be it the Minister of External Affairs Shri S.M. Krishna or any prominent speaker on behalf of the government. This type of action is not good. If it is true that the said person, who has come for treatment, was deported without any consultation will the state government, is not a good precedent.

****English translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.**

[*English*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you so much.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Karur): Madam, I want to join in this issue. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: You want to join – all right. Please send your name. All those who want to join may send the names.

...(*Interruptions*)

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Madam, he was a Cabinet Minister. He should have objected at that time. ...(*Interruptions*)

...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: All right. Please do not talk amongst yourselves.

...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: If you want to associate yourself, kindly send your slip here. Shri A. Ganeshmurthi also is associating with this issue raise by Shri Advani.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI DEEPA DASMUNSI: Madam, on 13th night at 12.30, which means early morning of 14th, there occurred a tremendous tornado in my constituency, Raiganj of Uttar Dinajpur, West Bengal. From the next day, people there are suffering. There are one lakh people who have been rendered homeless and not a single mud house, not a single tin roof is left. People are forced to be under the sky. I am thankful that the hon. Member has mentioned it, but he has mentioned wrongly the date. It was not on the 15th but the 14th that it happened. Forty-two people have died and two children have become orphans. We are suffering, people are suffering. We are asking for relief. Not a single tarpaulin was there for 24 hours and now it has been 72 hours. The State Government of West Bengal, the Left Front Government has not given sufficient number of tarpaulins and a single drop of kerosene. The area is totally dark. Five blocks and three municipality towns have been affected and the residences of one lakh people are also partly damaged. We have asked for the help. The State Government is saying that they have adequate money and they have adequate number of

tarpaulins, but they are not giving it to the people. It is a shame for the State Government that they are not giving it. And now, they are telling that they will send a team. ...(*Interruptions*)

Madam, through you, I want to request the Central Government to send a team over there so that the actual picture comes out and the sufferings of the people are finished. The people of the area need tarpaulin immediately as it has been raining, raining and raining for the last 48 hours.

Thank you so much.

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Bandyopadhyay wants to associate himself. Shri Maheshwar Hazari, Shri Uma Shankar Singh and Mohd Asrarul Haque also associate with her.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Kolkata Uttar): Madam Speaker, ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: You are not speaking. Kindly associate yourself. Just send your slip and associate yourself.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MADAM SPEAKER: You have spoken, now let other hon. Members speak.

[*English*]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Madam, in North Dinajpur, the situation is at its worst. I want to bring it to the attention of this House that the lives of the common people, the poorest of the poor people, who are living inside the villages, have been shattered. The State Government has miserably failed to extend their support and relief to them. Even when the Ministers went to visit the spot, they were totally gheraoed and they had to face the slogan 'go back from the area'. So, the situation is at its worst there. This total picture reflects the failure of the administration of the State Government in this particular case. It is not only there; it is there in the total State of West Bengal. There is a sense of terrorism on the one side and the failure in the relief operation on the other.

We fully demand that an explanation of the State Government should be called for as to why they are failing. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions) ...**

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now you conclude.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: It is a total failure of the State Government. So, the Central Government should send a team over there to ascertain what is going on. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Sharad Yadav ji, you make your point in brief.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Bolpur): This is not the way. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Dr. Dome, nothing is going on record.

*(Interruptions)...**

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: You sit down, you have spoken.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing is going into the record. Nothing will go into the record.

*(Interruptions)...**

MADAM SPEAKER: I have called Shri Sharad Yadav to speak very briefly.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Sharad Yadav ji, you make your point in brief.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: You sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Madam Speaker, it is a very serious issue. A severe cyclone struck Bihar and it resulted in death of very large number of people. All the fields, and houses got destroyed totally. Therefore, my submission is that since both the sides were discussing this issue, so it would be better if this issue is taken up for debate some day during the current session itself. I tried in this regard, gave a notice also, but no day could be fixed for debate.

MADAM SPEAKER: Debate will be held on receipt of the notice.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Madam Speaker this is my only request.

12.30 hrs.

SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS—*Contd.*

(ii) **Re: Alleged irregularities and malpractices in IPL**

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Ghatal): Madam, I hope that the entire House will kindly listen to me. It is good that the Minister has resigned and it is also good ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SAUGATA ROY): Why the same matter is being raised again? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: No, please listen to me. It is good that the Prime Minister has advised him to resign, but that is not the issue. The Minister's resignation is not the issue. The Indian Premier League (IPL) is the issue.

Madam, we have been discussing this matter, but we have not gone into the root of the issue. The root

of the issue is laundering of black money; the issue is white washing the black money; and the issue is aberration happening under the nose of the Ministry of Finance and the Government of India. If you speak of sports, then it is a caricature of Cricket. We have seen the greatest Cricketers of our country in five-day test matches and afterwards in one-day matches. It is all there. No player can come to form in the 20-20 over format, which is such a shorter version. The leading Cricketers of the country have given their opinion like this only.

Madam, the point is that Cricket is being maligned in the country; Cricket is being diluted in the country; and a wrong message is being given to the budding Cricketers that they can go to 20-20 and earn crores of rupees. The main issue is earning money. Players are being bought just like vegetables, and people with money are entering into a franchise and they are setting up a team and competing with each other and betting is going on openly. Therefore, it is neither Cricket; it is neither a game; but it is only a game of organized gamble in the country. ...(*Interruptions*)

I have information that a large part of the money is coming through Mauritius and from dubious sources from Dubai. ...(*Interruptions*) You are not associated and you do not know and I do not know about it, but there are reports that Swiss bank money is being laundered and the main intention is to whitewash the money. It is unfortunate that politicians find time to play Cricket even in their bedroom; it is unfortunate that Corporates are playing their Cricket in the board room; and openly the passion for Cricket is being exploited to make money.

I hope that I have the support from all sections to demand that IPL may be banned in this country immediately. Madam, I appeal to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) of which the President is a Minister of the Cabinet to discontinue ...(*Interruptions*) I appeal that the BCCI disqualify 20-20 matches in India.

Thirdly, I demand a thorough probe into the source of fund. I want a thorough, high-level probe. I want a Joint Parliamentary Committee on this. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

Let me speak. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI P.T. THOMAS (Idukki): He is not part of that. He is not BCCI President.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Listen to me, if he is not part of that, let it be so....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

I want a Joint Parliamentary Committee to probe the source of the fund. Where from the money is coming? Who is financing? Fifty per cent of the population is living below the poverty line. The Government says that it has no money to extend the universal rationing system in the country. A country so poor, a country so deficient in resources, a country so unemployed, a country so jobless, how can we allow such a mysterious game under the nose of the Government to the detriment of the common people? There must be a thorough probe. IPL must be banned. People involved must be sent to jail, and also the source of fund should be investigated immediately. I wish the entire House supports me.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Bolgpur): We also associate with this issue. The Government should come out with a statement. The Government should respond to this.

MADAM SPEAKER: Dr. Tarun Mondal, Sk. Saidul Haque, Shri M.B. Rajesh and Shri P.K. Biju also associate themselves with this issue.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Will you speak or associate yourself. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Madam. Please listen to me and give me one minute.

MADAM SPEAKER: Do not prolong your speech, wind up soon. Several other members have to speak.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please just associate yourself.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Madam, you should give us also an opportunity to speak. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: You may see now that other members feel that they are not getting any opportunity. It is not good that remaining members are not getting any chance to speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Other members will also speak.

MADAM SPEAKER: Conclude soon. You should associate yourself with them.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: I shall not associate myself with them because I do not approve all the things spoken by them. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Mulayam Singh ji, why are you standing?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV.: You had told that you would give me an opportunity to speak. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Sit down. I have not asked you to stand up and not called your name.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Madam, I would like to thank you for giving me two minutes time to speak on IPL issue and the betting issue.

MADAM SPEAKER: One minute.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Madam, please give me one more minute. It is purely a gambling and betting business. The black money is being brought from Swiss banks and laundered into white money. The preliminary enquiry conducted by IT has smelled a rat in this regard. Mr. Tharur was only an excuse ...(Interruptions)* The

IPL Commissioner ...(Interruptions). Do not stop me, let me speak...(Interruptions)* in foreign...(Interruptions).

MADAM SPEAKER: You know the parliamentary practices, do not refer to any person's name.

[English]

No name will go on record.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: It is all right. Remove the name. A senior executive of IPL has bought a jet plane. I am also the President of BCCI, Bihar, I am a victim...(Interruptions). It is promoting gambling in the country. I would like to thank Mr. Prime Minister for accepting the resignation of Mr. Tharur and doing a good thing. But there is a need to probe the whole affair. There is a need to nationalize the sports. We are not against cricket. Cricket should go on. The sports department of government of India should take over it and this case. ...

MADAM SPEAKER: It is all right. Now you conclude.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Madam, please let me speak...(Interruptions).

MADAM SPEAKER: Many more members have to speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Madam, my son also, a boy of rural background in Bihar, has been playing in IPL. ...(Interruptions) Please listen to me. I thought that my son would get a chance to play, he got the uniform of his team. ...(Interruptions). He has played a match which Kolkata lost. I have seen all the budding cricketers including my son go running to the field with towel and drinks in their hand during break. Just imagine a Yadav's son being made to serve water and towels. I was shocked to see that. These budding cricketers, whether they get an opportunity to play or not, have been in the team as part of reserve team for the last two years. It is pure betting. Discontinue it, probe it and constitute a Joint Parliamentary Committee. Nationalize it. The government has its sports department. The sports department should takeover it. The persons found guilty in this case should be sent to prison...(Interruptions).

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Lалуji, you have already stated.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Sharad ji, you may associate yourself with him. Shri Mulayam Singh ji, you may also associate yourself. He has spoken in detail. I have to give time to other members also. They have also feelings and they feel hurt. You have spoken on several points. Let me give opportunity to others to speak and run the House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Madam Speaker, please give me two minutes...(Interruptions).

MADAM SPEAKER: You have to associate yourself. You do not conclude within two minutes and go on speaking for several minutes.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV.: It is all right. Please give me one minute.

MADAM SPEAKER: O.K. proceed.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: The only thing I feel is that this is not a native game. Last year also I had said that it should be stopped. It has ruined our national games. Had our national games been given due importance, India would have been on hotspot in the world of sports? This is not a native game. This is ruining everything, huge money is being spent, betting is talking place. I request you as I had said in the previous session that this game should be stopped and native games should be given importance. It wastes time. People stick to TV sets. Recording of the matches is done, the whole country watches it, the game is not our native game and we waste a lot of money on such games. The native games of India should be given importance. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I am sorry to say that I had raised the issue of IPL which is a vulgar display.

*Not recorded.

The real issue was betting which everybody said was true. I considered our sports Minister a nice man, he keep on wailing all the time, and says that this game is running all the other games of the country. As Mulayam Singh Ji has said that all other games have been put aside and this is a force a marketing taces to sell goods to people. Madam, I would like to thank the Government that it has taken a step to get it investigated thoroughly. But this step should not be withdrawn, rather it should be taken further. The Minister has given his resignation, but he was not the only person who was responsible for all this. It is the commissioner, the people associated with IPL should be exposed and this looting, black money should be busted. If this step is not taken, the issue will not die down in this House. It will continue to be raised you have removed the minister, but did not touch the dishonest persons. The decisions. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down now.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Only what Shri Bishnu Pada Ray says will go on record.

(Interruptions) ...*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Dara Singh Ji, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down. Only what Shri Bishnu Pada Ray says will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Bishnu Pada Ray please speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY (Andaman and Nicobar Islands): Madam Speaker, how can I speak in scene like this? ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please speak.

...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

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

MADAM SPEAKER: Sit down please. Bishnu Pada Ray Ji you speak, please.

*...(Interruptions)*SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Madam Speaker, how can I speak in such condition? *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down.

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

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Ray, please speak. What you say would be going on record.

*[Translation]*SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Madam Speaker, I kept quite. *...(Interruptions)* please make them sit first. *...(Interruptions)**[English]*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)**[Translation]*SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Would they keep on speaking? *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please, you all sit down.

*...(Interruptions)*SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Madam Speaker, please make them sit first...*(Interruptions)* Madam, I would speak only after they sit. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

Not recorded.[English]*THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Madam, the Government cannot respond on every issue. The hon. Members have raised a issue here. *...(Interruptions)* We have taken note of the issue raised by the hon. Members.

MADAM SPEAKER: They have taken note.

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

MADAM SPEAKER: Dr. Dome, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down, Lalu Prasad Ji, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Let others also speak, please.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: You sit down. We have to call others also. Zero Hour is going on now and Bishnu Pada Ray Ji is speaking. You have interrupted him.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Bishnu Pada Ray Ji is speaking now.

*...(Interruptions)*SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: You may allow Munde ji to speak first. I will speak after him. *...(Interruptions)*SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN (Ghosi): Madam Speaker, this country needs BPL instead of IPL...*(Interruptions)*. IPL should be discontinued. *...(Interruptions)* IPL is a gambling ring and it should be shut down...*(Interruptions)*. We should pay attention to BPL...*(Interruptions)*.SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE (Beed): Madam Speaker, IPL is not for promoting cricket...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI RAJARAM PAL (Akbarpur): Madam Speaker, instead of calling those who have given Zero-Hour notice, others are being called...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: That is true.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE: Madam Speaker, black money is involved in it...*(Interruptions)*. Money is also coming from the Swiss Banks...*(Interruptions)*. The teams which have invested 1500-1600 crores of rupees. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Sharad Ji, take your seat please.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE: Why did the BCCI take this decision?...*(Interruptions)*. There is black money in IPL...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: I just want to make an observation. Please take your seats.

I want to make this observation, and I am very worried about it, that those who have given notice are not getting time to speak and all those who have not given notices have already spoken many times. Please do not do this. It is not fair to all those Members who are disciplined enough to give the notice and are waiting patiently. Please allow them.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Madam Speaker, it was with your permission...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Take your seat please.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Madam Speaker, I have spoken only with your permission...*(Interruptions)*.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Madam Speaker, you have given the permission...*(Interruptions)*.

MADAM SPEAKER: Its true that I have given permission. But, I am saying it again and again that we have to care about their sentiments. You as well as I have to take care of those also who have given notices.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Madam Speaker, there is no conflict in this...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: There is no conflict. It become necessary to tell you about this, that is why I said this.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: For future also, I want to say that I would like to call those members who would give notice.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE: Madam Speaker, IPL is a complete black money scam. Cheer girls are being made to dance in it, which is against the Indian culture. Which kind of a sport is this? Bar girls have been banned in Maharashtra but cheer girls are being allowed. What is this?...*(Interruptions)*. We had demanded a probe into the black money which has come from the Swiss Banks. Hon'ble Prime Minister had given an assurance that they would probe into the said black money within 100 days. This black money is being routed through IPL. It should be probed thoroughly...*(Interruptions)*. People do not have money for food. The Government is not paying attention to BPL but on IPL...*(Interruptions)*.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please, take your seats.

SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE: Madam Speaker, the Maharashtra Government has exempted IPL from tax. Maharashtra Government's budget is a deficit budget, then why tax exemption has been provided to IPL? The whole country is observing the Government. The Government should conduct a probe into this black money...*(Interruptions)*. A thorough enquiry should be conducted into IPL and those running the IPL.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Madam, the people should decide whether the country needs IPL or BPL? IPL is really a matter of concern. A JPC should be constituted on IPL. Now, I want to speak about the Andaman and Nicobar Islands...*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Do not make a mention to all these things. You just raise your issue.

[Translation]

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Madam, why is the Union Government discriminating against Andaman and Nicobar Islands? For example, children are given bicycles in Class IXth in Puducherry-be it tribals or non-tribals. Bicycles are given in Dadar and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu also. Children have been given cycles in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh as well. But this facility has not been provided in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. I have no objection towards the fact that, behaving in a partisan manner, the Union Government has given cycles to children in Nicobar. It is good. The Nicobari children have been given cycles in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands but why are cycles not to be given to children living in South Andaman and North Andaman. All of us hold up Andaman as an exemplary place, citing it to be a mini-India where religion, caste, creed have got less importance. Why are such discriminatory tactics being adopted there? Bad feelings would be created if children studying in class VII in Nicobar get cycles but children in Andaman do not. I would like to request that cycles should be given to children in Andaman district on the lines of other states and UT in India, otherwise, the image of these Islands would suffer and this government would be responsible for it.

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Thank you for allowing me to raise the important matter. The recent incident in Mayapuri Industrial Area of Delhi where more than five persons have suffered high radiation doses due to accidental exposure to highly radioactive Cobalt-60 should be seen as a wake up call for tightening security and accountability in respect of radioactive materials. Almost all developed countries have devised mechanism to keep a check on the dispersal of radioactive materials in public

places. But our country has so far devised no formal mechanism that would detect the presence of a nuclear substance in a public area and has prepared no roadmap as to how to deal with it in case of any emergency. All this is despite the fact that India is on the list of terrorist groups. They are planning to use third generation terror weapon which is called Radiological Dispersal Devices (RDD), that are also called 'dirty bombs'. I am told that a Core Group prepared guidelines and submitted to the Government but why those guidelines are yet to see the light of the day? Many questions need to be resolved in this case. Had any radioactive material included in the scrap already been disposed of since early March? What was the origin of the scrap? Was it domestic or imported? All scraps acquired over the past months need to be traced back and investigated to find out who was responsible for the disposal of Cobalt-60 containing scrap?

Was any contaminated scrap sold and processed into steel products? Has any quantity of Cobalt-60 spilled out of its container and got dispersed? The case is complicated and needs a combination of determined police work and technical expertise to resolve the host of issues involved. If this Cobalt-60 was imported with scrap, how did it pass through the customs? The Government should explain. It raises questions about the trade in such materials and how their movement escapes detection. I fear India is being treated as a dumping yard for such dangerous wastes. There is an urgent need to have junk disposal norm in the country.

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you. Shri Shahnawaz Hussain, Virender Kashyap, Shri M.B. Rajesh and Shri P.D. Rai will associate with this.

[Translation]

You associate yourselves. I have to give time to speak to other Members also.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): Whenever we stand up to speak we are not allowed to speak even one sentence.

MADAM SPEAKER: This is not true. You have not even given any notice.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: That is why I requested you to allow me to speak on this topic.

*Not recorded.

MADAM SPEAKER: That is right, but it is not right to say that you are not given a chance to utter even one sentence.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Madam Speaker, the National Capital Delhi is being destroyed by pollution in the air and toxins in the water. Garbage is emitting radiation in this city. As the hon. Member said, the entire country is worried about the Cobalt-60 matter. Commonwealth Games are going to be held shortly. This radiation is spoiling the image of the country. The government was saying that it wanted to bring the Nuclear Liability Bill but the BJP had opposed it. I would like to tell you that we had opposed it because it was a wake up call. If so many people could be affected by cobalt-60 then we can imagine the extent of devastation that could be caused when the Nuclear Liability Bill is brought into effect. The issues of Delhi are not raised in Parliament because Delhi has Congress MPs and they don't have the time to raise these concerns in the Parliament. The people in Delhi are falling ill from drinking toxic water. Many children have died. But there is no discussion on the issue. Many people have fallen ill due to Cobalt-60 and have been hospitalized. But there is no discussion on the matter in Delhi. Madam, Delhi has no water and no electricity. You would have noticed that power cut occurred 15 times today in the Parliament itself. If Delhi is facing power outages at the peak of summer, people are forced to drink toxic water, there is air pollution, Cobalt-60 is found in garbage, then you can understand the situation of other states.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I would like to demand, through you, an immediate response from the government on this issue and tell the somnolent Delhi MPs to wake up and take up the problems being faced by their city in the House.

*SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP (Shimla): Madam Speaker, the detection of radioactive material containing Cobalt-60 from the scrap in Mayapuri scrap market for the second time in a week has raised a number of questions. The Mayapuri market also gets a substantial quantity of scrap from other countries. Normally, such scrap is brought to the market after undergoing checks but the discovery of radioactive material containing Cobalt-60 has put a question mark on the process. The experts who are involved in the checking say that people

who deal with the detection of radioactive material in the scrap arriving from abroad are provided special training. They also have modern equipment for detection of radioactive material. It is a serious matter that radioactive material has reached the market despite these precautions. The government should intervene in the matter. If vigilance is increased at the entry point and such hazardous material is detected there itself, then such incidents could be checked. The containers arriving from other countries should undergo stringent checking at the point of unloading so that such material could be stopped from entering the market. Careless attitude has been in evidence at all levels in the matter of Cobalt-60. Be it a question of radiation safety in hospitals or the examination of radioactive material in other places, rules are being openly flouted due to administrative negligence. In such a scenario, the experts say, that incidents such as the Mayapuri incident could occur anywhere. The ground reality is that most of the large hospitals have no system for radiation safety. Untrained workers are entrusted with the job of keeping the hospitals radiation free because there are no radiation safety officers in hospitals. Experts are of the view that there is utter negligence at the official level in the matter of radioactive material. The market for radioactive material is expanding in the country in the face of a lack of stringent rules in this regard. As per the figures published by Scrap News Recycling Journal, European countries alone are getting business worth 23 trillion rupees from India. The experts on the panel of Toxic watch, an NGO, say that the carelessness regarding the examination of radiation in objects made by recycling of scrap material is not only causing economic loss and medical problems but is also tarnishing the image of the country. For this reasons, 50 percent of the shipments out of 123 shipments of steel products that were sent from India to European countries last year were rejected by many of them. It was told that the shipments that were sent back as rejected had radioactive contaminations.

In view of such serious conditions I would like to submit to the concerned Minister that precautionary measures should be taken immediately and the lackdaisiel approach at the official level towards it may be changed, so that we could improve our image inside and outside the country and save the country from its adverse effects.

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Dharmendra Yadav, be precise, please.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV (Badaun): Madam Speaker, about 72 percent of the population depends on agriculture. I had given a notice in this regard and was waiting for my turn to speak on it.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please conclude soon.

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV.: Madam Speaker, 72 percent population of the country depend on agriculture for their livelihood. As you all know that the most required thing for farming is manures and fertilizers. Several previous members have expressed their concern over the problems of the farmers. By associating with them, through you, I would like to submit that a new fertilizer policy has been implemented by the Government. But, in the old fertilizer policy fluctuating prices of fertilizers in the international market did not affect our farmers. But the present UPA Government seems to be quite insensitive towards farmers and not at all concerned about them. The Government has completely left these farmers in the hands of foreign traders and manufactures of fertilizers. The Government have no system or policy to control the prices of DAP, urea and potash. The Government is not concerned about the interests of the farmers. You all know as to how the prices of diesel have been increased.

13.00 hrs.

Our senior members have expressed their concern over the issue of procurement from farmers. The other issue is that there is no control on the price of fertilizers...*(Interruptions)* Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to ask as to what is the criteria of price fixation for more than 70 percent urea and other commodities like fertilizers which are being manufactured abroad and imported to our country. If there is no set criteria, I allege that the Government are willingly and intentionally doing injustice to the farmers in connivance with the traders. If this is not true, through you I would like to submit that the Government should make it clear as to why no control mechanism has been evolved.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Baharampur): Madam, India is recognized as a vast country in the world. The geographical area of our country is estimated 32,87,260 square kilometres. India is situated between the longitude of 82.25 degree East and 97.30 degree East but set as standard time based on the longitude 82.5 degree East close to the mean longitude, that is, five and a half

hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time. The difference between the time of the two Capitals, namely, Kohima, the Capital of Nagaland in the East and Mumbai, the Capital of the Maharashtra— one on the extreme East and another on the extreme West— is two hours.

Madam, not only India has a huge geographical area but it is also a long-sized country longitude-wise. There are countries in the world, namely, Russia, USA, Canada, Mexico, Australia, etc. which are maintaining more than one time zones. In Russia, you will find 11 time zones, in US – six time zones, in Canada – seven time zones, and in Mexico— three time zones. But so far as India is concerned, still we are maintaining only one time zone. That is why, the people who are living in the West are utilizing the time more productively in contrast to the people who are living in the East. Naturally, the western people of our country are in an advantageous position *vis-a-vis* the people of the eastern India.

Therefore, I have a proposal to this Government that India should have two time zones. For the North-East, the time should be based on the longitude of 105 degree East which is seven hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time while for the rest of the country, it should be based on the longitude of 90 degree East which is six hours ahead of GMT so that we can better utilise the time and the day light of our country.

[Translation]

SHRI MANISH TEWARI (Ludhiana): Madam Speaker, a court of Sharjah has awarded death sentence to 17 Indians – out of which 16 are from Punjab and one is from Haryana-on 30th of March, 2010. The alleged murder of a person is reported to be their crime. No injustice could be harsher than this. The fact is that poor labourers were brought out from their houses when they were asleep, they were harassed and tortured. Those who gave in were forced to give statements against themselves on the basis of which they were prosecuted. They were not provided a lawyer, nor they could understand Arabic, they could not make out what was happening and they were awarded death sentence. The most surprising thing was that no officials from Indian Embassy even bothered to visit them during these 15 months of legal procedure.

I urge upon the Government to take up this matter as this is an issue linked with the safety and security of Indians, let legal procedure continues, lakhs of Indians working in the gulf countries are living a life of insecurity

and fear. Through this House, the message should go to the world that we would not let any Indian suffer injustice in any of the part of the world. Simultaneously, the Government should have diplomatic negotiations with the Government of Shanjah and should bring innocent Indians back. A strict action should be taken against those officers of Indians Embassy who did not bother to pay any attention towards it.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Those who want to associate themselves with him may send their names to the Table.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Madam, I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Manish Tewari ji.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Ravneet Singh and Shri Pratap Singh Bajwa are associating with this matter. The rest of the matters will be taken up at the end of the day.

13.06 hrs

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.03 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha reassembled after lunch at Three
Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

...(Interruptions)

SUBMISSIONS BY MEMBERS – *Contd.*

(ii) **Re: Alleged irregularities and malpractices in IPL**

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The Leader of the House was not presents at that time. It is IPL's...*(Interruptions)*. Now, the leader of the House has arrived.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. He want's to say something, when you take your seat, he will speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let him speak please.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, in the morning, some hon. Members raised the issue of IPL and wanted to have a thorough probe into all its aspects. In fact, the concerned Department has already started the investigation process. I can assure the hon. Members that all aspects of IPL including its source of funding, from where the funds were routed, how they have been invested, etc., are being looked into and the appropriate action as per law will be taken. No guilty or wrong doers will be spared.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Please listen to me for a minute...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has responded to what you said.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Not now, but let us spare some time for it and have a debate on it. I, too, have some informations in this regard...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: I thank the Government for this, But, my submission is that let it be taken over by Sports Department of the Government of India...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: We will look into all aspects and I have noted down your suggestions. ...*(Interruptions)*

14.06 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Matters under Rule 377 shall be laid on the Table of the House.

*Treated as laid on the Table.

Members who have been permitted to raise matters under Rule 377 today and are desirous of laying them, may personally hand over slips at the Table of the House within 20 minutes. Only those matters shall be treated as laid for which slips have been received at the Table within the stipulated time and the rest will be treated as lapsed.

(i) Need to revise the minimum basic pension provided by EPFO to the workers in private sector.

SHRI K. P. DHANAPALAN (Chalakudy): The employees provident fund scheme as a social security and welfare measure was devised in view of the miseries and hardships of the workers in the nation. The family pension scheme 1971 and EPF pension scheme 1995 were primarily intended for the benefit of the retired employees and their families with a view to give them some relief in the evening of their lives and days of sickness. The retired employees covered under the family pension scheme are getting only a meagre amount ranging from Rs. 300 to Rs. 2000 per month which was fixed at the time of commencement of the scheme. In view of the fact that costs of essential commodities have increased beyond limits, enhanced rates of relief have to be granted to EPF pensioner as in the case of Government pensioners. But unfortunately, the authorities have turned a deaf ear to the repeated appeals and requests of the EPF pensioners.

In this context, I would urge the Government to revise the minimum basic pension to Rs. 2500 per month with effect from 1995.

(ii) Need to address the problem of drinking water contaminated with high fluoride contents in Rajasthan

DR. JYOTI MIRDHA (Nagaur): Water is essential for all forms of growth and development in humans, animals and plants. Water problem is a common problem in whole country, but Rajasthan has worst scenario. Nearly a third of the Rajasthan state is arid and another 30 per cent semi-arid, which implies that nearly two-third of the State suffers from recurrent water scarcity. In Rajasthan 204 out of 237 blocks have been declared as dark zones.

The problem of high fluoride concentration in groundwater resources has now become one of the most important health related geo-environmental issues in Rajasthan. Rajasthan is a state where high fluoride groundwater is distributed in all the 31 districts. Nearly three million people are consuming excess fluoride-

containing water. As such, the problem of both dental and skeletal fluorosis is widespread, especially in the rural population and in children. Also, 94% of all drinking water supply scheme in Rajasthan are based on groundwater. Total population affected due to excess fluoride in groundwater is 107.29 Lac. The district with highest population affected by the disease is Barmer followed by Churu, Nagaur, Bhilwara, Ajmer and Pali.

The socio-economic ramifications on the population affected by fluorosis are tremendous. High fluoride levels in drinking water sources in several parts of the State have resulted in severe stunting and congenital defects in people consuming the water.

Although there is awareness about the problem, there have been few interventions. At the national level there has been extensive research carried out on the subject. Research has resulted in improved de-fluoridation techniques. However, the initiatives undertaken in Rajasthan are few. Treatment of Fluorosis is yet to be prioritized in the health agenda.

All aspects of this health related sensitive issue should be minutely examined by the health professionals of the Government and a special status should be given to Nagaur, Barmer and Bikaner districts of Rajasthan for severe drinking water crisis.

(iii) Need to fill up the posts of hockey coaches in Sports academies in Andhra Pradesh and also promote hockey in the country

SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR (Zaheerabad): The situation of hockey and its players is deplorable in our country particularly in the rural areas of Andhra Pradesh. Andhra Pradesh has sent many players like three time Olympian Mukesh Kumar, Bhim Singh from Hyderabad, Thagur Babu from Guntur, Mohd. Nadeem from Tirupati and Murali from West Godavari. These players have succeeded at the national level and brought name and fame to Andhra Pradesh and our country.

At present, the Government is not filling up the posts of hockey coaches and not promoting the hockey with adequate financial allocations. Less than 10 coaching teachers are available in all the districts of Andhra Pradesh. School students at the primary and secondary levels are also not showing keen interest to take the coaching due to inadequate coaching staff in various coaching academies in Andhra Pradesh. This situation is really pitiable for our country. Many talented and qualified people are eligible to give coaching in Andhra Pradesh who have passed the national tests. But the

Sports Authority of Andhra Pradesh is not filling up the posts in Andhra Pradesh and kept the posts vacant due to the reasons unknown.

I, therefore, request the Hon'ble Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs, through Hon'ble Speaker, to kindly intervene in the matter to ensure and giving justice to the hockey players in the country by making them available coaches, financial allocations and proper awareness to save our national sport hockey seriously for future generation immediately.

(iv) Need to provide adequate funds to Delhi Government to provide basic civic amenities in private colonies in the State

[Translation]

SHRI MAHABAL MISHRA (West Delhi): Sir, there are approximately 1800 private colonies in Delhi wherein 40 lakh people live. These colonies have no sewerage, no drinking water supply and power supply usually play truant in these colonies. The state government of Delhi has sought additional budgetary allocation from the Central Government for providing adequate basic amenities to the people living in these colonies.

Therefore, my submission is that the State Government of Delhi should be provided adequate funds to provide basic amenities to the people living in Delhi's private colonies so that they can be saved from living in hellish condition.

(v) Need to expedite upgradation and preparation of DPR for the proposed Ujh Hydro Electric Power Project at Kathua, Jammu & Kashmir

[English]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Ujh Multipurpose Hydro Electric Power Project of 280 MW under 50000 MW initiative is at Kathua in the state of Jammu & Kashmir. This multi-purpose Hydro Electric Project falls in my Parliamentary Constituency at Kathua. Ujh river is a tributary of River Ravi and is out of the purview of Indus Water Treaty. This Multipurpose Project has now been declared as National Project by the Government of India and is to be implemented in the 11th Five year Plan. This proposed project is to utilize 0.65 MAF water of Ujh River and will generate 280 MW Power. It will also irrigate approx 32000 ha of land and will provide 50 cusecs drinking water facility for the major portion of highly water starving Kandi belt area. The Directorate Office (CWC) Jammu has been asked to

prepare DPR of Multipurpose Project Ujh. Till date nothing has been done, more than 2 years have passed. The Project is being delayed. All the field works has already been done by the J&K Directorate of Designs and CWC in 1966, it needs only up-dating. The Project area is in Jammu Region and there is no impact of militancy in that area. Also, the area is near the Delhi-Jammu National Highway and is easily approachable from Jammu City.

I, therefore, urge the Government to issue suitable directions to Jammu & Kashmir Power Development Corporation to engage the consultant for upgradation and preparation of DPR on priority basis, as CWC, Directorate Office at Jammu has not done anything till date with regard to preparation of DPR.

(vi) Need to provide funds to the NGOs running for visually and physically challenged people

SHRI P. BALRAM (Mahabubabad): I would like to draw the kind attention of the august House regarding the problems being faced by the NGOs especially those running for the welfare of blind, physically handicapped, SC/ST/BC and other minority sections in the society in release of Grant-in-Aid all over the country, particularly in the backward regions in Andhra Pradesh.

As the House is aware that many NGO's are running for the welfare of blind and other physically handicapped persons not only in Andhra Pradesh but all over the country. These NGOs are facing a lot of financial problems in running their organizations. The NGO's run by the blind for the blind and physically handicapped should be given preference in releasing funds on top priority. The Grant for NGO's recommended by the State Government should be released within the financial year after monitoring and inspecting on quarterly basis.

I, therefore, request the concerned Hon'ble Minister to intervene in the matter and ensure that NGO's running for the welfare of the blind and physically handicapped persons should not suffer in future for want of funds.

(vii) Need to take measures for the welfare of senior citizens in the country

[Translation]

SHRI SONAWANE PRATAP NARAYANRAO (Dhule): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the issues concerning senior citizens in the country.

After having discussion with a number of senior citizens and going through their requests, I put forth their reasonable demands before you.

Sir senior citizens are our assets and their experience and their contribution in various fields in the country and their style of working can work as a guiding factor for our new generation. Their guidance can be very useful in leading our new generation to the mainline of development quite rapidly.

Sir, main demands of senior citizens are:

1. The criteria of age for senior citizens for availing benefits under centrally sponsored schemes for Senior Citizens should be lowered to 60 years which is 65 years at present for some schemes.
2. The pension being paid to the senior citizens belonging to the BPL category should be enhanced to at least Rs. 1000 per month.
3. The rate of interest on money deposited by senior citizens in post offices, in PPF or in banks should be 3 percent above the normal rate.
4. There is a need for setting up National Commission for Senior Citizens. A Bill to this effect may please be brought in the House at the earliest.
5. The facility of Old Age Pension should be extended to 39.5 lakh workers employed in unorganized sector.
6. Fast Track Courts should be set up for expeditious disposal of cases involving senior citizens.

Sir, it has been clearly inscribed in the national policy for senior citizens that no senior citizen will be put to lead unsafe life.

Therefore, my submission is that all those demands of senior citizens should be met at the earliest.

(viii) Need to take steps to develop Maninagar terminal railway station of Ahmedabad West, Gujarat as a major railway station by utilising vacant space at nearby Kankaria goods yard

[English]

DR. KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI (Ahmedabad West): Maninagar railway Station is one of the major terminal stations of my constituency, Ahmedabad West.

Ahmedabad is the seventh largest city of our country and has attained the status of Mega city also. It is expanding very rapidly in all directions with tremendous population growth. It may be mentioned that the Kankaria goods yard near Maninagar railway Station is shifted to Vatava. Hence a very large space of Kankaria goods yard is vacant.

Hence, I request that Kankaria Yard may be developed as major Maninagar Railway station. By this we can reduce pressure on present Kalupur railway station also.

By developing Maninagar as a major railway station, we can operate long route trains from this station.

If the long route trains towards North India and Delhi are operated from newly developed Maninagar station, it can also provide link to Kalupur as well as Sabarmati railway stations, with all major trains, including Rajdhani Express.

(ix) Need to declare main canal of Baragi Project in Madhya Pradesh as a National Project

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna): The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent a proposal to the Union Ministry of Water Resources with regard to the need for declaring main canal of Baragi diversion Project, a life line of Mahakaushal and Vindhya region of Madhya Pradesh, as a national project. The said canal will bring 81823 hectare land in Jabalpur and Katani districts, 1,59,655 hectare land in Satna and 3532 hectare land in Rewa district, a total of 2,45,010 hectare more land under irrigation benefiting a total of 1450 villages. The said project fulfills the required criteria for declaring it as a national project. If the Central Government fails to take any action for declaring the said project as a national project the said project will not be able to be complete in time depriving lakhs of farmers of irrigation.

Therefore, my submission is that the said project be declared as a national project at the earliest.

(x) Need to cover carpet weavers and labourers of Bhadohi, Uttar Pradesh under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme to remove their unemployment Problem

SHRI GORAKNATH PANDEY (Bhadohi): The weavers and other labourers in several districts in Uttar Pradesh especially in Bhadohi, world famous carpet city, which earns huge foreign exchange for the country, are facing unemployment at present.

Therefore, I urge that carpet weavers of Bhadohi should be covered under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and provided employment so that the said weavers facing unemployment get jobs and country can also earn foreign exchange.

(xi) Need to provide special relief package for rehabilitation of people affected due to recent storm in Northern Bihar

SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR (Supaul): I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Prime Minister, through the hon. Mr. Speaker, to the devastating storm in the middle of the night of 13 April 2010, which is also being called as 'Kaal Baisakhi', which has resulted in heavy loss of life and property in many districts of North Bihar particularly in Supaul, Madhepura, Kisanganj, Araria. Hundreds of people met with sudden death, thousands were injured and lakhs of them became homeless.. Within no time, the houses, electric poles, trees crashed like a pack of cards and roads were destroyed. This area has also suffered huge loss due to Kosi floods two years ago. The rest has been destroyed by the storm.

The Government should, therefore, provide a special package for rehabilitation of the people of this area so that all round development can take place.

(xii) Need to safeguard the interests of employees of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited

[English]

SHRI P.R. NATARAJAN (Combatore): Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, carved out of the Department of Telecom Services under the Union Government's Ministry of Communications, has now slipped from its pre-eminent position due to non-availability of about 4.5 crore mobile lines and other moves to divest it by about 30% though it could maintain its first place till 2006 due to the dedicated efforts of its employees. BSNL that made a profit of Rs. 5000 crores a year, could make only Rs. 574 crores of profit in 2008-09. A written assurance was given to BSNL employees in 2006 that BSNL will not be privatized and its shares will not be divested. But the Sam Pitroda Committee's recommendations for 30% divestment, cutting of 1 lakh jobs, offer of golden hand shake, outsourcing of cable laying have caused agitation in the minds of BSNL employees whose Joint Action Committee has called for an indefinite strike from 20th of April, 2010. Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to allay the justified apprehension in the minds of BSNL employees by way of guaranteeing pensionary benefits and expanding infrastructure facilities while giving up moves towards privatizing and outsourcing.

(xiii) Need to allocate funds under National Rural Drinking Water Programme taking into account the size of the State along with the number of habitations and relative backwardness of the State particularly for Orissa

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): The erstwhile Accelerated Rural Water supply Programme (ARWSP) provided for development of drinking water sources at the rate of one tube well for every 250 unit of population and villages with a population of 150 were also eligible for tube wells. The revised scheme of National Rural Drinking water Programme provides for drinking water in all habitations regardless of the population size. In Orissa, out of above 1,41,000 habitation, there are about 23,000 habitations with a population of below 150 each. Instead of enhancing the central share under the revised National Rural Drinking Water Programme, the same has been reduced as per the revised norms. Orissa had received Rs. 302 crores during 2008-09 against which the allocation earmarked by the Ministry last year was Rs 187 crores. Government should take into account the size of the State along with the number of habitations and relative backwardness for determining the Central share. As per revised norms, allocation is being considered on the basis of population.

I would urge upon the Government to reconsider the matter and provide funds taking in account the number of habitations.

(xiv) Need to expedite establishment of proposed Zoo of international standard at Gorewada, Nagpur, Maharashtra

DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK (Thane): The Government of Maharashtra has decided to establish a zoo of international standards at Gorewada, Nagpur, vide the Government resolution dated 12th December, 2005. Detailed Project Report for establishing zoo at Nagpur has been prepared by the consultant M/s Bernard Haison and Fiends Ltd., Singapore. Accordingly, it has proposed to establish and manage the Zoo at Gorewada, Nagpur as per the guidelines for establishment and scientific management of zoos in India issued by the Central Zoo Authority. The zoo is proposed on the forest area of 1904 hectare at Gorewada adjoining Nagpur city. The following components are proposed in the zoo complex:

1. Sunset Safari & Central Plaza
2. Gondawana Biopark, Walking Trails
3. African Safari
4. Indian Safari & River ride
5. Gorewada Reserve
6. Rescue & Rehabilitation Centre
7. Conservation and breeding centre

As the proposed zoo will have animal enclosures, roads, buildings etc, existing vegetation would be affected to certain extent during construction period. To address this issue the DPR has a provision to uproot and transplant the trees falling in the area of roads, buildings, enclosures etc., during construction period. Further planting of tall seedlings to enhance tree cover and also to enrich vegetation in enclosures is proposed in the zoo premises. The proposal for approval to the DPR of Gorewada has been sent to Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India and also to the Central Zoo Authority of India. As the said proposal is pending for long with Government of India, I urge upon the Government to kindly consider the same at the earliest.

(xv) Need to develop Courtallam water falls in Tenkasi Parliamentary Constituency in Tamil Nadu as a tourist spot

SHRI P. LINGAM (Tenkasi): Courtallam water falls situated in the Western ghats is in my Tenkasi Lok Sabha constituency. It is a Nature's boon with scenic beauty and abundant herbs drawing people from many places as a traditional tourist spot from time immemorial as it is also known as pothigai hills referred to even in our epics.

During South West Monsoon Season between June and September the ever continuing drizzle that give rise to flooded flow in the Courtallam falls gushes water with herbal medicinal qualities. There is also a second season during North East Monsoon. About 25 lakhs people through this tourist spot every year. The neighbouring Papanasam and also the Pamba and Achan Kovil rivers in the adjacent Kerala are all traditionally attracting the public as they are beautiful places. Rare herbs and fruits and trees add beauty to this picnic spot. But the lack of infrastructure has been greatly affecting both the locals and the tourists.

Hence, I urge upon the both the Centre and the State Governments to take steps to develop this ancient tourist spot. I also urge upon the Union Government to enhance the infrastructure of this tourist resort as it attracts people from various parts of the country.

(xvi) Need to open two Senior Secondary level Kendriya Vidyalayas at Canning and Kultai blocks of Jaynagar Parliamentary Constituency of West Bengal

DR. TARUN MANDAL (Jaynagar): There is no Kendriya Vidyalaya in my constituency Jaynagar in the State of West Bengal. It comes under South 24-

Parganas, which is an underdeveloped and backward district and largely inhabited by minority Muslim and Christian communities as well as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBCs. The number of schools and colleges is negligible and that too are not upto the mark. So, for the benefit of the people of these areas of Sundarbans including Central and State Government employees at least two senior secondary level Kendriya Vidyalayas are very much necessary. I, therefore, request the Union Government and the Ministry of HRD to open two Kendriya Vidyalayas one at Canning and the other at Kultali Block of Jaynagar Parliamentary Constituency.

14.07 hrs.

***DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAYS)—
2010-11**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for the year 2010-2011.

Hon. Members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for the year 2010-2011 have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within fifteen minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Only those cut motions, slips in respect of which are received at the Table within the stipulated time, will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly thereafter. In case any Member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table immediately.

Motion moved:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2011, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 16."

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

LOK SABHA

Demands for Grants on Account (Railways) for 2010-11 submitted to the Vote of the Lok Sabha

| No. of Demand | Name of Demand | Amount of Demand for Grants on Account submitted to the vote of the House (Rs.) |
|---------------|--|---|
| 1 | Railway Board | 28,33,33,000 |
| 2 | Miscellaneous Expenditure (General) | 100,00,00,000 |
| 3 | General Superintendence and Services on Railways | 700,61,43,000 |
| 4 | Repairs and Maintenance of Permanent Way and Works | 1192,75,17,000 |
| 5 | Repairs and Maintenance of Motive Power | 558,08,92,000 |
| 6 | Repairs and Maintenance of Carriages and Wagons | 1254,20,27,000 |
| 7 | Repairs and Maintenance of Plant and Equipment | 677,17,42,000 |
| 8 | Operating Expenses-Rolling Stock and Equipment | 934,08,42,000 |
| 9 | Operating Expenses—Traffic | 3178,79,46,000 |
| 10 | Operating Expenses—Fuel | 2629,68,69,000 |
| 11 | Staff Welfare and Amenities | 552,59,15,000 |
| 12 | Miscellaneous Working Expenses | 515,54,09,000 |
| 13 | Providend Fund, Pension and Other Retirement Benefits | 2402,91,60,000 |
| 14 | Appropriation to Funds | 4213,84,83,000 |
| 15 | Dividend to General Revenues, Repayment of Loans taken from General Revenues and Amortization of Over-Capitalisation | 4,28,83,000 |
| 16 | Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement | |
| | Revenue | 9,96,67,000 |
| | Other Expenditure | |
| | Capital | 7689,49,65,000 |
| | Railway Funds | 3506,53,00,000 |
| | Railway Safety Fund | 283,06,67,000 |
| | Total | 30431,97,60,000 |

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Syed Shahnawaz Hussain to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this important topic of Supplementary Demands of the Railways. Hon. Lalu Prasad ji was the Minister of Railways in UPA-I under Manmohan Singh ji and he has presented six railway budgets in five years. The last budget was quite significant and it had aroused a lot of hopes in the country. Then the Government changed and we can say that Laluji was the Railway Minister in the first innings of the hon. Prime Minister and our Didi Mamata Banerjee is the Railway Minister in the second innings. We have a lot of expectations from her. First of all, I thank her very much as a Member of Parliament from Bhagalpur and also for giving my parliamentary constituency a Garib Rath train about which she could not make a mention amidst the din that day but had placed on record.

Sir, I am an MP from Bhagalpur and it is known as Ang Pradesh. Angika language is spoken there and we have raised this issue a number of times in the Parliament. I had met the hon. Railway Minister and had told her that there is Vikramshila Express in the name of Vikramshila, but the name Angika should also have its own identity. Our friend Nishikant Dubey ji hails from there and a large number of people speak Angika there. Once again I start my point with thanks that when I made a demand to her then she renamed the Bhagalpur-Yashwantpur Express, which runs from Bhagalpur to Bangalore, as Ang Express. This has become effective from this 24 March itself and its name is Ang Express now. For this, I thank Didi on behalf of the whole of Ang Pradesh and the people of Bhagalpur. Our Leader of Opposition and I are trying to thank her on behalf of everyone of us...*(Interruptions)* We have proposed a vote of thanks and it will be better if she accepts it now...*(Interruptions)* I am happy that the hon. Minister hails from the Eastern region. Already, there is a very close relationship between Bengal and Bihar and we maintain this relationship constantly. Whenever we go to Kolkata, we never feel as if we have reached some state apart from Bihar. We feel as if we have arrived in our own state itself. Earlier too, while I was representing Kishanganj, I used to see that on one side of road was Bihar and on the other side was Bengal. Even now, when I am a Member of Parliament from Bhagalpur, a large number of Bengali people lives in

our area. Sharatchandra ji belonged to Bhagalpur and 'Devdas' was written there. Rabindra Nath Tagore spent all his time in Bhagalpur. He wrote 'Gitanjali' there and because of this I have very close relations with Bengali people. But, Didi is sitting on the Treasury Bench and I am sitting in front of her. I, therefore, will try to make all the efforts to fulfill my responsibility as a Member of Opposition with dignity. I know that she has been a Minister and has worked with me. Whenever, I rise in the Parliament to speak, I am not much caustic but try to put across my points seriously. Our leader Sushma Swaraj ji has given me opportunity to speak on the Railways and I thank her for that. In addition to that I want to say that this time, Mamata ji has presented the Budget. Earlier, it was presented by the Railway Minister in UPA-I. There is collective responsibility in the Government and the budget does not belong to a single Minister. Whenever some budget is prepared it has to get approval of the Cabinet. When the Cabinet approves it then it means that it is the budget by the Government. If some announcements have been made by the Railway Minister of UPA-I, they should be approved by the Railway Minister of UPA-II also. This is what we believe because the Government has not changed it just has become UPA-II from UPA-I. But, nothing happened like we had expected. Many announcements were made before the elections. It was election time and Laluji was touring Bihar. We meet in the Parliament but whenever Laluji used to go there to lay a foundation stone or to inaugurate then it used to be so crowded there that I used to think whether I should go or not. Big announcements were made there. Announcement by a Minister means an announcement by the Government. We accepted those announcements. But, I was not aware when the Government changed and people gave us sweets saying that a DRM office has been opened in Bhagalpur. A huge Board was installed and a large sum of the Railways was spent. An ODS was appointed there who, is working as a working DRM. I was in Opposition. I could not say that Pranab Da has not made any announcement in the interim budget then how could Lalujji make it that this budget means nothing. If I had said so then public would have resented saying that atleast he is making a provision for DRM office and you, being a Member, are showing a miserly heart than welcome it. So, I fulfilled my duty and responsibility and welcomed the provision of a DRM office for Bhagalpur. Once it used to be the capital of the Ang Pradesh. If it got the DRM office now, then it was the right of the people of Bhagalpur. After that, an announcement was made that a train would be introduced from Bhagalpur to Ajmer.

The train did start from there after the announcement and green flag was shown to it even though I did not get reservation in it as a Member. People of a particular party went to Ajmer Sharief from there and registered their attendance at the door of Khwaja. I did not go by that train but I too had gone to make my attendance at the dargah of Khwaja Garib Nawaj before the elections. I am saying with great regret today that there is no such train. While presenting the Rail Budget, you had said that I am starting a train from Kishanganj to Ajmer for Shahnawaj. When I went to my constituency, the people accused me that despite being an MP from Bhagalpur, I was asking for a train from Kishanganj according to Mamataji. I told them that Didi later told me that she mistakenly thought that my constituency was Kishanganj and forgot about Bhagalpur. She started a train from there, but Bhagalpur was deprived of a train to Ajmer as a result thereof. A Rajdhani train had also been announced once. We cannot bypass Bengal. If the Rajdhani train started from Delhi, it would have to go to Kolkata via Bhagalpur. This would have benefited the people of Kolkata. Whenever any person from Bihar talk of Kolkata and Bengal, you can be certain he would not take a biased view. We take into account the fact that it is our neighbouring State. We will automatically make use of all the trains, you run for Bengal if only you keep providing stoppage in any State. She announced a Rajdhani train, but even that was not started. I would like to say that it is your Government, You are a powerful Minister, You have influence and this Government exist with your support. The Government in which you are the Minister is intoxicated with power. The Government is not willing to give us the time of a day because it has got a majority. You feel that you have got majority but it is not so. You have got merely 206 MPs, but you are behaving as if you have got a three-fourth majority as in the time of Late Rajiv Gandhi your behaviour is more suited to a party which has won 412 seats not just 206 seats. You are behaving as if you have own double the number of seats than the number actually won. You are not even worried about your allies...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): You speak on the Rail Budget. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, he is older than me and is a Minister of state at present, whereas I have served as a Cabinet Minister. He should advise me when he is made Cabinet Minister. Then I shall listen to his advice because he is an able person. But he is a victim of injustice. This injustice is making him speak like this. I have been seeing him in the

Parliament since the time I was very young. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I don't need his support. I am very much happy about it. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please stay on the topic.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, no training is given for entering politics. This House is itself the training ground. This is where we learn to speak by observing others. When our seniors speaks, we listen to them carefully.

SHRIMATI ANNU TANDON (UNNAO): We are listening to you.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: You have come to listen. You are listening for the first time. Other people have heard me earlier.

Sir, I have been elected to the House for the third time. I got the opportunity to speak on a number of subjects during the previous Lok Sabha and I have learnt a lot...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please remain quiet and let him speak.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, when there are interruptions, my energy increases. The older Members know that it is better not to interrupt Shahnawaz because if interrupted, I create more problems for them. That is why I ask you to listen patiently. Swamiji, when I used to speak here, you were in the other House. Now, that you are here, listen to me carefully. You will feel good about it later. I am not going to say anything unpleasant to you.

Sir, I hope that the Railway Minister is concerned. I know that Didi is not happy with the way the Ministry is being run. None of the departments are working properly. Didi is also worried about the Health Ministry since she is also opening a hospital. Didi is also worrying about the sports Ministry. She was acknowledged to be a very successful Minister when she was holding the sports portfolio. I have also been Minister of sports. I know she has a good track record. She is also

concerned about sports and power. Power cuts occurred in the House too today. I counted power cuts 15 times. It is not that I was troubled because the AC was not functioning. I have to go to meet people of constituency. Even if I am scorched by heat wave, I go to my constituency every Saturday and Sunday. But the point is that this is the situation in the Parliament House. Now, Railways also proposed to generate one thousand megawatts of power. I see that it is also concerned about 20 urban development projects and schools. What is Sibal Sahib going to do? The entire country is concerned about what Sibal Sahib is going to do. Such an efficient man has been given this responsibility. Will he be able to make others as efficient is the question. That agenda is still on-Didi has also shown concern about the hostels. She is also going to open 381 diagnostic centers. You have an expansive vision for the Railways. I understand how much money is needed by the Railways. I know that the Ruling Party does not have the guts to anger you. It cannot take such a risk. Not just us, the entire country supports your demand for funds for the Railways Pranab da also belongs to Eastern India. He will help you in redressing the injustice meted out to Eastern India. But what is the situation today. I have not stood up to criticize but who has the right to sound the wake up alarm? The Opposition has that right. In our democracy, we have the right to wake up a somnolent government. I know you are working hard. But what is the situation today? Railways need to be made world class. Each day more than one crore eighty lakh passengers travel in trains. There are 8700 trains and 5700 freight trains. The Indian Railways are world famous. We approach the Rail Minister with proposals for laying rail lines. I know that you are working towards laying rail lines on an urgent basis. You are laying a railway line in Kolkata upto Writer's building. I know that you are putting in a lot of effort in laying this railway line. I want the Writer's building to be vacated and that it should experience a new renaissance. I want you to work for the country. You are the Minister. I do not want to limit you. I do not want you to be known merely as a Minister from Bengal or from Eastern India. I want you to be known as a representative of the entire country and for your name to shine globally. What did Laluji do or did not do. He was supposed to teach at Harvard. Today he is nowhere in the reckoning...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: All the persons are getting your point. If any of your works is incomplete then get it completed...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Laluji is trying to instigate you people but do not fall to his tricks. When Lalu ji presented the interim Rail Budget, I also participated in the debate on behalf of my party and I had an altercation at that time. So today I am in no mood to fight. Whatever be the provocation, today I will restrain myself from being provoked.

We wish that you earn more name and fame. You had talked about white paper. It was widely discussed in the entire country including Bihar and when you presented the white paper, some pages were missing. God knows which pages were missing and how those pages went missing. You are not a person to be influenced by someone. Today you have presented Vision-2020, but now only cricket is discussed here. IPL-20 is being discussed here but nobody is talking about vision 2020 for the railways. I do not want to go into the details but I would like to say this much that the railways has a very large infrastructure.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, rail tracks are not being laid adequately. The rail lines are not being laid where they are needed. I agree that Shri Lalu Prasad ji got some rail lines laid during his tenure as Minister of Railways. However, rail line remained incomplete. This rail line was to connect Forbisganj to Araria via Galgalian but it was not completed. A rail line was laid from Sri Lalu ji's village to Smt. Rabri Devi's village. I have no objection to that. I agree that rail line has been laid upto Deoria. She has been the Chief Minister of Bihar and if the rail line has been laid to connect her hometown, I have no objection to that. Rather we are happy. Only Laluji does not have the right to go to 'Sasural'. We can also travel on that route. We are also entitled to go to our Sasural. He is my elder brother. I can go to his home as well.

Sir, hon. Lalu Prasadji had made several announcements relating to construction of rail lines but several projects out of those projects are still incomplete. Even the announcements made during Shri Nitish ji's tenure have not been completed. Railways has a very large infrastructure. So we expect that you need to do a lot of work in the railways. This Ministry is a crown of thorns. It is not an easy job to run this Ministry. This Ministry requires a lot of time and labour. So we do expect that you are going to improve the railway infrastructure. But today I regret to say that the modernization and development of the railways are not going on as expected and the pending works are not being completed.

Sir, Parliament has become such a place where only announcements are made. Earlier the people used to have a lot of expectations from the General Budget and the Railway Budget and listened to the radio and watched television on the day of presentation of these budgets. This year the railway budget was presented but nobody is talking about that. People think that only announcements have been made and nobody knows whether those announcements are likely to be implemented. Earlier the announcements made in the Parliament carried a lot of weight. I would like to say that there is a need of modernization of the railways. The railway tracks need to be strengthened and extended. We are lagging far behind in respect of laying railway tracks in comparison to other developed and developing countries in the world. Today China is more developed than our country. China has been laying rail tracks upto Arunachal border. We have not been able to lay rial lines in all the states including Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu and Gujarat in the country. I know that there is a lot of pressure on the Members of Parliament but nothing is being done in this regard.

Sir, under the leadership of Shri Atal Bihar Vajpayee ji we had laid the rail lines in Kashmir and now Laluji broke the coconut and inaugurated the rail line. We started that work but the railway works take a lot of time. Today if you start a work in Kashmir, the work will be completed after five years and inaugurated by some other person. These days whatever works have been completed, all those works were started during NDA Government's regime under the leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji. This Government got the opportunity to inaugurate it. The works relating to railways and airports take a lot of time. These works are not completed in a day. It is not Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana.

SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA (Jammu): Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Members whether he had ever been to Kashmir and if so, when did he go there?

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Recently, I was there. You were not there. You were in Delhi only. These days you rarely stay in Kashmir. I had tried to contact you, you were not there. I tried to inform you, but could not.

Sir, the need of the hour is to improve the rail tracks. There have been assurances but if a Member of Parliament travels by a normal train from his constituency

he will never reach the Parliament in time, and the media will show that an important issue was being discussed but the seats in the House were vacant. Railways provide us 40 tickets per year. We visit our constituency and exhaust our air tickets in just two months. After that, we travel by train. And no Member of Parliament can reach in time. Even air travel these days cannot ensure that you reach in time. If all the Members present here travel by trains to their respective Constituencies, they cannot reach before two days. It takes two days to reach here from our constituency even today. No works have been undertaken so far to construct the promised rail corridors on which trains with a high speed of 250 to 350 km per hour are proposed to be run. The year is passing by. Earlier, Laluji weathered away five years in the UPA-I and now you have spent one year. You have said that you would take 100 days, but a year has passed. Nothing would be done, I know it. You gave the assurance but today I want to know the expenditure to be made for starting a high speed train of 350 km per hour. Is this a mere assurance or just a speech? Action and not speech can get us train. Whatever we are told here, we convey it to the people of our respective constituencies. When you present the Rail Budget, each Member of Parliament expects a lot from you. But I am sure now that the financial support you require, you are not getting from the Government. The required modernization is not being undertaken in the Railways. Nothing is being done to strengthen the rail tracks. During the regime of Vajpayeeji, Nitish Kumar ji had got funds for strengthening rail tracks. You were also a Minister then, Rs. 17,000 crore were provided. Nothing is being done in this direction today.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Commissioner, Railway safety is under Civil Aviation Minister. When I was Civil Aviation Minister, Commissioner, Railway Safety Department was under me. So, I can say nothing is being done in this field. When a train met with an accident near Kishanganj in Bengal, you all went to Nitish ji, who was Railway Minister then, and asked for his resignation. And, Nitishji, taking it as his moral responsibility resigned at once, but nothing is being done about the anti-collision device. And no progress has been made in the field of safety.

We talk of world class railway station. How a world class station looks like? If there is no AC or no amenities in a first class you are traveling in, how can you call it a first class? Laluji earlier announced 18 stations to be made world class. The announcement was made three years back. But unfortunately, Laluji did not get the

opportunity to inaugurate the said stations. Now, you are in the same chair. Laluji's letter of support to UPA is still with the hon'ble President...*(Interruptions)* As regards the announcement you had made about the world class station. I first do not want to drive into the past, it would only add to our worries. During the UPA-I, Kulhads (clay cups) were introduced, even that, too, not being continued. It was decided that Khadi bed sheet will be provided even it is not there. The Congress has a long term association with khadi, but today's politicians do not wear khadi, so it is not appropriate to mention it. I think you have raised the number of world class stations to 25, and then to 50, one thing I would like to know whether Bihar has its share in it. The only name that was mentioned was that of Patna, but it was already there. The people of Bihar have not done anything wrong. We are also the citizens of this very nation. Bihar has got talents, they pass in competitions in large numbers. But it does not mean that Bihar would be subjected to red tapism. If Bihar has given most of the Rail Ministers it does not mean that Bihar should be left neglected now. Another world class station is needed in Bihar after Bhagalpur. If not any other place, in Nalanda, Vikramshila, Taxila...*(Interruptions)*. I said, these three cultures are well known in the whole of the Indian sub-continent. Taxila is now in Pakistan. Now what is left with us in the name of heritage. Our Nitish Babu belongs to Nalanda while my friend Nishikant Dubey belongs to Vikramshila and is sitting here. Uday Singh ji and Kirti Azad ji also belong to the same place.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am fortunate to be a Member of Parliament from Vikramshila. Students from all over the world used to come here for studies. If a railway station of international level...*(Interruptions)*. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have not yet started my speech and you have pressed the bell. My party has 116 MPs.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have taken half-an-hour. You can see, there is a clock in front of you and 6 more Members from your party are yet to speak.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have just started...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have told you, now it is upto you.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: It is annoying when you press the stop button just after the train has started.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now-a-days there are electric trains. Speed gets accelerated on pressing the button.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Pal dynasty from Bengal once ruled Vikramshila. Therefore, I urge you to construct a world-class railway station in Bhagalpur. Sir, I want to know as to when the condition of railways will be improved. As there is no airport in my area, so I travel by train. Every Friday, when I go there, I meet all the fellow MPs from West Bengal. They ask me as to why I go to Kolkata so often? I tell them that I do not go to Kolkata but I used to go to Bhagalpur via Kolkata. I go there by air, then board Howrah-Jamalpur train, the train going to Munger, the area of Monajir saheb. Many a times workers of my party in Kolkata offer me meals. One day they gave me meal. I kept it in the train. Eventually I slept and when I got up to my utter surprise. I found a rat enjoying that food. Mosquitoes bite us in the trains, but we can bear with it as we have become habitual since power used to play truant in Bihar for days and then mosquitoes used to play havoc. But in trains, we find cockroaches. It is quite troublesome. Bed-rolls are provided in the trains and we find full of dirt in those blankets. Perhaps others also may have complained to Didi. Sometimes we find so much dirt on the blankets that it looks like a painting of modern art. It is highly inconvenient to use these for covering our body...*(Interruptions)* Nishikant ji has made a complaint in this regard yesterday only. The blankets give stinking smell. I would like to bring this kind of things to the attention of the Hon. Minister. When I am speaking, it is a wake-up alarm. Today, BJP is in opposition. We are in opposition with a positive approach unlike the Members of ruling party who are always under the intoxication of power and adopting a negative approach. It is our job to awaken you. You are ready to accept the role of private sector in railways. I won't go in details on it. I leave it for my other colleagues.

Attention should be paid to words safety, security and hygiene. Government wants to construct world-class railway stations. Railways should be developed to promote tourism. There is no attention to it. The hon. Minister proposes to start trains from Jaipur, Kolkata and Delhi. There are already a number of trains from these cities. She should pay attention to the areas which are neglected where there are no train services. Since Didi has become the Minister of Railways, catering in central hall has improved slightly. One day, I saw

Shri Shatrughan ji also taking meal there. He said that the standard of food being served had improved a lot. But, once a while you check up the meals being served on trains. That is totally unhygienic and they serve any kind of stuff. People fall sick after eating it. My submission is that the UTS system, which has been introduced in post offices, should be extended upto universities also. It should be at places where more number of people go and avail ticketing facilities. You should pay attention to it also. Today, we find it very difficult to get reservation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you are our custodian. Through you, I would like to say that many a times even MPs do not get reservation. The Government has empowered DRMs and DCMs. Even whenever their relatives need, they immediately arrange seats for them and when an MP approaches for a seat the TTE promptly says that Sir, there is no seat today. We have to come to the Parliament. Kindly make such an arrangement that if an MP wants to come to the Parliament, especially when the Parliament is in session, he should invariably be provided a seat in the train. A seat is reserved for a TTE but not for an MP who wants to come to the Parliament. I can't explain what sorts of difficulties were face in getting reservation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, since you have pressed the Bell, without going into details on this issue, I would like to take up Bihar. I would like to say that the people of Bihar are not living in coastal area. Trade started in coastal states long ago. Bengal, Maharashtra and Gujarat are our coastal states. Transportation of goods used to take place in these states as trades used to come there. In unified Bihar several minerals like coal and bauxite were available. Now, mineral rich areas have been carved out as a separate state. There was never a movement in Bihar asserting that a particular assets belonged to Bihar and therefore, it should not be taken out of the state. Today, we are not a developed state. We have tidbits which are even smaller and unimportant than the Government of India. Bihar and UP have lagged behind the whole of the eastern India. Today, there is one part called Bharat and the other India. We all have become backward people. The states in north India are being called 'Bharat' and some states have made progress. I congratulate them that all the states should progress and the entire Republic should be strengthened. There is no difficulty in that. But, why is injustice being done to Bihar today? The Chief Minister of Bihar Shri Nitish Kumar had written a letter to you. I thought that since he has written a letter to you, then you would

agree to all of his demands but not a single demand of ours has been accepted. Today, the work is going on slowly on Nateshwar-Sitlampur, Narora-Shivpura line, Harnaut Workshop, Patna-Ganga Rail-cum-overbridge project. The rail-cum-overbridge, which is in Munger, Monajer Saheb is from Munger...*(Interruptions)* Right from my childhood, I have been watching that the construction of that bridge is going on. Now, I am adult. After sometime, I will grow older and still that bridge will not be completed. If it is built then the whole of Bengal will benefit from it. The pace of work there is very slow.

Didi, I know that you are busy in 'Mission Bengal'. But please visit Bihar also. We will give you such a rousing welcome like you would not see even in Bengal. You should just give us some time, atleast, once. You should visit the Munger bridge. We had paid a visit under the leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji. Shri Nitish Kumar ji had built 6 bridges. A bridge was built over Kosi. We had visited it. I belong to Kosi, Hukmadeo Babu, too, had gone there at that time. He had put the garland made of Makhanas on Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji. We had a lot of expectations. We were very much concerned as to how the pace of that work became slow when Laluji was in office. Now, people think that a lot of work has been done in Bihar. There is a general impression in Parliament that if the Railway Ministers have been from Bihar so all the work must have been completed there. But, you pay a field visit in our area. Nothing has been done in Bihar. Kosi bridge is incomplete even today. The doubling of the Patna-Gaya railway line is incomplete. Work on Sakri-Hasanpur line is incomplete. Work on Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi line is not going on. Same is the case with Hazipur-Sigauli and Maharajganj-Masrakh line. Through you, I would like to say that the survey of Araria-Galgaliya line was done when Laluji was in office and work on that is also incomplete. Dinesh Yadav ji, who hails from Kosi and our MP from Saharsa is present here today. Though broad gauge line is there today but it has no trains. Do we have no right? Trains are only going towards Patna. Patna is our capital and we feel proud about it. Hon. Member from Patna is sitting here and I will not mind if Patna is provided everything. We are not here to fight with him. Patna belongs to everyone. Laluji resides there though he is a Member from Chhapra. Work on Sakri-Lokhaha line has not been completed. Before elections, he had started setting up a wheel plant at Chhapra and a factory in each block. As a result thereof, people were expecting a lot of things but the moment he left the Ministry, everything came to a standstill...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: You do not have complete information. The work on the wheel factory is 90 percent complete.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I thank him for the announcement made by him for Madhepura in the last budget. Regarding Champaran, hon. Rama Devi ji has raised the issue of Pirraiya, Dhoka, Patahi, Madhuvan, Sheohar railway line and attention should be paid to it.

Didi, we face a lot of problems relating to accountability, just like you face it in Bengal. We are accountable to the people and therefore, people in Bhagalpur look to us for answers. They say that you have served as a Minister in the Government and sit on the Opposition bench and even then how come the DRM office is not being set up there? The Government can delay it but it should be done, there is no problem in this. Atleast it can fulfill the earlier announcement. Announcement regarding the Rajdhani train should also be implemented. Besides there is Tinpahar-Bhagalpur line which should be completed. Mandar Parvat, which was used for 'Samundra Manthan' and 'Amrit' was found, is situated in Bhagalpur and a large number of tourists go there. Then there is a place called Devaghar where people go after bringing holy water from Sultanganj. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you have visited it. A large tourist circuit can be developed there. A new railway line should be started. Today, there is no train for Gorakhpur and Lucknow from Bhagalpur. The Lucknow-Barauni train, which just remains stationed there for the whole day, should be extended upto Bhagalpur, I have repeated this point to Didi time and again and she must have got bored hearing it quite often. Like Kolkata has two stations-Howrah and Sealdah, similarly, in Bhagalpur there is Naugachhia on one side of the Ganga and Bhagalpur on the other side. When there was no bridge then the trains running on Katihar-Barauni line did not halt there as it was a small station. It has been developed as a Model Station which is a very good thing. People of Naugachhia are very happy. I thank you on their behalf. But, it is not good that stations will be improved but the trains will pass by it teasing us. And Bhagalpur has such a large population and it was the capital of Ang. People feel very uncomfortable to believe that trains will not halt at Vikramshila, which has Shahnawaz as its MP Naugachhia earns same revenue as Khagaria Junction...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: You were planning to introduce flights to Bhagalpur.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Planning is going on in that regard. We did not come to power otherwise flights could have started there. Did we not do it in Gaya? We had taken him to the inauguration ceremony in Gaya. When he used to inaugurate, our photos were not published by him. But he was an MP at that time and we took him to Gaya and his photo was put up there alongwith Rabri ji's photo.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to end my speech after making one more point through you. Just as there are two railway stations in Kolkata namely Sealdah and Howrah, similarly Munger bridge along the Bhagalpur route would facilitate the people lot. Bhagalpur station is called Naugachhiya (Bhagalpur): I would like to request the honourable Minister to provide one minute stoppage to all the trains passing through this station...*(Interruptions)* If you get lesser revenue than Khagariya from this station then you may withdraw the facility. I am not saying this in a spirit of competition. I mean to say that since trains stop at Khagariya, they may be provided stoppage at this station as well. The Railway will be able to earn as much revenue here as in Khagariya. I myself belong to that area and was elected from Bhagalpur.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: You mean to say that the passengers be deboarded at Bhagalpur. What if a passenger has a ticket beyond Bhagalpur station-Will you make him deboard earlier?

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: This is not what I mean. If Naugachhia is considered as a station of Bhagalpur and it is given the status of a station and it Bhagalpur is considered as a station of Naugachhia and halt is provided there it would prove to be great convenience for the passengers. Naugachchiya is a city of the international importance. People visit Baba Dham. It would become convenient for them if the train stops at this station. If the Railway Minister does this she would get a lot of praise and she would be able to achieve the objective of ranching to the Writer's Building speedily.

The Bhagalpur-Yeshwantpur Express runs only on one day in a week. It stands idle the rest of the time. Its frequency should be increased to three days. The statue of the first President of India, Late Rajendra Babuji, should be installed outside the Patna railway station. However you have named one station in the city as Rajendra Nagar station. But his statue has not been installed there.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: I had had the statue of Rejendra Babu installed at the Rajendra Nagar station.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I am talking about the Patna railway station because a large number of passengers does not board or deboard at Rajendra Nagar Station. I had put up a statue of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose at Kolkata airport when I was Civil Aviation Minister. Hence, I would like to request you to install a large statue of Rajendra Babu outside the Rajendra Nagar station.

SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA (Patna Sahib): I have already made this demand.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: MP from Patna and my colleague, Shri Shatrughan Sinha, concurs with me and has earlier place this demand.

I wish the Railway Minister all the best and would like to say that the Minister need not feel hesitant in any way. We all will cooperate with the Minister. If the Minister does good work, she will get our cooperation. It is luck that this Government has got a very positive opposition this time. None of the previous governments has got such a positive opposition. Narayanasamyji should remember this. We are cooperating with the Government. But if the Government do not let go of the hubris of power then it will face a fall like Mr. Tharoor. So it should remain a little normal. The ruling party and the opposition have equal responsibility in a democracy. The ruling party does not hold the sole contract for running the country because in a democracy the Opposition also plays a stellar role. This party has been in power for a long time and if the Government do not work well we will change places with it.

CUT MOTIONS

Disapproval of Policy

[English]

DR. RAJAN SUSHANT (Kangra): I beg to move:

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD RAILWAY BOARD (PAGES 01.01.1-01.02.01) BE REDUCED TO RE. 1.

Failure to run additional trains o Pathankot-Joginder Nagar (Himachal Pradesh) rail line. (21)

Failure to set up any new Rail factory in Himachal Pradesh. (22)

TOKEN

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD RAILWAY BOARD (PAGES 01.01.1-01.02.1) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100.

Failure to set up a Railway medical, engineering or other educational institution in Himachal Pradesh. (24)

DISAPPROVAL OF POLICY

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD ASSETS—ACQUISITION CONSTRUCTION AND REPLACEMENT (PAGES 16.01.1-16.04.3) BE REDUCED TO RE. 1.

Failure to convert the Pathankot-Joginder Nagar (Himachal Pradesh) rail line into broadguage. (36)

Failure to extend the Pathankot-Joginder Nagar (Himachal Pradesh) rail line from Mandi-Kullu-Manali to Leh (upto the Tibet-China border). (37)

Failure to extend the Nangal-Una-Talwara rail line up to the State of jammu and Kashmir. (38)

Failure to construct a new rail line from Kalka to Kinnaur (upto Tibet-China border) in view of its strategic importance. (39)

Failure to extend the Pathankot-Jawalaji (Himachal Pradesh) rail line upto Nadaun, Hamirpur, Bilaspur and Shimla. (40)

Failure to provide better passenger amenities at stations between Pathankot and Joginder Nagar (Himachal Pradesh). (41)

Failure to provide manned railway crossings along the Pathankot-Jogindra Nagar (Himachal Pradesh) railway line. (42)

TOKEN

SHRI RAJU SHETTI (Hatkanangle): I beg to move:

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD RAILWAY BOARD (PAGES 01.01.1-01.02.1) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100.

Need to run Pune—Delhi express trains from Kolhapur. (143)

DISAPPROVAL OF POLICY

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE (GENERAL) PAGES 02.01.1-02.02.1) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100.

Need to conduct survey for new rail line from Kolhapur to Vaibhavwadi connecting Konkan region. (144)

Need to construct road overbridge at Atigrey, Hatkangale, Jaisinghpur and Miraj-Kolhapur—Miraj rail route. (147)

Need to construct a road overbridge at Palus in Tupari Tehsil on Karad—Kundal rail route in Sangli district. (148)

Need to doubling of Kolhapur-Sangli-Pune railway line. (149)

TOKEN

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): I beg to move:

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD RAILWAY BOARD (PAGES 01.01.1-01.02.1) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100.

Need to upgrade Khemasuli and Nekursemi railway station under South Eastern Railway. (326)

Need to extend Medenipur-Jhargram Intercity express upto Tatanagar. (327)

Need to run 2223/2224 New Delhi-Howrah Express daily. (328)

Need to extend 2875/2876 Neelanchal Express upto Amritsar. (329)

Need to extend 2801/2802 Purushottam Express upto Amritsar. (330)

Need to rehabilitate the people living on Railway land at Kharagpur. (331)

Need to fill up vacant posts at various levels through Railway Recruitment Boards. (332)

Need to construct escalators at Howrah station (333)

Need to upgrade Narayan Garh and Behrabad stations as Adarsh stations in South Eastern Railway. (334)

Need to discuss acquisition of Basumati Printing Press at Kolkata by the Railways. (335)

Need to discuss acquisition of Burn Standard and Jessop Workshops in West Bengal by the Railways. (336)

Need to construct halt station at Kansai between Midnapur and Gokulpur under South Eastern Railway. (337)

Need to introduce a new EMU train service from Kharagpur to Balasore under South Eastern Railway. (338)

Need for doubling of railway track between Kharagpur and Gokulpur *via* Giri Maidan under South Eastern Railway. (339)

Need for construction of a new rail line between Lalgah and Belpahari upto Nandigram under South Eastern Railway. (340)

Need for construction of a road over bridge on the level crossing at Keshiary-Belda road under South Eastern Railway. (341)

Need to construct an indoor stadium at Kharagpur. (342)

Need to construct a halt station at Bhadutala under South Eastern Railway. (343)

TOKEN

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (PAGES 07.01.1-07.023.1) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100.

Need to modernise Printing Press at Kharagpur railway station. (344)

TOKEN

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD STAFF WELFARE AND AMENITIES (PAGES 11.01.1-11.03.1) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100.

Need to provide free railway pass for contractual workes working in Railway Works and Projects and for railway hawkers in running trains. (345)

TOKEN

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD ASSETS—ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND REPLACEMENT (PAGES 16.01.1-16.04.3) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100.

Need to modernise railway workshop at Kharagpur. (346)

DISAPPROVAL OF POLICY

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI (Bhadrak): I beg to move

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD RAILWAY BOARD (PAGES 01.01.1-01.02.1) BE REDUCED TO RE. 1.

Failure to introduce Bhubaneshwar-Delhi and Bhubaneshwar-Rameshwaram Duroto trains. (368)

Failure to establish new railway divisions at Jharsuguda/Rourkela and Bhadrak in Orissa. (369)

Failure to introduce a weekly express train between Puri and Rameshwaram. (370)

Failure to provide funds for development of multi-model logistic parks and container freight stations at Kalinganagar, Angul, Jharsuguda, Rourkela and Chondwar in the State of Orissa. (371)

Failure to introduce improved suburban train services between Balasore and Bhubaneshwar *via* Cuttack, Bhubaneshwar and Angul-Talcher via Dhenkanal and Bhubaneshwar-Berhampur *via* Khurda Road. (372)

Failure to allocate adequate funds for timely completion of ongoing railway projects in the State of Orissa. (373)

TOKEN

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD RAILWAY BOARD (PAGES 01.01.1-01.02.1) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100.

Need to provide stoppage to all the express trains at the Bhadrak Railway Station. (374)

Need to have stoppage of Puri-New Delhi Neelanchal Express at Soro Railway Station of South East Railway. (375)

TOKEN

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE OF PERMANENT WAY AND WORKS (PAGES 04.01.1-04.03.1) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100.

Need to maintain cleanliness at platforms and in offices of all the railway stations of East Coast Railway and South East Railway, particularly in Kharagpur Division. (376)

DISAPPROVAL OF POLICY

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD ASSETS—ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND REPLACEMENT (PAGES 16.01.1-16.04.3) BE REDUCED TO RE. 1.

Failure to take up upgradation of seven railway stations on the East Coast Railway for making them 'Adarsh' Stations. (377)

Failure to construct rail link between Khurda Road and Bolangir and between Haridaspur and Paradeep in the State of Orissa. (378)

Failure to complete the construction work of Rail over bridge at Randia gate located between Baudpur and Bhadrak Railway Stations (379)

Failure to provide funds for electrification of feeder links in East Coast Railway. (380)

Failure to provide ambulance services for passengers at Bhubaneshwar railway station. (381)

Failure to construct Rupsa-Bhubaneshwar rail link to Chakulia, Nuapada-Gunupur broad gauge rail link to Theruvali and Baspani-Barbali rail link in the State of Orissa. (382)

Failure to provide rail link between Rupsa-Bangiriposi and Gurumahisani connecting Mayurbhanj with Northern India. (363)

Failure to extend the Ludhiana-Dakuni Eastern dedicated freight corridor upto Haridaspur. (364)

TOKEN

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD ASSETS—ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND REPLACEMENT (PAGES 16.01.1-16.04.3) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100.

Need to provide funds for construction of rail over bridges at Sara and Markana Railway Stations of Kharagpur Division. (365)

Need to provide funds for construction of roads at manned level crossings at Kenderapada, Manjuri Road, Kapali Road, Markona, Sabira and Bahanaga Railway Stations of Khurda Road Division and Kharagpur Division. (386)

Need to provide funds for extension of goods shed at Bhadrak Railway Station of East Coast Railway to cover full railway rakes. (387)

Need to provide funds for construction of platform overhead shed to cover the entire length of the platform Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4 at Bhadrak Railway Station of Khurda Road Division of East Coast Railway. (388)

Need to upgrade Bhadrak Railway Station in Khurda Road Division of East Coast Railway as one of the model Railway Stations. (389)

Need to provide and maintain drinking water facilities at all railway stations of East Coast Railway. (390)

Need to provide funds for the development of minimum passenger amenities at the Manjuri Road, Kenderapada, Kapali Road and Baudpur Railway Stations in Khurda Road-Division of East Coast Railway. (391)

Need to provide funds for provision of passenger amenities at Ranital, Soro, Markana, Sabira and Bahanaga Railway Stations of Kharagpur Division of South East Railway. (392)

TOKEN

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD RAILWAY BOARD (PAGES 01.01.1-01.02.1) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100.

Need to provide stoppage to 45 UP and 46 DN trains at Manjuri Road station in Khurda Road Division of the East Coast Railway. (402)

TOKEN

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD ASSETS-ACQUISITION CONSTRUCTION AND REPLACEMENT (PAGES 16.01.1-16.04.3) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100.

Need to provide direct entry to handicapped passengers from platform No. 1 at Bhadrak Railway Station of Khurda Road Division of East-Coast Railway. (414)

Need to provide subway for the railway users at Bhadrak Railway Station of Khurda Road Division of East-Coast Railway for easy access into the station. (415)

Need to complete the construction of Rail Bridge over the river Kathajodi on time in the East Coast Zonal Railway. (416)

TOKEN

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE (Bardhaman-Durgapur): I beg to move

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD RAILWAY BOARD (PAGES 01.01.1)-01.02.1) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100.

Need to allocate more funds for early completion of pending Railway projects. (408)

Need to provide stoppage to Rajdhani Express at Burdwan in West Bengal under Eastern Railway. (409)

Need to provide a halt station at Kondalpur in Asansol Sub-division of Eastern Railway. (410)

Need to introduce a new passenger train between Durgapur and Howrah. (411)

TOKEN

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD GENERAL SUPERINTENDENCE AND SERVICES ON RAILWAYS (PAGES 03.01.1-03.03.1) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100.

Need to increase allocation of funds for better signalling and telecommunication in railway traffic. (412)

Need to allocate more funds for gauge conversion. (417)

Need to allocate more money for Railway Safety Fund. (418)

Need to allocate more funds for doubling of railway lines. (419)

Need to upgrade the Katwa-Ahmedpur rail line from narrow gauge to broad gauge as per the survey done by the Railways. (420)

Need to extend gauge conversion from Balasore to Katwa on Burdwan-Katwa rail line. (421)

Need to install escalator at Durgapur Railway Station in Eastern Railway. (422)

DISAPPROVAL OF POLICY

SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI (Chatra): I beg to move.

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD RAILWAY BOARD (PAGES 01.01.1-01.02.1) BE REDUCED TO RE. 1.

Failure to increase the frequency of Rajdhani Express (Train No. 2454) from Ranchi to New Delhi *via* Daltonganj from once a week to twice a week. (481)

DISAPPROVAL OF POLICY

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE (GENERAL) (PAGES 02.01.1-02.02.1) BE REDUCED TO RE. 1.

Failure to carry out survey work of rail line from Daltonganj to Chatra *via* Lesliganj, Panki and Lawalong. (482)

TOKEN

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD ASSETS-ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION AND REPLACEMENT (PAGES 16.01.1-16.04.3) BE REDUCED TO RE. 1.

Failure to construct a Rail Over Bridge (R.O.B.) at Chandwa situated on National Highway No. 99 to avoid frequent traffic congestion. (483)

Failure to construct Gaya-Chatra, Tori-Chatra and Barwadih-Chirimiri rail lines in a time-bound manner to provide connectivity to the socially backward areas of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh. (484)

[Translation]

DR. NIRMAL KHATRI (Faizabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me the opportunity to speak on the Demand for Grants for Railways for the year 2010-2011. We see that the Railways is progressing in the direction of fulfilling the aspirations of the people under the guidance of the Chairperson of the UPA, hon. Sonia Gandhi ji, the able leader of Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh ji and the skilful guidance of revolutionary and courageous Railway Minister Mamataji, The Railways Department and the Minister should make all out efforts to ensure expansion of railways, to put least possible burden on the public and for expansion of passenger amenities and security. The yardstick to measure the success of the railways should be the extent of balance that is achieved in fulfilling the said objectives. It would not be an exaggeration to say that our hon. Railway Minister Mamata Banerjee is moving ahead with true dedication and integrity to take the railways ahead and speed up in expansion. Indian Railways has an important place in the world. The previous government have made efforts with limited resources to expand the network that had

been present since 1950 but the Railways Ministry under hon. Mamataji has started the work of speeding up this whole process. The average rate of expansion of railway network has been around 150 km per year which went up to 230 km per year recently. This target has been raised to 1000 km per year by the present Railway Minister. It is on lines of the policy adopted by Mamataji wherein she has converted the slow trains into Duranto Express under the budget and through her announcements. I congratulate her for this.

We will be able to make concrete achievements only if we fix a target for the future, think farsightedly and move in the planned direction. If we do not have any roadmap for the future then all our schemes shall come to naught. The initiative taken by the railways is commendable. It has adopted a resolution under Vision-2020 to extend its network upto 25,000 km. We have to achieve this target. The railways also has to prove itself by achieving this target. The railways also has to prove itself by achieving the target for this year so that people are able to believe that the Railways and this department would succeed in achieving the target of 25000 km.

Everyday 17,000 trains run from Kashmir to Kanyakumari covering a distance of 64,000 kms. Efforts are being made for providing rail connectivity in many remote and inaccessible areas. A rail bridge is under construction at Kodhi in Jammu & Kashmir which may perhaps occupy a special place in the world. Mamata ji, her leadership and her team deserves lots of appreciation as every effort is being made for providing rail connectivity in all the areas, be it Uttarakhand, North-east, Himachal, hilly and inaccessible or remote areas.

Shahnawaz ji was mentioning Mamata ji's attachment to Bengal. Today, on this occasion, I rise to express my views before the august House.

15.00 hrs.

Mumbai in Maharashtra and Kolkata West Bengal, are not just cities these are mini-India. People from every part of India have come to live in these cities. If hon. Minister of Railways has made special efforts for providing more facilities to these cities, these efforts should not be construed as steps taken in favour of Maharashtra or West Bengal, but steps taken for mini-India. The efforts of people of Poorvanchal and Bihar have resulted in progress in these cities, therefore, if more train services are provided in Mumbai and Kolkata it will definitely benefit the people of Poorvanchal, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. What is wrong in it if an announcement is made in the budget that there is a proposal to set up Ravindra Museum in Howrah and Gitanjali Museum in Bolopur on the occasion of 150th birth anniversary of Rabindra Nath Tagore. Is it logical to say that these museums can be set up elsewhere?

I think the announcement made by Mamta ji in this regard in the rail budget is quite logical. The Congress party, too has same vision for expansion of railways in future as to what shall be our demand in future and how we can meet that demand and how we will achieve our desired target. Keeping all these aspects in view, Mamata ji, in her budget speech, has presented Vision-2020. In fact, the budget cannot cover everything but I feel it is a revolutionary step, which will take us further in that direction.

15.02 hrs

[SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA *in the Chair*]

The Railway Minister has received five thousand suggestions. If we analyze these suggestions keeping the public facilities in view, we find that be it running Bharat Tirth Trains or Mahila Matra Bhumi Express or Karmabhumi Express or Sanskrit Express or Duranto Express trains or many other trains, Mamata ji has proved that she has a will to expand the network. She has a vision for providing more trains so that the passengers can travel comfortably. She proposes to construct multi-functional stations, world-class stations, model stations and also to open four hundred hospitals and diagnostic centres at railway stations. She also proposes to open good schools and sports academy for children of railway men. She proposes to open creches and hostels for women employees of railways and launch national insurance scheme for coolies. When there was mention of these things Shahnawaz saheb got up to speak and he passed a comment that Mamata ji is concerned about hospitals, sports and education.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN. Sir, since he has mentioned my name, I would like to say that I have not taunted, on the contrary I have said that no ministry has done a good job other than Didi's.

DR. NIRMAL KHATRI: As a mother, a woman has to manage her family and make it prosperous. Similarly, the minister is supposed to ensure smooth running of trains, at the same time she has to take care of families of those who are assigned the task of running these trains. She will also have to ensure that the children of those who are involved in smooth running of these trains from one corner to another corner of the country are able to get good education as well as good medical facilities. And if they have talent to become sportman, there should be arrangements for keeping them in sports academies. If the hon. Minister is providing all these

facilities then she is fulfilling the obligation of an ideal mother who wishes to ensure all-round development of her family.

Sir, It is evident from the funds earmarked for passenger's safety as to how sensitive our hon. Minister is about the passenger's safety. A record provision of Rs. 1302 crore has been made under this head, so far as passenger's safety is concerned, she has taken a quite significant decision in this regard. There is a proposal to deploy chowkidars at all the unmanned level crossings in the country during the next five years. An assurance has been made that one thousand such employees will be appointed for this purpose during current year itself. The Railways will need revenue for implementing the said proposals. But, she has been quite careful, she has not taken any measures to see that the public is not burdened, passenger fare is not increased and freight rates, on items, which may have direct impact on public, have not been increased. For mobilizing resources on the one hand she has proposed in the Rail Budget for starting of door to door service and also Tatkal Seva and on the other she has proposed reduction in freight rate for kerosene and foodgrains so that it does not result in inflation. It is my belief that clear announcement of not allowing privatization of the Railways and seeking cooperation of the people through better use of the surplus railway land on PPP basis will definitely increase the revenue, decrease people's burden and take the Railways to a better direction.

Announcement to increase the provident fund contribution from Rs. 350 to Rs. 500 in in the interest of employees, 10.7% increase in the Gross Traffic Receipt and the estimate that it will be Rs. 6490 crore higher this year in comparison to 2009-10—all this is indicative that the Railways is going in the right direction. The proposed highest plan outlay so far of Rs. 41,426 crore shows us the future direction of the Railways. Targets of gauge conversion of 800 kms., doubling of 700 kms. and completion of 1021 kms. of new rail lines are surely giving us the strength to believe that we have moved ahead swiftly to see the shape of the Railways which we would like to see in the coming days. Undertaking so many works and that too without putting the burden on the poeple and without increasing the railway fares is quite laudable and any amount of praise would be insufficient in this regard.

But, in addition to all this, we have to ponder over some major points. When fog strikes, the speed of the trains becomes slow. The Railways will have to think

upon as to how the speed of trains during the foggy weather can be maintained. Railways will have to think as to how we can improve the station in of the coaches of the trains and platforms. Hon. Mamata ji is a hardworking, fearless and honest leader who wants to make the railways progress at a faster pace. But, I would like to say that the higher officials of the Railways do not appear to be in tandem with her as far as implementation of her announcements is concerned. They need to tighten up today. Several announcements were made by her in the last interim budget and this budget, but no action has been taken thereon as yet and no efforts have been made further in this regard. I only mean to say that the Railways and the officials of the Railway Board should also keep up with her pace and some alternative should be found in case they fail to match it. This is what I would request her. I have seen it and I will give an example. She had made an announcement to build multi functional stations. Ayodhya was one of them but I am not aware whether work has started on it or not. Being a kind woman and accepting the importance of Ayodhya she did make the announcement but the officials are not able to understand her intention and that is what is needed today. Also, there is a need to find the way through which Anti-collision Device (ACD) can be used everywhere. Before I raise the issues related to Uttar Pradesh and my constituency, I would like to thank her for increasing the frequency of the train linking Delhi and Faizabad from four days a week to daily in this Railway Budget. I also thank her that the machine and all other equipments reached the Acharya Narendra Dev Nagar station, as chosen by me, three days before the start of the session as part of PRS facility provided to the members at any one station of their choice. Besides, I would also like to mention about the pain of Purvanchal or Eastern Uttar Pradesh people including mine. Kolkata and Mumbai progressed and agriculture in Punjab shone through by virtue of the toil of the labourers from eastern Uttar Pradesh. The efforts that the Railways should have made in this direction are lacking. A railway bridge was built in Ayodhya involving a huge investment of crores of rupees. A passenger train and a bi-weekly express train in running on it. The scheme to link Gorakhpur with South India, Lucknow and Allahabad via Ayodhya could have been implemented without any investment. There is no need to lay a track or build a bridge for that purpose. But, perhaps, the railway officials are not ready for this or their eyes are overlooking that corner from where the labourers reach out to the remote areas of the country and are building and taking forward those

cities by dint of their labour. There is a need to pay attention to these areas also. There is the Buddhist Circuit and Kapilvastu, Sarnath, Lumbini, Shravasti are there and all the public representatives from Purvanchal wish that there should be railway connectivity. This circuit should be linked with Ayodhya—the capital city and birth place of Lord Ram. The passenger with feeling of devotion should be able to travel to all these places related to Lord Buddha and Lord Ram by train. I think that we should give importance to it. Today, there is a need for all those works, which I had mentioned in writing in the last Railway Budget as I did not get the time to speak then. She had stated in her Budget speech that she had received suggestions from 5000 persons and that all of them could not be acceded to. All the demands cannot be acceded to and it is also not possible to carry out doubling everywhere.

It is not possible to run new trains for every destination. But in my view of if a train passes through Ayodhya and Faizabad then such trains should be provided at least one-minute stoppage at Faizabad and Ayodhya since Ayodhya is an important pilgrimage and Faizabad holds the honour of being a divisional headquarters and the former capital of Awadh. I had made this request earlier also. Neither a new train nor new tracks are needed. No new work needs to be undertaken. There are three trains passing through these stations—Okha-Guwahati, Surat-Muzaffarpur and Gandhidham-Karnakhya, but none has stoppage at Ayodhya or at Faizabad. There is no additional expenditure. This could be done easily. Garib Nawaz train links Ajmer Sharif. Rudauli and Dariyabad are Muslim dominated areas. Both these places have a large Muslim population. People want to go to Ajmer and go up to Lucknow to catch a train, which passes through their own station. If the train is provided a one minute stoppage there, it would definitely prove to be convenient for the public.

Bharat Tirth trains were announced. I have to question the intelligence of the officials who identified the 16 routes. 16 touts were identified for coverage by Bharat Tirth trains, a number of pilgrimages were selected and the hon. Minister announced their names but none of the routes seem to be linked to Ayodhya. The people involved in planning these routes need to be questioned about the basis on which they make the plans, their intentions and the perception they want to convey. I hope that all the problems being faced by Poorvanchal, would be resolved. The work of gauge conversion on the Gorakhpur-Gonda loop line is

incomplete. Work on Gorakhpur-Anandpur line is complete but needs to be extended. There is no need to incur expenditure on a new railway line from Kapilvastu to Basti, new Bahraich-Shravasti-Khalilabad railway line, doubling of Barabanki-Ayodhya-Faizabad-Jaunpur railway track in my view. If these works are included in the proposals sent to the Planning Commission under the budget then you might get a feasibility report in this regard. Thereafter, we would be able to place our demand before you.

I would also like to reiterate an important point made by Shahnawaz Sahab so that it is not overlooked in the demands being made by us. Akbarpur used to be famous for having a large Gandhi Ashram. Today it is on the verge of ruination. People from the town met me. They told me that earlier the Railways used to buy bed sheets from Gandhi Ashram. It was a means of livelihood for some people. It would be commendable if the railways could do something to revive the Gandhi Ashram, which was established as a mission. I praise Mamataji once again for her foresightedness. She wants to effect fundamental changes within the railways. I appreciate the honesty and integrity with which she has set the Railways on track. The need of the hour is to bring all the plans to fruition and give concrete form to the announcements. With this, I would like to conclude my speech.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (KAUSHAMBI): Hon. Chairman, sir, power cuts have been occurring since morning and the AC is also not working. Kindly get it fixed because all the members are feeling uncomfortable.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: It seems as if a heater has been switched on. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Chairman, sir, the problem of power cuts has been occurring since morning due to which AC is also not functioning. It should be looked into because the members are getting uncomfortable.

Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me the opportunity of speaking on the Railways' Demand for Grants. It is a fact that 17000 trains carrying crores of passenger cover a distance of 64000 km. every day, which is no mean achievement. Hon. Mamata Benerjee is carrying forward the good work. May the God give her the strength to move ahead with this responsibility and the railway department makes fast progress! My best wishes are with her.

Sir, I support Demand for Grants. Alongside, I would also like to convey certain suggestion regarding my constituency to Didi. I have mentioned many times that my constituency is the newly constituted district, Kaushambi. It is adjacent to Allahabad and the new district has been constituted out of Allahabad. It has got three commercial centres and three town areas viz. Bharwari, Sirathu and Kunda. There are railway crossings at these places, which used overbridges. The route from Allahabad to Lucknow passes through Kunda. When I go to my district along GT Road, I pass Bharwari and Sirathu railway stations where flyovers are required urgently. Secondly, a number of trains pass through Kaushambi, Bharwari, Sirathu and Kunda railway stations. I will not demand any new train but if the existing trains are given a minute or two of stoppage it would facilitate the passengers.

Sir, Kaushambi is a religious and historical place. The department has also submitted the proposal of converting Bharwari and Sirathu into junctions. If either Bharawari or Sirathu is made the main station of the district then it would get a lot of amenities and passengers would also be facilitated, as trains would get stoppage here. The distance from Allahabad to Lucknow can be covered in three hours by road but the same distance is covered in five to six hours by train. I would like doubling and electrification of this line to be undertaken so that the travel time could be reduced.

Sir, Bharawari and Sirathu are town areas an commercial centres. People travel to Kanpur, Delhi, Kilkata and Mumbai for business from here. It would be better if stoppage of the Mumbai bound train could be provided here as it is a long pending demand. A demand had been made to open computerized reservation centres at Bharawari, Sirathu and Kunda stations and at two places the said centres are being set up. But my demand is that a quota should be fixed for such stations in the trains running there so that passenger and businessmen might get some better facilities.

Sir, respected Behanji had announced a Duranto train from Allahabad to Delhi, unfortunately, no green signal was given to the train either from Delhi or from Allahabad. Our Shriprakash Jaiswal ji hijacked you to Kanpur and got train flagged off from there. This was a great insult to Allahabad. Hon'ble Sonia Gandhiji is present here, I would like you to pay special attention to Allahabad, it is her in-laws place, it is her house. So the place needs special attention, please do not ignore it. If you had introduced the train from there and hon.

Sonia ji flagged off the train, it would have made a great impact and the shortcomings of department of railways would have been removed.

Mr. Chairman, sir, through you I would like to say an important thing to Didi that when we write a letter to hon. Rail Minister, Government of India, and get the reply from the Minister of State, it saddens us and we begin to think whether you read our letters and pay attention to them or not. It again saddens us when we receive the response from Minister of State that your letter has been received and it is being examined for further necessary action. I would like to submit that when we write to hon. Minister of State, he should reply and when we write to you, reply should come from your office. It will give little bit boosting to our morale that the said work would be done and with that, we will feel honoured no matter if the work is actually done or not.

Mr. Chairman, sir, with these words I conclude. I thank you very much for the opportunity you have given me to speak.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): I have two colleagues, they, too, have to look after some work. We work together, we distribute it among ourselves. I am looking after the work even while sitting here...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHAIENDRA KUMAR: None of my letter is among it...(*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: All these letters belong to hon. Members. Let the Minister of State also work a bit...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GORAKHNATH PANDEY (BHADOHI): Mr. Chairman, sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Rail Budget 2010-11. Railway is the life line of the country. Hon. Railway Minister has made a number of announcements in the Rail Budget. Announcements have been made regarding the development of railways, introducing new trains, modernization of trains and constructing world-class railway stations and platforms.

Mr. Chairman, sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of hon. Railway Minister towards Allahabad and Banaras in Uttar Pradesh, which are holy cities, tourist spots and historically very important places. Mahakumbha is going to be organized in Prayag in the year 2013. Crores of people from all the districts and

rural areas of the country visit the place, even people from other countries also come here. Even today, Allahabad station is deprived of a lot of facilities. A demand has been made to construct a world-class station there. I also demand that Allahabad should also be considered under this budget. UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi ji is also attached to this place, this family has always been attached with this place, and they have been honoured in return, got respect so I would like to draw your attention towards this. There are some small stations there, at the time of Kumbha, people rush and the rush is so heavy that many accidents occur while crossing the tracks. Over bridges should be constructed small stations like Salori, Baghada, Kalindipuram, Jhoonsi etc there.

Mr. Chairman, sir, through you, I would like to remind the Minister that I had demanded for the doubling of the single track between Allahabad and Varanasi in the last budget. She had given her personal assurance that this work would be done but I do not know whether the said proposal was included in the budget or not. There are two pilgrimages between Prayag and Kashi—one is Vindhyachal which is a Shaktipeeth in which people have immense faith and the other is Sita Samahit Sthala which draws foreign and native tourists from every part of the country in thousands every day. Bhadohi district, my constituency, lies between Kashi and Prayag. People ask me as to why I cannot get the hon. Railway Minister to fulfil their small demand in the midst of so many other announcements. Whenever I visit my constituency, people place before me the demand they have been raising for long, and which I had also raised at the time of the previous budget. Today, through you, I would again like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards the said demand. Bhadohi not only brings in foreign exchange worth crores through its carpet industry but also provides employment to the slum dwellers. Carpet industry is spread over a number of villages and not only Bhadohi, there are Mirzapur, Jaunpur, Varanasi, Allahabad and dozens of other districts in the Poorvanchal region where the villagers and the jhuggi dwellers are still engaged in this industry and they not only earn their livelihood but also earn foreign exchange through this. Foreign buyers come to Bhadohi but no progress has been made regarding construction of overbridge on the railway track that runs through Bhadohi although it is a long standing demand of the people. I had drawn your attention towards this issue last time also. The Uttar Pradesh government has also fulfilled the necessary conditions. An overbridge is needed there

because of the heavy jams for hours together. A foreign buyer who gets stuck in such a jam never returns to Bhadohi. This kind of inconvenience has become a routine and it is also affecting the business of export and import of carpets. So, construction of an overbridge is urgently needed there.

Sir, through you, I would like to bring two demands to the notice of the hon Railway Minister. She has proposed new trains for places which already have a good number of trains whereas there is just one train from Varanasi to Delhi and New Delhi via Allahabad. I had asked you last time also to provide a one minute halt to Shivganaga Express at the district headquarters of Gyanpur district which has a carpet industry and the world known Sita Samahit Sthal which draws thousands of tourists every day. They also want to stop there also but no train has been given even a one minute stoppage there. This train used to have a stoppage there but now due to some reason it is not halting at this station. In the interests of the residents and the foreign tourists, I place a strong demand for a one minute stoppage to Shivganga Express at Gyanpur Road station which is the headquarters of the Gyanpur district. Last time when I had placed this demand, the hon Railway Minister gave me her assurance that action would be taken in this direction. May be my demand has slipped her mind. I again demand that Shivganga Express train should be given a one minute stoppage at Gyanpur Road railway station. This will not only facilitate the citizens of the region but also benefit the tourists who visit the Sita Samahit Sthala.

Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon Railway Minister towards the fact that although she has made arrangements in the budget to the effect that road overbridges will be constructed over all the unmanned crossings or level railway crossings within five years but the densely populated rural areas between Kashi and Prayag, which mostly consists of the poor, have unmanned crossings and there are no road overbridges over there which lead to thousands of accidents every year. I would like to demand, through you, that road overbridges should be provided between Kashi and Prayag and between Kashi, Varanasi and Allahabad where level crossings do not exist.

Sir, through you, I would also like to make one or two more points. Duronto trains have been started for various places in the country but the places that I am repeatedly mentioning viz Kashi, Prayag, Allahabad and Varanasi, from where a large number of people go to

big cities particularly Mumbai and Kolkata, have not been given any such train. I would like to demand through you, that a Duronto Express should be started from Varanasi to Mumbai via Allahabad. This is a justified regional demand from the point of view of convenience and good management.

Sir, there are some stations which need expansion where the old systems are in place still. They have got small platforms. Accidents are a matter of routine when people board and deboard trains. Our small demands should also be considered at a time when so many amenities are being provided at some stations. Jhoonsi, Haria, Gyanpur Road, Janghai, Phoolpur stations between Kashi and Prayag need expansion. Plans have been made to upgrade some stations to world class ones. If these stations are also modernised after some expansion it would help check the frequent accidents taking place there. I would once again like to request the hon. Minister to provide a halt to Shivganga Express at the Gyanpur Road Station, through you. This is a strong demand made by the people and is in public interest and regional interest. I would like to conclude with these words.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV (Khagaria): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to take part in the discussion on the Demands for Grants of the Railways for the year 2010-11. Whenever the Rail Budget is presented in the Lok Sabha, the Members of Parliament from Bihar frequently make a mention of the problems pertaining to the state. I think whatever point is put forth by them about the state and their constituencies, is totally neglected and no attention is paid towards that. But, being the Members of Parliament, it is our duty to raise points pertaining to our constituencies.

Sir, I would like to give a small example in this connection. In the Rail Budget presented on 08.07.2009, the hon'ble Minister of Railways had said that computerization and reservation facilities would be provided at one station each on the recommendation and suggestion of concerned Member of Parliament. In this connection, I personally handed over a letter twice to the Minister of Railways and the Minister too gave order for follow up action on those letters, but reservation facilities are yet to be provided at the station mentioned in the letter. I am a Member of Parliament from Saharsa Lok Sabha constituency which is a backward and usually flood-hit area. Earlier, Saharsa was connected with meter gauge railway line but now after gauge conversion, Saharsa is connected with broad gauge railway line. But the number of trains stopping and halting there is very

few while the number of passengers is very high. Saharsa station is the largest revenue-generating station under the Samastipur division but people have to face a lot of difficulties due to fewer number of trains from there. I had drawn the attention of the hon'ble Minister of Railways to the fact that a train No.-364 DN called Samastipur-Khagaria passenger departing from Samastipur arrives Khagaria station at 11.15 hours and it is kept stationed there for nearly five hours. I urged that this train should be extended up to Saharsa station which is fifty kms. away from there and for this purpose, no separate arrangements are needed. But, that was not done. The people there are still facing the problems that they were already facing.

Sir, 22 Duranto trains have been introduced in the country but unfortunately no such train originates from Bihar. Earlier, all the Members of Parliament from Bihar including myself had made a demand for this, but the Minister of Railways did not at all pay any attention towards it. In the previous Rail Budget, 114 schemes were taken up to carry out latest survey on the socially desirable project for providing connectivity to backward areas. In that, there is no mention about any scheme pertaining to Bihar. I urge that the latest survey for Simri-Bakhtiyarpur-Bihariganj line and Saharsa-Kusheshwar line should be carried out and these rail lines be constructed. Similarly, in the last Rail Budget, survey for laying of new railway lines, gauge conversion, doubling etc. was carried out on 69 rail sections, but this included only one survey for Bihar that in doubling of Kiul Gaya line. Therefore, I would like to urge the Minister of Railways to carry out survey in Saharsa which is most backward area on doubling of Saharsa-Mansi rail section and construct this railway line.

The Minister of Railways has made many good provisions too in the Rail Budget such as setting up of 383 diagnostic centres for the out patients. I urge that such diagnostic centres for the out patients should also be set up at Hasanpur Road, Khagaria, Mansi and Saharsa under my parliamentary constituency.

Likewise, tier-two hospitals of the general speciality should also be set up at Khagaria and Mansi. A tier-III multi-speciality hospital should also be set up at Saharsa. Presently, such a hospital exists in Katihar (Bihar) only. My parliamentary constituency Khagaria is a major station of North Bihar. Many long distance trains pass through this station which do have a stoppage at Katihar, but not at Barauni. So, I demand that train No. 5631, 5632 Bikaner-Guwahati Express, train No.-5715, 5716 Garib

Nawaj Express be provided a stoppage at Khagaria junction since passengers from the neighbouring seven districts undertake train journeys from this junctions. Also, Rajdhani Express should be provided a stoppage at this station.

Similarly, Saharsa junction is also a very important station. It has assumed greater importance after gauge conversion. But passengers have to face a lot of difficulties as there is no Express train running between Saharsa and Patna during night hours. Therefore, a Saharsa-Patna train during night hours should be introduced. Also, a Saharsa-Madras direct train should be introduced. Additional 6 coaches each should be added to the Saharsa-Patna Kosi Express and Intercity Express, since the present number of coaches in these trains is not enough to cater to the need of the large number of passengers, thereby causing a lot of difficulties to passengers, so it is necessary.

Various rail projects have been going on in various parts of North Bihar which are very important. These projects have not been completed so far. Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to make a mention of those projects for consideration of the Minister of Railways. The Khagaria-Kusheshwar rail section is only 44 km. long. The approval for its construction was given in 1996. There was estimated expenditure of Rs. 162 crore. An expenditure of Rs. 68 crore 2 lakh have been incurred on it so far. Rs. 5 core only were allocated in the last budget. When so much expenditure has been incurred on it, then its construction should be completed by covering it under the priority being assigned by the hon. Minister of Railways. Similarly, Sakari to Hasanpur is approximately 80 km long railway section. The estimated expenditure of its construction was Rs. 175 crore. Rs. 128 crore have been spent on it so far. Rs. 20 crore were allocated for it in the last budget. When so much allocation has been made, then priority should also be accorded to it as to its date of completion. That has not been done. The gauge conversion from Mansi to Saharsa, Saharsa to Dauram Madhepura has been completed. Gauge Conversion from Saharsa to Dauram Madhepura was completed some time back. The train was flagged off without any ceremony. The people were quite happy. However, approximately Rs. 298 crore have been spent on Madhepura to Purnia railway section of Rs. 20 crore had been provided in the last railway budget. Now, only Rs. 30 crore are required. The hon. Minister of Railways is requested to get it constructed by according priority to it. There is one very important

railway line along the border area. The railway section from Sakari to Lokaha-Bazar-Nirmali and Saharsa to Forbisganj is 206 km long which involves an expenditure of Rs. 355 crore. However, its construction has not begun so far, whereas this rail section is adjoining Nepal. Rs. 5 crore only were provided for in the last budget and I saw it on priority list in the pink book where it is mentioned that its construction would be completed by 31.03.2012.

Mr. Chairman, how the priority list would be compiled if the work does not start. So, it is requested that work should be got completed by making provision for funds. An ambitious project of Rs. 341 crore for construction of a railway bridge on the Kosi river which was inaugurated by the then Prime Minister Hon. Atal Behari Vajpayee. A lot of work was done on this project during the tenure of the last Government however, its pace has been arrested, today. Now, it is difficult to make out when this work would be completed. However, its priority date has also been fixed as 31.03.2012. So, the hon. Minister of Railways is requested to keep a check on the officers besides providing for the funds in this regard. The officers should be asked to expedite this work and get it completed. I would like to thank the hon. Minister of Railways for allocating Rs. 115 crore in the last budget for the Madhepura Green Field Electric Railway Engine Manufacturing Factory launched by hon. Lalu Prasadji involving a cost of Rs. 1960 crore. I believe that she would get this project completed which lies in this backward area. The maintenance facility of a broad gauge passenger coach is being set up in Saharsa for quite some time. The hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways had assured in reply to a question that it would be completed during this financial year. However, March has elapsed and God knows when their financial year would end. The work has not been completed as on date. Similarly, an overbridge was under construction in Chukti Dhala and the Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways had given an assurance to this effect in the House that it would be completed within this financial year. However, it is still incomplete. The material is definitely lying there but the work has not been completed. So, hon. Mr. Chairman, through you, I have raised my anguish before the hon. Minister of Railways, I belong to an extremely backward area. It is requested that the ongoing schemes in that area may be completed at the earliest.

Mr. Chairman, my colleague and hon. Member of Parliament Shri Bhudeo Choudhary was travelling from Bhagalpur to Patna by the Farkka Express in second

class with his family on 8.4.2010. God help the security system in trains, his three mobiles and his daughter's purse were stolen by thieves. He has lodged a complaint in this regard and also reported the incident to the hon. Minister of Railways. I want that inquiry of such incidents should take place. Security system should be put in place in trains. Through you, I wish to request the hon. Minister of Railways to make security arrangements in the trains.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have a list of more than twenty-five Members to speak on the Demands for Grants (Railways). Those hon. Members who want to lay their written speeches, may do so on the Table of the House.

Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay to speak now.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Kolkata Uttar): Hon. Chairman, I rise to support the Railway Budget 2010-11.

Uptil now, no hon. Member, either from the Government side or from the Opposition, has made any major criticism against the Railway Budget presented by the hon. Railway Minister, Kumari Mamata Banerjee.

The Indian Railways is the world's third largest railway network under a single management. It has near about 17, 000 trains run every day with 18 million passengers travelling. It has a 14-lakh strong railway family. Naturally, the Department is huge and its task is also equally huge. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, the hon. Railway Minister should very broadly receive appreciations for two reasons, at least. One, passenger fares of any class have not been increased; two, no increase of freight tariff has taken place in this Budget. Naturally, the common people would be benefited by this Budget. When the price rise is affecting us, when the fuel price rise is affecting us, these two major decisions will certainly give a major feeling of relief to the common people. This measure of the UPA Government has broadly been appreciated by the downtrodden people of the country because, normally, people who cannot afford more money for their travel expenses, they use the trains. So, naturally, this is a best decision which the hon. Railway Minister has taken.

There are Plan Outlays in the Budget for the year 2010-11. This time, the Annual Plan outlay has been proposed at Rs. 41,426 crore which is the ever highest Plan estimate. It is to be acknowledged by the Members from all sides of this House. Some Members questioned from where the money will come. It has already been made very clear in the Explanatory Memorandum of the Budget Speech from where the money will come.

I would like to keep it on record that the Gross Budgetary Support this year is Rs. 15,875 crore; the Diesel Cess is Rs. 877 crore; the internal resources is Rs. 14,523 crore; the EBR is Rs. 10,151 crore; the market borrowing through the IRFC is Rs. 9120 crore. So, the proposed Budgetary allocation and the total Budgetary Support through these processes have given a sense that there was not given any false assurance in the Budget Proposals.

What are the major proposals that have been tabled this time? I would mention a few of them; my colleague Shri Elangovan will possibly mention a few and Shrimati Supriya Sule will mention a few. So, in different ways, when we are discussing amongst ourselves, we find that 140 socially-desirable railway connectivity proposals are there; 97 more stations have been announced as Adarsh Stations; 10 more stations are to be converted into world-class station. So, we must appreciate that the hon. Railway Minister has appreciated the feelings and sentiments of all the Members who are asking for new trains which is their demand. In her speech, she is saying:

"I appreciate the hon. Members for their high expectations from the Railways. This is quite natural, because Railways is the lifeline of the nation and a major catalyst that triggers socio-economic growth.

I want to help everybody within limited infrastructure facilities. I believe that in everyone's right to demand. India is a democratic country. Every voice should be respected. Our dilemma is that we have received more than 5,000 requests."

So, naturally, after only one year of the Budget, 5000 requests cannot be implemented. Hence, priority has to be given.

What is our feeling? After the Independence, there were regional imbalances equally for which Eastern India was broadly affected. So, naturally, a few more trains

were given. Whether it is Shri Lalu Prasad or Shri Nitish Kumar or before that, Bihar had been represented in the Railway Ministry by somebody or like Shri ABA Ghani Khan Chowdhury or now our hon. Minister Kumari Mamata Banerjee, sometimes, they ought to pay attention to the Eastern Region of the country keeping the entire nation in mind. If somebody goes into the details of the Budget proposals, more or less, every section of the country has been broadly covered. The Indian Railways have already proposed the network expansion which includes new lines; gauge conversions, doubling of lines; railway electrification, safety and others.

Some more trains have been launched with new names and those are, Sanskriti Express, Matribhumi Express, Karmabhumi Express, Janmabhumi Express, Duranto Service Trains and sub-urban trains for Mumbai and Chennai. So, naturally major demands have been reflected in the budgetary proposals and all positive announcements have been made. What are those announcements? They are, modernisation of locomotive works, Centre for Railway Research, Loco Pilot and Advance Track Training Centre, coach production factories, wagon repairing shops, rail axle factory, wagon manufacturing factory, refrigerated container factory, Kisan Mission Project and Dedicated Freight Corridor which is the Prime Minister's dream project. Now, a sense of work culture has to be inculcated into the Railways by which all these ideas can be implemented successfully.

Sir, we should not forget the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Our hon. Prime Minister and Shrimati Sonia Gandhi had been there recently where the Railway Minister has fulfilled a longstanding demand of the people of that area. So they are very happy now.

Sir, I would like to say a few words about Izzat Ticket. Normally MPs do not find any way to give relief to the common and poor people of the country. At Rs. 25, any person can travel within a range of 100 kms. through this Izzat Ticket.

So, Izzat Ticket has at least given the poorest of the poor to move in trains by keeping their heads high. Another pro-people decision announced in this year's Railway Budget is 100 per cent concession to cancer patients along with their companions at a low cost which has been praised by the countrymen. Another thing is the reduction of Rs. 100 per wagon on freight charges on food grains meant for domestic use and kerosene oil. These are very positive announcements.

Sir, a new concept of PPP has been proposed in the Railway Budget which is the need of the hour. Many people try to criticise by saying that ultimately Railway is going to be privatised. But the hon. Railway Minister has very categorically stated on the floor of the House that PPP is a very positive idea, it has a proper base, this idea has a proper identity, it is very transparent, this idea has a typical managerial efficiency and naturally this PPP concept can be implemented successfully but the Railway will never be privatised. I want to place this on record because our CPI (M) friends, who are present here, always try to make a campaign that the Railways are going to be privatised in the name of PPP which the Railway Minister has very categorically stated that it is far from the truth.

Then, we are very much for safety and security of passengers, cleanliness of compartments and toilets, availability of clean drinking water at cheaper rate and good food. Then, running of trains in time has to be looked at. So, I think, the hon. Railway Minister has given attention to all these areas very minutely and very positively and we think that these things have been broadly accepted by the people. Now, the poor people are getting Janata Aahar at only Rs. 10. They are getting Dum Aloo and Pori Baji in railway stations at Rs. 10. यह आम जनता की सरकार है। That has properly been reflected in this Railway Budget. It is our firm belief that the prestige of the UPA Government in their second term has been considerably enhanced by the performance of the Railway Ministry.

16.00 hrs.

Sir, you have rung the bell, I will be concluding shortly. I must say that funds constraints sometimes cost to implement the Railway projects in reality. The sum of Rs. 15,000 crore has gone up to Rs. 17,000 crore. In 2001 H.R. Khanna Commission was there which recommended for one time assistance to the Railway Department. It is 2010-11 now and the price have gone sky rocketing. So, I would appeal to all the political parties of the Parliament with a request to the hon. Finance Minister to extend more financial assistance and a one-time budgetary support may be given to the Railway Ministry for implementation of this pro-people Railway Budget.

Sir, I would positively say that Railways security is also an important and necessary step. We feel that the Railway security management be brought under one umbrella, that is, the Railways. Now, GRP is there, which

is controlled by the State Police and the RPF is there, which is controlled by the Ministry of Railways. So, let RPF and GRP be taken under one umbrella.

Then, there is a problem of unmanned level crossing. I think it is to be taken care that unmanned level crossings are properly manned. Sir, it is also important to mention that the Railways has become a soft target by the extremist group. Whenever the Maoists are targeting the Government, they are targeting the Indian Railways. On 15th April we had our Bengali New Year Day, we could not come to the House. In Rajya Sabha, Mr. Arun Jaitley and in Lok Sabha, Mr. Basudeb Acharia started accusing the hon. Railway Minister, Kumari Mamta Banerjee of her political party for being hand in gloves with Maoists. But I would like to ask them which Department these Maoists are targeting. They are targeting Railways. They have made Railways as a soft target. All sorts of reflections and ideas they had ventilated against us, we will give them reply at proper time.

We are always serious to see that occurrence of Railways accidents become zero. The Railways accidents sometimes cause maximum losses to the common people. So, naturally, our recommendations to the House would be that more monetary and budgetary support be extended to the Railway Ministry. Kumari Mamta Banerjee, the way she is marching ahead with her dedication and commitment, is trying to see that the common people of this country can be benefited through the Railway system. That support has to be extended by all the political parties.

I would also appreciate the sentiments up till now expressed from different corners of this House. We are on the ruling side, but the way the Opposition side has also extended support proves that the most successful Railway Minister's name in the country is Kumari Mamta Banerjee.

***DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI (Bhubaneswar):**
I like to draw kind attention of the Hon'ble Minister of Railway through you. What about the allocation to my State Orissa ever demanded by the State Government? I have been reminding you for the allocation to the only railway linking in between West and East of the State i.e. Khurdha-Balange. Despite of my repeated requests you have sanctioned 120 crores only. This money may

be adjusted in compensation that will be rendered to the poor land holders but there is no money to start the railway line. We need more than 1000 crores to complete the project. In every year that you are budgeting that the sanctioned amount which is very less to complete the same. It may take another 20 years for completion. Therefore, my honest request in your budget please do allot 500 crores to start the work at war footing. It is the only linkage and it goes from Khurdha road to Balange through Nayagarh, Phulbani via some poor, downtrodden districts to Balanger. These areas are highly backward and they are below poverty line. This would also be viable to KBK districts which is the most neglected, highly below poverty line areas and the area of downtrodden, proliferate, adivasis, harijans and girijans. The step mother attitude must be forgotten in promoting those areas. The number one places of the country would be developed. If this railway line is linking in between West-East of Orissa. How long you can neglect which can damage your popularity as a whole and weaken the Central Government? Therefore, this is my extreme personal request for immediate allocation without delay on priority.

What about the world class station in capital of the State Bhubaneswar is selected? This place is highly educated and culturally overdeveloped. In the country and the place you have selected in Bhubaneswar and Cuttack, the highly populated area of the State. Mancheswar is the suitable place and the national natural garden Nandankanan is located nearby. It can correlate Bhubaneswar to Cuttack, the highly commercial capital to give more income. It will not only promote the tourism, the economical condition of the railway would grow up. This is my earnest request, the work should be started immediately for the greater interest of the public.

Why the Double Line work from Khurdha road to Puri is highly neglected? Puri is famous international place and a religious holy place for great Lord, the Lord of Universe i.e. Jagannath. Kindly convert Puri station as an international station which is having very good income which is promoting high income when the railway budget is concerned. In my last speech on Budget, I have already conveyed you the platform work and other adjacent development work of Bhubaneswar and Puri to be stated on war footing.

The famous Konark comes under world heritage. A railway line from Bhubaneswar to Konark to be surveyed immediately. It can earn maximum money to promote

the tourism of the country. I have been also approaching you Madam Minister from some 5 years back i.e. from Shaheed Nagar, Satya Nagar, Surendra Sahay Nagar, Poukhariput Railway Crossing etc. to start the work immediately to save the life of common passengers that very often the accident is occurred. To avoid the traffic congestion of the city these flyover and overbridge work to be started as you have declared on my request. Under my Jatni constituency which comes under my Parliamentary segment near to Khurdha road railway junction, the Seetaram Kesari Crossing Overbridge should be started on war footing. In rainy season the rural people are suffering because of the water logging in the high raining the road is blocked. This overbridge and road may solve the problem and the road condition would be developed and this special road leading to Puri from Khurdha should be developed immediately. The other developmental work relating to other railway lines of my State Orissa needs good sum of amount to be allotted in the Budget.

I have been raising many times from the beginning relating to East Coast Zone. The development of this zone may promote the development of the railway property can inspire the prosperity of the State as a whole. Necessary Government quarters roads, special office for the convenience of passengers to be initiated if more money is allocated in favour of East Coast Zone to promote more linking railway lines to serve the people's interest which is highly demanded.

*SHRIMATI PRIYA DUTT (Mumbai North-central): I thank you for giving me this opportunity to express my thoughts on the Railway Budget. Firstly, I want to congratulate the Railway Minister for choosing 'social responsibility' over 'economic viability' as the key guiding factor for development of Railways.

As I have been elected from Mumbai I would like to highlights some of the problems faced by the residents of Mumbai. Mumbai, the commercial hub of India, is the capital of the State of Maharashtra and has a population of over 10 million people. The suburban railway system of the city is crucial to its daily functioning because of the geographical configuration of the city. It is estimated that 7.4 million passenger –trips per day are made on the suburban railway at an average distance of 25km per trip. Railways is the life line of—Mumbai. Approximately 6 to 9 lakh people travel by trains

everyday. The passengers in trains have doubled and tripled but the capacity had not increased. The cases of accidents have increased drastically. We want to make commuting easier, safe and comfortable for the common people.

1. Despite generating a net revenue surplus (unlike suburban networks in other Metros) and contributing nearly half of the daily load of passengers carried by the entire Indian Railway network, Mumbai commuters face innumerable hardships year after year. There is insufficient interest in their problems among policy and decision-makers.

2. We wholeheartedly agree with the 'Vision-2020 Statement' of Indian Railways that "the main challengers are the creation of adequate capacity, segregation of commuter lines and long distance lines and expansion of services to ensure comfort of commuters."

3. We endorse for speedy implementation the suggestion in the White Paper to create a separate administrative unit for the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR). A World Bank team has made the same recommendation. Considering the complexities involved in suggestions (2) and (3) above, we suggest that a high level Task Force be constituted at once to formulate and recommend a time bound plan for implementation.

4. Besides the foregoing, we believe that the areas where urgent steps need to be taken at a macro level are:

- (i) All ongoing as well as sanctioned works under MUTP should be completed within their planned time frame. Requisite fund allocation and administrative support should be provided to all the implementing agencies. The tie up with the World Bank for assistance for MUTP projects, wherever required should be finalized at the earliest.
- (ii) Establishing connectivity *inter se* of Central, Western and Harbour Line suburban services and further with Navi Mumbai and extended connections to Konkan Railway Line.
- (iii) Revival of abandoned or dormant proposals such as the commissioning the 5 kilometers of railway line from Bandra to Kurla station, in view of urgent need of the 5 kilometers of railway line from Bandra to Kurla station, in view the urgent

need of cross connectivity in the changed circumstances.

- (iv) Looking at the magnitude of commuter traffic, number of trains overcrowding etc. remodeling and redeveloping of all suburban railway stations except the heritage stations by grant of adequate additional FSI to be commercially exploited so as to make their maintenance and upkeep financially viable. A detailed action plan for remodeling of stations should be undertaken by employing competent consultants. We understand that the Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation (MRVC) has already initiated steps in this regard. These steps should be urgently pursued. A wholly inadequate number of stations are planned as ideal stations (just two or three). This is resulting in fatal accidents.
- (v) All lands belonging to Indian Railways must be brought under their operational control in practice and freed from all encroachments. Litigation, if any, involving such lands should be fast tracked.
- (vi) The two security agencies, the Railway Security Force and the State Railway Police must be brought under one roof and controlled by the Railways.

5. Apart from macro level remedies suggested above, immediate corrective measures at the micro level are necessary and feasible in these areas to begin with:

- (i) Making train travel safer and less threatening to life and limb by reducing peak hour congestion through introducing new services and increasing the frequency of the existing services.
- (ii) Dispersing commuter traffic through separate outlets/exits wherever local and outstation lines converge. Guidance can be derived by studying the success of such methods in cities like New York.
- (iii) Providing hygienic toilets for commuters and toilets for ladies at all railway station. Most of the toilets are mostly dirty and badly maintained. Railways must provide safe drinking water facilities, once available at stations.
- (iv) A positive sign is that number of women commuters have increased yet some stations

have no lady toilets or the toilets are very unhygienic.

- (v) Ensuring that all machines and mechanical gadgets installed by Railways for coupon/ticket vending or smart cards are in working condition at all times and that adequate replacements are always available.
- (vi) Providing ramps and escalators for all subways and skywalks to encourage use of them by all commuters including disabled and old persons.
- (vii) The present daily load is 7 millions approx on a daily basis on Central and Western Railways. Conversion of 9 coach to 12 coach rakes is on. It has to be expedited and 15 coach rakes introduced at least during peak hours to reduce over crowding.
- (viii) Western Railway has started 15 coach rakes on Dadar-Virar Section. In those, 4 EMU units are provided. There is heavy over-crowding in the ladies first class ladies coaches. A bigger first class coach in the one of the 4 units is vital.
- (ix) Providing adequate facilities for emergency medical treatment at every railway station, including availability of ambulance services with trained para-medical staff. Timely help and assistance to accident victim will save a life.
- (x) There is anomaly in discounts to senior citizens for distance travel: 50% for women and only 30% for men who travel more frequently. This must be rectified.
- (xi) The recent facility "IZZAT" of person with an income of less than Rs. 1500/- is eligible of a season pass of Rs. 25/-. In the city of Mumbai this facility of income of Rs. 1500/- is not adequate for the people of Mumbai. Person with a salary of Rs. 1500/- will never be able to live in Mumbai. It is suggested that the amount be raised from Rs. 1500/- to Rs. 2000/- as this will greatly benefit the poor.

The vast majority of the city's commuters use the railways. There are three suburban rail lines in Mumbai. Central, Western and Harbour. Each of these has a very large number of people living in slums within 30 feet of the railway track. The Central line from Victoria Terminus to Thane has about 3,900 families living alongside the track, the Western line from Churchgate to Dahisar has

2,800 families and the Harbour line from Victoria Terminus to Mankhurd 11,400 families. These families have been living along the tracks for more than two decades. The presence of these settlement has a considerable impact on the speed of trains. The Commissioner of Railway Safety has laid down that trains must not travel at more than 15 km per hour when travelling through these densely inhabited sections. This seriously impact upon the capacity of the railway system and significantly increases passenger transit times.

In 1989, the Railway Slum Dwellers Federation was able to demonstrate when it worked in collaboration with the State Government to assist in relocating a slum of 900 households in order to lay a railway line which linked the city to Vashi or New Bombay.

I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to a very important point regarding allocation of funds to projects in Maharashtra. Kasara-Extension of receipt and dispatch lines anticipated cost is Rs. 1,105 lakh, however, only Rs. 19.45 lakh has been sanctioned for 2010-11.

Karjat-Extension of receipt and dispatch lines, addl. line connecting up yard to Karjat-Panvel and 4th line between Karjat-Palasdari anticipated cost is Rs. 2,015 lakh, only Rs. 36.11 lakh has been sanctioned for 2010-11.

Bhivandi Road-New loop line to deal full rake parcel anticipated cost is Rs. 369 lakh, only Rs. 5 lakh has been sanctioned for 2010-11.

Mumbai-replacing of 250 mt steel structure -Mumbai Division anticipated cost is Rs. 609 lakh, only Rs. 5 lakh has been sanctioned for 2010-11.

Mumbai -replacing of 242 sq mm centenary wire-Mumbai Division anticipated cost is Rs. 280 lakh, only Rs. 5 lakh has been sanctioned for 2010-11.

Thakurli-Igatpuri and Thakurli-Lonavla-Rehabilitation of 110 kv transmission line-Mumbai Division anticipated cost is Rs. 300 lakh, only Rs. 5 lakh has been sanctioned for 2010-11.

Kalyan-Igatpur-Borethambe-replacing of non standard bracket tube & associated fitting-Mumbai Division anticipated cost is Rs. 284.97 lakh, only Rs. 5 lakh has been sanctioned for 2010-11.

Dadar New foot overbridge (6m wide) with elevators cum staircases at Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus Mumbai

end connecting all platforms-Mumbai Division anticipated cost is Rs. 258 lakh, only Rs. 5 lakh has been sanctioned for 2010-11.

Parel-Additional double discharge platform (No.1) – Mumbai Division anticipated cost is Rs. 333.89 lakh, only Rs. 5 lakh has been sanctioned for 2010-11.

The financial sanction for the year 2010-11 for these projects are very meager and if the financial sanction is not increased immediately these projects would never see the light of the day. I, therefore, request the Railway Minister to look into the matter and raise the financial sanctions for these projects.

[Translation]

*SHRI DEVENDRA NAGPAL (Amroha): At the outset, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister of Railways Ms. Mamata Banerjee for presenting a pro-poor general budget for common man as a result of which freight and passenger fare has not been increased and the railway security has been stepped up in view of the convenience of farmers, ladies, youth and common man in particular. She has for the first time sanctioned projects relating to railway connectivity/basic infrastructure according priority to social obligations. Besides, it is true what is not possible today would become possible tomorrow. Through this budget, we can achieve our targets for incomplete projects falling under the vision 2020 in future.

The proposal to set up cold storage logistic park and multifunction complexes on the unused land of the Railways, provision of e-tickets, upgradation of stations envisaged in the railway budget would benefit farmers and the rural people immensely.

Now, I would request the hon. Minister of Railways to consider the demands of Western Uttar Pradesh which are as under:

Laying new railway lines from Gajraula Sambhal via Hasanpur, Meerut-Bijnaur, Aligarh-Mathura and Chandpur-Bahnoi via Nahtaur, Naunganva,

Amroha and Sambhal. I would like to add that the survey of Gajraula-Sambhal route has already been done.

- A railway line connecting disjointed areas of Ganga like Luxr-Buxor, Kasganj

- Doubling and electrification of railway lines Gajraula to Dehradun via Bijnaur-Luxor Shahdara to Saharanpur via Shyamli and between Meerut-Mujaffar Nagar-Haridwar.

New Trains–

Saharanpur to Mumbai via Shamli, Kotdwar to Mumbai via Bijnaur and Muradabad to Dwarka via Aligarh.

The construction of Road Over Bridges at the railway crossing of gate no. 51 from crossing Garh to Meerut and at gate No. 45 falling on Sit Gajraula to Bijnore road on Ghaziabad-Muradabad railway line respectively is urgently needed. At the same time, the problem of daily traffic jam can be resolved by constructing over bridges across gates no. 44 and 28 at (Kailash-Pakbara crossings) and at the Road Under Bridge No. 46.

Bottling plants in Garhmukteshwar and Gajraula should be set up at the banks of Ganga.

Panipat-Meerut and Khurja–Rewari should be connected by constructing outer railway route of National Capital Region afresh such as Panipat to Meerut, Hapur-Palwal, Palwal–Rewari-Rohtak-Panipat.

Kendriya Vidyalayas should be set up on railway land in Gajraula, Amroha, Hapur, Mathura, Bijnor and Muzaffarnagar etc, as proposed in the railway budget.

Suggestions for the basic infrastructure and passengers of the railways in Uttar Pradesh and National Capital Region:

During the intersection with the people of Uttar Pradesh I have received many suggestions regarding railways infrastructure and passenger amenities, such as, construction of new flyovers, running of new trains, laying new lines, developing new stations, stoppage and extension of existing trains, electrification of railway lines for operation of EMU trains that I am presenting as demands for inclusion of the same in the budget. These may form the ground for short term and long term expansion plans.

I would like to bring it to your notice that except Deoband to Roorkee railway line no new railway line has been sanctioned for Western Uttar Pradesh during the last 63 years. It is a very surprising example in the history of railways. The overall development of this area has come to a stand still due to neglecting this area

from the point of view of commercial development, better agriculture production and food processing industries etc. But I am happy that you have started paying attention to this neglected area, the common man and the minorities living there through the Prime Minister's 15-point programme. If implemented the following suggestions will be very helpful for the development of this area and for the satisfaction of the passengers and the people at large.

I would like to bring it to your notice that many times survey of the following railway lines has been conducted in the preceding years, but no implementation has taken place so far. Therefore, the mention of survey of the said railway lines in the current railway budget gives the feeling of total negligence and substantiate the discriminatory approach of railways. The commercial development of the concerned areas which is lagging far behind as on date will attain new heights after these railway lines are constructed.

Gajraula-Sambhal via Hasanpur,
 Amrola-Bahjoe via Sambhal,
 Meerut-Bijnor via Hastinapur,
 Panipat-Shamli-Muzaffarnagar,
 Luxar-Buxar (near Garhmukteshwar to Kasganj along Ganga river) Ganga,
 express Buxar road,
 Saharanpur to Dehradun via Biharigarh,
 Meerut-Ailum-Panipat,
 Sambhal-Chola via Bulandshahar,
 Chandpur-Amroha via Nahtaur Nauganva,
 Aligarh to Vrindavan,
 Haldaur to Dhampur via Nahtaur, Vasganj-Aligarh,
 Vasganj-Mainpuri,
 Aligarh-Mathura,
 Aligarh to Mathura, Hathras-Kasganj Mathura line connecting Hathras Fort to Kasganj.

I would like to bring to your notice that giving stoppage to the following trains passing through these stations is essential to mitigate the problems of the train passengers and the people of the concerned areas.

Stoppage of the up and down Sadbhavna Express, Guwahati Express, Alahazrat Express and Shaheed Express at Gajraula junction.

Stoppage of the Rajdhani Express, Lucknow Mail, Ranikhet Express, Shramjeevi Express, Delhi-Faizabad, Delhi-Raibareli Express, Lal Kuan to Delhi Express at Amroha railway station.

Nazibad-Gazraula-Muradabad Passenger train should be extended upto Sambhal because it halts at the Gajraula railway station for 12 hours (1 MGN/2 MGN).

Chandausi-Muradabad passenger should be extended upto Gajraula which halts at Muradabad for 10 hours (1 CM/2 Cm).

Keeping in view the convenience of daily commuters, a new train via Delhi-Gajraula-Nazibabad-Kotdwar should be introduced which should leave for Kotdwar in the evening.

A modern computerized reservation centre should be set up at Gajraula station.

In view of the religious sentiments of the people, inter-city train should be provided stoppage at Brijghat station which is located at the pilgrim centre, Garh Ganga Dham.

The passenger train from Nazibabad to Gajraula should be extended upto Haridwar.

It is essential to construct a diversion for Luxor on the Gajraula junction to Mauzzampur Narayan Junction railway line.

I hope that keeping in view the sentiments of the people of Western Uttar Pradesh and the railway passengers, the hon'ble Minister of Railways will kindly grant sanction to the list of the said works and expedite the implementation of the said works in the railway budget meant for the common man.

*SHRI RAMKISHUN (Chandauli): With due respect I submit the following problems of my constituency Chandauli requiring urgent solution:

Construction of Railway over bridge at the Chandauli headquarters.

Scheduled stoppages of trains be provided at Syed Raja Chandauli railway stations on the Mughalsarai-Gaya railway line.

A railway factory should be set up at the land acquired for the railways.

Medical college, hospital etc should be constructed in order to use the vacant land of railways in Mughalsarai.

The work on the Mansarovar pond of Mughalsarai should be completed and a beautiful park be developed at the land lying vacant near there.

The work in regard to beautification, road construction and drainage system in various railway colonies of Mughalsarai should be carried out.

The Varuna Express from Mughalsarai to Varanasi should be extended upto Lucknow. Railway Board should be reconstituted to ensure the development of civic amenities for the railway employees.

Modern railway gates should be set up at the unattended railway crossings. Acquisition of farmers' land should be stopped for the railway freight corridor scheme passing through my constituency.

A statue of the former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri should be installed at his birthplace the central colony.

A local train should be introduced from Mughalsarai to Syed Raja railway station.

*SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP (Shimla): Sir, the hon. Minister of Railways has recently presented the railway budget 2010-11. I deem it proper to give the following suggestions in this regard. Only 36-kilometre long railway line has been laid in Himachal Pradesh since independence which shows that the Government of India is not serious in respect of railways and does not want to meet out justice to the people of the hilly areas. I am thankful to the Minister of Railways Kumari Mamata Banerjee for accepting my genuine demand in the railway budget 2010-11, which I had been raising in Lok Sabha as well as through correspondence that Ghanauli of Punjab should be connected with Dehradun of Uttarakhand through a railway line via Nalagarh-Baddee-Barohibala-Kala Amb-Paonata Sahib. It has been included for survey

*Speech was laid on the Table

in the budget this year. If such a railway line is laid in my parliamentary constituency in the coming years, it would benefit the people of the area. During the time of the NDA Government, a special industrial package was awarded to Himachal Pradesh due to which industrialization took place with an investment of millions of rupees in this area leading to availability of employment for lakhs of unemployed people over there. There will be convenience in movement of the people in our two religious places-Haridwar (Uttarakhand) and Paonata Sahib (Himachal Pradesh) as well as tourism will be promoted in these areas with the laying of this railway line.

I, therefore, would request that survey for this railway line be conducted immediately and instruction be passed to complete it during this year itself by making a provision for the same in this budget so that the work of laying the track could be started by providing proper funds in the next year's budget.

I would like to reiterate some more suggestions which I have already given during the last year's budget for the consideration of the Ministry of Railways so that the Ministry could take immediate action in this regard.

Funds should be provided for improvement of the Kalka-Shimla railway line and flyover (bridge) be constructed on both the railway crossings on this line, which are proposed to be constructed near Savanara and Chambaghat. Jabli and Solan-Bruree stations on the Kalka-Shimla railway line should be made operational again.

'Baba Bhalkhoo' museum in Shimla should be completed during this year itself.

Kalka-Parvanu railway line should be converted into broad gauge, as the foundation stone has already been laid for the same.

Kalka railway station should be improved and the incomplete platform be completed by constructing the roof thereon.

*SHRI NARAYAN SINGH AMLABE (Rajgarh): Sir, following orders may please be passed keeping in view the public interest in regard to the trains passing through my parliamentary constituency, serial no. 20 Rajgarh (M.P.):

*Speech was laid on the Table

Stoppage of Surat-Muzaffarpur 9053/9054 weekly train should be given in Vyavara (Rajgarh).

Nakda-Bina 141/142 passenger train is always overloaded, as it has only eight coaches. 4 additional coaches and one A.C.

Chair-car are required to be added in this train. Stoppage of Indore-Gwalior 9325 daily intercity train should be given in Sarangpur and Chanchaura. The Indore-Maxi daily passenger train keeps on standing for around 6 to 8 hours Maxi. It should be extended to Guna from Indore.

An allocation of only Rs. 40 crore has been made this year in the railway budget 2010-11 for the construction of the sanctioned Ramganj-Mandi-Bhopal railway line passing through my parliamentary constituency serial no. 20 Rajgarh (M.P.), whereas there is requirement of funds more than this for the said work during this year (financial). So, additional funds may please be allocated during the financial year 2010-11 itself for the construction of the said railway line.

Secondly, after construction of the said line, orders may be passed to start the work also from its other side i.e. Vyavara (M.P.) as work on it has been started as of now from the State of Rajasthan only.

I hope that you will take appropriate action on my request at the earliest.

[English]

SHRI T.K.S. ELANGO VAN (Chennai North): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir, for permitting me to speak on the Demands for Grants (Railways).

16.03 hrs.

[Dr. M. THAMBIDURAI in the Chair]

Sir, at the outset, I have to appreciate the efforts of the Railway Minister in announcing various schemes in the interest of the people, particularly, there is no increase in the passenger fares and freight tariff. The Railway users are more in number in our country and a large number of people are benefited by this. Some of the efforts of the Railway Minister are, the hundred per cent concession for cancer patients, along with an escort, which is a good gesture; the question papers for the RRBs, will be made available in local State languages, besides, Hindi, Urdu and English;

examinations will be held on the same day in all the regions; about 117 new train projects to be flagged off by the end of March 2010.

Special trains are to be run to mark Rabindranath Tagore's 150th Birth Anniversary; all the unmanned level crossings are to be manned within five years. National High Speed Rail Authority proposes to plan high speed rail corridor. Further, the hon. Railway Minister has announced more number of suburban trains in Chennai. Particularly for Tamil Nadu, the hon. Railway Minister has announced three new passenger trains, one more Durgam Express from Coimbatore to Chennai, two more long-distance trains, as much as eight trains covering the various cities in Tamil Nadu under the Bharat Tirth scheme, and five new long-distance trains which will touch one or another city in Tamil Nadu. I think the hon. Railway Minister for all these new announcements. But, I have to make certain requests, demands to the hon. Railway Minister.

The total annual plan outlay for Railways is Rs. 41,426 crore, but Tamil Nadu gets only a meagre amount of Rs. 700 crore. That is not enough because Tamil Nadu has the longest meter-gauge rail route. About 1152 kilometres of the railway lines in Tamil Nadu are meter-gauge lines. So, gauge conversion must be given a priority for which more allocation should be made for the Railway infrastructure in the State.

With the present funding, I think it will take at least 20 years for the completion of the various Tamil Nadu Railway projects which were announced earlier. So, as far as the Budgetary allocation, the plan outlay is concerned, Tamil Nadu should be given more amount to complete the various projects which were already announced by the various Railway Ministers for the past 10 years or 15 years.

The gauge conversion projects have been taken up. Only Rs. 300 crore is allotted for the same. But we need at least Rs. 700 crore for one year for the gauge conversion to make a definite progress or a conceivable progress.

Then I come to doubling of Chennai-Kanyakumari railway line. Chennai-Kanyakumari railway line is one of the major railway lines used by the people of Tamil Nadu. It is a very highly economically viable route. Doubling of this route will definitely fetch a huge profit to the Railways. But only one section of the Chennai-

Kanyakumari route, that is between Chennai and Chengalpet, which is around 56 or 57 kilometres, is completed. Chengalpet-Villupuram doubling work is going on slowly, and at this pace, it may take more than five years for completion. Villipuram-Dindigul doubling is still in paper for the past two years and the amount allotted is only Rs. 30 crore. But the project cost has gone up by Rs. 450 crore. Originally the cost was Rs. 750 crore. Now, after two years, the cost would be Rs. 1200 crore. If it is further delayed, the cost may go further up. So the Railway Ministry should allot more funds for this project also. The last stage, the Madurai-Kanyakumari project is not yet sanctioned. I would request the hon. Railway Minister to sanction this project also.

For the new lines Ariyalur-Thanjavur, Dindigul-Kumily, Morappur-Dharmapuri, Tiruvannamalai-Jolarpet, the projects were given sanction earlier.

But because of the non-availability of funds by the State Government, the State Government could not share the cost with the Railways. These are all economically viable projects. So, the Railways themselves can take up these projects and complete them.

The project – Chennai-Cuddalore *via* Mamallapuram along the East Coast – was announced two years back but there was no progress.

Then, the railway electrification work between Madurai and Kanyakumari and also between Madurai and Tuticorin has to be taken up.

Sir, the Railway Minister had announced Dedicated Freight Corridor between Mumbai and Delhi, and between Delhi and Kolkata. Dedicated Freight Corridor between Chennai and Delhi; between Chennai and Kolkata; and also between Chennai and Mumbai should also be taken up along with these two.

Though the Budget speaks of Techno-Economic Study, the Status Paper presented to the Standing Committee does not have a mention of this project. This project was mentioned but the Status Paper presented to the Standing Committee does not have a mention about this project. This project should also be included there.

Sir, with regard to my constituency, I have two requests to make to the hon. Railway Minister. All trains coming to Chennai Central from North, say Kolkata and

Delhi should be stopped at Thiruvottiyur, which is a suburb, situated 10 kilometres away from Chennai Central, so that the passengers need not come to Chennai Central and go back to their houses. Likewise, Rayapuram, which is one of the oldest railway stations, should be made the third passenger terminal along with Chennai Central and Chennai Egmore.

In Chennai, most of the railway level crossings were converted into subways. Two more railway level crossings are to be converted into subways. One is at Korattur and the other is at Ambattur.

So, I hope that the hon. Railway Minister will consider all these things favourably. In spite of the fact that she had given more number of trains, more number of concessions to the people, and included Tamil as one of the languages for writing the Railway Examination, she will consider these requests favourably.

[Translation]

*SHRI K.D. DESHMUKH (Balaghat): Mr. Chairman, I have been elected from Balaghat Siwani Lok Sabha Constituency of Madhya Pradesh.

Sir, there is broad gauge railway line from Nagpur to Tirodi and Gondia to Katanagi. However, there is a need to lay only 14 kilometre railway line from Tirodi and Katangi. The public has been demanding it for so many years. District Balaghat is a naxal infested district. The pace of gauge conversion from Gondia to Jabalpur is pretty slow. The pace of gauge conversion should be expedited and sufficient funds should be provided.

*SHRI P.L. PUNIA (Barabanki): This year's railway budget is also development oriented on the lines of last year's budget which envisages a comprehensive strategy for expanding railway network, laying new railway tracks, doubling them with old tracks and converting the metre gauge into broad gauge besides providing passenger safety and facilities on platform and inside trains. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister that out of the 120 trains announced in the last budget 117 trains have been introduced. I would also congratulate her for providing employment and other opportunities to sports persons and ex-servicemen in the budget for enhancing their skills. I would even congratulate her for providing employment and other opportunities to sports persons and ex-servicemen in the budget for enhancing their

*Speech was laid on the Table.

skills. I would even congratulate her for providing several facilities to women on the contrary of the International Women's Day. Introducing Special trains for women, making special arrangements for their safety is an important step.

On one hand, funds would be mobilized by introducing reforms in the Ministry of Railways and improving its functioning in view of the limited resources and on the other hand, doors of private investment under PPP model have been thrown open. The railways would not be privatized. However, roping in the private sector for expanding and improving the quality of railway facilities is an extremely important step. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister of Railways for it. I hope that if old railway stations are upgraded and new lines are extended with the help of private sector besides in regard to the provision of railway facilities and the participation of private sector is ensured even in the field of goods transportation, the slackened pace of development in these sectors could be accelerated.

My Lok Sabha constituency Barabanki is in Uttar Pradesh and there is Gorakhpur Trunk line of the North eastern railway from Barabanki junction and the various trunk line of Northern railways gets separated from here only. World-renowned shrine of Haji Varis Ali Shah Dewa Sharief is only 14 km. away from here and people from across the world visit Dewa Sharief, however, unfortunately important trains do not have a stoppage at Barabanki railway station, it is even more unfortunate that even trains plying from main cities of Uttar Pradesh like Gorakhpur, Ajamgarh, Faizabad, Varanasi do not have a stoppage in Barabanki. People from various parts of Uttar Pradesh visit Dewa Sharief to offer their prayers and they have to come back to Dewa Sharief in Barabanki after reaching Lucknow railway station. So, the trains plying from various cities of Uttar Pradesh should be given a stoppage in Barabanki.

And I would like to draw your attention to a fact connected with this series. There is Nemisaran pilgrim place in district Sitapur which is thronged by visitors from across the country and it is believed that it is the Central point of Earth. There is no direct route from Barabanki to Nemisaran. Many people want to visit Ayodhya, Dewa Sharief and Nemisaran in a single trip, however, there is no rail connectivity on these routes. It is my suggestion that if a 25 km. new railway line from Barabanki to Fatehpur via Dewa Sharief is constructed, Nemisaran would be directly connected by train from Ayodhya, Dewa Sharief via Fatehpur and crores of people would benefit by reaching the three places easily.

This demand has been put also in the past, but as the public representatives did not make any efforts to take it forward, the proposal in this regard remained confined to files. I strongly urge you that the announcement for laying a new railway line should be made during this year itself.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister of Railways towards this fact as well that the distance between Barabanki and Dewa Sharief is just 13 kilo metres, but the Gorakhpur-Howrah trunk line and Lucknow-Varanasi trunk line lie in between this route and people have to wait to cross the railway crossing as the railway gate remains closed for hours together. I had given suggestion to the hon'ble Minister of Railways to get overbridges constructed over both these railway lines and approval has already been accorded to this proposal, but the consent of the state Government is awaited as the crossing gate will have to be closed after the construction of railway overbridge. I request the hon'ble Minister of Railways to get the construction work of this overbridge started at the earliest.

I have raised this question many times in the Lok Sabha that there are unmanned railway crossings at many places in the Barabanki district where accidents occur very frequently. She has mentioned in her budget speech also that there are 17000 unmanned railway crossings all over the country and I would like to extend my thanks to her for paying attention towards this serious problem and for making an announcement for setting up of manned railway crossings within five years at these places. I demand that special attention be paid in this regard to avoid accidents taking place everyday at all these unmanned railway crossings of the Barabanki district by deploying railway staff over there within the next two years.

A railway accident occurred on 25th of January, 2009 due to collision of a tractor trolley with the train at the Unchahar railway crossing in Raebareilly district of Uttar Pradesh leading to the death of 12 persons, all hailing from my parliamentary constituency Barabanki on 27th of the January, 2009, on the occasion of the foundation laying ceremony of the Lalganj railway coach factory in the presence of hon'ble Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and Shri Rahul Gandhi, the then Minister of Railways Shri Lalu Prasad had given a cheque of Rs. 1 lakh to family member of each of the deceased person and had also announced that the next of the kind belonging to each of the deceased families would be given a job in the fourth grade. In spite of a clear announcement, no job

has been provided to any of the family member till. However, in reply to a question asked by me in this very House, she admitted that an announcement was made for giving jobs, but on a technical excuse it was denied. Today in this House, hon'ble Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and Shri Rahulo Gandhi are present before whom such an announcement was made. It is my special request to the hon'ble Minister of Railways that she may announce to provide jobs in the fourth grade to the next of kind dependent on these deceased persons with a human approach for these bereaved families.

The hon'ble Minister of Railways had announced in her previous year's railway budget that each Member of Parliament would be able to get the facilities of a model category provided to one railway station of their constituency and they would also have the right to select any one railway station for getting the PRS facility provided over there. I had sent a proposal selecting the Barabanki junction as an ideal station and Haidargarh railway station for the PRS facility. I regret that no particular action has been taken in this regard. My request is that the concerned officials should be directed and along with these facilities multipurpose premises be set up at the Barabanki railway station.

In her previous year's budget speech, the hon'ble Minister of Railway had announced that a special recruitment drive would be launched to clear the backlog of SC/ST vacancies and she had also announced that there was a proposal to formulate a scheme for providing better representation to the minorities, women and the economically backward classes in railway recruitment and it was stated that a special recruitment drive would be launched to fill up vacancies under the euota for the physically handicapped. I regret that no action has been taken so far in regard to these announcements made last year. My request is that immediate action be announced on these important issues and provision of employment to the people of the concerned classes be ensured within a year by fixing a timeframe for every action.

At last, I extend my thanks to the hon'ble Minister of Railways for presenting this revolutionary railway budget and hope that action would be ensured by paying attending urgently on the suggestions given by me and I strongly support the budget.

*SHRI KAMAL KISHOR 'COMMANDO' (Bahraich):
Sir, the hon. Minister of Railway has presented a very

*Speech was laid on the Table.

good railway budget and I would like to thank her for sanctioning conversion of the Gonda-Bahraich railway track. Through you, I would like to request the hon. Minister of Railways to sanction the loading of Gokul Express train at Mihipurva railway station on Gonda-Bahraich Nanpara railway route.

Open reservation counter at Nanpara railway station.

Sanction funds for the gauge conversion on Gonda-Bahraich-Nanpara railway route upto Rupaidiha.

Set up an ATM centre at Bahraich railway station.

Set up a post office/RMS at Bahraich railway station.

Announce Bahraich railway station a model railway station.

Set up a health unit at Bahraich railway station.

Construct overbridges sanctioned on road crossings on Gonda-Bahraich railway route.

Establish a railway medical college and an engineering college in Bahraich.

Make commercial use of the land lying vacant in Nanpara in Bahraich district.

Construct Waiting room/Officers Rest Rooms at stations on the Gonda-Bahraich Nanpara railway route.

Sanction crossing gates on unmanned railway crossings on Bahraich-Nanpara railway route.

Provide stoppage to Gokul Express at Matera station on the Gonda-Bahraich Nanpara railway route.

Immediately complete Gonda-Bahraich gauge conversion.

With these words I support the demand for grants.

[English]

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Bolpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2010-11.

The Railway Budget presented in Parliament for 2010-11 exposed a sad deterioration in the performance of the Indian Railways. Far from containing any vision for the future of the Indian Railways, the Budget Speech

has sought to conceal gross failures through misleading information, announcements and gimmicks aimed at the forthcoming Assembly election in West Bengal.

Sir, the Railway Budget promises the people of the country a plethora of projects including 1,000 Kilometres of new railway lines, new trains, new world-class stations, *adarsh* stations, multi-functional complexes, Dedicated Freight Corridors, Women Commando Force for security, new safety measures, multi-level parking facilities, hospitals, colleges, automobile hubs, new wagon factories, axle factories, wheel factors, etc. Not only Railway projects but also non-railway projects are there. There are hundreds of projects. These are very good. ...(*Interruptions*) You will get your turn. Please allow me to speak.

The real story behind all these tall announcements only exposes the deceptive politics of our present Railway Minister.

What happened to the promises made in the last Budget? In the last Budget too, the Minister had made a plethora of promises and announced various projects.

The Minister's speech provides no information at all regarding the status of projects announced last year. This essentially shows that those projects have not been implemented. Only *shilanyases* at various sites in a lavish way were there.

As to how many of the last year's proposed 50 stations have been modernised into the 'world class' stations, there is no figure. Further 10 more stations have been added to the list. But as to how many *adarsh* stations have been completed, no one knows. Again, there is no concrete data on implementation status. But 94 more new stations have been added to the list!

Similarly, Sir, how many multifunctional facilities have been started all over the country? Only some work has been started in some of these complexes. But she has added 93 more proposals to the list.

How many of the last year's proposed 18 medical colleges and seven nursing colleges have been started? The number is none. But that does not deter the Minister from announcing another 552 hospitals and diagnostic centres!

Keeping the people of the country completely in the dark on the actual status of her promises made last

year, she has added another substantial list to the above-mentioned heads. In other words, for our Minister, announcement of projects is more important than actually implementing them on the ground.

Moreover, Sir, the Minister is completely silent on various other promises that she had made last year. The silence of the Minister on these proposals is simply because of the fact that these were never implemented. These projects are as follows:

- 'Special coaches and other facilities for physically challenged people.' Where is that project?
- 'Onboard infotainment services on important long distance trains.' Where is that?
- 'EMU coach factory at Kanchrapara' What is the present status?
- '1000 MW power plant in Adra in Purulia District of West Bengal and in the Jhargram area of West Midnapore District.' What is the status?
- 'Issuing tickets from post offices'. It has not been materialised. The Minister herself has admitted it.
- 'Toilet facilities on EMU/DMU trains for journey time of more than two hours.' This facility is not there.
- 'Modernisation of railway printing press.' At what stage it is? A move to privatise the presses of railways is going on.
- 'Takeover of the Basumati Press in Kolkatta'. What about its takeover in Kolkata?
- 'Takeover of Burn Standards and Braithwait'. What is the latest position?

Sir, the fact is that so many projects remained only on paper; they have not been implemented in spite of big announcements made by the Railway Minister...(*Interruptions*) What is this? I never disturbed their speaker. Why are they disturbing me?...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please let him speak.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: It is clear from what I have stated just now that the majority of the projects announced last year never materialized. A lot of proposals

made for this year would not be implemented. They are just the repetition also.

Sir, on the financial side, they claim that under the plan head, Rs. 1,426 crore has been provided. They say, their internal revenue of Rs. 24,674.27 crore would be accrued. But what was the operating ratio in the financial year 2008-09? It was just 90 per cent. In the next financial year, 2009-10, it went up to 94.7 per cent. It is a deteriorating financial health situation of the Railways. If we take into account the diesel price hike, 25 per cent of the railway expenses is going in to diesel.

That is also an assumption. Coming to the financial position, the net revenue has declined sharply from the Budget Estimates of Rs. 8,121 crore to about only Rs. 6,489 crore. Safety fund has been drastically slashed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: The important thing is that Rs. 579 crore has been slashed from this year projects. It is a shameful thing. Last year only, we witnessed 120 railway accidents and many of our valuable, priceless lives had been lost. So, the safety aspect is being ignored.

About 90,000 posts for key personnel related to safety and security remain vacant for a long time like watchman and gang man. These are not being filled up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Sir, I am winding up.

Regarding recruitment in the Railways, they are silent. Nothing has been said on this issue. Sir, 1.7 lakh railway posts are remaining vacant but still there is no proposal for recruitment, for filling up of these posts. This is going on. But on the contrary, recently in the Kolkata Metro Railway, 527 people have been given appointment underground. It is violating the principle, 123 of the Labour Work Rules of the Railways. But they were given appointment on political and personal reasons. They are all from the area of the Minister's constituency. That is the position....*(Interruptions)* I dare say.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: All of you please take your seats.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: They are disrupting. They have killed my time. Please give me two minutes. I am concluding.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Even the Minister had replied to a Starred Question on 4th March this year on the pending projects. There are 306 pending projects in total. These are under New Line, Doublings, Gauge Conversion, Electrification, etc. The total amount is Rs. 81,000 crore. When will these pending projects be completed? Nobody knows.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Again, without having any budgetary source, revenue source, and even for some projects without the Planning Commission's sanction and battling for fund allocation, the projects are being declared. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: This is nothing but only depending on privatization of railway projects on PPP basis and commercialization of railway land to be used by the commercial houses at the cost of our public sector enterprises....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next is Mr. Rudramadhab Ray.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: So, we oppose this sort of commercialization on the part of the Railways. We sternly oppose the Railway Budget....*(Interruptions)* That is why, I oppose this Railway Budget.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please. I do not want any argument.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. Only Mr. Rudramadhab Ray's speech will go on record.

(Interruptions) ... *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Silent please. It is enough. Now, the other Member has started to speak, please be silent.

The Minister will take care of that issue. She will answer whatever he has raised.

*SHRI CHARLES DIAS (Nominated): I would like to draw to your attention towards Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2010-11. My demands are as under:

A Railway Ticket Reservation Centre is an urgent necessity at Vyttila, the eastern area of the Corporation of Cochin, which will be beneficial to thousands of passengers.

Even after repeated promises and mention in the Railway Budget for 2009-10 and again for 2010-11 the works for the renovation of the Ernakulam Railway Junction station has not started yet and the passengers have very limited facilities at this station which is the largest in Kerala. I would request you to take urgent necessary steps to start the work of this station and as promised to make it to a world standard station.

SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY (Kandhamal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very much thankful that you have given me an opportunity to take part in this debate.

Since 1853, the Indian Railways has been connecting the nation. It has a giant network employing more than a million of Indians today. The Railways is not only India's largest employer, but also a repository of statistics.

The hon. Railway Minister Ms. Mamata Banerjee laid the Vision-2020 document in December 2009 laying out the roadmap that the Indian Railways intends to follow in the next decade. It was expected that the Rail Budget 2010-11 would spell out in specific detail as to how the vision will be actualised, this being the first year of Vision-2020. In this respect, it has fallen short of expectations.

Except for the announcement that one thousand route kilometres of new lines would be laid in 2010-11 and that would be achieved through the PPP mode, there are no specific details as to how it will be implemented. This is not there even for the current year's target of 250 kms. The announcement that a special task force would be set up to ensure that projects are cleared within one hundred days is a very good suggestion and aspiration. While welcoming this, its effectiveness is to be ensured. Privatisation has been emphatically ruled out in any case. That is a very

*Speech was laid on the Table.

welcome proposal. But nothing is spelt out about the business model that is to be adopted.

The drop in passenger revenues should be a cause for concern. The reason needs to be analysed and remedial action needs to be taken. With the announcement of a number of new trains and extension of existing trains, there is need to rationalise the services depending on occupancy. It is surprising that the Rail Budget proposals make no mention of plans for rationalising the Railway parcel business. How does the Railway plan to deal with the increasing volume of parcel traffic that poses a serious problem for passengers by encroaching on circulating areas in major stations? This should have received more attention even as a passenger amenity.

That there is no increase in passenger fares and freight was only to be expected because now-a-days the Government is under pressure on the price rise front. So, increase in passenger fares and freight is not desirable and the hon. Minister has responded to it. Reduction of Rs. 100 per wagon load in freight for kerosene and food grains is also a welcome step. But the continuing subsidisation of passenger services and freight needs to be looked into as an *aam admi* issue as an increase in passenger fare affects only the rail users while high freight rates add to the cost of commodities used by the common man, who may not even be travelling by rail.

The hon. Prime Minister suggested to the Railway Ministry that the Indian Railways should not depend on increase in freight rate. The Railway Ministry while taking note of this suggestion has not increased the freight and also the passenger fares.

I will give some suggestions. Between 2003-04 and 2008-09 the rate of freight per tonne per kilometre has risen from 72 paise to 92 paise whereas the passenger fare during the same period has risen from 24 paise to 26 paise per kilometre. Thus, the Prime Minister in his pre-Budget note forwarded to the Railway Ministry ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Silence, please. Can I request the hon. Members to remain silent, please? When a Member is speaking, try to be silent and listen to what he speaks.

SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY: He had referred to the above ratio while comparing to China's 1.3:1.

Sir, while this ratio for our country is 0.24:1, the ratio for China is 1.3:1 and that of Germany and UK is 1.5:1 and that of Japan is 1.9:1. The hon. Prime Minister's note to gradually reduce this ratio by increasing 10 to 15 per cent in second class passenger fare with no increase for freight is also to be considered.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up. You can lay the rest of your speech on the Table of the House. They will record it.

SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY: Sir, I am telling one thing. I welcome one thing that the hon. Minister of Railways has taken a good step and she has announced socially desirable rail-connecting project proposals for Orissa such as Navarangpur-Jeypur, Phulbani-Berhampur, Puri-Konark, Gunupur-Theruvelli and Jeypur-Malkangiri. I am also thankful to her that she has sanctioned Rs. 120 crore for Khurda-Bolangir project. I submit here that she should see to it that all this amount of Rs. 120 crore is spent in this year and for this some realistic modalities are to be evolved.

Sir, our beloved former Chief Minister of Orissa, Shri Biju Patnaik had once written to the Ministry of Railways that he would be ready to spare all the Government lands to the Railways without demanding any compensation. I urge upon the hon. Minister of Railways that that letter should be followed and the Orissa Government should be asked to waive out the compensation for the Government land of the State.

Similarly, the State Government is setting up so many industries and factories and other units. Compared to these things, the Railway network in Orissa is very meagre. The Planning Commission has remarked that the State of Orissa is very backward. The Government of India, after Independence has given very less importance about Railway connection. Therefore, I urge upon the hon. Minister of Railways that she must be very sympathetic towards Orissa because now Orissa is a growing State and the industrial growth has been there. Therefore, Orissa's needs should be properly looked into.

SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE (Kalyan): Thank you Mr. Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to take part in this important discussion regarding Demands for Grants (Railways) 2010-11. At the very outset I welcome the Railway Budget. As a Member I had the opportunity to listen to the Railway Budget speech of the hon. Minister for the first time in June, 2009 and later in February, 2010 when she presented the Railway Budget.

In December, 2009 when the hon. Minister presented the Vision -2020 document, really as a young MP I welcomed it and we really wish that all the targets which have been set in this Vision-2020 document are achieved and the Railway network in this country is strengthened.

Sir, I would like to restrict myself to Mumbai and Maharashtra before you ring the bell. In the list of Adarsh stations, 94 new stations were announced in this Railway Budget. But an important junction, Diva junction in my constituency, which is a junction and which caters to Diva-Panvel, Diva-Vasai and Diva-Roha DMU services is not covered. I request the hon. Minister to include it in the list of Adarsh stations. A long-pending demand had been there for announcing Thane as a heritage station. On 16th of April, 1853 the first railway service from Boribunder to Thane had started. This long-pending demand was also fulfilled when the hon. Minister announced Thane as a world-class station.

Again, when I went through the list of 93 multi-functional complexes, I was very disappointed to see that, though Lokmanya Tilak Terminus has been included in this list, Kalyan junction, which is a very important junction and which caters to 132 express trains daily, more than 1,000 local trains and more than five lakh passengers, was not figuring in that list. So, I would request the hon. Minister to include Kalyan junction also in the list of multi-functional complexes.

In the previous Railway Budget, the hon. Minister had announced a nursing college at Kalyan. I would also request the hon. Minister to include Kalyan in the list of multi-speciality hospitals looking at the importance of the Kalyan junction. In this regard, I may also tell a unique preposition that the Railways has its own land measuring nearly 200 hectares at Kalyan and Thakurly.

The concept of commercial utilisation of railway land by making a land bank and utilising it was brought by the hon. Minister under public-private participation. I would request the hon. Minister to give a thought to making Kalyan as a new coach terminal. Already Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, Dadar Terminus and Lokmanya Tilak Terminus have saturated. With a number of new trains being announced in each Railway Budget, which are coming to Mumbai, the time will come when there will be no space in Mumbai and the Railways will have to look at Kalyan as an alternative railway terminus. So, I would request the hon. Minister to get a feasibility

report done by the GM, Central Railway to study Kalyan as a coach terminus.

I would like to come to the suburban services now. I would also request the hon. Chairman, as a young Member of Parliament, to allow me to express my views as I am representing nearly 65 lakh suburban passengers, which constitute about one-third of the railway passengers travelling by train daily.

The Mumbai Rail Vikas Corporation was set up in 1999. At that time also, the present Railway Minister was the Railway Minister. It was a joint-venture between the Ministry of Railways and the Government of Maharashtra. A lot of good things have been done by the Mumbai Rail Vikas Corporation. MUTP phase I and MUTP phase II are being implemented by MRVC. More than 1,000 coaches have been brought by MRVC, but the demand for more EMU coaches is still there. I would request the hon. Minister to kindly look into it. A feasibility report regarding alternative routes should be undertaken because MUTP phase I will be completed by December 2010 and MUTP phase II will be completed by March 2014.

A feasibility report should be prepared connecting Central Railway with Western Railway wherein Kalyan will be connected to Borivali, Kalyan to Vashi and CSTM. Recently when a tragedy took place as a road over-bridge had collapsed at Thane, the Central Railway's main line was closed for more than 30 hours. Therefore, feasibility report for this alternative route should also be taken into consideration.

I would also like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that the pace of DC-AC conversion work, which is going on in the Central Railway, is very slow. The work should be completed at a faster pace.

Kalyan junction being an important junction, I would request that Mumbai-Pune Inter-City Express should be given a halt at Kalyan junction. All the Konkan-bound trains should be given a halt at Diva junction. I would also request the hon. Minister to concede to the long-pending demand, which is more than 40 years old, of Chikhli station between Ambarnath and Badlapur, Dativali station between Diva and Kopar and stations of Agasan, Narivali and Bamivali between Diva and Panvel. The hon. Minister has given much to Mumbai and Maharashtra.

[Translation]

She has given much to Mumbai in this railway budget, however, the expectations are more.

[English]

*SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): For an economy out of a turbulent year, the role of the Railways has to be assessed by how much additional investments it will create in 2010-11. This is its key role as India's largest infrastructure facility. Measured by this standard, this years Demand for Grants of Railways has some promises but few numbers. The net additional investment plan for the economy is just Rs. 1,142 crore more than what it has spent in the last fiscal. The 11th Five Year Plan started on 1st April 2007 with plan size of Rs. 2,33,289 crore at current prices with Gross Budgetary support of Rs. 63,635 crore, Internal Resources of Rs. 90,000 crore and Extra Budgetary Support of Rs. 79,654 crore. This fiscal i.e. 2010-11 is the 4th year of the current Five Year Plan. The progress in terms of creation of more items of infrastructure from 2007 to the last fiscal clearly demonstrates that the Railways are still far behind the target. There is shortfall in new lines by 1237 kms, gauge conversion by 6588 kms, doubling by 4519 kms and electrification by 1201 kms. I fail to understand, how the Railways will be able to meet the plan targets.

As three years have already passed and Planning Commission is finalizing the Mid Term Appraisal, this House should be privy to that report before we adjourn in the month of May. As plan targets are set on realistic manner, Railway Minister should explain why the annual targets were not met.

Railways is a single system which consists of 60,014 route kms of track on which more than 18,518 numbers of trains ply, carrying more than 19 million passengers and hauling nearly 2.3 million tones of freight everyday. I believe that Railways are more energy efficient and superior from the stand point of environment impact and safety as compared to road transport.

This year's annual outlay is of Rs. 41,426 crore. Out of this, the Gross Budgetary Support is Rs. 15,875 crore, diesel cess is of Rs. 877 crore, internal resources is of Rs. 14,523 crore. This includes Rs. 9120 crore from market borrowing through IRFC also.

It is interesting to note that the target of Gross Traffic Receipts during 2008-09 was Rs. 82,393 crore

*Speech was laid on the Table.

but actual receipt was Rs. 79,861.85 crore. When it was enquired from the Ministry the cause of the shortfall, the stock answer was quite similar that was given always. As against the revised estimates of Gross Traffic Receipts of Rs. 88,355.91 crore for the year 2009-10, the receipt stood at Rs. 70,086.68 crore by end of January this year and by end of March it is still short of target. Why? Explanations are many but the curious one was dished out by South-East Railways blaming the Odissa Government which had stopped loading of iron-ore from Barbil, Keonjhar areas as illegally ore was being transported by Railways. This was happening with full connivances of the Railway authorities. Will the Minister enquire into it?

The target fixed for the Fiscal is Rs. 94,764.95 crore. What steps are you taking to reach that target? There is an urgent need for rationalization of freight structure and goods traffic to achieve the target in this respect. Can't the wagon turn around time be reduced?

Another point of issue is the Passenger earnings which was budgeted at Rs. 24,309 crore during 2009-10 and were revised downward to Rs. 24,057 crore. There is a shortfall of Rs. 764 crore too. Has the Railways examined the cause for passenger dissatisfaction with the services available? I have a pointed question to ask the Minister. Is it true that the Tat-Kal percentage has been brought down and more berths are available in non-Tatkal category? Is it true, that particular part of earning has come down? By the way, how much do you expect growth of passengers this year? Do you apprehend shortfall this year too?

While going through the Vision 2020, the Railways have targeted to add 25 thousand kilometers of new lines in the next ten years. The Minister has declared this year 2010-11 as the year of new lines and a target is fixed to construct 1000 route kilometers during this year. This is no doubt an ambitious target but try to ensure to fulfill the target. Since independence the Railways annual average of constructing new rail lines was 180 kms and it was only last year Railways could construct 250 kms. I fail to understand how a 1000 km rail route be completed with an outlay of only Rs. 7193 crore when during 2009-10 with Rs. 4271.65 crore were allocated for 250kms. How would the Railways in 2010-11 achieve the target of 1000 kms which is four time high? If this is not bad budgeting than what else is? My apprehension is, the physical target would later be revised downward. There is need to enhance the financial

outlay suitably so that physical achievement do not lag behind the targets.

Here I am reminded of Khurda Road-Bolangir new rail line which was sanctioned in 1995 but not much progress has been made. I urge upon the Minister to see that the rail line is made functional atleast from Khurda Road to Nayagarh in this fiscal.

Saturation of existing routes have slowed movement of passenger and freight trains and has also made it difficult to provide adequate number of services to the evergrowing demand in passenger and freight traffic. Cuttack is a glaring example. Second bridge construction over river Kathajodi river is taking years for completion and doubling of Baranga-Raj-Athagarh rail line under East-Coast Zone need no explanation. These are examples of slow pace in which Railways work.

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE (Baramati): Sir, I stand here in support of the Demands for Grants of the Railways. The performance of this entire Ministry has been exemplary ever since *didi* has taken over. She truly comes from our kind of school of thought because she is still an activist and a social worker, before she is a Minister. The good Governance; the imagination; the transparency of the Ministry; and the work culture has been exemplary. There are a lot of demands, which we have all made. Unfortunately, we did not have a chance to deliberate and discuss the Budget because of whatever reasons at that time. So, most of us had to table all our demands. Even today, since the hon. Minister is not here and due to the time constraint, I would like to table all my demands for the entire State. Many of my colleagues including Mr. Anand have already put forth some of them, and I would like to table the rest for the State of Maharashtra.

There are just two major points, which I would like to make. One is about our Mumbai Railways. As Mr. Anand mentioned in his speech that about 50-60 lakh travellers travel Railways everyday only in the city of Mumbai, and you all will be appalled to know that 21,000 people have died in the last five years in various accidents. Even after making a lot of High Court judgements, somehow the Railways have not reacted the way we would have liked them to and hence, I would like to bring these points in front of hon. Didi.

The High Court in 2004 had told the Railways that there have to be paramedics at every station and there has to be an Ambulance at every station, which was a PIL 50 of 2008, which was replied on 15 January 2009 and the golden period has to be considered. Even today, the number has not changed as there are no Ambulance services. I definitely welcome her project of 550 hospitals worldwide. But what about Mumbai, which gives the maximum revenue to the Railways and has the maximum number of people travelling?

Under section 57, a train can take only about 1,500 seats and that much number of tickets should be sold. But today, you will be appalled to know that about 8,500 people travel, and that is exactly why so many accidents take place. The problem is that the validity of the ticket is only for one hour. So, most people are always rushing to finish that and get back on to the train. So, if the validity of the ticket is increased to 3 hours or 4 hours, then I am sure that the pressure will definitely decrease. Even the World Bank has said to a reply to a PIL that the World Bank has shown reservation on giving Rs. 6,000 crore more to the Railways because of the accidents that are happening in Mumbai, which is a serious issue. I think that we must all address that issue. This is what we have read, and the hon. Minister can clarify in case this information is not correct.

There is also the issue of unclaimed bodies. About 2,000 bodies are in the morgues of the Railways every three months and there is nobody to claim it because they are people from the entire country. If the photographs that are available with the Police are put on the website, then I think that things will change and people will be able to claim the bodies and the entire pressure of these unclaimed bodies will not be there on the Railways.

The other issue that was brought out by my colleague Mr. Sudip was about the Railway Protection Force (RPF). This is what happens every time there is an accident in Mumbai. People go to the RPF and the RPF says that it is not our jurisdiction and they say that it is probably a robbery, which it is not. It is an accident in the Railways. So, there is a huge gap between the CRF and RPF. If they come under one roof, then I think that things will definitely change.

I would say that we should look at terrorism as a serious issue. There are so many illegal hawkers and we are talking about increasing security. But unless all

these illegal hawkers are removed from all our stations, I do not think mobility and sensitivity of the Police can be cleared. So, I think that this is something that the Railway Ministry has to look in to reduce the pressure on all our Railway stations.

One more point that I would like to mention is regarding compensation. The GM salary in the last 10 years has been increased from Rs. 9,600 to a lakh of rupees. We compliment the Ministry for it, but at the same time looking at the number of accidents that are happening and with no fault of the travellers the compensation has been increased only from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 4 lakh. So, we would demand that if the Ministry can afford it, then this definitely needs to be increased because these are all very poor people with no fault of theirs having lost their lives.

Lastly, the Central Railway, Mumbai Division has a safety charge that is charged from various tickets and passes of the sub-urban passengers, which is about Rs. 45 crore. There was an RTI by Mr. Praveen Tripathi on 19 October 2009, and the reply to that RTI was that — not the Ministry directly but the DRM in Mumbai for that Region said — they had no clue where this money was spent. I think that we all want better infrastructure, and I do not have any doubt in my mind that the Minister herself is very keen on this. But Mumbai has to be looked at a far more serious level and not just macro-planning but micro-planning for Mumbai sub-urban has to be there from where thousands of families get on the trains in the morning not knowing whether they would come home again.

I appeal to the hon. Minister to look at safety and security of this entire thing. My colleague from Thane thanked her for the intervention she made in making Thane a world heritage station. We just would appreciate that the team from the Railways came much sooner and we could get the work going. I thank her for everything that she has done for us. I fully understand that all of us MPs are always extremely demanding on the Rail Ministry, but I think it is the lifeline of this country. The *aam admi* that we all keep talking about is totally dependent on their service. We must all join in together to improve the services and make a difference to every man who wants to join in the development of this country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Madam, if you want to give anything in writing to the Minister, you can give it to the

Minister. Initially, you said that you wanted to lay a part of your speech, which cannot be done. So, you can handover that portion to the Minister, who can take it directly from you. That is why I am suggesting that you can handover whatever written suggestions you have to the hon. Minister.

*SHRI O.S. MANIAN (Mayiladuthurai): Mr. Chairman, Sir, let me thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Demands for Grants of the Railways for the year 2010-11.

I would like to point out to the hon. Railway Minister the gauge conversion project carried on between Viluppuram and Mayiladuthurai at a snail's pace consuming more than five years and taking more time even now for inauguration much after its completion. The inauguration is being postponed on the plea that it would be done tomorrow, next week, next month and so on. This is waiting to be inaugurated even after obtaining safety and security clearance certificate. It is reported that they are awaiting for the nod from the Railway Minister who is yet to give a date to be present there. I would like to remind the hon. Railway Minister that the people of this area are waiting for a long number of years now. Not only the people of my constituency but also the people from the constituency of our hon. Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Shri V. Narayanasamy are demanding that the services be commenced at the earliest. It is also a demand of the people belonging to the place of our Minister of Shipping Shri G.K. Vasan who is also present in this House.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to a sad incident that happened when the trading community of Mayiladuthurai town resorted to a peaceful 'dharna'. Due to the scorching heat that affected the agitators, the hon. President of the Traders' Association collapsed and died on the spot. It was all because they were demanding early resumption of train service in this section. I wish and expect the hon. Railway Minister to announce in her reply the date on which the operation of train service between Viluppuram and Mayiladuthurai would be commenced. Similarly, the 38 km. stretch of railway line between Mayiladuthurai and Tiruvarur is lying idle due to the non-completion of gauge conversion work which is still remaining on paper and yet to be translated into action. Adequate allocations have not been apportioned and hence there is a stagnation in the

completion of this project for the past five years.. Hence I urge upon the Railway Minister to allocate sufficient funds to complete this project at the earliest.

Tiruvarur-Karaikudi gauge conversion work must also be completed by setting apart adequate funds. Tiruthurai-poondi-Agasthiampalli railway line project has also not taken off due to non-availability of funds. Nagappattinam-Velankanni railway line laying work has been completed. It needs to be put into operation with running of trains.

Karur-Salem gauge conversion work is also pending for long. The funds that have been allocated for this project this year is insufficient. About Rs. 300 crore must be pumped in immediately to complete this project. Puducherry-Bengaluru railway line work must be taken up immediately. This route must go through Viluppuram, Jolarpet, Krishnagiri and Hosur. I urge upon the Railway Minister to issue suitable instructions in this regard.

Tiruppur town in Tamil Nadu is known for knitting industry. There is a need and demand to run a daily train between Tiruppur and Chennai. I urge upon the Railway Ministry to introduce an Express Train connecting Chennai directly with Tiruppur.

Mettupalayam-Chennai Nilgiri Express is running for a long time. This traditional train is now running without First Class Non-A/c coaches. I urge upon the Railway Ministry to reconsider and introduce them again.

Salem Division was created recently and its Headquarters' office is yet to be established fully. I urge upon the Railway Ministry to allocate more funds and see that it is completed at the earliest. Salem Station needs additional tracks and more trains must be run from there to southern districts of Tamil Nadu.

The Planning Commission has approved five new railway lines for Tamil Nadu. But only two railway line projects have been taken up by the Railways. It is said that the other three railway projects have not been taken up for want of matching contribution from the State Government. Shri Elangovan himself has stated in this House that the State Government is not in a position to set apart the required funds. Hence I urge upon the Union Railway Ministry to fund these projects fully and complete them at the earliest.

The hon. Railway Minister announced that computerization at railway stations recommended by Members of Parliament would be taken up. But the recommendation from my end is still pending and hence I request her to computerize the station for which I have recommended.

Nagappattinam-Kollam train must be given a stoppage at Boodalur to facilitate the pilgrims visiting the shrine of our Lady of Health in Poondi. I request the Railway Minister to look into it.

Morappur-Dharmapuri-Tiruvannamalai-Jolarpet-Thanjavur-Ariyalur railway line must be laid on a priority basis to give an economic boost to these places. Chennai-Puducherry new coastal railway line may be taken up by the Railways.

A new Shatabdi Express linking Chennai-Viluppuram-Tiruchy-Dindigul-Madurai-Virudhunagar-Tirunelveli may be introduced. The entire stretch of Chennai-Kanyakumari railway line must be doubled and electrified and I hope the Railway Ministry will look into our request in this regard. New sub-urban stations with modern facilities must be created in the outskirts of both Coimbatore and Madurai. This will help ease the congestion and problems faced by the traveling public. Coimbatore-Erode, Coimbatore-Pollachi, Madurai-Virudhunagar, Madurai-Dindigul sub-urban train services may also be contemplated and introduced. This will help the Railways to serve better and earn still better.

Accidents at the unmanned level crossings, which are more in number in Tamil Nadu, are on the increase. I urge upon the hon. Railway Minister to bring down the number of deaths occurring there and see that those level crossings are converted to be manned level crossings with commensurate recruitment of personnel in this regard at the earliest. I also urge upon the Railway Minister to augment the number of personnel in the Railway Protection Force and ensure safety and security in all the trains in the interest of public.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: May I request all the Members to be silent because so many discussions at different places are going on. It is embarrassing for me also to go on requesting the Members to be silent because it is giving some kind of a problem to the Member who wants to

express his ideas. Please cooperate with the Chair. There are many sessions that are going on, it is not one session. I am sorry for that.

Shri Ganesh Singh, please be brief and take only five minutes as the hon. Minister has to reply.

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna): I am only the second Speaker from my party...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your Party has already taken more than one hour. Therefore, the allotted time of your Party is over.

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, I rise to discuss the Demands for Grants (Railways) for the year 2010-11. The hon. Minister of Railways has announced vision 2020 during her second budget speech. She has envisaged a dream of making railways world class. I would like to ask a question to the hon. Minister of Railways that more than Rs. 14 lakh crore would be required to fulfill 'Vision 2020'. I do not think that with the present revenue earned by the Railways, this target would be achieved. The Railways would have to save Rs. 1.25 lakh crore every year. What will be the source of funds, I cannot decipher. There is a dream to make the railways world class. This is a separate issue that the length of railways lines that we inherited in the year 1950 was 53,596 kilometres and we have been able to construct only 10419 kilometres of railway lines after 60 years of independence, this way our average is only 180 kilometres per annum. How would we be able to make it world class by the year 2020? Today, we need to provide two very important things to the one crore 8 lakh commuters traveling daily by train. One is amenities and another is safety. I am glad that the hon. Minister of Railways has given strict instructions to this effect in the GM level meeting and has asked all the General Managers to pay special attention to sanitation at railway stations and trains. I would like to draw her attention to the fact that the Rewa-Delhi Express by which I travelled today is scheduled to reach Delhi at 6 am. These days there is neither fog nor power failure, nor derailment, still the train reached here late by 8 hours at 2 pm. There was no drinking water arrangement in the train, not to ask about the sanitation condition in the train.

The trains are running in a pathetic condition. I am bringing it to her notice because she had convened a GM level meeting some days back. This is the condition of express trains.

The condition of security is similar. On 15th, a live bomb was found in Uttar Pradesh Sampark Kranti Express plying Manikpur in Mahaba. That bomb was kept in the train from Manikpur and the train was running for approximately two-and-a half hours, the railway staff could not find out what was kept in the train. After examination, it was found that the bomb was live which was due to explode around 6.30 am, when the train is scheduled to reach Delhi. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Railways towards this incident.

There are more than 17,000 such railway crossings across the country, which are unmanned. The train coaches are outdated and have outlived their age. The condition of berths is very poor. The Minister has announced a new catering policy. Whatever new policy may be framed the catering of trains barring those of Rajdhani or one or two other trains cannot be improved, poor passengers are compelled to eat whatever is served to their utter dislike. When would this situation improve? Laluji promised fine buttermilk during his tenure where has that gone? He also promised tea in Kulhars (earth teacups), where have they gone? What about those Khadi sheets that he promised? I am paying attention to those things which are actually very important and the Ministry of Railways should ponder over them seriously.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, ever since the U.P.A. has formed Government, our state has been colossally ignored. Through you, I am compelled to inform the House and draw the attention of the Government that thousands of people have started Satyagrah (protests) outside the Satna railway station in regard to the 40-point demands from 17th April. I have given a memorandum to the Minister of State and to the Chairman, Railway Board Shri Khurana and have requested in regard to approximately 18-20 railway stations under my constituency which are not equipped with basic amenities. Drinking water facility is not there, benches are not there. Two Railway station Mehar & Satna have been upgraded to first class Railway station. The condition of both Railway station is so pitiable that if you pay visit to these station you won't find even a drop of water to drink.

17.00 hrs.

You have committed to upgrade it into first class stations, but there are so many stations which are in this condition. I found that grass is grown there. That are you expecting. You won't find even a toilet, taps are pilfered. The condition of electricity is such that whole of station is reeling under outage, even when the said station is an important part of rail route. That is a rail track... route from Banaras to Mumbai via Allahabad-Satna-Katni-Jabalpur. I raised these issues repeatedly in the last Lok Sabha, but no heed was paid to it. When Nitish ji was Minister of Railways, he visited my constituency and he announced a train from Satna via Bairawal to Rajkot. But till date it has not been started. Initially the Railway personnel had saw they do not have capacity to accommodate 24 coaches, now it has been expanded. After that they told that they do not have washing kit, now that has also been installed. Now they have again started saying that they do not have terminal facility. If this facility is not there then how long will it take to install this facility. I fyou have will you can accomplish this task also.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: When I was Minister of Railways, I initiated some works.

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Laluji is saying that they had initiated some works, I asked a supplementary question in this house on 26.11.2009. Minister of Railways announced that he will restore the Mahakaushal Express and Reva-Delhi Express facility, but so far it has not been started. Minister of Railways have announced that he will start a Garib Rath from Jabalpur to Allahabad. I welcome this announcement. I demanded that it should be started from Reva to Satna but you made announcement that it will originate from Allahabad, but I have no objection if it originates from Allahabad. I merely want to request you to please stick to your commitments and implement them.

I would like to draw the attention of Minister of Railways towards that movement which I have started. The people living in surrounding areas of these 20 stations have fully extended their support to this movement. Indefinite 'Satyagrah' is going on there and I will not end it till our demands are even. If we have to start 'Satyagrah' in the Ministry for this me. Will do it. It has been mentioned in the Memorandum also. I have had several GM level meetings but nothing concrete came out. None of our demands have been met with in these meetings. I have been elected for a second term

consecutively. I started a movement there, I have full support of people. This movement is for petty issues, which I am elaborating here. If a Member of Parliament is not able to fulfill these demands he will have to resort to disrupt the Rail services and start movement, he will gherao the Ministry, GM office. He can do nothing other than this. Therefore, time and again I am requesting you not to ignore our demands. Minister of Railways should instruct her officers to have meeting with hon'ble Members and address the problems which they can solve at their level. Apart from this the wrong-communication is going on. Some times I received letter from hon'ble Minister of State and sometimes from hon'ble Minister stating that they are looking after the work. I want to ask them for how long they will continue doing so. Like wise 62 years have passed. At least now you should start work at ground level. Therefore I want you to seriously consider the problems which I have stated.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, with your permission I rise to express my views on the discussion going on the supplementary demand for grants. I would like to say that hon'ble Madam and our Government has done lot of works. Regarding my state, I can say that there are lot of visible changes. People are happy that the deptt. has accomplished tasks in every difficult and acute situation, for instance the Kumbh festival which was organized recently. Madam extended a helping hand, because of which people were able to travel there, for which I want to extend my thanks to her.

I have 2-3 issues related to my state, which are quite important, through you, I want to bring them to her notice. First of all there is no DRM office, or Division. Because of it my constituency in a bad shape. Kashmir and Ferozepur are far apart, we have to go there. That division was carved out in 1926. Since then so many zones were formed, but our state, which includes Himachal Pradesh, has no division. We demand a division for Jammu, so that the tasks related to our state could be carried out there. I want to say hon'ble Lalaji was the Minister of Railways at the time when reorganization of Udhampur took place and the Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh flagged off a train, on that very day two projects were announced. It was announced that a Rail coach factory would be established. May be Dr. Farooq know this. Dr. Farooq was also present there. I was also present there and whatever was stated there. I think it becomes a principle, and a guideline. On that day two projects were announced. One is coach factory

and other one is sleeper factory. Likewise two factories were announced to be set up. I have preserved the speech. After wards, I wrote letters that coach factory was announced in Kathua and a sleeper factory was announced in Udhampur. Dr. Farooq is a witness to it. Many years have passed by and it is ridiculous that if Prime Minister and Minister of Railways both of them make a commitment and it is not fulfilled, then I do not know whom to approach. No one is supreme to Prime Minister. Therefore, it is my request to you that both the projects which were announced, they must be implemented. Cabinet Minister does not reply the letter and matter is not in the knowledge of Minister of State. He is replying that it does not fall in their plan. It is not a matter of his plan, it is a matter of plan of the Prime Minister of India, you are not concerned with the Plan. Therefore I request you. Then again I requested and I wrote a letter and my second request is that J&K has always been honoured by whole of the country and therefore I can boast of that it is the only reason why Militancy declined in J&K. An amount of Rupees 1100 crore was spent on the construction of the Kauri bridge about which one of our Hon'ble Member of Parliament was saying that it would be the highest bridge of the world. Pillars have already been erected but the work has been stopped thereon from Katra to Kajikund-Banihal. We raised this issue in the House. The Government ordered to restart the work. Who stopped the work for six months and what punishment has been given to the person responsible? After spending Rs. 1100 crore, an officer ordered to stop the work and the policy matter of Government of India turned ineffective. People get employment due to operation of train services and the atmosphere also changed there. Hon'ble Farooq Abdullah knows it very well. No one is ready to go there. The area of Reasi, Mohar and Darmari was the den of militancy which got normalized due to the Railways. The militancy was checked but immediately after that they stopped the work. The machinery is lying idle there. Money has been spent on these machines but the people living there are deprived of any compensation or employment. The Railways have so far not provided employment to those who had given their land for the railway line whereas there is a policy to provide 75 percent employment. No passenger amenities are available at Udhampur Station. there is no water available at the station nor is there any canteen. There is only one entry point at the station and the passengers have to purchase ticket from the same route. ...(*Interruptions*) Which causes lots of problems to the passengers. ...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are another 25 Members who are waiting to speak. I have to accommodate all of them. Please cooperate and try to be brief.

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: I request you to solve these problems. The last Government sanctioned a survey from Kathua to Kishtwad. That time Lalu jee was the Railway Minister. Now Madam has referred it to the Planning Commission. Now it depends on the mercy of the Commission to sanction it or not. If you have not the intention to sanction, then why do you conduct survey? My submission is that the length of rail line in Jammu and Kashmir is only 90 km whereas it is 70 thousand km in the entire country. There should be atleast two-three thousand km of rail line in state if we go by these figures. I do not think that hilly areas should be neglected in terms of railway lines. Be it the survey of the Rajouri-Punchh rail line or Kathua to Kishtwad rail line, these should be declared as national projects. These projects would also generate employment for the local people. Madam has specially mentioned that she will consider the backward regions. There are the most backward areas. I am telling about my own area. A worm grew in a person's eye. His eye is wide open with worm inside it but he has no facility available for removing the worm from his eye. Without the development of this area, development of India is not possible. I would also like to submit that the Duranto trains should be provided a stoppage at Kathua.

Hon'ble Minister has assured that underpass at Jangpur will be constructed immediately. At last I would like to submit that the Government may complete whatever formalities are required relating to our State but I want that all our problems should be addressed without delay.

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH (Hamirpur): Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to say something about the system and principle of the Railways. There is a long term policy and a short term policy. I would like to submit that there is huge congestion in the Railways. Every 10-15 minutes a train passes on the main corridors. I have not been able to understand throughout the speech as to what measures have been taken to remove the congestion. As far as I understand the Railway Budget, there are two corridors—one, the Eastern corridor and other is the Western corridor. The main

problem is that only two lines are not sufficient. It has been said that the third line will also be constructed. If the third line is not constructed and we do not take care of earning house i.e. Goods Trains then it will create problem. This is not a roadways bus or DTC Bus which can be halted anywhere. This is a wrong policy and completely unprofessional debate. The professional Planning is always need based. It is Bihar's fortune that Late Mishra jee became Rail Minister. Shri Abdul Gani Chaudhary started train from his own constituency. Lalujee was also the Railways Minister. But it does not mean that Railway belongs only to a Minister's state. The Railways is not someone's private property nor is it the property of the State. I am a Member of Parliament from Hamirpur Mahua in the Khajuraho belt, Madhya Pradesh. The Britishers had made Jhansi as the center of Railways. If you see the map Nagpur or Jhansi is located at the center of India. No development has been made there. Mamataji has set up Rail coach factory at Raibareli, we have no objection on it but it could have been set up in Jhansi too. Today there is an acute shortage of water in Bundelkhand but the water plant of Railways goes to Raibareli. This may be due to some political reasons or other consideration. But, if a small water plant would have been setup in Jhansi, it would have been much beneficial for the people there.

Another thing, I would like to say is that there is Khajuraho and Chitrakoot station on this route and if you do not see any light at the station you can imagine that it is Chitrakoot station. I would like to submit that Mamatajee should learn a lesson from the situation of Bhartiya Janta Party who neglected Lord Ram. Similarly if she neglects Chitrakoot it will create problem for her in future. This is the place where Lord Ram resided for 14 years and Tulsidas jee has also written Ramayana there. There is a single line and even generator is not available at the Railway station. We all know that one who faces problems or crisis in life visits Chitrakoot. I would like to request the Government to pay attention to the neglected areas. It is needless to reiterate that development is fast in areas which are connected with the railways. If we see from the point of view of development, Bundelkhand is the most backward region in Uttar Pradesh or Northern India.

Secondly, Lucknow is the capital and Allahabad is the judicial capital of Uttar Pradesh. Lucknow is two hundred kilometers away from Allahabad and it takes five and a half hours by train because there is single line. *These factors should also be considered.*

One should learn a lesson from China. In 1950, their average speed was between 40 to 50 kilometres. The hon. Minister of Railways on. Mamata Benerjee is sitting here. She may ascertain the fact that presently the average speed in China is between 275 and 300 kms. per hour. If long term measures are not taken in this regard, this railway would not offer any solution to the problem particularly in view of the population that is witnessing an explosion. If rail corridor is built across Chitrakoot, Mahoba, Khajuraho and Buddhist Circuit and the line is doubled, then that area would prosper and become developed. Like Mahoba. ...(*Interruptions*) Mahoba was connected with Khajuraho during the tenure of Lalu Yadav ji. I would like to submit the if tourism is not developed in these areas by taking such measures, then how these areas would be developed.

Today, Member of Parliament is being ignored by the Department of Railways. Let alone reservation, I would not repeat what others said. Even if we write a recommendation letter, reservation would only be done if the passenger is our dependent. Why instructions to this effect are not given by the Railways to the Railway Board that if we recommend for some of our guests, then weightage rather effective weightage should be given to the Member of Parliament. Otherwise we should be told not to write any letter.

Finally, in regard to the NCR, I would like to request a ladies special train from NCR Khurja to Delhi like two ladies special trains introduced by Km. Mamataji one from Palwal and another from Kilkata. The UPA put in arduous work to bring Women Reservation. However, if they want the women to make progress, then a ladies special train should be introduced also from here. I would like to sum up contending that if proper attention is paid to the third line, speed and timing, then a lot can be achieved. Like an hon. Member said that all the attendants have now become private. It has been reported by many persons in the Railways that the theft taking place in trains is being carried out by these private attendants. So, privatization should also be done away with. With these words I conclude.

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV (Badaun): Sir, I, on my own behalf and on behalf of my party, support the Demand for Grant for Railways for the year 2010-11 brought by the hon. Minister of Railways. Hon Mamataji is popular for championing the cause of people. Today, in this House, I would urge upon the hon. Minister of Railways that if she would not bring out a solution of this problem of the poor then, perhaps, there may not

be any solution to their problem in future. Today, the state of affairs is such particularly in respect of the long distance trains that 80 percent seats are reserved for 20 percent people whereas 80 percent people travel in 20 percent coaches. The hon. Minister would be knowing that the condition of general bogies becomes worse. The hon. Minister may reduce the number of reserved bogies, however, through you, I would like to demand that the number of general bogies should be increased. Otherwise, all her resolutions for the poor would never be fulfilled. I had referred to it even during discussion on the last railway budget. I would simultaneously, appeal to the hon. Minister that despite all kinds of discussion on general amenities in the trains and making overall improvements, there as been hardly any change in the quality of catering in the Railways. There is nothing special even in the catering arrangement in trains like Shatabdi. An issue has been raised by all the hon. Members, in support of their demand I would like to make an appeal to the hon. Minister that during the year 1996-97, the then Prime Minister hon. H.D. Devegowda had announced a 57 kilometre railway line from Etawah to Mainpuri. Today, even after an elapse of 14 years, not even 50 percent progress has been made therein. I went through the budget right now, against a demand for Rs. 55 crore, only Rs. 15 crore have been sanctioned by the hon. Minister. It is my appeal to the hon. Minister in regard to this project which was announced by a former Prime Minister of the country, the foundation stone of which was laid by hon. Shri A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, as the President of the country and which was envisaged to be inaugurated by hon. Kalam Saheb by hon. Nitish Kumar as the then Minister of Railways. The tenure of hon. Kalam Saheb is over, probably the tenure of H.E. Pratibha Devi Singh Patil is also about to be over. This is Netaji's area, even I have been a Member of Parliament from Mainpuri in the past, this is a project between Etawah and Mainpuri, I hope that the hon. Minister of Railways, keeping in view the honour of Netaji and the people of the area would get the scheme completed.

Sir, there is another issue. Hon. Lalu Prasadji as Minister of Railways had announced a new railway line from Mainpuri to Eta, Eta to Badaun, Badaun to Gajraula via Sambhal in reply to the budget speech for the year 2008-09. This was started from Mainpuri. The hon'ble Minister has included the stretch from Etah to Kasganj and Sambhal to Gajraula in this budget, but including these two stretches is not going to serve any purpose. I would like to submit that if the announcement made

by hon'ble Laluji is implemented and the whole line from Mainpuri to Gajraula is sanctioned, the people of five districts, Etah, kasganj, Badayun, Muradabad and Amroha will remain grateful to her. I am sure the present Minister of Railways will honour the announcements made by the former Minister of Railways. Besides this, the former Prime Minister, Gujral Saheb had announced in Badayun in 1997-98 that the gauge conversion work of the railway line from Bareilly to Kasganj via Badayun would be undertaken. The metre gauge line would be converted into broad gauge, but I regret to say that the gauge conversion work of the said railway line has not been completed so far. When this issue is taken up with the officers, they reply that the railway stretch from Badayun to Kasganj is not included in the priority list. I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that Badayun is the holy land of saints. This is the land of Sufi saints from Chote Sarkar to Bade Sarkar, and crores of domestic and foreign tourists visit this place to pay obeisance to them. Still district Badayun is being neglected in this way. Hon'ble Minister, this is not fair. Your name is 'Mamta'. I hope that in keeping with your name, you will shower motherly love on our district Badayun. ...*(Interruptions)*

I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that Netaji had been an MLA from Gunnaur. Babrala is the main town of that place. If a new railway line is laid from Babrala to Sahwasan, Sahwasan to Bilsa and Bilsa to Shahjahanpur via Badayun, the journey from Lucknow to Delhi will become really short and I hope that she will definitely do this. Similarly, there is a dire need of an ROB on the railway crossing no. 27 in Badayun city. We have raised the matter in regard to crossing number 27 in Etawah city also many a time. The stretch of ROB, which lies on the railway line. Is broken. Even today, the work in this regard has not been completed. A by-pass between railway line 33-A and 34-A was constructed in Jaswant Nagar. This by-pass being constructed is the shortest route from Bareilly to Agra. Even on that route the flyover falling under the railways has not been constructed. Rest of the work has been completed by the PWD. Keeping whole these things in mind. I hope that hon'ble Minister of Railways will shower her blessings on us.

[English]

*DR. MANDA JAGANNATH (Nagarkurnool): First of all let me congratulate Madam Mamata Banerjee for presenting Burden less Budget on common man to the

country. I would also like to thank Madam Sonia Gandhiji and Hon'ble Prime Minister Manmohan Singhji for guiding Railway Minister Mamata Banerjee to present such Welfare oriented Burden less Budget on the all sections of the society.

Railway is the common mode and cheapest mode of transport for the common man under the given circumstances, where the other modes of transport is becoming costlier and costlier every year, though the effect of Rise in oil prices affects Railways also honourable Railway Minister had taken care to not to increase in fares which will go long way in the Railway history and commendable because on the whole the common man is very happy.

The steps proposed for the passenger Amenities. Welfare measures, introduction of Dorantho Express trains, Garib Rath and steps taken to provide Railway facilities to North Eastern States, Jammu and Kashmir and also steps taken to provide Railway transport system to difficult terrain in the country is commendable and this shows the commitment of the UPA Government for trying to provide cheapest mode of transport to the poorer sections of the society.

Now coming to my own state of Andhra Pradesh, this year whatever the injustice being meted out to state of Andhra Pradesh, say whether it is in the introduction of new trains, construction of new lines, doubling activity gauge conversion is increased in comparison to previous years. But though in comparison to previous years this time allocations are better, it is not a matter to be over joys, because all the previous years the allocations were very meager which had delayed the completion of Railway Projects many years behind than the schedule and I request the Hon'ble Railway Minister to take necessary steps to Expedite the works, so as to complete the projects in time.

Reorganization of some of the stations in Andhra Pradesh as Class 1 stations, Adarsh Stations Model and Modern stations are very much thankful. But the work has not yet commenced to make them as Modern Stations One such type of station is 'GADWAL' between Mahboob Nagar and Kurnol Block Section is named as Modern Station in previous Budget. But no work has started yet. I request the honourable Railway Minister to take UP work in such type of stations so as to give the passengers the good facilities.

I am very much thankful to the honourable Railway Minister for allocation Rs. 60 crores for Gadwal-Raichur new line, Rs. 50 crores for Munirabad Mahboobnagar line. The new line between Gadwal and Raichur had been sanctioned during 1998-99 though more than ten years passed new line a stretch of 60 km is not yet completed. I request the honourable Railway Minister to take necessary steps for completing the new line between Gadwal and Raichur as early as possible.

I am also very much thankful to the Honourable Railway Minister for including the Gadwal – Macheria new line in the cost sharing basis in the Railway Minister 2010-11 and request the Railway Minister to provide Funds and take up necessary steps to lay the foundation stone at Gadwal Rly station for the construction of new line between Gadwal-Macheria a stretch of 232 kms.

My request for the construction of RoB at Gadwal Railway station at Km 187 is long pending. I request the Hon'ble Railway Minister to sanction one RoB at Gadwal Railway Station in the Secunderabad-Dronachillen section.

A new line between Jadchele and Nandayal-via Nagarkurnool-Kollapur and Nandyal was proposed. Survey was done. I request the Hon'ble Railway Minister to sanction the new line between Jadchele and Nandyal.

With above requests once again congratulating the Railway Minister for presenting such a common man Welfare oriented budget. I support the Demands for grants Railway and also supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2010-2011.

[Translation]

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO (Khammam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Demands for Supplementary Grants of the Railways.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon'ble Minister of Railways has proposed 114 new railway projects in this railway budget. She said that these are socially desirable projects. Out of these, 14 projects are in Andhra Pradesh. Five projects of my district, Bhadrachalam-Kavur, Pottogudam-Kondapalli, Manakoor-Remgundam, Ponrangapuram to Bhadrachalam road, Bhadrachalam road to Settipelli, are lying pending for the last 40 years. At least Rs. on elakh crore are required for the proposed new lines. Around Rs. 80 thousand crore are required

for completing the existing projects. Only 10-15 percent of the required funds have been allocated. In view of this at least 8-10 years would be required to complete the existing projects and most of the new projects have been kept under the PPP model. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had written that 50 percent contribution for these projects will be made by the State Government, the hon'ble Minister of Railways has also made a mention of it in her railway budget speech. The main point is that the State Government has not allocated even Rs. 1 for this project in their budget and have the budgetary provision of a mere Rs. 10 crore has been made for Andhra Pradesh and rest of funds have been earmarked for survey work only. The financing model should be devised in a proper way, otherwise a lot of problems will be faced in the completion of these projects.

My constituency, Khammam is a very backward area. Khammam district of Andhra Pradesh is also among the 33 districts declared as extremism affected areas by the hon. Minister. I would like to request the hon. Minister to provide more funds for railway infrastructure and for completing the long pending projects. 90 percent tribals have not seen the train. They have never boarded a train. They are very happy since the new railway line has become operational. Bhadrachalam line is a very important railway line. It is not only socially viable but also commercially viable. Its IRRP is around 20 percent. Therefore, this project should be put on fast track and should be made operational as soon as possible. Through you, I would like to demand that the hon'ble Minister should do it. Moreover, the mining sector in Khammam district is a very big sector. There are many coal mines in this area. Many new coal mines have been allocated. Singareni collieries want to share its money. Recently I met the M.D. of Singareni collieries. I have requested him for the development of Khammam district. The MOU of railways has not been finalized even with them. Through you, I want to request the Minister of Railways that after finalizing the MOU of railways, funds of that area should be diverted and the project of Khammam district be completed.

Sir, there is a plan investment project worth Rs. 41426 crore this year, but out of this allocation for Andhra Pradesh is very less. The Minister of railways has a dream of constructing 25000 kilometres of railway lines during the next ten years and she has a dream of completing 2500 kilometres this year and one thousand kilometres the next year. But in General Budget service tax has been imposed on railways which will here on

impact of Rs. 6000 crores on the railways. I would request the Minister of Finance to allocate funds to the railways because railways is meant for the common man. Therefore, more and more funds should be allocated to the railways. Lastly, while drawing the attention of Mamataji towards the development of SC and ST people of my constituency, I would request her to pay attention towards them and develop the railways.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Mainpuri): Sir, Mainpuri and Badayun of Uttar Pradesh are the most ignored areas so far as Railways is concerned. Whether it is fortune or misfortune I represent both the places as a Member in Lok Sabha. This time Shri Dharmendra Yadav represents Badayun, earlier I represented it, this time I represent Mainpuri. You conduct a survey of both these places. During the tenure of Laluji, I had told him also and he did make efforts, but nothing happened. You conduct the survey of both these places. Badayun and Mainpuri in Uttar Pradesh are the most neglected in respect of railways. I had raised this issue earlier also. But you should accept it today, this is my request.

*SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): Sir, I rise to speak on the Railway Budget 2010-11. Indian Railways is the biggest center of hope for the people of the country. It is a means of development. It has a great contribution in the progress of the country. I believe that the railways can be more beneficial for the people as well as for the development of the country by better planning with a programme and approach to extend its full benefits to the backward areas tribals and the rural people in the backward areas, the Ministry of Railways should formulate a policy and implement it. Only then the benefits of this railways will reach the common man. Most of the people of the country are deprived of the facilities. There is no rail from Laman Hee to Pali. I demand such a policy be formulated so as the benefits of railways and development reach the common man.

50% share is being sought from various states for new railway projects. Chief Ministers of states are ready to offer their contribution to railways keeping in view the interests of their party members or their own interests. The public representatives of opposition party like me cannot get the railway facility extended in their constituency and the new project sanctioned.

It is not appropriate to seek contributions from states. The Ministry of Railways should themselves make

provisions to mobilize cent per cent funds for its development projects and complete the projects.

There is an urgent need to introduce a new direct train from Ballarshaha and Chandrapur stations of my constituency to Mumbai and to extent Vikaspur bound train originating from Chennai via Chandafort to Howrah and Delhi bound grant trunk express running from Chennai to Amritsar. It will be convenient for the Punjabi and Sikh families living in South India to visit sacred Golden Temple.

Sir, Chandafort-SEC is the last station of railways. There is a need to provide stoppage of each train passing through the Chandafort SEC station and to lay a railway line to connect Chandafort station to Chandrapur station which is hardly 2 kms for which immediate survey should be conducted to connect both the stations.

There is only one Wani station in Yavatmal district through which trains are passing. There is no stoppage of all the trains at this Wani station. So, new trains may please be introduced through this route for Nanded-Adilabad-Wani-Nagpur-Amritsar by giving stoppage of all the trains at the only Wani station of Yavatmal district. It will greatly benefit the people of Yavatmal district. At this very line a new station Mukut Ban should be set up which is related to Central Railways, and a point should also be given at this station.

[English]

*SHRI JAYARAM PANGI (Koraput): Today, in this discussion on Railway Budget for Expenditure of the Central Government on Railways for the year 2010-11, I am thankful to Miss Mamta Banerjee, Hon'ble Union Minister of Railways for her several announcements to provide some new facilities in tribal areas of Orissa and particularly in my parliamentary constituency.

But unfortunately some major demands of people of Orissa as well as the demand of State Government of Orissa have not been included in this budget. So that I would like to give some proposals which with a hope that these will be included in next Supplementary Budget. The proposals are as follows:

The Babli-Salur (Andhara Pradesh) Rail line to be extended upto Damanjodi (Machliguda Station) via-

Passpenta (Andhra Pradesh), Ampaballi (Orissa) and Pottangi (Orissa). New Surveys may please be done for the same. In this connection, I would like to inform you that Ampaballi is having huge Lime stone deposits and a cement factory is also running here so new Rail line will attract major industries and public sectors. Similarly, NALCO is having Bauxite mines at Pottangi so if Rail line facility will be provided to that area NALCO will use it for transport of Bauxite from Pottangi to Damanjodi and people of tribal areas will get rail journey facilities. Again HINDALCO also can use it for transport of Bauxite from Mali Parbat to its proposed plant at Laxmipur.

Survey may please be done for new Rail line from Nawarangpur to Raipur, via-Umarkote, Raigarh and Kunderi and necessary funds may please be allotted for the same.

In this budget it has been announced for survey of Berhampur-Phulbani new Rail line which may please be extended upto Muniguda station in the district of Rayagada, via-Baliguda and necessary funds may please be allotted for the same.

In this budget only one additional 3rd AC buggy announced for Hirakhand Express. But people of four tribal districts Koraput, Rayagada, Nawarangpur and Malakngiri are depending on Hirakhand Express for Rail journey for which its highly essential to add five new bogies (Three Sleeper Class & Two General) to provide travel facilities to more passengers as per requirement. And the extension of Hirakhand Express from Koraput to Jagdalpur may workout as early as possible.

Alongwith this I would like to draw your kind attention that due to number of Rail level crossing in Kirondal-Vizag Rail line the construction of PMGSY road under Rural Development affected a lot due to delay in issue of necessary permission. So, necessary steps may please be taken in this regard.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me time to speak on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Railways.

At the very outset, I must say that I am very much aware of the time constraint. So, I do not want to make a very long speech but please allow me to complete all my points; it will not take much time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please try to complete it within three to four minutes.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Sir, it is the second round of discussion on the Railway Budget. In the course of the first round discussion, several points had been made. So, I do not want to repeat all those points. I think the hon. Minister is aware of those points and will try her best to implement them.

I am not against the projects which have been declared by the hon. Minister. Rather, I want that the declared projects should be executed at the earliest. By saying so, I must say that the Railway Budget, the Demands for Grants is confusing; it is misleading and creating confusion among the masses, among the people. I am particularly coming to three or four points. Please allow me to speak. If you do not agree, I have nothing to say but please allow me to make the points....(*Interruptions*)

I am concentrating particularly on three or four points. One, the Speech made by the hon. Railway Minister last time; two, the Speech made by the hon. Minister this time; three, the Vision 2020 Document and four, the declaration made by the hon. Minister publicly in launching different programmes.

Firstly, I would like to say that some projects have been declared in the last year's Railway Budget, but subsequently no budgetary allocation has been made and now all these things are missing in this year's Railway Budget. I am talking about a new line to Lalgarh, new line to Belpahadi and another new line to Nandigram. This is not my version. These were already announced by the Minister herself, but no budgetary allocation has been made subsequently....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, please take your seat. Please don't argue with him.(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Sir, I seek your protection.(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister will reply. Please take your seat.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Sir, some projects have been declared publicly.(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUVENDU ADHIKARI (Tamluk): He is making politics here.(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: What politics? These projects have been declared by the Minister herself in

the last year's Railway Budget. She announced a new line to Lalgah, she announced a new line to Belpahadi and she announced a new line to Nandigram, but subsequently no budgetary allocation has been made and all these are missing from this year's Railway Budget. This is my first point.

Secondly, something has been declared publicly. I do not know what was the motive behind this declaration, but all these things are absent from this year's Budget. In Midnapore, which is my constituency, the Minister herself declared that a new halt station will be set up at Bhadutola, but nothing is mentioned about it in this year's Railway Budget.

Thirdly, in the Mission List some projects are there. The Minister is aware of that. In the Vision 2020 List, doubling of Kharagpur-Gokulpur line is already there at serial no. 45, but it is missing in this year's Budget. So, all these things are confusing and misleading.

Sir, now I come to another point. The Minister herself, during the course of her speech in this august House, stated that she is going to review the Catering Policy of the Railways. In spite of that, the vendors and helpers are suffering a lot and the eviction process is continuing and they are threatening to leave the Category-I and Category-II Railway Stations. My point is, the officers do not bother for the Minister's instruction in this regard.

Then, what is going on in recruitment? What is the Recruitment Policy of the Railways? I do not want to say anything about that. But the fact is, the strength of the Railway staff is getting reduced day by day. Now, the total staff strength of the Railways is less than 14 lakhs and the strength of even Group 'D' staff is reducing drastically. So far as South Eastern Railway is concerned, during the last five years, more than 8,000 Group 'D' staff has been reduced. I am not talking whether it is done during Laluji's period or Mamataji's period, but this is the fact. During the last 4-5 years, the strength of Group 'D' staff has been reduced by more than 8,000. So, this is the situation.

Sir, much has been talked about publicly, but in practice nothing is done. There is a huge gap between what is said publicly and what is done. So, I demand that what has been announced should be implemented properly.

Lastly, I must say at least one word to thank her that she has already declared that Kharakpur station will be declared as a global standard Railway station.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon'ble Member said that the number of employees had reduced and posts abolished, which is not a fact and beyond the truth. All this happened during the N.D.A. Government Mamataji appointments were made very enthusiastically wherever there were gaps. What the hon'ble Member is peaking is not a fact. Now these people are affected by Kilkata based politics among themselves, so they are saying all these things in that context. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI (Chatra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except Shri Inder Singh Namdhari's submission.

*(Interruptions)...**

[Trnaslation]

SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI (Chatra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, just now the House was witnessing allegations and counter allegations in regard to Bengal politics. I would like to assure the House that I will say nothing with any malafide intention nor I will do so with any political motive. When the people of Mumbai, Kilkata or the surrounding areas were putting their demands, then, I was thinking how to put my own demands. As you may be aware of the area of Jharkhand from where I have been elected, 60% coal out of total coal consumption all over India is supplied from the State of Jharkhand. Lakhs of tons of coal are transported by the goods trains from the land of Jharkhand to every part of the country everyday, but when the question arises to provide relief to the people of that state, then, they are meted out step motherly treatment.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you may feel sorry to learn that in the forest area coal was extracted from the coal mines and the land is caving in over there, but when I request a haltage of some trains over there then I get the routine reply of officials to the effect that providing haltage of any train causes disruption in all their timings ahead.

*Not recorded.

People have to traverse 10 to 15 kilometres to board trains. I have been regularly writing letters, but there has been no official response to them.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today I want to tell Mamata ji that she, too, is a Member of Parliament and if she degrades the members of Parliament and thus, the prestige of the Members of Parliament gets harmed, she will face the same consequence because she is also sailing the same boat. "Dubegee Kashtee to dubenge saare, na ham hee backenge na saathee hamare". So, save the prestige of the Members of the Parliament first. When my letter goes to you, at least Muniyappa ji gives me a reply to it, but there is no response to the letters which are addressed to the officers as to whether they received them or not. Not only that, when asked as to which consultative committee I want to prefer, I opted Railway Consultative Committee because Did Mamta ji is revolutionary. I hoped, problems of my area will be resolved but I am sorry to say that only one sitting of the consultative committee was held within last 10 months, that, too, during the session. The tired people arrived at 6.00 in the evening, so the same proverb was vindicated, "Chaube gaye chhabbe banne aur dube bankar aaye". I was of the opinion that we will find out solution to the problems by sitting near Mamata ji, but after that, not a single meeting of consultative committee was held till date.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Within six months one meeting is held.

[Translation]

Only nine months are over now. Within six months one meeting is held.

SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI: I am also the member of health consultative committee. Its four meetings have been held during the last eight months; so, how should I admit that one meeting is held within six months?

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: That is a different thing.

[Translation]

SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI: As I earlier said, I would like to assure Mamta ji that I am not speaking

with any political motivation, but I want to say that you say you will see the social viability and not the economic viability but what kind of social viability is there when the coal is being supplied all over the country. If you see it socially, then also it is socially viable. In case, you ever visited Jharkhand by road, you might have found national highway no. 99 having a railway gate in the middle of the way. At least hundreds of trains carrying coal pass on this line. The railway gate remained closed for 18 hours out of 24 hours over there. I have written at least half a dozen letters for the construction of railway overbridge at Chandwa. One has to wait for 45 minutes over there even though they are in emergency delivery case. There is no remedy for this, whereas that one is the national highway. What a kind of matter is there four which not a single request will be entertained. That is why I said that I had come with a thought that many of the problems in respect of railways would be solved, but the situation that I am facing makes me very much aggrieved.

I would, of course, extend my thanks to you for including the issue in respect of Barwadih, Chirimuri which I had raised in the last meeting of consultative committee held at the first time. There will be a survey to this effect, but this will go to the planning commission first. That is such a line, which was started in British regime. It was started in 1942-43, but when India became independent, it was shelved. You have included it in the survey for which I would extend my thanks to you and request you that I have no many demands from you, but when the people from Mumbai and other provinces were putting their demands, I was wondering as to what demand I should put before, you. There is a Rajdhani Express running via Palamu. I have put a demand and given in writing that it should be run at least twice in a week. When we travel to constituency, we have to deboard at Gaya while traveling by Hawrah Rajdhani. You are requested to do what you can do easily. You responded to me. There was a letter from Muniyappa ji that the work has been started on Gaya-Ghatra line. I asked your Member Engineer to let know as to whether some work has been initiated or not; if the fund has been released for Gaya-Chatra line in the budget for 2008-09. He said that I would find only pits over there at present. I told him to show me pits only. Mamata ji, I would like to tell you that those who have become backward. ...*(Interruptions)* The situation is same there as a peacock while seeing its feathers thinks that it is very beautiful. ...*(Interruptions)* I am concluding within a minute. But when the peacock looks at its feet, it gets

sad cherishing its feet like its feathers. That is why Mamata ji, there will be no loss to you if you extend frequency of a Rajdhani Express at least via our Palamu district as there is operation of Howrah Rajdhani. I have some more minor demands, but now I do not wish to take time. I request you to construct world-class platform, that is all okay, but to live at least to those who are poor. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record; no arguments.

*(Interruptions)...**

[Translation]

SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI: I obey your order and conclude my speech.

**SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE (Akola): Not taking much of time of this House, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister towards certain important issues.

My parliamentary constituency is Akila situated in Maharashtra. There was a proposal in the railway budget of the year 2008-09 to start the gauge conversion work of Akila-khandwa-Ratlam railway line but the said work could not be started. This is an important of railway line. This meter gauge line was extending from Ajmer to Kachiguda and it used to be an important railway route before independence. For several years there has been a demand for gauge conversion of this railway line. The demand for the same has not been in view of some particular constituency or the state but it is in keeping with the progress and the interest of the whole country and the railway department. This project will benefit not only one state but several other states like Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Vidarbha, Marathwadass, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh will also benefit. After the gauge conversion this route will become the shortest route to link Northern India with the southern India. With this a new corridor will open up from Northern India to southern India.

In Railway, the rate of return (ROR) is given priority in the survey of any project. The rate of return for this project is more than 25% which perhaps no other railway

project can match. In view of the same, the Cabinet Committee on economic affairs approved this gauge conversion project in the year 2007-08. But I have to say with deep regret that this project has not even been mentioned in the last two years after the same. And even the work on this project could not have been started.

I would like to request the Government to complete this project at the earliest in view of the benefits likely to be accrued to several states and the Railway.

Apart from this, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister towards some other important issues.

From Akila to Vijaywada and Akola to Tiapati, the trains were introduced on the trial basis during the summer season which created a lot of enthusiasm amongst the people of this area. These trains also got good response but suddenly their services were discontinued. I would like to request the Government to start the services of these trains at the earliest. Madam, Similarly, a train was introduced from Nanded to Sriganga nagar with much fanfare keeping in view the convenience of the passengers but this train was also discontinued after four days since its introduction, and it was started from Nagpur.

I would like to request the Government to restart this train so that the passengers who have been devoid of this service can get this facility again. Due to paucity of time, I conclude my speech. I would like to thank you for giving me the change to speak on such an important issue.

[English]

*SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN (Faridkot): Thank you, Chairman Sir. I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways), 2010-11, on behalf of my party Shiromani Akali Dal. However, I would also like to register my disappointment at the shortcomings that are evident in the functioning of the Railway Ministry.

Sir, I have a suggestion to make. I hope, the entire House will agree with my suggestion. Many Hon. Members have expressed similar sentiments. The name 'Railway Budget' should be rechristened and it should be associated with the state to which the Railway Minister belongs. Earlier, when Shri Lalu was the Railway

*Not recorded.

**Speech was laid on the Table.

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Punjabi.

Minister, Bihar got the lion's share in the Railway Budget. Now, when Mamata ji is the Railway Minister, West Bengal has got the maximum benefit. This has become the tradition of the Railway Ministry. So, let us change the name 'Railway Budget' and rename it as the Budget of the state from which the Railway Minister hails.

Sir, the annual feature of presenting the Railway Budget has been reduced to a ritual and a mere drama. I am a member of this august House for the last six years. I have also been a member of the Railway Standing Committee. I have attended several meetings convened by the ministry. I am sorry to say that not a single demand made by me has been fulfilled in the last six years. I had asked for just one train for Bathinda. It falls in the Malwa belt. We want a Shatabdi train. If this is not possible, at least a Jan Shatabdi train should be provided to the people of Bathinda. However, this genuine demand of ours has not yet seen the light of the day.

Sir, in every Budget, announcements are made with much fanfare that new trains are being introduced and new railway lines are being laid. Model railway stations are announced in every Budget. However, many of these announcements remain on paper only.

They never see the light of the day. I suggest that at the time of presentation of the Railway-Budget, a progress report of work done on the announcements made in the previous year's Budget should also be laid on the table of the House.

Sir, there is a saying in Punjabi —make promises for the future and forget the past. I would like to give an instance of this related to my constituency Faridkot. Last year, the name of Faridkot station figured in the list of model railway stations. However, I am sorry to say, all this was nothing but drama. No concrete steps have been taken in this regard till now.

In every Budget claims are made that a large number of unmanned level crossings will be converted into manned level crossings. Mamata ji has also made an announcement in this regard. However, many innocent lives will be lost in the next five years by the time this work is completed. The need of the hour is to take up this work on a war footing.

Sir, Punjab has always been discriminated against.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Chairman Sir, Madam Gulshan has given very good suggestions. Two ministers of state are present here. However, no one is noting down these suggestions.

KUMARI MAMATA BANNERJEE: Suggestions are being noted.

SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN: Chairman Sir, I am sorry to say that whenever Railway Budget is presented, Punjab is always discriminated against. We have to take the help of microscopes to find out whether the name of Punjab figures in the Railway Budget or not. What we find is a pittance or peanuts that are given to Punjab — an EMU or a DMU.

Sir, during the NDA rule, a Parikrama train was announced for Punjab. This train was to join all the five Sikh religions Takhts. Several years have passed by. However, there is no trace of the Parikrama train.

Chairman Sir, in my constituency, Mogha is a district headquarter. It is a religions place.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN: Sir, if we are not allowed to express our demands and raise the issues pertaining to our electorate, what is the point in our coming to this august House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please try to be brief.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN: Sir, whenever we raise matters pertaining to the people of Punjab, we are asked to sit down. Ample time is not given to us. Other members disturb us. If we cannot raise issues related to our state, what is the point in coming here? Our problems are not solved. Nor are we allowed to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be brief. Only five minutes time has been allotted for each member who wants to speak. No discrimination is shown to any member. Do not say like that.

SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN: Sir, Faridkot is my constituency. Mogha is the district headquarter in my constituency. Mogha is a religious and industrial town. It also has political significance. Sixty – two years have passed since we attained independence. However, I am sorry to say that there is no direct train linking Mogha to Delhi. I request Hon. Railway Minister Mamata ji to kindly start a train linking Mogha to Delhi—at the earliest. People who vote for me expect me to help them. This is the demand of the people of the area.

Sir, there is a Nature Park in Mogha. Thousands of rare plants and trees are there in the Nature Park. The Punjab Government wants to promote tourism for people in the area. I had met the Chairman of Railway Board. I had also written letters to Hon. Minister seeking the help of Railways in this process. I appeal to Mamata ji to kindly look into this matter. It will give a great boost to tourism in the area.

When Laluji was the Railway Minister, he had provided an AC Coach in Inter-City Ganganagar – Hardwar train. However, there is no cleanliness in this train. Passengers are packed like sardines in the train. I appeal to Mamata ji to start a new train from Malwa belt of Punjab to Delhi. The Jehanabad Toofan Express to Ganganagar (3007-3008) needs AC coaches in First and Second classes. Ferozepur should be linked directly to Amritsar and new railway tracks should be laid for this purpose. Tarn Taran —Goindwal, and Abohar—Fazilka railway lines should be laid. A new train should be started on the Delhi via Ferozepur – Mogha – Faridkot-Bathinda route.

During Laluji's tenure, Rama-Mandi-Talwandi railway line had been sanctioned. However, it has not yet seen the light of the day. A new Shatabdi Express should be started from Ferozepur to Delhi via Mogha, Bathinda, Jakhar and Rohtak. Facilities at Mansa, Faridkot and Mogha railway stations should be improved forthwith to the multi-national level. A railway over-bridge at the main road at Kotkapura should also be constructed as a large number of accidents have taken place at this spot.

I also want to give a few suggestions. Safety and security of women travellers, especially during night should be strengthened. A doctor should be made available in each train for tackling any emergency. The backlog of reserved posts for SCs and STs in Railways must be filled at the earliest. The recruitment drive in

Railways should be held at district headquarters as people have to travel far away for this purpose.

The quality of food in Railways is sub-standard. Catering services need to be improved. Hygiene or cleanliness should not be a casualty.

[Translation]

*SHRI GANESHRAO NAGORAO DUDHGAONKAR (Parbhani): In Maharashtra, the railway department is going to make progress. Common man travels by train. In Maharashtra, a train runs from Mumbai to Hyderabad.

I am putting forth important suggestions for the progress of South Central Railway. Hon. Railway Minister, Mamataji really wants to see the progress of Railways. I would like to request the Minister to make the rail travel from North to South convenient so as to provide facilities to the trades and tourists.

1. Khandwa to Akola gauge conversion work should be completed immediately.
2. The railway line from Manmad to Secunderabad should be electrified.
3. There is a need to sanction the doubling of Parbhani – Mudkhed junction. This work should be sanctioned immediately.
4. There is a need to regularize the Singapur and Ghorli stations. This should be sanctioned.
5. Pune Junction station should be made Jumbo railway Centre because necessary useful items are imported and exported through other cities of the country for the development of Marathwada region and agriculture.
6. The solo motive centre of Pune Junction station need to be implemented.
7. Parbhani has one of the 12 Jyotirlingas in the country, so it is very important from the point of view of tourism and religious faith. There is a need for fifty rooms at the Parbhani station for stay of tourists and people making to and fro movement.

Parbhani is famous in the country. People come and go through here from the point of view of religious faith and tourism. The tourists mainly, come for darshan of Parli Shiv Mandir and Odha Shiv Mandir and also

*Speech was laid on the Table.

other temples of religious faith so it is necessary to make arrangements at the railway station for their stay.

I hope that the Hon. Railway Minister would consider my demands and immediately carry out these works and apprise me of the action taken in this regard.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, it is around 6 o'clock. If the House agrees, we may extend the House further for one hour; and then afterwards, we will take up *Zero Hour* also.

Firstly, I want to take the sense of the House. Is it the sense of the House to extend the time of the House till the Minister's reply is over and then *Zero Hour* is over?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. The House is extended till the hon. Minister's reply and then *Zero Hour* are over.

I would request the hon. Members to be very brief.

Now, Shri Umashankar Singh.

[Translation]

SHRI UMASHANKAR SINGH (Maharajganj): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Demands for Grants, Railways. ...*(Interruptions)* On behalf of my party I extend support the Demand for Grants presented by hon'ble Railway Minister. This budget has been appreciated by the people all across the country and I also want to appreciate it. We want that hon'ble Rail Minister to some favour to the people of Bihar as well. The projects of worth Rs. 55 thousand crores have been sanctioned for the state of Bihar but the pace of work thereon is very slow. Hon'ble Minister has made a contradictory statement in her budget that on the one hand she said that there would be privatization on the Railways but on the other she assured to get the work executed through PPP. Lalu Prasad ji has made unrelent effort during his tenure but when he could not succeed, cabinet had decided ...*(Interruptions)* that the work would be executed through the Department.

18.00 hrs.

It was decided in the Cabinet that all the Road-rail Bridge etc. projects in Madhora, Bareilly, Chapra,

Madhepura, Dehri-Aansol would be implemented by the Department. Keeping in view the worldwide recession, I don't think anyone would like to invest here. The decision of PPP seems unrealistic in view of the recession. I would like to request Hon'ble Minister that there is not a single Rajdhani train running from Kishanganj via Mujaffarnagar, Chhapra, Gorakhpur, Lucknow even after so many years of independence of the country. The reason is very much clear that there is not a single double line. Though the work of doubling has been started but the pace of work is very slow. Sometimes on the excuse of land acquisition and some times on the plea of felling of trees, the work is getting delayed. Therefore, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister that the work of doubling may kindly be carried out at the earliest which is a main reason of delayed operation of trains in North India. With the doubling of track the said problem will be overcome.

18.01 hrs.

[SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI in the Chair]

The work of electrification has started, train are being run on diesel, and it is too costly. Electrification will bring down operation cost of trains. The work of electricifaction has been done between Delhi to Barabanki. The track between Barabanki to Guwahati is still un-electrified. I request that the said stretch may also kindly be electrified. I would like to request that the said stretch may also kindly be electrified. I would like to request that all the projects sanctioned earlier, be Rail Coach factories of Raibareilly, Madhora, Madhepure, Dehri-Aansol or the electrification work, should be complemented by the department only as it has already been decided in the Cabinet.

The martyrs of Chhapra and Siwan district have played a leading role in freedom struggle. Moulana Mazharul Haq, Bharat Ratna Dr. Rajender Prasad and Loknayak Jai Prakash Narayan are leading freedom-fighters among them even then Siwan is being ignored. There is no washing pit in Chhapra and Siwan. A large chunk of Railway land lying unused in Siwan. If a washing pit is constructed here, the operation and termination of trains is feasible from there. There are so many commuters from Siwan. Tickets worth of Rs. ten to fifteen lakh sold there daily, but there is not a single direct train for Mumbai, Surat and Delhi from there. The people of that district are which flayed a major role in the freedom struggle. Therefore, I would like to request to introduce a Rajdhani train on this route and establish

a washing pit for operation of the trains from there I would like to state that "Thave" had been declared as a division and DRM office has also been established during the tenure of Laluji but it is almost closed. Earlier an OSD used to sit there, but now there is no one and nothing is being done there. I would like to request that gauge conversion project from Kaptanganj to Thave, Thave to Mashrakh, Chhapra via Gopalganj sanctioned long ago may kindly be completed at the earliest. The project of laying new rail line from Maharajganj to Mashrakh and Mashrakh to Rewaghat is sanctioned and it has approval of Planning Commission, soil work has almost been completed, and now it has been stopped, therefore, this work may also be completed. Shahnawaj ji has also raised the matter of Bhagalpur division. ...*(Interruptions)* I also request you for the same.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Umashankar ji, Lalu ji was the railway Minister he continues guiding you and you cannot complete your point even if you speak the whole day.

SHRI UMASHANKAR SINGH: No, No. Lalu ji is not guiding me. I will not speak under his guidance.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: I am helping him.

SHRI UMASHANKAR SINGH: Laluji is functioning like a helpline.

I would like to request the hon'ble Minister that the work on projects schemes sanctioned earlier should be carried out by the Department. Jiradai railway station name after Bharat Ratna Dr. Rajendra Prasad look deserted. It should be upgraded as a model station. But, it is unfortunate that even the beautification of this station have not been done so far. Therefore, we would like to request Railway Minister, through you, that the Jiradai which is paternal place of Rajendra Babu should also be developed as a tourist place and this station should be upgraded as a model station after its beautification. Sonpur Railway College had come under North-East Railway. The poor employees, teaching and non-teaching staff are facing hardship due to non-payment of their salary. No notification has not been issued in this regard. Department of Railway should pay attention towards it. Northeast Railway College is in Sonpur but we would like to know for how long the matter will be kept pending. Therefore, it is my request that it should be cleared at the earliest and the salary of the employees of the college should be released after issuance of notification so that children of employees as well as poor children may get education.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: I would also like to speak for two minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you wish to intervene, you can but kindly don't give any speech.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: That is what I intend to do. We are Bihari people. You understand everything. I strongly support the demands for grants of Ministry of Railways. There is no doubt hon. Minister's tenure has been short and in this short period so many resolutions have been taken and proclamations made. I will conclude after saying 2-3 points.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Laluji. It will not be proper. You give some rejoinder, because two members of a party cannot speak together.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: A member of one member party can speak, but one from four members party cannot speak. This rule applies to you too.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not so. I have said that Uma Shankarji from your party has just, delivers his speech and immediately after him you are speaking.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: I request hon'ble Minister of Railways that there is huge congestion on all existing rail lines. Trains have to be passed every five minutes. To avoid that a third line should be laid. For that, eastern corridor had to be constructed from Ludhiana to Kolkata via Son Nagar. Some work had been awarded and soil-laying work also had been started. Similarly western corridor, from Delhi to Mumbai, was next on the priority list. Mumbai to Chennai project is only on papers. With the support of 'JAYKA', with the support of Japan Government; an agreement had been signed between our Prime Minister and the Prime Minister of Japan that they will provide funds. We hope that honourable Minister will give full guidance in this matter. Besides electrification work from Barabanki to Guwahati is in progress. Kindly get it finished so that with the power supply the rail traffic could be started there. We thank the Chairman of railway board for visiting Patna. There, he provided funds to the tune of Rs. 55000 crores to complete projects and he also reviewed the projects. He did a good job. We thank the honourable Minister for taking initiative to complete it.

[English]

*SHRIMATI SUSMITA BAURI (Vishnupur): Sir, I demand the following Projects/Proposals for the consideration of the Honourable Railway Minister.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Proposed new construction works of Railway lines from Bishnupur to Tarakeswar, Bankura to Mukutmanipur and extension of B.D.R Railway line from "Rainagar to Masagram" with cord line of Eastern Railway to Howrah Railway Station are needed to be expedited.

Another Train from Bankura to Rainagar is urgently needed to be placed there for reducing the inconveniences of the passengers because there is only one train and flying excepting Sunday becoming very crowded. So every day two trains are badly needed for giving passengers advantages on that line.

One Station is demanded by the people of "Gogradal" on BDR Railway line from 'Bankura' to 'Masagram' Section and another Station is demanded by the people of the area of 'Tribanka' on "Bishnupur" "Tarakeswar" line.

One Railway line is needed to be constructed for connecting Bankura to Asansol via Raniganj. It is a very short distance only 43 kms (approximately) and about 15/16 kms have been made for MTP (D.V.C) Durlavpur, only the rest portion from Durlavpur to Bankura and it is about 25/26 kms are needed to be made. If it is made then those area would be much more developed i.e. Bankura, Purulia and Burdwan these three districts.

A Fast-Passenger Train from Asansol to Howrah via Purulia and Bankura.

One new line project that is "Durgapur" to "Beliatore".

"Jhagram" to "Purulia" Railway line that is already surveyed and sanctioned by Planning Commission but work is not yet started.

*SHRI PULIN BIHARI BASKE (Jhagram): I would like to raise few points in regard to the Railway Budget 2010-2011.

In her previous Budget, Hon. Railway Minister had announced many new schemes. But unfortunately in this Budget, we have seen a new thing. Most of these schemes announced in the previous budget are left out. There is no budgetary allocation for these schemes. We do not know whether these schemes are alive or dead. I would like to mention about the new rail lines from Salboni to Jhagram via Lalgah-Belpahari, and Panskura-Chandrokona Road via Ghatal. No Budgetary allocation has been made in this Rail Budget. Tribal belt is mostly

remain neglected with this Budget. This Budget is worse instead of getting better. So, I strongly oppose this Rail Budget.

I raise the following points to consider by the Ministry in connection to the Railway Budget 2010-11.

1. Construction of new line from Jhagram to Purulia which had been announced in last Railway Budget of previous Government.
2. A new line should be constructed from Baripada of Orissa to Gidhni of West Bengal
3. Allocation of fund to construct new line from Salboni to Jhagram via Lalgah and Belpahari under SE Railway.
4. Budgetary allocation of fund to construct new rail line from Panskura to Chandrokona Road via Ghatal under SE Railway.
5. Midnapore to Jhagram Local train has been introduced, it is welcomed, but the train is not suitable for the passengers.

I conclude my speech by my last point.

Most express trains including Rajdhani Express are running late regularly. There are no safety and security and dacoities, robberies hijacking of train in every day's feature in Indian rail. There is no water, cleanliness, RPF personnel in long distance trains. Passengers are suffering much for want of passengers amenities. But, I am sorry to say, our Hon'ble Railway Minister is more interested in other matters, which are not at all related to rail. There are more than 1.72 lakh laying vacant in the Railway Department. So, I urge upon the Railway Ministry through you, that proper attention must be given.

SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU (Tirunelveli): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Demands for Grants for Railways.

Whoever may be framing this Budget, opposition parties raise so many objections. Even though they have put some allegations against this Budget, our UPA Government has produced through our revolutionary Railway Minister Madam Mamata Banerjee a Budget which is growth oriented and passenger friendly. It has spared the common man from hike in passenger fares and also freight rates. This is a passenger fare reducing time for the last few years in the UPA Government. Our

hon. Railway Minister Mamataji has given adequate attention to passenger amenities, safety, introduction of new trains and extension of existing trains, facilities to Railway employees; all these important things are contained in the Railway Budget.

Sir, there is a saying in Tamil:

*"Potruvaar Potrattum
Puzhuhdivari Thootruvar Thootrattum"*

It means – Whatever may be the blame or praise, you go on doing your duty. Whatever may be the blame, our hon. Minister of Railways, Kumari Mamata Banerjee has presented a revolutionary Railway Budget.

One very important point here is about the unmanned level-crossings. This is causing increasing concern among the people. Most of these unmanned level-crossings are causing damage to properties and also we are losing valuables and also valuable lives. In order to put an end to this menace, the hon. Minister of Railways has announced that 1,000 unmanned level-crossings per year will be converted into manned level-crossings. Within the next five years, some 5,000 unmanned level-crossings will be converted into manned ones. This is a revolutionary Budget. I am telling it here.

The railway employees are also given more importance in this Budget. The railway employees are facing a lot of difficulties for their accommodation. I congratulate the hon. Minister for announcing in the House about a scheme – House for all – to facilitate railway employees and mitigate the problems of housing to the railway employees.

Another important point is about the coaches. I urge upon the hon. Minister that we have to give more coaches because during the rush time there is shortage of coaches. We have to add coaches to the regular trains. For this we have to produce more coaches. People want more coaches in regular trains and also more train facilities all over the country. Another very important point is that the Railways is providing national integration. Nowadays you see that in Tamil Nadu also, previously the Dravidian Parties were having the view of separate Tamil Nadu; now they have completely changed their policy. Now all the Dravidian parties, all the people of Tamil Nadu are appreciating the national integration which is provided by the Railway department. We have to make a link between the States. We have to provide

a link between Kashmir to Kanyakumari, Delhi and Kanyakumari, Delhi and Tirunelveli and also from Mumbai and West Bengal areas. By the way we are creating brotherhood relationship between one state to other.

You know very well that Kanyakumari is a historical place. The Vivekananda Rock is there. Most of the tourists from West Bengal are coming here. Many people from almost all the areas in the country are coming there. To make a link, our UPA Government has provided such a good railway link now.

I want to say one more thing here as far as my constituency is concerned. It is a very important point that I have to make. The hon. Minister has given many new trains to us and I appreciate that. Our esteemed Minister Ahamed has come there to start the newly introduced train to Hafa. Four new trains are introduced in Tamil Nadu.

At the same time, I urge upon the hon. Minister that you have to allot more funds for the doubling of the line. Almost all the people are coming from different states to Kanyakumari and to Tamil Nadu. Tirunelveli is on the way to Kanyakumari. I request the hon. Minister to sanction doubling of the line and also electrification of the line. I request the hon. Minister to allot funds for this. If you allot funds, then only the ambition of the people will be fulfilled and our people would appreciate the Government.

Madam, you have done a very good job. You have to give funds to Tamil Nadu and for Tirunelveli constituency for double track railway line. Thank you, Sir, for this opportunity.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Mr. Chairman, how many honourable Members want to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Soon, all the members would have given their speech. The hon. Members come prepared to speak, and if they are not given time to speak, they may get discouraged.

SHRI SOHAN POTAI (Kanker): Hon. Chairman, today we are discussing demands for grants of Ministry of Railways for the year 2010-11. I would specifically like to talk about Chhattisgarh. This year also, like last year, Chhattisgarh is being neglected in this rail budget which has been presented. South Eastern Bilaspur Zone

yields maximum revenue to the Railways as compared to other states. If a state giving revenue more than others is neglected, it is but natural that we feel pained. We want to take up this matter in this House. Chhattisgarh has reserves of iron, coal, mica, diamond, gold silver, alluminium ore, limestone, iron and other natural resources. You belong to Jharkhand. Nearly the same mineral resources are found in Jharkhand, Orissa and Chhattisgarh and these states are totally being neglected. On 15th, we had discussion on the naxalite incident in Dantevada. I would like to say that educated unemployed take wrong path there because lack of developmental activities in that region. Naxalisam is more prevalent in such states which are neglected in respect of development and which railway lines do not exist whether it is Jharkhand, Orissa, Bihar Andhra Pradesh or Maharashtra. Development of rail network along with the road network, is very necessary for the development of country. I want to say that in Chhattisgarh 0.77 km. rail transportaion facility is available for every 100 kms. as compared to the national desnity which is 1.92 km fro every 100 square km.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Potaiji, you first speak about the problems in your constituency.

SHRI SOHAN POTAI: Despite that there are many districts in the region such as Narayanpur, Kanker, Kavardha Bijapur etc which are neglected by railways. Through you I would like to request to hon. Minister of railways to convert Raipur to Dhamtari rail line from narrow gauge line to broad gauge. This rail line was made by teakwood and was supplied by the name of silla. The request to this effect have been main. But the demand to convert it to the broad gauge has not been met. It should be converted to broad gauge.

A new proposed rail line is from Dallirajhara to Ravghat. Many times we heard that the tender has been issued. Then again we come to know that tender has not been issued. This new proposed rail line should be connected to Jagdalpur. Ravghat is the biggest iron ore reserve of the country. By 2011 excavation work should be started there otherwise Bhilai plant will be on the verge of closure, therefore, it needs to be started immediately. If my constituency Kanker is connected to Dhamtri only 65 km. line needs to be converted to broad gauge to connect them, or Dallirajhara where substation is there near Pondi Kanker can be easily connected with Pondi also. My fourth point is that proposal should be made for the new rail line. Dongargarh-Kavardha-Mungeli-Takhatpur and Kargi. Raigarh-Mand-Gharghoda-

Tamnar new rail line is urgently needed as coal excavation has been started there recently. Ambikapur-Bakhadi (Gadva) route which will connect Chhattisgarh to Jharkhand, is also needed. I request that the frequency of trains which run at Korba-Pendra via Karghora route should also be increased. Durg Nizamuddin Chhattisgarh Sampark Kranti express presently runs 2 to 3 days in a week. It should run daily so that passengers from Chhattisgarh to Delhi can commute easily.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You need not give any explanation to that, just read on.

SHRI SOHAN POTAI: Bilaspur-Pune Express which runs once in a week should run daily. New rail lines should be laid from Durg Bilaspur to Jammu Kashmir because many people from Chhattisgarh area visit Vaishno Devi. So, there is a need of trains on this route.

I want to conclude with this that Durg Guwahati rail route is also needed so I request honourable Minister of Railways, through you, to include all the above mentioned demands in this rail budget.

[English]

*Sk. SAIDUL HAQUE (Bardhman-Durgapur): Madam, I beg to lay my written speech on Demands for Grants for Railways 2010-11.

I do oppose the Demands for Grants for the following reasons:-

1. The Hon'ble Railway Minister has announced many projects without the sanction of the Planning Commission. Their implementation therefore is highly suspect. Last year in her budget proposal, she has made number of new projects but most of them have not been implemented so far. While the Railway Minister has made tall claims on laying 1000 kms of new railway lines, it is shocking that the action plan allocations for gauge conversion, doubling of railway lines and new rolling stock like wagons and carriages have been cut in nominal terms. In that sense, it is not far from truth to tell that the Budget speech has sought to conceal gross failures through misleading announcements.

2. In Railway travel what is more important is the safety of the passengers. Over 120 railway accidents have taken place so far during this financial year. But what we see that the allocations for the Railway Safety Fund has been cut by Rs. 579 crore from last year. Over and above, one lakh seventy thousand railway posts are lying vacant out of which nearly 90000 are posts related to Railway safety.
3. On her Budget speech, the Hon'ble Railway Minister has made an unprecedented thrust towards participation in all areas in the name of P.P.P. which is not at all desirable.

At this backdrop, I would also like to make the following demands:-

Need to allocate more funds for early completion of Pending Railway projects, gauge conversion and doubling of lines.

Need to increase allocation of funds for better signaling and tele-communications in railway traffic.

Need to provide stoppage of one Rajdhani Express at Burdwan in West Bengal.

Need to introduce a new train between Durgpur and Howrah in E.R.

Need to upgrade Katwa-Ahmedpur line from narrow gauge to broad gauge in E.R.

Need to extend gauge conversion from Burdwan to Katwa all the line in E.R.

Need to install escalator at Durgapur Railway Station in E.R.

SHRI MOHAMMED E.T. BASHEER (Ponnani): Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to make my observations on the Railway Budget. I express my heartfelt congratulations to the hon. Minister; the Ministers of State for Railways; and Indian Railways in general for the commendable performance. I would not hesitate to say that the Indian Railways is really on the fast track.

You have made certain declarations in the Budget speech. I would like to say that previously there was a gap between declaration and implementation. On the other hand, now, we are witnessing that almost all the

declarations are translated into actions. Really speaking, we must congratulate the Minister because she really applied a multi-track diplomacy in this. Multi-track diplomacy means there is all-round development activities and there was no other hike in passenger tariff also. It is really a skill. This was achieved without charging any additional tariff. It is really a skill and it is an art. It is like honey bee collecting honey from the flower without giving pain to it. The Minister can deserve all the congratulations for it. There is better employee-employer relations that are maintained, and social commitment is also there in the Railways. She was saying about it in the first speech itself. It is also there that it is a success. Similarly, there are facilities for women passengers; full travel concession for cancer patients; and all these flagship programmes are there.

If we examine the development indicator, the growth in earning is 8.74 per cent; earning through goods is 8.56 per cent; passenger earning is 8.1 per cent; freight traffic growth is 7.44 per cent; and parcel earning is 18 per cent. It is really a record. One thing is there that when we are doing something substantial in the Department, then hyper-critics may say so many things. I suggest that it is better to ignore them. One remark had really hurt me. In the last Budget she was announcing a lot of things, and the next day there was a reaction from our friends on the other side, especially, our CPI (M) colleagues from Bengal. They were saying that Kumari Mamata Banerjee is making political capital out of this.

They were saying that she was aiming for the next elections in West Bengal. These kinds of funny things should not be there. There are two things. One, even if she does something for West Bengal, there is no harm in that because brothers and sisters in that State were suffering for the last 30 years. Let them have some relief through Kumari Mamata Banerjee. Why should you get annoyed on this? Even if she does not do that, you cannot unnecessarily blame a leader who is taking initiative in all kinds of things like these.

I would like to mention one important thing about social justice. When you made an announcement on social justice in employment, it was a new kind of declaration. The entire country was congratulating the Minister, and they were believing that you would be bridging that gap. As you all know, as per the most authentic report, that is, Sachar Commission, the representation of the largest minority in the country in

the Railways is just 4.5 per cent; that too, 85 per cent of them are in the lower category. At page 58 and 59 of the Annual Report of the Railways, you have the details of the total number of railway employees and also the details of SC/ST representation. What about the OBCs, I would like to ask. Why there is no mention in that? I am not blaming the Minister. It is not a new thing. It is not her creation. It has been continuing for a long time. This much of discrimination is there. What I am suggesting is that steps should be taken on a war-footing to bridge this gap. I suggest that at least in the next document, you may have a column containing the details relating to the OBCs. Let the whole nation understand what exactly their position is.

Coming to Kerala, we all know that you have given a lot of consideration to this State, like new trains and other things. It is all working very well. All the trains have started running, the last one being the Duronto train. Our congratulations to you because you have given that much of consideration. In respect of dedicated freight corridor, Kerala has been ignored, not exactly ignored.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you please conclude now?

SHRI MOHAMMED E.T. BASHEER: I hope that you will correct it. We deserve that. Our request is quite genuine. I hope you will consider that. Similar is the case in respect of the announcement of introduction of luxury trains for tourists. Barring Kerala, where is the tourist destination? I am requesting that one luxury tourist train to Kerala should be introduced. Similar is our genuine demand for a Peninsula Railway Zone. That also deserves due consideration. I hope the hon. Minister and her team will give due consideration to that. Similarly, a triangular railway platform at Shoranur is very much required. A Coach Factory at Palghat and Wagon Factory at Cherthala, Alleppey, should also be established and that also deserves your most important consideration. I hope you will give due consideration for that also.

At the end, I would like to mention one very important thing concerning the physically handicapped people. At page 69 of this Annual Report, it says that you are doing a lot of things for the physically handicapped persons like arrangements at the railway stations and all kinds of concessions. Previously, we had allotted STD booths for the physically handicapped persons at some selected railway stations. Now, with the use of mobiles, those booths have become irrelevant. There is no income from that and they are starving like

anything. I humbly request the hon. Minister, who is having that much of compassion for the downtrodden, and for the poor sections of the society, to find some alternative way to help them.

I do not want to take much time. I am confident that things will become a reality. All the ideas of the Ministry of Railways, I feel that you can translate all those ideas into action.

With these few words, I conclude my speech.

*SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN (Nagapattinam): On behalf of the Dravida Munnerta Kazhagam and on my own behalf, I support the Demands for grants for the Ministry of Railways. At least to some extent I hope this would help the Railways to go in for completing certain pending projects and add pace to the ongoing projects.

I would like to recall and reiterate what our leader and the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Kalaigarn Karunanidhi had stated about this year's Railway Budget. He had impressed upon the need to allocate more funds and speed up the ongoing schemes and complete the long pending ones at the earliest especially to overcome the cost over run.

I would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Railway Minister to the need for the augmentation of train service pertaining to my Parliamentary Constituency. In the Railway Budget for the year 2008, it was announced that an Express Train would be introduced between Nagore and Chennai. The announcement that remains on paper which needs to be translated into action and I urge upon the Railway Minister to introduce this Express Train service immediately.

The railway link between Thiruvavur and Chennai needs to be augmented with increased service by way of introducing both morning and evening trains. Kollam Express train that was running between Nagore and Kollam was stopped when the gauge conversion works were on. Now that the express train is running between Kollam and Madurai, I request the Railway Minister to reintroduce this train to run from Kollam to Nagore.

Similar is the fate of the train running between Nagore and Mysore. This service that was affected by the gauge conversion work needs to be re-introduced. As such, Train No. 6231/6232 is running between

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Mayiladuthurai and Mysore. Instead of Mayiladuthurai, this train must be originated from Nagore, similarly as it was before the commencement of gauge conversion work. In order to benefit the passengers from Mayiladuthurai and Kumbakonam, a slip coach service may be resorted to by way of giving connectivity at Thanjavir Junction for the passengers from Mayiladuthurai.

In order to benefit the people from Pulivalam Village, Alivalam Village and Mangudi Village, the kacha road between Thiruvavur Old Railway Station and New Railway Office may be renovated and relaid. This may benefit the rail passengers to reach the railway station easily.

In this year's budget, through a new scheme, certain stations have been selected to be converted as Adarsh Stations or Model Stations. Of the 94 stations selected for enhancement of passenger comforts, facilities, ambience and aesthetics, Thiruvavur, one of the ancient towns in Tamil Nadu has been selected. It will go a long way in facilitating the passengers of this Station.

At this juncture, I would like to point out an important town-junction of renowned pilgrim centers of all the three major religions of India. The Thirunallar and Sikkal Temples near Nagapattinam has Shrine Velankanni and world famous Nagore Dargah in their neighbourhood. They draw pilgrims from several parts of the world. Nagapattinam which can boast of this unique conglomeration of pilgrim centers of various religions is also an emerging industrial town with an ancient port and the coming up of modern industrial projects by the ONGC. Hence I urge upon the Railway Minister to consider including Nagapattinam also in the scheme meant for setting up of Adarsh Stations. I wish the Railway Minister concedes to my request to make Nagapattinam Station also an Adarsh Station at the earliest to benefit the people of this area and also the pilgrims thronging from all over.

Even after the safety and security clearance from the authorities concerned about the safety of the completed gauge conversion between Mayiladuthurai and Nagore, the train services are yet to be re-introduced. I understand this long delayed project is still pending even after its completion two years back. Hence I urge upon the Railway Minister to commence rail operation between Mayiladuthurai and Nagore so that we can restore the Main Line operations between Chennai and Southern Districts via Cauvery Delta Region.

A New Railway Line project linking Nagapattinam-Thirukuvalai-Thiruthuraipoondi is still lying on paper and it must be cleared for completion. I urge upon the Minister to allocate sufficient funds and take up the project at the earliest.

Thiruvavur-Karaikudi gauge conversion work is pending and comes in the way of resuming the traditional main line traffic between Chennai and Rameshwaram. Hence I urge upon the Minister to be kind enough to restore the past glory of rail service in this area, which would give a face lift to the industrialization in my Nagapattinam Parliamentary Constituency.

Gauge conversion work between Thiruthuraipoondi and Agasthianpalli may kindly be taken up at least now when we are commemorating the Salt Satyagraha Movement as this route covers Vedaranyam.

Shencottah Fast Passenger which used to cover Thanjavur-Mayiladuthurai in the Main Line section used to be a popular train among the lower middle class sections of the society. I urge upon the Railway Minister to restore this Fast Passenger Train that will come as a boon to the poor sections of the society.

Train No. 669 between Tiruchirapalli and Bangalore may kindly be provided with connectivity to Nagore.

Now we have only Kamban Express that caters to the need of the travelling public from Nagore to go to Chennai. I would like to implore upon the Railway Minister to consider operating Cholan Express through this route so that the benefits will be doubled.

Sirkazhi Town is a Taluk Headquarters and the Sirkazhi Station used to have a stoppage for all the Chennai bound trains. Now it has been announced that this Station that comes between Mayiladuthurai and Villupuram Section may not have a stoppage. Considering the traditional importance of this Town, a stoppage may be provided for all the trains passing through Sirkazhi.

Similarly, Koradacherry between Thiruvavur and Thanjavur Section may also be provided with a stoppage considering the public demand.

Expressing my thanks, let me conclude.

*SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR (Balurghat):
At the outset I thank Hon. Railway Minister for providing

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

New-Jalpaiguri-Balurghat intercity express. Along with that I have a request to make to Hon. Minister – the train which comes to Kolkata from Balurghat thrice a week should run daily and it should start at 6.30 am instead of 4.55am.

Now, I would like to humbly mention a few points. Every year we find that Railway Ministers announce scores of projects and schemes without properly chalking out the vision. It is often seen that even without the sanction of the Planning Commission, the projects are declared. Thus nobody knows where the resources would come from for completion of the projects. More than 81,000 crores of rupees are required to finish all the projects which have already been announced over the years. Once I had asked a question regarding this and got this reply. But where is the money? Infact I was very patiently listening to Mr. Sudip Bandyopadhyay's speech when he was quoting some figures but I think that these statistics are faulty. This is because revenue will not be generated as expected. The same story was to be found last year also. In 2007-08, revenue generated from freight charges and passenger fares was very low. This year it is going to be even lower. Prices of petrol and essential commodities have risen steadily leading to more and more loss of revenue. How can the Railways earn? Hon. Railway Minister was aware of this. Therefore she has asked the corporate sector to join hands with the Railways and has moved towards the Public Private Partnership mode, so that development can be brought about. In her vision 2020 she has mentioned that 20,000 or 25,000 more railway tracks will be laid. But since independence, we have experienced that not more than 180 km of tracks have ever been laid. Thus, this is the ground reality which raises numerous questions.

However, it must be appreciated that Hon. Minister has kept her promise of introducing all the trains which she has announced in her Budget speech. She has also not increased the freight charges or the passenger fares. Thanks to her for this. But on the other hand, there are a number of projects which are still pending like the Adra Power Project, Majherhat Project, Dankuni Project, Burn Standard Wagon Factory or the international standard model stations. Gauge conversion work has not been done; safety and security of passengers have also been mostly overlooked. Number of coaches has to be increased and the trains should meticulously follow the timetable. Kindly go to any big station of the country and you will see that, the mail trains, express trains or the passenger trains - all are over crowded. People face

huge difficulties in travelling by the these trains. There is no space to even properly stand. Passenger amenities are next to nothing. People do not get tickets or reservation even through Tatkal Scheme after paying Rs. 50 extra. If you cannot provide amenities and facilities to the travellers, no development can come about. Mr. Sudip Banerjee was saying that Railways is one of the biggest organizations in the country and thus there might be certain coordination lapses. But we see that now it is roping in many other enterprises and organizations. So there is a greater need of better co-ordination. Railway department is trying to combine health, education agriculture more and more. Thus if there is lack of coordination then the entire system will be derailed.

I will conclude by saying that I have a very small area to cater to. Only 6 stations are there. Barring Balurghat & Muniapur, there is no proper facility in other station. To develop the area, 1000 crores are required but only 2 crores have been sanctioned. This amount is not adequate. So the minister should look into it.

I had much to say but due to paucity of time I thank you and conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJARAM PAL: Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. In regard to this railway budget I hear with views of the Members belonging to the ruling as well as the Opposition parties. I have not come to make a long speech. I only have to say that development is a continuous process. Whoever becomes the Minister of Railways will add some new trains, facilities as well as new tracks. Through you, I would request that passenger fares and freight rates should not be increased. If fresh facilities are not announced, increase in passenger fares and freight rates is meaningless. I am not demanding any new train. Last time also, I had said that Akbarpur is a backward region of Kanpur Dehat. I had made a demand to declare Rural station situated there as a model station. Besides, there was a Roshamau halt on Kanpur-Delhi route, where tickets were available. People from as far as 20 kms. would come to board the passenger trains and return after compleing their urgent work and business in Kanpur. But the halt has been done away with. I am not asking for stoppage of any Express train over there. I want the Roshammau. Halt be restored for the passenger train which would earlier stop over there. People from 25 kms. would come to Pura station to avail train facilities. After alighting at 10 km people do not have

any means to proceed for there, causing them immense difficulties. Due to this, people are very angry and thinking of blocking the trains. I would like to remind the Minister that a train used to run from Bithur—a historical site. I had made a request to convert it into a broad gauge and reintroduce the train. Shri Lalu Prasad ji had inaugurated it. The people have defaced the foundation stone with dug and the name of the person who laid the foundation stone is not visible.

Sir, there is an urgent need for a flyover at Kalyanpur in my constituency. When the hon. Minister of Railways visited Kanpur, she had announced the construction of flyover in Kalanpur. I would like to mention about an accident at the unmanned railway crossing in my constituency on the Kanpur-Farkawal line, in which nine persons were killed. The Minister announced an ex-gratia payment of rupees two lakh. Among those killed, two belonged to the same family. But the Railways paid the compensation of rupees two lakh to. Without making a long-winded speech, I only want to say that a MANU train be introduced from Kanpur to Deviapur or the Lucknow-Kanpur intercity be extended upto Deviapur. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY (Cooch Behar): Mr. Chairman, sir, since several hon. Members spoke on the railway budget 2010-11, I will not expatiate on it. I will not refer to the entire country. Rather, I would confine myself to my constituency, Cooch Behar. West Bengal has two major divisions—North Bengal and South Bengal. TT-10, from Cooch Behar to Sealdah, covers my constituency. It takes 18 hours to reach here. It does not have any pantry car. Therefore, a pantry car be attached for the convenience of passengers.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I demand an express train from Dinata. From Cooch Behar to Kolkata, it takes 18 hours. Bangladesh is our neighbour. There is an old railway line at Gidolda. If you can persuade Bangladesh to start this railway line, it would take 8–10 hours to reach Kolkata. Dinata is an agricultural region. Before independence, it had a godown—the Bapar godown—for the benefit of the people. It is now shut down. A goods train should be started for Bapar Godown from Dinata.

Mr. Chairman, sir, through you, I would like to inform the Minister that in 1999-2000 a passenger train was introduced from Malbazar to Changrabanda, after incurring an expenditure of Rs. 40-50 crores. However, the service ceased after a year. With the service withdrawn, the tracks are being stolen. Kindly restart

that service also. The NTP-New Cooch Behar line should be doubled and the Ghoshadarna station should be computerized.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, with these words I finish my speech. I think you profusely for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI RAJU SHETTI (Hatkanangle): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the railway budget. It has been a long pending demand of Western Maharashtra that a new track be laid linking Kolhapur with Konkan. The distance is only of 70 kms. Since Konkan is very close, sugar, milk, other milk products, milk powder, garments, vegetables and fruits produced particularly in Western Maharashtra could be exported if Kolhapur-Konkan line materializes. Our demand, though very old, is yet to be fulfilled.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, another demand relates to doubling and electrification of Kolhapur-Pune track. The hon. Minister is yet to accept this. I have also made a demand for overbridges in my constituency at Kolhapur, Ichalkaranji, Attigrave, Jaisinghpur, Nepani, Miraj Road—the Inter-State road, and at Miraj as well as on the road to Palushi Karar. The hon. Minister has not considered this demand also. Although a Duranto has been introduced from Pune, our demand is it should originate from Kolhapur, with stoppage at Pune and should terminate at Delhi. If this is done, people from Kolhapur, particularly Western Maharashtra would have convenience reaching Delhi. With these few demands, I finish my speech.

SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ (Garhwal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am reminded of a few lines of Dushyant:

“Pir Parbat si pighalnee chahiye
Is rail mantralaya se koi ganga niklnee chahiye
Mere sineae mae na sahi, to tere sineae mae hi sahi,
Kahi bhi aag, lekin aag jalnee chahiye
Sirf hungama karna mera maksad nahi
Yeh koshish hai ki surat badalnee chahiye”.

I would like to think the hon. Minister, she has changed the face of Uttarakhand. She has sanctioned the railway line for its development.

I want to thank the UPA Chairperson, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi, our Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh and our young parliamentarian, Rahul Gandhi who by sanctioning the Rishikesh-Karnprayag rail line have given

relief to the common man. The common man of Uttarakhand, today, is happy. Toady, the common man can easily visit Badrinath, Kedarnath, Kemkundsahab and Govinddham. This is a signal service rendered by the UPA government. For this, I would like to thank Mamata Banerjee profusely. I would like to thank on behalf of the Uttarakhand people, who are looking forward to foundation stone being laid at the earliest so that the fruits of development starts to flow in Uttarakhand.

Sir, I also request that bio-toilets be installed in trains. We should run high speed as well as double decker trains. You are aware people travel on roof tops. With double decker train more people can be carried. Regional railway should expand in the country. Meghalaya, Sikkim i.e., the seven sister states should have rail connectivity, as it would foster fraternity, make the country strong and ensure the development of the country. With the these words, I thank the Minister of Railways for the survey of Tanakpur-Bageshwar rail line.

SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN (Sabarkantha): Hon. Mr. Chairam, Sir, I am grateful to you for letting me speak on the Rail Budget and its Supplementary Demands.

You know railway is the engine of development. Each region wants development. It is a symbol of trust and unity. I do not wish to make a long speech. I don't oppose the budget presented by respected Mamataji, but, Gujarat, Specially, North Gujarat has been utterly neglected and injustice has been done. The region from where I come, is wholly inhabited by Adivasis, dalits and OBC. There are people who have never seen a train. If we have to go to Mumbai or Delhi, we have to catch the train from Mehsana, Ahmedabad or Abu Road-150-200 km. away. To attend the session, I too have to travel 150-200 km. to catch the train to Delhi. Mine is a very backward region. You can gauge the extent of our backwardness by the fact that our region is a recipient of the backward region grant, given by the centre. Ahmedabad-Kepmba rail line is a meter gauge line. It takes five hours to reach Khedbramha by this track. By road it takes two hours. No one prefers to go by the metre gauge train. My demand is that it should be converted into broad gauge and be linked to Abu Road via Khedbramha-Ambaji, so that a new route to Delhi can be opened up. The hon. Minister had sanctioned the gauge conversion of Ahmedabad, Udaipur line but on work has been done. My demand is that sanctioned project should be. Also, Mourasa be linked with Shamlajee, on the Maurasa-Kupperwanj Nadiad line,

which would provide a new route to Mumbai. Through you, I request my demands be considered.

*SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (Domariyaganj): Sir, in India the rail is the main mode of transport for the common man. Today, eight crore people travel by train daily. The total length of tracks is about 70,000 km. More people from Uttar Pradesh than any other state travel to other parts of the country. People from rural areas of eastern Uttar Pradesh travel daily to Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Delhi and Ahmedabad for employment. Even today, more people from eastern Uttar Pradesh than any other part of the country travel to the metros. In spite of this, the development of North-East Railway situated, in eastern Uttar Pradesh, has been the least compared to other regional railways. Gorakhpur is the headquarters of North East Railway. More people from Gorakhpur travel to Lucknow and Delhi daily than from any other place.

Gorakhpur-Lucknow doubling work was sanctioned several years ago. But, the pace of work is so slow that uncertainty persists even now. Whereas the track is being used to its full capacity. Due to the overwhelming traffic pressure the line is being used beyond its capacity. Unless the track is doubled the passengers cannot be provided additional facilities. With the formation of Uttarakhand the only tourist place left in Uttar Pradesh is the Buddhist Circuit. Thousands of Buddhist followers from all over the world visit his place of birth Piparwah in Kapilvastu, and other places, like Siddharth Nagar, Kushi Nagar, Sarnath, Sravasthi etc daily. Gorakhpur-Gonda is a narrow gauge line. Its conversion into broad gauge was sanctioned eight years ago. But, out of 200 km, only the Gorakhpur-Anand Nagar stretch of 30 km. has been converted into broad gauge. Anand Nagar-Gonda is still narrow gauge. Due to which the people continue to face problems. The Buddhist Circuit falls under this Railway Division. Buddhist followers use this line. The Anand Nagar-Gonda stretch via Siddharth Nagar which passes through Balrampur runs parallel to Nepal (border). Large number of travellers from Nepal use this line. Keeping its importance in view, the gauge conversion of the remaining section be completed in a time bound manner. Adequate funds should be allocated to complete the gauge conversion work. The Minister of Railways, Kumari Mamata Banerjee recently announced in the Railway Budget to conduct the survey of a new railway line from Piprahwa in Kapilvastu to Saghauli Basti touching Naugath and Baansi. They survey is yet to

*Speech was laid on the Table.

being, whereas Rs. 27 lakh has been allocated for this purpose. It was announced in the Railway Budget that Naugath, Siddharthnagar and Basti railway stations would be amde model stations. But, the work in this regard is yet to commence.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Railways, Kumari Mamata Banerjee towards survey conducted in the past. It was for a new railway line upto Gorakhpur via Bahraich/Balrampur, Utraula, Domariyaganj, Baansi, Mehandwal and Sahjanwa. Despite the lapse of so many years after the survey the laying of tracks is yet to commence, due to which the people are agittated. People have also been launching agitations there from time to time. Even the lawyers of the courts located in these areas are agitated. With the laying of the said railway line the people of Bahraich, Balrampur, Domariyaganj (Siddharth Nagar), Mehrawal (Sant Kabir Nagar) and Gorakhpur districts would benefit a lot. But the previous survey has been put in the cold storage. Therefore, keeping in view the needs and aspirations of the people of that region the railway line should be laid at the earliest. For the first time, Mamataji has kept in mind the interests of the families of 14 lakh railway employees. The children of railway employees would get an opportunity to become doctors as well as get admission in para-medical courses. A chain of new medical colleges, medical diagnostic centres, malls, multi-functional complexes would come up on vacant railway land through Private Public Partnerhsip (PPP). Along with transporting people the Railways would for the first time, also begin welfare schemes. For the first time, the Railways would step into the field of power generation. Gorakhpur in eastern Uttar Pradesh is the headquarters of Northeast railway. There are vast tracts of vacant land in Gorekhpur. A medical college should be set up in Gorakhpur. Even today Siddharth Nagar, a backward district of Uttar Pradesh, lacks medical facilities. Naughat railway station is the headquarters of Siddharth Nagar. Railways have vacant land there also. Keeping in view the welfare of the people as well as the passengers, a medical diagnostic centre should be set up there. New trains should be introduced for Mumbai and Delhi from Gorakhpur, Siddarth Nagar and Gonda. Large numbers of people migrate to other places from here in search of employment. Being a major railway station, a large number of people from easter Uttar Pradesh and western Bihar come daily to Gorakhpur for going to Mumbai and Delhi. I demand that a new Duranto be run both for Mumbai and Delhi from Gorakhpur, as the number of people who migrate from here is more than any other place.

Mamataji, being the cheapest mode of transport it is natural for the Railways to have the maximum connectivity. The Minister needs to be congratulated for not increasing either passenger fares or fright charges for the last several years, while continuously increasing facilities. It is difficult for her to make allocations when the entire country expects more and more facilities. In this regard, the Railways should in future follow the principle of proportionate expenditure. Expenditure should be commensurate with revenues. Railway projects are not decided on the basis of their viability but works like laying new rail lines/gauge conversion/doubling of tracks are dictated by political considerations/compulsions, due to which Dalit areas become more and more backward whereas the developed regions become further developed. Lastly, I support the railway budget.

SHRI RAJ BABBAR (Firozabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I view of the paucity of time, I have been given only two minutes to speak. Impressed by the efforts made and the guidelines formulated for the benefit of the common man by the UPA Government, the UPA Chairperson, Soniaji, the Prime Minister, Manmohan Singhji and the youth leader, Rahul Gandhiji, and the revolutionary budget speech of Mamataji, I only want to say that not only I, but the entire country is thankful to them. They deserve kudos. The motto of the railways is so serve the common man. It's for the development of the common man. For the past several years my constituency was neglected. There was no light beneath the lamp. But, this time there is a ray of light. Several trains have been sanctioned for Uttar Pradesh in the name of pilgrimage, in the name of Janambhumi, in the name of Karambhumi. ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The lamp does not light itself.

SHRI RAJ BABBAR: But, not this time, for the first time there is a strong ray of light. I can see it. For the common man there is light of the end of the tunnel. No development took place in my constituency for the past 25 years. But, this time several trains have been announced. The hon. Minister of Railways has sanctioned three road over bridges in my constituency. Funds have also been allocated. I pray, kindly expedite the work by directing the State Government to get it done. It is a long pending demand.

Sir, my constituency is known for growing potato and garlic. In 1985 and 1989 when late Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minsiter, Madhaorao Scindia was the Minister of Railways. He had got a survey done in 1989

to connect north with south i.e., Gwalior with Shahjahanpur. After the then Government Lost power, no one though starting that project. Due to this, my constituency—having over a lakh voters—is deprived of railway connectivity. If the survey is followed up with rail connectivity to Jasrana, Shahjahanpur, Tundla, Fatehabad and if the track is laid from Gwalior—since Mamataji has made an effort to link the entire country—I am sure, if this region is given railway connectivity, it would boost our exports and make a difference to the farmers. Jasrana produces the best quality garlic.

My one area is Sirsaganj where there is Purapuri assembly segment. It has no stoppage of any train except some local trains. I have requested for halts, as I was not in this House when we were supposed to put our issues to the hon'ble Minister earlier. There was no Member of Parliament from Firozabad earlier due to which no view points were put up in respect to this constituency. Today, Firozabad has a congress representative, and I want Mamata ji to pay attention to this fact that there is production of such a rare quality of potato and garlic in my constituency. These are required within the whole country as well as in other countries.

I would like to make a submission that Tundla is the second largest junction after Mughalsarai in my constituency. I hope that Mamata ji must have taken tea at Tundla while coming to Delhi by train. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Raj Babbar ji, there is no stoppage of Rajdhani Express at Tundla.

SHRI RAJ BABBAR: That is why I was wishing to say that aeroplanes are available for those who are fast moving travellers. There should be train facility for the common man. I am proud of saying this fact that I have been associated with the railway family for three generations. ...*(Interruptions)* Association for three generations means I can understand the importance of railways as well as that of Tundla junction. If it has stoppage of trains like Rajdhani and Shatabdi, there will be benefits not only to the people of constituency but to the local tourism also. ...*(Interruptions)* Agra is only 18 km. away from Tundla. ...*(Interruptions)* It has no stoppage of any train which runs directly from Kolkatta. Firozabad is the biggest glass manufacturing area of India as well as of Asia. It has glass industry, but no facility has been provided over there till date. ...*(Interruptions)* Bangles have been put on hands of

lots of people. They will try to wear further more next time...*(Interruptions)*. Mamata ji will try to promote tourism, trades by providing connectivity to my constituency, which is a complete centre point and I hope she will do it as I have received assurance even earlier in the past...*(Interruptions)*. I have taken stand in other evolutionary struggles even prior to it, so, this will also be a revolution on its own. I extend many many thanks to you for giving me two-minute time to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not two minutes, you have taken too much time. I was not interrupting for the reason that I was feeling like, I was watching some movie. That is why I was silent.

*SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (Bikaner): Sir, through you, I demand the Minister of Railways Kumari Mamata Banerjee to include the following demands into the railway budget:

1. Anupgarh area of Bikaner parliamentary constituency is untouched by the railway lines. This area is adjoining to Pakistan border. Being an important region from strategic point of view the army has also been demanding construction of railway lines from Anupgarh to Bikaner via Khajuwala. It was not announced even in this budget; whereas survey of this line has already been conducted by the railways in the past. So, through you, I am demanding the hon'ble minister of Railways, rail connectivity from Anupgarh to Bikaner via Khajuwala in the construction of new railway lines.
2. There should be a national policy for constructing overbridge/underbridge by the railways. The general public are suffering extremely on account of the railway gates remaining closed for more than 50 times in a day at the railway crossing in Bikaner parliamentary constituency to which I belong. Railways should construct railway gates from its own budget in the rural areas.
3. There should be a railway hospital in Bikaner, as the place is available for the same.
4. There should be stoppage of Rajdhani Sampark Kranti train No. 2463 in Deshonok as it is an important place from tourist point of view and it is the only train originating from Delhi.
5. Very dirty bed rolls are supplied in train No. 5609/5610 Awadh Assam Express.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

6. There is shortage of sleeper coaches and no pantry in Ahmedabad Jammu Express.
7. At Seenthal station, platform was constructed with the cost of Rs. 60-70 lakh but none of the passenger trains have stoppage there. Therefore, passenger trains should be provided stoppage at Seenthal halt station.
8. Direct trains may be introduced from Bikaner to Pune, Hyderabad, Chennai, Coimbatore, Bangalore and Puri. Trains running from Jaipur and Jodhpur for these destinations may be connected upto Bikanern.
9. In rural areas of Bikaner Parliamentary constituency railway crossing gates may be constructed wherever after getting the survey done in this regard. There is a Railway workshop in Bikaner and this workshop should be included in the modernization programme.

I would like to tell the hon. Minister that Terminal work should be done over there. At the time when Azamgarh-Mau was one district, a number of times the people of Azamgarh-Mau had jointly kept their point of view before the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. They stated that before independence many people from this area went to Kolkatta to earn their livelihood. At that time, they did not go to Delhi, Mumbai and Haryana. One hon'ble Lalu ji had also suggested to introduce a train but nothing happened. I would like to congratulate Minister of Railways Mamata Didi for making announcement that this train shall go via Gorakhpur, Mau to Shalimar, Kolkata. I would like to congratulate her personally and the people of my region have also sent their congratulations. Ever since she has made this announcement that this train shall go from Mau to Kolkata, Shalimar, the people of Azamgarh, where a lot of people of this area live had a doubt in their mind that from Ballia, which is next to Mau the train goes straight to Kolkata which is 50-60 kms. away but Shahganj and Mau are at a distance of 100 kms. and a lot of people from here go to Kolkata. Hon'ble Minister has made the announcement but when is the train going to be introduced. The people of Azamgarh are raising questions that if this train is routed from Mau to Azamgarh, which is commissionerate headquarters, via Shahganj, Jaunpur, Banaras, Gaya to Mughalsarai, Kolkata then it will benefit the people of that area to a large extent. Earlier the Lichhavi Express, which comes from Mau to Delhi used to start from Muzaffarpur, later on it

became Samastipur and then Sitamarhi. Today, its condition is so bad that the train's arrival time at Delhi is 4 a.m. in the morning but it fails to arrive Delhi by eve 4 p.m. in the evening.

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN (Ghosi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have got an opportunity to speak as the last speaker on demands for grants, Railways. I know that the entire House wants a quick reply from the Minister in this regard for passing these demands. Therefore, I would express my views in brief. I hail from the parliamentary constituency, Ghosi, under which falls the most backward area in Poorvanchal i.e., district Mau of Uttar Pradesh. There is no direct train for Delhi from there. Many a times demand in this regard has been raised in the House. A large number of weavers, farmers and around three lakh loom operators reside in Mau district. They are involved in Saree trade.

18.57 hrs.

[MADAM SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

There is no direct train service to metropolitan cities from there. Earlier, when narrow gauge was in existence, there was a terminal. The land available there is more than that in Gorakhpur, Chapra, but after its conversion into broad gauge, the terminal was done away with. I request the Minister to get a terminal constructed there. When Azamgarh-Mau was a district, the people collectively placed their view in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha that before independence, large number of people used to go to Kolkata to earn their living. At that time people did not go to Delhi, Mumbai or Haryana. Once Laluji announced in the House to introduce a train, but it did not materialize. I congratulate the Minister of Railways, Mamata didi for announcing this train for Shalimar, Kolkata through Gorakhpur, Mau. I personally thank her. People from my constituency have also sent their congratulations. After your announcement regarding the train from Mau to Shalimar, Kolkata, doubt arose in the minds of the people of Azamgarh-which is a major part of it and where large number of people from there reside—that there is a direct train to Kolkata from Ballia which is 50-60 km. from Mau. But a large number of people go to Kolkata from Shahganj and Mau, a distance of 100 km. The hon. Minister has announced the train. But, when will it be introduced? The people of Azamgarh are of the view if the train starts from Mau and connects Azamgarh-which is a commissionerate headquarters-Shahganj, Jaunpur, Varanasi, Gaya, Mughalsarai and reaches Kolkata, then the people of that area would

benefit immensely. Lichchvi Express which comes to Delhi from Mau earlier originated from Muzaffarpur and later Samastipur and Sitamarhi were included. At present, the situation has deteriorated to such an extent that its scheduled arrival time at Delhi is 4 a.m., but one cannot be sure whether it would reach even at 4 a.m.

19.00 hrs.

Therefore, I had requested the hon. Minister of Railways earlier also, to provide a direct train to Delhi from Mau, so that we can reach Delhi timely to attend the session. I hope the hon. Minister would certainly give it her consideration. I have another request regarding Kaifiyat Express, which was introduced from Azamgarh after a long struggle. It departs at 4.30. When we start from Mau, we are not sure whether we would reach timely to attend the parliamentary session. If we fix a programme it is very inconvenient, when, instead of arriving at 8 or 9, it reaches at 12 or 12.30. Hence, its punctuality should be ensured.

Another point regarding Kaifiyat Express, which runs from Azamgarh-Mau, is that it has to change its engine at Shahganj. In spite of the announcement made 4-5 times in the Parliament that trains would run from Shahganj to Amethi and proceed further from Sultanpur, Jagdispur and Lucknow, nothing has been done so far. In my view, an effort has been made to provide a new rail line as said by the hon. Minister. Perhaps, it is due to paucity of resources. The Railway is a very big Department. I request the government to make efforts to provide maximum resources.

I have another request, which I had made earlier.
...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Kindly conclude.

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Large numbers of people from here go to Mumbai and Delhi via Azamgarh-Mau. They do not have any direct connectivity. There is such a huge rush that tickets for Mumbai or Delhi is not available there even four months in advance. Therefore, on a trial basis the period should be six months. And in absence of overwhelming demand for tickets then do away with it.

Before concluding I would reiterate my demand for a flyover at Mau. I had said if a flyover can be constructed in the sea, why not at Mau, from where 80 per cent weavers migrate to west. I want to make request

that since the state's share for 54 RoBs has been deposited, kindly sanction all the RoBs.

*SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (*Machhlishahr*): Sir, I would like to draw your attention regarding stoppage for Varuna express at Jaffrabad. It is an important railway station under Northern Railway, from where trains are available for Lucknow, Faizabad and Allahabad via Sultanpur. It's the demand of the people of the area that a stoppage for Varuna express be ensured at the said station. The local populace would benefit a lot.

[English]

*SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI (*Shiruru*): During the last 10-15 years of Railway Budget, I have noticed that injustice has always been done with Maharashtra State and Maharashtra has always received discriminatory treatment from the Government of India.

Hon'ble Railway Minister had made several announcement in his last budget speech but most of them have not yet been implemented. This Railway Budget is also a bunch of announcements only. Hon'ble Railway Minister has announced about the increase in frequency of local trains in Mumbai. However, she is silent about the infrastructure development. Without any development of infrastructure, no purpose would be served in increasing the frequency of the local trains in Mumbai.

There was a mention of Pune-Nasik-265 Kilometer railway line in the Budget Speech of 2009-10 of Hon'ble Railway Minister but nothing has been done in this direction as yet. Not even a survey has been conducted of this line. there is a long pending demand for this railway line but it seems that the railways have nothing to do with the long pending genuine demands of the railway commuters. I wish to point out that Nasik is developing slowly and if it is connected with Pune it would develop speedily and not only the Businessmen of this area and students of this area will be benefited with this proposal, but Railways will also get benefit out of this proposal. The total cost of this project has been estimated to Rs. 1044 crore. Though Maharashtra Government has decided to share half of the cost of this project, nothing has been done in this regard by the Railways.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

I urge upon the Government to look into the proposal seriously and necessary clearance may be accorded to this proposal urgently keeping in view the problems being faced by the commuters of this area.

I would also like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Railway Minister towards another important issue pertaining to introduction of new Railway Track between Kalyan and Ahmednagar through Malshej Ghat in the State of Maharashtra. Madam, Traffic Survey for construction of new Broad Gauge line between Kalyan and Ahmednagar was sanctioned by the Railway Board in the year 1999 for a stretch of 204 kms. The feasibility report of this survey has shown that this route is a profitable route. In 2006, cost of construction of this route was estimated to be Rs. 967 crores and the duration of the construction is 4-1/2 years. Several Members in UPA Government have voiced their concern over this issue. But it is very sad to mention that this proposal is lingering since 1999 and nothing has been done in the matter even after a lapse of more than 11 years.

I wish to submit that the proposed Railway Line between Kalyan and Ahmednagar will be a boon to the industrial and agricultural development of the people living in the urban and rural areas such as Konkan, Western Maharashtra, Vidarbha and Marathwada of the State of Maharashtra. All these places of the State will be closely connected with the help of this new Railway Line. It will also reduce the distance for the commuters of railway to travel between Mumbai and provinces of South India. Besides, the most important thing is that this railway route will connect East and West Sea coasts from Mumbai to Vishakha Patnam and will be the biggest railway route in Asian continent.

If this proposal is approved, I am sure it would be a gateway to the new industrial development. As you are aware, there is a tremendous growth of population and flow of people in Mumbai from all over India and Mumbai is facing gigantic problems as regards transportation is concerned. Madam, Murbad is the industrial center of MIDC near Kalyan which is rapidly growing. This industrial belt can be extended up to Saralgaon and Tokawade of Konkan area and will help in reducing the burden of population and industries in cities like Mumbai, Thane and Kalyan with the help of this new Railway Project. Besides this Madam, ALEPHATA, which is developing as a new center of

trade, commerce and industry is situated on the highways of Pune-Nasik as well Kalyan-Ahmednagar. This center will be on this new railway line proposed and will help in developing agriculture, dairy development and small scale industry in the neighbouring areas. Ahmednagar is the hub of sugar factories and this new railway line will help in transportation of sugar for quick export through the port of Mumbai and will help rapid industrial growth in this area.

This new project will not only develop tourist and pilgrim centers but will also help in generation of employment in the country. Madam, Malshej Ghat, which is on the proposed new line, is situated in the hills of Sahyadri Ranges having beautiful natural environment. Introduction of this new railway line will definitely attract tourists from all over the world and this will definitely be a boon for the tourism industry also and create employment for the youth of adjoining towns.

This Railway project will be a gateway to the new industrial development, this will develop tourist and pilgrim centers, will help in transport of Agricultural produce from one place to another, this will generate employment in the country. Hence, this project is of vital importance for the development of country and this region in particular. However, due to callous attitude of the Railway Authorities this project is lagging behind since last more than 11 years.

I urge upon the Government to look into this matter of high importance and take immediate steps to conduct a new survey of this line and clear this proposal so that the sufferings of the residents of this area are mitigated at the earliest.

I would like to draw kind attention of Hon'ble Minister towards one more important issue.

Recently the Porters who were working in the Railways were appointed as Gangmen in Railways. However, these porters who have already attained the age of 45 years while working as Porters, are finding it difficult to do the heavy duty of Gangman and have stopped working. They have also lost the job of Porters in the Railways and are idle sitting at home. They are now without any source of income and as a result thereof, their families have also been adversely affected and are on the verge of starvation. Around 50 percent of Porters, who were appointed as Gangmen are sitting idle at home without any income. This decision of the

Railways needs urgent review and the Porters who are appointed as Gangmen and are not in a position to perform the duties of Gangmen, may be allowed to work as Porters so as to enable them to earn livelihood for their family.

With these words and with a hope that the Hon'ble Minister will consider the genuine demands raised by me favourably and will issue necessary directions in this regard, I conclude my suggestions on the Railway Budget.

[Translation]

*SHRI RAMESH BAIS (Raipur): Indian Railways is the largest and a major Department of the Government of India. It is known as the Institution keeping the country united.

It is a matter of regret that from the treatment meted out to Chhattisgarh State, it seems the Indian Railways does not consider the state as a part of India. It is more galling considering that Bilaspur zone, South-Central Railway contributes maximum revenue to the Railways. In spite of this, the treatment meted out leaves much to be desired.

| Budget provision | Given to Chhattisgarh |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. 16 pilgrim-Special trains | none |
| 2. 10 new Duranto trains | none |
| 3. 52 new Express trains | none |
| 4. 45 new passenger and local trains | none |
| 5. 400 new hospitals | none |
| 6. 6 new training centres | none |
| 7. 11 new factories and training centres | none |
| 8. 93 new model stations | none |
| 10. 55 new surveys | none |
| 11. 10 new gauge conversion/doubling surveys | none |
| 12. The target of laying 1021 kilometres of railway line during 2010-11 | none |
| 13. Gauge conversion of 800 kilometres | none |
| 14. Increase in the frequency of 12 trains | 1 |
| 15. Extention of 22 trains | 2 |

*Speech was laid on the Table.

The said figures are testimony of the fact that while preparing the Railway Budget, the basic spirit of the Indian Railways that "All areas and States are equal" has not been followed.

In the last January, the State Government of Chhattisgarh held a meeting with the Chairman of the Railway Board, in which the Chairman of the Railway Board was apprised of the expectations of the state, I was also present in the said meeting and there were many such proposals in regard to which no extra burden was entailed for the Railways, a clear consensus had also emerged, but despite all this, Chhattisgarh has been neglected which is very regrettable. In view of the fact that after the creation of Chhattisgarh state in 2000, it is emerging as a top ranked state among the best states from the point of view of several parameters with maximum potential for development, this kind of neglect in terms of the main component of basic infrastructure i.e. railways was not expected.

In these circumstances, I would like to request you to take essential reformative stpes at the earliest.

*SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR: I represent the Nalanda parliamentary constituency of international importance in this 15th Lok Sabha. During the tenure of the NDA Government, the then Minister of Railways, Shri Nitish Kumar had started several railway projects like Hanaut Rail Coach Factory, proposed Rajgir-Tailaiya railway line, Islampur to Natesar, Daniyavan to Shekhpura railway lines etc. in my parliamentary constituency. I would like to submit in this regard that the work on many railway projects like that on Islam to Natesar, Daniyavan to Shekhpura lines is going at very slow pace. I demand that while completing these projects at the earliest, the Government may introduce a daily Superfast up and down train from Patna to Ahemdabad because a number of people from the working community of Bihar live in Gujarat and they face a lot of difficulties in travelling from Gujarat to Patna and Patna to Gujarat. While presending Railway Budget in July 2009, the Government had assured this House that the members of Parliament who do not have a computerized reservation centre in their parliamentary constituency, give in writing in regard to the name of any railway station which is lacking a computerized reservation centre, the Government will make arrangement for such a centre over there without any delay. There is no computerized reservation centre at Nalanda station in my parliamentary

*Speech was laid on the Table.

constituency though it is an international centre where the renowned ancient Nalanda University, Nalanda Museum the remains of the ancient sites as well as the famous pilgrim centre of Jain religion Kundalpur and Pavapuri are also located. The world famous Huensang International Buddhism Museum is also located in Nalanda. The World famous 'Malmas Mela' has begun in Rajgir from 15 April. There is drinking water facility in Rajgir, Nalanda, Bihar Sharief, Pavapuri Road stations. I demand that in view of the number of pilgrims arriving in the fair, the Government immediately make arrangement for drinking water on these stations and for two special 'Malmas Mela' from Patna be made. With these words, I conclude my speech.

[English]

*SHRI MOHAN JENA (Jajpur): At the outset I would like to congratulate the Ministry of Railways that it started thinking about Odisha very recently. In a federal structure like India, Railways play a vital role in the process of development of country as a whole in general and backward States in particular. It also creates base for National Integration. So being an important Ministry it should be impartial to each and every member state of the country.

Under this backdrop if we will consider the development aspect of Odisha, we will definitely come to conclusion that it is a neglected State since long. So as a Member I would like to solicit the kind attention of Honourable Minister to this aspect.

My constituency Jajpur is minerals based area of my State. It has now become one of the important steel hubs of the country. This area is known as "Kalinga Nagar" area. To develop Kalinga Nagar as a model steel hub, our State Government has taken up serious initiative to develop infrastructure around this area. But the railway is a vital source of development.

The Jajpur-Keonjhar Road Railway Station is one of the important railway stations in Khurdha Railway Station under East Coast Railway. But the railway authority is showing step motherly attitude continuously to his railway station. Sir from the area point of view this place is an appropriate place/ station to declare it as new railway division.

The total railway line of Odisha is now under three railway division i.e. (1) Khurdha Railway Division, (2)

Sambalpur Railway Division and (3) third one is Visakhapatnam Railway Division in Andhra Pradesh. So to provide need based development programme to different area, in order to bring that locality to mainstream it will be more appropriate in the part of the railway to give more emphasis to that particular area.

I demand before the Government of India to declare Jajpur- Keonjhar road as a new Railway Division within East Coast Railway of Odisha. Railway can bring together various railway lines, which is close to Jajpur- Keonjhar Road to create a new railway division.

Jakhapura – Daitary – Bansapani Railway line, paradeep – Haridaspur, Cuttack – Bhadrakh, Bhadrakh – Laxman Nath, Rupsa – Banginipasi, Angul – Sukinda, Talcher – Bimalagada and Bhadrakh – Dhamara Railway line cover a vast area of coastal Odisha. So bringing above railway line to my division will accelerate the process of development of that area in particular and Railway in general.

So, I request to declare Jajpur - Keonjhar Road as a new Railway Division.

*SHRI C. RAJENDRAN (Chennai South): As is the normal practice during the discussion on Railway Budget, I would like to speak about some of the pending railway projects in my state of Tamil Nadu and request the Railway Minister to complete them early by allocating more funds for those projects.

I would begin by saying that the railway infrastructure in the State of Tamil Nadu needs to be improved on a war-footing. In the case of doubling lining between Chingleput and Villupuram, work has been taken up, but we do not know when the entire line would get doubled.

In the case of doubling between Villapuram and Dindigal, work has been sanctioned two years ago, but still work has not been started. I would request the Minister to sanction sufficient funds and complete this project early.

As regards gauge conversion between Salem and Karur, this project is pending for the last 15 years. It is strategic project for the Southern Railway, which will provide the shortest rail link between Trichy and Karur. Due to time and cost overruns, the project is yet to see the light of the day, only about 80 km. Is yet to be

converted and I request the Minister to allocate funds and remove the hurdles in its way so that this project is completed this year itself.

In the case of electrification project within this State, it has been completed only up to Trichy. Two years ago, the Railway Ministry has sanctioned and approved electrification works up to Kanyakumari, but due to non-allocation of funds, it is not yet taken up. I would request the Minister to allocate funds for this project.

Similar gauge conversion is also not getting sufficient money from the Railway Ministry. I would request the Ministry to consider and allocate sufficient funds for the gauge conversion between Coimbatore-Dindigal via Palani so that two major cities in the State, namely Coimbatore and Maduria may be connected.

The need for Coastal Railway Line gains momentum to connect Chennai and Puducherry via Mahabalipuram. This project is sanctioned already, but the work has not yet started.

There were reports that say that in the case of all these on-going projects, the Railway Board has asked the Southern Railway to go slow with the works because of funds-crunch. I request the Hon. Minister to allocate more funds for those projects and complete them early.

Now, I come to some of the projects which would benefit the people of my constituency.

The Mass Rapid Transit System in Chennai has so far come only up to Velacherry. This projects was sanctioned about 30 years ago, but it has still not seen the end of the tunnel with very meager allocations in every Railway Budget.

It was supposed to come up to St. Thomas Mount. To complete this project about 20% of the work needs to be done. I request that this project may be completed this year itself with more allocations.

Secondly, many people from North India, and more especially from Rajasthan have settled in Chennai and its suburbs. There is only one Direct Train from Chennai Egmore to Jodhpur which runs only once a week. I request that frequency of this train may be increased to thrice a week, if not daily.

Thirdly, in the Chennai Beach-Tambaram Suburban Railway Section, there is a station called Tambaram

Sanatorium. Nowadays, quite often, I get complaints from the people saying that the names of the two stations namely, Tambaram and Tambaram Sanatorium reads to a lot of confusion. To avoid this confusion, there is a need to change the name of Tambaram Sanatorium Station. Tambaram Sanatorium Railway Station is in Chitlapakkam area. Chitlapakkam is a fast developing residential town panchayat. This Railway Station caters to the needs of those people living in Chilapakkam Town Panchayat and surrounding Areas. So, it is very pertinent and proper that Tambaram Sanatorium Station is re-named as Chitlapakkam Railway Station.

Apart from this demands, there are other demands like 1) provision of free safe drinking water inside the long distance trains at least, 2) safety and security of passengers, 3) replacement of old and aged coaches etc.

I request the hon. Railway Minister to consider all these things.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. The suggestions given by Members are noteworthy and very good. I would like to congratulate Members from this side and that side also, that, what they have said is 99 per cent true. One or two Members can give political slant to their speeches. When Members of different political parties want development in their constituency.

[English]

Their demand is very genuine. Their expectation may be high but their demand is genuine.

[Translation]

At times we are able to fulfill their demands, at others, we are not, because of our infrastructure facility constraints. When our MP demands a station, a train, computerized reservation centre or a line, what is the problem? The only problem is the finance. An MP's demand is justified. Since our independence, our country has developed a lot. Earlier, the country could not manufacture even an alpin. But, today we can send a man even on the moon. Our country has made tremendous progress. After our successful struggle for independence, we established democracy and made

immense progress. When a nation develops, the people also progress. Our infrastructure could not keep pace with the rising population. Concerning comparison with China.

[English]

I am grateful that one hon. Member mentioned about Chinese development. I appreciate his concern.

[Translation]

We can certainly compare ourselves to China. But you should understand that we can not match them when it comes to funding the railway. India is a democracy, China has autocracy. They do not have so much political opposition. In democracy, we have to pay heed to all shades of opinions. Not so with other systems. In democracy, a lot needs to be looked into, before taking any action.

Before taking any decision we must weight the pros and cons.

[English]

They want to develop. We appreciate them and we congratulate them for their good work. We are great friends. No problem regarding that. Do you know China is spending millions of dollars for their railway network? They want to expand their railway network. It is their duty. But our duty is to do something for our own people. If we follow that, a passenger coming from Haridwar to Delhi will have to spend Rs. 5,000. It cannot happen in India. But it happens in China because they are doing business with their finances, which we cannot do.

[Translation]

Before effecting a hike in fares or freight rates we have to see its effect on the common man, the organized sector, the farmer and the worker. But, in China, they do not have to contend with such things.

[English]

They have only one thing, which is to take care of their commercial interests. In India we have our political commitments, social commitments and moral commitments to our citizens. That is why we cannot wish away our responsibility from the public point of view. It is our duty.

[Translation]

Therefore, we cannot follow China. I would like to applaud it for its good work. However, we are a democracy. Taking people into confidence is of paramount importance, in democracy. Take for instance the cost of the ticket which is Rs. 25, and they can take pride in it.

[English]

I belong to the UPA Government. Madam Sonia and Dr. Manmohan Singh guide us. I am proud to say that.

[Translation]

For this reason we have introduced the Izzat Scheme, under which the common man pays Rs. 25. You travel from Delhi to Ghaziabad or from Delhi to Panipat. What is the distance? It is only Rs. 25.

[English]

You can travel 100 kms. in Rs. 25. Even poor people can travel. It is their economic right; now they have the right to work. It is their *izzat*.

[Translation]

For this reason it has been named Izzat. He can travel with pride. We have done a lot of such work. For the BPL, there is 100 days of work in our country. We have to give that. Which ever the government, it has to work for the poor. There may be ideological or political differences. But, we have to keep the public in mind. Hence, the demands. We may not have funds for passenger trains. A high speed train requires a lot of money. We need a vision—short term and long term. Therefore, after the formation of UPA-II,

[English]

within six or seven months, we have submitted our Vision-2022-what needs to be done at present and in the coming years. We may not be able to do it now. But within ten years we can do it.

[Translation]

Hence, we need short term and long term policy Madam, you will appreciate that why we went for 1000 route kilometer. Some MPs asked from where are going to arrange the where-withal.

You can think of it that whatever kilometers we have taken up once and all those small works which are pending, can be completed once we pay money and that is the route we have opted. It also happens sometimes that only 10 km is remaining but the same has remained pending for the last ten years. Route kilometers do not increase. By completing them if we can do 1,000 route kms. instead of 250 route kms. on an average, it will give a message. That is why we have said that within ten years, 20,000 route kms. We can do even within this infrastructure. Sometimes the market in good, there is a lot of money. During the last four-five years we have observed that the market was very good, economic flow was good. The world economy was very good but for the last two-three years we are seeing that there is an economic slowdown. Economic slowdown is an economic loss on one hand and on the other hand we have pay Commissions after every ten years. Fifth pay Commission had come ten years back. Our Government has given benefits to the employees by paying them money. If we have to give benefits to our employees and workers then what is the way to digest them that is to work that out. We will have to pay Rs. 55,000 crore from our internal generation.

[English]

It should have been plus for the Railways. But what can we do, therefore we had to minus the same, for the years 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11, and we have to spend Rs. 55,000 crore for meeting the recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission, for providing pensions, Provident Fund, paying arrears, etc.

[Translation]

Where from this money will come, it is not going to fall from the sky, it is coming from the internal sources only. There is economic slowdown on one side but then we have to pay salaries to the employees. A few years back they also had to face the same problem. Sometimes when the Government changes then this thing happens. Which is why, the 55,000 crore Rupees which we had to give, was to pay for the Pay and allowances, and arrears etc. You see, if you minus the amount of Rs. 55,000 crore, it also comes to Rs. 20,000 crore. After that when I presented the Rail budget, there was a fuel like HSD price had increased and for that also had to suffer an extra cost of Rs. 610 crores. Later on eight to ten percent for the Excise duty, which costed Rs. 275 crore. We had to pay Rs. 875 crores from the internal generation. You can total all this and see how much it

comes. Despite that, everyday there is either a Band or Rail Roko or something else. We have to face the naxalite movement; Maoist movement. Something for train then we cannot run over him. If we do so then public will die.

[English]

Security is under the State Government. Please appreciate it. I am concerned about the safety and security of the passengers. Please realise that law and order is a State subject. The Railway Protection Force is within the Railways but it does not have any right to tackle the law and order situation. It is the Government Railway Police. The Railway Police is that of the State Government. The Central Government gives 50 per cent salary to them and the State Government gives 50 per cent to them. Now, it is with them. I would request all the State Governments to give full protection to the passengers also because all the passengers belong to the country; they belong to our society; they travel from one part of the country to another part.

[Translation]

This requires to be done. We are really concerned about Passenger safety and security. Earlier it was not so. there was not so much terrorist activity, but now you see that it has increased so much. At the moment there are a number of terrorist organisations coming up in the country, some in the name of Maoists, Naxalities, cross border terrorism and some in the name of Opportunists. Maoists and some opportunists are obstructing the rail movement everyday. For that, this year and last year, we lost about Rs. 500 crore. So what will happen, right now there is a problem in Orissa. I do not want to discuss it in detail. Our four rakes are lying there, due to which we are losing Rs. 4 crore very month, we are losing Rs. 4 crore everyday. In this manner we have incurred a loss of Rupees 200 crore. What can we do in this, if someone has to do some protest then the only way they find is to stop the train. The railway is the soft target. It is a business.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: It happens very often in Kolkata.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: it happens everywhere, Luluji, I do not want to name anybody. It is our duty not to criticize the people. It is their duty to stop it. I said this because it is happening. With all these things happening. where from Railway will generate

money. Everybody talks about having new coaches, wagons, rakes, to increase number of boggies coaches in goods trains. Before this we should consider other things as well. We have set up a coach factory at Raibareilly, it will get ready in one year. Besides, be it Madhepura or Chapra, we will have to make provisions to fulfill all the announcements made in the new Budget. I would want that there should be more work done in the country. Hon'ble Farukh ji is sitting here, Member from Jammu and Kashmir Shri Lal Singh ji was speaking and giving his suggestions. I am interested in doing it. We have interest for all these things and want to work also. It is seen that if anyone demands wagons and places order for that then also they are not available because the industry does not have that much capacity.

Earlier we use to order wagon-coaches from outside.

[English]

but only few industries are there in our country. They do not give materials in time. If you want coaches, they are not available, if you want racks, they are not available. That is why, I decided that we should have more coach factories, wagon factories in our country. Otherwise, we cannot meet the demand of the people. It is an urgent need of the people throughout the country. Why should we take these things from outside? We can produce them here internally and we can give employment to our people and we can produce them through PPP mode also.

[Translation]

The demand of railways has increased so much that I can not say anything. Earlier also I have asked to increase it. If one needs clothes then they can be bought from shops but coach industry and wagons can not be bought from outside, a design has to be prepared first then photo-type has to be made, later on a pilot project is launched to see whether the same is successful or not and then it is done and all this takes time. Whatever delay has been there so far, we should not worry about it. But we must start our work now. We must set up our coach factories and wagon factories immediately so that we need not go for importing them from other countries. Whatever is our demand. we must fulfil it. We believe in this and therefore, we will have better industries in the country. It is necessary to have such industries in every corner of the country. We should try to meet the present demand of railways. Some Members have said and except Raj Babbar hon'ble Nirmal Khatri ji, hon'ble

Lalu ji, Mulayam ji, Sudeep Bandopadhyay, Dara Singh Ji everybody has spoken very well and have given very good suggestions. DMK, AIADMK, Naidu ji's party, Akali Dal and Congress party has given very good suggestions. Being Minister of Railways I have tried to satisfy everyone but if I have been unable to do so then I have done something to at least..

[English]

two-third of the MPs.

[Translation]

We try to fulfill their request for minor schemes. However, more needs to be done. We cannot execute more schemes as we are unable to expand our infrastructure. You are right when you say our lines are 50 years old. But, where is the funding? Projects worth rupees one lakh and one crore are pending.

[English]

But our provision is only Rs. 11,000 crore. I can give only Rs. 11,000 crores every year to all these projects, therefore, we decided that there are some socially desirable projects.

[Translation]

It's true. The Government is also making efforts. With your support, it would be all the better. The amount spent on national highways is worth it.

[English]

National Highway is also a lifeline of the nation. But if you want to develop this nation, Railway is the mode of transport.

[Translation]

Railway passes through villages. National highway connects one point to another. But rail passes through villages. My belief is that if we accord same importance to the Railway, as we give to the national highway, we can solve all the problems. We have just begun. By and by, everything will be accomplished. We have made an attempt with the dedicated freight corridor.

[English]

It is the dream project of our hon. Prime Minister.

[*Translation*]

For the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor, we have inked... an agreement with Jaico which is under process. We are working on it. It would be finished in time. Regarding the Eastern Corridor, talks are on for its funding.

[*English*]

From Sonapur to Dankuni, we have to go in for tender and all that.

[*Translation*]

Some colleagues spoke about fly overs, under pass, PRS and development of stations. These are minor aspects.

[*English*]

I will tell the Railway Board to take care of individual works. These are small works and the Railway Board will take care of all these small works. Yes, I agree unmanned level crossing is an area of concern. Around 16,000 unmanned level crossings were there. This time we have already taken over 4,000 level crossings out of the 16,000 unmanned level crossings. You will appreciate, Madam, that last year and this year 4,000 unmanned level crossings will be manned. Instructions have been issued in this regard.

[*Translation*]

The remaining 12,000 level crossings would be manned in the next five years. Initially, 4000 have been taken up. In the next three years 12,000 would be covered.

The State Governments are responsible for the construction of fly overs. They contribute 50 per cent of the amount.

[*English*]

I would request the hon. Members to pursue it with the State Governments wherever they have the problems of flyovers or underpasses and from Railways we will help them because we want to develop the areas. There is no harm in that.

As far as recruitment policy is concerned

[*Translation*]

Several Members said nothing word one but thanks to Lalu Ji, he intervened to say I did it.

[*English*]

It is a fact. There is some backlog, but we have already started the process. Instructions have already been issued to employ 29,000 persons. It is under process as per the Government criteria. You would appreciate that whatever we announced in the last year's Budget from Izzat to Press concession to Madrasa concession to student concession to wherever we have announced, we have done that.

[*Translation*]

Some say its drama that false assurances are made.

[*English*]

Only on three lines, the gauge conversion is not completed.

[*Translation*]

It would be done when gauge conversion is taken up.

[*English*]

Out of 120 trains announced, 117 trains have been run within the Budget year. You would appreciate that. We have tried our best that from Izzat to Muskilashan to Madrasa to concessions, all have been implemented, even double Decker. Have you seen double Decker, Madam? The prototype is already ready. We have to go for the pilot project as we have to see the safety and security also. Duronto has been very successful.

I want to congratulate our Railway officials, employees, the engineers and the industries for that. After Rajdhani, Duronto is also successful. It is cheaper and faster than Rajdhani. Next we will go for Maha-Duronto and for high speed train also. We have set up a Committee. We did not have the money. We needed a dedicated route, dedicated fencing and a dedicated system. We are talking to the people all over the world. Some people are interested. We have received some proposals from different places.

An Expert Committee under the leadership of Amit Mitra and Sam Pitroda is doing its jobs. I think it will come out with a positive sense. I want to congratulate

Mr. Sam Pitroda also in this regard. He has given a suggestion that the broad band must reach through optic fibre cable to all the Gram Panchayats. If it is included, I think, the dream of Rajiv Gandhi to modernise India will be completed. You know that it is a revolutionary dream. That is also under process.

Everybody is interested for the development of stations. Out of 378 stations, 286 stations have already been developed.

[Translation]

You might recall our budget was presented in June-July. We did not get much time. Tender process itself takes 6-7 months.

[English]

Within these nine months, out of 378 stations, 286 stations have already been developed.

[Translation]

The remaining would also be completed. Projects announced in the budget would be certainly completed.

[English]

Then, with regard to multi-functional world-class stations, I have already issued instructions to Rail Board to take care of that so that it is done within the time.

[Translation]

Hon. Members wanted to know what has been done regarding Allahabad. Allahabad is also a world class station. You are aware Kumbh mela was held. Are you aware about the number of special trains we ran for the Kumbh? Around one thousand.

[English]

Only on 14th and 15th, we carried two lakhs passengers. Hundreds of special trains were introduced.

[Translation]

Every one was taken to their destination. Kindly give us a little credit for that. For the Mumbh mela, the station was given Rs. 40 crore. Railway belongs to you. Instructions have been issued for multi-facilities.

[English]

The Railway Board will take care of it. I have said that within the Budget year, within the financial year, they have to spend the money.

[Translation]

Tendering process has been delayed a little.

[English]

Wherever there is lacuna, I will tell, yes, I am not satisfied with that. I have instructed that it should be implemented as early as possible. That is also there.

[Translation]

In the first phase, we have decided to set up fifty diagnostic centers—the Primary health centers, for which talks have been held with the Minister of Health. After that would take up 25 secondary level centers in the first phase. After that, the 16 multi-type big hospitals would be taken up. The next phase would be after talks with the Minister of Health.

Similarly, consultations were held with Education Ministry.

[English]

With the help of HRD Ministry, we will give the land and they will provide the infrastructure.

[Translation]

In the vacant lands identified by us, we would start colleges, universities and important institutions. In this regard I would like to thank Shri Kapil Sibbal and Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad. talked with Kumari Selja too.

[English]

Regarding the urban development. We can do some 'housing for all' and other programmes through the Urban Development Ministry also.

[Translation]

They have held talks in this regard. I will inform you when something is finalized. I do not want to disclose anything prematurely.

[English]

New projects, route kilometres, wagon industry, coach industry, dedicated freight corridor.

[*Translation*]

some involve PPP modes. We are not privatizing the Railways. We have no intention. But for laying of new tracks at several places from where would the funds come? For this, we have said:

[*English*]

'We will give the economic share; you invest the money.' Two-three meetings are being organised by the Railway Board. I also, along with my Minister of State and other colleagues, met all the industrial houses, all the important chambers from the national level and from the State level also. We requested them: 'Look, we did not have the money. The ready business is here. Railways will give you the ready business. You just invest your money; you will get your economic share. Connect the port; connect the coal area; connect the steel belt; connect the pilgrimage area; connect the universities; connect the tourist places; and connect the medical universities.'

Also, there are some socially desirable projects. What is not viable today, tomorrow it will be viable. If you want to set up a market complex, do you not think that an A1 railway station is important for that? If you set up a railway station, if you set up a railway line, automatically the business will come out because Railways are not only the lifeline of the country, they are the lifeline of our integration, and it is a real Hindustan. That is why we have decided that – we have 8000 railway stations – out of 8000 railway stations, 1000 stations will be kept for Adarsh Stations, multi-functional, world-class stations. I have instructed – every 15 days I do the full-Board meeting for safety, security and development – for rest of the 7000 stations, you go for PPP. You ask the people we are not selling the land, we are not going to hand it over to any private person but they will sponsor. They will go for beautification; they will set up the station as a good model so that everybody should get a dormitory. Even from halt station to small station to local to national, at every level, tell them to spend the money and they will do it.

Division-wise, already we have started the work also. Railways are creating their own brand through advertising agencies also. We are sure, the money will come out. We are not worried for that. It will take some time but money will automatically come out.

There are so many things to say. For passenger cleanliness, already we have a special drive. Within these three months, we have started special drive for cleanliness for passengers. Some people approached us that for cleanliness they want to sponsor. I said: 'No harm.

[*Translation*]

It we do not have funds and they wish to sponsor. for cleanliness.

[*English*]

why don't you do it?'

You will have to appreciate one thing that the Railway people are really experts to run the trains but they do not know how to run the business because they have not done that earlier. So, you have to give some time to them so that they will be convinced themselves first. We have to involve the Railway employees in this regard. That is why, we have set up our Experts Committee. I am proud to say that all the Railway Employees' Union, the Railway Officers' Union, and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Union have been involved in our Experts Committee. Everyday they are giving their opinion also. I am proud of our Railway employees. They are giving all their suggestions to us. I think, they do not know how to operate the business. But now-a-days, for commercial utilization of land, Railways will be the champion. They have started working. They have identified their role model. They are finalizing the papers. I think, they will do it within a time-frame. Only we have to give them some time because they were not habituated in that practice. I think, they will overcome the situation. I have that trust. I have that confidence. They will do it. I believe so. They are asking only for some time because they have to prepare themselves first.

If they do not know 'A', 'B', 'C' of business, I cannot do it from outside. They have to do it. They have to implement. We have to give the guidelines only. I am happy that they have accepted all these proposals.

Madam, several hon. Members have raised many points. ...(*Interruptions*) For small matters also, Members will get the reply. Whatever we can do, for small station matter, for PRS matter, we will do. ...(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

We they are demanding 10 acres land for Bhagalpur.

[English]

For Bhagalpur, they are waiting for 100 acres of land.
...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

We will attend to other smaller issues.

[English]

Madam, with these words, I would request the House to pass the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2010-11.

MADAM SPEAKER: A number of cut motions have been moved by the Members to the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2010-2011. Shall I put all the cut motions to the vote of the House together or does any hon. Member want any particular cut motion to be put separately?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Please put all the cut motions to the vote of the House together.

MADAM SPEAKER: I shall now put all the cut motions which have been moved together to the vote of the House.

All the cut motions were put and negatived.

MADAM SPEAKER: I shall now put the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2010-2011 to the vote of the House.

The question is:

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2011, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 16.”

The motion was adopted.

MADAM SPEAKER: The Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2010-2011 are passed.

19.33 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) NO. 3 BILL, 2010*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2010-11 for the purposes of Railways.

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2010-11 for the purposes of Railways.”

The motion was adopted.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I introduce** the Bill.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I beg to move that the Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2010-11 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration.

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

“That the Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2010-11 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

MADAM SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

“That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 19.4.2010.

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title were added to the Bill.

MADAM SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Madam, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up *Zero Hour*.

*SHRI M. ANANDAN (Viluppuram): Madam Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of the Government, through you, to an urgent matter of public importance. Sodanaikuppam, Mudaliarchavadi, Nandriyankuppam and Ammaiarkuppam in the Vaanur Taluk of my Viluppuram Constituency have faced great damage due to sea erosion. In areas like Chinnamudaliarchavadi Kuppam, about 96 houses have been washed away. I had been to those places and seen for myself the heavy damage caused to the properties of the poor coastal villagers. I took it up with the District Administration, but no effective action has been taken as yet. This has greatly affected the morale of the people living there and they cannot carry on with their traditional occupation of fishing. The Government must go in for constructing soil-erosion and sea-erosion prevention walls to help save the villages from being damaged and washed away further. This will also help the poor fishermen to save and secure their fishing tools and implements. About 5000 fishermen and their families live in those areas and they face this wrath of the sea. As their livelihood is affected by this continuing erosion the poor fishermen have been praying for a hook-shaped preventive wall to overcome sea-erosion and this is their demand for quite sometime. Hence I urge upon the Union Environment Ministry to

allocate funds to construct sea-erosion preventive walls to help save the lives and properties of the poor fishermen folk of whom the most are living below poverty line.

DR. KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI (Ahmedabad West): Thank you, Madam, for giving me this opportunity to raise a very important issue.

[Translation]

Mobile phones outnumber toilets in the country. A startling report of the United Nations puts it that where more than 50 crore population is using mobile phones, the number of toilets in comparison to it, is pretty less. In a country which ranks second in the world in terms of population, the figures concerning sanitation are very disappointing. It is a sad contradiction that India is so rich that approximately half of its population is using mobile phone whereas large number of people are deprived of even basic amenity like that of a toilet.

19.39 hrs.

[DR. RAGHUWANSH PRASAD SINGH in the Chair]

As per the United Nations Report presently, approximately 45 per cent population is using mobile phone whereas in 2008 only 31 per cent of the population in the country had access to sanitation. This report has been prepared by the experts who were assigned the responsibility of formulating scheme for achievement of Millennium Development Goal or sanitation by 2015. Under MDG basic amenities like safe drinking water and sanitation are proposed to be provided to most of the population across the world. It would be worth mentioning that as per the report released by the World Health Organisation and Unicef in March last year titled 'Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water' if the work continued at the present pace then the target of providing basic amenities like sanitation to one billion people by the year 2015 would not be met. Through you, my submission to the Government is to provide basic amenities like sanitation to maximum people.

[English]

SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR (Karimnagar): Sir, I may kindly be permitted to raise an urgent matter of public importance issue today, the 19th April, 2010, in the 'Zero Hour' regarding the implementation of reservation for SC, ST, OBC and other minority students in the foreign universities to be operated in India.

* English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil.

We are all well aware that the Government is going to permit foreign educational institutions to operate in India. I would like to state that on the one hand they provide good and quality education to our students and on the other hand they earn good amount and they take away the profits to their respective countries. Moreover, they will not implement reservation policy in getting admission of the students like SC, ST, OBC and other minority sections. Already, in our country SC, ST, OBC and minority students and their parents are lagging behind in getting good opportunities in the primary and higher educational levels. If the Government permits them to operate foreign educational institutions in India, they should follow the reservation policy presently being implemented in our country and they should also invest the profits in India only. Otherwise, the very purpose of giving permission to foreign educational institutions in India will not serve any purpose and only rich people can afford the admission and they will become more rich and the poor people will be deprived of getting admission and the poor people will become very much poor in the next generation. Otherwise, the Right to Education slogan will not solve any purpose in our country.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister of Human Resource Development, through you, the hon. Chairman, to kindly intervene in the matter to ensure that the foreign educational institutions which are to be operated in India in future must implement the reservation policy for SC, ST, OBC and other minority sections without any compromise. Then only, the vision envisaged by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Jagjivan Ram and Jyotirao Phule will be reached to the poor people. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri P. Lingam is allowed to associate on this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR (Nalanda): Mr. Chairman, Sir, PMGSY is an important scheme of the Government which has proved to be a milestone in rural development. The entire development of a village is connected with the development of roads only. The absence of road stalls the development of the village. The unemployed youth of village being misguided are taking refuge in naxalism which bears a reflex on Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh etc. The Union Government is deliberately doing step motherly treatment with Bihar in

the Implementation of PMGSY. The fund of the sanctioned schemes for the State is neither being released nor the schemes are being sanctioned. Almost 76 per cent population of the country lives in villages. Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi once averred that the spirit of the country lives in villages, if the development of villages would be ignored then the development of the country would not be possible. So, I demand the Government through this august House to release fund for all the sanctioned schemes of PMGSY and also sanction fresh schemes for the state.

[English]

*SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY (Cooch Behar): Hon. Chairman Sir, my constituency is Cooch Behar which is very important historical town. The royal palace of Cooch Behar is the major attraction of this place. Till the year 1995 flight service to the town was in operation but suddenly the service was discontinued. Later in 2006-07 financial year when the Government of West Bengal made a request, 20 crores of rupees were allocated by the Central Government for resumption of flight service in Cooch Behar. This fund has been utilized but due to some reasons unknown to us, flight operations have yet not begun. In August 2009 a trial run was made but that was all. Nothing more happened. Because of unavailability of air service, health, education, business enterprises and other developmental projects are being adversely affected. Cooch Behar town is the gateway to North Eastern India and a very significant region. Therefore Sir, through you I would like to bring this to the kind notice of Hon. Minister of Civil Aviation that the State Government wishes to resume flight operations in Cooch Behar. So both the State and the Central Government should work together to bring back the town on airline radar so that the place can surge ahead in future and develop in all possible aspects. With this humble request, I thank you and conclude my Zero Hour submission.

[Translation]

SHRI PURNMASI RAM (Gopalganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a massive Baudha Stupa of Nandangarh protected by the Archaeological Survey of India located in Lauria under the Western Champaran district of Bihar which also boasts of glorious history of Ashoka pillar associated with Buddhist religion. Lauria Nandangarh, Lauria Ashoka pillar, Chankigarh Rampurva pillar, Mahayogini village, Rampurva pond, Sofa temple of Gaunaha, Gandhi Ashram of Bhitiharva, Subhadra temple and rock of Bhikhna Dhori are crucial from historical

*English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Bengali.

and archaeological point of view and which should be immediately developed as tourist spot. In the year 2005 the then District Magistrate of Western Champaran sent a comprehensive project request to the Government of Bihar to link these places with the Buddhist Circuit and develop Lauria as a tourist spot which was forwarded by the State Government to the Union Government and is now under consideration of the latter.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to demand from the hon. Minister of Tourism to connect these places of West Champaran with the Buddhist Circuit recognizing them as tourist spots, besides providing financial assistance and cooperation for the development of the basic infrastructure of these places.

[English]

*SHRI C. SIVASAMI (Tiruppur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the garment industry of our country, especially the knitting and powerloom units in Tiruppur, Karur and Erode in Tamil Nadu have been hit hard due to various factors like 12-hour daily power cut and cotton price rise and increase in yarn price.

Tiruppur knitting industry that fetches foreign exchange to the tune of about Rs. 10,000 crore per year is now struggling because of cotton and yarn price increase. This alone has resulted in an increase of Rs. 50 per kg. of cotton that can be used to make five T-Shirts. In addition to it, dyeing cost has increased to the tune of Rs. 30 per kilo of cotton. Production of garments faces another increase due to the use of diesel for generator to overcome power cut. This adds about Rs. 6 per kilo. Thus, an increase of Rs. 86 per kilo adds to the problem of the knitting industry. To add insult to the injury, the devaluation of rupee against the dollar and the euro brings about a loss of Rs. 13 for a T-Shirt worth Rs. 100. All these factors have resulted in causing an additional cost involved in production to the tune of Rs. 30 per T-Shirt. Already this industry which was fetching a reduced profit margin of 10 per cent now meets with a loss of 20 per cent. This has greatly affected the knitting industry. This has also led to the foreign orders getting shifted to China, Pakistan and Bangladesh. I would like to draw the attention of the Government that Tiruppur knitting industry faces a heavy loss and its impact could cause more of economic damage.

* English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil.

In order to help overcome the problem, the Government must impose a permanent ban on the export of cotton and yarn. We must allow only the export of finished products and garments manufactured in our units. In the same pattern like providing uninterrupted power supply to MNC units in our country, our knitting industry too must get continuous power supply at a reduced rate and increased subsidy based on the drawback ratio. This will help our garment industry especially the knitting industry to compete with the Chinese and Pakistani markets. The Government must also carefully watch their marketing strategies and must help our garment industry in a matching fashion. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to constitute a Committee of MPs and assess the ground reality on a war footing.

In the past, when our 'Revolutionary Leader' Puratchi Thalaivi Amma was the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, uninterrupted power supply was ensured to the knitting industry giving rise to an increase of foreign exchange earning from Rs. 7,000 crore to Rs. 10,000 crore. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to intervene in this regard and provide uninterrupted power supply to the knitting industry to save them from the present crisis that is staring at them.

DR. TARUN MANDAL (Jaynagar): Sir, I seek your permission to speak from this place. Sir, this is regarding disaster management affairs in the State of West Bengal. It appears that there is no disaster management apparatus or if there is anything like that it has totally collapsed. You take the case of recent tropical storm, tornado in the district of North Dinajpur or the case of last year's Aila in the Sundarbans coast and in other places in the State or the recent fire accidents that happened in the Metro city of Kolkata.

Last month, on 23rd March, a fire in the broad daylight, around mid-day hours happened where around 43 persons died and the fire services did not reach in time; they did not have the sky-lift to rescue the people who were trapped in the upstairs of that particular building. That is a heritage building. The Government itself and the Chief Minister himself admitted that the extension project of that particular building, the sixth or seventh storey, was illegal and the Kolkata Corporation is run by the same Left front led by the CPI (M). We feel that the police administration, the Government and the Corporation have a big hand in the underhand deals

to sanction this type of construction and putting people under much stress. Similar incidents in Nandoram Market and Mc Neil Mc Kenzie Houses in the city of Kolkata happened in the past.

In the district of North Dinajpur, after the tornado, we have heard about this from the other speakers also, that people are still remaining in the open, under the sky. What could the Bihar Government do, the West Bengal Government could not do. That is a very sad incident.

Through you, I want to appeal to the Union Government that there should be a definite high-level agency's investigation into the incident that occurred in Stephen's Court fire that happened on 23rd March in Kolkata and the persons who were involved, who are guilty should be given exemplary punishment.

Secondly, the Union Government must look into the aspect whether the Government of West Bengal has developed any disaster management mechanism or not. It is not a sort of political blaming. The lives of innocent people are being lost in such catastrophes.

My third submission is that the Central Government must also jump to help in this time of distress. They should not only observe and keep it as a State subject, but they should also jump into the occurrence and try to save the lives of the people. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMKISHUN (Chandauli): Hon. Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a very important issue that the godowns of the Government are being stocked by the wheat procured from the farmers of Punjab and Haryana and not from the farmers of Uttar Pradesh as is being consistently lamented by the State Government. The Union Government is of the view that it has given instructions to the Government of Uttar Pradesh to procure wheat besides providing them with funds, however, the condition in Poorvanchal is that seven percent wheat shell was sunken due to which it was not being procured. The area was hit by drought and the climate favourable for cultivation preceded the period which adversely affected the wheat yield. Procurement Centre for Wheat has not been opened in Benaras, Chandauli and several districts of Poorvanchal. The Union Government has fixed the rate of Rs. Eleven Hundred per quintal, however, the Government of Uttar Pradesh

has not opened any center in District Chandauli, Banaras, rather the wheat is procured through middlemen there. The middlemen procure wheat at cheaper rate from farmers. The Government is procuring wheat so the farmers get ready to sell it away even below Rs. Eleven Hundred and the Government procures it from middlemen and the profit accrues to the middlemen. The Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is present here. He may look into the matter, carry out a probe in regard to Uttar Pradesh. There was drought, despite that the farmers after hard toil increased the yield of wheat, however, if the wheat would not be procured it would further deteriorate the condition of farmers of Uttar Pradesh. The Government's godowns those of FCI are being filled by procuring wheat from other states and on this very basis the Government of Uttar Pradesh is lamenting that where would it store wheat after procurement? The wheat farmers of Uttar Pradesh are facing this serious crisis.

Sir, through you I would again request the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and the Government of India and the hon. Minister of Agriculture to open procurement centers for procuring wheat from Poorvanchal farmers immediately and the wheat from farms should be stored in godowns. I thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI C. RAJENDRAN (Chennai South): Hon. Chairman, I would like to bring the following matter of public importance to the notice of the hon. Minister of Railways through 'Zero Hour' of the House.

Chennai, the Capital of Tamil Nadu, is one of the oldest cities in India. It has become the most important industrial, manufacturing and services hub. Because of this, the city of Chennai has offered huge employment opportunities. As a result, the people from all over the country came to Chennai in search of employment and also for setting up their own businesses. People from North India, especially from Rajasthan, established their businesses at Chennai and settled in Chennai for generations together. They have to go to their native place frequently to attend to some family functions.

Now, there is only one express train leaving from Chennai for Jodhpur and that too runs once in a week. So, they are facing huge difficulties in going to their native place due to lack of proper train connectivity with Jodhpur. Hence, to cater to the needs of the people going to Jodhpur from Chennai, I would request the

hon. Minister of Railways to provide a daily train from Chennai to Jodhpur or at least increase the frequency of the present train to thrice a week from once a week.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJARAM PAL (Akbarpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have given me an opportunity to speak on a matter urgent public importance. The Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is present. He has been an advocate, therefore, knows their pain very well. As far as the entire country is concerned, bars and benches are two sides of the same coin. The advocates practice law keeping in view the interest of their clients by presenting their case and defending them. In the facade of every count is written that the interest of the client is supreme. All over the country, some where or the other, the advocates go on frequent strikes due to clash of opinion between the Bench and the Bar or due to the unwanted interference by the police.

Sir, it is a very serious matter, which, perhaps happened for the first time in the legal history of India. Nowhere else the police enters the court campus, inside the court and misbehave with the learned advocates.

20.00 hrs.

On whose orders the armed police was called in the court campus, inside the court of ADJ, First in Kanpur on 07.04.2010 following an argument between an advocate and a daroga. The President and the Government-Secretary of the Bar Association, as well as hundreds of advocates went to the District Judge to effect a compromise. But, the District Judge by not opening the doors of his chamber, aggravated the situation. The police lathi-charged hundreds of unarmed advocates. Hundreds were injured. Some are still under going treatment in the hospital. The respected advocates are on strike since 07-04-2010. The matter did not end here. The next day on the 8th when the advocates again went on strike, police once again entered the court

campus, demolished their chambers and lathi charged them. The advocates are on strike even today. Even the Uttar Pradesh Bar Council came out in support of their strike. Bar Councils of other states have also denounced the barbaric treatment meted out to the advocates, and assured their support. It is a serious matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right you have drawn the attention of the House to this incident.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJARAM PAL: However, the administration denies ordering the lathi charged. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Spell out your expectations from the Central Government.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJARAM PAL: The District Judge denied having ordered the lathi-charged...*(Interruptions)*. Through you, I request the Minister of Law and Justice, and the hon. Minister of Parliament Affairs to broker a peace between the Bar and the Bench, and to accept the demand of the advocates to transfer the District Judge if guilty, and if the administration is at fault, action should be taken against those responsible so that the strike would end and not spread all over the country like a wild fire. Inaction would go against the interest of the plaintiff....*(Interruptions)* Keeping the interest of the plaintiff, I request the Government to intervene to bring the strike to an end.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again on 24th April, 2010 at 11 a.m.

20.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on 20th April 2010, 30 Chaitra, 1932 (Saka)

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