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(English Version)

Fourth Session
(Fifteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, April 21, 2010/Vaisakha 1, 1932 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MADAM SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (Vidisha): Hon'ble Madam. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: I have received your notice of adjournment of the Question Hour. I am not giving permission for that.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: I have not given the notice for adjournment of Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You can speak on this issue for two minutes but no other Member will speak.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Madam, Chairman, on the first day of this Budget Session the issue of price rise was raised by the opposition in this House. You had adjourned the Question Hour and given us permission for discussion. A detailed discussion was held in this House, but I have to say this with a very heavy heart that neither the Government could give any satisfactory reply that they nor could it take any strong measures to check the price rise. This had hurt the sentiments of the House and voices were raised and now lakhs of people have come to Delhi to express their discontent. Madam, Speaker, those people have come to make the Government listen their woes, they have come to wake up this Government and if it does not wake up then to challenge this Government. ...*(Interruptions)* Hon'ble Madam, Speaker, Delhi has got eight entrances and from all these a huge crowd of people is coming. People are continuously moving towards the Ram Lila ground from far off north-eastern states, far off southern states and from far off western states. Through you, I would like to say this to the House and to the country that this price rise is not a result of any natural calamity. This is a result of wrong policies and scams of this Government. The Bhartiya Janta Party has organized this huge rally to protest against these big scams. I would like to tell you that we all, Members of the BJP are going to join those

poor people and to offer our support and co-operation to them and for that we are going to leave the House today. Hopefully this would awaken the government. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

11.02 hrs.

Shrimati Sushma Swaraj and some other hon. Members then left the House.

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: No, No, please do not raise slogans. Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...**

11.02¹/₂ hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Question No. 361, Shri M. Anandan.

Attacks on Indians in Afghanistan

+
*361. SHRI M. ANANDAN:
SHRI G. VIVEKANAND:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Indian nationals have been killed or injured in the terrorist attacks in Afghanistan;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents occurred during the last three years;

(c) whether any assistance, including financial, has been provided to the families of the deceased and the injured persons;

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

(e) whether the Government is planning to scale down the operation of its Mission in Afghanistan;

*Not recorded.

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

(g) the steps taken by the Government to ensure safety and security of the Indian nationals working in Afghanistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) (a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The number of Indians killed in Afghanistan since 2007, year wise is as follows:

Year	Name of the Organization	Number of Indians Killed
2007		Nil
2008	Suicide attack on Border Roads Organization (BRO) convoy. (January 3)	Two
	Suicide attack on BRO convoy. (April 12)	Two
	Suicide attack on BRO convoy. (June 5, 2008)	One
	Suicide attack on Embassy of India in Kabul (July 7, 2008)	Four
2009	Killing of abducted Indian working with an Italian logistics company (February 2009)	One
2010	Attack on residential accommodation used among others by Indian nationals	Seven

(c) and (d) Government has taken necessary steps to ensure financial and other assistance to the families of Indian officials and Indians working on Government-aided projects killed in terrorist attacks in Afghanistan, including ex-gratia compensation, insurance payments, liberalized pensionary benefits and other admissible benefits.

(e) and (f) Government has no plan to scale down its operations in Afghanistan. India's commitment to assisting the people and Government of Afghanistan in building a peaceful, pluralistic, democratic and prosperous Afghanistan remains undiluted.

(g) Government of India has comprehensively reviewed and enhanced security measures for the safety of our personnel and other Indians working in Afghanistan. It is also in regular touch with the Government of Afghanistan, which has assured necessary security for Indians in that country. Indian nationals registered with the Embassy are regularly advised about the prevailing security scenario in the country through security advisories, outlining the precautions that need to be taken for safety and security.

SHRI M. ANANDAN: Madam Speaker, attacks against Indians have been going on since 2003. In 2003, two Indian engineers working on a road project in one of Afghan province were abducted and one Indian telecom engineer working for Afghan Wireless Company was shot dead. In 2005, one Indian driver working for the BRO's project was abducted and his body was decapitated. In 2006, in two separate incidents two engineers were abducted and killed. In 2007, two bombs were lobbed into the Indian Consulate Office in Afghanistan. In 2008-09, there have been similar attacks with huge casualties.

Madam Speaker, in my constituency, Simon Paramanathan, an Indian from Villupuram in Tamil Nadu who was held captive in 2009 by militants in Afghanistan for nearly four months was shot dead. He was employed in the Italian food chain Ciano International.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please ask your question.

SHRI M. ANANDAN: May I know whether financial and other assistance has been extended to his family? If you see the record from 2005 onwards till date, Indians are being killed by militants in Afghanistan. By launching attacks on Indians the Taliban...

MADAM SPEAKER: Please ask your question.

SHRI M. ANANDAN: What is the attitude of President Karzai towards India?

SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR: Madam Speaker, to date there has been a total of 20 people who have been killed in Afghanistan and 17 of them during the last three years. There has been compensation given to whoever was working with the MEA. I have a list of the compensation that was given, if you would like me to read it out. It was an ex-gratia lump sum compensation of Rs. 30 lakh which is the standard MEA life insurance.

Over and above that, whoever was killed who was attached from the Army Services was paid by the Army; those who were attached from the ITBP, over and above this, they got the ITBP insurance as well as ex-gratia what would have been theirs if they had worked till whatever time they were going to be working as Government servants or the servants with the Army or the ITBP.

I think the hon. Member has asked for somebody who was working with a private company, an Italian Company, and I think that would have been dealt with by the company itself.

SHRI M. ANANDAN: Madam, in spite of enhanced security measures for the safety of our personnel and other Indians working in Afghanistan, attacks on Indians continue to take place. All the offices and residential places where Indians are housed remain fortress. Afghanistan also has not committed security to life and property of Indians there. After withdrawal of US troops and its allies from Afghanistan in 2011, what will be the role of India?

SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR: Madam, the security of the Indian people, our Mission and the people who are working there in the peace making process has been under constant review. President Karzai has repeatedly assured the Prime Minister that they will take all measures to ensure the safety of our people there. The Foreign Secretary and the Foreign Minister have also taken the review and periodically the people living there, the Indian citizens, are called in and given the guidelines of how to follow to secure their safety and security.

As far as the question of withdrawing the troops is concerned, I can only say that as of today, there has been an enhancement of troops by the Americans from 30,000 to, almost by the end of June, I think it should be about one lakh. I think India is fully committed to the peace process that has been carried out in Afghanistan. It is going to be Afghan led and we are there to support them in whatever they ask us for.

DR. G. VIVEKANAND: Hon. Speaker, Madam, India has committed itself for the development of Afghanistan in a big way. A lot of projects have been built-in in Afghanistan by Indian companies and the Government is supporting in a big way.

However, about 75 Indians have been killed in the last three years during this process. Although Afghanistan has promised increased security, we do not see any of

these things happening. In February, over 17 people were killed in serial bombings. I understand that the Parliament in Afghanistan is also being built by Indians. May I know what is the status of this, and what are the increased security measures the Afghanistan Government is taking on the prodding of the Government of India?

SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR: I have already said, Madam Speaker, that all security measures are being taken. We are doing everything we can at the highest level, and the Government of Afghanistan is also doing the same. India's efforts there have been very valued. I think that 71 per cent, according to the polls, of the people recognize and appreciate the fact that India is supporting them and doing their best.

[Translation]

SHRI PANNA LAL PUNIA: Hon'ble Madam, Speaker, on 26th February bomb blasts took place in 2 hotels in Kabul in which a number of Indians involved in reconstruction of Afganistan were targeted. Earlier also, such kind of incidents took place in the Indian Embassy and other places and there is a long list of the same and our ho'ble Member has also given details of that. There are evidences that the terrorists involved in the 26/7 Mumbai attacks, had received training at the terrorist camps based in Afganistan, and this is a serious cause for concern.

Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister as to whether our presence in Afganistan is limited to humane approach of reconstruction or we are also considering to check anti-India terrorist activities and safeguarding national interests.

[English]

SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR: Madam Speaker, our presence in Afghanistan will very much be there. It is, as I said earlier, towards the peace-making process and helping them in their infrastructure. As I said earlier also, it will be completely Afghan-led. We will also be taking care of the security of our people. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PANNA LAL PUNIA: Madam Speaker, my question has not been answered. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: This question has already been dealt in detail.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Dhananjay Singh; we have moved on to the next question.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Nothing will go in record.

(Interruptions)...*

[Translation]

Declining Ground Water Table

+

*362. SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH:
SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Geophysical Institute, Hyderabad has conducted any study on the rapidly declining ground water table in various parts of the country;

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

(c) whether the Government has implemented any Programme to create awareness among the users for proper ground water utilization, exploitation and conservation;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the success achieved as a result thereof; and

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

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad carried out the study in respect of an area of about 27 lakh sq. km including the

mountainous regions of Afghanistan and Pakistan, Indus basin (Pakistan & India), Ganga basin (India & Nepal) and Ganga-Brahmaputra basin (India, Nepal & Bangladesh). The study aimed at estimation of ground water depletion in this area. The report based on the study published as "Dwindling Ground Water Resources in Northern India, from Satellite Gravity Observations" in the Geophysical Research Letters (Vol. 36), 2009 indicates that "the entire study area has lost groundwater at the rate of 54±9 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM) per year between April, 2002 and June, 2008.

(c) and (d) The Government has implemented the following measures aimed at creating awareness among the users for proper ground water utilization and conservation:-

- For promoting awareness and education among the stake holders in ground water sector, awareness programmes are organised under the Central Plan schemes "Ground Water Management & Regulation" and Information Education and Communication (IEC) of Ministry of Water Resources;
- Farmers Participatory Action Research Programme (FPARP) aimed at creating awareness about water conservation practices has been implemented during the year 2007-2010;
- "Artificial Recharge of Ground Water through Dugwell" scheme for over-exploited, critical and semi-critical areas of hard rock region covering seven States;
- "Demonstrative Projects for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water and Rain Water Harvesting";
- Institution of Bhoomijal Samvardhan Puraskars and National Water Award to encourage adoption of innovative practices of ground water augmentation;
- A Web Enabled Ground Water Information System (WEGWIS) for dissemination of ground water related information to all stake holders including users.

(e) The other remedial steps taken by the Government include: circulation of a Model Bill to all the States/Union Territories to facilitate regulation and control of development and management of ground water, issue of directions by Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA)

to States having 'over-exploited' areas for taking necessary measures to adopt/promote artificial recharge to ground water/rain water harvesting, conservation of ground water and to also include provision for making construction of roof top rain water harvesting structures mandatory under the building bye-laws. The CGWA has also 'notified' 43 areas in 10 States/UTs for regulation of ground water development.

[Translation]

SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH: Madam Speaker, I would like to know from hon'ble Minister about the study conducted mentioning NGRY in reply (a) and (b) in which it is accepted that ground water level has continuously gone down from 2002 to 2008 at the rate of 54+9 plus and minus. This is one of the academic aspects of the scientists of the country, which the government has highlighted. I would like to know what is its practical aspect? When the ground water table is depleting continuously whether any scheme is being implemented through which government or government machinery could replenish the ground water table? ...*(Interruptions)* Please mention any one place in Uttar Pradesh.

MADAM SPEAKER: You have asked the question, after this put your supplementary question.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam Speaker, the study mentioned in this question was conducted by the two satellites launched by NASA in the year 2002. The difference between them was about 250 k.m. They were in the space about 500 k.m. above the earth and completed one polar orbit in 30 days. In that wherever they find that the weight of the land is less or the weight of water is less, on that basis and on the basis of the different or distance between the two satellites the volume of water is assessed as hon'ble Member said. In this, it is said that loss of water may be up to 54 plus minus nine BCM annually. But they have also said that it is as per one of the study.

Madam, the study by the Central Ground Water Board was conducted in 5723 blocks where our tubewells are installed at different places. The study was based on this. Through this Central Ground Water Board and Ground Water Boards of State talk to each other. What they said is opposite, so it is not possible to take all these things as correct. The reason for this is that they have mentioned an area of 27 lakh square k.m. and within this area falls parts of Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh. In our land adjacent to the above-

mentioned area, as per our study in these basins on an average there is a difference of 10 centimeter, which may appear quite less to hon'ble Members but I have complete figures with me. I have figures indicating the names of states where maximum depletion of water table has taken place, minimum depletion of water table has taken place.

Madam, it is a fact that water table is continuously going down and the reasons for it as we know is, the excessive use of ground water from time to time. In agriculture cultivation of paddy require excessive water, no doubt 20 per cent of that water goes down again. More extraction of ground water is taking place due to human activities resulting in the reduction of ground water.

Madam, there are total 5723 blocks in this area and among this water table has gone down especially in Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana and Delhi. Water table has gone down in U.P. also. Water level has gone down most in some wells in Tamil Nadu but average depletion is minimum in this area where as maximum depletion has taken place in the four states. Our study goes against it, ours is a micro study, each well has been studied. The study conducted by the satellite was done at macro-level, which gives an average large picture. As per that study the total replenishable resources of our ground water is 214 BCM and annual withdrawal is 120 BCM. That is why it is not a startling situation, even then the government has taken many steps so that ground water level comes up. I have mentioned all this in my reply to the original question. If hon'ble Member wants, I would repeat them. The government has proposed dug wells to recharge ground water. Model law has been formulated and sent to various states so that they forward it by enacting them and put a ban on it. The government has asked for rooftop rainwater harvesting. Many efforts are being made. We are requesting all the states for repair, renovation and restoration of Water bodies in the form of ponds, bawadi and tanks located across the country, which have ceased to exist with the passage of time or have been encroached upon. The centre would provide funds for their restoration in which 25 per cent contribution will be made by the Central Government and 75 per cent by the concerned State Governments. It contains two elements-first one is domestic and second one is external. In this regard works have also started in several states with the help of World Bank. Result of all these efforts, have started trickling in. The method we have adopted has resulted into recharging of ground water level.

SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH: Madam Speaker, hon'ble Minister has misled the House. I simply said 'tell me just one district in Uttar Pradesh where level of ground water has increased because of the effort of the government machinery'. Give me just one example, I would like to tell you, for example, the schemes like Artificial Recharge of Ground Water through dug well are being implemented in Lucknow but no unit set up in Lucknow is working as on date. The daily consumption of ground water in Lucknow is 500-600 MLD. But, what is the quantity of recharge? I would like to know. You also said here that farmer participatory action research programme is being implemented. I also belong to a farmer family and belong to district Jaunpur. As far as I know, no such programme is being implemented in district Jaunpur or in any of the districts of Uttar Pradesh. Other Members would also raise the question in this regard and you will reply to them and I would like to you explain the same at that time.

You have mentioned web enabled ground water information system. Around seventy percent of our population lives in rural areas. Is the purity of water tasted when hand pumps and tube wells are installed through which water is being made available to the rural population? Are they found to consumer empure water? I would like to say something about eastern Uttar Pradesh. Arsenic has been found in ground water in about 22 districts, which is a cause of cancer in the people. Is there a concrete solution to this problem? Would you like to assure us that you would conduct tests of water before installing the hand pumps?

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, please ask the question.

SHRI SHANANJAY SINGH: One thing remained unanswered in your reply. He has made a mention of NGRI and the Central Ground Water Board. Are these two organizations working for the same purposes? Shri Tufani Saroj, MP from Samajwadi Party is also with us. A meeting of the monitoring committee was held in our district. On asking whether the central ground water board was functioning in our district, the district officer said that he was ignorant about it and no information had been given by the concerned department in that regard till that day.

MADAM SPEAKER: Your question is getting too long. Please, ask the question quickly.

SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH: Madam, this is an unavoidable question. All the reputed and renowned people in the world are saying that the reason of the third world war would be water.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please ask the question.

SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH: I am asking the question.

MADAM SPEAKER: You are preparing wide background and other questions are also to be asked.'

SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH: Madam, There is a need to go in its detail. I am saying the same thing.

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you, hon. Minister, please reply.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Some 4-5 questions have been asked. I would try to reply to all the questions. First of all, he asked about its impact and the assessment. Overall impact is that the level of water has increased from 0.15 to 12 meters in different places. I am saying this on the basis of available records. ...*(Interruptions)* As far as U.P. is concerned. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please listen to what he is saying.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Let him complete, please.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, seven schemes are being implemented in U.P. and I would like to hon. Members that water is a state subject as per the constitution as Lajuji, Mulayam Singhji know. It is not there in the Union list. The schemes which the centre ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You, please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, I will reply to all the questions that have been raised. If hon. Members want to say something else, I would also like to reply to all of them. Madam, the replies to the questions are possible through my own way. Funds are provided to the state as per the guidelines for the schemes forwarded by them to the Union Government. The Central sector schemes are formulated with long-term plans. The name of U.P. has been mentioned here. I did not say earlier also that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Now you please sit down. You have already asked in detail.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: You had asked seven questions. I am replying to the first one only.

MADAM SPEAKER: Are you giving reply to all seven questions?

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: This subject regarding your ministry is going to be discussed on the 27th. That day has been fixed for discussion, the demands for grants. You may discuss in detail then. I wanted to inform you about it. Now, please give reply to the question asked by him.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, I would like to inform hon'ble Member that there are seven such schemes in Uttar Pradesh for this under which 23,033 cubic metres run off water has been recharged in one year. This much of water has been recharged. Earlier also I have not said that the country had tided over problem of water scarcity. I believe that there is shortage of water in the country and this is going to increase in future. In the year 1947, we were getting per capita 5,500 cubic meters of water. Today that has been reduced to 1700. The way population is increasing and urbanization is taking place, it seems availability of water is going to further decrease in future.

[English]

Madam, a day will come when the demand will outstrip the supply, which has to happen unless we go for certain measures.

[Translation]

Under those measures, I would like to have complete support and co-operation on our IEC (Information, Education and Communication) programme. I will mention about our schemes again at the time of discussion on demands. In a lot of schemes web based system has been launched in every corner of the country and even in each and every village so we need that information from you or from your Revenue officials. There are 20 million wells in our country. We have not been able to do for all the wells and are taking only a few thousand wells right now. Some Piezo meters have been installed.

But we want that we should get information about each and every well through your revenue staff so that the same can be uploaded. Now one can step into the kiosk and if one presses the button for ones village then one will receive all the information as to how many wells, dug wells, tube wells are there and what are the locations where the water level has dropped. It is surprising that at some places the water level has gone down to 49 meters. I am anot saying that everything is very good. But these steps are being taken to improve the worsening condition. Today we are discussing about Farmers Participatory Action Programme. They are five thousand in number. These are unable to cover the entire world but these are very good programmes. I would request hon'ble Members that they support us so that together we can do it. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Let us have some order in the House. It is a very important subject.

SHRI K.C. SINGH 'BABA': Madam Speaker, Uttarakhand is the catchment area of the Indo-Gangetic plain where more than one-third of the Indian population is residing. If there is an ecological disturbance in Uttarakhand, its impact cascades right down up to Bangladesh.

Madam, forest fires cause (1) drying up of natural springs and (2) reduce the water percolation capacity of the soil. So, forest fires, being one of the main causes, still have not been treated as national disasters, owing to which other Departments like the Revenue Department, the Police Department do not support the Forest Department in extinguishing the forest fires. I would like to know what remedial steps are being taken by the Government in this regard.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, the question is relating to forest fires. I would not be able to answer. But otherwise, we are taking all the steps for the conservation of water and making it available to the people.

SHRI R. THAMARASELVAN: Madam, when we talk about the depletion of ground water level, we must also realise that the water level in almost all the dams in the country is getting lower and lower. Therefore, the Government of Tamil Nadu has taken an initiative to recharge the ground water in the surrounding areas by constructing a series of small and medium check dams

and ponds to store the flash flood, and has asked the Central Government to extend the Ground Water Recharge Scheme having the benefit area of 20 hectares and above under the Accelerated Irrigation Programme. So, I want to know from the Minister whether this demand of the Tamil Government has been accepted or not.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, the scheme for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies submitted by the Government of Tamil Nadu has been accepted and the arrangements are being worked out with the World Bank for assistance from the external component thereof. That would, to a great extent, besides conserving water, also help in recharging the ground water to some extent. But then the scheme *per se*, as far as the ground water recharge is concerned, there is a long list that I have. Regarding any schemes which are coming from time to time, after original scrutiny thereof, the schemes are accepted and some allocation of funds is made thereon.

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: According to the World Bank report which I read recently, India's ground water table will probably dry up in fifteen years. As of today, the ground water supports approximately 60 per cent of our irrigated agriculture and almost 80 per cent of our rural and urban water supply. Looking at the future, if this is the future as of today, and if I speak just of my State, Punjab for example, we have the Bhakra dam, the Pong dam and the Ranjit Sagar dam and due to the drought last year the levels in these dams are down by 50 per cent. These dams provide water for irrigation to Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. Punjab and Haryana provide almost 80 per cent of food security of wheat and rice to the nation. Looking at this problem, if there is 50 per cent less water, it is but obvious that there is going to be a huge water shortage staring us in the face. The country knows that there is a power shortage in the entire country. So, what is going to be the future of this country as far as food security is concerned.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please ask the question.

SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: Today what I am trying to ask is about the water level requirement where we require six to seven thousand cubic metres. In the Pong dam we got only 3400 cubic metres available whereas we require almost double the amount of water. The State Government has repeatedly been asking that a 150 year old irrigation system be given

Rs.3500 crore for rehabilitation, keeping the importance of saving each and every drop of water for the food security of the country. Has the Government realized the urgency of this and are they taking any drastic measure in a limited timeframe to support the States which provide the food security by revamping and rehabilitating the canal system to save the water which is an urgent requirement for the food security of the nation?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: The hon. Member is aware of the fact that we have the scheme of ERM, that is, Extension, Renovation and Modernisation, of the canal system where matters are pending. We have discussed those matters amongst ourselves. There are certain constraints for the release of funds from the Centre because we have one scheme at a time. Only two days earlier I had said that one scheme which they have completed to the extent of 90 per cent, we would treat that to be a fully completed scheme to enable the State to include another scheme in the project.

The question in fact relates to depletion in the ground water level. There is no denying the fact that Punjab has suffered immensely and the ground water level has come down. Perhaps it is one of the most over-exploited regions in the country, along with Haryana and Delhi where the water being extracted is much more. It is perhaps 145 per cent, if I am not mistaken. As far as Punjab is concerned, we are taking other steps.

The Prime Minister has included the Shapurkandi project as a national project in the 14 national projects whereunder funding would be done by the Government of India. We are taking steps. We are aware of the fact that Punjab and Haryana are two States which are in fact the highest contributors to food kitty of the country. They are the food basket of the country. Therefore, all that the Government of India can do in that regard we would do.

The only problem is when it comes to the inter-State matters, I would urge all the hon. Members present here today to respectively take it up with their State Governments. We express the feeling with the pious intentions which we express otherwise about the water resource being a national asset. If we were to adopt an approach like that, perhaps the problems could be solved easily.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: It is over. Let Dr. Jyoti Mirdha ask her supplementary question. Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...**

[Translation]

DR. JYOTI MIRDHA: Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that today out of 237 blocks in Rajasthan nearly 204 blocks come under dark zone. Rajasthan fulfills nearly 94 per cent of its water requirement through ground water. I would like to ask hon'ble Minister that whenever the issue of water is raised, it is said that water is a state matter. In future as water is going to work as currency, is the Government considering to bring this into the Concurrent List if not in the state list so that a better comprehensive water policy could be formulated. It is clear that the manner in which we have managed our water resources for the last 60 years was certainly not good. Then are we going to bring any major shift in the policy so that we can bring it on to the Concurrent List and formulate a better comprehensive policy so that such problems do not occur in future? Due to no alternative arrangement we have to remain dependent on ground water for drinking water.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, I would like to thank hon'ble Member for raising this issue. I would be very happy personally if the House can build a consensus over this issue. But as far as availability of water is concerned, we all know that there is a shortage of water in Rajasthan. The matter comes back to the same that there are certain inter state issues which I would not like to discuss at this point of time, but I realize it time and again that there is shortage of water in Rajasthan. To meet this shortage of water arrangement is made through the Drought-Prone Area Development Schemes by allocation of water. Maximum money *i.e.* upto 90 per cent is given by the Union for the State sector schemes.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Madam, I am happy that hon'ble Prime Minister is present here. I would like to seek information from the Government on a very basic question. Underground water is depleting in the country very rapidly. Without any dispute the water level is going down in your constituency and also in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh etc. I would like to tell the Government that our only source of underground water is river water.

Why did the previous Government without any thought handed over our Gangajal to Bangladesh. Barricades have been put in Bangladesh, rivers are drying up and no water is flowing down from there. It does not matter if no one believes that or not but I believe so. I would like to know from the Government why our previous Government gave water to Bangladesh? Today river Ganga is drying up, where from will water come into that? Are you going to provide water? From where will you provide water? I would like to tell the Government that lakhs of fishermen are starving because of the water which has been given to Bangladesh and as a result of that fishes are not coming here as the fishes swim upstream. Will the present Government re-consider present sharing of Ganga river water? If we stop our water then only water will come the in hand pump. Water table is undisputedly going down every where be it your area, Bihar or U.P. I would like to tell the Government that the water of rivers is the only source of ground water. What were the reasons for which the earlier Government handed over our sacred Gangajal to Bangladesh. Gates have been closed in Bangladesh and rivers are drying up, water is not coming. Whether anyone accepts it or not, but I think so. I would like to know from the Government as to why earlier Government of India gave water 40 Bangladesh. Today river Ganga is drying up, from where will water come in the river? Will you give water? From where will you give water? I would like to tell the Government that you gave Ganga water to Bangladesh and as a result of it. Lakhs of fishermen are dying because now fish are not found in the river. Fish have a reverse tendency to move upward. Will the present Indian Government reconsider the division of Ganga water? When we stop the flow of water, only then hand pumps will start pumping water.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, this question does not arise from this but this is a very important question. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: The question arises from this.

MADAM SPEAKER: Right, Laluji please sit down, let the Minister speak.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, Ganga water Treaty was signed with Bangladesh in the year 1996. Laluji knows which Government was in power at that time and had he been supporting that Government or not? At that time Devegoda Government was in power and this Government was enjoying the support from Laluji. ...*(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: At that time? I was not in the Cabinet, But today what you are doing?
...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Lalu Prasadji, you please sit down. Let him reply.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Lalu Prasadji, you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)...*

[Translation]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, hon'ble Member mentioned it and hon'ble Devegowdaji is present here that is why I have to mention it but I am not criticizing it.

[English]

I am not disputing that. That was necessary. Bangladesh is a lower riparian state. Under the international law, though not codified, lower riparian states

[Translation]

have their own rights and we have not given them anything in excess. Last time also, when was Farakka was mentioned, I had said that it was not set up for them. This was set up for us because we wanted to keep our Kolkatta port navigable. Even today Bangladesh has a grouse, a minister of Bangladesh had come here a few months ago, he was saying that we were not giving them their due, but Bangladesh is co-operating with us. There is an issue of dragging of river Ichhamati, our people, West Bengal and Tripura have demanded and they have accepted this. We have given them nothing, but they have accepted our demand. They have agreed to provide water to a village Subrum in Tripura from river Feni. We have not done any agreement with them till date, we have told them that we will decide on this issue after consulting the Government of West Bengal.

*Not recorded.

Madam, water is divided as per the manner in which talks are held at international level, and the protocols and no undue benefit is being given. The rights have been as per the treaty and table is also made accordingly. It is specified in it that water will be divided between them and us as per availability of water. It is being implemented in this way. I would request Laluji not to worry that it is talking place due to him. It is our need to improve the river Ganga. The way we are polluting the river. Ganga puts a big question mark before us. We have to answer it and strike a balance. I would also like to tell this House that it remains to be seen how we strike a balance keeping in view the development and other things.

[English]

That balance has to be struck for development and progress of the country.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Madam, there is no doubt that it is a very great problem. The ground water is going down and depletion of water table is happening. There will be problems even in the coming days. We are tapping arbitrarily ground water for agricultural purposes, industrial purposes and for drinking purposes. I have a pointed question in this regard.

Some industries, particularly the soft drink industries, are going on rising in this country and vast amount of water is being tapped by these soft drink industries these days. I would like to know whether the Government is aware of it and whether they have any particular study of how much water they are tapping from the ground at the cost of our essential drinking water and water for agricultural purposes. That is my pointed question to the Government.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Madam, I share the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member about the over-extraction of water by some of the water-intensive industries. Again, it is not an alibi, but a statement of fact that it is the State Governments which have a role to perform in that. The Central Government has formulated model Bill on different matters of ground water and submitted to the State Governments. Some State Governments have responded while some have not responded.

Now the Central Ground Water Development Authority is also working on this. Various instructions have been issued to more and more people, and more

and more State Governments. In the initial list, about 40 and odd areas were included, for which the District Magistrate was appointed as the nodal agency, as the authority to grant permission in case somebody wanted to set up a plant, which would mean extracting water from the ground. ...*(Interruptions)* on 27th ...*(Interruptions)*

Madam, the proposal is with us. We are working very actively on that to include more areas because there was a voice raised. We are including another 100 areas, taking the list from 40 and odd to over 140 and odd. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Madam Speaker, it is a very important subject therefore it should be discussed in detail.

MADAM SPEAKER: I accept that water resources is an important subject. We will be having a discussion on Demand for Grants for the Ministry of Water Resources on the 27th of this month. At that time hon'ble Members may shed light on all points.

MADAM SPEAKER: Question No. 363, Shri K.D. Deshmukh—absent.

Shri Jaywant Gangaram Awale.

Financial Assistance to Elite Schools

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*363. SHRI JAYWANT GANGARAM AWALE:
SHRI K.D. DESHMUKH:

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

(a) whether certain educational institutions including the Sanskriti school, catering largely to the elite sections of the society, are being granted financial assistance by the Government;

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

(c) the details of the funds granted to these schools during the last three years;

(d) the criteria/norms laid down for admission in the Sanskriti school;

(e) whether cases of violation of these norms have been reported;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action taken by the Government to regulate the functioning of such schools which are in receipt of funds from the Government?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) In the recent past, financial assistance has not been given by this Ministry to any private unaided schools for running of the schools. However, this Ministry had released Rs. 5 crore during 1995-96 and 1996-97 as a one time grant for construction of the building of Sanskriti School, Delhi. The primary objective of Sanskriti School is to provide sound and liberal education primarily to the children of the transferable officers of the All India and Group 'A' Services. Depending on the availability of seats, children of the officers of public sector or those working in non-government organizations and general public may also be admitted. Therefore, Sanskriti School caters to a wide cross section of the society.

(c) The Department of Personnel and Training has made the following grants to Sanskriti School in the last three years towards the construction cost of the school building:-

Sl.No.	Year	Amount (in lakhs)
1	2007-08	187.11
2.	2008-09	92.325
3.	2009-10	Nil
Total		279.435

(d) The admission in Sanskriti School is made in the following ratio:-

- 60% for the wards of the Civil Service/Defence and allied services.
- 20% for the wards of general public.
- 15% for the wards of economically weaker section.
- 5% for the wards of staff.

(e) and (f) No such case of violation has been reported.

(g) The affairs of the Sanskriti School are looked after by a Managing Committee which has, *inter alia*, representatives from the Central Government and the Education Department of the Government of NCT of Delhi.

[Translation]

SHRI JAYWANT GANGARAM AWALE: Madam Speaker, hon'ble Minister has stated in his written reply that during year 1995-1996 and 1996-1997 a lump sum amount of rupees five crore was released as a grant for the construction of the building of Sanskriti School. Under which rule was this amount released? Whether Sanskriti School which is totally a private school, does not have the capacity to construct building on its own? It has been further stated in the reply that an amount of Rs. 2 crore 79 lakh was once again released during year 2007-2008 and 2008-2009. Among persons who run this school are the wives of bureaucrats. I would like to know how many poor children and children belonging to scheduled castes are in this school?

[English]

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Madam, first of all, the genesis of the scheme goes back to the year 1988 when a proposal was put to the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT), which even today is the nodal agency that is in-charge of this School. In 1988, this proposal was given and the then Minister of State in DoPT affirmed the proposal and in 1994-1995 this was taken forward. The Ministry of Human Resource Development — when it was taken forward — decided to contribute in terms of infrastructure expenditure, not the running expenditure, and over the years various Ministries, State Governments, other Departments of the Government of India have actually been supporting this.

Of course, there is a specific scheme and the scheme is that there are four categories of persons who will be admitted in this School. One is the civil servants category; second is the general category; thirdly, there are wards of staff; and fourthly, the wards of the Economically Weaker Section (EWS). There is no Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe reservation, but these were the four categories under the scheme, which were approved by the DoPT that is being carried forward.

[Translation]

SHRI JAYWANT GANGARAM AWALE: Madam Speaker, this scheme is for SCs and the poor people, who are economically weak. People are of scheduled caste and very poor.

I would like to know from hon'ble Minister has any percentage of seats reserved for the people belonging to scheduled caste under this scheme.

[English]

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Madam, as I said, the recurring expenses of this institution are not financed by the Government of India. There is no separate reservation, but there is a reservation for the EWS, and 146 children from the EWS have been admitted.

[Translation]

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Madam Speaker, I have gone through the reply of hon'ble Minister. Hon'ble Minister is taking all the credit for uniform and compulsory education in the country. I would like to ask something related to the question hon'ble member has asked? My question is under which law and requirement these schools were set up? Here discussion is going on about the poor children. I think many of the hon'ble Members would have not seen or would have no information about these schools. They cannot even think of getting their children admitted in these schools, then what would be the condition of common man. The Central Government has given more than Rs. 8 crore. The poor, whether they are from backward class or scheduled caste or economically backward class will not get justice. When a Minister gives reply the mention the shortage of fund and that his Department has no money. When the issue of setting up Central School was raised you said that we have no money. When you enact laws then the responsibility of providing compulsory education also rests with you. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Jagdambika Palji you please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Madam, I would like to know from hon'ble Minister that on the one hand he is saying that there is shortage of fund but on the other hand there are these Sanskriti School where children are unable to get admission and Members of Parliament used to get quota for getting two children admitted in Kendriya Vidyalaya and requests were repeatedly made to increase this quota, but he discontinued it. Is this justice?

[English]

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Madam, I would like to tell you that as far as the Sanskriti School is concerned, in fact, they have adopted a *Basti*, which is situated next to them. They go to the *Basti* to empower the people of that *Basti* by imparting skills like embroidery and others to the ladies of that *Basti*, and the children of that *Basti* actually come to Sanskriti and they are taught in Sanskriti School. ...*(Interruptions)* In fact, class 11 children go to the rural areas as that is a part of their course work. They go to the rural areas, and children from the rural areas are brought to Sanskriti. In fact, they are empowered when they are brought to Sanskriti. So, it is not as if Sanskriti is functioning outside the general framework and the policy of the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: No such example is present. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: In fact, the wives of the officers who are part of the Managing Committee are managing the School without charging anything. This is a unique initiative taken for the purposes of holistic education in which everybody is involved. Even there are special teachers employed for the challenged members of the community. For challenged students, special teachers are employed, and 60 such students are in fact being taught in this area. So, it is a School which is being run in the context of our overall education policy. I wish the State Governments themselves would take up initiatives of this nature, and voluntary organizations should come forward to set up schools, to serve the community, all sections of the community.

[Translation]

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Why such schools are not being provided to them? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Madam Speaker, hon'ble Minister has replied, Sanskriti School was setup by the officers of Government. Cabinet Secretary is the Chairman and his wife is the ex-officio Chairman of this school. I would like to submit that there will be one or two people of this category in this House. What do we want from such school? We talk of uniform education? Uniform education is not possible in this country until the richest and poorest will not get education together.

This country will not progress until uniform education is provided here. We are creating divide between rich and poor in the matter of providing education to them in the country. And by doing this we are not building the nation, rather we are creating such divide every where. The entire education of the country has gone into the hands of private people. Good education requires much more money. The poor people had some education but he told that up to class eight all students would pass and be promoted to next class no matter they study or not.

A magistrate had come to me day before yesterday he told me that a child of class nine could not sign in the Court. What I want to point out that education is going into the hands of private sector, and you are simply creating divide by promoting private schools like Sanskriti School which are mushrooming every where. Stop this immediately only then the way of uniform education will be possible and avenues of progress will be opened for all the people.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: The first thing is that so far as private schools are concerned only seven percent Schools are private Schools in the country and 93 percent schools are in Government Sector which are being run by the State Governments. If today education has reached such point, all of us are responsible for this. It is not the responsibility of private schools. It is the responsibility of State Governments who have the primary responsibility of education. It is our responsibility. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: What he is saying? Schools are being opened in all the areas. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Let hon'ble Minister reply. You please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Let me reply. You will not let me reply. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Madam, he is misleading the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Nothing will go on record except what the hon. Minister is saying.

*(Interruptions)...**

[Translation]

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Whenever the Governments are formed at the centre, never such progress was made that funds become available so that it may be used for elementary education. I would like to congratulate hon'ble Prime Minister and Sonia ji that for the first time in the history of India Rs. 1,71,000 crore was used for elementary education. We decided that we would provide quality education to our children. This has been done for the first time in the history of India, there is not such earlier example. We are trying to provide more assistance. We should also do a bit of introspection that if the education is in such condition who is responsible for this and why it happened?

Setting up of Kendriya Vidyalayas

364. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the targets fixed for setting up of new Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) in the country during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the number of KVs set up so far during the last three years along with the expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) whether the number of KVs set up in semi-urban/rural/hilly areas is less than those set up in urban/metropolitan areas;

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

(e) the measures taken by the Government to ensure setting up of KVs in the deserving areas and to achieve the targets during the remaining part of the plan period?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) There is no target for opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) during the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

(b) 31 Kendriya Vidyalayas have been opened during the last three years by utilizing the sanctions of closed or non-functional KVs. The details are given in Annexure-I. The details of expenditure incurred on these 31 Kendriya Vidyalayas are given in Annexure-II.

(c) and (d) Kendriya Vidyalayas are opened primarily to cater to the educational needs of transferable Central Government employees' children. Out of the existing 980 Kendriya Vidyalayas, about 760 are functioning in urban areas. The locations of KVs are dependent on the several factors including the interest and commitment of the sponsoring agency, the concentration of children of school-going age of the Central Government employees and the local demand.

(e) Keeping in view the demand for opening of more new Kendriya Vidyalayas in various parts of the country, a proposal has been initiated to open 107 new Kendriya Vidyalayas during the remaining part of the 11th Plan period.

Annexure I

Year	Sl.No	Name of K.V.	State	Sector
1	2	3	4	5
2007-08	1.	Sector 12 Dwarka	Delhi	Civil
	2.	Venkatagiri, Distt Nellore	Andhra Pradesh	Civil
	3.	Panna, Distt. Panna	Madhya Pradesh	Civil
	4.	Mati Akabarpur, Kanpur Dehat	Uttar Pradesh	Civil
	5.	No. II RCF Kapurthala	Punjab	Civil
	6.	Sivaganga	Tamil Nadu	Civil
	7.	O.F. Estate Nalanda	Bihar	Defence

1	2	3	4	5
	8.	Garha, Distt. Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh	Civil
	9.	SAP Campus Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala	Civil
	10.	Teesta Low Dam Project-III, Darjeeling	West Bengal	Project
	11.	AFS Thanjavur	Tamil Nadu	Defence
	12.	No. III Belgaum	Karnataka	Civil
	13.	Dirang, West Kameng Distt.	Arunachal Pradesh	Civil
	14.	Bagalkot	Karnataka	Civil
	15.	Ongole, Distt. Prakassam	Andhra Pradesh	Civil
	16.	Kandhamal	Orissa	Civil
	17.	Dharmapuri	Tamil Nadu	Civil
	18.	Pilibhit	Uttar Pradesh	Civil
	19.	Sheopur	Madhya Pradesh	Civil
	20.	Chittorgarh	Rajasthan	Civil
	21.	Gandhigram, Dindigul	Tamil Nadu	Civil
	22.	Bhadrak	Orissa	Civil
2008-09	23.	Mahe	Puducherry	Civil
	24.	Tangdhar, Kupwara	Jammu and Kashmir	Civil
	25.	Datia	Madhya Pradesh	Civil
	26.	Gumla	Jharkhand	Civil
	27.	Painavu, Idukki distt.	Kerala	Civil
	28.	Nagercoil, Kanyakumari	Tamil Nadu	Civil
	29.	Khairagarh	Chhattisgarh	Civil
	30.	Adilabad	Andhra Pradesh	Civil
	31.	Mahabubnagar	Andhra Pradesh	Civil
2009-10		Nil	Nil	Nil

Annexure II

The expenditure incurred on the KVs opened during last three years (2007-08 to 2009-10)

Sl.No.	Name of K.V.	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Sector 12 Dwarka	6686330	5499426	7235000	19420756
2.	Venkatagiri, Distt. Nellore	1604527	2812810	6827669	11245006
3.	Panna, Distt. Panna	1146426	2144849	27525305	30816580

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Mati Akabarpur, Kanpur Dehat	3759232	33081815	11230649	48071696
5.	No. II RCF Kapurthala	6681851	2267867	35887003	44836721
6.	Sivaganga	22414867	32293125	18376099	73084091
7.	O.F. Estate Nalanda	949283	2958591	8056803	11964677
8.	Garha, Distt. Jabalpur	2004709	3795265	7657672	13457646
9.	SAP Campus Thiruvananthapuram	2688761	4907589	10117830	17714180
10.	Teesta Low Dam Project-III, Darjeeling (*)	1139054	2595809	—	3734863
11.	AFS Thanjavur	2303801	3953212	7611180	13868193
12.	No. III Belgaum	1308236	2567542	5333630	9209408
13.	Dirang, West Kameng Distt.	1653912	16867292	48762090	67283294
14.	Bagalkot	537949	2114882	3401010	6053841
15.	Ongole, Distt. Prakassam	970588	2071417	4611403	7653408
16.	Kandhamal	264610	2035491	20105179	22405280
17.	Dharmapuri	1360061	16278696	8715301	26354058
18.	Pilibhit	—	1484465	2909566	4394031
19.	Sheopur	907153	1900425	4284111	7091689
20.	Chittorgarh	859760	2272858	5122911	8255529
21.	Gandhigram, Dindigul	1181918	2895609	6606450	10683977
22.	Bhadrak	630439	3550636	6387314	10568389
23.	Mahe	—	2066554	5124943	7191497
24.	Tangdhar, Kupwara	—	418091	1765829	2183920
25.	Datia	—	1572356	3709436	5281792
26.	Gumla	—	1119970	2661653	3781623
27.	Painavu, Idukki distt.	—	1965531	10714791	12680322
28.	Nagercoil, Kanyakumari	—	1331803	3853911	5185714
29.	Khairagarh	—	395405	3694494	4089899
30.	Adilabad	—	974311	2760854	3735165
31.	Mahabubnagar	—	1038753	3039763	4078516
	Nil	59914413	158636636	294089849	512640898
		61053467	161232445	294089849	516375761

(*) It is a project sector Kendriya Vidyalaya for which expenditure is bear by the project authority.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please have order in the House.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI: Madam Speaker, it is a very good thing that hon. Minister Shri Kapil Sibal Ji is introducing reforms in primary, secondary and higher education and not only the Parliament but the entire country supports him in this regard. I could not understand why MP's quota of two seats in Kendriya Vidyalayas has been withdrawn. What is the reason for it? We could have got ten poor children educated within a period of five years. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Let the Minister reply to the question. Let there be order in the House.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Why are you standing? Please take your seat. Do not be so much excited.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: We could hardly recommend two children for admission. ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down. Why have you stood up? Let him speak. We have got a little time and the reply would not be completed.

...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Madam, though the question is not related to quota, still I will reply. This process was started about ten years ago when the NDA Government was in power. Shri Murali Manohar Joshi kept a discretion quota 1000 seats for himself and gave a quota of two seats to every Member of Parliament. The allocation for each of the states was also fixed. When the UPA Government came into power the quota of Union Minister was increased from 1000 to 1200. When I saw the figures, the quota for Delhi was 90 but 900 children were admitted. I went through the figures....(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Let him complete the reply.

...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Jai Prakash Ji, please sit down.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: For when Kendriya Vidyalayas were set up? These Vidyalayas were set up for the children of Central Government employees, employees of the State Government employees working in the public sector, corporations but in practice the Minister and Members of Parliament used to make recommendations and their wardes here admitted. It was against the scheme. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Do not get excited.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Unfair Practices in Educational Institutions

[*English*]

*365. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL
KHATGAONKAR:

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

(a) whether cases of charging of capitation fee or misleading the students with false claims and promises by educational institutions in the country have increased over the years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(c) whether a legislative proposal to check unfair practices including charging of capitation fee by the educational institutions has been cleared by the Government;

(d) if so, the salient features of the said proposal;

(e) whether the Government has also consulted all stakeholders in the matter;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (g) While no information on charging of capitation fee or misleading claims by institutions in higher education is centrally maintained, attention of the Government has been drawn from time to time to the public concern that institutions should not resort to unfair practices, such as charging of capitation fee low quality delivery of education services and false claims of quality of such services through misleading advertisements.

Legislative proposal for prohibition and punishment of unfair practices adopted by technical and medical educational institutions and universities has been finalized for introduction in Parliament and information on the provisions would be placed before Parliament on its introduction.

A draft of the legislative proposal was circulated to State Governments and was discussed at the conference of State Education Secretaries on 23rd July, 2009. The proposal was also discussed at the meeting of the Central Advisory Board on Education (CABE), which is the highest policy advisory body to Government in education, in its meeting on 31st August, 2009, with membership of State Education Ministers and eminent persons from different walks of life including academia.

Shortage of Higher Educational Institutions

*366. SHRI P.T. THOMAS:
SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL:

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

(a) whether the Government has assessed the requirement and demand of higher educational institutions in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the shortages reported in the field;

(c) whether the Government has formulated any plan to meet the increasing demand to tide over shortages of such institutions;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the number of Indian students pursuing higher education abroad is increasing;

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

(g) the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government for improving the higher education system in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (g) While the Government has not made any assessment in regard to the requirement and demand for higher educational institutions in the country, the low Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in the eligible age group in access to higher education, as compared to other developing countries confirms the need for increase in the capacity of higher educational institutions by establishing new institutions as well as strengthening existing institutions. The targeted increase in GER by the end of 11th Plan period is an increase of 5 percentage points over the GER at the end of 10th Plan.

As the increasing demand for higher education institutions can not be met by public expenditure alone, systemic and institutional reforms are being introduced so that good quality not-for-profit private institutions are encouraged to be established to supplement efforts of Central and State Governments. These reforms include establishing an independent Accreditation Authority for mandatory accreditation, availability of long term finance, a self-disclosure based approach to prevention of unfair practices along with stringent penalties etc.

No separate information is available in respect of Indian students pursuing higher education abroad. There are no restrictions on cross-border students' mobility and such mobility can be owing to a variety of reasons such as affordability, access to bank loans, exposure to foreign societies, aptitude for particular branches of studies, inability to gain admission to top Indian institutions due to capacity limitation etc. Another reason could be the interest among students to join some of the universities in the world which have a long history of education and research spread over centuries.

Upgrading the quality of Indian higher educational institutions and faculty is a continuous process. A substantial increase in Plan allocation has been made in XIth Plan for the expansion of higher education by setting up new institutions such as Central Universities in uncovered States, Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management, Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, Indian Institutes of Information Technology and Schools for Planning and Architecture etc. Expansion of capacity of the existing institutions, incentivizing State Governments for increasing public expenditure for establishing model colleges, strengthening of science based research in universities, frequent updating of curricula, introduction of semester system, faculty improvement programmes and other academic reforms are also being implemented in XIth Plan for improving the quality of higher education. Pay and other monetary benefits have also been revised substantially to attract talented persons to the teaching profession.

Facelift to Monuments in Delhi

*367. SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH MEENA:
SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to give a facelift to the various historical monuments in Delhi in view of the ensuring Commonwealth Games, 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether basic amenities like drinking water, tea/coffee, parking facility, etc. are available in monuments like Qutub Minar, Red Fort and Safdarjung Tomb;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the further measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (e) There are in all 174 centrally protected monuments in Delhi, which have been declared as of national importance by the Central Government. Out of these, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has identified 46 centrally protected monuments in Delhi (as in Statement enclosed) which are either popular among tourists or are located on main routes associated with the Commonwealth Games. These monuments are being spruced up to make them presentable keeping in view the forthcoming mega-event to be organized in October, 2010.

The main items of work identified at these monuments include conservation/repairs of the monuments, improving the pathways, repairs and painting of the railings/boundary wall, providing new or up-grading existing toilets, drinking water, publication counters, signage, chemical preservation, environmental development and illumination of some of these. The projected expenditure on conservation, preservation and environmental development of these monuments is approximately Rs. 25.73 crores.

Providing of new amenities and upgrading the existing ones at centrally protected monuments are regular features which are taken-up every year on need basis, subject to availability of resources. But, special efforts are now underway for upgradation of basic tourist amenities at 11 monuments, including Qutb Minar, Red Fort and Safdarjung Tomb in view of Commonwealth Games, 2010. There is also a proposal to provide small cafeteria at 4 and souvenir shops at 6 most visited monuments. The ASI has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 11.86 crores till March, 2010 on special conservation works, scientific preservation and environmental development at 46 monuments.

The India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) in collaboration with ASI has already illuminated Purana Qila, Khairul Manazil Mosque, Sher Shah Gate, Sabz Burz and Safdarjung Tomb. There is a proposal of ITDC to illuminate some more monuments in Delhi including Khan-i-Khana's Tomb, Bara Khambha, Najaf Khan's Tomb, Kotla Feroz Shah, Khuni Darwaza, Biran Ka Gumbad, Dadi Poti, and Sakri Gumti.

Apart from 46 monuments so specially identified for the Commonwealth Games, the ASI has also undertaken a programme for conservation, preservation and landscaping of the surroundings at the remaining protected monuments in Delhi also.

Statement

The list of 46 monuments in Delhi identified for sprucing up for Commonwealth Games—2010

Sl.No.	Name of the monument
1	2
1.	Purana Qila Complex, Mathura Road
2.	Khairul-Manazi'l- Mosque, Mathura Road
3.	Sher Shah Gate, Mathura Road

1	2
4.	Humayun's Tomb Complex, Nizamuddin East
5.	Khan-i-Khana's Tomb, Nizamuddin East
6.	Subz Burj, Nizamuddin
7.	Nila Gumbad, Nizamuddin East near Nizamuddin Railway Station
8.	Bu-Halima Tomb, near Humayun's Tomb, Nizamuddin
9.	Arab-ki-Sarai, Nizamuddin East
10.	Bara Khambha, Nizamuddin West
11.	Group of Monuments Hazarat Nizamuddin Complex
12.	Safdarjung Tomb Complex, Jorbagh
13.	Lodi Garden Monuments (5 Nos.) (i) Muhammad Shah's Tomb (ii) Bara Gumbad Masjid (iii) Shish-Gumbad (iv) Sikandar Lodi's Tomb (v) Athpula
14.	Najaf Khan Tomb, Aliganj, Kidwai Nagar
15.	City Wall, Kashmiri Gate, near ISBT
16.	Wazirabad Bridge, Tomb and Mosque.
17.	Kotla Feroz Shah, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg
18.	Delhi Gate, Daria Ganj, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg
19.	City Wall, Daria Ganj Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg
20.	Khuni Darwaza, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg near Kotla Feroz Shah
21.	Jantar Mantar Complex, Parliament street
22.	Lal Bangla, Golf Course, Golf link
23.	Ugrasen-ki-Baoli, Hailey Road
24.	Red Fort Complex, Old Delhi
25.	Ajmeri Gate, Asaf Ali Road
26.	Salim Garh Fort, Red Fort

1	2
27.	Ashokan Rock Edict, East of Kailash
28.	Biran ka Gumbad, Green Park
29.	Dadi Poti, Hauz Khas
30.	Sakri Gumti, Hauz Khas
31.	Bara Khambha, Hauz Khas
32.	Mohamadiwali Mosque, Mayfair Garden
33.	Lal Gumbad, Malviya Nagar
34.	Teen Burji, Mohammad Pur Village
35.	Siri Fort Wall (i) Stretch adjoining Panchsheel Park (ii) Stretch adjoining Asiad Village (iii) Stretch of the Wall from Asiad tower to Siri Fort Sports Complex
36.	Hauz Khas Complex, Hauz Khas
37.	Jahanpanah Wall, Adchini and Hauz Rani
38.	Qila Rai Pithora Wall, Ladoo Sarai
39.	Satpula, Khirki Village
40.	Qutb Minar Complex, Mehrauli
41.	Jamali Kamali Tomb and Mosque, Mehrauli
42.	Ajim Khan's Tomb, Anuvrat Marg, Delhi Gurgaon Road
43.	Balban's Tomb and Ruins, Anuvrat Marg, Delhi Gurgaon Road
44.	Tughluqabad Fort, M.B. Road
45.	Ghiasuddin Tughluq's Tomb, M.B. Road
46.	Adilabad Fort, M.B. Road

Security of Indians Abroad

*368. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that Indian nationals living in foreign countries including Australia are feeling insecure;

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

(c) whether a number of Indian nationals had reportedly died in the recent attacks on them in these countries;

(d) if so, the number of deaths reported during the last three years and the current year, year-wise; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure safety and security of Indian nationals working abroad?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) No, Madam. However, in the light of recent events that have occurred in Australia some sections of the Indian community have expressed apprehensions about their safety and security.

(c) and (d) Available information on killing of Indian nationals, including due to attacks, are as follows:

Country	2007	2008	2009	2010 (uptil April)	Remarks
Australia	-	01	02	04	
Iran	-	01	-	-	
Iraq	05	09	05	-	Due to attacks on military bases/ convoys
Jamaica	-	-	-	01	
New Zealand	-	-	-	01	
Nigeria	-	-	01	-	
Oman	-	03	02	-	
Philippines	05	14	15	2	During robbery/ kidnapping
Senegal	-	-	-	01	
South Africa	-	-	01	01	
Ukraine	-	-	01	-	
Yemen	01	-	-	-	

(e) The Indian Missions/Posts abroad regularly take up incidents of attacks on Indians with the host governments whenever such incidents or instances are brought to their notice for appropriate action.

[*Translation*]

Impact of Construction of Dams

*369. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:
KUMARI SAROJ PANDEY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of environmental protection schemes run by the Government in the country and the number of plans being implemented under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP);

(b) whether construction of dams across the river Bhagirathi and other tributaries of Ganga may affect the flow of water into the Ganges;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has conducted any scientific study in this regard;

(e) if so, the outcome of this study; and

(f) the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Ministry of Environment & Forests is implementing nine thematic schemes comprising of thirty two (32) sub-schemes/projects for environmental protection in the country, including the scheme of National River Conservation Plan. These environmental protection schemes of diverse aspects include areas of pollution abatement, conservation of natural resources/ecosystems, environmental education and awareness, Impact Assessment & coastal management, and conservation of rivers/lakes.

(b) to (f) Ministry of Power (MoP) had constituted a High Level Expert Group (HLEG) to examine the technical issues involved for ensuring required flow in the river Bhagirathi, to keep the river live and to ensure perennial environmental flow in the river. The HLEG recommended the release of 4 cumec water as perennial environmental flow for Bhagirathi and 15 cumec on special religious occasions from Loharinag Pala barrage. However, MoP decided that in view of the sentiments attached to Bhagirathi, 16 cumec water would be released from Lohari-nag Pala perennially or as may be decided by the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA).

NGRBA in its first meeting on 5th October 2009 decided that the issue of three hydro power projects namely Bhairon Ghati, Loharinag Pala and Pala Maneri may be studied by the Ministries of Environment & Forests and Power and a report submitted to NGRBA. The report has since been submitted.

Assessment of Poverty

*370. SHRI BHUDEO CHOUDHARY:
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission conducts an exercise to estimate the poverty in the country;

(b) if so, the norms laid down and the methodology adopted by the Commission for the purpose;

(c) the outcome of the assessment made in this regard on the last occasion, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to address the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) The Planning Commission estimates the poverty from a large size sample survey of household consumer expenditure carried out by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) after an interval of 5 years approximately. Since 1997 the poverty estimates are based on the methodology contained in the Report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor (Lakdawala Committee). The Poverty line was defined as per capita consumption level of Rs. 49.09 per capita per month in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 per capita per month in urban areas at 1973-74 prices at national level which corresponds to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of per capita daily calorie requirement of 2400 kcal in rural areas and 2100 kcal in urban areas. The National Poverty Line is disaggregated into State-wise poverty lines in order to reflect the State-wise price differentials and these poverty lines are updated using Consumer Price Index for Agriculture Labourers (CPI-AL) in rural areas and Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW) for

urban areas. The latest poverty estimates based on 61st Round NSSO Data have been released for the year 2004-05 wherein the poverty line adopted at all-India level is Rs. 356.30 per capita consumption per month at 2004-05 prices for rural areas and Rs. 538.60 per capita consumption per month for urban areas. State-wise assessment of poverty based on the last poverty estimates for the year 2004-05 is given in the enclosed Statement. The Planning Commission constituted an Expert Group under the chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar in December 2005 to revise the methodology for estimation of poverty and it submitted its report on 8th December 2009. The Planning Commission is seized of the recommendations of the Expert Group.

(d) Alleviation of poverty has been one of the objectives of Development Planning and a number of poverty alleviation programmes are being implemented which include: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) of the Ministry of Rural Development, which guarantees at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every rural household. Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) provides self employment to the rural poor who are organized into Self Help Groups (SGHs) and are provided income generating assets through a mix of bank credit and subsidy alongwith skill development component. Under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) the shelterless rural BPL households are provided financial assistance for construction of houses. National Social Assurance Programme (NSAP) provides social security in the form of IGNOAPS (Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme), pension scheme for widows and disabled etc., Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana, a Health Insurance Scheme for the unorganized BPL workers are the other measures taken by the government. Similarly the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation is implementing Swarna Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) which aims to encourage urban self-employment through subsidy and loan with a component of skill development training, Rajiv Awas Yojana aims to make the country slum-free. The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution is implementing Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), which provides food grains at subsidized rates to the poor, the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) provides food grains to the poorest of the poor families at a highly subsidized rate.

Statement*Number and Percentage of Population below poverty line in states—2004-05**(Based on URP-Consumption)*

Sl.No.	States/U.Ts	Rural		Urban		Combined	
		%age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%age of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11.2	64.70	28.0	61.40	15.8	126.10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	22.3	1.94	3.3	0.09	17.6	2.03
3.	Assam	22.3	54.50	3.3	1.28	19.7	55.77
4.	Bihar	42.1	336.72	34.6	32.42	41.4	369.15
5.	Chhattisgarh	40.8	71.50	41.2	19.47	40.9	90.96
6.	Delhi	6.9	0.63	15.2	22.30	14.7	22.93
7.	Goa	5.4	0.36	21.3	1.64	13.8	2.01
8.	Gujarat	19.1	63.49	13.0	27.19	16.8	90.69
9.	Haryana	13.6	21.49	15.1	10.60	14.0	32.10
10.	Himachal Pradesh	10.7	6.14	3.4	0.22	10.0	6.36
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	4.6	3.66	7.9	2.19	5.4	5.85
12.	Jharkhand	46.3	103.19	20.2	13.20	40.3	116.39
13.	Karnataka	20.8	75.05	32.6	63.83	25.0	138.89
14.	Kerala	13.2	32.43	20.2	17.17	15.0	49.60
15.	Madhya Pradesh	36.9	175.65	42.1	74.03	38.3	249.68
16.	Maharashtra	29.6	171.13	32.2	146.25	30.7	317.38
17.	Manipur	22.3	3.76	3.3	0.20	17.3	3.95
18.	Meghalaya	22.3	4.36	3.3	0.16	18.5	4.52
19.	Mizoram	22.3	1.02	3.3	0.16	12.6	1.18
20.	Nagaland	22.3	3.87	3.3	0.12	19.0	3.99
21.	Orissa	46.8	151.75	44.3	26.74	46.4	178.49
22.	Punjab	9.1	15.12	7.1	6.50	8.4	21.63
23.	Rajasthan	18.7	87.38	32.9	47.51	22.1	134.89
24.	Sikkim	22.3	1.12	3.3	0.02	20.1	1.14
25.	Tamil Nadu	22.8	76.50	22.2	69.13	22.5	145.62

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
26.	Tripura	22.3	6.18	3.3	0.20	18.9	6.38
27.	Uttar Pradesh	33.4	473.00	30.6	117.03	32.8	590.03
28.	Uttarakhand	40.8	27.11	36.5	8.85	39.6	35.96
29.	West Bengal	28.6	173.22	14.8	35.14	24.7	208.36
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	22.9	0.60	22.2	0.32	22.6	0.92
31.	Chandigarh	7.1	0.08	7.1	0.67	7.1	0.74
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	39.8	0.68	19.1	0.15	33.2	0.84
33.	Daman and Diu	5.4	0.07	21.2	0.14	10.5	0.21
34.	Lakshadweep	13.3	0.06	20.2	0.06	16.0	0.11
35.	Puducherry	22.9	0.78	22.2	1.59	22.4	2.37
	All-India	28.3	2209.24	25.7	807.96	27.5	3017.20

URP consumption = Uniform Recall Period consumption in which the consumer expenditure data for all the items are collected from 30-day recall period.

Notes:

- Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura.
- Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.
- Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A & N Island.
- Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.
- Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
- Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.
- Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshadweep.

[English]

Central Funds for SSA

*371. SHRIMATI DARSHANA JARDOSH:
DR. KIRIT PREMAJIBHAI SOLANKI:

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

(a) the funding pattern between the Union Government and the States under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) during the 11th Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether the Union Government has given its share of funds to the States under SSA;

(c) if so, the funds allocated/released to Gujarat and other States during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise; and

(d) the ratio of this funding in GDP terms, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The fund sharing pattern between the Central and State Governments and Union Territories for the implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in the 11th Plan is in the ratio of 65:35 in the first two years, *i.e.* 2007-08 and 2008-09, 60:40 in the third year, *i.e.* 2009-10, 55:45 in the fourth year *i.e.* 2010-2011, and 50:50 in 2011-12 and thereafter. In respect of the States in the North Eastern Region (NER) the sharing pattern between the Central and State Governments is in the 90:10 ratio with the Central share resourced from the 10% earmarked funds for the NER in SSA's Central Budget.

(b) and (c) The details of Central funds released to all the States/UTs, including Gujarat, in the last three

years are given in Statement-I. The Central funds to States are released keeping in view the unspent balance of funds of the previous year, the release of the State share of funds, and the pace of expenditure by the States.

(d) As per advance estimate of National Income for the year 2009-10 at current prices, the release of funds made to States/UTs under SSA as a percentage of GDP 2009-10 are given in Statement-II.

Statement I

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2007-2008		2008-2009		2009-2010	
		OB as on 1.4.2006	GOI releases	OB as on 1.4.2007	GOI releases	OB as on 1.4.2008	GOI releases
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	241.75	187.10	329.57	780.90	195.78	412.44
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2500.67	28100.00	29999.33	71031.78	20715.64	38569.90
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1293.11	11043.55	3231.67	15568.17	3271.59	11427.95
4.	Assam	32606.21	28949.99	11267.36	42740.91	4733.22	47480.00
5.	Bihar	36962.46	137748.08	66348.66	186158.47	133766.97	121739.06
6.	Chandigarh	335.90	934.95	623.46	820.52	851.70	1100.72
7.	Chhattisgarh	5631.12	46787.77	8391.26	51853.86	22130.68	55592.82
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.53	516.34	559.29	69.78	419.66	350.18
9.	Daman and Diu	214.56	167.87	119.14	0.00	62.48	169.00
10.	Delhi	1417.21	1671.55	1433.09	1529.01	588.14	3088.62
11.	Goa	256.48	899.57	571.11	804.41	729.23	550.58
12.	Gujarat	1634.00	22785.76	7463.00	25432.47	13479.00	20031.73
13.	Haryana	5603.20	14220.00	5980.05	20546.88	8034.06	27600.00
14.	Himachal Pradesh	451.39	7638.30	1232.81	8553.00	2198.82	8608.00
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	1115.75	20393.27	1973.00	20532.59	6172.03	37363.27
16.	Jharkhand	6854.40	80749.00	46654.54	69041.10	35317.74	70940.22
17.	Karnataka	6169.02	40604.79	13894.96	51578.23	26870.90	44220.60
18.	Kerala	187.51	10322.60	421.83	10854.05	3446.69	11989.50
19.	Lakshadweep	89.27	0.00	77.26	70.00	48.76	143.80
20.	Madhya Pradesh	15515.05	86770.34	33355.93	85569.83	19126.52	113249.00
21.	Maharashtra	24886.24	45729.96	13546.07	67386.02	23384.53	56432.00
22.	Manipur	417.38	1850.95	752.05	321.21	696.53	1500.00
23.	Meghalaya	3403.28	9365.57	5847.97	9440.36	5508.07	9383.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24.	Mizoram	175.19	4212.02	761.75	3872.54	-95.78	6617.75
25.	Nagaland	33.36	4596.00	229.11	2367.87	499.33	4913.00
26.	Orissa	13351.61	62853.68	31569.13	49080.90	27503.72	63061.60
27.	Puducherry	202.83	577.07	313.76	638.60	119.49	669.96
28.	Punjab	1165.79	10493.88	3475.14	13808.11	3273.41	20044.00
29.	Rajasthan	3656.79	101307.20	7123.91	108327.20	17400.19	127124.00
30.	Sikkim	164.73	402.14	1098.51	1075.36	494.13	1736.00
31.	Tamil Nadu	470.55	46493.09	17916.30	45414.48	4564.94	48366.00
32.	Tripura	194.03	4178.49	286.56	6464.12	658.81	7473.00
33.	Uttar Pradesh	25253.54	204758.00	47111.00	212885.00	55697.32	196011.90
34.	Uttarakhand	7965.70	13278.40	9972.45	11444.45	4520.92	16006.29
35.	West Bengal	4694.09	90381.30	43773.49	65169.37	24157.60	104142.00
Total		205114.70	1140968.6	417704.52	1261232	470542.82	1278107.89

Statement II*Release of funds to States/UTs under SSA as percentage of GDP 2009-10*

Sl. No.	States/UTs (other than NER)	Amount released (central share) during 2009-10 (in Lakhs)	Advance estimates of GDP value of Rs. 579126800 lakh* 2009-10 & central releases as % of GDP value
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	38569.90	0.0067
2.	Bihar	121739.06	0.0210
3.	Chhattisgarh	55592.82	0.0096
4.	Goa	550.58	0.0001
5.	Gujarat	20031.73	0.0035
6.	Haryana	27600.00	0.0048
7.	Himachal Pradesh	8608.00	0.0015

1	2	3	4
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	37363.27	0.0065
9.	Jharkhand	70940.22	0.0122
10.	Karnataka	44220.60	0.0076
11.	Kerala	11989.50	0.0021
12.	Madhya Pradesh	113249.00	0.0196
13.	Maharashtra	56432.00	0.0097
14.	Orissa	63061.60	0.0109
15.	Punjab	20044.00	0.0035
16.	Rajasthan	127124.00	0.0220
17.	Tamil Nadu	48366.00	0.0084
18.	Uttar Pradesh	196011.90	0.0338
19.	Uttarakhand	16006.29	0.0028
20.	West Bengal	104142.00	0.0180
21.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	412.44	0.0001
22.	Chandigarh	1100.72	0.0002

1	2	3	4
23.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	350.18	0.0001
24.	Daman and Diu	169.00	0.0000
25.	Delhi	3088.62	0.0005
26.	Lakshadweep	143.80	0.0000
27.	Puducherry	669.96	0.0001
	TOTAL Non NER	1187577.19	0.2051
NER States			
1.	Assam	47480.00	0.0082
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	11427.95	0.0020
3.	Manipur	1500.00	0.0003
4.	Meghalaya	9383.00	0.0016
5.	Mizoram	6617.75	0.0011
6.	Nagaland	4913.00	0.0008
7.	Sikkim	1736.00	0.0003
8.	Tripura	7473.00	0.0013
	Total NER	90530.70	0.0156
	Grand Total	1278107.89	0.2207

*Source: CSO, GDP = at factor cost at current prices.

Access to Higher Education

*372. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:

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

(a) the percentage of population which has access to higher education in the country;

(b) the details of the problems being faced by the higher education system in the country and the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up National Accreditation Authority and National Education Finance Corporation as well as to allow domestic and foreign players to set up educational institutes in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action initiated by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the extent to which the measures taken by the Government are likely to improve access to higher education in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (e) The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of students enrolled in higher education as a percentage of the population in the age group of 18-24 years is estimated to be 12.4%. The problems that beset the higher education system in India relate primarily to low access, exclusion of disadvantaged sections of the population, and quality of education imparted.

The low GER in India as compared to other developing countries has multiple causes, including the lack of availability of institutions imparting higher education, the comparatively low percentage of students emerging from secondary education system, the reducing public expenditure on higher education by Governments over a period of time and the significant change in the demographics with a rapid increase in population in the target age group. The problem of inclusion arises due to imbalances on account of regional and socio-economic factors. Quality of education has also been an area of concern in higher education owing to declining investments in infrastructure and shortage of faculty due to the inability, hitherto, to attract talented persons to the teaching profession.

Legislative proposals for mandatory accreditation of all higher educational institutions and establishing an independent Accreditation Authority for the purpose and for the regulation of entry and operation of foreign educational institutions have been finalized for introduction in Parliament.

A proposal for establishment of National Educational Finance Corporation (NEFC) to provide funds through direct lending and refinance facilities for the creation and infrastructure development of higher educational institutions, provide concessional loans to institutions established for removal of imbalances and disparities in access opportunities for disadvantaged sections as well as to refinance educational loans obtained by students for pursuit of higher studies is under consideration for which a Detailed Project Report (DPR) is under preparation.

The above measures are part of a package of reform measures that would facilitate the establishment of quality institutions thereby increasing access and promoting inclusion as well as improve the quality of education in existing institutions of higher learning.

Help Desk for Indian Workers Abroad

*373. SHRI A. SAMPATH: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has established/proposes to establish help desk for the Indian workers working in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which it would help the Indian workers abroad?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (c) Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has established Overseas Workers Resource Centre (OWRC) as a Helpline for rendering assistance to Indian workers abroad and those who are desirous of going abroad for employment. The objectives of the OWRC include:

- Information dissemination on matters relating to emigration.
- Registering, responding to and monitoring complaints received from emigrant workers.
- Grievance redressal and follow up with stakeholders.

The OWRC has a Helpline with a toll free number 1800 11 3090, accessible from anywhere in India. The Helpline is presently functioning in seven languages viz. Hindi, English, Tamil, Malayalam, Punjabi, Kannada and Telugu, 24/7 days a week. An International toll free no. 8000 911 913 is also functioning under the OWRC for the benefit of Indian emigrant workers in the UAE.

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has also requested our Heads of Missions in the six GCC Countries and Malaysia to establish Indian Workers Resource Centres (IWRC), which include a Help Desk and a 24x7 multi-lingual helpline at the Missions. The Centre would facilitate redressal of grievances of the migrant workers, provide information to intending migrants and act as a Resource Centre for State Governments to interact with, in times of distress. The first dedicated IWRC is being set up by the Indian Mission in UAE.

[Translation]

Development of River Yamuna

*374. Shri BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: SHRI VIKRAMBHAJ ARJANBHAJ MADAM:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any scheme for cleaning and development of river Yamuna;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated, released and utilised for the purpose so far; and

(d) the success achieved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (d) The Government of India implemented Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) Phase-I from 1993 to 2003 for abatement of pollution in river Yamuna. Under this phase, 269 schemes have been completed and sewage treatment capacity of 753 million litre per day (mld) created in the States of Haryana, Delhi, and Uttar Pradesh. Expenditure of Rs. 682.19 crore was incurred during this phase.

The Government of India has further approved YAP Phase-II in the year 2004 with total cost Rs. 624 crore for implementation of pollution abatement schemes in 15 towns in the states of Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh. An expenditure of Rs. 226.89 crore has already been incurred during Phase-II.

[English]

International Syllabus in CBSE Schools

*375. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL: SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce international syllabus in schools affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) abroad;

(b) if so, the salient features of the new syllabus;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to introduce international syllabus in CBSE schools in India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by which the new syllabus is likely to be finalised; and

(f) the benefits likely to accrue to the students as a result of the new syllabus?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has decided to introduce international curriculum on a pilot basis for a few selected schools abroad from the academic session 2010-11 in classes I and IX.

(b) It provides, *inter-alia*, flexibility in social science and languages. Other features include perspectives on building opinions, critical thinking module, life skills, research project and community service.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to introduce the international curriculum in the schools in India during 2010-11.

(e) The new syllabus for classes I and IX has been finalized for introduction during the academic session 2010-11.

(f) This will widen the choices for students to obtain admission to higher educational institutions in different parts of the world. It will also attract the students of international community to avail of Indian education.

[*Translation*]

Implementation of RTE Act

*376. SHRI C.R. PATIL:
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

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

(a) whether the law relating to the Right to free and compulsory education for all children in the age group of six to fourteen years has been enforced by the Government with effect from 1 April, 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the role of the private educational institutions therein;

(c) the funds earmarked by the Government for the purpose and allocated during the current financial year, State-wise;

(d) whether more than 2.5 lakh posts of teachers are lying vacant in Kendriya Vidyalayas, Sarvodaya Vidyalayas and the Central Tibetan Schools as per the affidavit given by the Government before the Supreme Court; and

(e) if so, the manner in which the Government proposes to effectively implement the Act?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, is a consequential legislation to Article 21A of the Constitution. The Act provides *inter alia* that (a) every child of the age of six to fourteen years shall have the right to free and compulsory education in a neighborhood school till completion of elementary education; (b) the appropriate Government and local authority shall ensure compulsory admission, attendance and completion of elementary education; (c) every school shall conform to the Norms and Standards specified in the Schedule of the Act; and (d) the Central Government and the State Governments shall have concurrent responsibility for providing funds for carrying out the provisions of the Act. The Act has come into force from 1st April, 2010.

The Act *inter alia* provides that an unaided school shall admit in class I, to the extent of at least twenty-five per cent of the strength of that class, children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups in the neighbourhood and provide them free and compulsory elementary education till its completion. Further, all aided and unaided schools have to seek a certificate of recognition from a designated Government authority.

(c) For 2010-11, a Central budget allocation of Rs. 15,000 crore has been presented to Parliament under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). The States will be required to contribute the State share as per the approved fund-sharing pattern under SSA. Funds are provided to each State/UT based on the approved Annual Work Plan & Budget (AWP&B) for the year.

(d) The position of vacancy of teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas, Sarvodaya Vidyalayas and Central Tibetan Schools is as under.

Institution	No. of vacant teacher posts
Kendriya Vidyalayas	2,675
Sarvodaya Vidyalayas	7,755
Central Tibetan Schools	53
Total	10,483

(e) It is the duty of the appropriate Government and the local authority to take necessary steps for carrying out the provisions of the Act. Chapter VI of the Act *inter alia* provides for monitoring and protection of rights of the child by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights and the State Commissions for Protection of Child Rights.

[English]

Study on Monsoon

*377. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government conducts any study about the overall situation of the coming monsoon every year and give its observations/forecasts thereon;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the observations/forecasts for the year 2009-2010 were/are according to its study;

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

(e) whether any study has also been conducted in the recent past on the changing pattern of monsoon over the years;

(f) if so, the outcome of such study; and

(g) the corrective measures taken by the Government to improve the observations/forecasts in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Every year, India Meteorological Department (IMD) conducts study about the overall emerging and ever changing situation of the impending monsoon by monitoring various weather and climate anomaly patterns

around the globe that are closely associated with the indicative performance of the monsoon. IMD then evolves consensus monsoon rainfall forecast assessment for the country as a whole. Continuous efforts are made to improve long-range monsoon rainfall forecast assessment techniques so as to improve the quantitative rainfall variability over India.

IMD conducts pre-long range forecast meeting by inviting scientists from various research institutions within India that are actively working on monsoon research. These are Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF), Noida, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), New Delhi, Space Applications Centre (SAC), Ahmedabad, Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Pune, Centre for Mathematical Modelling and Computer Simulation (C-MMACS), Bangalore etc. They provide their respective inputs for evolving a consensus monsoon rainfall forecast.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) While issuing forecasts for the monsoon-2009 rainfall over the country, IMD had taken into account the impact of EL Nino on the monsoon-2009 rainfall in its assessment update issued on 25th June, 2009. During 2009, the equatorial Pacific Sea Surface Temperature (SST) anomaly scenario (Warming - EL Nino/Cooling - La Nina) till February was showing neutral impact on the monsoon, as there exists a robust inverse concurrent relationship between the monsoon rainfall and EL Nino. However, the seasonal Sea Surface Temperature tendency between March-May 2009 and December 2008-February 2009, which is the indicator of the EL Nino conditions update, suggested that the monsoon season rainfall was likely to be adversely impacted by EL Nino.

As per the first stage long range forecast, the monsoon-2009 rainfall for the country as a whole was expected to be $96\% \pm 5\%$ of long period average (LPA). In the updated forecast, it was revised to a lower value of $93\% \pm 4\%$ of LPA and further to 87% of LPA in August 2009. At the end of the season, the actual area-weighted rainfall for the country as a whole was 78% of LPA, well below the lower limit of forecast value *i.e.* $87\% \pm 4\%$ apparently due to higher impact of El Nino conditions.

(e) Yes, Madam.

(f) The research studies carried out so far at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune indicate that the south-west monsoon rainfall over the country has decreased by nearly 4.7% during the period 1965-2006 as compared to the earlier period (1931-1964). Further, a significant increasing trend in the frequency and magnitude of high rainfall events (greater than 10cm/day) and a significant decreasing trend in the frequency of moderate events (1-5cm/day) are noticed.

(g) Improvement of weather forecasting services is a continuous process. Methodologies and modeling frameworks that have undergone rigorous performance evaluation in operational R & D environment are being adopted. Following important steps are underway:

- (i) Improved numerical prediction models with 50Km grid globally and 27Kms/9Kms over India are already implemented.
- (ii) All available global satellite radiance data is being assimilated in the numerical models.
- (iii) Massive strengthening the existing observational network with expansion, improving the forecasting methodology and quick dissemination of weather forecast assessments/warnings to the users, a comprehensive modernization programme (Phase-I) is currently underway.
- (iv) Focused R & D initiatives under National Monsoon Mission for understanding and prediction of the Indian monsoon rainfall variability, increasing accuracies of medium and long range weather predictions and potential predictability of monsoon has been taken up for implementation during the XI Plan.

[*Translation*]

Extinction of Birds and Animals

*378. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY:
SHRI K.C. SINGH 'BABA':

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the species of animals and birds are on the verge of extinction in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and its impact on environment and forests;

(c) whether any team of experts has been constituted by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial steps taken by the Government to address the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) has reported that a total of 560 species of animals and plants are threatened in India. Out of these a total of 313 species are animals, while 247 are plant species. Amongst the animals, the number of reported threatened species in India is as follows:

1. Mammal	:	89
2. Birds	:	75
3. Reptiles	:	25
4. Amphibians	:	63
5. Fishes	:	39
6. Molluscs	:	2
7. Other invertebrates	:	20

The main reasons for extinction of species of wildlife are habitat loss, poaching, clandestine trade in wildlife, lucrative prices for wildlife and its products, consumption of wild animals as food and human-wildlife conflicts. Plants and animals play important role in maintaining the ecological equilibrium. Some of the impacts of extinction of species are breaking of the continuity of the food chain, loss of important biological resources, reduction in species and genetic diversity and reduced resilience of the ecosystems.

(c) and (d) The Government had constituted two committees in 2007 for identifying the critically endangered species requiring focused attention for recovery in both terrestrial and marine habitats. These committees had identified 15 terrestrial and marine species for recovery programmes namely Snow Leopard, Sanghai Deer, Hangul, Wild Buffalo, Gangetic Dolphin, Gharial, Bustards, Jerdon's Courser, Dugong, Whale Shark, Marine Turtles, Giant Clams, Holothurians (Sea Cucumber), Horse Shoe Crab and Balanoglossus. Besides, recovery programme are also prepared for some other critically endangered species namely Vultures, Nilgiri Tahr, Edible Nest Swiftlet and Asiatic Lion.

(e) Steps taken by the Government to protect these species are as follows:

- (i) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats' has been modified in 2008-09 by including a new component namely 'Recovery of Endangered Species' and 15 species have been identified for recovery. Under this programme central assistance is provided to States/UT Governments for recovery programmes depending upon the budgetary provisions. So far, recovery programmes for Snow leopard, Hangul, Vultures, Edible Nest Swiftlets, Nilgiri Tahr and Sanghai Deer have been funded in different states.
- (ii) Legal protection has been provided to endangered wild animals and plants against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (iii) The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, has been amended and made more stringent including provisions of forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that is used for committing wildlife offence.
- (iv) Protected Areas, *viz.*, National Parks, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves all over the country covering the important habitats have been created as per the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to provide for better protection to wildlife, including threatened species and their habitat.
- (v) Financial and technical assistance is extended to the State Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, *viz.*, 'Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for providing better protection and conservation to wildlife.
- (vi) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.
- (vii) The State Governments have been requested to strengthen the field formations and intensify patrolling in and around the Protected Areas.
- (viii) The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been set up for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and its products.

[English]

GM Foods

379. SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the powers of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) and the mandate of the Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM);

(b) whether the opinion of the regulatory authority can be overruled;

(c) if so, the law under which it can be done;

(d) the scientific reasons advanced for withholding the commercial cultivation of Bt. Brinjal especially after it had been cleared by the GEAC;

(e) whether the Government proposes to formulate fresh guidelines to deal with the Genetically Modified (GM) foods;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the number of GM foods that are in the research pipeline as on 1 April, 2010?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM) and the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) have been established under 'Rules for the Manufacture, Use/Import/Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro Organisms (HMOs)/Genetically Engineered Organisms (GMOs) or Cells notified by the Ministry of Environment and Forests on December 5, 1989 under the provisions of the 'Environment (Protection) Act', 1986 in the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Environment and Forests, respectively. The mandate of RCGM is to (i) monitor the safety related aspects in respect of on-going research projects and activities involving GMOs/HMOs; (ii) bring out Manuals of guidelines specifying procedures for regulatory processes with a view to ensure environmental safety; and (iii) review all ongoing projects of high risk category and controlled field experiments to ensure that adequate precautions and containment conditions are followed as per the guidelines. The GEAC is the apex body having a mandate to accord approval of activities involving (i) large scale use of hazardous microorganisms and recombinants in research and

industrial production from the environmental angle; and (ii) environmental release of GMOs and products including experimental field trials.

(b) to (d) The GEAC is the apex body to grant approvals for large scale use and environmental release of GMOs under the above said Rules. The GEAC in its meeting held on 14.10.2009, concluded that Bt Brinjal is safe for environmental release. However, the Committee decided that "Since this decision of the GEAC will have major policy implications, the GEAC decided to forward the recommendations and report of the Expert Committee on the safety and efficacy of Bt brinjal event EEI to the Government for a final view". Subsequent to this decision, the Ministry had organized public consultations at seven locations (mainly brinjal growing areas) namely Kolkata, Bhubaneswar, Ahmedabad, Nagpur, Chandhigarh, Hyderabad and Bangalore during January-February, 2010. As part of the consultation process, the Minister had also written to several Chief Ministers of brinjal growing States as well as national and international experts to elicit their views on this GM crop. Several concerns emerged including those voiced by some Scientists during the national consultations which include health issues, loss of biodiversity, loss of indigenous varieties through contamination of gene pool, sustainability of the technology, consumer choice and labeling, adequacy of regulatory process, etc. In the absence of scientific consensus and opposition from the State Governments and others, the Minister on February 09, 2010 decided to impose a moratorium on commercialization of Bt brinjal until all concerns expressed by the public, NGOs, scientists and the State Governments are addressed adequately. Decision of the Minister which includes views of various stakeholders can be viewed at MoEF website (www.envfor.nic.in).

(e) and (f) The GEAC has been requested to address concerns that have emerged during the public consultations for resolving all scientific issues relating to Bt brinjal in consultations with eminent scientists.

(g) The GM food crops which are in the research pipeline as on 1.4.2010 include, rice, okra, brinjal, potato, groundnut, tomato, corn, cabbage, cauliflower, mustard, wheat, sorghum, watermelon, sugarcane, papaya, apple, black pepper, black gram, capsicum, cardamom, cassava, chickpea, chili, cowpea, cucumber, finger millet, lettuce, mulberry, muskmelon, pea, pearl millet, pigeon pea, pomegranate, soybean, and tea.

Conservation of Water Resources

*380. SHRI UDAY SINGH:
SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether 60 percent of the irrigation water and 80 percent of drinking water requirement in the country is met from the ground water resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a study released by the World Bank has suggested community based approach to ground water resources and thereby raise the income of farmers;

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

(e) the corrective measures taken by the Government for augmentation of various water resources and its proper utilisation to check the depleting ground water?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) As per the information provided by the States, about 45% of the irrigation potential created is through ground water resources and about 85% of the rural drinking water requirement has been assessed to be met from ground water resources.

(c) and (d) The World Bank in its report titled "Deep Wells and Prudence: Towards Pragmatic Action for Addressing Groundwater Overexploitation in India" has *inter-alia*, suggested enabling and nurturing of community-based ground water management. National Water Policy of India also envisages that "Management of the water resources for diverse uses should incorporate a participatory approach, by involving not only the various governmental agencies but also the users and other stakeholders such as water users' associations, municipalities and gram panchayats, in an effective and decisive manner in various aspects of planning, design, development and management of the water resources schemes".

(e) In order to promote augmentation of water resources and their proper utilization as well as checking of the depletion in the ground water level, the Government of India has initiated several measures such as the schemes for "repair, renovation and restoration of water

bodies”, “artificial recharge of ground water through dugwells”, “demonstrative projects for artificial recharge to ground water and circulation of a model bill for regulation and control the development and management of ground water.

The Central Ground Water Authority, constituted by the Government of India, has ‘notified’ 43 areas in 10 States/UTs for regulation of ground water development.

[*Translation*]

Delegation for Promoting Hindi

4105. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of delegations which visited foreign countries for the promotion of official language Hindi during the last three years;

(b) the extent of success achieved as a result thereof; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on such tours by the Government year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) One delegation has visited the U.S.A. in 2007 for the promotion of official language Hindi to participate in the 8th World Hindi Conference held in New York. The delegation was led by Shri Anand Sharma, the then Minister of State for External Affairs. Various eminent Hindi scholars from India and abroad were part of the delegation.

(b) The inaugural function of the World Hindi Conference was held at the United Nations and addressed by Mr. Ban-Ki-Moon, Secretary General of UN. An audio-visual message by PM was also presented on this occasion. Many eminent Hindi scholars from India and abroad attended this historic conference. This occasion undoubtedly brought international attention on Hindi at the most coveted international platform. The event came in for high praise in various sections of press and media all over the world.

(c) The total sanctioned budget for the event was Rs. 6.6 crore and the actual expenditure was Rs. 5.1 crore approx.

[*English*]

Reduction in Duration of PG Courses

4106. SHRI RAJIAH SIRICILLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to reduce the time period of degree in Master of Law;

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

(c) whether the Government has also any plan to reduce the time period of masters degree in all subjects to one year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) A proposal to restructure the existing post-graduate programme in law from that of two years duration to a one year duration programme with selectivity in admission to attract the brightest graduates in law towards this programme is under consideration with the University Grants Commission (UGC). The proposal would be considered in respect of other post-graduate programmes of study which are amenable to restructuring by reducing the time duration of the programme for award of degree without compromising on the quality of education or the outcomes to be achieved through such programme of study.

Coronation Anniversary of Sri Krishnadevaraya

4107. SHRI SATHYANARAYANA SARVEY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has celebrated the 500th anniversary of the coronation of Sri Krishnadevaraya, who ruled Vijayanagar empire at Hampi in Bellary;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated for this purpose; and

(d) the role of State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (d) Relevant information is being collected from the State Government of Karnataka and will be laid on the table of the House.

*[Translation]***GPF cum Pension for University Officials**

4108. SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued any order to extend the benefit of GPF-cum-Pension Scheme to the officials of five Universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any request has been received from the Navodaya Vidyalaya Welfare Joint Committee, MPs and public representatives to extend the benefits of said scheme to the officials of Navodaya Vidyalaya in the country;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the time by which such benefits are likely to be extended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Government has issued an order on 10th July, 2009, extending the benefits of the General Provident Fund (GPF)-cum-Pension Scheme to the employees of five Inter-University Centres (IUCs) established by the University Grants Commission (UGC) under section 12 (ccc) of the UGC Act, 1956, provided the employees have been appointed prior to 1.1.2004 and had opted to be covered under the GPF-cum-Pension Scheme, on the same pattern as applicable to the other employees of UGC. Employees of the IUCs who have joined service on or after 1.1.2004 would be governed by the New Pension Scheme (NPS) of the Government.

(c) to (e) A large number of representations have been received from the staff of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samitis (NVS) regarding the applicability of General Provident Fund-cum-Pension Scheme to employees of NVS which has not been approved by Government as the regular employees who have joined service of NVS prior to 1.1.2004 are concerned by the Contributory Provident Fund (CPF) Scheme and those who joined service of NVS on or after 1.1.2004 would be covered by NPS.

*[English]***Issue of Visa**

4109. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some foreign countries have not issued visa to Indian nationals in the name of religion;

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

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) to (c) The Government is not aware of any instance of a foreign country denying visas to Indian nationals in the name of religion. Visa is the sovereign right of a country and its diplomatic missions and posts have the prerogative to grant or deny visa to an applicant without divulging the reason.

Infrastructural Facilities for Higher Education

4110. SHRIMATI J. SHANTHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated amount required for establishing infrastructural facilities and human resources for teaching to achieve the target in higher education;

(b) the details of the source of funds to be raised for the purpose and the manner in which the same are likely to be mobilized;

(c) the estimated number of students likely to opt for technical higher education and the number of industrial establishments which have agreed to co-opt in this field;

(d) whether the dropout rate of SCs/STs in technical institutions is increasing;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) In order to raise the Gross Enrolment Ratio in higher education to the levels obtain

in certain other developing countries (approximate 30%), it has been estimated by Educational Consultants (India) Ltd. that an amount of Rs. 16 thousand billion would be required. As the extent of financial resources required cannot be met through public expenditure above, systemic and institutional reforms are underway to facilitate private 'not for profit participation in investments.

(c) It is estimated that upto one-third of the total number of students enrolled in higher education would opt for technical and professional courses of study.

(d) to (f) While there is no evidence to support the viewpoint that dropout rates of students from Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) pursuing technical education are increasing, in so far as technical institutions maintained by the Central Government such as the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are concerned, special efforts are made to guide and counsel students from weaker sections of society in coping with the academic programmes.

[Translation]

Supply of Coal to Mahagenco

4111. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Western Coalfields Ltd. (WCL), a subsidiary of Coal India Limited has allotted coal to Mahagenco, a power generation company of the State without execution of an agreement;

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

(c) whether Central Electricity Authority has also lodged its protest against this irregularity of WCL;

(d) if so, whether the Government is contemplating to interfere in the matter; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise, in view of reply given in respect of part (a) of this question.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) and (e) Does not arise, in view of reply given in respect of part (c) of this question.

[English]

Recognition to Schools

4112. SHRI VARUN GANDHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to lay down infrastructural norms such as size and ownership of land belonging to the school, physical space available per child, fire certification of schools and laboratories for schools seeking recognition;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) grants affiliation to various category of schools in accordance with its Affiliation Bye-laws. The chapter-II of affiliation Bye-laws, inter-alia prescribe the following with regard to minimum infrastructure requirement in schools.

1. The schools must have about 2 acres or as otherwise permitted measurement of land and a building constructed on a part of land and proper playgrounds on the remaining land.
2. The land should be owned by the schools or the society which is running the school. If the land is taken on lease it should be for a minimum period of 30 years.
3. The institutions should have proper facilities commensurate with its requirement and should provide minimum floor space of 1 sq. mtr. per student in the class room.
4. Every institution will also provide proper facilities for physically challenged students.
5. The schools should have suitable furniture in the class rooms and office equipments commensurate with the strength of students and staff.

6. The schools should have the needed equipment and facilities for science, home science, technical subjects, vocational subjects etc.
7. The school should scrupulously observe prescription from the local authority regarding the safety, safe drinking water and sanitation.
8. The school should have at least 1 computer lab with minimum of 10 computers or computer students ratio of 1:20 and internet connection.
9. The school should have a well equipped and spacious library with minimum of 1500 books and at least 15 magazines. Also, the school should have maintain pupil books ratio of 1:5.

The right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 provides for norms and standards to be fulfilled by every school. These include norms and standards relating to (i) Pupil teacher ratios at primary and upper-primary level, (ii) building norms to provide for all weather building, barrier free access, separate toilets for boys and girls, safe drinking water, kitchen facility, play ground, etc, (iii) minimum number of working days, (iv) minimum number of working hours per week per teacher, (v) teaching learning equipment, (vi) library, (vii) play material, games and sports equipment.

[*Translation*]

Issue of Passport to Criminals

4113. SHRI GORAKHNATH PANDEY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether passports are issued to the persons/public representatives categorized as criminals;
- (b) if so, the details of the process such as police verification, etc. followed in this regard;
- (c) if not, whether passports have been issued to such persons absconding in the country including in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and
- (e) the names of the passport offices from where these passports have been issued and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) As per the Passports Act, no passport is

issued to a person if it comes to the notice of Passport Authority that a criminal case is pending in a court of law against that person. Passport is also not issued if a person is convicted in the last five years with imprisonment upto two years and above. However, Gazette Notification 570(E) dated 25th August 1993 permits issue of a passport valid for one year to a person against whom a criminal case is pending if he produces the permission of the concerned court for departure from India.

(b) Police verification is required in all fresh passport cases. In cases of re-issue of passport, police verification is done only where any adverse information is detected in the system.

(c) Passports have not been issued to absconding persons.

(d) and (e) Not applicable.

[*English*]

Development of Universities to Promote Harmony

4114. SHRI RAMESH RATHOD:
SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:
SHRI P. BALRAM:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to introduce a new discipline at the university level that deals exclusively with faith;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether such proposal will be implemented in the universities particularly in backward areas and Telangana region; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Universities have autonomy in academic matters including introduction of new courses or programmes of study.

(c) and (d) No, Madam. Does not rise in view of the reply to parts (a) and (b).

Road Link to Pakistan

4115. SHRI MUKESH BHAIKAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to connect Kutchh in Gujarat and Rajasthan by road with Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Landline Telephone in Kendriya Bhandar Stores

4116. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the locations of 26 Kendriya Bhandar branches, where landline telephone facility has not been provided;

(b) whether telephone expenses reimbursement had also been made to any of the incharge of the Stores during the last three years, other than those who come under the list of 26 branches working without telephone;

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

(d) the action the Government proposes to take in the matter for submitting false information?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) A list indicating the location of 26 Kendriya Bhandar Branches wherein landline telephone facility have not been provided is enclosed as Statement. In addition, these are 42 branches where landline telephones with only incoming call facility have been provided.

(b) and (c) Yes. Kendriya Bhandar is giving reimbursement of upto Rs. 150 per month to the incharge of the stores where outgoing telephone facility is not provided.

(d) No false information has been provided by Kendriya Bhandar.

Statement

Details of Kendriya Bhandar stores wherein Landline Telephone Facility is not available

1. Aram Bagh
2. DIZ Area
3. Delhi Secretariat
4. Gulabi Bagh
5. Geeta Colony
6. IIT Hauz Khas-1
7. JNU-II
8. Jamia Milia Islamia
9. Jamia Hamdard
10. Krishi Vihar
11. Krishi Kunj
12. Kalyanvas
13. Lodhi Road-II Mkt.
14. Moti Bagh-II
15. Moti Bagh (NW)
16. Mahipal Pur
17. Nauroji Nagar
18. NTPC
19. Pragati Vihar
20. R.K. Puram (West)/Store
21. Patel Dham
22. Metro Vihar
23. Panchvati
24. RKP-IX-B
25. Timarpur-II
26. Kasturba Naga

Pak Players in IPL

4117. SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the adverse impact on Indo-Pak bilateral relations due to non-inclusion of Pakistani cricketers in IPL cricket matches; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) The Government had issued Indian visas to seventeen Pakistani cricketers at very short notice in December 2009 and January 2010 for their participation in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2010. The fact that none of the IPL franchisees for IPL 2010 bid for Pakistani players occasioned anti-India statements in Pakistan and allegations of 'conspiracy' at the behest of the Government of India. A few official visits to India from Pakistan did not materialise in the wake of the reaction in Pakistan. In a press release issued on 21.01.2010, Government clearly stated that the participation or absence of Pakistani cricketers in a commercial event of the nature of IPL is a matter not within its purview, and blaming the Government for the absence of Pakistani players from the 2010 edition of IPL was unfortunate.

Maulana Azad National Urdu University

4118. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maulana Azad National Urdu University is running without any Vice Chancellor, Controller of Examination and other higher officials affecting the future of the students;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to fill up the vacancies at the earliest possible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The post of Vice Chancellor, Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU), Hyderabad became vacant on 28.2.2009 upon the relinquishment of charge by Prof. A.M. Pathan on his appointment as Vice Chancellor, Central University of Karnataka. Thereafter, Prof. K.R. Iqbal Ahmed, Pro Vice-Chancellor is officiating as In-charge Vice-Chancellor as per the provisions of the Maulana Azad National Urdu University Act. The post of Controller of Examination became vacant upon the repatriation of the incumbent

Dr. S. Jeelani to his parent department. Prof. S.A. Wahab is officiating as In-charge Controller of Examination. The academic and administrative activities of the University are running smoothly.

(c) The Search and Selection Committee for filling up the post of Vice Chancellor, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad has already met in March, 2010 and its recommendations have been sent to the Hon'ble President of India in her capacity as Visitor of the University.

Illegal Migration from India

4119. SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:
SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:
SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA:
SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI BAIDYANATH PRASAD MAHTO:
SHRI PADAMSINHA BAJIRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of a large number of Indians, illegally migrating to/living in other countries, are facing deportation proceedings in the respective countries;

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

(c) the procedure being followed in deportation of illegally migrated Indians and whether any financial assistance is extended to them for their return; and

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

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (d) Emigration clearance is granted to migrant workers who are holding Emigration Clearance Required (ECR) Passports for the purpose of overseas employment, under the Emigration Act, 1983 administered by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs. Workers migrating to the Gulf are also governed by the Work Contract agreed upon between the Employer and the employees. The majority of workers migrate after following the laid down procedures. However, there are incidents of migrant workers overstaying on expiry of their valid Visas or changing their Sponsors and working elsewhere without proper documentation. Such workers

become illegal workers and are deported by the host Countries from time to time, at their cost. The concerned Indian Missions also provide financial assistance to the deported Indian nationals who do not have money to meet their travel costs and this expenditure is borne from the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) set up in the Missions.

[Translation]

Ban on Shifting of Bisons

4120. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a ban has been imposed on the project relating to shifting of bisons from Kanha National Park to Bandhavgarh National Park;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether all Gram Panchayats which come under buffer zone have not given their consent; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Madam. The Ministry of Environment & Forests has granted permission under Section 12 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, on 19th September, 2007, for translocation of 20 Gaurs (*Bos gaurus*) (both males and females of all ages) from Kanha Tiger Reserve to Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve subject to the pre-condition that a viable buffer zone would be created and corridor connectivity would be restored.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) As per the information received from the State Government, no proposal for declaration of buffer zone in Bandhavgarh National Park has been initiated by the State Government. Therefore, the question of consent of Gram Sabhas does not arise.

[English]

Discussions with China on Bilateral Issues

4121. SHRI C. SIVASAMI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has conducted any discussion with the China regarding Commerce, Industry and Natural Disaster Management; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) At the invitation of the Chinese Foreign Minister, External Affairs Minister visited China from 5-8 April 2010. During the visit, the two leaders discussed the entire gamut of bilateral, regional and global issues, including cooperation in the political, economic, cultural and educational fields. The two sides agreed to impart greater content and depth to the Strategic and Cooperative Partnership between India and China. They also agreed to further consolidate and strengthen bilateral ties and enhance people to people contact between the two countries.

Setting up of Nodal Department/Cell

4122. SHRI MANOHAR TIRKEY:
SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has asked the State Governments to set up a nodal department/cell in their State to address the issues relating to Indians living abroad and legal migration from the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the reaction of the States;

(c) whether some States including Kerala and Andhra Pradesh have already set up such department/cell;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government has also requested States to vigorously launch skill development and pre-departure programmes and orientation programmes for those seeking to migrate from the country; and

(f) if so, the number of States that have agreed to the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (f) During the Annual Consultation Meetings organized by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs with the major labour sending States at New Delhi in July 2008 and September 2009, the Ministry had requested the State Governments to set up Nodal Department/Cell in their States to address various issues relating to overseas Indians. Nodal Departments/Cells have already been set up by Kerala,

Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Manipur while other State Governments have agreed to set up Nodal Departments/ Cells. The Ministry has also requested the major labour sending States to undertake Skill Development and Pre-departure Orientation Programmes for intending migrant workers. Such training programmes are underway.

Laim of China Over Sanskrit

4123. SHRI P. BALRAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether China has laid any claim over Sanskrit;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The Government is not aware of any such claim.

- (b) to (d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Dispute Over Northern Karanpura Coalfield

4124. DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the dispute between the Ministry of Coal and Ministry of Power over Northern Karanpura Coalfield has been resolved;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) There was no dispute between the Ministry of Coal and Ministry of Power over North Karanpura Coalfield. However, the issue of location of North Karanpura Power Plant was under consideration between Coal India Limited (CIL) and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) which has now been resolved.

[*English*]

Tagore Literature Award

4125. SHRI M.B. RAJESH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Sahitya Academy has instituted a literature award in the memory of Shri Rabindra Nath Tagore;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has directed the Sahitya Academy to institute a literature award in collaboration with Multi-National Companies; and
- (d) if so, the details of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (d) An MoU has been signed by the Sahitya Akademi with M/s Samsung India Electronics Pvt. Ltd., a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 and having its registered office at New Delhi. Under this MoU, Sahitya Akademi has agreed to undertake the selection of awardees for the "Tagore Literature Award", promulgated by the said company to promote Indian literary works and writers. The MoU has been signed for a period of six years, within which period eight Tagore Literature Awards will be given every year so as to cover, twice over, all the 24 languages recognized by the Sahitya Akademi. These awards are different from the Sahitya Akademi Awards in vogue.

The MoU was initiated by the Korean Embassy in New Delhi to further Indo-Korea cultural relations and was forwarded by the Ministry of Culture to the Sahitya Akademi, which is empowered, under its Constitution, to promote cultural exchanges with other countries.

Before signing the MoU, the proposal was considered by the Executive Board of Sahitya Akademi and modalities of the Award were worked out by a Committee specially constituted by the Akademi for this purpose. The MoU has since been discussed and approved by the Executive Board and the General Council of Sahitya Akademi.

Higher Educational Institutes in Tamil Nadu

4126. SHRI ABDULRAHMAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering any proposal to establish higher educational institutions in Tamil Nadu where the cost of education in private institutions is higher;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any policy to maintain the cost of higher education at par with the Government Institutions like Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs); and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Government has approved the introduction of a new Scheme to provide central assistance for setting up of a model degree college in each of the identified 374 educationally backward districts (including 27 districts in Tamil Nadu) where Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for higher education is less than the national GER. During the remaining period of 11th Five Year Plan, provision exists for establishing 200 model colleges in identified districts with priority being given to special category states and districts having concentration of weaker sections and minorities as well as other districts in Schedule V and Schedule VI areas. Those colleges which have been established on or after 1.1.2008 in identified districts shall also be eligible to be covered under this Scheme, subject to their satisfying the guidelines of University Grants Commission in respect of model degree colleges.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

(d) Does not arise.

UNSC Non-Permanent Seat

4127. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decks seem to be cleared for India to become a Member of the UN Security Council in the non-permanent category;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the G-4 nations, India, Brazil, Germany and Japan, have now mobilized support of about 138 nations for a text based negotiations on the expansion of the UN Security Council;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Pakistan, under the umbrella of United for Consensus Group also known as Coffee Club, has opposed India's move to raise the issue of UNSC expansion; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) India is the sole candidate for the single non-permanent seat of the UN Security Council available to the Asian region for a two-year term (2011-2012) beginning 01.01.2011. India's candidature has received support from a large number of countries and has been endorsed by the Asian Group of member states of the UN. Elections for this seat will be held in the UN in October/November 2010.

(c) and (d) In December 2009, the G-4 countries (India, Brazil, Germany and Japan) along with South Africa mobilized 139 member states to sign a letter dated 23.12.2009 to the Chair of the intergovernmental negotiations in the UN General Assembly requesting him to present a text to serve as a basis for future negotiations. The Chair invited written proposals from Member States and has announced that he will present a text for the forthcoming round of intergovernmental negotiations.

(e) and (f) The Uniting for Consensus (UFC) group, of which Pakistan is a member, has a different position from the G-4 group on reform and expansion of the UN Security Council. Unlike the G-4 group, the UFC group supports expansion of only non-permanent seats of the UN Security Council and is opposed to any expansion in the permanent seat category.

Scheduled Tribes in Forest Department

4128. SHRI P.K. BIJU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) State-wise number of Scheduled Tribes appointed in the Forest Departments;

(b) the percentage of tribals against the total number of jobs in the Forest Departments; and

(c) State-wise list of number of impact assessment studies conducted in the case of displaced tribals as a result of the projects implemented in forest areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH):
(a) to (c) The information received from 14 States and 2 Union Territories regarding employment of Scheduled Tribes

against total number of posts in the Forest Departments is in the enclosed Statement. Since no displacement of tribals has taken place in these States/Union Territories, no impact assessment studies have been conducted by them.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territories	No. of Scheduled tribes appointed in forest epartment	Percentage of tribals against the total number of jobs in the forest department	Number of Impact Assessment Studies conducted in the case of displaced tribal's
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1549	12.8%	NIL
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Administration (UT)	377	8.78%	There is no displacement of tribals due to project implementation.
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2158	71.89%	No impact assessment studies done incase of displaced tribals as a result of the project implemented in areas as no environmental clearance has been given to any project so far from State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA)/State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC).
4.	Assam	1530	14.52%	Does not arise as no displacement of Tribal has been done to implement Project in Forest areas.
5.	Chandigarh Administration (UT)	NIL	NIL	NIL, in UT Chandigarh there are no Scheduled Tribes.
6.	Goa	53	8%	NIL
7.	Haryana	NIL	NIL	NIL
8.	Karnataka	657	6.34%	No such study has been carried out by the Karnataka Forest Department.
9.	Lakshadweep	19	95%	No tribals displaced as a result of the projects implementation.
10.	Maharashtra	1538	7.93%	NIL
11.	Manipur	305	31.12%	So far, no impact assessment studies of such kind has been conducted by Forest Department Manipur
12.	Nagaland	1245	96.06%	NIL
13.	Punjab	NIL	NIL	NIL, there is no Scheduled Tribe in the state of Punjab.

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Tamil Nadu	171	2%	No dislocation of Tribal has taken place on account of implementation of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 in Forest areas as Well as Wildlife Act, 1972 in protected areas. Therefore, the question of conducting Impact Assessment Studies in case of displacement of Tribal from forest areas does not arise in respect of Tamilnadu.
15.	Tripura	719	31.17%	Does not arise.
16.	Uttarakhand	167	4%	No impact assessment studies done.

National E-governance Plan

4129. SHRI SANJAY BHOI: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to award a contract for 'emigrant' workers under the National e-governance plan;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed contract; and

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

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (c) The government is implementing an e-Governance in Emigration (E-Migrate) project with an aim to transform emigration process into a simple, transparent, effective and efficient process. The project involves automation of the emigration process, data capture and phased interlinking of various stakeholders namely, the offices of the Protector General of Emigrants (PGE), Protectors of Emigrants (POEs), recruiting agents, Bureau of Immigration, insurance companies, State Governments and the Indian Missions abroad.

The evaluation of the bids is being carried out for award of contract for the implementation of the project.

Collection of NTFP from BRT Sanctuary

4130. SHRI R. DHARUVANARAYANA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has sought permission from the Union Government for collection of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) from BRT Wildlife Sanctuary by the Sholiga tribals;

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

(c) whether the collection of NTFP from the Sanctuary area by the tribals was banned earlier; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) A proposal from the Government of Karnataka requesting permission for collection of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) from BRT Wildlife Sanctuary by the Sholiga tribals was received in the Ministry. Since, the ban on collection of Non-Timber Forest Products etc., has been imposed as per the direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 dated 14th February, 2000, the State Chief Wildlife Warden was advised to approach Hon'ble Supreme Court for any relief.

(c) and (d) There was no ban on collection of NTFP from National Park & Sanctuaries before the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court passed on 14.2.2000 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/95.

Natural Resource Data Management System

4131. SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts in the country which are included in the Natural Resource Data Management (NRDM) System, State-wise;

(b) whether Government proposes to include all the districts in the said Management System;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which all the districts of the States are likely to be included in the NRDM System?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The information is as under:-

State	No. of Districts
Andhra Pradesh	5
Tamil Nadu	5
Uttar Pradesh	8
Uttarakhand	6
Harayana	5
Punjab	4
Rajasthan	3
Bihar	1
Orissa	1
Karnataka	30
West Bengal	18
Himachal Pradesh	1
Jammu and Kashmir	1
North-Eastern States	6
Kerala	1
Jharkhand	1
Total	96

(b) No, Madam.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The scope of Natural Resource Data Management System Geospatial Data Centers is limited to demonstration and training in a few selected districts of the states in different Agro-climatic regions. States are expected to develop the capability for continuous updation of data for all the districts in the State.

(e) Does not arise.

Reforming Migration Policy Australia

4132. SHRI M. VENUGOPALA REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians including students residing in Australia;

(b) whether the Australian Government has decided recently to reform its migration policy;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and its adverse impact on the Indian nationals seeking migrant to that country;

(d) the issues pending with the Australian Government in this regard; and

(e) the efforts made by the Government to resolve the pending issues?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) According to the 2006 census, there were 234,000 persons of Indian descent in Australia. This number is estimated to have gone up to above 300,000 currently. Besides that there are over 90,000 Indian students in Australia.

(b) and (c) On 08 February 2010, the Australian Government announced an overhaul of its general skilled migration programme. Major reforms of the programme are as follows:

(i) All offshore General Skilled Migration applications lodged before 01.09.2007 will be withdrawn. It will affect about 20,000 people (including 2400 from India) who will get refund of their visa application charges, costing about A\$ 14 million.

(ii) The wide ranging Migration Occupations in Demand List (MODL) stands revoked with immediate effect. In its place, a new and more targeted Skilled Occupations List (SOL) will be developed and reviewed annually. The Critical Skills List introduced in the beginning of 2009 will also be phased out.

- (iii) The points test used to assess migrants will be reviewed to ensure it selects the best and brightest.
- (iv) Certain occupations may be capped to ensure skill needs are met across the board.
- (v) Individual state and territory migration plans will be developed so that they can prioritise skilled migrants of their choice.

The new arrangements will give first priority to skilled migrants who are sponsored by an Australian employer. It is going to affect international students who have come to Australia with the hope of getting permanent residency based on MODL. According to new rules, those international students who hold a vocational, higher education or postgraduate student visa will still be able to apply for a permanent residence visa if their occupation is on the new Skilled Occupations List. If their occupation is not on the new SOL, they will have until 31.12.2012 to apply for a temporary skilled graduate visa on completion of their studies which will enable them to spend up to 18 months in Australia to acquire work experience and seek sponsorship from an employer.

The changes in migration policy are going to impact all foreign nationals seeking migration to Australia.

(d) and (e) The composition of the new Skilled Occupation List (SOL) is still not known. Besides, there is uncertainty regarding the requirement of employer sponsorship. The matter has been taken up with the Australian authorities urging them that there should be flexibility in their policies to deal with the applicants who came to Australia before 08-02-2010 and the students affected by the college closures in view of the special circumstances.

Music and Dance School for Weaker Sections

4133. SHRI KUNVARJIBHAI MOHANBHAI BAVALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposals to set up music and dance schools for economically weaker sections in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount that has been sanctioned by the Government for promoting Indian performing arts during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government provides support for performing arts, chiefly through the Salary and Production Grant scheme of the Ministry of Culture. It also give funds to the Sangeet Natak Akademi, the National School of Drama, the seven Zonal Cultural Centres and the Kalakshetra Foundation. Amounts sanctioned by the Government in this regard during the last three years are as under:-

Year	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in crores)
2007-08	80.27
2008-09	110.83
2009-10	109.44

Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts

4134. SHRI SAMEER BHUJBAL: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of major achievements of Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA) since its inception;

(b) whether the achievements match its prescribed mandate;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Major achievements of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) include the following:

(i) Brought out many internationally acknowledged publications on Indian arts, crafts, literature, fundamental texts in the arts, humanities and cultural heritage and philosophy;

(ii) Organized many exhibitions on specific themes in collaboration with national and international organizations;

- (iii) Organized a number of national/ international seminars/conferences/workshops in the field of arts and culture;
- (iv) Organized festivals related to different arts;
- (v) Organized a large number of public lectures/ lecture-cum-demonstrations, talks and memorial lectures;
- (vi) In the area of Audio-visual Documentation, IGNCAs has built a repository of about 4000 hours of audio recordings and more than 20,000 hours of video recordings. It has produced several films, out of which some have received the National Award. The media unit of the IGNCAs has created 200 hours of television software, which was transmitted through DD-Bharati and Doordarshan. Around 66 DVDs on Art and Culture have been released by the IGNCAs;
- (vii) For creation of digital data base, a Cultural Informatics Lab was established in 1994. It has a digital data bank of more than 2 lakh images, about 3 lakh manuscripts, more than 200 hours of audio visual material; 50,000 pages of print material. The Kalasampada Project in the Cultural Informatics Lab of the IGNCAs received Golden Icon Award for Exemplary Implementation for e-Governance Initiative under the category of 'Best Documented Knowledge and Case Study in 2005 from the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Government of India.
- (viii) Set up a Reference Library that houses over one lakh books on Art and Culture and more than 3000 rare books besides personal collections of eminent scholars comprising more than 60,000 books.
- (ix) Built an archive of reprographic material, which include more than one lakh slides and 285171 manuscripts in 22511 microfilm rolls, out of which 18,246 rolls have been digitized and 17,636 rolls have been duplicated;
- (x) Documented rock art in different states of India including Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Jammu & Kashmir. It has built an archive of more than 20,000 photographs, slides and line-drawings.
- (xi) At IGNCAs initiative "Ramlila: The Traditional Performance of the Ramayana" and the "Oral traditions of the Vedas" (Vedic Chanting) got declared by UNESCO as Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. Last year, IGNCAs nomination of "Ramman: religious festival and ritual theatre of the Garhwal Himalayas" was selected by UNESCO for inscription on the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH). IGNCAs has later prepared 20 dossiers of ICH items for the second cycle of inscriptions on UNESCO's Representative List of ICH.
- (b) Yes, Madam.
- (c) The achievements match its prescribed mandate as detailed below:-
- (i) The main objective of the IGNCAs is 'to serve as a major resource centre for the arts, especially primary material, written, oral, auditory, audio-visual, pictorial, etc.' Reply to part (a) above shows that the IGNCAs has built up an impressive archive of primary material, both written and audio visual, spanning several thousand hours of documentation.
- (ii) The second important objective of the IGNCAs is 'to undertake research and publication programmes of reference works, glossaries, dictionaries, encyclopaedias, fundamental texts in the arts, humanities and cultural heritage.' The IGNCAs has brought out more than 225 volumes of publications to fulfill this objective.
- (iii) Another prime objective of IGNCAs is 'to establish tribal and folk arts collection for undertaking, promoting and facilitating systematic scientific studies in this area.' The IGNCAs has a cultural archive which includes not only audio and video recordings but also ethnographic objects, photographs, paintings, etc.
- (iv) IGNCAs has conducted several field studies about different regions of the country to carry out research on lifestyles, wisdom, tradition, folklore and art practices of diverse communities of India from eco-cultural, socio economic, and historical perspectives. Some of the important studies have been of Santhals of West Bengal and Orissa, Bhuiyans and Paiks of Orissa, Meiteis of Manipur, Angamies of Manipur, Gujars of Central Himalayas, Changpas of Ladakh, Gaddis of Himachal Pradesh, Vishvakarmas and the forest dwellers of Karnataka, Mukkuvars of Tamil Nadu, besides several others.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to parts (a) to (c) as above.

[Translation]

Hindi in UNO

4135. SHRI RAJENDRA AGARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any funds are required to get Hindi included in the list of languages adopted by the United Nations Organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the Government is considering to make a provision for such funds; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) to (c) The question of addition of any language including Hindi in the list of official languages of the United Nations has procedural, financial and legal aspects. As a first step, a formal resolution needs to be adopted by a majority of the 192 member states of the UN General Assembly. Only after this stage, the proposing country would need to provide financial resources to the UN to cover additional expenditure related to interpretation, translation, printing, duplication of documents and related infrastructural costs.

[English]

Per Capita Allocation of Funds for Assam

4136. SHRI JOSEPH TOPPO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita allocation and utilization of funds for Agro and Rural Development in the State of Assam during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(b) the allocation sought by the State Government and the amount sanctioned by the Planning Commission for the said purpose during the above period, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Sectoral Allocation of the aggregate plan size of a State is approved by the Planning Commission based on the State's Proposal for the sectoral allocation. Planning Commission does not make sector-wise per capita allocation of Plan Resources.

The proposed and approved allocation for Agriculture & Allied sector and Rural Development Sector of Assam and expenditure of the allocated outlay during Annual Plan 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 is detailed below. The size of the Annual Plan 2010-11 of Assam, is yet to be finalised.

(Rs. Crore)

Sl. No.	Sectors	Annual Plan 2007-08		Annual Plan 2008-09		Annual Plan 2009-10	
		Proposed/ Approved Outlay	Expendr.	Proposed/ Approved Outlay	Expendr.	Proposed/ Approved Outlay	Expendr.
1.	Agriculture & Allied Sector	212.68	126.66	426.67	342.94	495.94	421.55#
2.	Rural Development	320.51	434.72	617.80	300.10	848.18	720.95#

#Estimated.

Parliamentary Group to Australia

4137. SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR:
SHRI MANOHAR TIRKEY:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to send a parliamentary group to Australia in view of continued attacks on Indian students;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the group is likely to visit the country?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

**Upgradation of Sambalpur University as
Central University**

4138. SHRI AMARNATH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has constituted a body to declare Sambalpur University in Orissa as Central University;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose during the year 2010-11?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Assistance for Construction of New Museums

4139. SHRI HARISCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has provided assistance to the State Governments for construction of new museums under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes;

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

(c) the funds allocated for this purpose during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted any action plan to the Union Government in the current financial year for the protection of monuments and new museums in Junagarh district;

(e) If so, the details therefore; and

(f) The progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (b) Financial Assistance for construction of new Museums was brought under the ambit of the Scheme "Setting up, Promotion and Strengthening of Regional and Local Museums" operated by this Ministry in the year 2008-2009. Government has

given, in principle, approval to Government of Rajasthan's proposal to setup a Museum at Baran and Government of Madhya Pradesh at Sironj, Vidisha. They have been asked to prepare Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for their projects. The quantum of amount to be sanctioned to them can be decided, after they submit their DPRs.

(c) No specific state-wise allocation of funds for construction of new Museum is made.

(d) No, Madam.

(e) and (f) Do not arise

[Translation]

G-20 Summit

4140. SHRIMATI PRIYA DUTT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issue of Global Calamity Management was included in the discussions held in G-20 Summit in Pittsburgh, USA;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that G-20 Summit has emerged as a major forum in place of G-7 for International Economic Co-operation; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) The Leaders at the G-20 meeting at Pittsburgh expressed concern about the poorest countries having little economic cushion to protect vulnerable populations from calamity, particularly as the international financial crisis followed soon after the global increase in food prices.

(c) and (d) The Pittsburgh Summit designated the G-20 as the premier forum for international economic cooperation which has been welcomed by the Government.

**Criteria for Conservation of Monuments by
Private Sectors**

4141. SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL:
SHRI ANJAN KUMAR M. YADAV:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria/condition fixed for the Private Sector companies entrusted with the job of maintenance of historical places/heritage sites;

(b) whether the criteria/conditions are not being followed by the companies in the course of executing the conservation work; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken against the defaulter companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) No Private Sector Companies have been entrusted with the job of maintenance of historical places/heritage sites. However, where the volume of conservation work is more, it is partly outsourced to agencies having requisite experience in handling of similar works, under ASI's supervision.

(b) and (c) No, Madam. The prescribed terms and conditions are being followed by the outsourced agencies in execution of assigned conservation work.

[English]

Setting up of Indian Council of Engineers

4142. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up Indian Council of Engineers in the country;

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

(c) the time by which these colleges are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Setting up an Indian Council of Engineers is part of a proposed draft Engineers Bill which is still at the conceptual stage and no final decision has been taken in the matter.

[Translation]

Review of Indian Cultural Centres

4143. SHRI ANJANKUMAR M. YADAV:
DR. SANJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the activities of Indian Cultural Centres located in other countries;

(b) if so, the time when the review was undertaken last and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in the light of the outcome of the review?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) to (c) The activities undertaken by Indian Cultural Centres abroad include holding of classes in Indian dance and music, Hindi and Yoga, arranging performances by visiting groups from India, facilitating admission of foreign students into Indian Universities under Indian Council for Cultural Relations' (ICCR) scholarship Schemes, arranging seminars and conferences, reaching out to creative Centres in the country where they are located and running a regular programme of events to facilitate the promotion and projection of Indian Culture in all its facets. The entire range of activities of the Centres is monitored on a regular basis through an institutionalized system of monthly reporting by these Centres. The reports are carefully scrutinized at the ICCR. These Centres function as an integral part of Indian Missions abroad and hence their activities are also continuously monitored by the Head of Mission in the country concerned. Based on the ongoing process of monitoring and review, several steps have been taken for a continuous up-gradation in the quality, content and reach of the activities of the Cultural Centres. The activities of the Cultural Centres have resulted in a significant expansion of India's cultural outreach overseas.

[English]

Concessions to Women Scientists

4144. SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide special concessions for women scientists working in all research and academic institutions in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is also a proposal to construct residential complexes and crèche facilities for them in the institutions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Government had constituted a National Task Force for Women in Science. The report of this Task Force was released on 27th January, 2010. The recommendations of the Task Force are under consideration by the Department. The Department of Science and Technology has also constituted a Standing Committee to review the recommendations of the National Task Force and suggest special measures to ensure growth of women scientists in their professional career. The Task Force would also to periodically monitor implementation of the recommendations of the government for facilitating appointment, working and promotion of women scientists in Science and Technology organizations and other general recommendations in respect of working scientists.

(c) to (e) Based on the recommendations of the National Task Force for Women in Science, all Aided Institutions of the Department of Science and Technology have been asked to give proposals to establish a state-of-art crèche facility and to build women residential block in institutions having more than 20 women scientists.

Indian Consulates in Sri Lanka

4145. SHRI P. VISWANATHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Consulates presently located in Sri Lanka;

(b) whether the Government is aware of the long pending demand for setting up more Consulates in Sri Lanka;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) to (d) At present, India has a High Commission in Colombo and an Assistant High

Commission in Kandy in Sri Lanka. The issue of setting up additional Consulate/s is receiving the attention of the Government.

Tourism Activities around Tiger Reserves

4146. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's monitoring Committee set up by the National Tiger Conservation Authority has come up with a new eco-tourism policy to restrict movement of tourists and construction activities in and around the tiger reserves;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the tourism activities around tiger reserves have become new source of tension and threat; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the eco-tourism policy will protect tigers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Advisories have been issued to tiger range States for regulating tourist visitation in tiger reserves. Further, guidelines have also been issued to phase out tourism activities from the core/critical tiger habitats, while creating buffer in its peripheral areas to mainstream tiger concerns *vis-a-vis* the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(c) Reports relating to disturbance of wildlife habitat/corridor on account of tourism infrastructure have come to light.

(d) Action has been initiated for evolving a set of ecotourism guidelines to benefit fringe dwelling local people and relocated villagers, with a view to elicit local public support for tiger conservation.

Computation of Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

4147. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decomputed 'Real Estate Service' from financing, insurance and business services;

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

(c) whether the Government has granted separate, distinct and independent economic status for computation of GDP;

(d) if so, the extent to which it is likely to help in monitoring growth and health of real estate industry, while economic data are being published by Central Statistical Organisation quarterly;

(e) whether it will also help all dependent industries, Banks and Financial Institutions to chalk out their response to emerging trends in housing scenario; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) In the Annual National Accounts Statistics (other than the Advance and Revised Estimates of National Income), estimates of GDP are available separately for the 'Real Estate Service'. In the case of Advance and Quarterly estimates of GDP, the estimates of GDP for real estate service are not compiled separately. For Advance and Quarterly estimates, the GDP for real estate service is included in the sector 'financing, insurance, real estate and business services'. There has been no change in this practice being followed by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) since introduction of Advance and Quarterly estimates of GDP.

(c) to (f) The estimated GDP from the economic activity of real estate service as available in the Central Statistical Organisation's annual publication on National Accounts Statistics is given in the table. This data is available for use for economic analysis and policy formulation and also by dependant industries.

Table: Estimated GDP for the economic activity of Real Estate Service

Year	GDP at factor cost (Rs. in crore)		Growth rate over previous year (%)	
	at current prices	at constant (2004-05) prices	at current prices	at constant prices
2004-05	4726	4726		
2005-06	6262	6011	32.5	27.2
2006-07	8445	7583	34.8	26.1
2007-08	11458	967	35.7	27.6
2008-09	15597	12060	36.1	24.6

Source: Central Statistical Organisation: National Accounts Statistics, 2010.

Development of Backward States

4148. SHRI JAYARAM PANGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any specific scheme for the development of backward States of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) A number of schemes are being formulated and implemented to address the development needs of the backward States. The Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF), especially has been designed to address the issues relating to reduction in regional imbalance in development more holistically than the standard Government programmes and has replaced the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY), launched in the beginning of the Tenth Five Year Plan. The BRGF is fully funded by the Central Government. It has two components, namely, (i) Special Plans for Bihar and the KBK districts of Orissa, and (ii) Districts Component covering 250 backward districts including 147 districts covered by the erstwhile RSVY.

In addition, various schemes under Bharat Nirman Programme and Flagship Programmes of the Central Government including Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan, Mid Day Meal Scheme, Prime Minister's Gramin Sadak Yojana, Indira Awas Yojana, National Rural Health Mission, Integrated Child Development Services, Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission, Total Sanitation Campaign, Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission etc. are being implemented to address the backwardness among the States.

Dilapidated Condition of Forts in Maharashtra

4149. SHRI NILESH NARAYAN RANE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state to reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 2247 dated 02.12.2009 regarding Dilapidated Condition of Fort of Maharashtra and state:

(a) the details of the repairs work undertaken of the forts of Vijaydurga and Sindhudurga in Maharashtra which are of historical importance;

(b) the time by which the repairs of the said forts are likely to be completed; and

(c) the funds allocated by the Government for the repairs of the above forts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) Yearly programmes are drawn for repairs to Vijaydurga Fort and Sindhudurga Fort. Repairs works carried out to both the forts include repairs to rampart, filling up cavities on sea side, repairs to parapet wall etc. besides day to day maintenance of both the monuments is attended. Conservation of monument is a continuous process and repairs are undertaken as per the available resources. Expenditure incurred during previous three years and provision made for the current financial year is as under:-

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of Fort	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Sindhudurga Fort	14.39	1.20	11.84	29.00
Vijayadurga Fort	13.64	4.10	—	13.00

Major Errors in CBSE Maths Paper

4150. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two major errors occurred in the CBSE's twelfth standard mathematics paper (2009-10) for outside Delhi region as reported in the large sections of media;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to compensate the lakhs of students on the aforesaid counts, as also for the precious loss of time resulting thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Central Board of Secondary Education has informed that there was only one error in Mathematics question paper for class XII, for outside Delhi region in Question No. 29 (Set 65/1) and also in question No. 26 (Set 65/3), which is the same as the former question.

(c) The examiners have been asked to award full marks to every candidate for this question in Set 65/1 as well as 65/3.

Complaints from NRI Brides

4151. SHRI S. PAKKIRAPPA:
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:
SHRI VITTHALBHAI HARNRAJBHAI
RADADIYA:
PROF. RANJAN PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received by his Ministry relating to marital discard involving Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of nature of such complaints including the action taken;

(c) whether there is any proposal to bring forward a legislation to deal with such matters (issues of overseas marriages) so that litigations between NRIs and Indian citizens do not linger on;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it will be brought in Parliament; and

(e) the other measures taken to protect NRI brides and the extent to which action taken earlier has proved effective?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a)

Year	No. of complaints received in	
	MOIA	NCW
2007	138	
2008	55	
2009	56	117

(b) The complaints received in the Ministry from Indian women against harassment/desertion by their overseas spouses are forwarded to the authorities concerned including Indian Missions abroad, Police authorities, State Governments etc. for taking appropriate action in the matter.

(c) and (d) No, Madam.

(e) The other measures taken to protect NRI brides are as under:

The Ministry has issued guidelines and launched an awareness/publicity campaign to make people aware of such issues. Besides the publication of a guidance booklet on Marriages to Overseas Indians, distribution of multi-lingual pamphlets, seminars, scrolls on TV, audio-visual spots on TV etc., a Scheme has been launched to provide legal/counseling services to Indian women deserted by their overseas Indian spouses through Indian Missions abroad.

An Inter Ministerial Meeting was held in the Ministry to find out ways and means to assist Indian women who are abandoned by their overseas Indians spouses and its recommendations were circulated to state Governments, respective Ministries for follow up action.

National Commission for Women (NCW) was nominated as a coordinating agency at the national level to receive and process all the complaints related to such issues.

[Translation]

Review of Youth Parliament Competitions

4152. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a review has been undertaken by his Ministry of the scheme of Youth Parliament competitions, particularly in the universities and the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas JNVs);

(b) if so, the details of the changes being contemplated to be introduced in the scheme;

(c) whether the prize distribution functions as well as the competitions in universities and JNVs are being organised annually as was planned at the introduction of these schemes; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not holding these competitions regularly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) On the basis of the review undertaken, the following changes were incorporated:-

Universities

(i) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs have increased the financial assistance to each Institution for organizing Youth Parliament Session from Rs. 5,000/- to Rs. 10,000/- for the Group Level and National Level Competitions.

Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas

(i) The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs have increased the financial assistance to each Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas participating in the competition from Rs. 5,000/- to Rs. 10,000/-.

(ii) This Ministry have increased the expenditure incurred on transportation from Rs. 30,000/- to Rs. 50,000/- to the first Prize Winning Vidyalaya in the Competition attending the Prize Distribution Function to stage their repeat performance.

(iii) This Ministry would reimburse an expenditure upto a maximum of Rs. 20,000/- each to the two host venues of National Level Youth Parliament Competition.

(c) There have been delay in holding Youth Parliament Competitions and prize distribution functions in respect of Universities and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas.

(d) Delay in holding National Youth Parliament Competition in respect of both the cases are due to various unavoidable reasons such as vacations and examination schedule etc.

[English]

Coal Production

4153. SHRI SURESH KODIKUNNIL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has asked the State Governments to expedite the process of coal production in several captive blocks that have been lying idle due to delay in obtaining clearances;

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

(c) whether the Government has allocated a large number of coal mines State Government for production but only a few have become operational; and

(d) if so, the facts and the details thereof and the steps taken to expedite coal production process in the allocated mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) During the review meeting held during June, 2009 to monitor the development of coal blocks and end use plants, the State Governments were asked to expedite the development of coal blocks wherever the progress was not found satisfactory. The State Governments were also asked to set up committees under the respective Chief Secretaries of the States for the purpose. Further, in the meeting held on 10.08.2009, the Governments of coal and lignite bearing States were again requested to facilitate the development of coal blocks.

The sector-wise details of coal block allottees issued show cause notices is given below:

Sector	No. of show cause notices	No. of allocate companies	No. of coal/ Lignite blocks
Government	25	22	32
Private	15	27	16
Total	40	49	48

(c) and (d) Out of 74 coal blocks allocated to government companies, 11 coal blocks have come into production till the end of March, 2010.

Development of coal blocks involves a gestation period of 3 to 7 years for reaching the production stage and another two to three years for reaching the optimal production capacity. As per the guidelines, coal production from a captive coal block should commence within 36 months (42 months incase the area falls in forest land) in case of open cast mines and in 48 months (54 months in case the area falls in forest land) in case of underground mine, from the date of allocation. If coal block is not explored, additional two years are allowed for detailed exploration and three months for preparation of geological report. The allottees of coal blocks, who have not started production so far, are in various stages of obtaining statutory clearances and mining lease,

preparing mining plan, acquisition of land, procuring machinery and equipment etc. for both mining as well as end-use project.

The responsibility of developing the coal block as per the prescribed guidelines and milestone chart attached with the allocation letter rests entirely with the allottee company. In the terms and conditions of the allocation letters, it is categorically mentioned that in the event of willful delay in the development of coal blocks and in setting up of the end use project, the Government takes appropriate action to de-allocate the said block. Government periodically monitors and reviews the development of allocated blocks as well as end use plants by the allottee companies in the Review Meetings. Wherever delays are noticed, Government issues show cause notices and advisories to such-allottees cautioning them to bring the coal blocks into production as per the guidelines/milestones chart. Further, the allottees have to submit Bank Guarantee which remains valid all the times till the production from the coal block reaches its peak rated capacity. The last review meeting was held on 22nd and 23rd June, 2009 with all the coal block allottees to review the development of coal blocks and the end use projects. The State Governments. have been requested to form a Monitoring Committee headed by the Chief Secretary to facilitate expeditious development of coal/lignite blocks. The Coal Controller's office is also monitoring on regular basis the achievement of different milestones.

Lack of Infrastructure

4154. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering corporate-community-Government-Non-Governmental Organisation partnerships to face the developmental challenge of the country;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government so far in this regard;

(c) whether the metropolis are lacking in infrastructure to meet the challenge of development; and

(d) if so, the action Government is taking to signal all the metropolis to face developmental challenge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The Eleventh Five Year Plan provides for extensive co-operation between the Government and corporate, Non-governmental organizations and community partnerships to face the developmental challenge of the country. The Eleventh Five Year Plan document envisaged that 30 per cent of the funds required for investment in infrastructure would come from the private sector, mainly through Public Private Partnerships. NGOs are involved in helping government in development and implementation of education and health schemes and programmes. For promoting public health and cleanliness in urban slums, the Eleventh Five Year Plan envisaged encompassing experiences of civil society organizations (CSO) working in urban slum clusters. It also sought to build a bridge of NGO-GO partnership and develop community level monitoring of resources and their rightful use. Such community/Non-government organisations are also facilitating the effectiveness of Panchayati Raj Institutions and aiding in the delivery of rural-based programmes.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. Since cities and towns in India constitute the second largest urban system in the world and contribute over 50 per cent of the country's GDP, the Government initiated Jawahar Lal Nehru National Urban Mission (JNNURM) for the purpose of encouraging reforms and fast track planned development of identified cities in three categories:

- (i) Cities/urban agglomerations (UA) with a 4 million plus population as per 2001 census
- (ii) Cities/UA with 1 million plus but less than 4 million population as per 2001 census.
- (iii) Selected cities/UAs It is expected that the JNNURM assistance would serve to catalyse the flow of investment into the urban infrastructure sector across the country. Funds from the Central and State Government will flow directly to the nodal agency designated by the State, as grants-in-aid. The funds for identified projects across cities would be disbursed to the ULB/Parastatal agency through the designated State Level Nodal Agency (SLNA) as soft loan or grant-cum-loan or grant.

[Translation]

Scholarship to M.Tech Students

4155. SHRI GHANSYAM ANURAGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides scholarship to the students doing M.Tech from Engineering College through Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether scholarship has also been given to students doing M.Tech through GATE from Govind Ballabh Pant Engineering College, Ghurdhori in Pauri Garhwal district of Uttarakhand;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) provides scholarship to such students who qualify Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE) for pursuing M.Tech. programme.

(c) to (e) As per information provided by AICTE, the students of Govind Ballabh Pant Engineering College, Ghurdhori in Pauri Garhwal district of Uttarakhand have been awarded scholarship up to the financial year 2006-07. Thereafter, the scholarship could not be released for want of requisite information from the college.

[English]

Permission to CBI for Investigation

4156. SHRI MANICKA TAGORE: Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of requests pending with the Government to grant permission to CBI to investigate the top/higher officials of the Government in corruption cases Ministry-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the action being taken by the Government on these requests and the time by which permission is likely to be given to CBI for investigation?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) As on 15.4.2010, 7 (seven) requests of CBI under Section 6-A of Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946 (DSPE Act) for undertaking investigation/enquiry against officers of the level of Joint Secretary and above are pending with the following Ministries/Departments of the Government of India:

Name of the Ministry/Department	Number of Requests pending
Ministry of Human Resources and Development	1
Department of Atomic Energy	1
Ministry of Health and family Welfare	1
Cabinet Secretariat	1
Ministry of Railways	1
Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services)	1
Ministry of Coal	1
Total	7

The individual administrative ministry is required to dispose of such requests in accordance with the provisions of the DSPE Act.

Protected Monuments in Haryana

4157. SHRIMATI SHRUTI CHOUDHRY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of protected monuments in Haryana, location-wise;

(b) the details of the funds allocated by the Government for the maintenance and revival of these monuments from tourism point of view during the last two years and the current year; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase allocation of funds for the proper up-keep and maintenance of these monuments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The details of protected monuments of Archaeological Survey of India in Haryana are given in Annexure.

(b) The details of expenditure incurred during the last two years and allocation for the current financial year for conservation, preservation and environmental development of the protected monuments in Haryana are as under:

(Amount in Rupees)		
Sl.No.	Year	Expenditure incurred/allocation
1.	2008-09	3,19,15,246
2.	2009-10	2,86,94,101
3.	2010-11	11,42,90,000 (Allocation)

(c) Requisite funds are allocated for conservation and preservation of protected monuments in Haryana and the monuments are in good state of preservation.

Statement

List of Centrally Protected Monuments under Chandigarh Circle

Sl.No.	Name of Monument	Locality	Tehsil	Distt.
1	2	3	4	5
HARYANA				
1.	Kos Minar	Ambala City	Ambala	Ambala
2.	Ancient site	Naurangabad	Bhiwani	Bhiwani
3.	Kos Minar 18	Alapur	Palwal	Faridabad
4.	Bund or Dam	Anangpur	Faridabad	-do-
5.	Kos Minar 22	Faridabad	Palwal	-do-

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Kos Minar 24	Banchari	Hodal	-do-
7.	Kos Minar 25	-do-	-do-	-do-
8.	Kos Minar 27	Bhulwana	-do-	-do-
9.	Kos Minar 16	Gudhpuri	Palwal	-do-
10.	Kos Minar 17	Gudhpuri	Palwal	Faridabad
11.	Kos Minar 26	Hodal	Hodal	-do-
12.	Kos Minar 23	Khatela	-do-	-do-
13.	Kos Minar 21	Khera Sarai	Palwal	-do-
14.	Kos Minar 20	Khusropur	-do-	-do-
15.	Kos Minar 10	Khiwaza Sarai	Faridabad	-do-
16.	Mughal Bridge over (Budhiya ka Nala)	-do-	-do-	-do-
17.	Suraj Kand (Masonry Tank)	Lakkarpur	-do-	-do-
18.	Kos Minar 11	Mawai	-do-	-do-
19.	Kos Minar 13	Mujessar	Ballabgarh	-do- (Destroyed)
20.	Kos Minar 19	Palwal	Palwal	-do-
21.	Kos Minar 15	Sikri	Ballabgarh	-do-
22.	Ancient site	Banwali	Fatehabad	Fatehabad
23.	Hamayun's Mosque	Fatehabad	-do-	-do-
24.	Lat of Firaji Shah	-do-	-do-	-do-
25.	Baoli Ghaus Ali Shah	Farrukh Nagar	Farrukh Nagar	Farrukh Nagar
26.	Mosque of Ala Vardi Khan	Sarai Ali Vardi Khan	Gurgaon	-do-
27.	Mound	Agroha	Adampur	Hissar
28.	Barsi Gate	Hansi	Hansi	-do-
29.	Ruined Quila (Prithviraj Chauhan's Fort)	-do-	-do-	-do-
30.	Firojshah Palace & Tehkhana	Hissar	Hissar	-do-
31.	Gujri Mahal	-do-	-do-	-do-
32.	Lat Ki Masjid	-do-	-do-	-do-
33.	Ancient Mound	Rakhigarhi	Hansi	-do-
34.	Kos Minar	Bheni Kalan	Karnal	Karnal
35.	Kos Minar	Daha	-do-	-do-

1	2	3	4	5
36.	Gateway of old Mughal Sarai	Gharaunda	Gharaunda	-do-
37.	Kos Minar	Gharaunda (North)	-do-	-do-
38.	Kos Minar	Gharaunda (South)	-do-	-do-
39.	Cantonment Church Tower	Karnal	Karnala	-do-
40.	European Soldier Grave	Karnal City	-do-	-do-
41.	Two Kos Minars	-do-	-do-	-do-
42.	Kos Minar	Kohand	Karnal	-do-
43.	Kos Minar	Kutail	-do-	-do-
44.	Kos minar	Tirawari (North)	-do-	-do-
45.	Kos Minar	Tirawari (South)	-do-	-do-
46.	Kushan Stupa	Asandh	Asandh	-do-
47.	Ther Polar	Siwan (Polar)	Kaithal	Kaithal
48.	Ancient Brick Temple & Prachin Shivalaya	Kalayat	Narwana	-do-
49.	Kos Minar	Amin	Kurukshetra	Kurukshetra
50.	Ancient Mound	-do-	-do-	-do-
51.	Kos Minar	Adhon	-do-	-do-
52.	Kos Minar	Bhiwani Khera	-do-	-do-
53.	Kos Minar	Fatuhpur	-do-	-do-
54.	Kos Minar	Mohri	Shahbad	Kurukshetra
55.	Ancient Mound known as Raja Karan ka Tilla	Mirzapur	Kurukshetra	Kurukshetra
56.	Kos Minar	Kurukshetra	-do-	-do-
57.	Pathar Masjid	Thanesar	Kurukshetra	-do-
58.	Sheikh Chilli' Tomb	-do-	-do-	-do-
59.	Ancient site Harsh Ka Tila	-do-	-do-	-do-
60.	Kos Minar	Sarai Sukhi	-do-	-do-
61.	Kos Minar	Shahbad	-do-	-do- (Destroyed)
62.	Kos Minar	Zainpura	-do-	-do-
63.	Jal Mahal	Narnaul	Narnaul	Mahendergarh
64.	Shah Ibrahim Tombs	-do-	-do-	-do-
65.	Shah Quli Khan's Tomb	-do-	-do-	-do-

1	2	3	4	5
66.	Kos Minar	Jatipur	Panipat	Panipat
67.	Obelisk Third Battle of Panipat	Kala Amb	-do-	-do-
68.	Kos Minar	Kiwana	-do-	-do-
69.	Kos Minar	Manana	-do-	-do-
70.	Bab-I-Faiz Gate	Panipat	-do-	-do-
71.	Kabuli Bagh Mosque	-do-	-do-	-do-
72.	Ibrahim Lodi's Tomb	-do-	-do-	-do-
73.	Kos Minar	-do-	-do-	-do-
74.	Kos Minar	-do-	-do-	-do-
75.	Kos Minar	Siwah	-do-	-do-
76.	Site known as Khokrakot	Khokrakot	Rohtak	Rohtak
77.	Shahjahan Ki Baoli	Keham	-do-	-do-
78.	Ther Mound	Sirsa	Sirsa	Sirsa
79.	Kos Minar	Akbarpur (Barota)	Sonepat	Sonepat
80.	Kos Minar	Bayanpur	Sonepat	-do-
81.	Kos Minar	Gannaur	-do-	-do-
82.	Kos Minar	Jagdishpur	-do-	-do-
83.	Kos Minar	Jawahri	-do-	-do-
84.	Kos Minar	Panchi Gujran	-do-	-do-
85.	Kos Minar	Rajpur	-do-	-do-
86.	Kos Minar	Sonepat	-do-	-do-
87.	Tomb of Khawaza Khizr	-do-	-do-	-do-
88.	Nabha House	Dara Kalan (Thanesar)	Kurukshetra	Kurukshetra
89.	Group of Tombs	Jhajjar	Jhajjar	Jhajjar

World Bank Assistance for ICZM

4158. SHRI S.R. JEYADURAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government proposes to prepare an Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) plan with the help of loan assistance from the World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the loan assistance from the WB will be utilized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Under the World Bank assisted Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) project, pilot

scale Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan is proposed to be prepared in identified stretches of the States of Gujarat, Orissa and West Bengal.

(c) The above World Bank ICZM project, with its various components, is estimated to cost Rs. 1155.63 crores, with World Bank contribution of Rs. 897.00 crores and the balance amount being borne by the Government of India and by the participating States.

Indo-China Hotline Service

4159. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have signed a pact recently for establishing a hotline service between New Delhi and Beijing;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other countries with whom India has hotline services?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) During the visit of the External Affairs Minister to China from 5 to 8 April 2010, the two countries signed the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Establishment of the Direct Secure Telephone Link between the Prime Minister of India and the Chinese Premier.

(c) A hotline between Prime Minister of India and President of Russia is currently operational.

[*Translation*]

Sale of GM Crops

4160. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:
SHRI MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether production and sale of genetically modified agricultural products are banned in the country;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has permitted "Monsanto India" to trade in genetically modified seeds and other agriculture inputs;

(d) if so, the details thereof including the date on which the said permission was given; and

(e) the number of other commercial organizations whose applications in this regard are pending with the Government and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) No, Madam. There is no ban on genetically modified (GM) agricultural products in the country. However, approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) is mandatory prior to production and sale of GM seeds. As of date, Bt cotton is the only GM crop in commercial cultivation. The Government has recently imposed a moratorium on commercial cultivation of Bt brinjal.

(c) and (d) The Government has not permitted "Monsanto India" to trade in genetically modified seeds and other agriculture inputs.

(e) The application of M/s Mahyco pertaining to commercial cultivation of Bt brinjal Event EE-I is pending consideration of the GEAC in light of several views that have emerged during the public consultations on Bt brinjal organized by the Ministry of Environment and Forests during January to February, 2010.

[*English*]

Fraudulent Educational Institutions

4161. SHRI S. ALAGIRI:
SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:
SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:

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

(a) whether a number of fraudulent universities, colleges and schools are reportedly operating in the country and receiving grants and aid from the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of such institutions which have closed down during the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether some schools and colleges which are not operational are still receiving aids from the Government;

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

(f) whether the Government proposes to bring a legislation to check such fraudulent institutes;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the time by which the legislation is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) University Grants Commission (UGC) provides funds to Universities and Colleges which have been declared fit to receive grants under Section 12B of the UGC Act, 1956. Only those Universities and Colleges recognized under Section 2(f) of the UGC Act are eligible to be declared fit to receive grants. Therefore, the question of fraudulent Universities or Colleges receiving grants from UGC does not arise. The UGC has so far identified 21 self styled fake Universities or Institutions which are in existence in different parts of the country in contravention of the UGC Act, 1956.

So far as Central Board of Secondary Education is concerned, they have information about 05 fake Boards in the country. CBSE has not provided any grant or aid to any of these fake Boards. As far as Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is concerned, there is no system of providing grant-in-aid to institutions which are either not Government or Government aided from the SSA programmes.

(f) to (h) A legislative proposal to prohibit and punish adoption of unfair practices, including the making of fake claims of being recognized, when it is not so recognized by technical and medical educational institutions and Universities is proposed to be introduced as a bill in the Parliament.

Transportation of Coal

4162. SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a coal washery is functioning in the Piparwar Colliery in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount spent on its commissioning;

(c) whether the construction of a railway track was started from washery which was later on discontinued;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for discontinuance of railway track;

(e) the present status of the said project;

(f) whether in the absence of a railway track, the coal is being transported by road incurring billions of rupees; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to restart the construction of said railway track?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Piparwar Washery was commissioned in 1997 at a rated capacity of 6.5 Million Tonne per annum at a total cost of Rs. 329.16 crore (approximately),

(c) to (g) The work of construction of railway track is in progress. At present the only alternative to dispatch coal produced from different collieries of Piparwar Area is to transport the coal by road to the nearby railway sidings viz. Bachra, RCM, KDH & Dakra sidings.

[Translation]

Arrests of Officers

4163. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Officers of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and some other Departments were caught redhanded for accepting bribes by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) during the course of their recent raid;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Shri R.P. Singh,

Assistant General Manager, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), Kolkata has been arrested on 31.01.2010 for demanding and accepting a sum of Rs. 25 lakhs from the complainant as bribe for giving relief and not initiating any proceedings against the Company.

(c) The officer has been placed under suspension by SEBI on 01.02.2010.

Education in Rural Areas

4164. SHRI SANJAY SINGH CHAUHAN:
SHRIMATI SHRUTI CHOUDHRY:
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

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

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the teachers in rural areas mostly remain absent and no teaching is imparted to the students;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the effective measures taken or being taken by the Government in this regard including the funds allocated by the Government to the States for the purpose

and spent therefrom by them during the last three years and the current year, State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The MHRD had conducted an independent study on Student's Attendance at primary and upper primary levels in the year 2006-07 in 20 major states. This study also involved collection of data on teachers' presence in schools. The findings of the study reveal that Teachers' Attendance Rate was 81.7% at primary level and 80.5% at upper primary level. The study was conducted in a large number of schools from rural areas (82%). The Government of India has advised States to monitor teachers' attendance in elementary schools and put in place mechanism to improve teacher's presence and accountability. The States have also been advised to take steps for amending the bye laws/rules of village education committees/PTAs/School Development and Management Committees or equivalent bodies to include specific clauses to monitor teachers' attendance.

The statement regarding funds sanctioned by the government to the States for teachers' training, BRCs, CRCs and teachers salaries during the last three years is enclosed.

Statement

*Outlays * sanctioned under SSA*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	170.08	143.91	323.93
2.	Andhra Pradesh	33933.37	31579.11	36425.36
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	4442.90	4737.20	5081.67
4.	Assam	6585.36	6705.73	8716.27
5.	Bihar	130415.21	100640.82	147809.62
6.	Chandigarh	900.75	1005.47	1308.36
7.	Chhattisgarh	33092.78	36283.71	53318.69
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	335.83	346.75	362.59
9.	Daman and Diu	58.92	70.52	100.13
10.	Delhi	1106.55	1299.39	1347.61
11.	Goa	596.36	588.04	703.52

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Gujarat	3930.04	4228.17	8640.47
13.	Haryana	11760.88	15342.38	29016.31
14.	Himachal Pradesh	4953.28	5532.44	6205.12
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	12789.58	15891.10	33520.21
16.	Jharkhand	38026.07	54727.43	53472.67
17.	Karnataka	23621.20	34316.81	46346.94
18.	Kerala	4017.25	3422.29	4507.70
19.	Lakshadweep	36.60	45.75	75.51
20.	Madhya Pradesh	50108.03	49779.14	86943.72
21.	Maharashtra	17120.73	13361.13	22009.86
22.	Manipur	354.30	158.00	255.33
23.	Meghalaya	3249.11	3323.50	4066.36
24.	Mizoram	1587.15	1733.61	2370.79
25.	Nagaland	677.47	760.83	784.70
26.	Orissa	30793.72	28385.47	49144.69
27.	Puducherry	184.15	194.96	245.87
28.	Punjab	6981.49	8757.88	14185.80
29.	Rajasthan	86998.93	104695.72	134444.76
30.	Sikkim	808.59	853.45	915.51
31.	Tamil Nadu	35683.06	38171.51	50007.16
32.	Tripura	2159.90	2307.45	5013.42
33.	Uttar Pradesh	170972.43	196427.16	255161.26
34.	Uttaranchal	10191.35	10920.78	17684.01
35.	West Bengal	42083.18	49996.40	72546.98
	Total	770726.58	826734.01	1153062.89

*This includes Teachers' training, BRCs, CRCs and Teachers' salaries.

[English]

Setting up of New Polytechnics

4165. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:
SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:

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

(a) whether the Orissa is facing shortage of skilled manpower to exploit the metallurgical and energy potential;

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

(c) whether the Government has received any request/demand from the State Government of Orissa for an assistance of Rs. 828 crore for establishment of new polytechnics in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof:

(e) whether the State Government of Orissa has also submitted a memorandum to the 13th Finance

Commission for enhanced funds for setting up of new Polytechnics and development of their infrastructure for the said purpose; and

(f) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. As per the reply furnished by the Industries Department, Government of Orissa, the State Government of Orissa is expecting an increase in the demand of Skilled Manpower because of the initiatives taken by it for investment promotion towards setting up of Mineral based Industries such as Steel, Power, Alumina/Aluminium, Cement etc.

(c) and (d) No, Madam. In the information furnished by Industries Department, Government of Orissa, they have mentioned that no proposal worth Rs. 828 crore has been sent by Government of Orissa for establishment of new Polytechnics. However, under the Scheme of "Sub-Mission on Polytechnics", this Ministry has approved for providing financial assistance to the State Government of Orissa for establishment of new Polytechnics in 22 unserved/underserved districts of the State.

(e) and (f) No, Madam. However, the State Government of Orissa has informed that it has submitted a proposal to 13th Finance Commission to avail financial assistance of Rs. 240.00 crore for setting up of 40 new ITIs @ Rs. 6.00 crore per ITI at the block level where no ITI/ITC exists.

Concentration of Chinese Military and Artillery

4166. SHRI SUBHASH BAPURAO WANKHEDE:
SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether China is concentrating its military and artillery along its Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh borders;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) to (c) Government pays close attention to China's military modernization program, including the development of rail, road and airport facilities in the border

regions opposite India in Tibet and Xinjiang Autonomous Regions. Since 1993, the two Governments have agreed to maintain peace and tranquility along the LAC in the India-China border areas. The two sides have reiterated their commitment to this goal on many occasions. Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.

NRI's Investment in Infrastructure Bonds

4167. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to invite NRI's to invest in infrastructure bonds as reported in media;

(b) if so, the estimated amount likely to be invested by NRI's; and

(c) the projects for which the funds are proposed to be utilized?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Government proposes to invite NRI's investment in infrastructure bonds for an estimated amount of US \$ 5 billion.

(c) The funds are proposed to be utilized in infrastructure projects in ports, roads and power sector.

Courses Offered by Deemed Universities

4168. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:
SHRIMATI SHRUTI CHOUDHRY:
SHRI P. KUMAR:

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

(a) whether many deemed universities have been offering courses which do not figure in the list of degrees under UGC Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether certain tainted deemed universities are funded by UGC;

(d) if so, the details of such deemed universities which have received grants;

(e) whether deemed universities do not provide subsidised education to the students;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether there is urgent need for an effective accreditation system as National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has failed in its role; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) All universities, including institutions declared as deemed to be universities under Section 3 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956, shall confer or grant only those 'degrees' that are specified by the UGC, with the approval of the Central Government, under Section 22 of the said Act, by way of notification in the official Gazette. Accordingly, institutions deemed to be universities are required to ensure that the degrees granted or conferred by them conform to those specified by the UGC under section 22 of the UGC Act, 1956 from time to time. The nomenclature of 163 degrees specified by the UGC so far for this purpose, are available on the Commission's website at <http://www.ugc.ac.in/policy/regulation.html>.

(c) and (d) University Grants Commission (UGC) has been funding eligible institutions, including institutions deemed to be universities in the present Plan. Two of these institutions, funded by the UGC, have been found unfit to continue as such by the Committee of Experts constituted by the Government to review the existing institutions deemed to be universities. However, the matter is currently sub judice in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in *Viplav Sharma vs. Union of India* [WP(C) No. 142 of 2006].

(e) and (f) There is no mandate prescribed under the extant UGC guidelines pertaining to institutions deemed to be universities, to offer subsidized education. However, these institutions are at their liberty to formulate and administer their own 'scholarship' schemes for the benefit of students, keeping in view the broad national policy on education that emphasizes quality, equity and access to higher education.

(g) and (h) While National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) set up by the University Grants Commission (UGC) is concerned with accreditation

of institutions, the National Board of Accreditation (NBA), an autonomous body of the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), is involved in accreditation of technical courses. However, since at present accreditation is voluntary, a legislative proposal for mandatory accreditation and establishment of an independent accreditation authority has been finalized for introduction in Parliament.

INGOs Financial Contribution for Education

4169. SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Non-Government Organizations (INGOs) are providing funds to the Indian NGOs, different State education departments and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) authorities for improvement of quality of education;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith NGO-wise amount of funds disbursed for education during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether any mechanism exists to check the duplication of efforts;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether INGOs have signed any Memorandum of Understanding in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (f) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is not being financed by International Non-Government Organisation (INGOs), but by three Development Partners (DPs) namely the World Bank, Department for International Development of UK (DFID) & European Commission since 2004. In Phase I covering the period 2004-07 following assistance had been provided by these DPs:

	Funding Received		
	World Bank	DFID	EC
SSA Phase-I (2004-07)	US\$ 488.71 million (Rs. 2233.18 crore)	£ 189.307 million (Rs. 1554.75 crore)	EURO 168.565 million (Rs. 942.94 crore)

The details of financing committed by these DPs for Phase-II of SSA programme covering the period 2007-10 are as under:

	Funding Received		
	World Bank	DFID	EC
SSA Phase-II (2007-10)	US\$ 600 million	£ 150 million	EURO 70 million

The data on funding provided by INGOs to Indian NGOs and State Governments is not maintained centrally.

Forensic Science Education

4170. SHRI M. RAJAMOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to educate and train the manpower in Forensic Science keeping in view the prevailing crime scenario in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of universities offering forensic science education at present; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to bring suitable reforms in the said education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Universities have autonomy in academic matters including introduction of new courses or programmes of study or for restructuring the existing courses of study or syllabi prescribed.

(c) As per information provided by UGC, four universities namely the University of Mysore, Punjabi University, Bundelkhand University and Panjab University have established Departments of Forensic Sciences offering courses in Criminology and Forensic Science.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) and (b).

[*Translation*]

Import Of Uranium

4171. SHRI ARJUN MUNDA: Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the uranium used in the nuclear reactors for production of nuclear energy has reached India after the signing of Indo-US civil nuclear deal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the present power crisis can be solved with the import of uranium from various countries; and

(d) the States which are likely to be benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Following the decision of Nuclear Supplier's Group in September, 2008 and finalization of Agreements with friendly countries including the USA, contracts have been signed with France, Russia and Kazakhstan for supply of uranium. While France has completed the supply, part supplies have been received from Russia.

(c) Imported fuel can be used only in reactors under International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards. At present only 7 operating reactors are under IAEA safeguards. Capacity utilization has improved after introduction of imported uranium in safeguarded reactors.

(d) The State of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir and Chandigarh are likely to be benefited from the above import of Uranium.

Black Marketing of Foodgrains Under Mdms

4172. DR. SANJAY SINGH:
SHRI RATNA SINGH:

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

(a) whether Mid-Day Meal foodgrains are being sold in open/black market;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard and the outcome as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) A few cases of Mid-Day Meal foodgrains sold in open/black market have come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) The details of complaints regarding Mid Day Meal foodgrain being sold/black marketed as well as the action taken by the concerned State Government are as under:-

2007—Chhattisgarh—Complaint from Shri Vijay Upadhyaya regarding sale of MDM rice in the open market was received. The State Government has reported that an enquiry was made in the Gram Panchayat Bewera and it was found that 161.886 quintal of rice of the MDM Programme had been misappropriated by the Sarpanch. On the basis of this report, Sub Divisional Magistrate, Bemetra passed an order for removal of the Sarpanch and the Panchayat Secretary and for recovery of Rs. 4,08,793 from the Sarpanch. The Sarpanch had filed an appeal against this order and had been granted a stay order by the Court of Additional Collector, Durg. Disciplinary action has also been initiated against the concerned Head Masters of the schools and the Block Education Officer for their failure to report the matter in time to the District and State Officers.

2007—Delhi—Press clipping appeared in 'Amar Ujala' dated 31.3.2007 under the caption 'Black-marketing of cereals meant for Mid-Day Meal programme'. The Delhi Police seized 2 Trucks carrying the rice lifted by the NGOs/Suppliers under Mid Day Meal Scheme from FCI godown, which were taken to Narela for sale in open market. FIR No. 168/07 was lodged in Police Station, Narela. Government of NCT of Delhi has reported that three suppliers namely Shade India Society, Bal Bhoj and Jansewak Associate who lifted the said foodgrains from FCI godown have been debarred from the supply of Mid-Day Meal and have been blacklisted.

2008—Rajasthan—Press clipping appeared in 'Rashtrdoot' dated 18.9.2008 under the caption 'Suspension' Misappropriation of fund under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme by storekeeper' stated that Misappropriation of fund and black marketing of foodgrains had been noticed under the Mid-Day Meal

scheme by storekeeper. As per report, the Store Keeper of Sale/Purchase Cooperative Society Marwah Junction, Pali, Rajasthan was not found guilty. Moreover no fraud or pilferage of foodgrains was found in this case.

2009—Punjab—Press clipping appeared in 'Tribune New Delhi' dated 11.10.2009 'Bid to sell foodgrains foiled; 2 teachers, driver held'. The Government of Punjab reported that they have already put both these teachers, namely, Shri Bhupinder Singh and Shri Major Singh under suspension and Senior Superintendent of Police, Sangrur has been requested to expedite the investigation and ensure that the culprits are punished as per law so that it gives exemplary message elsewhere also.

2010—No complaint received.

Additional Funds for Irrigation Projects

4173. SHRI IYARAJ SINGH:
RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:
SHRI HARIBHAU MADHAV JAWALE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has demanded additional funds for expeditious completion of various irrigation projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of projects which are incomplete as a result of shortage of funds, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to fully fund some of the irrigation projects which would irrigate one lac hectare of land and benefit two and more States;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the status of such projects; and

(e) the funds allocated for each of these projects, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA): (a) and (b) In the present circumstances, allocation of Rs. 9200 crore made for Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme including Rs. 2200 crore for National Project for the year 2010-11 is sufficient.

- (c) No, Madam.
 (d) and (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Technology for Bt. DNA of Bt. Brinjal

4174. SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Genetic Engineering Approval Committee has the facilities and systems to detect the technology behind the Bt. DNA of Bt. Brinjal;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) If not whether the Government proposes to invest on augmenting research and development facilities in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to initiate stricter regulations on the import of genetically modified food products; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Several public and private institutions in India have facilities, systems and expertise to detect the Bt. technology in brinjal. The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee is a regulatory body which relies on the data generated by these institutions.

(c) and (d) Recognizing the new developments in biotechnology, the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology jointly with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had established five project based centres for detection of Genetically Modified (GM) foods with special reference to cotton, soyabean, corn, brinjal, tomato, rice, peanut, mustard, papaya and potato. These projects are implemented at Central Food Technology Research Institute, Mysore, Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics, Hyderabad, Industrial Toxicological Research Institute, Lucknow, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi and National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad. For toxicological analysis of GM crops, a project has also been implemented at Shriram Institute for Industrial Research, New Delhi. In

order to facilitate regulation, field testing and validation of transgenic crops developed in public research funded programmes, a Platform for Translational Research on Transgenic Crops has also been established at ICRISAT, Hyderabad.

(e) and (f) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has notified the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 to regulate genetically modified foods, organic food, functional foods, etc. FSSAI is in the process of putting in place necessary framework and mechanisms to regulate GM foods.

Contamination of Water

4175. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a possible link between hydraulic fracturing and pollution of groundwater of the regions where gas production is common, has been studied by the Government;

(b) if so, whether hazards like methane contamination of drinking water has been detected in these areas; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent contamination of water meant for drinking and agricultural use in these regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) As reported by Central Ground Water Board, a study has not been conducted on the linkage between hydraulic fracturing and pollution of groundwater of the regions where gas production is common.

Further, as informed by Department of Drinking Water Supply, Ministry of Rural Development, no State/Union Territory has reported contamination of methane in drinking water sources in the rural areas of the country.

[Translation]

Growth of Cow Progeny

4176. SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether growth of the cow progeny is essential for protecting the environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has formulated or intends to formulate any schemes in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether recently Vishwa Mangal Gogram Yatra was organised throughout the country and if so, the detail thereof;

(f) whether the Government has received any memorandum from the organiser of Vishwa Mangal Gogram Yatra; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (d) All the species on earth play a vital role in protecting the environment, which include cow progeny. Government has initiated a centrally sponsored scheme namely "National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding" which envisages genetic up-gradation of bovine population and also has focus on development and conservation of indigenous breeds.

(e) to (g) Letters have been received in the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries from various sources indicating that Vishwa Mangal Gogram Yatra was organized. The details about the yatra are available on website <http://gougram.org/>.

[English]

Traditional forms of Arts

4177. SHRI P.C. GADDIGOUDAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the measures undertaken by the Government to preserve and promote traditional form of arts which are on the verge of extinction due to influence of western culture, media etc. in the country, especially in the Bagalkot district of Karnataka; and

(b) the funds allocated and utilised in this regard during the years 2007-08 and 2008-2009?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The Ministry of Culture has taken various steps to preserve and promote traditional forms of arts of various States of the country including Bagalkot district of Karnataka. These activities are carried out

through the different organizations of the Ministry. The Centre for Cultural Resources and Training is promoting traditional art forms by awarding scholarships under the cultural talent scholarship scheme, at the national level. Over the years, the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya has carried out field work among the people of Karnataka and developed collections of 440 objects of the material culture of the people of Karnataka. In 2005, IGRMS has taken initiatives document jatras and festival of Karnataka cultures beginning with banzara jatra in Bagalkot. Seminars and lectures were also organised in the Karnataka by IGRMS. Ministry has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres for the preservation, promotion and dissemination of the folk/tradition arts of the respective Zones. The ZCCs implement a number of schemes including the Scheme for Documentation of Vanishing Art forms. Under it, documentation of various folk and tribal art forms is undertaken, especially of those which are seen to be vanishing. The dying art forms like Morsingh and Ganjeera, which were also prevalent once in Bagalkot District of Karnataka, have been taken up under Guru Shishya Parampara scheme during 2008-09 (amount utilized was Rs. 1.35 lakhs).

(b) The following funds have been allocated and utilized during the years 2007-2008 and 2008-2009.

	Allocated Fund	
	2007-08	2008-09
CCRT	140.77	149.01
IGRMS	22.60	22.27
ZCCs	1674.13	2616.19
	Utilized Fund	
	2007-08	2008-09
CCRT	—	—
IGRMS	22.60	22.27
ZCCs	—	—

Encouragement for Social Change

4178. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government encourages students to strive for social change;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of lessons which have been incorporated in academic curriculum of the students; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Education is an effective tool for social change. Some of the guiding principles of National Curriculum Framework, 2005 include connecting knowledge to life outside the school, enriching the curriculum to provide for overall development of children rather than remaining textbook centric and nurturing an over-riding identity informed by caring concerns within the democratic policy of the country.

Due care has also been given by National Council of Education Research and Training to address the issues relating to social aspect of changes and development taking place in the society in their textbooks, such as Chipko Movement, Anti arrack movement, farmers' movements, Narmada Bachao Aandolan, movement against social discrimination, Right to Information, Right to Franchise, fundamental rights, rights of tribals, minorities, women, etc. The Disaster Management textbooks published by Central Board of Secondary Education contain relevant information and activities pertaining to creating a culture of disaster preparedness among students, teachers, their families and society. Other curricular initiatives/collaboration include observance of Earth Day, World AIDS Day, National Education Day, Science Day, Adolescence Education Programme, Comprehensive School Health Programme, Life Skills Education, Road Safety, Disaster Management, Environmental Education etc.

[*Translation*]

Rural Persistent Poverty

4179. SHRI ARJUN MUNDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rural Persistent Poverty (RPP) of the society is the main hurdle in the integrated education development, planning and self-employment in the country including Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Integrated educational development, planning of the State and to provide gainful employment opportunity including self-employment to the people of the State is primarily responsibility of the concerned States. However, to supplement the efforts of the State Government, Central Government is providing central assistance to the States. In addition, a large number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes are also being implemented in the States. The State Plan outlays for last three years for Jharkhand are as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

Annual Plan	Approved Outlay	Of which Central Assistance
2007-08	6676.00	1079.16
2008-09	8015.00	1379.80
2009-10	8200.00	1641.43

[*English*]

Price of Bt. Cotton

4180. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had given approval to Monsanto to launch its Bt. Cotton technology between 2002 to 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the rate at which the Bt. Cotton seeds were sold to the farmers and the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission had indicted Monsanto and passed an interim order in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Government had given approval to

M/s Mahyco and its Sub-licensees for commercial cultivation of several Bt. Cotton hybrids containing Monsanto Bollgard cry 1 Ac gene (Mon 531 event) technology (Bollgard-1) during 2002 to 2005.

(b) The Bt cotton hybrids were sold at Rs. 1600 to Rs. 1800 per packet containing 450 gm of seeds of which Rs. 1250 per packet was collected as trait value as per the agreement signed between M/s Mahyco and M/s Monsanto with their Sub-licensees. The trait value was reduced to Rs. 900 per packet on 3.3.2006.

(c) to (e) The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission vide order dated 11.5.2006 had directed M/s Mahyco during the pendency of this case not to charge trait value of Rs. 900 per packet and to fix a reasonable trait value in line with what the parent company charges in China. Subsequently, based on the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 5.6.2006 and directions dated 29.5.2006 issued by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the Company was directed to sell Bt cotton seeds (Bollgard-1) at Rs. 750 per packet including the trait value. Currently Bollgard-1 seeds are being sold at Rs. 750 per packet in all nine cotton growing states.

[Translation]

Old Age People in the Country

4181. SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of old age people is continuously increasing in the country over the years;

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

(c) whether the Government has undertaken any survey in this regard; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (d) The number of old age people in the age group of 60 years and above has increased in the country from about 57.5 million accounting for 6.8% of the total population as per the 1991 census to about 76.6 million accounting for 7.4% of total population as reported in the 2001 census. In 1991,

old age people comprised 29.9 million male and 27.7 million female and the number increased to 37.8 million male and 38.9 million female in 2001. The increase in the old age population in India can be attributed to improved living standard, better living condition with improved preventive and curative health care facilities etc. The Planning commission has not conducted any survey in this regard.

[English]

Music Festival

4182. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the events included in the "Parampara", the festival of music and dance in the country;

(b) whether this is restricted only to the Hindustani stream of music and dance;

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

(d) whether the Government is aware that Mappila Pattu and Oppana is the traditional music and dance of the Muslims of Malabar; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to preserve the same and the proposal to be included in Parampara festival of music and dance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Various artistes and groups organize, at their levels, festivals of dance and music in the name of 'Parampara' and other allied titles. Of the institutions under the Ministry of Culture, the West Zone Cultural Centre at Udaipur organizes an event called "Parampara Mahotsava" in Maharashtra, in collaboration with the Government of Maharashtra and the University of Mumbai. This event includes folk dances and music from across the country.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Yes, Madam.

These art forms are widely included in the National Cultural Exchange Programme by the Zonal Cultural Centres. As part of these efforts, a group of 15 members from Kerala was deputed to perform Oppana dance at

various places during the Festival of India in Kuwait from 8th to 14th November, 2009. Recently, the dance form of Oppana was also presented during Saptarang festival in 'Triveni Mahotsav', Allahabad from 19th to 25th February, 2010 and in 'Taj Mahotsav', Agra from 18th to 24th February, 2010.

The music and dance forms of Mappilapattu and Oppana are also included in the festivals or Kalolsavams organized by the Kerala Sangeetha Nataka Academy, Thrissur, under the State Government of Kerala.

New Premises for Aicte

4183. SHRIMATI J. HELEN DAVIDSON: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the new premises of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) including its location; and

(b) the time by which the project is likely to be operationalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has been allotted 5 acres of land in Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) campus, New Delhi for the construction of its Headquarter building, which includes office building, mini Convention Centre and Auditorium. The estimated cost of the project is approx. Rs. 40 crores. In view of the urgent need of the AICTE, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has been requested to complete the construction work through its Civil Engineering Construction Wing in the shortest possible time.

It has also been approved to open two camp offices of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) at Guwahati and Gurgaon.

Atomic Power Generation Potential in Gujarat

4184. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the atomic power generation potential exploited in Saurashtra Kutch Region (SKR) of Gujarat; and

(b) the total atomic power generated in Gujarat out of the power generated from other source at present in the State?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The Site Selection Committee of the Government had requested Gujarat government to offer suitable sites for locating nuclear power plants. The Gujarat government offered six sites, including three in the Saurashtra region. The sites were evaluated in detail and a site at Chhaya Mithi Virdi in Bhavnagar district of the Saurashtra region was found to be suitable. The Government has accorded 'in principle' approval for the site in October 2009, for locating six reactors, each of 1000 MWe or higher capacity. Pre-project activities are currently on hand with a plan to commence work on the first set of twin units at the site in the year 2012.

(b) The installed capacity in Gujarat (as on 31.03.2010) including allocation from central sector generating stations in the Western electricity region is 13908 MW. The share of nuclear power in Gujarat from TAPS 1 to 4 and KAPS 1&2 is 559 MW, constituting about 4%.

Grant-in-aid to Registered Private Schools

4185. SHRI HASSAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Governments for grant-in-aid to registered private schools in the States during the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government thereon;

(c) the details of proposals sanctioned during the said period; and

(d) the details of proposals pending alongwith reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Study on Reservations for STs

4186. SHRIMATI YASHODHARA RAJE SCINDIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposals for a national level study on the use of reservations by scheduled tribes for employment in reserved posts in State Governments, Union Government and Public Sector Undertakings have been received from State Governments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (c): The Government in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has initiated on its own an all India study on 'utilisation of reservation for Scheduled Tribes in Government jobs (State and Central including PSUs) and higher educational institutions (academic, professional/technical imparting courses like BA, BSc, professional and technical courses) in 2006-07.

Grants under UGC Act

4187. SHRI BHOOPENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for according eligibility to colleges for receiving grants under Section 2F and 12B of the University Grants Commission Act during the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government thereon; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) According to the information

furnished by University Grants Commission (UGC), proposals for recognition of a college under section 2 (f) of the UGC Act, 1956 and declaring it to be fit to receive grants under section 12B of the UGC Act are received from Universities and not from State Governments. UGC has not received any specific proposal from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for recognition of Colleges under Section 2(f) and declaring it fit to receive grants under section 12B of the UGC Act, 1956.

The number of Colleges recognized under Section 2 (f) of the UGC Act and declared fit to receive grants under section 12B of the UGC Act in the State of Madhya Pradesh in the last 3 years and in the current year are as under:

Year	No. of Colleges recognized under Section 2(f) in the year	Total No. of Colleges recognized Under Section 2(f) as on 31st March of the year	No. of colleges declared fit to receive grants under Section 12B during the year	Total No. of Colleges declared fit to receive grants under Section 12B as on 31st March of the year
2007-08	8	439	1	381
2008-09	10	450	1	382
2009-10	10	460	3	385
2010-11 (as on 8.4.2010)	0	460	0	385

As on 8.4.2010, there were 16 proposals of colleges which are pending with UGC for recognition under Section 2(f) and Section 12B of the UGC Act. No time period can be specified for the evaluation of the proposals as procedural requirements would have to be completed and inspection by expert committees would have to be undertaken.

[English]

Supply of Lighting Products

4188. SHRI PURNMASI RAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s. Crompton Greaves Limited has refused to supply lighting products to Kendriya Bhandar from where the material is supplied to Government Departments;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Kendriya Bhandar had approved the Crompton Greaves brand of lighting products through one of their distributors. However, they have not started supplies so far.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Involvement of Public Servants in Corruption

4189. SHRI SONAWANE PRATAP NARAYANRAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4016 dated 15.12.2009 and to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of indulgence of public servants and senior officers in corrupt practices;

(b) if so, the action taken against erring public servants and senior officers by the CBI;

(c) the details of guilty public servants and senior officers against whom action has been taken during the last three years and the current year;

(d) whether the Government proposes to intensify such operations in view of increasing corruption in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER

OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The CBI has registered 2439 cases under the PC Act against the public servants including senior officers during the last three years *i.e.* 2007, 2008, 2009 and the current year (upto March, 2010). The year-wise number of cases registered are as follows:

Year	No. of cases registered
2007	688
2008	744
2009	795
2010 (upto 31.03.2010)	212

(c) Whether a person is guilty or otherwise can only be decided by Court after trial. However, in CBI cases under PC Act, the following number of cases have ended in conviction during last three years and the current year:

Year	No. of cases ended in conviction
2007	238
2008	216
2009	230
2010 (upto 31.03.2010)	48

(d) to (f) Government is fully committed to implement its policy of "Zero Tolerance against Corruption" and is moving progressively to eradicate corruption from all spheres of life by improving transparency and accountability. Several steps have been taken to combat corruption and to improve the functioning of Government. These include:-

- (i) Issue of Whistle Blowers Resolution, 2004;
- (ii) Enactment of Right to Information Act, 2005;
- (iii) The pro-active involvement of Ministry/ Department through Annual Action Plan on Vigilance as a preventive measure;
- (iv) Issue of comprehensive instructions on transparency in tendering and contracting process by the CVC;

- (v) Issue of instructions advising the State Governments to adopt Integrity Pact in major procurements;
- (vi) Introduction of e-Governance and simplification of procedures and systems;
- (vii) Issue of Citizen Charters.

Promotion of Local Culture

4190. SHRI RAJU SHETTI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any facility of sound recording and broadcasting for the local artists for the promotion of local culture of Kolhapur;
- (b) if not, whether the Government proposes to provide this facility in order to promote the local culture; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

[English]

Shortfall of Engineers

4191. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the World Bank has conducted any study regarding likely shortfall of skilled manpower including civil engineering graduates and diploma holders in Indian construction industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of civil engineering graduates and diploma holders in the country at present;
- (d) whether there is a need to increase the civil engineering graduates and diploma holders to meet the increased demand; and
- (e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to set up new engineering colleges in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) According to reports in newspapers, a World Bank study has stated that the Indian construction industry could see a shortfall of upto 64% in skilled manpower if the momentum in building roads was maintained. This Ministry does not maintain data on the number of civil engineering graduates and diploma holders in the country.

(d) and (e) To meet the increased demand for engineering graduates and diploma holders, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has permitted second shift of Polytechnic and Engineering Education subject to certain conditions.

[Translation]

Scrapping of Grammar

4192. SHRIMATI JYOTI DHURVE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the NCERT has scrapped the teaching of grammar in linguistics, particularly in Hindi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any alternative methods are being used for teaching language without grammar; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The position paper of the National Focus Group on Teaching of Indian Languages, set up by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), states that contemporary research on languages acquisition has put the learners in the centre of languages learning. It suggests that a learner will be able to construct the grammar of a language effortlessly if he/she is provided with comprehensible input in anxiety-free situation. In tune with these ideas, new language syllabi and textbooks developed by NCERT incorporate grammatical aspects within the texts rather than presenting grammatical items in isolated manner.

*[English]***Implementation of Reservation Policy**

4193. SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI:
SHRI RAMESH RATHOD:
SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:
SHRI P. BALRAM:

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

(a) the salient features of the University Grants Commission (UGC) directives for implementation of reservation policy for SC/ST and Other Backward Classes in all levels of teaching cadres in various universities of the country;

(b) the total number of teaching faculties in each of the universities in the country, including Jawahar Lal Nehru University (JNU), category-wise, cadre-wise and the number of posts advertised and filled up during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the reservation policy is being properly implemented in all the universities including University of Hyderabad;

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

(e) the action taken by the Government for proper implementation of reservation policy in all the universities including JNU and University of Hyderabad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The University Grants Commission (UGC) which is the apex body for coordination and maintenance of standards of higher education in the country, has issued necessary guidelines to all Universities, including Central Universities and UGC maintained deemed universities to strictly adhere to the norms laid down for implementation of the policy of reservation for

SC/ST and OBCs in regard to recruitment as well as in filling up backlog thereto.

(b) to (e) This Ministry does not maintain any centralized information in regard to post-wise number of teachers belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/OBCs. However, according to the information supplied by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the total strength of posts of teachers in Central Universities as on 31.03.2009 was 12,229. As against this, 714 posts of SC/STs have been filled. As per information obtained from Jawahar Lal Nehru University (JNU) and University of Hyderabad, category-wise & cadre-wise number of posts advertised and filled up during the last three years and current year are at Statement.

The Government and the UGC have been reminding Central Universities to fill vacant position in respect of the backlog. This issue has also been taken up in the meeting with Vice Chancellor and Registrars of these Universities. In addition, UGC has written to Central Universities and UGC maintained Deemed Universities that no further Non-Plan grant to the Institutions would be released till such time the policy of reservation is adopted and has also informed all the Institutions which are deficient in the prescribed percentage of reservation, to fill the backlog of reservation in teaching and non-teaching posts within six months.

Statement*University of Hyderabad*

Total number of teaching faculties	Professor	Reader	Lecturer	Total
SC	5	9	19	33
ST	0	2	7	9
OBC	0	2	3	5
OC	151	69	84	304
	156	82	113	351

Year	Professor		Reader		Lecturer		Total		Remarks
	Advertised	Filled	Advertised	Filled	Advertised	Filled	Advertised	Filled	
2007-08	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	28	18	28	18	
2008-09	18	11	27	15	25	17	70	43	
2009-10	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
2010-11	19	*	95	*	70	*	184	*	*Recruitment is under process.

Jawahar Lal Nehru University

Total number of teaching faculties	Professor	= 223
	Associate Professor	= 135
	Assistant Professor	= 126

Year	Professor		Associate Professor		Assistant Professor		Total	
	Advertised	Filled	Advertised	Filled	Advertised	Filled	Advertised	Filled
2007-08	UR-07	UR-09	UR-08	UR-09	UR-13	UR-14 SC-02 ST-02	28	36
2008-09	UR-09 SC-02 ST-01 PH-01	10	UR-12 SC-02 PH-01	U-10	UR-12 OBC-01	UR-16 ST-01	41	37
2009-10	UR-18 SC-12 ST-04 PH-05	UR-03	UR-23 SC-18 ST-09 PH-06	UR-01	UR-21 SC-10 ST-03 PH-04 OBC-17	UR-02	150	06

[Translation]

Disaster Management Support

4194. SHRI JAGDANAND SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether this department co-operates with the States in providing proper information in all the phases of disaster management under the Disaster Management Assistance (DMA) programme in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the assistance was provided under DMA programme during the devastating floods in Koshi, last year;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the State Government could be alerted against Koshi and other rivers devastating floods on the basis of early warning system; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE

OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Department of Space, under the Disaster Management Support (DMS) programme, provides information derived from satellites and aerial survey data, to all States, at near real-time basis. The information provided is mainly on impact of certain disasters, such as, flood, cyclone, earthquake and landslide; assessment of the severity of agricultural drought; and areas affected by forest fires. Such information derived by satellite and aerial data, provided by the Department, is used by concerned States in planning relief, rehabilitation and mitigation of disasters. Further, the department also supports emergency communication during natural disasters through satellite based fixed networks as well as mobile devices.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) The devastating Kosi flood inundation, caused due to a breach in the embankment of the River (outside India), was continuously monitored using data from Indian

and foreign satellites. The inundation information was made available to Government of Bihar, at near real-time basis, which helped them in planning the relief measures.

- (e) No, Madam.
- (f) Does not arise.

[English]

Agreement for Indian Professionals

4195. SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:
SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:
RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:
SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to enter into agreements with certain countries for transfer of Indian professionals/labourers from one region to the other;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the policy formulated by the Government in this regard;

(c) the details of countries which have signed or likely to sign MoUs with India; and

(d) the extent to which it has helped the Government to create job opportunities for skilled/semi-skilled Indian labourers declared surplus abroad?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) to (d) Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has initiated Labour Mobility Partnership Agreements (LMPA) with select Countries in the European Union (EU) to facilitate overseas employment of skilled workers from India in those Countries. The LMPA provides an effective framework for bilateral cooperation for maximizing the benefits of labour mobility and minimizing the risks associated with it. An LMPA with Denmark was signed in September, 2009. Steps are underway to conclude similar Agreements with the European Union (EU), Belgium, France, the Netherlands and Sweden. The Agreements will enable both sides to manage migration better.

Reimbursement of Mess Allowance

4196. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hostlers of Polytechnic Institutes are reimbursed mess allowance (Scholarship) fully in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

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

(c) the details of monthly bills per hostler?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) As per the information given by the Andaman & Nicobar Administration, the mess allowance (scholarship) for the hostellers of Polytechnic are fully reimbursed. For the students of inter islands staying in hostels, there will be full reimbursement of hostel expenses on the basis of bills presented by the hostel authorities.

Liberal Art Universities

4197. SHRI K.P. DHANAPLAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up Liberal Arts Universities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be finalized;

(d) whether the Government has any proposal to ban those higher educational institutions which are affiliated to overseas universities; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Universities are established by or under Central law or a State law or notified by the Central Government as an institution deemed to be university under section 3 of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956. As envisaged in the Eleventh Plan, 16 new Central Universities have been established under the Central Universities Act, 2009, in States which are presently do not have any Central University. Establishment of 14 new Innovation Universities aiming at world class standards has also been envisaged an each Innovation University would focus on one area of problem of significance to India and build an ecosystem of research and teaching around the problem area.

Universities being envisaged as essentially multi-disciplinary in nature, no unitary university focused on a single field of knowledge is proposed to be established by the Central Government at present.

(d) to (e) Only a university established under Central law or a State law or an institution deemed to be university has the power to award a degree. Therefore, a degree awarded by a higher educational institution affiliated to an overseas university would not be considered as a degree awarded in India. Accordingly, the question of banning higher educational institution affiliated to an overseas university does not arise.

Discretionary Quota for Admission in KVs

4198. SHRI P.R. NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the norms/criteria for admission in Kendriya Vidyalayas from discretionary quota;

(b) whether specific discretionary quota of seats are now meant for the employees of his Ministry for admission of their children in Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof including the actual number of seats recommended during the last three years and the current year, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The discretionary quota of Minister of Human Resource Development and Members of Parliament for admission of children in Kendriya Vidyalayas has been abolished from the academic session 2010-2011.

(b) and (c) 100 children of employees of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) are considered for admission every year within the prescribed limit of class strength. The details of number of seats recommended during last three years and current year under this provision are as follows:-

Year	State	Number of seats recommended
1	2	3
2007-2008	Delhi	92
	Haryana	05
	Uttar Pradesh	03

1	2	3
2008-2009	Delhi	84
	Haryana	03
	Uttar Pradesh	03
2009-2010	Delhi	60
	Haryana	03
	Uttar Pradesh	05
	Kerala	01
	Puducherry (UT)	01
2010-11	Nil	Nil

Dam on Brahmaputra

4199. SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that China is working on an ambitious plan to divert Brahmaputra from the point of the 'Great Bend' to its territory by digging a tunnel in its part of Himalaya; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps that are being taken by the Government to prevent any disturbance in the flow of the mighty rivers to our territory?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) Government has seen media reports to such effect. These reports have been taken up with the Chinese side, including during the recent visit of External Affairs Minister to China. The Chinese side has said that such reports are inconsistent with the facts. In this context in November 2009, the Foreign Ministry of China clarified that China is a responsible country and would never do anything to undermine any other country's interest. Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's interests and takes all necessary measures to protect them. Government takes up all relevant issues relating to trans-border rivers with the Chinese side through the Expert Level Mechanism established in 2006.

[Translation]

Upper Yamuna Review Committee

4200. SHRI KHILADI LAL BAIRWA:
SHRI SIS RAM OLA:
DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA:
SHRI DEVJI PATEL:
SHRI BHARAT RAM MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement on distribution of water from Yamuna river has been signed between concerned States including Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the salient features of the agreement;

(c) whether the State Government of Rajasthan has received its share of water from Yamuna as per the agreement;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the districts benefited/likely to be benefited as a result thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any meeting of Upper Yamuna Review Committee (UYRC) has been held after submission of report by the Empowered Committee;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the meeting; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA): (a) and (b) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) amongst the States of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and National Capital Territory of Delhi regarding the allocation of surface flow of river Yamuna upto Okhla was signed on 12.5.1994. As per the MoU, the following is the allocation of the utilisable water resources of river Yamuna assessed on mean year availability:

1. Haryana	5.730 BCM
2. Uttar Pradesh	4.032 BCM
3. Rajasthan	1.119 BCM
4. Himachal Pradesh	0.378 BCM
5. Delhi	0.724 BCM

(c) No, Madam.

(d) The Upper Yamuna River Board (UYRB) has allocated Rajasthan's share of Yamuna water from Tajewala and Okhla Headworks. Presently, no supply is being made to Rajasthan from Tajewala Headworks due to non-convergence between Rajasthan and Haryana on supply of Yamuna water to Rajasthan through Western Yamuna Canal. The allocated share from Okhla headworks is not reaching Rajasthan in full due to unauthorized pumping from Gurgaon Canal, need of repairs to Bharatpur feeder and Rajasthan link canal etc.

Presently a part of Bharatpur district is being benefited by Yamuna water. Jhunjhunu & Churu districts are proposed to be benefited by supplies from Tajewala Headworks.

(e) and (f) No, Madam.

(g) The final report of the Empowered Committee indicated no convergence. However, subsequently the Engineer-in-Chief, Irrigation Deptt. Haryana submitted a concept report of Yamuna-Churu Canal to the Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC). After CWC examined the report and furnished comments to UYRB, the Chairman, UYRB has convened a meeting of Chief Engineers of Haryana, U.P., Rajasthan and Delhi to discuss the report on 13.4.10. As Haryana has stated that it would like to share the cost and benefits of the proposed canal from Yamuna to Churu, the State has been requested to do the needful so that the matter may be discussed further in UYRB and UYRC may be apprised accordingly.

Setting up of Educational Institutes

4201. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no facility of education in flood affected areas along the Ghaghra river in Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has any proposal to set up any educational institutes in the district;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) to (e) The centrally sponsored scheme 'Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan' *inter-alia* envisages setting up of new secondary schools so as to provide a secondary school within 5 kilometer of every habitation. As part of the Annual Plan proposal of Uttar Pradesh for 2009-10, 254 new Secondary Schools have been sanctioned for the State, three of which are in Barabanki district.

Under another centrally sponsored scheme, 'Scheme for setting up of 6000 Model Schools at Block Level as benchmark of excellence', it has been decided in the first phase, to set up 2,500 schools in Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) and eligible blocks in Barabanki district are also covered under the Scheme.

Further, as on date 07 schools from the district of Barabanki, UP are affiliated with Central Board of Secondary Education.

[English]

Indian Insurgents in Bangladesh

4202. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bangladesh has taken any initiative to flush out the Indian insurgents taking shelter in that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Bangladesh authorities have frozen all accounts of the NE insurgents in their Banks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) During the visit of PM Sheikh Hasina to India in January 2010, a Joint Communique was issued wherein both sides underscored the need to actively cooperate on security issues and reiterated the assurance that the territory of either would not be allowed for activities inimical to the other. Both sides resolved not to allow their respective territory to be used for training, sanctuary and other operations by domestic or foreign terrorist/militant and insurgent organizations and their operatives. The two Governments remain in contact and communication on this issue.

(c) and (d) There is no information to confirm that Bangladesh authorities have frozen all accounts of the NE insurgents in their banks.

Pentagon's Quadrennial Defence Review 2010

4203. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the Pentagon's Quadrennial Defence Review 2010 published recently;

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

(c) whether supply of arms to Pakistan by the USA has created tension between the two neighbours; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) Yes. Government of India does not react to internal reports of a foreign Government.

(c) and (d) India has consistently shared her concerns with the US Government on its supply of military equipment to Pakistan. India has reminded the US Government that these supplies have, in the past, been used to augment the conventional military forces of Pakistan trained against India. We have conveyed that these supplies have a negative impact on security in our region.

[Translation]

Dependency Percentage on GDP

4204. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether 60 per cent of the population in the country depends on 20 per cent of Gross Domestic Production (GDP) while the remaining 40 per cent depends on 80 per cent of GDP;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to take policy decision to improve the situation during the current Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (d) Distribution of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) income, class-wise, is not available from any official sources. However, around 50 percent of people engaged in the agriculture and allied sectors share less than 20 percent of GDP while around 49.8 percent people engaged in other sectors share more than 80 percent of GDP.

The major policy initiative to improve the situation during the current Five Year Plan includes launching of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) which provides a safety net through a guarantee of 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to all the rural households whose adult members volunteer to take up manual work. The priorities of works taken up under MGNREGS are drought proofing, flood control, land development etc. The convergence of MGNREGS with agriculture through effective planning of works is aimed at enhancing the productivity of the agricultural sector and improving the well-being of the people engaged in agriculture. Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) provides self-employment to the rural poor who are organized into self-help groups and are provided income generating assets through a mix of bank credit and subsidy along with skill development component. Similarly, Swarna Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) is being implemented to provide self and wage employment to the urban poor. The implementation of various flagship programmes for developing socio-economic infrastructure in rural areas is expected to create a positive impact on the distribution of national income.

National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration

4205. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN:
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware of the suggestion given in the Delhi High Court in November, 2004 by National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration that no student till class-X should be failed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government proposes to pass all the students till class-X; and

(e) if so, the details thereof including the modalities worked out in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Government is aware that National Institute of Educational Planning and

Administration (NIEPA), now National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) had filed on 29.10.2004 an affidavit with the Delhi High Court in the matter of Shri Rakesh Goyal and Others Vs. Montfort School and Others L.P.A Petition (Civil) No. 196/2004. The relevant portion of the affidavit pertaining to the above subject is as under:-

“xxx at that tender age, the children should not be subjected to a rat-race and such a competitive process can be avoided only by ensuring that no student is ever failed in any class up to and inclusive of the 10th xxx”.

(c) to (e) Central Board of Secondary Examination (CBSE) has introduced Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE) with no pass-fail criteria upto class V and has directed the schools to extend this upto middle school level (classes from VI to VIII). Under Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, which has come into force w.e.f. 1st April, 2010, no child admitted in the school shall be held back in any class or expelled from school till the completion of elementary education (from class I to Class VIII). CBSE has also introduced Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation in Class IX from October, 2009. The Grading System has also been introduced at Secondary School level (for Classes IX and X) from 2009-10 academic session.

Youth Parliament Competitions

4206. SHRI C. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Youth Parliament Competitions are held regularly in schools;

(b) if so, the details of the competitions held during the last three years;

(c) whether any financial assistance is provided to various States for holding such competitions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the funds provided during the last three years and the current year, years-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Youth Parliament Competition in selected schools in Delhi and Kendriya Vidyalayas are being held regularly. However, in case of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas, there has been some delay.

(b) The details of the competitions held during last three years are as under:-

Sl. No.	Years	Delhi Schools	Kendriya Vidyalaya	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya
1.	2007-08	33	90	64
2.	2008-09	33	90	64
3.	2009-10	32	90	64

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) This Ministry reimburse claim preferred by States/UTs in the following order:-

(a)	Legislatures having members upto 100	Rs. 3 Lacs per annum
(b)	Legislatures having members between 100-200	Rs. 4 Lacs per annum
(c)	Legislatures having members above 200	Rs. 5 Lacs per annum

(the ceiling in respect of UTs having no legislatures is Rs. 2, 00,000/- per Union Territory per annum)

Details of Financial Assistance provided to various States for holding Youth Parliament Competition during last three years is as under:-

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Name State/UT	Year for which claim is preferred	Amount of Assistance (Rs.)
1.	2007-2008	(i) Haryana	2006-07	1,11,315/-
		(ii) Mizoram	2007-08	1,00,000/-
2.	2008-2009	(i) Haryana	2007-08	1,99,891/-
		(ii) Karnataka	2006-07	1,91,782/-
			2007-08	2,00,000/-
3.	2009-2010	(i) Haryana	2008-09	1,99,585/-
		(ii) Assam	2008-09	2,00,000/-
		(iii) Karnataka	2008-09	2,00,000/-
		(iv) Madhya Pradesh	2006-07	1,71,862/-
2007-08	2,00,000/-			
4.	2010-2011	Till date nil.		

Indo-Maldives Agreement in Renewable Energy Sector

4207. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a host of Indian companies are investing in Maldives in a wide variety of sectors from infrastructure to healthcare including renewable energy development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreements have been signed in this regard with Maldives;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which these steps have benefited both India and Maldives in the recent past?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) to (e) Indian companies have shown interest in investing in the Maldives, especially after the privatization programme undertaken by the Government of Maldives. In the recent past, GMR Infrastructure Global Limited, a subsidiary of GMR Infrastructure, Suzlon Energy Limited and Shri Educare of Delhi have signed agreements in developing an international airport at Hanimadhoo, to set up a 25 MW wind farm in the Southern Province of Maldives and taking over the management of Ghiyassudin School in Male respectively. Apollo Hospitals (India) have also signed an Agreement with the Government of Maldives in January 2010 to manage the affairs of the Indira Gandhi Memorial Hospital (IGMH), Male. The signing of these agreements by Indian companies with the Government of Maldives promotes stronger economic linkages between the two countries.

Arrears of Royalty on Coal

4208. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR ROY:
Sk. SAIDUL HAQUE:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments particularly the State Government of West Bengal has requested the Union Government to clear accrued arrears of royalty on coal due to State Governments;

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

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) There are no arrears due on account of royalty to any of the States including the State of West Bengal from the concerned subsidiary coal companies of Coal India Limited (CIL).

(b) and (c) Do not arise, in view of the reply to part (a) as given above.

Nuclear Power Plants

4209. SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL:
SHRIMATI YASHODHARA RAJE SCINDIA:
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH KAYPEE:
SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL:
SHRI KALIKESH NARAYAN SINGH DEO:
SHRI RAVNEET SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received several proposals from the State Governments during the last six months for setting up of new nuclear power plants in their States;

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

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government on these proposals;

(d) the locations identified in these States alongwith cost of the projects; and

(e) the time by which these plants will become operational alongwith their capacity?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Consequent to the in principle approval of sites in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamilnadu and West Bengal in October 2009. Governments of Rajasthan, Karnataka and Bihar have reiterated their requests for setting up new nuclear power plants in future. The sites under consideration are Mahi-Banswara (Rajasthan), Kaiga & Mannur (Karnataka) and Rajauli (Bihar).

(c) to (e) The evaluation of sites by the Standing Site Selection Committee (SSSC) of the Government is an on going activity. The 'in principle' approval of the sites by the Government is the first step in the process of setting up nuclear power plants. The details of the projects are finalized subsequently.

[Translation]

Fee Hike in Private Schools

4210. CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the private schools of Delhi are not adhering the directives of the High Court in regard to fee hike;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the private schools have not submitted the relevant record to the High Court in spite of four weeks time given by the Court;

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

(e) the basis for fee hike, by the private schools of Delhi;

(f) the names of schools in Delhi which were provided land by the Government at cheaper rates and are not adhering to the guidelines of the Government;

(g) the number of senior secondary schools being run in Delhi without the recognition from Central Board of Secondary Education;

(h) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General has begun the audit of some of private schools; and

(i) if so, the details thereof including the names of these schools and irregularities committed by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that no such incident has come to their notice.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that the High Court of Delhi has directed Indian School,

Sadiq Nagar, Frank Anthony School, Lajpat Nagar and Modern School, Barakhamba Road to submit detailed reply in the matter of admission of students belonging to economically weaker section by 23.4.2010.

(e) As per the provision of Delhi School Education Act and Rules, 1973, the Management Committee of unaided private school has the power to fix fee structure. Government of NCT of Delhi issues guidelines from time to time to regulate the fee hike in such schools to prevent profiteering.

(f) Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that there are 3 such schools, namely, Indian School, Sadiq

Nagar, Frank Anthony School, Lajpat Nagar and Modern School, Barakhamba Road.

(g) No such incidence has come to the notice of Central Board of Secondary Education. The schools are recognized by the Delhi Government and CBSE affiliates only those schools in Delhi which are recognized by the Government of NCT of Delhi.

(h) and (i) The office of the Accountant General (Audit), Delhi has initiated the audit of 25 unaided private schools in November, 2009. The list of such schools and their audit status is as a Statement. The final audit report has not been prepared.

Statement

List of unaided private schools and their audit status

Sl.No.	Name of the schools	Audit Status
1	2	3
1.	National Victor Public School, IP Extension, Delhi-110092	Done
2.	ASN Sr. Sec. School, Mayur Vihar, Delhi-110091	In progress
3.	Ryan International school, Gharuli Delhi-110096	Done
4.	St. Mary Sec. School, Pocket-A, Mayur Vihar, Phase-III, Delhi-110096	Done
5.	St. Xaviers Sr. Sec. School, 4, Raj Niwas Marg, Delhi	Done
6.	Presentation Convent Sr. Sec. School, S P Mukharjee Marg, Delhi-110006	Done
7.	Maharaja Agarsen Model school, Pitampura, Delhi-110088	Done
8.	Sachdeva Public School, FP Block, Maurya Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-110088	Done
9.	Mother Divine Public School, Sector-III, Rohini, Delhi	Done
10.	Ramjas School, Sector-4, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110022	Done
11.	Delhi Public School, Sector 12, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110022	Done
12.	Mount Carmel School, A-21, Anand Niketan, New Delhi	Done
13.	Sadhu Vaswani International school for Girls, II Street, Shanti Niketan, New Delhi	Done
14.	Vasant Valley School, Sector-C, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070	Yet to be done
15.	G.D. Goenka Public School, Sector-B, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070	Done
16.	Birla Vidya Niketan, Pushp Vihar IV, New Delhi	Done
17.	Amity International School, Road No. 44, M-Block, Saket, New Delhi-110017	Yet to be done
18.	Summerfields School, Kailash Colony, New Delhi-110048	Yet to be done
19.	Bal Bharti Air Force School, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003	In progress

1	2	3
20.	Frank Anthony Public School, Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi	Yet to be done
21.	Sardar Patel School, Lodi Estate, New Delhi-110003	Done
22.	Modern School, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi-110001	Done
23.	Convent of Jesus and Mary School, Bangla Sahib Marg, New Delhi-110001	Done
24.	J.D. Tylor School, R-Block, New Rajender Nagar, New Delhi-110060	Done
25.	G.D. Salwan Public School, Old Rajender Nagar, New Delhi-110060	Done

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

4211. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any uniformity in the State-wise allocated and released funds under various centrally sponsored schemes;

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

(c) whether utilisation certificates in respect of the funds released for implementation of the said schemes are received regularly from the State Governments; and

(d) if not, the names of the defaulter States in this regard during the last two years alongwith the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (d) Allocations for Plan Schemes are made by the Planning Commission to Union Ministries which include both Central Schemes and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS). The criteria for allocation of funds under CSS to individual States are finalized by the administrative Ministry/Department concerned in consultation with the State Governments and Planning Commission. While finalising the said criteria State-specific needs are also factored into.

The releases under the CSS to State Governments are made by the administrative Ministries/Department concerned on the basis of allocations and timely submission of utilisation certificates. This is to ensure that transfer of funds lead to actual expenditure. Hence State-wise release under CSS depends on State-wise

allocation as well as the submission of utilisation certificates.

The role of Planning Commission is confined mainly to the formulation of guidelines, allocation of funds and broad review of Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The administrative Ministries/Department concerned deal with release of funds and other attendant functions thereto including monitoring the progress of CSS and keeping track of utilisation certificates submitted by the States.

[English]

Investigation of Multi-Crore Scam

4212. DR. KRUPARANI KILLI:
DR. G. VIVEKANAND:
SHRI M. ANANDAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has asked the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to probe into the multi-crore scam in North Cachar Hills district of Assam after the National Investigation Agency found evidence of massive misappropriation of central funds by a politician-bureaucrat nexus in the region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of the probe by the CBI and the findings so far; and

(d) the steps the Government has taken to stamp out corruption and to ensure that funds reach the targeted poor people?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER

OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (c) The National Investigation Agency (NIA) in their charge sheet in case No. 01/NIA/09 under section 120 B, 121, 121A IPC and under section 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 has mentioned about the suspected involvement of public servants in North Cachar Hills Autonomous Council in the misappropriation of Government funds. On the basis of the report from NIA in the matter, the Government of Assam has requested the Government of India for entrusting the investigation of this case to CBI by issued a notification dated 8.4.2010 under section 6 of the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946. The CBI has expressed its willingness to take over the case after due legal formalities.

(d) The Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (PC Act) and the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003 (CVC Act) provide for effective investigative machinery into the offences of corruption. The enactment of the Right to Information Act, 2005 as a comprehensive legislation provides an effective mechanism for access to information. Other steps, inter- alia are (i) creating awareness through publicity, (ii) simplification of schemes, (iii) introducing transparency, and (iv) adopting innovative methods for implementation.

[Translation]

Tarapore Atomic Power Plant

4213. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tarapore Atomic Power Plant is operating well below capacity due to shortage of uranium and consequently Madhya Pradesh is getting only half power supply in comparison to its allotted quota;

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

(c) whether the Government proposes to increase supply of uranium to this plant; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER

OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Tarapur Atomic Power Station located in Maharashtra has four reactors units 1 to 4 in operation. Units 1&2 (2x160 MW) use imported enriched uranium and are operating at full power. The power from these units is allocated to the states of Maharashtra & Gujarat. Units 3&4 (2x540 MW) use domestic natural uranium. Madhya Pradesh has a share of 20% from TAPS 3&4. These reactors are currently operating at about 70% of their rated power capacity due to non availability of domestic uranium in the required quantity. Consequently, Madhya Pradesh and other beneficiary states are getting a proportionately lower power supply.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) The government is making efforts to augment domestic uranium supply for nuclear power plants including TAPS 3&4 fuelled by domestic uranium by expanding existing mines and opening of new mines and processing mills.

Basis for Evaluation of GDP

4214. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the basis of evaluation of Gross Domestic Product (GDP);

(b) the percentage share of agriculture sector, industrial sector and other sectors in the GDP; and

(c) the share of the public sector and big industrial houses in the GDP during the last two years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is computed by the Central Statistical Organisation(CSO) on the basis of data made available by various source agencies on different economic activities. The methodology for estimating GDP is contained in the CSO's publication of 'National Accounts Statistics Sources and Methods, 2007' and Brochure on 'New Series of National Accounts Statistics, Base Year 2004-05', which are also available in the public domain on the official website of the Ministry of Statistics and

Programme Implementation: www.mospi.nic.in. The methodology for estimation of GDP is overseen by the Advisory Committee on 'National Accounts Statistics'.

(b) The percentage share of agriculture sector, industrial sector and other sectors is as given in the table below:

Table: Share of different sectors in total GDP at Factor Cost (at Current prices)

Industry	Share in total GDP (%)		
	2007-08	2008-09 (QE)	2009-10 (AE)
1. Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	18.0	17.2	17.0
2. Mining & Quarrying	2.8	2.6	2.4
3. Manufacturing	16.1	15.6	15.6
4. Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	1.8	1.7	1.6
5. Construction	8.4	8.6	8.6
Industry (2+3+4+5)	29.1	28.5	28.2
6. Trade, Hotels, Transport and Communication	24.9	24.6	24.1
7. Financing, Insurance, Real Estate, business services	15.3	16.1	16.2
8. Community, Social & Personal Services	12.7	13.8	14.6
Services (6+7+8)	52.9	54.5	54.9

Source: CSO's Press Note on Advance Estimates of National Income, 2009-10.
QE= Quick Estimates AE= Advance Estimates

(c) The GDP data on big industrial houses is not available separately. However, the share of public, private

organized and private unorganized sectors in total GDP is as given below:

Table: Share of public, private organised and private unorganised sectors in total GDP (%)

Year	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Public Sector	23.0	21.5	20.8	20.2	20.8
Private organised	20.6	22.9	24.3	24.8	24.8
Private unorganised	56.4	55.6	54.9	55.1	54.4

[English]

(c) the time by which it will be implemented?

Report of Tendulkar Committee

4215. PROF. RANJAN PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tendulkar Committee, appointed to finalise the new criteria for identifying the poor, has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) The Expert Group constituted by the Planning Commission in December 2005 under the chairmanship of Prof. Suresh D. Tendulkar to review the methodology for estimation of poverty submitted its report on 08.12.2009.

The report has acknowledged the multi-dimensional nature of poverty and recommended adoption of a uniform Poverty Line Basket (PLB) based on the latest available observed household consumption expenditure data of the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) for both rural and urban population and a new price adjustment procedure incorporating private expenditure on health and education. It also recommended Mixed Recall Period (MRP) equivalent of urban Poverty Line Basket (PLB) corresponding to 25.7% urban headcount ratio as the new reference PLB. On the basis of above methodology, the all-India rural poverty headcount ratio for 2004-05 is estimated at 41.8%, urban poverty headcount ratio at 25.7% and All India level at 37.2%.

The Planning Commission is seized of the recommendations of the Tendulkar Committee.

[Translation]

Inclusion of Muslim Families in the List of BPL

4216. SHRI MAHABAL MISHRA:
SHRIMATI DEEPA DASHMUNSI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Expert Committee has been constituted by the Government for inclusion of Muslim families living Below the Poverty Line (BPL) in the BPL list;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(d) if so, the salient features of the report; and

(e) the decision taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (e) The Government has not constituted any Expert Committee for inclusion of Muslim families living Below the Poverty Line (BPL) in the BPL list. The Planning Commission constituted an Expert Group to review the methodology for estimation of poverty in the country which is applied uniformly.

The Ministry of Rural Development constituted an Expert Group (Saxena Committee) for recommending

suitable methodology to identify the families living Below the Poverty Line in the rural areas. The recommendations of the Expert Group include automatic inclusion and exclusion of specified rural families. For the remaining families, it has been recommended to conduct the survey and to rank them on ten point scale. For the proposed scoring, it has been recommended to assign to SC/STs: 3 points, Denotified tribes and Designated 'Most Backward Castes': 2 points and Muslims/OBCs: 1 point.

[English]

Jobs for Disabled Persons

4217. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently taken any decision for creating jobs for disabled persons to improve their condition both in Government, Private and PSU sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of disabled persons likely to be benefited;

(c) whether the Government has issued any directions to private sector also to create jobs for disabled persons;

(d) if so, the response the Government has received from private sector;

(e) whether any special drive of recruitment cell has been launched or proposed to be launched at the district level in co-ordination with the State Government; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Reservation for persons with disabilities is provided in services under the Government. The Government has also launched a scheme of incentives for the private sector for employment of physically challenged persons. Under this scheme, employers' contribution towards Employees Provident Fund and Employees State Insurance in respect of such employees, employed on or after 1.4.2008, and getting a monthly

salary of upto Rs. 25,000/- is paid by the Government for three years. However, there is no proposal to create any posts for persons with disabilities.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No, Madam.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) No, Madam.
- (f) Does not arise.

Minority Status to Institutions

4218. SHRI MOHAMMED E.T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce specific criteria/parameters in grant of minority status to educational institutions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The minorities have a right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice under Article 30 (1) of the Constitution. Minority educational institutions are so declared by the designated authorities, if any, under the Central Government and State Governments. National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI) has prescribed indicia for grant of minority status to an educational institution which envisage inter alia, that the institution has been established by a member/members of the religious minorities for the benefit of the minorities and is administered by the minorities.

[*Translation*]

Treatment Purification of Contaminated Ground Water

4219. Shri DHANANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any mechanism has been developed for treatment/purification of contaminated ground water in the country;

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

(c) the measures taken so far for purification of ground water;

(d) whether the Government proposes to involve NGOs, SHG, local bodies and panchayats in the management including conservation and purification of groundwater; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA): (a) to (e) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) undertakes periodical monitoring of ground water quality and the reports thereof are shared with the state governments to facilitate necessary remedial measures for treatment/purification of ground water.

To encourage non-governmental organizations (NGOs)/gram panchayats/urban local bodies/institutions/corporate sector and individuals for adoption of innovative practices of augmentation of ground water, promoting water use efficiency, recycling & re-use of water and creating awareness through people's participation, the Ministry of Water Resources is implementing schemes for repair, renovation and restoration of water bodies, farmers participatory action research and has instituted Ground Water Augmentation Awards and National Water Award.

[*English*]

Air Pollution in Big Cities

4220. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN:
SHRI C. RAJENDRAN:
DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:
SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether air pollution is increasing rapidly in big cities including four metro cities of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the level of air pollution in each of these cities and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the effective measures taken or being taken by the Government to address the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) The ambient air quality is monitored across the country under the National Air Monitoring Programme (NAMP) by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), NEERI, Nagpur and respective State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs). The analysis of data for residential areas of 35 big cities (population more than 1 million in 2001 Census) under NAMP for the last three years, against the revised National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)-2009, indicates that the annual average levels of Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) are within the prescribed norms of 50 µg/m³.

Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) levels are exceeding the prescribed standards in 10 cities, namely, Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Asansol, Bengaluru, Faridabad, Jamshedpur, Meerut, Patna and Pune. There is an increasing trend of NO₂ levels in Asansol and Bengaluru.

The levels of fine particulate matter (PM₁₀) are exceeding the standards in all but two big cities, namely, Kochi and Madurai. There is an increasing trend in PM₁₀ levels barring a few cities. Air quality data for last three years for four metro cities is given below:

Year	2007			2008			2009		
City Name	SO ₂	NO ₀	PM ₁₀	SO ₂	NO ₂	PM ₁₀	SO ₂	NO ₂	PM ₁₀
Chennai	11	16	60	09	15	63	09	17	70
Delhi	06	50	170	06	57	214	06	49	243
Kolkata	09	60	99	08	64	103	16	56	187
Mumbai	10	39	92	09	40	127	06	42	109

Note: All values are annual averages and in microgramme/m³

The air pollution is increasing because of urbanisation, increase in population, increase in number of vehicles, industrialisation, use of generator sets, etc. Various steps taken by the Government to reduce air pollution in big cities are as follows:

- (i) Bharat Stage (BS) III emission norms for passenger cars and BS II norms for two wheelers in ten metro cities, namely, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad & Secunderabad, Kanpur, Pune, Surat and Agra apart from National Capital Region are implemented since 01-04-2005.
- (ii) BS IV emission norms for passenger cars and B.S. III for two wheelers in above ten metro cities apart from National Capital Region are implemented with effect from 01-04-2010.
- (iii) Stricter pollution under control (PUC) norms for in-use vehicles have been implemented with effect from 01-10-2004.
- (iv) The emission standards for industries have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- (v) Use of beneficiated coal in coal based thermal power plants is in vogue.

- (vi) Fuel quality in accordance with the roadmap of Auto Fuel Policy is being ensured in all metro cities across the country, as per notification.
- (vii) Mass rapid transport system (MRTS) including Metro has been introduced in select metro cities in the country.
- (viii) Infrastructure related to construction of flyovers, bridges and roads, to reduce congestion on roads, has been augmented.

[Translation]

Proposals Under National Afforestation Programme

4221. SHRI SHIVRAJ BHAIYA:
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:
SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA:
SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received several proposals from various State Governments including Madhya Pradesh under National Afforestation Programme during the last three years and the current year;

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

(c) the details of there of the proposals cleared alongwith the funds released so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Environment & Forests is implementing National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme for regeneration of degraded forest and adjoining lands in the country including the State of Madhya Pradesh. The State-wise details of FDA project proposals received, approved and funds released during last three years (2007-08 to 2009-10) and the Current Year under NAP are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

State-wise number of FDA proposals Received, Sanctioned and Funds Released under National Afforestation Programme Scheme during last three years (2007-08 to 2009-10) and the Current Year

Sl. No.	State	No. of FDA Project Proposal received	No. of FDA Project Proposal approved	Funds Released (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	93	81	32.54
2.	Chhattisgarh	81	73	93.49
3.	Gujarat	72	62	81.11
4.	Haryana	40	38	53.64
5.	Himachal Pradesh	37	25	17.74
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	40	30	26.42
7.	Karnataka	91	80	58.43
8.	Madhya Pradesh	134	90	58.92
9.	Maharashtra	115	73	72.32
10.	Orissa	96	81	49.46
11.	Punjab	31	20	12.20
12.	Rajasthan	89	49	20.48
13.	Tamil Nadu	72	50	26.30
14.	Uttar Pradesh	197	186	97.76
15.	Uttarakhand	63	44	28.63
16.	Goa	3	0	0.00
17.	Jharkhand	95	80	71.94
18.	Bihar	22	20	21.14
19.	Kerala	66	47	22.27
20.	West Bengal	58	46	19.40
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	52	37	10.47

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Assam	83	64	32.84
23.	Manipur	47	40	27.81
24.	Nagaland	48	43	25.06
25.	Sikkim	24	24	26.77
26.	Tripura	36	25	9.11
27.	Mizoram	71	65	47.64
28.	Meghalaya	22	17	12.84
Total		1878	1490	1056.74

[English]

Dams in Gujarat

4222. DR. PRABHA KISHORE TAVIAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major dams in Gujarat including the dams in Tribal dominated areas location-wise;

(b) the catchment areas in the State, dam-wise;

(c) the number of people rehabilitated as a result of submersion, including tribal and non-tribal; and

(d) the command area in hectares benefited by the construction of these dams?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA): (a) to (d) Irrigation is a state subject and planning, execution, funding, resettlement & rehabilitation works of the project affected persons etc is within the purview of respective state governments. However, Government of Gujarat has informed that there are 18 major irrigation dams in Gujarat of which 8 major dams are in Tribal dominated area. The dam wise details of the catchment area, number of people rehabilitated as a result of submersion including tribal and non-tribal and command areas of these dams as received from Government of Gujarat are given in statement enclosed.

Statement

Tribal and Non-Tribal details of Major Irrigation Schemes of Gujarat

Sl.No.	Name of Dam	Catchment Area SQ.Kms			Command area in Hectare			People suffered in Submergence		
		Tribal	Non-tribal	Total	Tribal	Non-tribal	Total	Tribal	Non-tribal	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Shetrunji	0	4317	4317	0	57060	57060	0	10500	10500
2.	Damanganga Reservoir Project	1813	0	1813	41303	0	41303	2361 Family	–	2361 Family
3.	Hathmati	595	0	595	154	17338	17492	3885	0	3885
4.	Meshwa	259	0	259.00	618	7362	7980	5000	0	5000
5.	Watrak	0	1113.7	1113.7	0	18341	18341	0	10760	10760
6.	Karjan	1403.78	0	1403.78	51000	-	51000	7970	55	8025

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7.	Kadana	2693	-	2693	14403	272000	286403	15901	250	16151
8.	Dantiwada	0	2861.86	2861.86	0	45823	45823	0	2900	2900
9.	Sipu	0	1222	1222	0	16000	16000	0	3865	3865
10.	Panam			2288.57	13225	23480	36705	17491	0	17491
11.	Bhadar(s)	0	2434.6	2434.6	0	26587	26587	0	2600	2600
12.	Machhu-I	0	735.56	735.56	0	10409	10409	0	6575	6575
13.	Machhu-II	0	1928.71	1928.71	0	9990	9990	0	3980	3980
14.	Und-I	0	979	979	0	10920	10920	0	15000	15000
15.	Dharoi	1845	794	2639	-	91472	91472	440	10880	11320
16.	Ukai dam	917	0	917	66168	0	66168	15200 Family	800 Family	16000 Family
17.	Deo	259	-	259	1992	4727	6719	5072	-	5072
18.	Sukhi	411.81	-	411.81	20701	-	20701	9841	-	9841

Flood Control Work on Basin

4223. SHRI MOHD. ASRRUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has given any assistance to the State Government for anti-erosion works and to control flood in Basin;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government to expedite the works undertaken for the purpose in a time bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Central assistance is being provided to all the flood affected states for river management, flood control and anti-erosion works under "Flood Management Programme (FMP)" — a state sector scheme during XI Plan period. A total of 311 proposals from 19 states with a total estimated cost of Rs. 3232.77 crore have been included under "FMP" and central assistance amounting to Rs. 1571.06 crore has been released to the States as on 31.03.2010. A total of 118 flood management schemes

have been completed and another 46 works are reported in advance stage of completion by the concerned States.

(c) The flood management works are being monitored very rigourously by the field teams of Central Water Commission (CWC), Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) and Brahmaputra Board (BB) in their respective jurisdiction.

Increase in BPL Families

4224. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of families living below the poverty line has increased in the country over the years;

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

(c) the details of reasons for either increase or decrease in BPL families in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) No, Madam. There has been a significant reduction in the proportion and total number of persons living below the poverty line over the years. In 1993-94

it was estimated that 32.03 crore persons (36% of total population) were living Below the Poverty Line (BPL) whereas the poverty estimates for 2004-05 revealed that number of BPL persons has come down to 30.17 crore accounting for 27.5% of the total population. Alleviation of poverty has been one of the objectives of Development Planning. The accelerated economic growth and the direct

interventions by the Government in the form of implementation of wage employment programmes, self-employment programmes and development of socio-economic infrastructure has resulted in reduction of poverty in the country. The state-wise number and proportion of population living below the poverty line estimated for the year 1993-94 and 2004-05 is enclosed as Statement.

Statement

Number and Percentage of Population below poverty line by States — 1993-1994 and 2004-05

(Based on URP-Consumption)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	1993-94		2004-05	
		Number (Lakh)	% of Persons	Number (Lakh)	% of Persons
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	153.97	22.19	126.10	15.79
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.73	39.35	2.03	17.60
3.	Assam	96.36	40.86	55.77	19.73
4.	Bihar	493.35	54.96	369.15	41.35
5.	Chhattisgarh	\$	\$	90.96	40.88
6.	Delhi	15.51	14.69	22.93	14.73
7.	Goa	1.91	14.92	2.01	13.83
8.	Gujarat	105.19	24.21	90.69	16.75
9.	Haryana	43.88	25.05	32.10	14.03
10.	Himachal Pradesh	15.86	28.44	6.36	9.96
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	20.92	25.17	5.85	5.43
12.	Jharkhand	\$	\$	116.39	40.35
13.	Karnataka	156.46	33.16	138.89	24.98
14.	Kerala	76.41	25.43	49.60	15.04
15.	Madhya Pradesh	291.52	42.52	249.68	38.29
16.	Maharashtra	305.22	36.86	317.38	30.75
17.	Manipur	6.80	33.78	3.95	17.34
18.	Meghalaya	7.38	37.92	4.52	18.52
19.	Mizoram	1.94	25.66	1.18	12.62
20.	Nagaland	5.05	37.92	3.99	19.05
21.	Orissa	160.60	48.56	178.49	46.37

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
22.	Punjab		25.11		11.77		21.63		8.41	
23.	Rajasthan		128.50		27.41		134.89		22.06	
24.	Sikkim		1.84		41.43		1.14		20.06	
25.	Tamil Nadu		202.10		35.03		145.62		22.53	
26.	Tripura		11.79		39.01		6.38		18.94	
27.	Uttar Pradesh		604.46		40.85		590.03		32.81	
28.	Uttarakhand		\$		\$		35.96		39.63	
29.	West Bengal		254.56		35.66		208.36		24.72	
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands		1.06		34.47		0.92		22.62	
31.	Chandigarh		0.80		11.35		0.74		7.07	
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli		0.77		50.84		0.84		33.17	
33.	Daman and Diu		0.18		15.80		0.21		10.45	
34.	Lakshadweep		0.14		25.04		0.11		16.02	
35.	Puducherry		3.31		37.40		2.37		22.41	
Total			3203.68		35.97		3017.20		27.54	

N.A. - Not Available \$: Bihar include Jharkhand, MP includes Chhattisgarh and UP includes Uttarakhand

URP consumption = Uniform Recall Period consumption in which the expenditure data for all the items are collected from 30-day recall period.

Notes:

- Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura.
- Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.
- Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A & N Island.
- Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.
- Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
- Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.
- Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshadweep.

Exploitation of Coal Bed Methane

4225. CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH:

SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has allotted some coal mines to the oil companies for exploitation of Coal Bed Methane (CBM);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to take back these coal mines from the oil companies;

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

(e) the total loss suffered by the Government as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has so far awarded 23 Coal Bed Methane (CBM) blocks in addition to 2 CBM blocks awarded earlier on nomination basis and one block through the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) route.

(c) and (d) As per the provisions of the CBM contract, a contractor is entitled to surrender partly or completely the CBM block, if found to be non-prospective after exploration activities. So far, three CBM blocks, namely BS(3)-CBM-2003/II, ST-CBM-2003/II and WD-CBM-2003/II have been surrendered by Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC). On such surrender, the lease of the contract area is automatically cancelled.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply given at (c) and (d) above.

Vacant Posts in IITs and IIMs

4226. DR. M. THAMBIDURAI:
SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN:
SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI:
SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM:

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

(a) whether there are a large number of vacancies in different streams of Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) Indian Institute of Management (IIMs) and Premier Professional Institutions;

(b) if so, the details of the vacancies during the last three years in these institutions IITs and IIMs-wise and the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to start a special drive to fill up the vacancies in these Institutions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The details of the vacancies in the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) during last three years are as under:

Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs)

Name of the Institution	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1	2	3	4
IIT, Delhi	160	153	78

1	2	3	4
IIT, Bombay	136	116	222
IIT, Madras	150	101	138
IIT, Kanpur	74	91	69
IIT, Kharagpur	228	202	299
IIT, Guwahati	13	16	65
IIT, Roorkee	210	198	194
IIT, Gandhinagar	—	—	33
IIT, Ropar	—	—	48
IIT, Rajasthan	—	—	45
IIT, Bhubaneswar	—	—	36
IIT, Hyderabad	—	—	45
IIT, Patna	—	—	29
IIT, Mandi	—	—	30
IIT, Indore	—	—	14

Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs)

Name of the Institution	2009-10
IIM, Ahmedabad	29
IIM, Bangalore	35
IIM, Calcutta	9
IIM, Lucknow	6
IIM, Kozhikode	10
IIM, Indore	6
RGIIM, Shillong	0

Information for the year 2007-08 and 2008-09 for IIMs is being collected and will be laid on the Table of House.

(c) to (e) Recruitment of faculty is a continuous process and all out efforts are made by the Institutes to fill up the vacant posts. Institutions have been employing suitable strategies to attract and retain quality faculty which include attractive pay structure, provision of good residential accommodation, medical facilities, initial research grants, financial support for participation in National/International conferences, suitable scheme for sharing of consultancy charges, etc.

NCMEI Act, 2004

4227. SHRI ANTO ANTONY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the schools run by the minority communities come under the ambit of the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI) Act, 2004;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such schools are eligible to enjoy all the rights laid down under NCMEI Act 2004;

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

(e) whether these minority schools are affiliated to CBSE; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI) has competence on matters relating to all minority educational institutions as defined in the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act, 2004 (2 of 2005).

(c) to (f) Under Article 30(1) of the Constitution the minorities have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice, including schools. The choice of affiliation to the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) or any other Board of Secondary or Senior Secondary Examination is at the discretion of such schools established and administered by the minorities, subject to fulfillment of conditions of affiliation prescribed by the concerned Board.

[*Translation*]

Supply of Water to Rajasthan by BBMB

4228. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN:
SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:
SHRI BHARAT RAM MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prescribed share of water is not being supplied to Rajasthan by the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB);

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA): (a) Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) has informed that it has been supplying water to all its partner states as per their requirements to the extent possible in spite of critical position of the reservoirs. It has further stated that its endeavour has always been to help Rajasthan to the maximum possible and it has been requesting the other partner States namely Punjab and Haryana to supply correct and agreed deliveries to Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Attack in Hindus in Pakistan

4229. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindus are being attacked by the Muslim extremists in Pakistan and their houses along with temples have been destroyed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Government has raised this issue with the Pakistan Government;

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

(e) the measures taken by the Government to ensure the safety of the Hindus in Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) Government has seen media reports on violence against citizens of Pakistan belonging to minority groups, including Hindus. Government has also seen media reports from time to time regarding land disputes involving Hindu places of worship and demolition in certain cases, in Pakistan.

(c) to (e) It is the responsibility of the Government of Pakistan to discharge its obligations towards its citizens.

However, based on reports of persecution of minority groups in Pakistan, Government has taken up this matter with the Government of Pakistan. The Government of Pakistan stated that it was fully cognizant of the situation and looked after the welfare of all its citizens, particularly the minority community.

[English]

Officers Booked Under Corruption Charges

4230. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:
SHRI S. ALAGIRI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers belonging to IAS, IPS, IRS and allied services booked/ arrested on corruption charges during the last three years and the current year and the reasons therefor, year-wise;

(b) the impact of these arrests under various laws on the morale of their services;

(c) whether the corruption continues to remain unabated in these services; and

(d) if so, the effective steps taken or being taken by the Government in this regard and the success achieved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The number of officers belonging to IAS, IPS and IRS and other allied services involved/arrested in Prevention of Corruption Act cases of CBI during the last 3 years *i.e.* 2007, 2008, 2009 and current year (upto 31.03.2010) is as under:-

Year	Number of officers involved in PC Act cases	Number of officers arrested out of Col. 2
2007	20	5
2008	17	2
2009	32	7
Upto March, 2010	9	5

(b) and (c) These arrests act as a deterrent measure and, are expected to reduce the incidence of corruption.

(d) The Government is fully committed to implement its policy of "Zero Tolerance against Corruption" and is moving progressively to eradicate corruption from all spheres of life by improving transparency and accountability. Several steps have been taken to combat corruption and to improve the functioning of Government. These include-

- (i) Issue of Whistle Blowers Resolution, 2004;
- (ii) Enactment of Right to Information Act, 2005;
- (iii) The pro-active involvement of Ministry/ Department through Annual Action Plan on Vigilance as a preventive measure;
- (iv) Issue of comprehensive instructions on transparency in tendering and contracting process by the CVC;
- (v) Issue of instructions to adopt Integrity Pact in major Government procurement activities;
- (vi) Introduction of e-Governance and simplification of procedures and systems;
- (vii) Issue of Citizen Charters.

[Translation]

Death of Deer

4231. SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of killing of deer by the vehicles plying on National Highways take place;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the action proposed to be taken by the Government to avoid such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Incidents of killing of wildlife including deer by the fast moving vehicles on the National Highways do take place sometimes. Such cases are generally due to rash and careless driving on the national highways passing through forests, National Parks and Sanctuaries. As per the information available in the

Ministry, some 9, 2 and 1 death of deer has taken place in the states of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu respectively during the last six months.

(c) The following steps have been taken by the Government to avoid such incidents:

1. In the new projects of construction of Highways and improvement of the existing highways, provisions are provided for creating underpasses and overpasses on the vulnerable points for the vehicles to ensure safe movement of wildlife.
2. Speed breakers are set up at appropriate locations to control the speed of moving vehicles.
3. Some State Governments have issued orders restricting movement of vehicles during night hours on highways passing through the important wildlife areas.
4. Display boards and caution notices are put up along the highways passing through the Protected Areas.
5. Awareness programs have been conducted to educate people about the conservation of wild animals.

[English]

Disinvestment in CIL

4232. SHRI BIBHU PRASAD TARAI:
SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:
SHRI SURESH KASHINATH TAWARE:
SHRI SANJAY BHOI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to disinvest its stake in the Coal India Limited (CIL);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the percentage of such stake and rationale behind this move;

(c) whether the Central Trade Union in the coal sector have opposed the disinvestment in profit making coal companies;

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

(e) the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) While conferring Navratna status to Coal India Ltd. (CIL) in October, 2008, the Govt. had asked CIL to get listed within 3 years from the date of conferring of the said status. This would involve disinvestment of some percentage of Government holding in the equity shares of CIL. It is proposed to make a Public Offer for sale of 10% equity of CIL out of the Government's holding of 100% through the process of book building.

(c) and (d) The Central Trade Unions in the Coal Sector have opposed this move and they had submitted an agitational programme against the disinvestment. Discussions were held with the Trade Unions to resolve the issue

(e) Government has asked CIL to get listed within 3 years from the date of conferment of Navratna status.

Setting up of Madarsa Board

4233. SHRI S.D. SHARIQ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up Madarsa Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether views of all stakeholders have been ascertained;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) The proposal in regard to establishing a Central Madrasa Board, through an Act of Parliament, for standardizing the education in modern non-theological subjects of Science, Maths etc. was mentioned in the report of a National Conference organized by the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI) on 28.2.2006. Since it is not a proposal initiated by the Government, any decision in this regard shall be taken only in the event of there being consensus among all stakeholders.

[Translation]

Pilferage of Coal

4234. SHRI PASHUPATI NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue being earned annually from the sale of coal;

(b) whether the Government is aware of the revenue loss due to pilferage and black marketing of coal;

(c) if so, the number of cases of pilferage and black marketing of coal detected during the last three years and the current year, subsidiary-wise and year-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check pilferage and black marketing of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The net sales of Coal India Limited and its subsidiary companies, owned by the Government of India, during 2008-09, was Rs. 38788.83 Crores.

(b) and (c) Pilferage and black marketing of coal is carried out stealthily and clandestinely. As such, it is not possible to specify the losses incurred on account of pilferage and black marketing of coal. However, as per raids conducted by security personnel as well as joint raids with the law and order authorities of the concerned State Government, the quantity of coal recovered, its approximate value and the number of First Information Reports (FIRs) lodged during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 (upto February, 2010) are as under:

Company	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10 (Prov.) (Till Feb., 2010)	
	Quantity recovered	Approximate Value (Rs. Lakh)	Quantity recovered	Approximate Value (Rs. Lakh)	Quantity recovered	Approximate Value (Rs. Lakh)
ECL	13117.00	131.170	9152.00	91.520	3600.00	37.720
BCCL	11071.52	186.890	9714.54	189.659	6698.45	147.185
CCL	1803.07	23.096	2524.00	27.596	368.75	4.064
NCL	0	0	0	0	0	0
WCL	250.01	4.076	353.15	5.988	232.07	3.779
SECL	1910.57	32.030	843.98	15.043	371.17	5.453
MCL	343.56	2.761	807.10	4.420	1400.80	11.355
NEC	0	0	2.80	0.080	15.00	0.330
Total	28495.72	380.083	23197.57	334.306	12887.24	209.906

Company	Number of FIRs lodged			1	2	3	4
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (Prov.) (Till Feb., 2010)				
	1	2	3	4			
ECL	333	210	177	NCL	0	0	0
BCCL	125	71	47	WCL	38	41	36
CCL	42	39	13	SECL	39	35	20
				MCL	8	10	16
				NEC	9	20	39
				Total	594	426	348

(d) Law & Order is a State subject, hence primarily, it is the responsibility of the State/District administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb pilferage/black marketing of coal. However, Coal India Limited has taken the following steps to check pilferage/black marketing of coal:

- (i) Checkposts have been established at vulnerable points.
- (ii) Wall fencing, light arrangements and deployment of armed guards round the clock has been done around the coal dumping yard.
- (iii) Regular patrolling is conducted in and around the mine including Over Burden (OB) dumps.
- (iv) Armed Guards have been deployed at Railway sidings.
- (v) Inter-action and liaison with District officials at regular intervals and holding meetings with District Commissioner and District Administration, every month.
- (vi) Challans for coal transportation by trucks outside the district are being issued after fixing hologram and putting signatures of authorized officials of Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) to check pilferage.
- (vii) Regular FIRs are lodged by the Management of the collieries and CISF with local Thana against the pilferage/black marketing of coal. A close watch on the activities of criminals is being maintained by CISF.
- (viii) Management has been taking action for filling/dozing/sealing/blasting of the old/abandoned exposed coalfaces in phased manner.

[English]

Higher English Language Education

4235. SHRIMATI INGRID MCLEOD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total percentage of school children in India receiving Higher English Language Education (HELE);

(b) the steps taken by the Government to increase the present number of students receiving Higher English Language Education;

(c) whether the Government has taken up any study to find the cultural and economical impact on students and their families due to Higher English Language Education; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) As per Seventh All India School Education Survey conducted by National Council of Educational Research and Training with reference date 30.9.2002, the status of enrolment in subject 'English' at +2 stage was as follows:

Stage	Percentage
Higher Secondary Schools	71.09
Classes XI and XII attached to Colleges	74.17

Central Board of Secondary Education offers different types of English courses to students such as English (Communicative) and English (Language and Literature) at secondary stage and English (Elective), Functional English and English (Core) at senior secondary stage.

(c) and (d) This Ministry is not aware of any such study.

Compulsory Education to Handicapped Children

4236. SHRI JOSE K. MANI:
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI MOHAMMED E.T. BASHEER:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a policy for ensuring compulsory education to physically handicapped including blind and mentally challenged children;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated for the said scheme;

(c) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be implemented;

(d) whether the Government has any proposal to establish schools for physically disabled students; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) According to Section 26(a) of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Right and full Participation) Act, 1995, every child with a disability has access to free education in an appropriate environment till he attains the age of eighteen years.

A Centrally Sponsored Scheme called "Inclusive Education for the Disabled at the Secondary Stage (IEDSS)" was launched in April, 2009. The objective of the scheme is to enable all students with disabilities, who complete eight years of elementary education, to pursue secondary education (classes IX to XII) in an inclusive and enabling environment. The budget provision for the scheme for 2010-2011 is Rs. 70.00 crore.

Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) which is a flagship programme to universalize elementary education, the policy of zero rejection of children with special needs is followed. These children are educated in the most appropriate environment suitable to their learning needs.

The proviso to Section 3(2) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 states that a child suffering from disability, shall have the right to free elementary education in accordance with the provision of the said Act.

(d) and (e) The emphasis under SSA and IEDSS is to mainstream the children with special needs in regular schools having an inclusive environment.

Loan to Accredited Educational Institution

4237. SHRI S. SEMMALAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering any proposal to bring higher educational institutions in the country within the purview of priority sector and extend loan only to those institutions accredited by statutory agencies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) A proposal for the establishment of a National Education Finance Corporation (NEFC) which includes the proposal to bring educational

loans to students for pursuit of higher education and loans for infrastructure development of higher educational institutions within the priority sector is under consideration of Government. It is also proposed that the loans to be provided by the NEFC would be available to accredited higher educational institutions only.

[Translation]

Setting up of IITs

4238. SHRI PREMCHANDRA GUDDU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) sanctioned to be set up in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the State Government has provided adequate land for such IITs;

(c) if so, the details thereof and its present status; and

(d) the time by which such IITs are likely to be functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) One Indian Institute of Technology has been set up in Indore (MP).

(b) and (c) The State Government has identified 502 acres of land at Simrol, Indore, which has been approved by the Site Identification Committee (SIC) constituted by the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

(d) IIT-Indore started functioning from the temporary campus of Institute of Engineering & Technology, Devi Ahilaya Vishwavidhyalaya, Khandva Road, Indore, from the academic year 2009-10.

Difficulties to Fishermen

4239. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL:
SHRI N. PEETHAMBARA KURUP:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether poor fishermen of coastal areas of the country including Kerala are facing difficulties due to Coastal Regulation Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to renotify the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) notification;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) the steps taken to redress the grievances of the fishermen and for effective implementation of the said notification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) This Ministry had assigned Centre of Environmental Education (CEE), Ahmedabad to undertake the consultation process with the fishermen and local communities with regard to implementation of Central Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991. According to the Report, "Public Consultation with Fisherfolks and Local Community to Strengthen Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991" submitted by CEE, which *inter-alia*, indicates that the fishermen communities in the country including in Kerala are facing some difficulties, which include the loss of livelihood due to various developmental activities, the destruction of coastal habitats like mangroves and the pollution of coastal water.

(c) to (e) Steps have been initiated to strengthen the CRZ Notification, 1991, to protect the livelihood of fisher communities and to improve the implementation of the CRZ Notification, 1991, based on the recommendations made in the Report of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Committee dated 16th July, 2009 and the recommendations made in the Report of CEE indicated in reply to para (a) above.

[*Translation*]

Admission in KV Under Discretionary Quota

4240. SHRI YASHVIR SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of admissions given in Kendriya Vidyalaya during the 2009-10 *i.e.* between 1st March, 2009 to 31st October, 2009 under the discretionary quota;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of children admitted in these schools belonging to the families living below poverty line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) During 2009-10, 1865 children were admitted in Kendriya Vidyalayas under the special dispensation admission quota of Minister of Human Resource Development and 1009 children were admitted under the special dispensation quota of Members of Parliament.

(c) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan receives recommendations for admission of children in Kendriya Vidyalaya under Special Dispensation Quota, but does not maintain information about economic status of their families.A

Life of Nuclear Power Stations

4241. SHRI RAM SUNDAR DAS:

SHRI BHISMA SHANKAR ALIAS KUSHAL TIWARI:

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of nuclear power stations whose life span is going to expire;

(b) the steps taken to prevent the threats of radioactivity caused by these power stations;

(c) the names of nuclear power stations where incidents of radioactivity leakage have occurred during the last three years and till date;

(d) whether the Government has conducted or proposes to conduct any study to assess the impact of radioactivity on the families residing near these stations?

(e) If so, the details of the study thereof; and

(f) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Nil. Internationally, the economic life of nuclear power stations is 30-40 years. Based on

systematic life assessment studies and life extension measures, the nuclear power plants can be safely operated for another 20-25 years. In India also our experience has been similar. Operation of all plants is subject to licensing by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) and review of operation from time to time.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) During the last three years, there has been no incident of leakage or discharge of radioactivity beyond the limits specified by the AERB.

(d) Epidemiological surveys to assess the effects of radiation among the employees and their family members who reside near the nuclear power plants have been completed by the Tata Memorial Centre, a premier research institute in India.

(e) The above surveys have indicated that the operations of nuclear power plants have no ill effects on health.

(f) Not applicable in view of (e) above.

[English]

Targets for Infrastructure Development

4242. SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for the development of infrastructure all over the country during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the present status and the achievements made so far in this regard; and

(c) the steps being taken to achieve the targets during the remaining period of the 11th plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):
(a) The 11th Five Year Plan envisaged an increase in investment in physical infrastructure from the level of 5.08 percent of GDP witnessed during the 10th Five Year Plan to about 7.60 percent of GDP for the plan period.

(b) According to preliminary estimates compiled by the Planning Commission, investment in infrastructure has reached 7.18 percent of GDP in 2008-09 and is expected to increase to 8.37 percent of GDP in the terminal year of the 11th Five Year Plan.

(c) It is expected that with the revival of the economy and the upbeat investment sentiment prevailing, the Plan targets in the infrastructure sector would be met. The progress of various projects in infrastructure is being monitored closely at various levels.

[Translation]

Centralised Website for Admission in KVs

4243. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PATIL GAWALI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch a centralised website to notify the admissions in all Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which such website is proposed to be operationalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise. However, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (Hqrs.) has informed its Regional Offices to notify registration as well as admission details of students on their website in a prescribed format.

[English]

Rehabilitation of IDP in Sri Lanka

4244. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:
SHRI P. LINGAM:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware about the rehabilitation of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Sri Lanka who were languishing in camps;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of people still remained in camps and the type of assistance given to the IDPs who were released from camps for their rehabilitation?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) to (c) Government of India attaches highest priority to the welfare and rehabilitation of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Northern Sri Lanka. Both the Governments have been holding regular discussions including at the highest levels on the issue of resettlement of IDPs. According to latest Government of Sri Lanka figures, as on 15.04.2010 over 1,94,595 IDPs have been resettled & around 77,131 are in the camps. Conditions for movement of the IDPs have been relaxed since 01.12.2009.

Government of India has taken several steps to provide for their welfare and assist in the rehabilitation. In June 2009, Prime Minister announced in Parliament that Rs. 500 crore was earmarked for relief & rehabilitation in Sri Lanka. India established a field hospital in Pulmodai which treated over 50,000 displaced people from March-September 2009. A total Sri Lankan Rupees 225 million worth in medicines have been gifted to Sri Lanka. India has deployed seven demining teams for securing the area and to assist the early return of IDPs to their original areas of habitation. India has sent more than 5200 tons of shelter material for resettling IDP families in the North. To help revive the livelihood of the resettling IDPs, India has gifted 70,000 agricultural starters packs. India has also gifted 4 lakh cement bags for the use of resettling IDP families to help repair their houses. A reputed Indian NGO conducted a month-long artificial limb fitment camp in Northern Sri Lanka.

[*Translation*]

Upgradation of KVs

4245. SHRI RADHE MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to upgrade the Kendriya Vidyalayas from the present 10th standard to 12th standard;

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

(c) the time by which Kendriya Vidyalaya, Gazipur is likely to be upgraded to 12th standard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Kendriya Vidyalayas are gradually upgraded to Class XII based on the number of students and the availability infrastructure.

(c) There is no such proposal at present, as the required land for construction of permanent school building has not been made available by the State Government.

Investment in Coal

4246. SHRI BAIDYANATH PRASAD MAHTO:
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make additional investment in the coal sector during the financial year 2010-11;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total amount likely to be invested;

(c) whether any assessment has been made regarding increase in the production of coal after this investment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the quantum of additional production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) Government proposes to enhance the investment from Rs. 260 crore in 2009-10 to Rs. 400 crore in 2010-11 for regional exploration, detailed drilling, environment measure and subsidence control, development of transportation infrastructure in coal fields. However, Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Limited from their internal resources propose to invest Rs. 3800 crores and Rs. 1335 crores in 2010-11 against provision of Rs. 3100 crores and Rs. 634 crores during 2009-10 respectively for increasing production. As a result of investment made in previous years an additional production of 38.83 million tonnes is expected in 2010-11.

[*English*]

E-Auction of Coal

4247. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has laid down certain norms for e-auction of coal from various CIL subsidiaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the guidelines allow CIL to e-auction only the excessive quantity of coal after fulfilling the 100% needs of the coal based industries;

(d) whether the Government has failed to fulfil the 100% needs of the coal based industries forcing the users to buy coal from the black market on higher prices;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the details of sale of coal through e-auction by all CIL subsidiaries during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No, Madam.

(b) The question does not arise, in view of reply given to part (a) of this question.

(c) The New Coal Distribution Policy of October, 2007 provides that Coal India Limited (CIL) can offer around 10% of estimated annual coal production for sale under E-auction. However, there are no such guidelines which allows CIL to e-auction only the excessive quantity of coal after fulfilling 100% need of coal based industries.

(d) and (e) The New Coal Distribution Policy (NCDP) stipulates various measures and provisions for meeting the normative requirements of existing as well as future consumers. As the availability of coal from Coal India Limited/Singareni Collieries Company Limited is less than the total estimated coal demand in the country, procurement of coal by coal based industries may be done from other sources which include buying coal under e-auction, importing coal on cost and quality consideration or use of coal from Captive Blocks allotted, if any.

(f) Coal India Limited has reported that they are not maintaining state-wise details of sale of coal through e-auction. However, the company-wise quantity of coal allocated to successful bidders through spot e-auction is as under:-

(Figures in Lakh Tonnes)

Company	ECL	BCCL	CCL	NCL	WCL	SECL	MCL	NEC	CIL
2007-08 (November-2007 to March, 2008)	7.08	10.09	29.75	4.81	15.26	32.32	53.67	2.68	155.70
2008-09	22.61	37.00	59.26	21.30	56.62	93.07	195.55	4.33	488.74
2009-10	11.62	23.82	56.62	12.50	53.19	94.16	199.55	5.85	457.32

Climate Change Mission

4248. SHRI SHIVARAMA GOUDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has launched climate change mission to improve the energy efficiency to prevent Green House Gas emission;

(b) if so, the salient features of the mission; and

(c) the funds earmarked for the purpose during the Eleventh Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) National Action Plan on Climate Change includes a National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency. The National Mission is being institutionalized by the Ministry of Power through the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE). Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change has approved the Mission comprising of 4 initiatives, namely, Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT), market transformation for energy efficiency (MTEE), energy efficiency financing platform (EEFP) and framework for energy efficient economic development (FEEED).

This Mission will create regulatory and policy regime to foster the energy efficiency market. As a result of

implementation of this Mission over the next five years, it is estimated that by 2015, about 23 million tons of oil-equivalent of fuel savings — in coal, gas, and petroleum products, will be achieved every year along with an expected avoided capacity addition of 19,598 MW. The consequential carbon dioxide emission reduction is estimated to be around 98.55 million tons per annum from 2014/15 through deployment of appropriate technologies for both adaptation and mitigation of greenhouse gases emissions.

(c) Funds to the tune of Rs. 235.35 Crores have been earmarked for the purpose for the period 2010-12.

[*Translation*]

Death Penalty to Indians by Sharjah Court

4249. SHRI BHISMA SHANKAR ALIAS
KUSHAL TIWARI:
SHRI VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI MILIND DEORA:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 17 Indians have been sentenced to death allegedly for killing a Pakistani national by the United Arab Emirates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide financial and legal help to those convicts in order to save their lives?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Indian mission in Dubai had reported the verdict pronounced by the Court of First Instance Sharjah, UAE awarding death sentence to 17 Indians for bootlegging and murder of a Pakistani national. The incident had happened during a clash in January, 2009 in Sharjah Industrial Area, due to a dispute between two groups of persons. The Court found 17 Indians guilty of murder of a Pakistani national besides injuring three other Pakistanis. The verdict was pronounced on 28.03.2010.

(c) Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has instructed the Indian Mission at Dubai to engage the services of a leading legal firm to defend the accused. The cost for engaging the legal firm would be borne by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs.

[*English*]

MBBs Course in IITs

4250. SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start MBBS course in Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any request from such institutes to offer MBBS course;

(d) if so, the Government's reaction thereto;

(e) whether the Government has consulted Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur have proposed to introduce a new Medical Education programme leading to MBBS, MD, MS and Ph.D. The new programme aims to bridge the gap between Medicine and Technology with inputs beyond the Medical Council of India recommendations.

(d) to (f) On consultation with the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare regarding the proposal to include 'Medicine' within the scope of the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961, it was opined that establishing Medical Colleges by the IITs for starting conventional medical courses would not be advisable. That Ministry have, however, suggested that the IITs may consider starting of higher courses of medical sciences like Ph.D. involving collaboration between the branches of engineering and medical sciences. However, appreciating the fact that the modern trends in medical education and research in technology and medicine in all the developed and most of the developing countries are seen hand-in-hand, the Government proposes to incorporate 'Medicine' in the IT Act. The programme will bring the two diverse, yet important disciplines of medicine and engineering together.

Increase in Forest Cover

4251. SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether forests have a major role in the mitigation of the climate change effects; and

(b) if so, the involvement of forestry administrations in the country in the climate change negotiation as well as for developing strategies and policies for the climate change science?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Forests play a considerable role in the mitigation of climate change as they sequester carbon and retain it for long period thereby helping mitigate increase in temperature caused by carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas

(b) Forest Officials and persons having expertise in forestry related matters are regularly involved in the climate change negotiations including preparation of National Communication to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on climate change, assessment of climate change impacts on forestry sector and developing strategies and relevant policies on climate change.

Under the National Action Plan on Climate Change, a National Mission for a 'Green India' is being drafted with a view to increase the forest cover and its density through afforestation and improvement of the forest cover in degraded forest lands.

Committee on IIM

4252. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bhargava Committee on Indian Institute of Management (IIM) has submitted its Report to the Government;

(b) if so, the salient features of the Report;

(c) whether the Government has examined the recommendations of the Committee; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of recommendations accepted by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The salient features of the R.C. Bhargava Review Committee on IIMs' Report are reduction of size of the Boards of new IIMs, involvement of existing IIMs in establishment and management of new IIMs, creation of a PAN-IIM Board, full powers of management to each

IIM Board, selection & appointment to the post of Director of IIMs is to be made by the board of each IIM with terms & conditions to be approved by PAN IIM Board etc.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) Some of the recommendations made by the Bhargava Committee have already been implemented such as reduction of size of the Boards of new IIMs and involvement of existing IIMs in establishment and management of new IIMs etc. However, recommendation of the R.C. Bhargava Committee for creation of a PAN-IIM Board was not agreed to by the IIMs.

[Translation]

Children Falling in Borewells

4253. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:

SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL:

SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidence of children falling in borewells has been reported from various parts of the country;

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

(c) whether the Supreme Court of India has expressed its concern over the issue and given its suggestions in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA): (a) and (b) 18 cases of children falling into borewells have been reported from the States of Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh as per the details given hereunder:-

Sl.No.	State	No. of cases reported
1.	Haryana	1
2.	Karnataka	3
3.	Kerala	1
4.	Maharashtra	2
5.	Rajasthan	10
6.	Uttar Pradesh	1
Total		18

(c) to (e) The Supreme Court of India has given directions for necessary safety measures as outlined in the enclosed Statement. These have been forwarded to the State Governments for further necessary action.

Statement

Safety measures/guidelines as given in the Order dated 11.02.2010 of Hon'ble Supreme Court are to be observed by all the States:-

- (i) "The owner of the land/premises, before taking any steps for construction bore well/tube well must inform in writing at least 15 days in advance to the concerned authorities in the area, *i.e.*, District Collector/District Magistrate/Sarpanch of the Gram Panchayat/ Concerned officers of the Department of Ground Water/Public Health/ Municipal Corporation, as the case may be, about the construction of bore well/tube well.
- (ii) Registration of all the drilling agencies, *viz.*, Govt./Semi Govt./Private etc. should be mandatory with the district administration.
- (iii) Erection of signboard at the time of construction near the well with the following details:-
 - (a) Complete address of the drilling agency at the time of construction/rehabilitation of well.
 - (b) Complete address of the user agency/owner of the well.
- (iv) Erection of barbed wire fencing or any other suitable barrier around the well during construction.
- (v) Construction of cement/concrete platform measuring 0.50x0.50x0.60 meter (0.30 meter above ground level and 0.30 meter below ground level) around the well casing.
- (vi) Capping of well assembly by welding steel plate or by providing a strong cap to be fixed to the casing pipe with bolts and nuts.
- (vii) In case of pump repair, the tube well should not be left uncovered.
- (viii) Filling of mud pits and channels after completion of works.
- (ix) Filling up abandoned borewells by clay/sand/ boulders/pebbles/drill cuttings etc. from bottom to ground level.
- (x) On completion of the drilling operations at a particular location, the ground conditions are to be restored as before the start of drilling.
- (xi) District Collector should be empowered to verify that the above guidelines are being followed and proper monitoring check about the status of boreholes/tubewells are being taken care through the concerned State/Central Government agencies.
- (xii) District/Block/Village wise status of bore wells/ tubewells drilled *viz.* No. of wells in use, No. of abandoned bore wells/tube wells found open, No. of abandoned borewells/tube wells properly filled up to ground level and balance number of abandoned borewells/tubewells to be filled up to ground level is to be maintained at District Level. In rural areas, the monitoring of the above is to be done through village Sarpanch and the Executive from the Agriculture Department.
- (xiii) If a borewell/tubewell is 'Abandoned' at any stage, a certificate from the concerned department of Ground Water/Public health/ Municipal Corporation/Private contractor etc. must be obtained by the aforesaid agencies that the 'Abandoned' borewell/tubewell is properly filled upto the ground level. Random inspection of the abandoned wells is also to be done by the Executive of the concern agency/department. Information on all such data on the above are to be maintained in the District Collector/Block Development Office of the State.

Setting up of New Institutes of Management

4254. YOGI ADITYA NATH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open new management institutes on the lines of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the criteria/norms fixed for setting up new management institutes of all India level in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) During XI Five Year Plan, one IIM namely Rajiv Gandhi Indian Institute of

Management (RGIIM), Shillong has already been established in Shillong (Meghalaya) which has commenced its academic session from 2008-09 and it has been decided to set up the remaining six (6) new IIMs at Rohtak (Haryana), Raipur (Chhattisgarh), Ranchi (Jharkhand), Tiruchirappalli (Tamil Nadu), Kashipur (Uttarakhand) & Udaipur (Rajasthan).

(c) Historically, Indian Institute of Management (IIMs) have been established in different parts of the country on the demand for academia, industry and public in general.

Insects Affecting Bt. Cotton

4255. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:
SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) has received a report confirming pink bollworm/American pink insects developing resistance to Bt. Cotton in the cotton cultivating districts of the country;

(b) if so, whether such development is going to affect the cotton cultivators;

(c) if so whether any steps have been proposed to address the situation including Gujarat and A.P.;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) M/s Monsanto has recently issued a press release stating that pink bollworms have developed resistance to cry 1 Ac gene in cotton crop in some localized pockets of Amreli, Bhavnagar, Junagarh and Rajkot districts in Gujarat. However, Central Institute of Cotton Research (CICR), Nagpur which is the nodal agency for monitoring the development of insect resistance to cry1Ac genes, has stated that the methodology followed by M/s Monsanto in concluding that cry 1 Ac gene is not effective in controlling the pink bollworms is flawed and therefore the inferences are untenable and unacceptable.

(b) If the aforesaid situation exists or arises in future, the single gene Cry1Ac based Bt cotton would be damaged by the pink bollworm resulting in economical loss to the cotton cultivators.

(c) to (d) The CICR under the Technology Mission on Cotton (Mini Mission 1 and 2) has recommended, to the State Agriculture Universities and the State Departments of Agriculture, a complete package of practices for effective pink bollworm management

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Bansagar Dam Project

4256. SHRI BAL KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bansagar Dam Project is a joint venture of three States;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated cost and present status of the projects initiated by different States; State-wise;

(c) whether there is time and cost overrun of the projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard, State-wise; and

(e) the funds allocated for completion of the projects so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA): (a) The Bansagar Dam Project is an interstate project of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

(b) to (e) The cost of Dam (Unit-I) is to be shared in the ratio of 2:1:1 amongst Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar based on the share of water allocated to the states. The Bansagar Dam has been completed in June 2006 and the reservoir is being impounded since then. However, some residual works like approach roads, repair of energy dissipation arrangements etc. are remaining and are planned to be completed by March 2011.

In addition to above, the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are executing canal portions in their respective States.

Bansagar Canal Project under Uttar Pradesh has the latest estimated cost of Rs. 2053.60 crore at 2006 price level. An expenditure of Rs. 1608.35 crore has been incurred up to March, 2009. The Planning Commission approved Bansagar Canal Project Unit-II in Madhya Pradesh for Rs. 344.66 crore on 29.11.2001. The revised estimated cost of the project at 2009 price level is 2143.65 crore (including works component of Rs. 1923.82 crore). The expenditure incurred on the project up to march, 2010 is Rs. 821.80 crore.

The Central government is providing central assistance to States under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) for early completion of this project. The central assistance of Rs. 364.98 crore and Rs. 83.50 has been provided up to 31.3.2010 to Madhya Pradesh and Bihar respectively for Dam component. Further, central assistance of Rs.273.89 crores and Rs. 553.13 crore has been provided up to 31.3.2010 to Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh for canal portion. The canal portion in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh under AIBP were planned to be completed by 31.3.2010 as per Memorandum of Understanding signed by the states in this regard. However, the same have spilled over to the year 2010-11.

[*Translation*]

Financial Assistance from OECF Japan

4257. SHRI PAKAURI LAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total financial assistance received from Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund (OECF), Japan for major and medium irrigation projects of the country project-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the status of each of the projects funded by OECF, Japan, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA): (a) and (b) The project-wise and State-wise status of projects indicating the total financial assistance received as on 31st March, 2010 from Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund (OECF), now Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA) is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

The Project-wise and State-wise status of projects indicating the total financial assistance received from overseas economic co-operation fund (OECF), now Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA)

Sl.No.	Name of the project	State	Date of signing of Loan Agreement	Loan amount (in Yen million)	Financial assistance received (in Yen million) as on 31.3.2010	Status
1.	Rengali Irrigation Project II	Orissa	31.3.2004	6342	6143	Ongoing Project. Closing date is 18.6.2011
2.	Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal Modernization Project II	Andhra Pradesh	31.3.2004	4773	2947	Ongoing Project. Closing date is 18.6.2012.
3.	Andhra Pradesh Irrigation & Livelihoods Improvement Project	Andhra Pradesh	30.3.2007	23974	888	Ongoing Project. Closing date is 11.7.2016.
4.	Rajasthan Minor Irrigation Improvement Project (IDP161)	Rajasthan	31.3.2005	11555	69	Ongoing Project. Closing date is 28.07.2015.

[English]

Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index

4258. SHRI RAJENDRASINH RANA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the scientific criteria and parameters taken into consideration by Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi to finalise the list of cities/districts of the country under Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI); and

(b) the procedure being followed by the Ministry to carry out an environmental assessment of industrial clusters across the country based on CEPI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) To compute the Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi has adopted the algorithm of Source, Pathway and Receptor and various parameters like pollutant concentration, exceedence factors, impact on human health and level of exposure have been taken into consideration for the calculation of pollution indices for air, water and land (ground water). After integrating the indices for various media, a composite CEPI has been evolved.

(b) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in collaboration with IIT, Delhi has applied the CEPI for environmental assessment of 88 Industrial Clusters across the country. 43 such industrial clusters having CEPI greater than 70, on a scale of 0 to 100, have been identified as critically polluted.

Difficulties at Ports for Moving Imported Coal

4259. SHRI M. SRINIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited (CIL) is facing difficulties at Ports for import of coal both on short-term and long-term basis; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to tackle the problem so that the cargo of coal from the supplying countries could move fast?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

(SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Coal India Limited has reported that as they are not importing coal, the question of difficulties being faced at ports for import of coal does not arise.

Criteria for Allocation of Coal

4260. SHRI PRATAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for allocation of coal to States from different collieries in the country;

(b) the details of the collieries from where the coal is being allocated to Punjab;

(c) whether the Government has assured that coal supplied to Punjab is from the nearest located collieries; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The allocation of coal to States from different coal companies for distribution to Small and Medium Sector consumers through State nominated agencies is based on various factors which include the source preferred by the States, coal available at such sources, transport logistics, proximity to coalfields etc.

(b) The allocation of coal to various States is made by Coal India Limited (CIL) from the coal companies and not from individual collieries. The coal companies make allocation of coal to different collieries depending upon coal availability, logistics available etc. Coal India Limited allotted 2.18 lakh tonnes for Punjab, of which 2.02 lakh tonnes was to be met from Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) and 0.16 lakh tonnes from North Eastern Coalfields (NEC).

(c) and (d) Proximity to the coalfield is only one of the factors in deciding allocation of coal to the States and other factors as brought out in the reply to parts (a) & (b) of this question are also taken into consideration. CIL has accordingly made allocations from CCL as well as NEC.

[*Translation*]

Permission for Expansion of Thermal Power Plant

4261. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the thermal power station set up at Coraba, Chhattisgarh is functioning as per the directions of the Government with regard to maintenance of pollution norms;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for giving clearance for expansion and setting up of other plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Thermal Power plants as well as other developmental projects operating in Korba (Coraba), Chhattisgarh or elsewhere in the country are required to comply with the conditions stipulated in the Environmental Clearance accorded by this Ministry under the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification of 1994 and 2006. The compliance to the stipulated conditions is monitored by the respective Regional Offices of the Ministry.

(c) The proposals for expansion of thermal power plants are also appraised as per the provisions of the above mentioned notifications. During appraisal of the expansion proposals, the Expert Appraisal Committee (Thermal Power) also deliberates on the compliance to the earlier stipulated conditions and thereafter only recommends to the government for environmental clearance of the expansion proposal.

[*English*]

Education for Tribal People

4262. SHRI ADAGOORU H. VISHWANATH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pre-primary schools, primary schools, secondary schools, senior secondary schools and degree colleges for imparting education to the tribal people functioning in forest areas in various States;

(b) whether there is any professional/technical institutions or job oriented training schools in tribal areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any shortage of teachers in these institutions;

(e) if so, the action contemplated to overcome such shortages;

(f) whether any proposal of the State Education Department for the creation of teaching posts is pending with the Union Government: and

(g) if so, the details and the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (g) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Financial Package for Uttarakhand

4263. SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ:
SHRI K.C. SINGH 'BABA':

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Uttarakhand has demanded any financial package from the Central Government;

(b) if so, the projects for which the demands have been made;

(c) whether certain States have opposed the package demanded by Uttarakhand Government; and

(d) if so, the names of those states along with the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (d) The State Government of Uttarakhand has not demanded any financial Package from the Central Government. However, the State Government of Uttarakhand has, inter alia, taken up various issues with the Government of India viz. (i) Release of funds for the construction of AIIMS Rishikesh, (ii) Allotment of PDS articles, (iii) Central Assistance for Drought Relief, (iv) Transfer of pension funds and assets from Government of Uttar Pradesh, (v) Central Assistance for setting up

an Ayurvedic University, (vi) Developing rail network in the hills, laying additional lines, (vii) Central Assistance for mitigating financial burden of the state in the wake of implementation of 6th Pay Commission recommendations, (viii) Construction of strategic border roads etc. The Ministries/Departments concerned of the Government of India are seized of the related issues.

Launch of PSLVs and GSLVs

4264. SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch PSLV and GSLV satellites into the space;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to launch high resolution satellite Cartosat 2B also;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether foreign agencies are showing interest in sending payloads in Chandrayaan-II; and

(f) if so, the names of these foreign agencies?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. It is proposed to launch PSLV for launching remote sensing earth observation satellites into polar sun-synchronous orbit and GSLV for launching communication satellites into Geo-synchronous Transfer Orbit.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The launch of CARTOSAT-2B is planned during the 2nd week of May 2010 using PSLV- C15.

(e) and (f) Yes, Madam. Space Agencies in Europe and United States of America have shown interest in sending their instruments. The lander is from Russia.

[English]

Foreign Varsities Bill

4265. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have raised objections to the proposed foreign varsities bill, fearing that it would infringe upon the rights of the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Government is not aware of any such objection.

(b) Does not arise

(c) to (e) The matter relating to regulation of the entry of foreign universities in India was discussed at the conference of State Ministers of Higher and Technical Education held at Bangalore in January, 2005. During the conference, the Hon'ble Minister of West Bengal suggested that only those foreign universities which are reputed and whose technology is established should be allowed entry. He also insisted on the registration of such universities and their adherence to Indian laws/norms. The Hon'ble Minister of U.P. strongly opposed the establishment and entry of foreign universities in India. All other States supported the need for effective regulation of Foreign Education Institutions. A legislative proposal for regulating the entry and operation of foreign educational institutions in India has been finalized for introduction in Parliament.

Appointment of Doctors in Schools

4266. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make it mandatory to appoint doctors in schools recognised by CBSE to take care of the health of the children and for the treatment of the children in emergency;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the final decision likely to be taken in this regard?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Killing of Tigers and Leopards

4267. SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 120 tigers and 425 leopards were killed in Maharashtra during the period from the year 2005 to 2007 as reported in the media recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the effective measures taken by the Government in this regard including the funds sanctioned and spent during the last three years and the current year, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As reported by the State, the year-wise mortality of tigers and leopards are given as Statement-I.

(c) The milestone initiatives taken by the Government of India for protection of tigers and other wild animals are given in the enclosed Statement-II. Details of funding assistance provided to Maharashtra under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, during the last three years and current year, alongwith their utilization, are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

Statement I

Details of deaths of tigers and leopards in Maharashtra as reported by the State during 2005 to 2007

Category of deaths	2005		2006		2007	
	Tigers	Leopards	Tigers	Leopards	Tigers	Leopards
Poaching	2	3	1	12	1	8
Accidental	0	12	1	7	0	11
Natural	3	18	3	18	0	21
Total	5	33	5	37	1	40

Statement II

Legal steps

1. Amendment of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for providing enabling provisions for constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau.
2. Enhancement of punishment in cases of offence relating to a tiger reserve or its core area.

Administrative steps

3. Strengthening of antipoaching activities, including special strategy for monsoon patrolling, by providing funding support to Tiger Reserve States, as proposed by them, for deployment of antipoaching squads involving ex-army

personnel/home guards, apart from workforce comprising of local people, in addition to strengthening of communication/wireless facilities.

4. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority with effect from 4.09.2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by, *inter alia*, ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management, preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan, laying down annual audit report before Parliament, constituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Ministers and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.
5. Constitution of a multidisciplinary Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) with effect from 6.6.2007 to effectively control illegal trade in wildlife.

6. Declaration of eight new Tiger Reserves and in-principle approval accorded for creation of four new Reserves, namely Sahyadri in Maharashtra, Pilibhit in Uttar Pradesh, Ratapani in M.P. and Sunabeda in Orissa.
7. The revised Project Tiger guidelines have been issued to States for strengthening tiger conservation, which apart from ongoing activities, interalia, include funding support to States for enhanced village relocation/rehabilitation package for people living in core or critical tiger habitats (from Rs. 1 lakh/family to Rs. 10 lakhs/family), rehabilitation/resettlement of communities involved in traditional hunting, mainstreaming livelihood and wildlife concerns in forests outside tiger reserves and fostering corridor conservation through restorative strategy to arrest habitat fragmentation.
8. A scientific methodology for estimating tiger (including co-predators, prey animals and assessment of habitat status) has been evolved and mainstreamed. The findings of this estimation/assessment are bench marks for future tiger conservation strategy.
9. An area of 29284.76 sq. km. has been notified by 15 Tiger States (out of 17) as core or critical tiger habitat under section 38V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006 (Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, and West Bengal). Two tiger States (Bihar and Uttar Pradesh) have taken a decision for notifying the core or critical tiger habitats (2765.04 sq.km.). The State of Madhya Pradesh has not identified/notified the core/critical tiger habitat in its newly constituted tiger reserve (Sanjay National Park and Sanjay Dubri Wildlife Sanctuary).

Financial steps

10. Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger and Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals.

International Cooperation

11. India has a Memorandum of Understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade

in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.

12. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
13. During the 14th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES, which was held from 3rd to 15th June, 2007 at The Hague, India introduced a resolution along with China, Nepal and the Russian Federation, with directions to Parties with operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale, for restricting such captive populations to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers. The resolution was adopted as a decision with minor amendments. Further, India made an intervention appealing to China to phase out tiger farming, and eliminate stockpiles of Asian big cats body parts and derivatives. The importance of continuing the ban on trade of body parts of tigers was emphasized.
14. Based on India's strong intervention during the 58th meeting of the Standing Committee of the CITES at Geneva from 6th to 10th July, 2009, the CITES Secretariat has issued a notification to Parties to submit reports relating to compliance of Decisions 14.69 and 14.65 within 90 days with effect from 20.10.2009 (Progress made on restricting captive breeding operations of tigers etc.).

Reintroduction of Tigers

15. As a part of active management to rebuild Sariska and Panna Tiger Reserves where tigers have become locally extinct, reintroduction of tigers/tigresses have been done.
16. Special advisories issued for in-situ build up of prey base and tiger population through active management in tiger reserves having low population status of tiger and its prey.

Creation of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF)

17. The policy initiatives announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech of 29.2.2008, interalia, contains action points relating to tiger protection. Based on the one time grant of Rs. 50.00 crore provided to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for raising, arming and deploying a Special Tiger Protection Force, the proposal for the said force has been

approved by the competent authority for 13 tiger reserves. Rs. 93 lakhs each has been released to Corbett, Ranthambhore & Dudhwa Tiger Reserve for creation of STPF during 2008-09. Central Assistance will be provided to States for creation of STPF in remaining 10 Tiger Reserves in 2009-10. Since then, the guidelines of the STPF have been revised for deploying forest personnel in place of Police, with scope for involving local people like the Van Gujjars.

18. In collaboration with TRAFFIC-INDIA, an online tiger crime data base has been launched, and Generic Guidelines for preparation of reserve specific Security Plan has been evolved.

Recent initiatives

19. Implementing a tripartite MOU with tiger States, linked to fund flows for effective implementation of tiger conservation initiatives.
20. Rapid assessment of tiger reserves done.
21. Special crack teams sent to tiger reserves affected by left wing extremism and low population status of tiger and its prey.
22. All India meeting of Field Directors convened on 25 and 26 July, 2009 under the Chairmanship of the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests for reviewing the status of field protection and related issues in tiger reserves.
23. Chief Ministers of tiger States addressed at the level of the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests on urgent

issues, viz. implementation of the tripartite MOU, creation of the Tiger Conservation Foundation, stepping up protection etc.

24. Chief Ministers of States having tiger reserves affected by left wing extremism and low population status of tiger and its prey addressed for taking special initiatives.
25. Steps taken for modernizing the infrastructure and field protection.
26. Advisory issued for involvement of Non-Governmental Experts in the forthcoming all India tiger estimation.
27. Report of the Special Investigation Team (SIT) constituted for looking into the local extinction of tiger in the Panna Tiger Reserve sent to the State (Madhya Pradesh) for the needful action.
28. Issue of tiger farming and trafficking of tiger body parts discussed at the level of Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests with the Chinese Authorities.
29. Action taken for amending the Wildlife (Protection) Act to ensure effective conservation.
30. Initiatives taken for improving the field delivery through capacity building of field officials, apart from providing incentives.
31. Launching of M-STriPES, a customized monitoring system in the GIS domain for obtaining inference (trend/forecasting) from the field data being collected in the patrolling camps in tiger reserves.

Statement III

Funds provided to the State Government of Maharashtra under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger during the years 2007-08 to 2009-10 alongwith their utilization

(Rs. In lakhs)

Year	Sanctioned			Utilisation*
	Central share	State share	Total	Central/State share
2007-08	713.354	184.62	897.974	850.556
2008-09	907.2755	237.7575	1145.033	1083.674
2009-10	741.985	235.5725	977.5575	678.640

*Expenditure till February, 2010.

Polytechnic Training Centres in Rural Areas

4268. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to impart employment oriented skill development training to the rural people, deprived sections and workers of the unorganised sector through polytechnic institutes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to set up such training centres in the rural areas to facilitate the rural masses; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) Yes, Madam. The Government of India has launched a new Plan Scheme called "Community Development Through Polytechnics" in the existing Polytechnics, for offering short term non formal skill development courses in various fields to the local community. This Scheme aims to enhance the employability of various sections of society including rural, women, minorities and other disadvantaged sections of society. The Scheme is implemented through selected, AICTE approved Polytechnics. Selected Polytechnics offer these training courses in their premises, as well as through 5-10 extension centres, in nearby locations, including rural areas. Courses under the Scheme are offered free of cost to the participants. There is no restriction of age, gender and qualification for participants in these courses.

[English]

BPL Income Level

4269. SHRI T.R. BAALU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any decision pertaining to the BPL income level;

(b) if so, the number of BPL families availing the privileges of food security in the country during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government will come forward to provide essential commodities at the subsidized price in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (d) Income is not the only criteria to identify a family as Below Poverty Line (BPL). Under the guidelines of Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) of the Department of Food & Public Distribution (DFPD), the State Governments have been advised to identify the BPL families by involving the Gram Panchayats and Nagar Palikas. In order to include deserving poor and vulnerable sections of the society, it has been stipulated to include landless agricultural labourers, marginal farmers, rural artisans/craftsmen such as potters, tappers, weavers, black-smith, carpenters etc. in the rural areas and slum dwellers and persons earning their livelihood on daily basis in the informal sector like porters, rickshaw-pullers, cart-pullers, fruit and flower sellers on the pavement etc. in urban areas. Since 01.12.2000, foodgrains are released to 6.52 crore BPL families. However, as on 31.03.2010 as per DFPD, it is reported that 8.65 crore BPL ration cards and 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) ration cards have been issued by the States/Union Territories. Under TPDS, items like wheat, rice, sugar, kerosene, edible oils etc. are covered. But some State Governments also implement their welfare schemes under the State Sector.

Balanced Growth Rate for Various Sectors

4270. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken measures to improve the growth rate in various sectors in a balanced manner; and

(b) if so, the details of growth rate of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), sector-wise in relation to targets fixed for Eleventh Plan and the achievements made in this regard during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) The Government has been taking several measures to improve the growth rate across the country in a balanced manner. The policy instruments in this regard include plan and non-plan transfer of

resources from the Centre to States favouring less developed States, tax incentives for setting up of private industries in the backward regions, etc. A number of programmes have been initiated to reduce income disparity between States. These include Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF), Hill Area Development Programme

and Border Area Development Programme, etc. The details of growth rate of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), sector-wise in relation to targets fixed for Eleventh Five Year Plan and State-wise growth performance during the last four years, as per the latest available data, are given in the enclosed Statement-I and Statement-II respectively.

Statement I

Growth Rate of GDP at Factor Cost: Sector-wise at 2004-05 prices

(in percent)

Year	Target	Achievements		
	Eleventh Plan	2007-08	2008-09 (QE)	2009-10 (AE)
Agriculture	4	4.7	1.6	-0.2
Industry	10-11	8.2	3.7	8.1
Services	9-11	10.6	10.5	8.8
GDP	9.0	9.2	6.7	7.2

QE= Quick Estimates AE = Advance Estimates

Statement II

Growth Rate of Gross State Domestic Product at Factor Cost at 1999-00 prices

(in percent)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10.2	11.2	10.7	5.0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-4.2	13.7	6.4	5.9
3.	Assam	4.9	4.9	5.7	6.2
4.	Bihar	1.9	22.5	8.8	16.6
5.	Jharkhand	2.8	12.5	6.2	5.5
6.	Goa	11.3	10.4	11.1	NA
7.	Gujarat	13.4	9.1	12.8	NA
8.	Haryana	9.8	13.0	9.5	7.9
9.	Himachal Pradesh	8.5	9.2	8.6	7.4
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	6.2	6.3	6.3	NA
11.	Karnataka	13.5	7.3	12.9	5.1

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Kerala	10.3	10.6	9.8	7.0
13.	Madhya Pradesh	6.5	4.8	5.2	NA
14.	Chhattisgarh	6.9	17.5	11.7	6.8
15.	Maharashtra	9.7	9.8	9.2	NA
16.	Manipur	4.6	3.7	6.8	7.1
17.	Meghalaya	8.0	6.5	8.4	8.2
18.	Mizoram	2.4	5.5	5.5	6.5
19.	Nagaland	4.0	6.5	NA	NA
20.	Orissa	5.9	14.0	11.2	6.6
21.	Punjab	4.5	7.3	6.9	6.4
22.	Rajasthan	7.9	12.7	9.1	6.6
23.	Sikkim	8.9	7.1	7.4	7.9
24.	Tamil Nadu	11.9	11.3	4.4	4.5
25.	Tripura	9.1	2.6	4.1	NA
26.	Uttar Pradesh	5.2	7.2	7.2	6.5
27.	Uttarakhand	5.7	9.8	9.4	8.7
28.	West Bengal	5.6	9.2	8.7	6.3

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics of respective State Governments.

N.A.: Not Available.

Coal Production

4271. SHRI SOMEN MITRA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total coal production in the collieries in West Bengal during the last three years and the current year till February, 2010; colliery-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether coal produced from the coal mines in West-Bengal is being supplied to thermal power plants in other States:

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

(d) whether there is any price difference between coal supplied to power plants in West Bengal and other States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The colliery-wise production by ECL and BCCL in the command area of West Bengal is enclosed as a Statement.

(b) and (c) Yes, Madam. The year-wise dispatch of coal to power stations in other states from the mines of subsidiary coal companies of CIL located in West Bengal, State-wise is tabled below:

State	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (Upto Feb. 10)
1	2	3	4
Bihar	3.09	2.44	9.54
Delhi	6.15	3.37	2.20

1	2	3	4
Punjab	3.80	3.13	0.38
Tamil Nadu	17.76	18.23	13.43
Uttar Pradesh	6.39	3.22	2.46
Total	37.19	30.39	28.01

(d) and (e) The coal supply to different power plants under the Fuel Supply Agreement is as per the notified coal price irrespective of whether the supply is to a power plant in West Bengal or in any other state. Similarly in case of coal supplied under MOU with power stations the same price is charged whether it is located in West Bengal or any other state.

Statement

EASTERN COALFIELDS LIMITED

Colliery-wise reported Coal production in West Bengal

(Figs, in te.)

Colliery	2009-10	2008-09 Till Feb., 10	2007-08
1	2	3	4
Madhaipur	113413	146417	153414
Manderboni	81903	96794	111228
Pandaveswar	122989	114300	93600
Kendra	30225	27620	30125
Dalurband	127405	156960	152000
South samla	67517	77597	76977
Kliottadih	384396	440093	455101
Khottadih OC	622995	617985	587155
Bilpahari OC(H)	0	0	14523
Dalurband OC(H)	181074	141020	0
Moira	83615	58000	45000
Khandra	114268	117300	114800
Bankola	192832	256200	239300
Shyamsunderpur	249438	225100	169000

1	2	3	4
Kumardih-A	107311	121290	100000
Kumardih-B	48141	81500	98400
Tilaboni	190338	180860	182000
Shankerpur	155327	214500	177600
Nakrakonda	46408	60450	61200
ShankerpurOC(H)	0	0	10200
Bankola OC(H)	34480	7100	0
NakrakondaOC(H)	911910	893000	175500
Jhanjra Project Colliery	874315	1226688	893765
Madhusudanpur	107005	144081	158617
Naba Kajora	64611	61533	77160
Madhabpur	60340	78030	78760
Parascole(E)	109862	105554	127535
Parascole(W)	85850	89237	107495
Jambad	72546	91277	124200
Khas Kajora	233537	232370	240860
Lachipur	40202	46210	52904
Central Kajora	83815	81000	61920
Jambad OC	197700	233004	247392
Nabakajora OC(H)	0	23600	120630
Madhabpur OC(H)	38207	207630	86900
Kalidaspur	118675	123403	111709
Nimcha	204729	200439	300070
Jemehari	0	9940	11111
Pure Searsole	18574	20535	17696
Tirath	22783	25654	27990
Kuardih	30217	37853	51345
Ratibaty	25481	32385	39046
Chapuikhas	19506	25427	26945
Mithapur	15869	20318	31783
JK Nagar	263235	212007	255440

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Satgram Inch	26683	33100	33440	SS Incline	38142	41550	52320
Satgram Pit	62139	87673	128395	Bhanora WestBlock	43463	34618	43012
Seetaldasji OC	2850	30131	47544	KD Seam Incline	23330	32602	36575
Damaliya OC(H)	116570	16200	330045	Kalipahari	28763	30736	37663
New Kenda	40369	41402	48121	Ghusick	24998	35019	35703
Lower Kenda	68812	81713	73655	Methani	27976	30486	30522
Bahula	146550	161300	150000	Bejdih	39062	53917	54754
Haripur	63257	65440	55975	Patmohana	74036	68244	67153
Chora	98150	116713	116472	Dhemomain Pit	31868	43793	38159
Chora Incl.	44301	32600	28825	Dhemomain Incline	28804	30322	49462
Siduli	76400	91061	100005	Norsumuda	89145	89336	90329
CL Jambad	30990	36650	46320	Parhelia	101191	95667	96902
Chora /BahulaOC	83205	128130	127980	Dubeswari	79996	77992	79360
West Kenda OC	21765	31710	11790	Sodepur	58605	50001	53982
Shankerpur OC	138000	264060	333213	Chinakuri-I	14818	23121	22400
Amritnagar	89066	94684	104980	Chinakuri-III	84839	87637	82940
Amrasota	69521	70000	74250	Dubeswai OC(H)	0	0	22367
North Searsole	137853	133824	155903	Dabor	26874	30089	34724
Kunustoria	92862	171821	195475	Sangramgorh	0	0	5870
Bansra	192044	224606	241044	Begunia	17805	15835	20115
Belbaid	107292	117580	108580	Monoharbahal	20887	25628	29738
Parasea	197832	226450	213002	Chalkbaliavpur	8894	13981	15249
Parasea 6&7 Incl.	51438	50349	28880	Bonjemehari OC	0	28170	69645
Parasea/Belbaid OC	90517	196245	209865	Mohanpur OC	564555	389205	216075
Toposi/N.Searsole OC	0	3030	137225	Gourangdih OC	12630	38025	71505
Mahabir OC	229672	255800	217600	Dabor OC	0	0	22420
Sonepur Bazari OC(D)	2893000	3200000	3400000	Khoirabad OC(H)	62334	165549	127106
Sonepur Bazari OC(H)	743300	299271	0	Sangramgorh OC(H)	0	189206	521754
Ningha	36391	38205	40689	Dabor OC(H)	10803	0	0
				WEST BENGAL	14017691	15382738	15085473

BHARAT COKING COAL LIMITED*Collierywise reported Coal production in West Bengal*

(Figs. In Million Tonnes)

Colliery	2009-10	2008-09 Till Feb., 10	2007-08
Damagoria	0	0.096	0.129
Begunia	0.032	0.033	0.032
West Bengal	0.032	0.129	0.161

*[Translation]***Diploma Courses in Engineering Colleges**

4272. SHRI MAHESHWAR HAZARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Bihar with regard to introduction of diploma courses in all the engineering colleges in second shift in the State;

(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 HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) As per the information received from the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), no proposal has been received by AICTE from the State Government of Bihar with regard to the introduction of diploma courses in the Engineering Colleges in second shift.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Museum at Fatehpur Sikri

4273. PROF. RAMSHANKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up museum for the archaeological relics at Agra district in U.P.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for pendency in implementing the proposal;

(c) the number and details of ancient relics likely to be placed in the above museum; and

(d) the number of museums set up by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) across the country, State-wise and location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) As per the proposal a site museum is to be set up in the Treasury building, located inside the Fatehpur Sikri, a centrally protected monument. According to the structural condition of the building repairs/restoration work has been carried out by ASI. The formulation of concept plan for the museum is under process.

(c) The Archaeological relics retrieved during exploration and excavations at Fatehpur Sikri including Bir Chhabili Tila and Hada Mahal, besides contemporary relics from other site museums are to be displayed in the Fatehpur Sikri Museum. However, the inventory and details of ancient relics to be displayed are under preparation.

(d) Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement*List of Archaeological Site Museums*

State	Name of the Circle	Sl.No.	Name of the Museums
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad Circle	1.	Archaeological Site Museum, Amaravati
		2.	Archaeological Site Museum, Chandragiri

1	2	3	4
		3.	Archaeological Site Museum, Kondapur
		4.	Archaeological Site Museum, Nagarjunakonda
Assam	Guwahati Circle	5.	Archaeological Site Museum, Sri Surya Pahar
Bihar	Patna Circle	6.	Archaeological Site Museum, Bodhgaya
		7.	Archaeological Site Museum, Nalanda
		8.	Archaeological Site Museum, Vaishali
		9.	Archaeological Site Museum, Vikramshila
Delhi	Delhi Circle	10.	Archaeological Museum, Purana Qila
		11.	Archaeological Site Museum, Red Fort
		12.	Archaeological Site Museum, Salimgarh
		13.	Indian War Memorial Museum, Red Fort
		14.	Swatantrata Sangram Sangrahalya Museum, Red Fort
Goa	Goa Circle	15.	Archaeological Site Museum, Velha Goa
Gujarat	Vadodara Circle	16.	Archaeological Site Museum, Lothal
		17.	Archaeological Site Museum, Dholavira
Haryana	Chandigarh Circle	18.	Sheikh Chilli's Tomb Museum, Thaneswar
Himachal Pradesh	Shimla Circle	19.	Kangra Fort Museum, Kangra
Karnataka	Bangalore Circle	20.	Archaeological Site Museum, Halebidu
		21.	Archaeological Site Museum, Kamlapur (Hampi)
		22.	Tipu Sultan Museum, Srirangapattanam
	Dharwad Circle	23.	Archaeological Site Museum, Aihole
		24.	Archaeological Site Museum, Badami
		25.	Archaeological Site Museum, Bijapur
Kerala	Thrissur Circle	26.	Mattancherry Palace Museum, Mattancherry
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal Circle	27.	Archaeological Site Museum, Chanderi
		28.	Archaeological Site Museum, Gwalior
		29.	Archaeological Site Museum, Khajuraho
		30.	Archaeological Site Museum, Sanchi
Orissa	Bhubaneswar Circle	31.	Archaeological Site Museum, Konarak
		32.	Archaeological Site Museum, Ratnagiri
Punjab	Chandigarh Circle	33.	Archaeological Site Museum, Ropar
Rajasthan	Jaipur Circle	34.	Archaeological Site Museum, Kalibangan
		35.	Deeg Palce Museum, Bharatpur, Rajasthan
Tamilnadu	Chennai Circle	36.	Fort St. George Museum, Chennai
Uttar Pradesh	Agra Circle	37.	Taj Museum, Agra

1	2	3	4
-do-	-do-	38.	Fatehpur Sikri Museum
	Patna circle	39.	Archaeological Site Museum, Sarnath
	Lucknow Circle	40.	Residency Museum, Lucknow
Uttaranchal	Dehradun Circle	41.	Archaeological Site Museum, Jageshwar
West Bengal	Kolkata Circle	42.	Archaeological Site Museum, Tamluq
		43.	Hazarduari Palace Museum, Murshidabad
		44.	Koch Bihar Palace Museum, Koch Bihar

*[English]***Utilization of Funds Under AIBP**

4274. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:
SHRI NILESH NARAYAN RANE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether one third of the funds allocated under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) remained unspent;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor during the last three years and the current year, year-wise and Statewise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government for proper utilization of funds under the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA): (a) to (c) The year-wise details of funds allocated and released under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme are given below:

Sl. No.	Financial year	Budget allocation under the AIBP	Releases made to the States during the year
1.	2006-07	2098	2301.9722
2.	2007-08	3080	5445.7
3.	2008-09	6600	7598.2213
4.	2009-10	8000	6945.59

*[Translation]***Poor Rating of Central Education Schemes**

4275. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL
KHATGAONKAR:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

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

(a) whether all the centrally-sponsored education schemes have shown a poor rating in U.P.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of the Union Government that U.P. Government is siphoning/diverting the funds allocated under Centrally Sponsored Schemes through corrupt and blacklisted Non-Government Organisations (NGOs);

(d) if so, whether the Union Government has ordered any inquiry in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) brings out an Educational Development Index (EDI) of States and UTs on Elementary Education. As per EDI for 2008-09, UP occupies 18th rank under Primary Schools, 28th rank under Upper Primary Schools and 23rd rank under composite EDI rank at Elementary level.

(c) No such case of diversion of funds to NGOs has come to the notice.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Direct Access to Headley

4276. SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA:
SHRI S.R. JEYADURAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has received a set back in David Headley confession that he was involved in terrorist attacks in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has requested the US Government for direct access to David Headley, one of the masterminds of Mumbai attacks and also sought his extradition to India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the US Government has shared any information with the Government of India in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the further steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) No.

(c) to (f) Yes. The Union Government has requested the US Government for direct access to David Headley as soon as possible. The US Administration is working through its legal system on the issue of provision of access to David Coleman Headley and are supportive of our request for provision of such access.

Functioning of Kendriya Vidyalayas

4277. SHRI HEMANAND BISWAL:
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP:
SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:
SHRI KALIKESH NARAYAN SINGH DEO:
SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:

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

(a) whether the Government has recently reviewed the functioning of Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the present student-teacher ratio in KVs alongwith number of students in KVs, State-wise;

(d) whether the results of students passing out of KVs have been satisfactory during the each of the last three years;

(e) if so, the details thereof; stream-wise; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to admit students other than the wards of Government employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The last review of the functioning of the Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) was done by J.C. Pant Committee in the year 2002. The findings and suggestions of the Committee are summarized at Statement-I. Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) has already implemented several of these recommendations in various forms.

(c) The present student-teacher ratio is about 25:1. The total number of students in KVs as on 30.09.2009 is 10,32,574. The State-wise break-up of enrolment is at Statement-II.

(d) and (e) Yes, Madam. The results of classes X and XII of KVs, for the last three years, are at Statement-III.

(f) Wards of non-government employees including children from any other category are considered for admission under Category-VII of admission priority. KVS has opened 50 schools during 2006-07 in special focus districts, which are educationally backward and where the proportion of students other than wards of Government employees is relatively

Statement I

*Major Recommendations by the Pant Committee
in Respect of KVs*

Sl.No.	Major Recommendations
1	2
	1. 10 % of new admissions to be made on merit basis each year in Class-II onwards.
	2. Second Shift system not recommended. To be discontinued.

1	2
	3. Creation of additional regions to ensure 30 Kendriya Vidyalayas under one Region.
	4. Creation of 05 National Zones with each having 06 Regions for the purpose of recruitment of staff, their posting and transfers etc. the post of Education Officer and Principal of a Kendriya Vidyalaya to be made interchangeable.
	5. Grading of each Kendriya Vidyalaya to be done for different fields of activities. The duties of Education Officers and the Vice Principal of the Kendriya Vidyalaya need to be specified in order to make them more accountable for the performance of a Kendriya Vidyalaya.
	6. Inter-linking of KVS (Hqrs.) and Regional Officer through computer.
	7. Executive Committee of the KV may recruit teachers on contractual basis even without B.Ed. qualification in remote areas.
	8. Spouse working in KVS to move together as far as possible.
	9. Academic inspections should be revitalized making them more comprehensive, educative and result oriented.
	10. The achievement of good teachers both in academics and extra-curricular activities should be suitably recognized.
	11. Teachers should overstay for an hour every school day to play the teaching programme of the next day with particular reference to the learning needs of the slow-learners.
	12. The school should have proper infrastructure for creating appropriate ambience to hold Yoga classes. Special budgetary provision should be made for development of infrastructural facilities for sports and yoga. All the students should compulsorily participate in all sports activity and they should be graded according to their competence.
	13. Standard work execution contract form to be developed by KVS (Hqrs.) to facilitate maintenance and repair of works.
	14. Authority to engage vocational staff should be delegated to the Chairman, VMC.

15. Subject-wise workshops for teachers to be organized at the regional level to improve their teaching skills.
16. A professional approach to make the teacher accountable for the development of the child needs to be evolved.
17. The system of supervised studies to improve the performance of low achievers needs to be strengthened beyond schools hours.
18. Vocationalisation of school education. The nomenclature of vocational courses should be changed to professional or foundation courses in Class-XI.
19. Counseling of parents regarding the potential of their wards needs to start from Class-VI onwards.
20. Affiliation of Kendriya Vidyalayas in States with examination boards other than CBSE.

Statement II

Students Enrolment Position as on 31.09.2009

Sl.No.	Name of State	Total Enrolment
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar (UT)	2635
2.	Andhra Pradesh	45983
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	6285
4.	Assam	41168
5.	Bihar	39021
6.	Chandigarh	6663
7.	Chhattisgarh	22585
8.	Daman and Diu	254
9.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli (Silvassa)	1161
10.	Delhi	90289
11.	Goa	4327
12.	Gujarat	34043
13.	Haryana	26480
14.	Himachal Pradesh	11115

1	2	3
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	25047
16.	Jharkhand	22750
17.	Karnataka	45389
18.	Kerala	44140
19.	Lakshdweep (UT)	168
20.	Madhya Pradesh	83264
21.	Mahrashtra	67786
22.	Manipur	4244
23.	Meghalaya	5154
24.	Mizoram	966
25.	Nagaland	1810
26.	Orissa	30256
27.	Puducherry	2184
28.	Punjab	43475
29.	Rajasthan	55061
30.	Sikkim	1236
31.	Tamil Nadu	41204
32.	Tripura	3857
33.	Uttar Pradesh	127730
34.	Uttarakhand	37384
35.	West Bengal	57460
Total		1032574

Statement III

*Result of Class XII (Stream-wise) of KVs during
2007, 2008 and 2009*

Subject	2007	2008	2009
Science	88.6	91.67	92.29
Commerce	93.72	89.86	90.39
Humanities	91.39	89.45	89.02

Hindu Forbidden to Perform Religious Ceremonies

4278. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindus residing in some foreign countries are not allowed to perform religious ceremonies such as open-air cremation, Pooja Path etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of such countries;

(c) whether the Government has taken up the issue with these countries; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (d) The rules and regulations relating to performance of religious rituals and ceremonies are governed by the laws of the local government, and vary from country to country. If and when representations are received from the Indian community regarding the same, our missions and posts take up the matter with the host governments appropriately.

[Translation]

Utilization of Satellites

4279. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the satellites of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) have contributed in the improvement of telecommunications, distant education, tele-medicines faculties, etc., in the rural and remote areas of the country;

(b) if so, the extent to which the improvements brought by these satellites;

(c) whether any utilization study in respect of satellites has been conducted by the Government; and

(d) if so, the time by which the country is likely to get the maximum facilities through optimum utilization of the satellite-network?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Madam.

The extent to which the improvements brought by the satellite include:

- (i) Television: Direct To Home (DTH) Satellite Television coverage of 100% area and 100% population;
- (ii) Tele-communications About 1.18 Lakh VSATs providing applications like data & video connectivity, ATMs, cellular phon@ back-haul etc.,
- (iii) Tele-Education: 55,230 classrooms connected through satellite networking, of which 51321 are Receive Only Terminals (ROTs) and 3909 are Satellite Interactive Terminals (SITs) catering to all the sectors of education from primary to higher and professional education, and
- (iv) Tele-medicine: 59 specialty hospitals connected to 307 remote and rural hospitals and 16 Mobile Vans.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) The country is likely to get maximum facilities through additional satellites in a phased manner.

[*English*]

Underground Neutrino Observatory Laboratory

4280. SHRI R. THAMARAISELVAN: Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to set up an underground Neutrino Observatory Project in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to allay the radiation bears among local people and environmentalists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER

OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Madam. The India based Neutrino Observatory (INO) is proposed to be set up through the Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Science & Technology. Presently a site in Bodi West Hills near T. Pudukottai village of Theni District, Tamil Nadu has been identified as a suitable location.

(b) The project includes construction of a world class underground laboratory under a rock cover of at least 1200 m from all directions. This underground laboratory will be accessed by 75 meter wide tunnel of approximately 2 km in length. The primary goal of INO is to study neutrino properties. Determination of neutrino properties is one of the most significant open problems in Physics today. Such studies will help us in understanding the interactions among subatomic particles at a very small scale. In this underground laboratory a massive 50 kton particle detector will be installed to study the cosmic ray produced neutrinos. The project will put India back on the world-map of underground science, a position that was held by India during the 2nd half of the 20th century.

(c) and (d) There is no radiation involved in this experiment. Neutrinos have been around us from the beginning of the universe. In fact the experiment is required to be carried out underground only to avoid the cosmic ray particles. This is a very passive detector where the neutrinos already existing in nature will be detected. Scientists involved in this project are clarifying this to the local population by organizing interaction meetings with the local people as well as through public outreach programmes. A meeting was also organized by the District Collector of Theni District, Tamilnadu in his office on 25th January 2010, where the INO scientists explained the salient features of this project to the local MLA, Panchayat Presidents, representatives of farmers etc.

[*Translation*]

IIT Institutions

4281. SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) in the country State-wise and location-wise;

(b) the details of the schemes for which the funds were allocated to the IITs by the Government during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the funds released and utilized under various heads by IITs country during the last three years particularly IIT Kanpur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Details of Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and their locations, State-wise in the country are as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of Institutes	the State where in located
1.	IIT-Kharagpur	West Bengal
2.	IIT-Madras	Tamil Nadu
3.	IIT-Bombay	Maharashtra
4.	IIT-Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh
5.	IIT-Delhi	National Capital Territory of Delhi
6.	IIT-Guwahati	Assam
7.	IIT-Roorkee	Uttarakhand
8.	IIT-Gandhinagar	Gujarat
9.	IIT-Ropar	Punjab
10.	IIT-Jodhpur	Rajasthan
11.	IIT-Bhubaneswar	Orissa
12.	IIT-Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
13.	IIT-Patna	Bihar
14.	IIT-Indore	Madhya Pradesh
15.	IIT-Mandi	Himachal Pradesh

(b) and (c) Scheme-wise details of funds allocated and released to IITs during the last three years are as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the Scheme	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Plan (IITs)	404.00 including (52.00)*	400.00 including (68.17)*	249.44 including (35.00)*
Plan (for implementation of OBC reservation)	-	598.69 including (72.57)*	540.66 including (67.00)*
Plan (setting up of new IITs)	-	60.00	248.50
Non-Plan	490.00 including (74.80)*	791.38 including (113.48)*	987.63 including (138.55)*

*Funds allocated and released to IIT-Kanpur.

Plan funds were utilized under various Heads viz. Building and Works, Non-consumable, periodical & journals, initiation grants to new faculty, etc. Non-Plan funds were utilized on establishment expenses, retirement benefits, students Scholarship/Assistanceship, administrative expenses, departmental expenses including laboratory expenses, library services, students support services, transport subsidy services, etc.

[English]

Production of Coal

4282. SHRI KALIKESH NARAYAN SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of the coalfields have failed to meet the targets set for production of coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the target set for production of various grades of coal in different coalfields during the last three years and the actual achievement made;

(c) the action taken against those contractors who have failed to meet their target;

(d) whether there is a need to modernize mining operations in Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.(MCL); and

(e) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and the same will be laid on the table of the House.

(d) and (e) Yes, Madam. In respect of OC mine:

- (i) Higher capacity HEMMs have been deployed
- (ii) More number of Departmental Surface Miners have been introduced
- (iii) Rapid Loading System has been introduced
- (iv) Action has been taken to build new washeries and

In case of UG mines:

- (i) Man-Riding system has been introduced
- (ii) Continuous Miner has been deployed.

Fund to Arunachal Pradesh under CAMPA

4283. SHRI TAKAM SANJOY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds released under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) to the State of Arunachal Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government is contemplating to provide more funds to those States which sustain carbon emission in tune with Kyoto protocol; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) So far, an amount of about Rs. 16.37 crores have been released on 03.04.2010 to the State of Arunachal Pradesh after the submission of details of bank accounts of State CAMPA by the Government of Arunachal Pradesh as required vide Supreme Court Order dated 10.07.2009 in IA No. 2143 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202 of 1995 in the matter of T.N. Godavarman Thirumulpad Versus Union of India & Others. No amount was released from Ad-hoc CAMPA prior to release of Rs. 16.37 crores.

(b) and (c) There is no plan to provide more funds to those States/UTs which sustain carbon emission in tune with Kyoto Protocol under CAMPA.

[*Translation*]

Overseas Indian Facilitation Centres

4284. SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP:
SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made in respect of Indian Facilitation Centres proposed in the year 2004;

(b) the details of funds sanctioned and spent so far for said purpose; and

(c) the time by which these Centres are likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (c) The setting up of Overseas Indian Centres have been approved by the Government for Abu Dhabi, Washington and Malaysia. The Overseas Indian Centres in Washington and Abu Dhabi had started functioning from February, 2009 and May, 2009 respectively. In Malaysia, the work is being looked after by the High Commission. The allocation of funds is made in the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs.

The year-wise allocation of funds is as under:

2008-09	Rs. 50 lakhs
2009-10	Rs. 200 lakhs

Schools in Slum Areas in Delhi

4285. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that a number of Private Schools are being run in slum areas of Delhi in which the number of enrolled students are more than the prescribed limit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the sports and entertainment facilities are available to students in these schools;

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

(e) whether most of these schools are not recognized;

(f) if so, the policy of the Government with regard to these schools; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No such instance has come to the notice of the Directorate of Education of the Government of NCT of Delhi.

(c) and (d) Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that such information is not maintained by them.

(e) to (g) Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that the data on unrecognized schools is not available with them at present. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 lays down that after commencement of the Act, no private schools shall be established or function, without obtaining a certificate of recognition from the prescribed authority. It also provides that no such recognition shall be granted to a school unless it fulfills norms and standards specified in the Scheduled to the Act.

[English]

Facilities in Kendriya Bhandar

4286. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 3266 of 9.12.2009 and state:

(a) the details of locations of 21 branches of Kendriya Bhandar where water/toilet facility has not been provided;

(b) the details of branches of Kendriya Bhandar which do not come under any of the type of accommodations, stated in the answer and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action, the Government proposes to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ

CHAVAN): (a) The details of locations of 21 branches of Kendriya Bhandar where water/toilet facility has not been provided is enclosed as statement.

(b) In reply to Unstarred Question No.3266 dated 9.12.2009 it was stated that retail stores of Kendriya Bhandar are located in four types of accommodations i.e. residential quarters, office buildings, educational campuses and shopping centres. However, there are three stores viz., Aram Bagh, Pushp Vihar IV and NDPL Shalimar Bagh which are not located strictly in residential quarters. They are located in residential colonies in a separate structure/built up accommodation.

(c) Kendriya Bhandar staff appointed in the Aram Bagh branch are using toilet/water facility available at nearby office complex. Toilet and water facilities are available in Pushp Vihar IV and NDPL Shalimar Bagh stores.

Statement

Details of branches of Kendriya Bhandar wherein water/toilet facility is not available

Sl.No.	Name of the Store
1	2
1.	Aram Bagh, Central Government Residential Colony
2.	BBM, DTC Depot Complex
3.	Bhavishya Nidhi Residential Colony, Near Malviya Nagar
4.	C.R. Park (since shifted to DDA Shopping Complex)
5.	Geeta Colony, Office Complex of Dy. Commissioner (East)
6.	Hari Nagar DTC Depot Complex
7.	JNU Campus, Paschimabad
8.	JNU Shopping Complex
9.	Mahipal Pur, Airport Authority of India Residential Complex
10.	Metro Vihar, DMRC Residential Colony, Shastri Park
11.	Netaji Nagar, NDMC Shopping Complex

1	2
12.	North Block, Central Secretariat
13.	Pragati Vihar, Adjacent to NBCC Building
14.	Patparganj DTC Depot Complex
15.	Sadiq Nagar Market
16.	Timarpur-II, Delhi Government Residential Colony
17.	R.K. Puram-I, Shopping Centre
18.	R.K. Puram-II, Shopping Centre
19.	R.K. Puram-IV, Shopping Centre
20.	Moti Bagh-II, Shopping Centre
21.	Jamia Hamdard (University Complex)

Cut off Ranking in Exams

4287. SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:
SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes changes to introduce cut off ranking in some exams for students seeking admissions to higher courses in the poor and meritorious category; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

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

Museum for Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

4288. SHRI C. SIVASAMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of belongings of great freedom fighters including Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose generally preserved in the Memorials/Museums;

(b) whether the Government has sanctioned a special grant to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Memorial Trust, Cuttack for development of ancestral house of Netaji into a museum;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the progress made so far in creation of the museum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The belongings of our great freedom fighters are generally preserved in the Memorials/Museums dedicated to them, often set up and managed by Voluntary Organizations/Trusts etc. However Gandhi Smriti & Darshan Samiti, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies are among few autonomous bodies, which have been set up and are fully funded by the Government of India. These autonomous bodies maintain/preserve belongings of Mahatma Gandhi Jawaharlal Nehru and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, in addition to various Voluntary Organizations. Government of India is operating a Scheme for "Providing Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisations/Societies for development and maintenance of National Memorials" under which regular and special grants are sanctioned to Voluntary Organizations for development and maintenance of these Memorials with a view (i) to commemorate the role of eminent national personalities who have contributed to and played a historic role in the history of our country, (ii) to highlight their lives and activities as well as the relevance of their ideas to the Indian heritage, (iii) to interpret and convey the cultural and spiritual values they stood for, and (iv) to create an awareness of the contribution of such personalities to the nation, particularly by keeping the younger generation informed.

(b) to (d) A special grant of Rs. 1.50 crore was sanctioned in 2002 to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Memorial Trust, Cuttack, a Trust set up by the Government of Orissa for development of the ancestral house of Netaji into a museum.

Disqualifications of SCs/STs Students in IITs

4289. SHRIMATI J. SHANTHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes category students were made ineligible to continue their studies in Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) on failure to secure qualifying marks in periodical tests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of complaints against authorities which stood substantiated leading to reversal of disqualifications of SC/ST students; and

(d) the steps taken/initiated to address the problems of students failing to meet the academic parameter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Students of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are provided with sufficient opportunity to improve their performance. Those students who are found to be academically deficient and are unable to improve, irrespective of their being in general or any of the reserved categories, are not eligible to continue with the academic programmes. However, opportunities to appeal/ re-appeal for reinstatement/ continuation of the academic programmes are available to such students, which are examined by the Senate uniformly on merits, irrespective of the caste considerations. While, no student of the IITs at Bombay, Madras, Kharagpur and Roorkee has been made ineligible to continue their studies, registration of a few students of IITs at Delhi, Kanpur and Guwahati, whose performance were not upto the mark, have been terminated.

(c) No complaint against any individual has been received. However, a few de-enrolled students of IIT-Delhi, belonging to the general as well as reserved categories, were re-instated due to the intervention by the Commission for SC/ST and the Supreme Court of India.

(d) The IITs have been adopting various steps to address the needs of poorly performing students which inter-alia include the following:

- (i) Students earning less than the stipulated number of credits (General/OBC: 26; SC/ST: 22) in the first year, have the option to restart the programme.
- (ii) Students performing below the minimum acceptable level, are placed on probation with warning and intimations sent to their parents/guardians. Such students are monitored, including mandatory attendance in classes, special tutorials and mentoring, comprising structured guidance under specially selected Ph.D./M.Tech. students under the supervision of course co-ordinator.

(iii) A faculty member in each department is identified who would function as an advisor for students under probation. The faculty member closely monitors the academic performance of these students.

(iv) Students under probation are to meet regularly their course advisors once in every two weeks and report their difficulties. The meetings would take place as per mutually agreed schedules decided at the beginning of the semester.

(v) Counseling requirements of students under probation, which may be identified by their advisors or course co-ordinators or wardens, are taken care of by Associate Dean of Students, who monitors the progress with the Counseling Cell and takes necessary steps.

Survey on Tribal Education

4290. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted regarding the outcome of education being imparted through English medium in the tribal areas;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the details of the agency responsible to see that Indian ideals, great personalities and moral values are included in the syllabi of private schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Ministry is not aware of any such study.

(c) National Curriculum Framework (NCF), 2005, formulated by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), emphasizes inculcation of moral values and values enshrined in the Indian Constitution. NCF, 2005, also focuses on strengthening of our cultural heritage and national identity, so as to enable the younger generation to reinterpret and re-evaluate the past with reference to new priorities and emerging outlooks in a changing societal context. NCERT has prepared syllabi and textbooks for all subjects and all classes based on NCF, 2005. These promote Indian ideals and moral values and include topics on great personalities. Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) prescribes NCERT syllabi

in different subjects for Classes I to VIII. For Classes IX to XII, it adopts and adapts syllabi framed by NCERT and prescribes textbooks of NCERT.

Schools affiliated to State Boards follow curriculum and syllabi of respective Boards.

[*Translation*]

Registering of Bio-Assets

4291. DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether bio-assets in bio-diversity registers maintained in most of the districts and the States are not being registered despite bio-diversity law passed in 2002;

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

(c) whether several pharmaceutical companies are using traditional remedies for earning heavy profits in the absence of formal documentation of these remedies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the concrete steps being taken by the Government to address the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) After holding wider consultations with the experts and officials of the State Biodiversity Boards, format of the model People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) has been finalized and communicated to the State Biodiversity Boards (SBBs) to facilitate and promote the preparation of PBRs by the Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs). So far, 350 PBRs have been completed.

(c) to (e) Studies carried out by the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) team in the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) during 2000, 2003 and 2005, have indicated that the patents granted at the international patents offices based on Indian traditional knowledge are increasing. To prevent the grant of such wrong patents, the CSIR in collaboration with the Department of Ayush, is developing TKDL on the codified knowledge on Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Yoga. So far, approximately 2.19 lakh formulations have been transcribed in five international languages under TKDL. Access to TKDL databases is provided to international

patent officers to enable their patent examiners for establishing prior art, in case of patent applications based on Indian Systems of Medicine. Based on the TKDL evidence, intention to grant patent on two patent applications has been set aside and twelve patent applications have been withdrawn at the European Patent Office.

[*English*]

Setting up of BCA and MCA Colleges

4292. SHRI MUKESH BHAIKAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to set up B.C.A. and M.C.A. colleges in various parts of the country including Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these colleges are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) There is no scheme under this Ministry to set-up BCA and MCA colleges in the country.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited

4293. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited plans to venture into power generation and mining industry business;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds earmarked for such expansion in the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) is into power generation and mining since inception. During the 2009-10, NLC produced 22.34 Million Tonne of lignite and generated 17657.94 Million Unit of power.

(c) The total outlay for NLC for the XI Plan period was fixed at Rs. 15043.92 crore. Of which, the outlay of Rs. 9789.75 crore is proposed for expansion of new projects during XI Plan period.

Financial Assistance for VHSC

4294. SHRI M.B. RAJESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has sanctioned any financial assistance for the introduction of Vocational Sections in VHSC schools in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has received any request from the State Government of Kerala to revalidate the assistance;

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

(e) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education, an amount of Rs. 18.25 crore was sanctioned and Rs. 14.25 crore was released during 2004-05 to Government of Kerala. The request for revalidation of the above amount for the year 2007-08 was received from Government of Kerala, but could not be acceded to as the grant had remained unspent for 2 years.

World Bank Aid for Pollution Free Environment

4295. SHRI RAMESH RATHOD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank provides any aid for the growth of pollution free environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the response of the States and the demands in this regard;

(d) whether the Union Government has received any demand from any State Government for assistance in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) to (f) The following two World Bank-supported projects specifically aim to help the growth of a pollution free environment:

1. The Montreal Protocol Phase-out Program for the phase-out of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS). The program which commenced in 1994 with a financial envelope of about USD 186 million, disbursed over 5 sub-programs

(ODS-I to ODS-IV) is scheduled for financial closure by December 2011. The details of Sub programs are as under:

S. No.	Sub Program	Year of Approval	Allocation
(i)	ODS-I	1994	USD 1.25 million
(ii)	ODS-II	1995	USD 48.5 million
(iii)	ODS-III-CFC Gradual Phase-out Project	1999	USD 82 million
(iv)	Halon Closure Plan	2001	USD 2.3 million
(v)	ODS-IV-CTC National	2003	USD 52 million

2. Chiller Energy Efficiency Project: Approved in 2009 for USD 7.3 million (USD 6.3 million from Global Environment Facility and USD 1 million under the Montreal Protocol). The project aims at accelerating the replacement of 370 CFC-based inefficient chillers used in commercial buildings and industrial establishments.

Assistance for Development of State Culture

4296. SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has been providing any assistance/grants for the development of culture in the States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Ministry of Culture has a number of programmes to preserve, promote and develop

culture through its organizations and through Central Sector Schemes. But the Ministry does not ordinarily provide grants to the State Governments or to their organizations. The details of grants provided by the organizations under the Ministry are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Assistance/Grants for the Development of Culture in the States

Name of the Institute/scheme	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
(i) SNA			
(a) Scheme of financial assistance to various cultural institutions.	13,20,000	17,00,000	19,75,000
(b) Ad-hoc Grant to various States/UTs for Puppetry by the SNA.	1,20,000	60,000	1,00,000
(ii) NAI			
(i) Scheme of financial assistance for preservation of documentary heritage and across the country.	24,39,200	42,00,000	25,67,625
(ii) Scheme of Financial Assistance for preservation of Manuscripts/Rare books to registered voluntary organizations.	26,57,000	21,57,000	13,92,750
(iii) Ministry of Culture Setting up Promotion and Strengthening of Regional and Local Museums.	7,01,08,569	7,79,99,408	12,23,38,124
(iv) P. Arts Financial Assistants to Professional groups and individual engaged in specified Performing Art projects.	11,61,00,000	19,19,00,000	26,73,00,000
(v) S&F	450,00,000	581,00,000	450,00,000
(i) Scholarship to Young Artists			
(ii) Award to Fellowships to outstanding persons.			
(iii) Cultural Functions Grants Scheme	—	64,00,000	—
(vi) Sahitya Akademi Several programmes including symposia, Regional/ National seminars are organized in all the states besides giving awards for creative writing and best translations.	420,00,000	726,85,000	775,28,000
(vii) Lalit Kala Akademi	—	3,15,000	2,35,000
(a) Financial Assistance for the promotion of Visual Art Activities to the states			

Growth in Infrastructure

4297. SHRI M. VENUGOPALA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds utilized with a view to enhance growth in infrastructure sector;

(b) whether data relating to actual growth achieved in the sector is maintained by the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof for each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) According to preliminary estimates, the total investment in infrastructure during the first three years of the Eleventh Five Year Plan is given below:

(Rs. crore)

Years	Investment in Infrastructure during Eleventh Five Year Plan (Projected)	Investment in Infrastructure during Eleventh Five Year Plan (Realised)
2007-08	2,70,273	3,03,807
2008-09	3,21,579	3,59,192
2009-10 (Provisional)	3,89,266	4,02,829

(b) Yes, Madam. The investment in infrastructure has increased from 5.71 per cent of GDP in 2006-07 to 7.18 per cent of GDP in 2008-09.

(c) As given in (a) above.

(d) The progress of investment in infrastructure is being closely monitored at various levels and data is being collected at the Central and State Level.

All India Children's Educational Audio Video Festival

4298. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has organised the 15th edition of All India Children's Educational Audio-Video Festival recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the response received from each State especially from Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the funds allocated and spent on this festival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The 15th All India Children's Educational Audio-Video Festival was organized by Central Institute of Educational Technology (CIET) of National Council of Educational Research Training (NCERT) during 18-20 March, 2010.

(b) There were 116 participants from CIET, State Institutes of Educational Technology (SIETs), producers of educational audio and video programmes and persons working in the field of education. 114 programmes (31 audio and 83 video) were screened and 27 awards were presented in various categories.

(c) SIET, Andhra Pradesh had submitted 13 entries (7 audio and 6 video), out of which 3 in audio category received awards. In addition, SIETs from Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Orissa and Kerala participated in the festival.

(d) An amount of Rs. 9,73,204/- was spent on this festival.

Shortfall in Eleventh Plan Targets

4299. SHRI P. BALRAM:
SHRI RAJIAH SIRICILLA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortfall in the Eleventh Plan targets by 40 per cent;

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

(c) the steps being taken to correct the situation in the remaining Eleventh Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V.

NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) No, Madam. There has not been 40 percent shortfall in the Eleventh Five Year Plan targets. The Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) aims at achieving an average annual growth rate of 9%. During the first year of the Plan (2007-08), the growth rate was well on the mark and estimated at 9%. However, the growth rate decelerated to 6.7% in 2008-09 on account of global slowdown and low growth rate in the agriculture sector.

The three successive fiscal stimulus packages announced by the Government coupled with active monetary policy support have led to a recovery of the economy. The fiscal expansion by way of reduction in taxes and increased public expenditure have had an impact on the economy. The Advance Estimates of National Income released by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) indicate that during 2009-10, a growth rate of 7.2% will be achieved and the growth rate is expected to accelerate further in the next financial year.

Employment Opportunities in Agriculture Sector

4300. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission proposes to increase employment opportunities in the agriculture sector during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the percentage of employment opportunities likely to increase during the Eleventh Five Year Plan over the Tenth Five Year Plan period in agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) Increasing employment opportunities in the economy, including agricultural and allied sectors, is a central concern of the Planning Commission. Some of the sub-sectors of the Agriculture and Allied Sector having potential for generating employment opportunities during the Eleventh Five Year Plan are:

- Horticulture including floriculture, vegetable production and primary processing etc.
- Organic agriculture
- Seed and planting material production

- Dairy and poultry
- Fisheries
- Agri-clinic/Agri-business centres
- Micro irrigation

According to studies, the mandays of annual employment created per Rs. 1000 investment in some of these sub-sectors are as given in the table below:

Sub-Sector	Employment (Mandays/per year/per Rs. 1000 invested)
Plantation and Horticulture	3.02
Dairy, Poultry, Sheep, Goat and Piggery	6.75
Fisheries	1.81
Others	7.32

Source:-National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) as cited on page 78 of the Report of the Inter-Ministry Task Group on Investment, Credit and Technical Support to promote Self-employment in Agriculture, Horticulture, Afforestation, Dairying and Agro-processing, by Planning Commission, January 2005.

However, no specific targets for employment creation in agriculture sector have been fixed. The Eleventh Five-Year Plan strategy for agriculture aims to improve access of farmers to technology; enhance the quantum and efficiency of public investments; encourage diversification towards higher value crops and livestock while at the same time protecting against food security concerns; and achieve inclusiveness through a more decentralised decision-making.

The National Sample Survey Reports show that in rural India, the proportion of 'all' (i.e. both principle and subsidiary status) male workers engaged in the agricultural activities declined from 71.4 per cent in 1999-2000 to 66.5 per cent in 2004-05. For 'all' female workers, the decline was less, that is, from 85.4 per cent in 1999-2000 to 83.3 per cent in 2004-05.

Open School Programme

4301. SHRI M. ANANDAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether several States are participating in the Open School Programmes;

(b) if so, the details of such States and the programmes being followed by them, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to establish open schools all over the country particularly in the remote tribal areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Madam.

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

(c) Open school programmes upto higher secondary level are being offered by National Institute of Open Schooling and 14 State Open Schools (SOS). The courses offered by NIOS are available in tribal and remote areas. As far as establishment of State Open Schools are concerned, it is the responsibility of the respective State Governments and NIOS provides professional support including consultancy to the States.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of State	Current Status related to Academic Programme
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Schooling programmes at the Elementary level. • Open Schooling programmes at the Secondary level have been initialised recently.
2.	Haryana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elementary (Class VIII) • Secondary and Senior Secondary • Haryana SOS has recently adopted Semester system. • Common syllabus for the Open Schooling and the Formal Schooling system.
3.	Jammu and Kashmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Started Open Schooling programme at Secondary level recently by adopting courses from NIOS
4.	Karnataka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offering Secondary and Senior Secondary courses through Open Schooling.
5.	Kerala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offering Secondary and Senior Secondary Courses through Open Schooling.
6.	Madhya Pradesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offering Secondary and Senior Secondary and Vocational Education Courses through Open Schooling.
7.	Punjab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offering Secondary and Senior Secondary Courses through Open Schooling. • Introduced Class VIII course through Open Schooling.
8.	Rajasthan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offering Secondary and Senior Secondary courses through Open Schooling by adopting courses from National Institute of Open Schooling.
9.	Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Government is competent to start secondary and senior secondary courses.
10.	West Bengal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offering Elementary (Classes VI to VIII), Secondary and Senior Secondary Courses

1	2	3
11.	Assam	• The courses of SOS are being offered from the academic session (2009-10) at Senior Secondary level by adopting courses from NIOS.
12.	Utter Pradesh	• The State had Correspondence courses at Secondary and Senior Secondary level. The State has recently set up SOS.
13.	Chhattisgarh	• SOS has started Secondary and Senior Secondary courses from the academic session 2009-10.
14.	Delhi	• SOS was set up in 2004-05. However, the courses are offered through the Patrachar Vidyalaya Scheme.

Grih Kalyan Kendra

4302. SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Grih Kalyan Kendra (GKK) is running various centres for the benefit of Central Government employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof, locationwise and its functions thereof;

(c) whether there is also proposal to set up more such centres in the coming years particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be set up; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER

OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Grih Kalyan Kendra is presently running its various activities in 45 Samaj Sadans and 22 welfare centres in Delhi and 9 at other places viz. Mumbai, Channai, Dehradun, Kolkata, Nagpur, Bangalore, Faridabad, Ghaziabad and Jaipur. A statement indicating various activities being run by Grih Kalyan Kendra in various Samaj Sadans and welfare centres is enclosed. Apart from these welfare activities, these Samaj Sadans are also made available on hire to the Central Government Employees and others for organizing various social and cultural functions like marriage etc.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Government has decided not to take up any further new construction of Samaj Sadans at this stage.

Statement

Details of welfare activities run by Grih Kalyan Kendra in various Samaj Sadans in Delhi and outstations

Sl.No.	Place	Activities							
		Badminton/ Table Tennis	Gym/ H. Club/ Weight Lifting	Other activities	Creche	Craft	Nursery	Delhi Public Library (DPL)	Kendriya Bhandar (KB)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
DELHI									
1.	Andrews Ganj	B.M.	-	Beautician Training Course, Music and dance	-	-	Nursery	DPL	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2.	Andrews Ganj Ext.	T.T.	-	**Karate, Music & Dance	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Asia House			Brain Development programme	-	-	-	-	-
4.	Bharti Nagar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	Chanakyapuri		-	Karate, Brain Development programme	-	-	-	-	-
6.	Kidwai Nagar, D Block	B.M.	Gym	-	-	*Craft	*Nursery	-	-
7.	Laxmi Bai Nagar	B.M.	W.L.	**Beautician Training Course **Brain Development Programme	*Creche	*Craft	*Nursery	-	-
8.	Lodhi Road	-	-	-	Creche	Craft	Nursery	DPL	-
9.	Lodhi Road Comp.	-	-	**Dance, Music classes and Karate & Beautician Training course	-	Craft	-	-	-
10.	Moti Bagh I	-	W.L.	-	-	*Craft	*Nursery	-	-
11.	Minto Road	-	-	-	-	-	Nursery	-	-
12.	Nanak Pura	B.M.	-	-	Creche	-	Nursery	-	-
13.	Nauroji Nagar	-	-	-	-	-	Nursery	-	-
14.	Netaji Nagar	B.M.	-	-	*Creche	*Craft	*Nursery	DPL	-
15.	Pandara Road	B.M. & T.T.	-	**Karate, Yoga & Table Tennis	-	-	-	-	-
16.	P.V. Hostel	T.T.	-	-	Creche	-	-	DPL	-
17.	Pushp Vihar	-	-	**Karate, Music, Brain Development programme	-	Craft	-	-	-
18.	Peshwa Road	-	Health Club	-	Creche	-	Nursery	DPL	KB
19.	R.K. AshramMarg	-	-	-	*Creche	*Craft	*Nursery	DPL	KB
20.	R.K. Puram Sec. I	-	-	-	-	-	Nursery	-	-
21.	R.K. Puram Sec. II	-	-	-	-	Craft	Nursery	-	-
22.	R.K. Puram Sec. III	-	Gym	-	-	-	-	-	-
23.	R.K. Puram Sec. IV	-	-	-	-	Craft	Nursery	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
24.	R.K. Puram.Sector-VII	-	-	-	-	Craft	Nursery	-	-
25.	Raja Bazar,	B.M.	-	-	-	-	Nursery	-	-
26.	Rabindra Nagar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
27.	Sadiq Nagar		Gym	-	-	Craft	Nursery	-	-
28.	Sarojini Nagar	B.M.	Gym	**Karate	*Creche	Craft	*Nursery	-	-
29.	Sri Niwas Puri	B.M.		**Music, Beautician Training Course	Creche	Craft	Nursery	DPL	-
30.	Thyagraj Nagar	-	-	**Beautician Training course, Computer class	-	**Craft ***Craft	Nursery	-	-
OUTSTATION:									
Mumbai									
31.	Sec. I, Koliwada	-	-	-	-	Craft	Nursery	-	-
32.	Sec. VII, Antop Hill	-	-	**Karate, Beautician Training courseand Dance		Craft	Nursery	-	-
33.	Ghatkoper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34.	Ekta Vihar	-	Gym	-	-	Craft	Nursery	-	-
Chennai									
35.	K.K. Nagar	B.M.	Gym	**Karate	-	Craft	Nursery	-	-
36.	Anna Nagar	B.M.	-	-	-	Craft	Nursery	-	-
37.	Basant Nagar		-	-	-	Craft	-	-	-
Kotkata									
38.	Salt Lake	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nagpur									
39.	Seminary Hills	B.M.& T.T.	Gym	**Physiotherapy & Homeopathic Clinic	-	-	-	-	-
40.	Katol Road	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
41.	NH-IV, Faridabad	B.M.	-	-	-	Craft	Nursery	-	-
42.	K.N. Nagar, Ghaziabad	-	-	Typing	-	-	-	-	-
Bangalore									
43.	Domlur	-	Gym	-	-	-	-	-	-
44.	Koramangla	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45.	Viiay Nagar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Note: *Run by New Delhi Municipal Council.

**Being run by outsourcing

***Being run by ICS/IAS Wives Women Welfare Association on fee sharing basis.

List of activities running in various welfare centres in Delhi and outstations

Sl.No.	Location	Nature of Activities		
DELHI:				
1.	D.S.T. Qutab Enclave	Creche	-	-
2.	Qtr. No. A-16, Kingsway Camp, Old Police Line	-	Craft	-
3.	Lancer Rd., Qr. 379, Timarpur	-	-	Nursery
4.	Minto Road, C-182	-	Craft	-
5.	R.K. Puram, Sec. I/175	Creche	-	-
6.	R.K. Puram, Sec. III/1105	Creche	-	-
7.	R.K. Puram, Sec. V/203	Creche	-	-
8.	R.K. Puram, Sec. VHI/654	Creche	-	-
9.	R.K. Puram, Sec. IX/159	Creche	-	-
10.	Sewa Nagar J-434-43 8-442-446	-	-	Nursery
11.	Shastri Bhawan, R.No. 501, 'D' Wing	Creche	-	-
12.	Timarpur/813	Creche	-	-
OUTSTATIONS:				
Chennai				
13.	Custom House Bldg.	-	Craft	-
14.	Income Tax Office Bldg.	-	Craft	-
15.	T-2 Shastri Bhawan Complex	**Creche	-	-
16.	A.G.'s Office Bldg.	-	Craft	-
Dehradun				
17.	Samaj Sadan Forest Research Institution	-	Craft	Nursery
18.	Hathi Barkala, Survey of India	-	Craft	Nursery
19.	Jaipur T-III/163, A.G. Colony	Creche	Craft	-
Mumbai				
20.	T-V/2/9 CGS Qrs. Ghatkoper (W)	-	Craft	Nursery
21.	Anushakti Nagar BARC	-	Craft	-
22.	Wadala 106 CGS Colony	-	Craft	-

Note: **Run of fee sharing basis.

Enhancing Gratuity Limits

4303. SHRI P. VISWANATHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the long pending demand from the salaried class for enhancing gratuity limit at the time of retirement;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (c) As per the recommendations of the Sixth Central Pay Commission, maximum pecuniary limit on payment of gratuity has been raised from Rs. 3.5 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs (w.e.f. 01.01.2006) for the Central Government pensioners.

As regards all other establishments employing ten or more persons, the Ministry of Labour after discussion with all the Stake holders has submitted the proposal to raise the ceiling of gratuity from Rs. 3.5 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs to the Cabinet. The Cabinet has approved the proposal in its meeting held on 04.03.2010 and accordingly action for introduction of the Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) Bill 2010 in the Parliament is under process, in the Ministry of Labour.

Internal Assurance Cell

4304. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has instructed/directed all the universities and colleges to have an internal assurance cell, to improve the quality of higher education being imparted in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve standard of education in colleges and universities, in consultation with the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) According to information provided by the University Grants Commission (UGC), a decision has been taken to direct all universities and colleges recognized under Section 2(f) of the UGC Act, 1956 and declared fit to receive grants under Section 12B of the UGC Act to establish Internal Quality Assurance Cells (IQACs) for which one-time seed financial assistance of Rs. 5 lakh per university and Rs. 3 lakhs for college has been provided to meet the expenditure involved in establishment of the IQACs. The IQACs would act as an internal motivator for obtaining quality in institutional systems and processes in the University.

(c) Improvement of quality of higher education is a continuous process. A substantial increase in Plan allocation has been made in the Eleventh Five Year Plan aiming at improvement of quality through increased allocation for improvement of infrastructure in the existing higher and technical educational institutions and by way of setting up of new quality institutions such as Central Universities in uncovered States, establishment of Innovation Universities aiming at world class standards, quality institutions such as Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management, Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, Indian Institutes of Information Technology, Schools for Planning and Architecture, establishment of 50 centres for training and research in frontier areas of Science and Technology etc. In order to attract talented persons to the teaching professions, liberal and attractive pay scales have been provided to teachers while tightening entry qualifications by making qualifying the National Eligibility Test (NET) mandatory with exemption provided to those who have obtained Ph.D. degree in accordance with the standards and vigour prescribed.

Promotion of Urdu Language

4305. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of States where the Urdu is being taught in schools as second language;

(b) whether inspite of various steps taken by the Government for promotion of Urdu language, the State Governments are not paying enough attention on the directives issued by the Union Government to States for promotion of Urdu language;

(c) the total amount sanctioned by the Government for promotion of Urdu language in the country during the last three years; and

(d) the further steps taken or being taken by the Government to promote Urdu in schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Information regarding States where Urdu is being taught in schools as second language is not maintained by this Ministry.

(b) to (d) Education being a concurrent subject, the Central Government cannot issue any mandatory directives to State Governments.

The details of grants sanctioned by Government of India for Promotion of Urdu Language during the last three years in respect of National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL), Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) and Scheme of financial assistance for appointment of Language Teachers (Urdu) is as under:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	NCPUL	MANUU	Urdu Teacher	Total
2007-08	1740.00	1671.82	306.00	3717.82
2008-09	1735.00	3485.83	—	5220.83
2009- 10	1900.00	4217.94	10.38	6128.32

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidhayalaya (KGBV) norms provide flexibility to States to engage Urdu teachers in Muslim concentrated blocks.

Recognized Madarasas/Maktabs are eligible for additional teachers as per norms under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Scheme.

[Translation]

Use of Chemicals Fertilizers and Pesticides

4306. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether excess use of chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides is the major reason for global warming;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Excess use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides especially the nitrogen-containing fertilizers contribute to generation of nitrous oxide which is one of the important greenhouse gas responsible for global warming. Emission of carbon dioxide is the major reason for global warming. Government of India has been taking, *inter alia*, various actions aimed at reduction of GHGs including those from use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

[English]

Protection of Museums

4307. SHRI P.T. THOMAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by the Government to preserve museums in the country; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to improve the facilities to visitors of Museums in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) A Scheme for "Financial assistance for Setting Up, Promotion and Strengthening of Regional and Local Museums" is operated by Ministry of Culture under which assistance is provided for modernization and upgradation of existing Museums which *inter alia* includes components on renovation, repairs, extension, modernization of galleries, conservation, etc., of existing museums at the regional, state and local levels. Improvement of the visitor's facilities is one of the components of modernization, which is a continuous process.

The Government has also undertaken a comprehensive 14 point agenda for museum reforms, that includes improvement of visitors' facilities at museums of national importance under the Ministry of Culture.

[Translation]

Increase in Fees for CBSE and AIEEE

4308. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase the fee for Central Board for Secondary Education and All India Engineering Entrance Examination;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposal from the concerned Educational Institutes in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Madam. There is no such proposal at present.

(c) Government has not received any such proposal.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Felling of Trees

4309. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that valuable forest wood is being felled and is being exported despite a ban on the same during the last few years which is adversely affecting environment;

(b) if so, the guidelines laid down for conservation of forests and action taken for violation of such guidelines;

(c) the quantum of wood exported during the last three years alongwith names of countries to which this wood has been exported; and

(d) the steps taken to check the felling of forest wood and maintaining balance of environment in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Though there are occasional reports of illegal felling of trees in the forests in certain States, however, there are no reports to link these felling to export of wood. This Ministry has not given any permission for export of any banned wood.

(b) The forests are protected by the concerned State /UT governments in terms of the provisions of various Central Acts, (e.g. Indian Forest Act, Forest Conservation Act, Wildlife Protection Act) and State Acts. Violations are treated according to penal provisions of these Acts and there are no separate guidelines in this regard. Further, the forests are worked strictly in accordance with the prescriptions of the approved Working Plans and any reported deviation is dealt with in terms of the provisions of the relevant Acts and departmental disciplinary Rules.

(c) This Ministry does not allow any export of timber nor maintains data in this regard. However, the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Ministry of Commerce, have provided data on export of various categories of wood items for last three years and for the period from April 2009 to November 2009 which is given in the Statement enclosed. The details of the countries to which these wood has been exported are not available.

(d) Though protection of forests is primarily a responsibility of the concerned State/UT Governments, this Ministry provides financial assistance to the State Forest Departments under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Intensification of Forest Management' to strengthen their forest protection machinery by way of infrastructure development, use of modern technology, improved mobility by way of deployment of new field vehicles, improved communication and providing arms ammunition to the frontline forestry force. Further, the Central Government while approving the Working Plans of the States, ensures that underlying principle of these Working Plans is ecological stability and sustainability of ecological services of the forests.

Statement

India's Export of wood for the last three years and for the period April, 2009-November, 2009

ITCHS*	Unit of Qty.	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	April, 2008- Nov., 2008	April, 2009- Nov., 2008
		Qty.	Qty.	Qty.	Qty.	Qty.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4401	mt	4542	370	669	648	922
4403	Cubic meter	16336	21469	11402	10049	26337

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4404	kg	515976	422657	580997	477830	205823
4406	Cubic meter	51	319	3479	3352	889
4407	Cubic meter	19199	23151	34367	26518	17763
4408	kg	16760123	22470601	29883636	24787107	14504722
4409	kg	1302592	817907	1146908	928542	429247
4410	kg	2440668	2756826	2837373	2273706	1181160
4411	kg	5291169	9569049	10870683	7944889	8376973
4412	Cubic meter	114705	128511	291036	275369	52299
4413	kg	826624	594471	842265	606298	106649
4414	kg	1424063	1343709	1435580	1018483	937686
4415	Number	1524500	1615537	1458046	925040	809617
4416	kg	82818	82508	338962	334474	21546
4417	kg	368482	252282	357821	288652	123375
4418	kg	2090614	1436048	3580367	2820729	1817441
4419	kg	1261621	895371	1091950	653796	1055723
4420	kg	1032443	1204005	1334303	892993	843315
4421	kg	13614006	18430498	22532629	15641626	13085967

Remark: The figures for the period upto 2008-09 are finalised whereas that of April, 2009-November, 2009 are provisional.

*The detailed item description are enclosed on next page.

ITGHS-wise list of items under Woods and Articles of Wood

ITCHS	Descriptor*	Unit of Qty.
4401	Fuel wood, in logs, in billets, in twigs, in faggots or in similar forms; wood in chips or particles; sawdust and wood waste	mt
4403	Wood in the rough, whether or not stripped of bark or sap wood, or roughly squared	Cubic meter
4404	Hoopwood split poles piles pickets & stack of woodpointed but not cut to wood pointed but not cut to lengthwise wooden sticks chipwood etc.	kg
4406	Railway or Tramway Sleepers (Crossties) of wood	Cubic meter
4407	Wood sawn or chipped length-wise, sliced or peeled, whether or not planed, sanded or endjointed, of a thickness exceeding 6 mm	Cubic meter
4408	Sheets for veneering (including those obtained by sucing laminated wood), for plywood or for similar laminated wood and	kg
4409	Wood (including strips and friezes for parquit flooring, not assembled) continuously shaped (tongued, grooved, reb	kg

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4410	Partle bord amd smlr bord of wood other lignus matris w/n aglomrtd with resins or other orgnic bindg substs					kg
4411	Fibre board of wood or other ligneous materials, whether or not bonded with resins or other organic substances					kg
4412	Plywood, veneered panels and similar laminated wood					Cubic meter
4413	Densified wood, in blocks, plates, strips, or profile shapes					kg
4414	Wooden frames for paintings, photographs, mirrors or similar objects					kg
4415	Pckng cases, bxes, crts, drms & smlr pckngs of wood; cble drms of wood; pallet, box pallets & othr load board of wood					Number
4416	Casks, barrels, vats, tubs amd other coopers products and parts thereof, of wood, including staves					kg
4417	Tools, tool bodies, tool handles, broom or brush bodies and handles, of wood, boot of shoe lasts and trees of wood					kg
4418	builderss joinery and carpentry of wood, including cellular woodpanels, assembled flooring panels, shingles and shakes					kg
4419	Tableware and kitchenware, of wood					kg
4420	Marquty & inlaid wood, casks/cases for jwelry/ctlrly & smlr artcls statuets and othr ornamts of wood nt fallng in ch 94					kg
4421	Other articles of wood					kg

Study on Resources in Indian Ocean

4310. SHRI JAYARAM PANGI: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to exploit the vast resources found beneath the Indian Ocean;

(b) if so, the details of action plan prepared in this regard; and

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Earth Sciences is pursuing research and developmental efforts towards

assessment of mineral resource potential of polymetallic nodules, cobalt crusts and hydrothermal sulphides in Indian Ocean. Presently, there is no plan for exploitation of these resources and no funds have been allocated for the purpose.

Artificial Rainfall

4311. SHRI NILESH NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether artificial rainfall is being contemplated in several parts of the country particularly in Mumbai and other parts of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various parts of the country particularly from Maharashtra in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) A number of cloud seeding programmes have been carried out by commercial firms working under contract with a variety of sponsors both from the Government covering large areas as well as by Private Trusts at a local scale. The States of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh have undertaken cloud seeding operations till last year by hiring private firms and these operations were funded by the respective State Governments.

Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) Pune, is conducting a National multi-year program viz. "Cloud Aerosol Interaction and Precipitation Enhancement Experiment (CAIPEEX)" during 2008-2012. It is proposed to carry out cloud seeding experiment for producing artificial rainfall during July-August 2010 in the research mode over the rain-shadow regions of peninsular India, consisting the parts of the States of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. However, there are no plans under this programme for conducting this over Mumbai area.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

MPLAD Scheme

4312. SHRI VARUN GANDHI: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the huge under-utilization of funds and inadequate implementation of MPLAD scheme;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(c) the concrete steps taken by the Government for proper utilization of funds and better implementation of the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY

OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Under the MPLAD Scheme, the funds are non-lapsable, as such the funds are available for use in the subsequent financial years. Further, as on 31.3.2010, cumulative utilization of MPLADS funds over release is about 91 per cent, which reflects that implementation of the scheme is quite satisfactory.

Amendment in Administrative and Service Rules

4313. SHRI S. PAKKIRAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has proposed to amend the administrative and service rules to make public servants more accountable to people;

(b) if so, the details of the amendments and modifications to be brought about in the law and the rules; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) No, Madam. Suitable provisions already exist. The Central Civil Service (Conduct) Rules, 1964 stipulate that every Government servant shall at all times maintain devotion to duty (Rule 3); no Government servant shall, in the performance of his official duties, act in a discourteous manner (Rule 3-A); no Government servant shall in his official dealings with the public or otherwise adopt dilatory tactics or willfully cause delays in disposal of the work assigned to him. Further, insistence on greater transparency, recourse to e-solutions, publication of citizens charters and the implementation of the Right to Information Act make public servants more accountable to the people.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Outsourcing of Youth Parliament Competitions

4314. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to outsource the organizing and holding of youth parliament competitions in the educational institutions in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria of choosing personnel for managing the scheme; and

(d) the details of the persons and institutions, thus engaged, other than from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) No, Madam.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

National Memorial Status to Veer Baburao Shedmake Martyrdom

4315. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received by the Government with regard to granting of National Memorial status to the place of martyrdom of freedom fighter-revolutionary Veer Baburao Shedmake;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to declare the place of martyrdom of the Veer Baburao Shedmake as National Memorial?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) to (c) No such proposal is under consideration.

[*English*]

Financial Assistance for IEDC Scheme

4316. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme of IEDC was replaced by the new centrally sponsored scheme Inclusive Education of the Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS);

(b) if so, whether the State Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal to the Union Government for Rs. 17,30,18,635 for approval and sanction;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government has considered the proposal of the Kerala Government; and

(d) if so, the time by which the approval of the Union Government is likely to be given and the funds likely to be released to the Kerala Government for the said purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Yes, Madam.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. An amount of Rs. 14,71,63,381 has been approved for the State Government of Kerala and an amount of Rs. 7,33,31,693 has been released vide sanction letter dated 25th February, 2010.

Proposal for Inclusion in Heritages Lists of UNESCO

4317. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has submitted any proposals to the Union Government for inclusion in the Intangible Cultural Heritage to the list of UNESCO;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) The State Government of Karnataka submitted the following proposals to the Central Government for inclusion in the second cycle of nominations for inscription on UNESCO's Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH):

1. Mahamastakabhisheka of Shravanabelagola
2. Yakshagana

3. Leather Puppetry
4. Soligaru (Tribal) of B.R. Hills
5. Mysuru/Mysore Dasara
6. Kodavas of Kodagu

Since the proposals submitted by the Government of Karnataka were not complete as per the specifications and requirements of UNESCO, none of these proposals could be included in the proposals forwarded by the Central Government to UNESCO for consideration in the second cycle of inscriptions on the Representative List of ICH.

Minor Forest Produce

4318. SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the judgement of the Supreme Court, no Minor Forest Produce (MFP) can be taken out from the sanctuaries of the country without the prior permission of the Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) Hon'ble Supreme Court vide their order dated 14th February, 2000, in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995, had restrained from removal of dead, diseased, dying or wind fallen trees, drift wood and grasses, etc. from Sanctuary. This direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court has been communicated to all the State/Union Territory Governments for compliance.

India Tightens Visa Rules

4319. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has suggested/announced amendments or has issued directions to all the missions abroad to check misuse of multiple entry tourist visa by foreigners who apply for long term tourist visa instead of opting for residency;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which these new rules are likely to help in checking misuse of visa?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) As per the extant instructions of the Government of India, a Tourist Visa can only be granted to a foreigner who does not have a residence or occupation in India and whose sole objective of visiting India is recreation, sight seeing, casual visit to meet friends and relatives etc. No other activity is permissible on a Tourist Visa. The Tourist Visa is non- extendable and non-convertible.

With a view to curb the abuse/misuse of the Tourist Visa, instructions have been issued by the Government imposing the following restrictions:-

(i) In respect of foreign nationals holding Tourist Visas with multiple entry facility, there should be a gap of at least 2 months between two visits to the country on such a Tourist Visa.

(ii) If any foreign national is required to visit the country again within a period of 2 months of his last departure, such foreign national should obtain special permission from the Mission/Post concerned. The Mission/Post may consider such requests on merits of each case. In all such cases, the foreign national should register himself with the FRRO/FRO concerned within 14 days of arrival. An endorsement to this effect will be made on the visa sticker.

The ministry is reviewing the experience of travelers affected by the above restriction in recent months with a view to refining the policy while ensuring the Tourist Visa is not abused/misused.

[Translation]

Environment Related Data

4320. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some controversial news appeared in the media recently regarding environment related data of the country;

(b) if so, the details of those controversial news;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any impartial study about the origin of Ganga after this controversial news; and

(d) if so, the details of that report and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Estimates of rate of recession and date for the disappearance of Himalayan Glaciers have recently been the subject matter of some of the news reports appearing in the media. In this context Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has stated subsequently that the conclusion contained in the Fourth Assessment Report of the IPCC, suggesting disappearance of Himalayan glaciers by 2035, was based on poorly substantiated estimates of recession. IPCC has further stated that clear and well established standards of evidence, required by the IPCC procedures, were not applied properly in drafting the paragraph on the subject in question.

(c) and (d) No specific study on the origin of Ganga has been conducted. However, Government encourages discussions based on scientific findings on such issues. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has published a discussion paper titled "Himalayan Glaciers: A state-of-art Review of Glacial Studies, Glacial Retreat and Climate Change, which notes that glaciers have retreated throughout history as part of a natural cyclic phenomenon.

[*Translation*]

Desalination Plants in Chennai

4321. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:
SHRI T.R. BAALU:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a string of desalination plants in Chennai and coastal South Tamil Nadu considering the serious water shortage faced by people of the area;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the financial assistance provided to the State for the said purpose;

(c) whether the second desalination plant put up with central assistance in South Chennai has been commissioned; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Madam. Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) is working on Low Temperature Thermal Desalination (LTTD) technology. It has till date set up one LTTD plant at Northern Chennai Thermal Power Station (NCTPS), Chennai in March 2009. MoES does not provide any financial assistance to States for setting up Desalination Plants. The capacity of LTTD plant set up at NCTPS is 1 lakh liter per day of potable water. In addition, several desalination plants based on Reverse Osmosis (RO) are being set up in various parts of the country including in Chennai, by other Ministries and Departments.

Collaboration with Foreign Institutions

4322. DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

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

(a) whether collaborations of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune with the University of Glasgow and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Punjab with Imperial College of London have been envisaged for development of the Institute;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the salient features of the said collaboration;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the time by which these collaborations will be formalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam, collaboration between Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune and University of Glasgow and

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Punjab with Imperial College of London has been formalized by way of MoUs' between these institutes, which is valid for five years. The broad areas of collaboration identified by the set of these four Institutions are:

- (i) Exchange of academic and administrative staff
- (ii) Exchange of students
- (iii) Conducting collaborative research projects or training programmes
- (iv) Conducting lectures, symposia & workshops etc. on topics of mutual interest
- (v) Exchange of academic information and materials
- (vi) Investigate the possibility of joint degree programmes (in case of IISER Pune & University of Glasgow)

(c) and (d) For both collaborations, the agreements have been signed on 13.01.2010 at London. It was signed by Director, IISER Pune and Principal & Vice Chancellor, Glasgow University and for IIT Punjab and Imperial College of London, it was signed between Director IIT, Punjab and Rector, Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine.

(e) Does not arise.

Categorisation of Kendriya Vidyalayas as Hard Station

4323. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of criteria for categorisation of Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) as hard station;
- (b) whether the Government has received any request from the KV, Gauchar in this regard;
- (c) if so, the Government's reaction thereon;
- (d) whether unlike KVs, the same station has been categorized as hard by other Central Government organisations like ITBP, SBI, etc.;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps being taken by the Government to implement uniform policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The criteria for categorisation of a Kendriya Vidyalaya as hard station are as under:-

- Non-availability of residential accommodation on rent.
- Non-availability of medical facilities.
- Non-availability of colleges, universities.
- Non-availability of educational facilities.
- Non-availability of marketing facilities.
- Distance from the nearest railway station and bus station.
- Non-availability of transport facilities to station.
- Treatment of the station as a difficult station by other Government Departments.
- Place prone to health hazards, place situated where environmental hazards are very high, place affected by naxalite or terrorist activities, etc. leading to disturbance of normal life.

(b) Yes, Madam. A proposal from the Regional Office, Dehradun of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) has been received in November, 2009.

(c) It is for KVS to take appropriate decision based on the criteria laid down.

(d) to (f) As per information available with KVS, Gauchar in District Chamoli of Uttarakhand has been categorized as a hard station by ITBP and SBI. The places for Kendriya Vidyalayas are categorized as hard stations on certain criteria and these could be different from those used by other organisations.

[Translation]

Setting up of Model Colleges

4324. SHRI BHOOPENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for providing full grants for capital expenditure instead of just one-third grant for the setting up of Model Colleges

to provide higher education to the students belonging to poor class families in the tribal areas of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has also received any proposal from the said State for providing at least half of the amount of grants for running the institutes during the current Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Madam.

(c) and (d) A proposal was received from the State of Madhya Pradesh in January, 2008 suggesting that it would be more logical for the Central share to be raised to at least 50% of the capital cost and on-third of the expenditure to meet the running and maintenance expenditure.

A new scheme with Central State funding for establishment of one model degree college at an estimate of Rs.8.00 crore, in each of the 374 identified higher educationally backward districts (including 39 districts in Madhya Pradesh) having Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for higher education lower than the national GER has been approved by the Government. A list of the 374 identified higher educationally backward districts is given in the enclosed Statement-I. While the Central assistance is 50% of the capital cost excluding cost of land to be provided by State Governments in Special Category States, for colleges to be set up in districts not falling in Special Category States, the Central Government shall bear on-third of the capital cost (excluding the cost of land which shall be provided by the State Government).

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has been requested in February, 2010 to process all proposals received by the Commission as per the guidelines formulated by the Commission and keeping in view the parameters of the Scheme approved by the Government, which are given in the Statement-II.

Statement I

List of 374 identified Higher Educationally Backward Districts

1. A & N Islands	Dantewada	Giridih	Shivpuri	Banswara	Banda
Andamans	Dhamtari	Godda	Sidhi	Baran	Barabanki
Nicobars	Durg	Gumla	Tikamgarh	Barmer	Bareilly
2. Andhra Pradesh	Janjgir-champa	Kodarma	Ujjain	Bharatpur	Basti
Adilabad	Jashpur	Pakaur	Umaria	Bhilwara	Bijnor
Anantapur	Kanker	Palamu	Vidisha	Bikaner	Budaun
East Godavari	Kawardha	P. Singhbhum	West Nimar	Bundi	Bulandshahr
Kurnool	Koriya	Sahibganj	18. Maharashtra	Chittaurgarh	Chitrakoot
Mahbubnagar	Mahasamund	14. Karnataka	Buldana	Churu	Etah
Medak	Raigarh	Bagalkot	Gadchiroli	Dausa	Farrukhabad
Nizamabad	Raipur	Bangalore Rural	Hingoli	Dhaulpur	Fatehpur
Prakasam	Rajnandgaon	Belgaum	Jalna	Dungarpur	Gonda
Srikakulam	Surguja	Bellary	Raigarh	Ganganagar	Hamirpur
Vizianagaram	7. D & N Haveli	Bijapur	Ratnagiri	Hanumangarh	Hardoi
West Godavari	D & N Haveli	Chamarajanagar	Sindhudurg	Jaisalmer	Hathras
3. Arunachal Pradesh	8. Daman & Diu	Chikmagalur	19. Meghalaya	Jalor	Jyotiba P. Nagar
Changlang	Daman	Chitradurga	East Garo Hills	Jhalawar	Kannauj
Dibang Valley	Diu	Dakshina Kannada	Jaintia Hills	Jhunjhunun	Kanpur Dehat

East Kameng	9. Gujarat	Gadag	Ri Bhoi	Jodhpur	Kaushambi
Lohit	Amreli	Hassan	South Garo Hills	Karauli	Kheri
Lower Subansiri	Banas Kantha	Haveri	West Khasi Hills	Nagaur	Kushinagar
Tawang	Bharuch	Kodagu	20. Mizoram	Pali	Lalitpur
Tirap	Bhavnagar	Kolar	Champhai	Rajsamand	Maharajganj
Upper Siang	Dohad	Koppal	Kolasib	Sawai Madhopur	Mahoba
Upper Subansiri	Jamnagar	Mandya	Lawngtlai	Sikar	Mathura
West Kameng	Junagad	Raichur	Lunglei	Sirohi	Moradabad
West Siang	Kachchh	Tumkur	Mamit	Tonk	Muzaffarnagar
4. Assam	Kheda	Udupi	Saiha	Udaipur	Pilibhit
Bongaigaon	Mahesana	Uttara Kannada	Serchhip	26. Sikkim	Rae Bareli
Cachar	Narmada	15. Kerala	21. Nagaland	East	Rampur
Darrang	Panch Mahals	Kasaragod	Mon	North	Saharanpur
Dhubri	Patan	Malappuram	22. Odisha	South	Sant Kabir Nagar
Goalpara	Porbandar	Palakkad	Anugul	West	Shahjahanpur
Hailakandi	Rajkot	Wayanad	Balangir	27. Tamil Nadu	Shrawasti
Karbi Anglong	Sabar Kantha	16. Lakshadweep	Bargarh	Ariyalur	Siddharthnagar
Karimganj	Surat	Lakshadweep	Baudh	Coimbatore	Sitapur
Marigaon	Surendranagar	17. Madhya Pradesh	Debagarh	Cuddalore	Sonbhadra
Nagaon	The Dangs	Balaghat	Dhenkanal	Dharmapuri	Sultanpur
Sonitpur	Valsad	Barwani	Gajapati	Dindigul	Unnao
Tinsukia	10. Haryana	Betul	Ganjam	Erode	30. Uttarakhand
5. Bihar	Fatehabad	Bhind	Kalahandi	Kancheepuram	Bageshwar
Araria	Gurgaon	Chhatarpur	Kandhamal	Kanniyakumari	Champawat
Aurangabad	Jind	Chhindwara	Kendujhar	Karur	31. West Bengal
Banka	Kaithal	Damoh	Koraput	Madurai	Bankura
Begusarai	Karnal	Datia	Malkangiri	Nagapattinam	Bardhaman
Darbhanga	Panipat	Dewas	Nabarangapur	Perambalur	Birbhum
Gopalganj	Sirsa	Dhar	Nayagarh	Pudukkottai	Dakshin Dinajpur
Jamui	11. Himachal Pradesh	Dindori	Nuapada	Ramanathapuram	Darjiling
Kaimur	Chamba	East Nimar	Rayagada	Salem	Haora
Katihar	Kinnaur	Guna	Sonapur	Sivaganga	Hugli
Khagaria	Lahul & Spiti	Harda	23. Puducherry	Thanjavur	Jalpaiguri
Kishanganj	Sirmaur	Jhabua	Yanam	The Nilgiris	Koch Bihar
Lakhisarai	12. Jammu and Kashmir	Katni	24. Punjab	Theni	Maldah
Madhepura	Anantnag	Mandla	Amritsar	Thiruvallur	Medinipur

Madhubani	Badgam	Mandsaur	Bathinda	Thiruvapur	Murshidabad
Nawada	Baramula	Morena	Faridkot	Thoothukkudi	Nadia
W. Champaran	Doda	Narsimhapur	Fatehgarh Sahib	Tirunelveli	North 24 Parganas
E. Champaran	Kargil	Neemuch	Firozpur	Tiruvannamalai	Puruliya
Purnia	Kathua	Panna	Gurdaspur	Vellore	South 24 Parganas
Saharsa	Kupwara	Raisen	Kapurthala	Viluppuram	Uttar Dinajpur
Samastipur	Leh	Rajgarh	Mansa	Virudhunagar	
Sheohar	Punch	Ratlam	Moga	28. Tripura	
Sitamarhi	Rajauri	Sagar	Muktsar	North Tripura	
Siwan	Udhampur	Satna	Nawanshahr	South Tripura	
Supaul	13. Jharkhand	Sehore	Patiala	West Tripura	
Vaishali	Chatra	Seoni	Sangrur	Dhalai	Total Districts = 374
6. Chhattisgarh	Deoghar	Shahdol	25. Rajasthan	29. Uttar Pradesh	
Bastar	Dumka	Shajapur	Ajmer	Bahraich	
Bilaspur	Garhwa	Sheopur	Alwar	Balrampur	

Statement II*Parameters of the Scheme*

(a) The Central Government shall provide assistance to the extent of 1/3rd of the capital cost for establishment of each college, limited to Rs. 2.67 crore. For Special Category States, the Central share shall be 50% of the capital cost limited to Rs. 4.00 crore for each college.

(b) The land shall be provided free of cost by the State Governments. The balance amount of the capital cost, and the recurring cost of running these new colleges shall be met by the concerned State Governments.

(c) During the remaining period of the 11th Five Year Plan, assistance shall be provided for establishing 200 model colleges in identified districts, with priority being given to special category States and districts having concentration of weaker sections and minorities as well as other districts in Schedule V and Schedule VI areas.

(d) Those colleges which have been established on or after 1st January, 2008 in identified districts shall also be eligible to be covered under this Scheme and proportionate Central assistance shall be provided.

(e) A clear Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be signed with each State Government before any release of funds is made.

(f) The Scheme shall be implemented both through the University Grants Commission (which can release funds to the concerned affiliating university for establishment of the college as its constituent college) and also alternatively by way of direct release of funds by the Ministry of Human Resource Development to the concerned State Government, which may like to set up the college either as an affiliated or a constituent college.

[English]

High Tech Passports

4325. SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to introduce high-tech passports, with an electronic chip inlaid on their front cover;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there will be an increase in the passport fee subsequently;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to make available such passports at a fee which is affordable to people with lower income; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) In accordance with the ICAO guidelines to incorporate biometrics data in the Machine Readable Travel Documents, India has decided to upgrade its existing passports to electronic category *i.e.* e-passports. Accordingly a pilot project for issue of e-passports in the category of Official and Diplomatic e-passports was launched on 25th June 2008. Based on the experience gained through the pilot phase of issuance of e-passports in the diplomatic and official categories, the issuance of e-passports in the ordinary category has been taken up by the Government. The e-passports have an embedded electronic contact-less chip containing relevant data about the passport holder.

(c) to (f) Since the e-passports have enhanced security features, the cost is likely to be higher than that of the existing ones. However, the fees to be paid by the applicants for issue of the e-passports will be determined only after all input costs are assessed.

[Translation]

Funds to Private Schools

4326. SHRI GHANSYAM ANURAGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides funds to all recognised private schools in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the numbers of such private schools in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether all private schools follow the rules and regulations and standards prescribed by the Government;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Madam. This Ministry has no scheme to provide funds to all recognised private schools in the country.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Schools that are affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and Council for the Indian School Certificate Examination (CISCE) have to follow their affiliation bye-laws. The affiliation bye-laws, *inter alia*, prescribe the minimum physical facilities in terms of land and teaching resources, etc. CBSE verifies fulfilment of these requirements through inspection before grant of affiliation. In case any school violates affiliation bye-laws, appropriate action is taken against such school under the bye-laws.

Private schools recognised by State Governments have to follow the rules and regulations of the respective State Governments.

[English]

Renovation of Tomb of Ghalib

4327. SHRI JAYWANTRAO GANGARAM AWALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the historic tomb of poet Ghalib is being renovated; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the cost and the agencies involved in its redevelopment work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Aga Khan Trust for Culture has done the stone paving work around the tomb and constructed stone masonry wall around the monument. The total expenditure incurred for the conservation work is Rs. 11,50,000/-.

Supply of Power to Nepal

4328. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Nepal has requested the Government of India for supply of 30 MW additional power as reported in the media;

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

(c) whether the Government of India has acceded to their request; and

(d) if so, the details of power supplied/being supplied to Nepal during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) to (c) The Nepal Electricity Authority, a Government of Nepal undertaking had requested PTC India Limited to supply 30MW additional power from 1-31 December, 2009, 80 MW from 1 January-30 April, 2010 and 60 MW from 1-31 May, 2010. The Government of Nepal had also taken up the request with the Government of India during various bilateral interactions. The Government of India acceded to the request. In view of the current capacity of cross border transmission linkages between the two countries, it was found feasible to supply only 35 MW of the required power.

(d) Power supplied to Nepal during the last three years:

(i) Under provisions of Mahakali Treaty, National Hydroelectric Power Corporation supplies 70 Million Units (MU) of power annually to Nepal from Tanakpur Hydro-electric project.

(ii) Under a power exchange agreement between Bihar State Electricity Board (BSEB) and Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA), BSEB has supplied 275.377269 MU in 2007, 294.15568 MU in 2008, 351.15352 MU in 2009 and 97.7752 MU in 2010 upto February, 2010.

(iii) PTC India Ltd has supplied 50.6482 MU in 2008-2009 and 69.48436 MU in 2009-1010 (upto March, 2010) to Nepal.

National Museum

4329. SHRIMATI YASHODHARA RAJE SCINDIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of facts on construction of phase three of building of National Museum, New Delhi;

(b) the estimated cost of dismantling of existing building and the budget sanctioned for the purpose;

(c) the agency engaged or to be engaged to build the museum and the estimate for the construction of the Museum; and

(d) the time by which the construction of museum is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Construction of phase three of

the building of National Museum at the site of existing building of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) was approved during the period of Seventh Five Year Plan at an estimated cost of Rs. 9.48 crore. The architectural design for phase three building was prepared by the CPWD in 1988 and the same was approved by the Delhi Urban Art Commission in August 1998. Accordingly, the CPWD prepared an estimate amounting to Rs. 24.97 Crores in 1999. This was further revised to Rs. 33.23 crore, in 2003 when it was decided to modify the original design. However, the project could not take off as ASI is yet to vacate the premises.

(b) Estimated cost of shifting of utilities and dismantling of building, presently occupied by the ASI was estimated as Rs. 56.00 Lakhs for which Budget was sanctioned, but could not be utilized.

(c) The CPWD had been engaged to execute the Project for construction phase three of National Museum building.

(d) Since the ASI has not vacated the premises yet, its dismantling and construction of phase three of the National Museum could not be initiated till date and as such time frame can not be indicated for completion of phase three building.

Inclusion of Financial Literacy in School Curriculum

4330. SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI:
SHRI M. ANANDAN:

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

(a) whether there is a proposal to include financial literacy in the curriculum of schools and colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) the modalities worked out in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The syllabi and textbooks in various subjects, prepared by National Council Educational Research and Training in accordance with

the National Curriculum Framework, 2005, incorporate components of financial literacy at the elementary,

secondary and senior secondary stages. Some examples are given below:

Sl.No.	Class	Subject	Topic
1.	IV	Environment Science	A sub-theme 'Paying for Travel' includes key concepts such as familiarity with currency notes and coins, etc.
2.	VII	Social and Political Life	Unit 5 'Market around us' focuses on discussing various types of markets and their roles.
3.	IX	Economics	The theme 'The Economic Story of Palampore' incorporates various components of economic transactions in a village.
4.	X	Economics	The theme 'Money and Financial System' includes role of money and creates awareness of the role of financial institutions in day-to-day life.
5.	XII	Economics	The themes 'Money and Banking', 'Government Budget and the Economy' and 'Balance of Payments' deal with various dimensions of financial literacy.

Central Board of Secondary Education offers finance related elective subjects at senior secondary level such as Economics, Business Studies, Accountancy, Financial Market Management, Accountancy and Auditing, Marketing and Salesmanship, and Banking.

In so far as Higher Education is concerned, Universities have complete autonomy as far as academic matters are concerned.

Opening Of National Parks

4331. SHRI K.C. SINGH 'BABA': Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the poachers are most active during monsoons in the National Parks when it is closed to the tourist;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to open the National Parks throughout the year with the development of all weather roads so that tourism and patrolling by the forest officials is done throughout the year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) Protected Areas including National

Parks are comparatively more vulnerable during the monsoon season because of damage to roads and other communication systems due to heavy rains.

(c) and (d) The Union Ministry of Environment and Forests has no proposal of issuing any directive to the State/Union Territory Governments for opening the National Parks throughout the year. Development of all weather roads in the Protected Areas including the National Parks is not encouraged as this may cause damage to the habitat and may also affect the free movement of wildlife. However, advisories are issued to the State/Union Territory Governments to intensify patrolling during the monsoon season in the Protected Areas including the National Parks.

Rise in Number of Students

4332. SHRI PURNMASI RAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of students in schools belonging to GNCT of Delhi have doubled during the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of schools as on date; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the number of schools and teachers?

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

(b) There are 926 schools belonging to Government of NCT of Delhi.

(c) Government of NCT of Delhi has opened new schools and upgraded and bifurcated existing schools to accommodate the increased number of students. Recruitment of teachers is a continuous process.

Eco-Sensitive Zones

4333. SHRIMATI SHRUTI CHOUDHRY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

1.	S.O. 364(E), [29/01/2009]	-	Sultan National Park
2.	S.O. 1400(E), [03/06/2009]	-	Khaparwas Wildlife Sanctuary
3.	S.O. 1399(E), [03/06/2009]	-	Bhindawas Wildlife Sanctuary
4.	S.O. 1398(E), [03/06/2009]	-	Abubshaher Wildlife Sanctuary
5.	S.O. 1397(E), [03/06/2009]	-	Chhilchhila Wildlife Sanctuary
6.	S.O. 1396(E), [03/06/2009]	-	Nahar Wildlife Sanctuary
7.	S.O. 1395(E), [03/06/2009]	-	Bir Shikargarh Wildlife Sanctuary
8.	S.O. 1394(E), [03/06/2009]	-	Khol hi Raitan Wildlife Sanctuary
9.	S.O. 1393(E), [03/06/2009]	-	Kalesar Wildlife Sanctuary
10.	S.O. 1392(E), [03/06/2009]	-	Kalesar National Park

(c) Final Notification declaring the area around Sultanpur National Park as Eco-sensitive Zone has been issued in the Gazette of India *vide* S.O. No. 191(E), dated January 27, 2010.

Appointment of University Teachers

4334. SHRI RAJU SHETTI:
SHRI GANESHRAO NAGORAO
DUDHGAONKAR:
SHRI BALIRAM JADHAV:

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

(a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has defined any code of conduct for the appointment of university teachers;

(a) whether the Government has issued draft notification regarding eco-sensitive zones in the State of Haryana, prohibiting building activities within 5 kms., range of protected zone;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the dates of these draft notifications; and

(c) the present status in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The following draft notifications declaring Eco-sensitive Zones around the protected areas (National Parks/ Sanctuaries) in the State of Haryana were issued, prohibiting/restricting certain activities within these Eco-sensitive Zones in consultation with the Government of Haryana:

(b) if so, the details thereof including the punishments provided thereunder for getting appointment on the basis of fake mark sheets;

(c) whether the said code of conduct is also applicable to Lucknow University where a number of appointments on the basis of fake mark sheets have been reported;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether as per report prepared by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), a total of 1,135 students have secured jobs on the basis of fake mark sheets;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(g) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent unlawful activities in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) According to information furnished by University Grants Commission (UGC) there is no code of conduct issued for appointment of University Teachers.

(b) to (d) The information regarding details of appointments made on the basis of fake mark sheets or punishments provided thereunder is not maintained by the Central Government or by the UGC.

(e) and (f) Information is being sought from the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(g) A proposal to establish an electronic depository of national database of academic qualifications being envisaged. The depository would permit online verification and authentication of academic qualifications issued by academic institutions and thereby control the prevalence of fake qualifications.

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): On behalf of Shri Prithviraj Chavan, 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) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Immunologicals and Biologicals Corporation Limited, Bulandshahr, for the year 2008-2009.

(ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Immunologicals and Biologicals Corporation Limited, Bulandshahr, 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 2135/15/10]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): 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 Andaman and Nicobar Islands Forest and Plantation Development Corporation Limited, Port Blair, for the year 2008-2009.

(ii) Annual Report of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Forest and Plantation Development Corporation Limited, Port Blair, 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 2136/15/10]

(3) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 389(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated 17th February, 2010, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 262(E) dated the 22nd February, 2007 issued under Section 8 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2137/15/10]

(4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:-

(i) S.O. 191(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th January, 2010, declaring area around Sultanpur National park as Eco-sensitive Zone.

(ii) S.O. 3067(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st December, 2009, making certain amendments in the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2138/15/10]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Pollution Control Board, New Delhi, 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 Central Pollution Control Board, New Delhi, for the year 2008-2009.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2139/15/10]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 2008-2009.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 2008-2009, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi, for the year 2008-2009.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2140/15/10]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the South Central Zone Cultural Centre, Nagpur, 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 South Central Zone Cultural Centre, Nagpur, for the year 2008-2009.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2141/15/10]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi, for the year 2008-2009.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi, for the year 2008-2009, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council of Educational Research and Training, New Delhi, for the year 2008-2009.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2142/15/10]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 2008-2009.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 2008-2009, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, for the year 2008-2009.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2143/15/10]

- (5) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai, for the year 2008-2009, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2144/15/10]

- (7) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, Kharagpur, for the year 2008-2009, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2145/15/10]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rajiv Vidya Mission Andhra Pradesh (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), 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 Rajiv Vidya Mission Andhra Pradesh (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Hyderabad, for the year 2008-2009.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2146/15/10]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the U.P. Education for All Project Board (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Lucknow, 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 U.P. Education for All Project Board (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Lucknow, for the year 2008-2009.

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2147/15/10]

- (13) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training and Research, Bhopal, 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 National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training and Research, Bhopal, for the year 2008-2009.

- (14) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (13) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2148/15/10]

- (15) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region), Kolkata, 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 Board of Practical Training (Eastern Region), Kolkata, for the year 2008-2009.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2149/15/10]

- (16) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the State Project Office (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Gangtok, for the year 2008-2009, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the State Project Office (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Gangtok, for the year 2008-2009.

- (17) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (16) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2150/15/10]

- (18) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Northern Region), Kanpur, 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 Board of Apprenticeship Training (Northern Region), Kanpur, for the year 2008-2009.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2151/15/10]

(19) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training and Research, Chennai, for the year 2008-2009, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training and Research, Chennai, for the year 2008-2009.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2152/15/10]

(20) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training and Research, Kolkata, for the year 2008-2009, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Technical Teachers' Training and Research, Kolkata, for the year 2008-2009.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2153/15/10]

(21) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Board of Apprenticeship Training (Southern Region), Chennai, 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 Board of Apprenticeship Training (Southern Region), Chennai, for the year 2008-2009.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2154/15/10]

(22) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Goa Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Society, Panaji, for the year 2008-2009, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Goa Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Society, Panaji, for the year 2008-2009.

(23) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (22) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2155/15/10]

(24) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Maharashtra Prathmik Shikshan Parishad (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Mumbai, 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Maharashtra Prathmik Shikshan Parishad (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan), Mumbai, 2007-2008.

(25) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (24) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2156/15/10]

(26) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Mangement Bangalore, Bangalore, 2008-2009, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Mangement Bangalore, Bangalore, 2008-2009.

(27) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (26) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2157/15/10]

(28) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Mangement Indore, Indore, 2008-2009, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Mangement Indore, Indore, 2008-2009.

(29) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (28) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2158/15/10]

(30) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Mangement Kozhikode, Kozhikode, 2008-2009, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode, Kozhikode, 2008-2009.

(31) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (30) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2159/15/10]

(32) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, Ahmedabad, 2008-2009, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, Ahmedabad, 2008-2009.

(33) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (32) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2160/15/10]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA): I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Narmada Control Authority, Indore, 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 Narmada Control Authority, Indore, for the year 2008-2009.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2161/15/10]

(3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Andhra Pradesh State Irrigation Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 2007-2008.

(ii) Annual Report of the Andhra Pradesh State Irrigation Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2162/15/10]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the U.P. Projects Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 2006-2007.

(ii) Annual Report of the U.P. Projects Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 2006-2007, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(4) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2163/15/10]

12.01 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY GENERAL: Madam Speaker, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

"In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (Railways) No.3 Bill, 2010, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th April, 2010 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

12.01¹/₂ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

5th Report

[English]

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO (Aruku): I beg to present the Fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings on National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO).

contained in the Thirtieth Report (14th Lok Sabha) on 'Role of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission and State Electricity Regulatory Commissions in protection of Interests of Consumers'.

- (2) Fifth report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of Power.
- (3) Sixth Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

12.01³/₄ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

5th to 8th Reports

[English]

SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH (Gurgaon): I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Information Technology (2009-10):-

- (1) Fifth Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Department of Posts (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology).
- (2) Sixth Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- (3) Seventh Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Department of Information Technology (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology).
- (4) Eighth Report on Demands for Grants (2010-11) of the Department of Telecommunications (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology).

12.02 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

4th to 6th Reports

[English]

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR (Dibrugarh): I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Energy (2009-10):-

- (1) Fourth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations

12.02¹/₄ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT

(i) 6th and 7th and Reports

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Madam Speaker, I beg to present the following reports (Hindi and English version) of the Standing Committee on Urban Development of the Committee on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Urban Development (2010-11) (15th Lok Sabha).

- (2) Seventh Report of Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (2010-11) (15th Lok Sabha).

(ii) Action Taken Reports

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Madam Speaker, I beg to present the following Action Taken Report (Hindi and English version) of the Standing Committee on Urban Development (2009-2010):

- (1) Third Report of the Committee (15th Lok Sabha) on action taken by the Government on recommendations contained in the 35th Report of the Committee (14th Lok Sabha) on 'National Capital Region Planning Board'.
- (2) 4th Report of the Committee (15th Lok Sabha) on action taken by the Government on recommendations contained in the 37th Report of the Committee (14th Lok Sabha) on 'Urban Transport'.

- (3) 5th Report of the Committee on action taken by the Government on recommendations contained in the 38th Report (14th Lok Sabha) on 'Solid Waste Management'.

(iii) Statement

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Madam Speaker, I beg to lay the statement (Hindi and English version) showing acting taken by the Ministry of Urban Development on the comments/recommendations contained in the 29th Report (14th Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Urban Development in pursuance of 23rd Report (14th Lok Sabha) on 'Directorate of Estates' on the Table of the House.

12.04 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

National Institutes of Technology (NIT) Council

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): I beg to move the following:

"That in pursuance of clause (j) of sub-section 2 of section 30 of the National Institutes of Technology Act, 2007, the members of the House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the National Institutes of Technology (NIT) Council for a term of 3 years, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the rules made thereunder".

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of clause (j) of sub-section 2 of section 30 of the National Institutes of Technology Act, 2007, the members of the House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the National Institutes of Technology (NIT) Council for a term of 3 years, subject to the other provisions of the said Act and the rules made thereunder".

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, let us take up 'Zero Hour'.
Shri P.T. Thomas.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri P.T. Thomas says.

(Interruptions)...*

SHRI P.T. THOMAS (Idukki): More than one out of five TB patients in the world happens to be a person living in India. It is estimated that annually in India, the disease afflicts about two million people and causing premature death of about three lakh people per year. Our country has made a dramatic response to this threat. The Revised National TB Control Programme, RNTCP, is the world's largest TB control programme which detects and treats over 1.5 million TB cases annually. But the agenda of TB control is unfinished, both at the global level and in India. The UN has called on world leaders and all stakeholders to attend the UN Millennium Development Goals Summit to be held from 20-22, September 2010. For India and for many other countries, it is important that the MDG-6 which calls for combating HIV-AIDS and other diseases including tuberculosis and malaria, is profiled and discussed at the MDG Summit. India should play an important leadership role at the Millennium Summit by showcasing the progress made in the country on TB control and by urging the global leaders and development partners for more research on new technologies and additional funding to realize the dream of TB elimination. I humbly request the Government to take the pro-active leadership role in this endeavour by attending the UN Summit along with a high powered team from India. I also request the Government to constitute a high powered committee at the national level involving parliamentarians, technical experts, NGOs and national programme managers to review the TB control efforts in the country and to develop a strategy for highlighting the needs for global TB control with special focus on India in the UN Summit.

SHRI PREM DAS RAI (Sikkim): I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Thomas about TB control programme.

*SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH RAY (Cooch Behar): Respected Speaker Madam, I would like to raise an urgent matter of public importance in this august House. You must be aware that the Jute manufacture Development Corporation of India, Jute Corporation of India and Ministry of Textiles were to provide subsidized jute seeds through CMD and JCI to the jute growers of West Bengal, Assam and Agartala, the Capital of Tripura. A decision was taken in this regard. But CMD and JCI Kolkata directly purchase the seeds from Andhra Pradesh's Prasad Seed corporation of Guntur district and at the state level they do not tie up with the district Magistrate or the state or panchayat administration. JCI authorities act according to their whims and fancies and sell these seeds to the big dealers who in turn resort to black marketing. As a result an artificial crisis is created among the genuine jute growers. They are compelled to pay even upto Rs. 200 or Rs. 250 for the seeds which are actually subsidized by the Government. To do away with this kind of artificial scarcity, the Government of West Bengal has decided to disburse 88,494 packets of jute seeds among the cultivators.

Madam, in my district Cooch Behar, JCI has transferred 91.5 metric tonne seeds to the big dealers. The cultivators on the other hand have been deprived of their due share. Thus I suspect that rampant corruption is going on in this part of the state. The JCI authorities are colluding with the dishonest dealers and making profits. Therefore, through you Madam, I demand a full – fledged inquiry into the matter so that the tainted and corrupt officers along with dishonest dealers can be severely punished.

I thank you for allowing me to speak.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): I would like to place before this House some important issues relating to the Railway workers in our country. There are about two lakh posts vacant in the Railways. We know that in every Budget we introduce new railway lines, new railway services but at the same time we see the trend of declining total number of railway employees. About four or five years back, there were 17 lakh Railway employees and now it has come down to 13 lakh. So, these two lakh posts and many of them on the safety side are lying vacant. These posts have to be filled up urgently. Thousands of railway workers have come to Delhi today and they are on strike and are agitating. They are going to place these matters before the Government. So, the matter of filling up the vacant posts have to be taken up very seriously.

As regards other sources, outsourcing has become a very important issue in Railways. Privatisation has come in Railways in different ways and it also denies the actual employment opportunities in Railways. They have been demanding to put a limit of Rs.5 lakh for income tax and also exemption of Fringe Benefit Tax.

As far as the performance of the Railway is concerned, there are cooperative societies which have also become the members of the Railway employees. At the same time, these cooperative societies are functioning in a number of institutions. But the Railway employees are not getting any new share. Therefore, proper election has to be conducted with strict compliance. In our country, the Railway employees are really taking a very active part in the national integration. Therefore, these issues have to be taken up by the Government. The very important issue is with regard to the security aspect. So, all these vacant posts have to be filled up within no time. The Railway Minister should spare some time to discuss these demands with the leaders of employees.

12.11 hrs.

SUBMISSION BY MEMBER

Re: Need to address the problems being faced by victims affected due to natural calamities in Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Hon'ble Madam, Speaker, I would like to thank you from my heart for giving me an opportunity to speak. Today, on part of the country is facing a lot of problem. There was flood in the Kosi area and nearly five to six districts were ruined. A number of people died, right from houses to roads etc. everything got destroyed. Recently there was a cyclone of very high intensity in which 90 people lost their lives in Araria, Purnea, Katihar, Kishanganj, Supaul, Madhubani, Saharsa, and Madhepura. Houses, shops and all the crops, be it corn, banana or sunflower, and all the small plants got destroyed. Natural calamities affect all equally. As you know the Government of Bihar is financially very weak. I met the hon. Prime Minister yesterday. I would like to tell Pawan Bansal Ji that this cyclone has claimed more people than the floods claimed. Within half an hour everything was destroyed. The speed of that cyclone was 300 Km per hour, all the houses there are made of tin,

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

which got destroyed in the cyclone. I would like to tell the Government, Pawan Bansal ji, You please listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*

Madam Speaker, I would like to tell you that such a big devastation was caused, people of that area must have been coming to you. The State Government is helping within its own limits. I also monitor it on daily basis but this is not within the capacity of the State Government alone. At the time of floods also there was no help from the Government and now such a huge calamity has occurred, even then there has been no help from the Government. Lakhs of people have got displaced and have lost their homes and sources of livelihood. People are starving. Through you I would like to request the Government to do whatever is possible because crisis and calamities are common. You are capable but the capability is not reflected in case of Bihar. I am not lying, that area has got destroyed the most, right from the times of freedom struggle till date. At the time of Kosi floods help of only one thousand crores was given and nothing else besides that whereas, a package of Rs. 14800 crores was sought at that time. Therefore, I would like to request you that this is a serious question and the Government should immediately pay attention towards this and help the State Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Madam, I will convey the hon'ble Member's statement to the concerned Minister.

MADAM SPEAKER: All of you please sit down hon'ble Minister has spoken in this regard.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAKESH PANDEY (Ambedkar Nagar): Hon'ble, Madam Speaker, through you I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that while implementing a uniform education system in the country it is a challenge to establish the entire country in all the international competitions. In such a situation students are falling prey to competition as there is no uniform system in various regions of the country. Now they are talking about having compulsorily 80 percent marks in intermediate in order to get admission in technical institutes. All parts of the country shall have an autonomous right to promote their language and culture through education. Therefore, I

would like to request the Government to take necessary steps to implement a uniform education syllabus throughout the country.

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saran): Madam, through you I would like to request the Government to send a central team and carry out an assessment of the cyclone hit place about which Sharad Yadav ji just mentioned. I had raised this question day before yesterday also. I support the statement of the hon'ble Member and urge the Government to take it seriously. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad): Madam Speaker, I would like to thank you from my heart for giving me an opportunity to raise such an important public issue into the House.

Madam Speaker, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards this thing that when the summer season begins and hot winds start blowing, a number of fire incidents take place in the entire north India and particularly in the plains of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and the houses of farmers and labourers are destroyed in such fires, their houses are burnt to ashes and the Rabi crops of lakhs of farmers also get destroyed. I would like to say this that nearly all the farmers have their barn of Rabi crop almost at one place and in case of a fire incident the crops of all the farmers of the entire village get burnt and destroyed. In such a case the provision for relief and help from the Government is of merely Rs. 2250, whether it is utensils, foodgrains or any other thing. This amount is too less and it does not provide any relief. People figuring in the BPL list get funds sanctioned on priority basis for houses under the Indira Awas Yojana, but the labourers and farmers whose names do not figure in the BPL list do not receive any relief.

Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the need that the Government should provide for an adequate fund for all the people. But in cases of barns of farmers worth lakhs of rupees getting burnt, help of a single penny was not offered by any of the State Governments so far. Therefore I would like to say that the Government should take cognizance of this serious issue and help those people whose names do not figure in the BPL list in receiving funds for constructing houses under the Indira

Awaj Yojana and help them. Alongwith this, I would also like to request the Government to make some permanent provision of funds for those farmers whose barns get burnt, their loss should be surveyed and then compensated for adequately.

SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ (Garhwal): Madam Speaker, I would like to thank you for allowing me to speak. Through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the forests of Uttarakhand where massive fire has broken out right now. Today, the forests of Pauri, Chamoli, Rudraprayag and Ramnagar are facing massive fire which has caused major pollution in these forests. Wild animals are running amok. These animals either succumb to the fire or they are running towards the villages and cities. In such a situation, the condition of Uttarakhand has become very dreadful. Recently in the year 2010 the Kumb Mela was held at Haridwar and there was massive fire around that place due to which persons who came to take the holy bath at the Kumbh Mela had to face a lot of difficulties.

Madam Speaker, through you I would like to request that there is a saying in Garhwali that "*Kakh rah gyayi neeti, kakh rah gyayi mana aur Shyam Singh Patwari ne kakh-Kakh jana*". It means that such policies cannot be implemented everywhere so easily. Uttarakhand is spread across a very large area and there are a large number of jungles in this state. Today these jungles are burning. Last year there was fire in Ganga Vanasyu, people got very little compensation. Villagers have no fire fittings equipments. The Hon'ble Minister of Finance knows that in foreign countries even aircrafts are used to douse the fire and in fact such fire extinguishing bombs are used which can douse the fire.

Madam Speaker, through you I would like to request the Government that it should formulate a policy in consultation with the State Government to declare this as a national calamity so that the fire in Uttarakhand jungles can be doused and people over there can lead a normal life. Fire has also caused problem of water scarcity. Water resources have also got exhausted due to fire. Now water will have to be provided over there by tankers or pony.

Madam, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to bring forth and explain the painful situation of Uttarakhand.

[English]

KUMARI MAUSAM NOOR (Maldaha Uttar): Hon. Speaker, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

During the course of a month, incidents of fire occurred in different parts of my constituency and in the district of Malda, West Bengal, namely in Tulsihata in Harishchandrapur on 27th March, in Makdampur in Chanchal on 6th April and in Rajnagar in Kaliyachak on 5th April, 2010. In all the cases, the fire broke out accidentally engulfing and destroying about five hundred houses and rendering the people homeless.

I have visited the areas and observed the helplessness of the victims. The affected people have been shattered as all their valuables and assets like livestock, cattle, grains, food, especially their homes and their shelters have been reduced to ashes. The State Government of West Bengal has failed to provide adequate relief to these homeless victims. Although this comes under the jurisdiction of the State Government, the people have lost faith in the local Government.

Under the present circumstances, I would like to appeal to the Central Government, through you, to take necessary steps for providing relief and support to the poor people and give them aid for re-building their houses.

[Translation]

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR (Nalanda): Madam Speaker, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

Madam, electricity is central to the development of any country or state. But I have to say in this august House regretfully that Central Government is responsible for serious power crisis in Bihar. The Central Government is not providing as much power to Bihar as is required in the State. There is power crisis in Bihar at present and it will continue because consumption and demand of power is increasing electricity is very important for agriculture. Without electricity we cannot imagine of agriculture, nevertheless Central Government is providing not more than 800 to 900 megawatt electricity to the state in place of present requirement of 1600 megawatt. The generation of electricity is not increasing in the state. The State Government is taking corrective steps to augment power generation from Kanti and Barauni thermal power stations. The work for setting up of new thermal

power stations is going on but hurdles are coming in the way of their construction. There are several thermal power stations of NTPC there but they are also generating less power. States have to provide power to railways and cantonment areas out of the power provided to them. The State Government is trying to generate power through hydel power projects and other non-conventional energy sources but difficulties are also cropping up in its way also.

I, through this House, would like to say that Central Government is meting out step motherly treatment to Bihar and especially Rajiv Gandhi Vidyutikaran Yojana has been total failure in the state. Under this scheme, BPL families are provided electricity but I claim that 1000 BPL families of Nalanda are not getting the facility of electricity. Households which are actually getting benefit under this scheme are provided electricity through 16 KVA transformers. These transformers burn in a few days. Therefore, I demand from the Government that electricity be provided to all BPL families through 100 KVA transformers with this, I conclude.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Wardha): Madam Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the plight of the dependent family members of police personnel killed by naxalites in naxal affected areas of Vidarbha in Maharashtra. About 145 people have been killed by the naxalites from January till date and 60 of them are police personnel. Three most violent incidents have taken place in Gadchiroli district in Vidarbha so far. The State Government has totally neglected the dependent family members of police personnel who laid their lives fighting naxalism in Vidarbha. As many as 54 police personnel have lost their lives last year in the naxal affected areas of Vidarbha. Their families got many assurances of compensation from the State Government, but they have not been actually paid any compensation. As many as 29 widows of martyr police personnel expressed their grief in this regard in a conference held in Chandrapur in the first week of December last year. These widows have also demonstrated during the session of legislative assembly held in December 2009 in Nagpur.

In some states, up to Rs. 25 lakh have been paid to the families of such martyr police personnel as compensation but in Vidarbha, only assurances have been given to such widows. Not only this, while the Minister of Petroleum allotted petrol pumps to the families of police personnel killed in the terrorist attack on Nov. 26 2008, justice has not been done with these widows. The police personnel killed in Gadchiroli have been accorded the

status of martyr. Announcement was made to give huge compensation to them. They declared that employment to the family members and pensions to the widows would be given but they have not received any thing so far.

I request the Government to provide quick assistance, pension and grant to the families of police personnel killed in naxal attacks on the line of police personnel killed in terrorist attacks.

[English]

DR. MIRZA MEHBOOB BEG (Anantnag): Madam, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

Madam, I spoke on the issue which I had given notice of. While the discussion was on in respect of the Demand for Grant of the Ministry of External Affairs, I spoke on it. If you could allow me, I have another important issue which I want to raise right now.

MADAM SPEAKER: Do you want to raise another issue?

DR. MIRZA MEHBOOB BEG: Yes, Madam. Because I spoke about that yesterday while we were discussing the Demand for Grant of the Ministry of External Affairs.

MADAM SPEAKER: I have not got the notice. I do not know about it. You can give a fresh notice.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR (Supaul): Madam, a number of rural roads including the roads constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in my constituency Supaul were washed away in the floods of 2008. We fail to construct rural roads under NREGS due to complex procedure under the scheme and such roads have not been constructed. All the roads constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana have been damaged. The central agencies are not undertaking the work. They say that revised estimates have not been submitted and they have not received any orders from the Centre, so they are not able to undertake the work. Due to this the movement of transport is affected completely. Even the monitoring committee say that they cannot go for construction of roads under PMGSY until the rates are revised.

I urge the Hon. Minister to hand over the construction work of the roads under the said scheme to the Government of Bihar if the Central agency does not

undertakes the work at its own level. Due to certain policies rural roads are not constructed under NREGS, so it is requested that such order be issued that roads in dilapidated condition may be repaired/constructed. Thank you.

[*English*]

SHRI M.B. RAJESH (Palakkad): Thank you, Madam. I would like to draw the attention of this august House to a matter of great concern, that is, the human cost of the Commonwealth Games. Of course, we have to prepare for the Games but the long-term impact on the poorer sections should not be overlooked.

The *Outlook* Magazine has reported that an estimated one lakh families in Delhi have been evicted ruthlessly and their huts have been demolished to beautify the city. Since they have not been rehabilitated, these people have been abandoned on the roadside. The hon. High Court of Delhi has also noted this.

There is an apprehension that after the Games, there will be 30 lakh homeless people in Delhi including the 15 lakh migrant labourers.

There have been reports of blatant violations of labour laws also. Out of the 12 lakh workforce employed by the Commonwealth Games organizers, only 22,000 workers are registered. Except the registered few, all others are not receiving even the minimum wages, insurance cover and other benefits. What is astonishing is that over 70 deaths have already taken place during construction work and due to unhealthy conditions prevailing at the living quarters of the labourers.

Further it has also been reported that over 2,000 boys aged between 14 and years are working at several Games sites in gross violation of labour laws. It is shocking that child labour and other violations of labour laws are happening right under the nose of the Central Government. Hence I urge upon the Central Government to take stern and immediate action against these violations of labour laws and also to ensure proper rehabilitation of the evicted people.

SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN (Aska): Madam Speaker, I would like to raise a matter regarding the disaster that my district is facing. As you know, in Ganjam District of Orissa, there is a port called Gopalpur. On 5th or 6th of April, one ship carrying coal from Indonesia came and when it anchored, oil from that

ship leaked and that oil spread over about 30 kms. on both sides of the ship with the result the Olive Ridley turtles and fish have died. They are lying on the seashore. Apart from that, fishing is the only source of livelihood of the fishermen living in that area and they are also suffering. It is learnt that some virus is there and if that virus is introduced into the sea water, they will eat away that oil portion thereby the natural calamity can be averted. Earlier also, such a disaster took place in Paradip Port and for a very long time, oil was leaking from another ship. This is occurring very frequently and so this is a very serious matter. Hence, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Environment and Minister of Shipping towards this matter and request that immediate action should be taken to prevent such recurrences. As per law, the old ships which have completed more than 20 years of service should not be allowed to enter into the port. This is the legal provision. I hope the hon. Minister will look into the matter. For that, I request your honour's intervention.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PAKAURI LAL (Robertsganj): Madam Speaker, through you I would like to have the attention of the Government towards my constituency in district Sonbhadra which is reserved constituency. This area touches Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. One part of the area is under irrigation while the rest three parts are hilly where people of adivasi, vanvasi and scheduled castes and scheduled tribes live. Earlier, their crops of Sawam, Kodon and maize dired to damage due to which 80 per cent of the poor people are on the verge of starvation. In Sonbhadra, thousands of trucks of sand used to be loaded there legally and illegally. The poor adivasi used to earn wages by loading sand and took care of their children. But it is matter of regret that now the said work of loading sand is being done through poclairn machines. This has put the poor people on the verge of starvation. Some people are migrating to other places while some are facing starvation.

Through you, I would like to request the Government to issue directions immediately to discontinue the use of poclairn machines and start the loading of sand by the labourers so that they can be saved from starvation.

[*English*]

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR ROY (Jalpaiguri): Thank you, Madam, for your kind permission to raise this matter.

I would like to draw the kind attention of the Minister of External Affairs that Kuchlibari Embankment on River Teesta under Mekliganj sub-division in the District Cooch Behar in West Bengal has become a continual menace in the life of the people of Kuchlibari village in the absence of an embankment guarding on the Indian side border surrounding the village of Dohagram and Angrapota under Bangladesh Administration. Though there is an embankment on the Indian side to check the flow of flood water of the river Teesta, the open place in the Bangladesh side allow the flow of flood water unabated on the Indian side and this floods the entire village on the Indian side.

So, I would request the Minister of External Affairs to take up the matter with the Bangladesh Government to allow our Government to construct a dam along the space prohibiting the flood water of the river Teesta from Dohagram and Angrapota in Bangladesh enclave.

SHRI K. SUGUMAR (Pollachi): Hon. Speaker, Madam, thank you for your kind permission to raise this matter in today's 'Zero Hour'.

Madam, Coimbatore Municipal Corporation, Tamil Nadu is constructing apartments under JNNURM Scheme, a Centrally sponsored scheme, at Amman Kulam and Ukkadam. The total estimated cost is Rs. 117.49 crore. The proposed building is multi-storeyed consisting of 160 apartments (3840 houses). The work commenced in August 2009. To our surprise, four apartments have collapsed on 3rd of April 2010 and 18th of April 2010.

During the tenure of our AIADMK Party under the dynamic leadership of our Leader Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, the location has been rejected for the construction of building through Slum Clearance Board stating that this is unfit for construction of apartments. The then Minister of Housing Thiru S.M. Velusamy and the then Chairman of Slum Clearance Board Thiru N. Balaganga, M.P. inspected the place and decided not to proceed with any construction activities in these places.

The proposed World Tamil Conference is to be held at Coimbatore in the near future. Due to this reason, the Government has decided to construct the building which was certified as unfit for construction by previous AIADMK Government. Moreover, the remaining construction is also not good and may collapse any time. The quality of the construction is also very bad. Had the accommodation been allotted last month to the

beneficiaries, there might have been more than five thousand casualties.

Since this scheme is being implemented through Central Government under JNNURM, the Government should come forward to enquire it thoroughly by initiating the CBI enquiry and to punish the guilty at the earliest.

[Translation]

SHRI MANISH TEWARI (Ludhiana): Madam Speaker, Kharif crop suffered heavy loss due to failure of South Western Monsoon last year. The agriculture growth rate which was 4.4 per cent from the year 2004 to 2008 fell to negative. The growth rate fell to (-)0.4 per cent. Despite this, the farmers of Punjab grew their crops by making use of diesel and ensured food security of the country. Hon. Minister of Finance and Hon. Minister of Agriculture had praised this in this House. This year, Rabi crop is before us. Climate change has resulted in increase in atmospheric temperature. This has caused a 20 per cent decline in the yield. This is a serious issue that the production of wheat in Punjab has declined from an average of 21 quintal per acre to 15-16 quintal per acre causing a loss of Rs. 4400 to Rs. 5500 per quintal to the farmers. Earlier, Kharif crop was hit and now this Rabi crop, the farmers of Punjab cannot tolerate this much of loss. This will affect the food security of the country in the long run. I would like to request the Government to send a central team to Punjab, Haryana and other parts to assess the loss caused to the farmers due to change in climatic condition and to provide compensation to them immediately because these farmers provide food security to the country with their hard labour. It is our duty, our responsibility today that when they are hard hit by natural calamity, the government should stand by them.

SHRI BHISM SHANKAR ALIAS KUSHAL TIWARI (Sant Kabir Nagar): Madam, thanking you, I would like to raise an important issue before the House through you. My constituency is a weaver dominated area, the number of weavers is more than one lakh there. The poverty hit weavers are migrating to other states in search of employment. They have art and talent but they do not have infrastructural facilities which are provided to the weavers in Haryana, Gujarat and other states by the Government. The art of weavers of Uttar Pradesh, particularly eastern Uttar Pradesh is very famous. The weavers of Khalilabad, Gorakhpur, Ambedkar Nagar and Mau districts are known for their art of weaving. I would like to mention some of their problems. The weavers of

my area living below poverty line deserve sympathy. I would like to present few programmes before you, point-wise. If the Government provides assistances their lives would certainly become easier:

Now a days Nationalised as well as co-operative banks are less interested in giving loan to the already debt ridden weavers. In such circumstances, it is required to set up separate banks in weavers dominated areas so that loan could be provided at cheaper interest rates to the weavers.

Exhibition of items manufactured by the weavers be organised at least for a period of one month outside the country and the State, and in metros as earlier. At least 20 per cent concession should be given on the proceeds of sale to the participants by the Government. If the participants have some loans outstanding towards them, they should be paid the amount at the exhibition venue only after deducting the said outstanding loan.

Half-a-horse power capacity powerlooms are being used at present. It is a common thing that binding, warping and beating are done in them only manually. The said machine is not hi-tech and the manufacturing done by it is a little more than the handlooms. In such a condition, powerloom should be given the status of handloom and while awarding this status, the weaver who works on more than four powerlooms should be treated as one unit.

Keeping in view the infrastructure, the weavers should be awarded special status by including them in BPL list for making available health facilities, education, drainage system, roads, water, electricity, sanitation etc. to them in weaving blocks areas in wider interest. Fabrics manufactured by them should be procured and then sold at the centres like Kendriya Upbhokta Kendras and central societies set up in weaver-dominated areas. They should also be provided at least 100 days employment under Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Guarantee Scheme. Weavers should be covered under MNREGA by making them manufacture dress material and other upholstery material for hospitals, railways and police department.

Uniform identity cards need to be issued to the weavers working in all the areas of the State. This would, on one hand, help them get government benefits through the identity cards for establishing their identity as weavers, on the other hand, it would help government to implement various schemes and provide financial assistance to their

families. Such separate identity cards for both the sectors, handloom as well as powerloom are necessary. To make the situation clear, the identity cards should be issued to the weavers by conducting a proper survey under the monitoring by the District Magistrate.

The arts which were once a matter of pride for us since ancient times are getting extinct in the fabrics being manufactured at local level in the state in the modern times. So, it is necessary to provide specific facilities to the weavers to save the said arts because the main reason for their extinction is high cost of thread and inability to sell the fabric at reasonable prices.

The powerlooms are increasing in all the areas following the migration of the weavers from the handloom sector in the State. In such circumstances, it is the need of the hour to provide benefit of a package under a special scheme keeping in view the interest of the weavers. There is a need of registration of powerloom weavers and providing them identity cards, electricity, marketing facilities, thread and labour etc. There is a need to identify child labour and reserved fabrics.

ICICI Lombard General Insurance Co. Ltd. is providing insurance to the weavers in collaboration with the Government of India. The State Government covered handloom weavers under this scheme. Under this scheme, the work done by the handloom and powerloom weavers and the assistant weavers is identical. So, it is necessary to cover the assistant weavers also in the scheme. It may be considered to provide benefits health insurance to the weavers in tune with Smart Card, so they may avail the benefit of the scheme as is availed through Smart Card.

The weavers remain deprived from availing benefits of the scheme while forwarding the proposals for Deen Dayal Handloom Promotion Scheme, Group Approach, marketing assistance etc. in case loan is outstanding towards them. Relaxation should be given while considering proposals of such weavers. The proposals may be accepted by relaxing the condition of outstanding amount and keeping in view the turn over.

MADAM SPEAKER: Now you conclude please because you have put your views in detail in ten points before the House.

SHRI BHISMA SHANKAR ALIAS KUSHAL TIWARI: The said scheme is important for handloom and textile industry. At present, I appeal to the government to do

something for improving their living standards so that they live comfortably.

SHRI P.L. PUNIA (Banabanki): Madam Speaker, I am grateful to you that you have given me an opportunity to speak on the topic of safeguarding the honour of Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar and Great Saint Guru Ravidas. Many incidents take place to hurt the dignity of Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar and Great Saint Guru Ramdas. No steps are being taken to stop such incidents.

This is an incident of three days back. On the night of 18th April some anti-social elements destroyed both the statues by breaking their hands and ears in village Bhadi Majahriya, Thana Balaltarganj, district Basti of Uttar Pradesh. The dalit community in that area is highly agitated over this. The people of the village had threatened to block the road at Basi Basti road but on the intervention of administration they called off their programme. They were assured that strict action would be taken by the administration against the anti-social elements responsible for this incident. After that they called off their programme to block the road. With a deep regret I have to say that so far neither any case has been registered nor any arrests have been made. Dalits are alleging that the police force is protecting those who damaged the statues under pressure from the ruling party.

Earlier also in the year 2005, these statues were damaged but at that time the matter was dismissed just like that. Similarly, on 28 February, 2010 Baba Saheb Dr. Bheem Rao Ambedkar's statue was completely destroyed in Ekla Bazaar, Thana Belipar, District Gorakhpur which badly angered the local people and they decided not to celebrate Holi festival. It was only after the intervention of the Administration and installation of a new statue the anger of people could be brought down, but no action has been taken against the miscreants till date. Bharat Ratna Dr. Bheem Rao Ambedkar and Sant Shiromani Guru Ravidas ji were not only the messiahs of dalits but the flag-bearers of social revolution. It is, the duty of the State Government and the entire society to maintain their dignity and respect. I have to say this with a deep regret that in Uttar Pradesh, where we have a Chief Minister who belongs to the dalit society, the dignity and respect of dalit leaders cannot be maintained. Merely getting your statues installed is not sufficient, instead of that some very strong measures are required to be taken to safeguard the dignity of our great men.

I would request that the Union Government should issue strict directions to the state governments that in such matters the most stringent action should be taken.

SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL (Jhanjharpur): Madam, the incidents mentioned by the hon'ble Member are very sad. I associate myself with this matter.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR (Zaheerabad): Madam Speaker, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to raise an urgent matter of public importance.

As the House is aware that the students would be appearing for their exams during March and April all over the country. They start their preparation for their studies from January itself to enable them to concentrate on their studies properly. We are also aware that the students' education is very much important in their life. We cannot get back the time of their studies once they lose it.

There is no doubt that we should encourage the sports like cricket and IPL, which have brought fame to our country internationally during the last three years. But my point is that the timing of the IPL matches is not appropriate keeping in mind the career of the students. Students and even parents are very much crazy about Cricket in our country. When on the one hand, the Government is earning a handsome amount of income from the IPL matches, on the other hand the Government must also think about the timing of students exams before finalizing the schedule of the IPL matches. Keeping in mind the career of the students, there is a need to conduct the IPL matches only after exam season because education is a must for children to prosper in future. Parents of the students are worried about the children's future. Nowadays, students from KG to PG and even parents are all sticking themselves to TV sets in watching and discussing about the IPL matches. This situation is completely damaging the life of the students.

Madam, I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs to intervene in the matter to avoid conducting the IPL matches during exam time. Keeping in mind the exam schedules of the Indian students on top priority, these IPL matches may be conducted only after their exams are over.

MADAM SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

13.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.03 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Three
Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now Matters under Rule 377. Shri Adhir Chowdhury.

(i) Need to open a railway booking counter at Kandi in Murshidabad district of West Bengal

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Baharampur): In the Railway Budget, the Minister has proposed to open railway ticket booking counters at district headquarters and village panchayats with infrastructure support from local government/semi urban authority and private organizations.

The people of Kandi use to travel either to Salar, Berhampur in Murshidabad district or to Sainthia in Birbhum district to book ticket for reservation of berth in any train they choose to travel and thus face a lot of inconveniences. The Kandi Municipality has even offered space free of cost to the Eastern Railway for setting up a Railway Reservation counter. It has also offered to provide electricity and water required for running a reservation counter but nothing has been done by the Railways so far to open a counter.

I, therefore, request the Railway Minister to open a reservation counter in Kandi Municipality in order to have easy access to Railway tickets.

(ii) Need to extend facilities of BPL household to the people whose thatched houses were gutted in a fire in Barmer Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH CHOUDHARY (Barmer): Sir, in my Parliamentary Constituency Barmer 70 per cent people

live in thatched houses and mostly these houses become prey to fire as a result of which all their belongings get burnt in fire and people have to face starvation and they also get deprived of roof over their head. They should be compensated for their belongings which get burnt in fire. Families of those persons whose houses were gutted in fire should be provided facilities that are given to BPL families and they should also be allocated houses on priority basis under the Indira Awas Yojana.

(iii) Need to provide title deeds to farmers to facilitate land transaction in Idukki district, Kerala

[*English*]

SHRI P.T. THOMAS (Idukki): Sir, the farmers in Idukki district are facing a grave situation today due to land-related issues. It is very necessary to do the land survey and revenue settlement to demarcate the forest land and agriculture land. On the basis of the Land Assignment Act of 1964, title deed should be granted to all those farmers who were possessing land before 1st January, 1977. The land that should be definitely preserved, such as fragile land and ecologically sensitive area should be pre-informed to farmers. The farmers are now struggling to do land transactions because title deeds are holding at village offices. The financial institutions are acquiring agriculture land which is a violation under the SARFAESI Act.

I would, therefore, urge the immediate intervention of the Central Government in the matter.

(iv) Need to constitute Vigilance and Monitoring Committees to oversee implementation of various agricultural schemes

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL (Vijayawada): Sir, agriculture is the mainstay of our economy and contributes nearly 20 per cent to GDP. Agriculture depends on vagaries of monsoon and nearly 60 per cent of the area sown is dependent on rainfall. Government is implementing various schemes and programmes for agriculture sector like Watershed Programme for development of degraded land, Micro-Management Scheme, Agriculture Mechanization, Plant Protection Scheme, Technology Missions for Oilseeds, Pulses, Maize, Cotton, Horticulture, National Food Security Mission and other schemes through which the Government provides financial and other assistance to States for improving agriculture productivity and ameliorating living conditions of our

farmers. The Government is also helping animal husbandry with an idea to help the landless, small and marginal farmers. But, unfortunately, there are no Vigilance Committees to monitor various schemes/programmes.

The Ministry of Rural Development has constituted Vigilance and Monitoring Committees in all districts by making the local Member of Parliament as its Chairman. The objective is to ensure quality of expenditure in view of large public funds being spent under various programmes. The Vigilance and Monitoring Committee would keep a watch on implementation of various schemes/programmes as per guidelines and liaise and coordinate with various agencies concerned.

In spite of having more budget and various programmes and schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture, there are no Vigilance and Monitoring Committees at district level to oversee effective implementation of the schemes/programmes. So, I would request the hon. Minister of Agriculture to take necessary steps for constitution of Vigilance and Monitoring Committees in every district for effective implementation of schemes/programmes which will help in increasing agriculture productivity and also improving living standards of farmers.

(v) Need to construct railway overbridges/under-bridges in Malkajgiri Parliamentary Constituency, Andhra Pradesh

SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA (Malkajgiri): Sir, I would like to draw the kind attention of this august House regarding the problems being faced by the commuters due to the insufficient railway overbridges and railway under-bridges in my constituency – Malkajgiri in Andhra Pradesh.

I have suggested on a number of occasions that construction of railway overbridges and railway under-bridges are to be taken up on a war-footing. The people of my constituency are facing hardships due to heavy vehicular traffic. There are many instances when people lost their lives on account of the accidents due to the negligence of the railway authorities for not taking up the railway overbridges and railway under-bridges including the safety measures at various railway level-crossings. I have brought to the notice of the concerned Railway authorities including the hon. Minister of Railways on various occasions that these projects may be cleared on top priority basis to save the lives of the innocent

people. I have suggested that projects be taken up in places like Ghatkesar, Medchal, Malkajgiri, Neredmet, Safilguda, Anand Bagh, Cherlapalli and few other areas in my constituency. But the Railway authorities have not taken up the projects seriously so far.

I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister of Railways to intervene in the matter and give necessary instructions to the concerned railway authorities to expedite all such pending project proposals in consultation with the local MP to suggest the areas wherever such railway overbridges and railway under-bridges are required in my Malkajgiri constituency in the remaining period of Eleventh Five-Year Plan by announcing a special package.

(vi) Need to set up a railway station at Pulamon in Kerala

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH (Mavelikkara): Kollam-Punalur broad gauge line work is completed few days back. This line is under Madurai Division in Southern Railway. On this line, Kottarakkara is one of the busiest towns and also taluk headquarters. But this railway station of Kottarakkara is situated three kilometers away from the town. This is very inconvenient to the passengers. If a passenger gets down at Kottarakkara railway station, he has to pay higher amount to taxi and auto-rickshaw to reach Kottarakkara town.

The people of Kottarakkara as well as the passengers from Kottarakkara are demanding to set up a town railway station in Pulamon nearby Kottarakkara. The National Highway No. 208 and the Main Centre Road (MC Road) also connects Pulamon. If the Railways set up a town railway station in Pulamon, that will be of great help to the people as well as the commuters of Kottarakkara. I, therefore, strongly demand and urge the Ministry of Railways to set up a town railway station at Pulamon at the earliest.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal – not present.

Shri Virendra Kumar – not present.

Yogi Aditya Nath – not present.

Shri Kabindra Purkayastha – not present.

Shri Shailendra Kumar – not present.

(vii) Need to complete construction of railway over bridge at Kasya-Deoria Road in Deoria Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh

[*Translation*]

SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL (Deoria): Sir, in my Parliamentary Constituency Deoria Sader construction work of Railway overbridge at Kasya-Deoria road is lying incomplete and has been stopped further as a result of which people have to face a lot of difficulty and there are hour long jams at this crossing. Despite the crossing gates being closed people still cross over the line with their two-wheelers which can cause a serious accident any day. If this overbridge is constructed, then it will facilitate people to cross this crossing.

Through this House I would like to request the Government that in view of the inconvenience being caused to people and the big problem of traffic in the city, construction of this over bridge should be completed on priority basis.

(viii) Need to extend Samastipur-Khagaria Passenger Train (Train No. 364) up to Saharsa Junction in Bihar

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV (Khagadia): Sir, due to shortage of passenger trains on the Manasi-Saharsa Rail section under the East Central Railways, the passengers are facing a lot of problems as a result of which people disrupt the services of Hate Bazaare and Intercity Express which run in the afternoon. 364 down Samastipur-Khagaria passenger train reaches Khagaria Junction at 11.15 but its rake and engine halts there for nearly five hours. The distance from Khagaria to Saharsa is merely 50 kilometers and the passenger trains take only two hours thirty minutes to reach Saharsa from Khagaria. Extension of the aforesaid train shall facilitate railway passengers and the railways will also financially benefit from the same and the train running in the afternoon will also run without any problems.

Therefore, 364 down Samastipur-Khagaria Passenger Train may be extended from Khagaria Junction to Saharsa Junction.

(ix) Need to accord approval to the proposal of Brutanga Irrigation Project submitted by Government of Orissa

[*English*]

SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY (Kandhamal): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Nayagarh district in Orissa

is one of the backward and under developed districts in the State. It has very low irrigation potentiality having 7 per cent irrigation facilities. Since there is no industry in the district, 90 per cent of the population depends on agriculture. Hence, unless irrigation potentiality is enhanced, economical status of the district cannot go up. The major Brutanga Irrigation Project was visualized and survey work was undertaken 15 years ago. This project is proposed to be constructed across a perennial River Brutanga, and it is estimated that more than 25,000 hectares of agricultural land can be irrigated. This project has received approval from the Central Water Commission (CWC). The Government of Orissa has sent proposal to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India for according forest clearance.

I urge upon the Government to please accord necessary approval for the project.

(x) Need to provide Central Government pension to the freedom fighters

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to place before the House some serious issues of freedom fighters of our country. The Government of India has already identified the freedom struggles in various parts of our nation. The Government has also directed the State Governments to form Screening Committees to identify the deserved persons in these struggles. Accordingly, various State Governments have constituted district-wise and State-wise Committees. These Committees have finalised the list of freedom fighters with proper verifications.

The State Government has already sanctioned State freedom fighters pension and requested the Central Government for Central pension also. Freedom fighters have individually given the representations to the Central Government. The Central Government has sanctioned few of these applications and most of them are rejected. There is no justification for the denial of the representations of the freedom fighters who scarified their lives for this country. The number of freedom fighters who are still alive are few in number and many of them are in sick conditions. They are not able to go to the judicial courts for justice. The Government have already identified the struggles of Kayyur, Karivellur, Punaprayalar, Thebhaga, Thelugana, Goa and some other in various parts of the country. Though concerned State Governments have sanctioned freedom pensions to them, but the Central Government have selected very few among them. It is sad that even after 62 years of

our Independence we could not show justice to those who fought for this country. So, I request the Government to take immediate steps to sanction the Central Government pension to those who have already received the State pensions.

(xi) Need to set up a Radio Station in Dausa Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan

[Translation]

DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA (Dausa): At present, there is not a single Akashvani Kendra in Dausa, Karauli, Bharatpur, Dholpur districts in Rajasthan. The majority of the tribal population of the state occupies these four districts and these places are tribal dominated areas. Eighty percent of the population of these areas consists of farmers and there is a great need for a radio station in these areas keeping in view the interests of the farmers. Wheat, barley, maize, mustard, millet and pulses are grown there. Information about new techniques can be provided to farmers through Akashvani. There is also need to publicise the **public** cultural heritages of the region.

Therefore, I remand from the Government that a local radio station (L.R.S.) F.F. or M.W. kendra be opened in Mahwa or Dausa in Rajasthan with a view to enable overall development of the Dausa parliamentary constituency and to encourage elimination of socialists superstitions and illiteracy as also for wide publicity of government schemes.

14.19 hrs.

NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL BILL, 2009—

Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Item No. 16, namely, further consideration of the National Green Tribunal Bill. Shri Sandeep Dikshit to continue his speech.

[Translation]

SHRI SANDEEP DIKSHIT (East Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am standing for the fourth time to speak on this Bill. I had said most of what I wanted to the first time itself. Had I got more time I would have winded up

then itself. Thereafter I got two more opportunities but could not complete due to interruptions.

Sir, I will not take much of the time of the House. I merely want to complete my statement. I will briefly recap what I said earlier. I know there is no need to repeat what I said for the Minister. The Green Tribunal Bill was welcomed because technical, scientific and human aspects have become entangled with each other. All aspects of our life is now impacted by science and technology. We used to tackle a lot of issues with our own energy, power and discretion. But now science and technology have entered all aspects of our life. Hence, if they have positive effect there are certain negative effects as well.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Green Tribunal Bill has been introduced particularly because our court system is overburdened at present. It is also not fully competent to deal with issues related with environment and the negative effects of technology, science, engineering upon it. It is not capable of delivising justice to a person who goes to court or seeks compensation regarding such issues. Hence, there is need to formulate an Intigrated system in this regard which is why the Green Tribunal Bill has been brought. I give heartfelt thanks to the Minister and his department for presenting this Bill. There are a number of provisions in the Bill. I had said that the five or six benches proposed to be established across the country seem to be inadequate. I had also said that more members than proposed may be required in future and by the time that the Bill is finalised after amendments. I am sure that the department and the government will keep my point in mind.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I had said last time also that Bhopal gas tragedy in 1984 was amongst the biggest industrial tragedies in the world. We should learn our biggest lessons from that tragedy; The reasons for the tragedy, the role of the private sector in it and the manner in which the company saved itself. Our courts and legal system were incapable of delivising justice to the people of the country, to the people a Bhopal affected by it. That tragedy did not end in 1984. It is still setting. I would like to request the Minister to go there with a team of MPs. Even now, every third or fourth child born there is born with physical or mental disability. It is a horrifying fact with which only the people who Bhopal who live in that area are acquainted with and the saddest thing is that the country and the world has forgotten that tragedy. We may go on a tour to Bhopal maybe once or twice a year, talk about it a little and then with the latest

match or the latest rumour about some hero or heroine forget all about the matter. The biggest tragedy of the Bhopal tragedy is the fact that it has been forgotten. This Bill should learn some lesson from that call. Besides, there are a number of places in the country where people have no awareness of the negative effects of environmental degradation. Even today, tragedies related to it are occurring in several parts of the country everyday. I had quoted some examples. Sometime ago, I had watched a film which showed a large number of labourers in Bihar mining near the radioactive mines. They were unable to understand the reasons behind the aggravation of wounds in their feet. The local people were unable to understand the reasons behind their children being born as mentally retarded. They could not understand as to why the daughter born to them does not resemble a human being. Doctors, society, hospitals and the Government—nobody was of the source of radioactivity which was affecting them. This is a result of some ill-effect created only by us.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to request the hon. Minister that to strengthen the Tribunal formed by him, to strengthen the systems in the country and to check the adverse impact of the environment or techniques related to it, he should march ahead as a strong soldier for the masses. Today, we are not aware of the adverse impact in future of the things being used by us now. I will give a simple example of cell-phone. Today, the whole world is using it. I am not saying that it is having some negative effect right now, I am just quoting it as an example.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, somewhere it was said that the cellphone does not affect the brain at all. But, later on, I read a while ago, as I have a habit of reading scientific journals from time to time, that their waves do affect the brain. Now, it is another thing that it is not known whether that affect is positive or negative. I just want to say that we should also set up such knowledge creating institutions here which can evaluate such things regularly and disseminate the information among the people so that we can make informed choices before the tragedies can strike.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, further whenever we introduce some new projects related to environment then the Environment Ministry or respective State Governments grant permission to those companies or products in accordance with the information, programmes, assurances available at that time. Later on, it is seen that the given assurances are proved wrong. Then the people fight in

the court and the documents on the basis of which permissions were granted go missing. Those very documents on the basis of which it was concluded that some product was safe at that time goes missing. Therefore, I would also like to urge that a library to this effect should also be set up where such documents could be retrieved.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would return to the Bhopal issue again. Today, everyone knows that the engineers, who had constructed the Bhopal factory, had written many letters to the Union Carbide 7 or 8 years after the construction of the Bhopal factory that the water curtain which should be near the place where work relating to the M.I.C. gas was being done, was not working. When this was being inquired into, those very letters vanished from the report. That report, those letters are our property and not of any factory because the dying man was a common man and not someone from the factory itself. We will also have to make arrangements that in case such a terrible tragedy takes place in future, then the Minister, Environment Department and Green Tribunal should already have such documents in hand which can be treated as evidence in case justice is needed.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards some other small things. A provision has been made in this schedule about the process by which the surviving members of a person's family can seek compensation in case of his death or of some members of his family. I could not understand if this provision is there or not. If it's there then he should clarify it and if not, then it should be added as to who can seek compensation if the entire family is lost. About eight thousand persons had died in Bhopal and in some of the families none was left to ask for compensation. Therefore, provision should also be made for such cases and it should be clarified whether the society will seek the compensation or it is the responsibility of the Government and where will this compensation go? Such cases will definitely come before us and may be some disaster takes place in which hundreds of persons may die and nobody is left to seek compensation for them or ask for their whereabouts.

Sir, hon. Minister had said one more thing in this regard that there are many such things in the coming future which will affect our environment, our life in a different way. I would like to have just this assurance from the hon. Minister if the Green Courts, to be set up by the Green Tribunal through this Bill, cover them or not. And if not, then, I would humbly request him to cover them also.

Sir, some of my friends from Gujarat are here, they must be familiar with the famous Mehsana-Valsad belt which is a hub of chemical factories. Due to the pollution from these chemical factories not a single household is able to use the ground water. Will it be covered under it or not? Often we find that a factory comes up initially to use vegetable dyes but afterwards switching over to chemical dyes and the chemical effluent flows out of it which pollutes the aquifers in the 15-20 km nearby area and it starts affecting us. We remain oblivious of what we are drinking and when its ill-effects surface, we come to know that someone is suffering from the cancer of kidney or someone develops some unknown eye diseases or next generation starts getting affected or children are born with various kinds of diseases. Neither we have any knowledge of their consequences nor has science any means to link both these things. If any such link is proved in future, will all these things be covered under it and justice done in this regard?

At last, I would like to conclude by raising one more issue. Hon'ble Minister has so much knowledge. He himself is doing research. He is considered as one of the most intellectual persons in the country. We educate the people in many respects. We should also start providing information to the people through some programme, through I.E.C. about the ill-effects on environment. We hardly have an idea. When we have a headache, we take Crocin and relax. We do not know which chemical is present in the environment and affecting us. Its ill effects get increasing with the passage of time. With our limited understanding or knowledge, we generally blame some natural element for many things or our doctors who do not understand that fact or may mistake some other thing to be responsible for the problem but the cause of that effect may be rooted in some other thing.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you must have seen that if anybody has difficulty in eating or in any other act, then he may be given seven-eight things because it may be cancer. You may have come across several such ads. Similarly with the efforts of hon'ble Minister if similar advertisements related to environment are brought out in towns and states in future our common man who are not able to read these things nor do they have time, for and approach to such things, will understand all these things. In future when our children grow up, will be more aware about these things and if they get affected with any such things, will be able to approach this tribunal and these laws and legal regulations. We shall be able to take care of ourselves in a better way in the wake of

ill-effects caused by these factories and technology on our environment.

With this, I thank hon'ble Minister and request him to introduce the Bill. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also welcome you. Hon'ble Minister, I have never spoken for such a long time in the House as I did for your Bill. This is also a small record of my life. Once again, I thank you and conclude.

[English]

SHRI T.K.S. ELANGOVA (Chennai North): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for permitting me to speak on the National Green Tribunal Bill, which is a welcome measure from the side of the Government. Some ten years back, when the leader of the DMK Parliamentary Group, Shri T.R. Baalu was the Minister for Environment and forests, I had suggested that there should be a Green Bench in the Supreme Court of India and in all the High Courts of Adjudicature. I think, some High Courts have the Green Bench. This Bill is a welcome measure in the sense that it is not just the interpretation of the laws relating to environment but also the knowledge on science, that is, the geo-physical scientists, biological scientists will also be the members of this Tribunal because it is more than the law that environmental issues are related to the other areas of science also. One good thing about this Bill is that this Bill is introduced on the suggestion of the Supreme Court of India, which has been the authority in deciding these legal issues and the Government of India which has been the Appellate Authority on various issues of environmental protection.

We know that industrial development is always at the cost of environment. Thus, there is no industrial development without affecting the environment. We have steps to abate pollution but we cannot have a zero pollution. If we want to have a zero pollution, there should not be any industrial activity. That will otherwise affect the country's economy. When the hon. Member from the BJP, Shri Anand Kumar Hegde was speaking on this Bill the other day, he was telling something which led to some confusion in my mind. I am not going to reply to his question because the hon. Minister for Environment is well capable of replying to all these things but he had certain apprehensions because of his non-understanding of the concept of this Bill.

We had an experience earlier. We had this Central Appellate Tribunal; we had the State Appellate Tribunals

for settling matters relating to the service, and the Government servants. This National Green Tribunal is also on the same lines which would settle the issues relating to environment outside the courts. When my friend was talking, he was referring to compensation given to those people who are affected by the environmental issues like the Bhopal Gas Tragedy and others. It is not only that; it will help the industrialists to approach these tribunals and say that their industries will not pollute the area or whether they can come or not, depending on its impact on environment.

As I was telling, the Central Appellate Tribunal and the State Appellate Tribunals were very much helpful in settling matters relating to various issues raised by the Central and State Government servants. But I must tell the Minister one thing – this Bill should not meet the same fate as that of the National Environmental Tribunal, 1995 and the National Environment Appellate Authority, 1997. They are dead; and the Government had not formed the authority; I do not know what happened to them.

When I went through the Bill and studied, I found that there are issues. When the Tribunal is equally divided, then there would be another appeal. The question of Tribunal being equally divided, once again will delay the matters. So, I want the hon. Minister to have the Tribunal in odd-numbers so that there is no equal division in decision-making. There should be a decision one way or the other. The Minister has to take care of all these things. I fully support the Bill. This Bill is very essential.

Most of the time, we forget the eco-balance, which should be maintained in the country. So, this Bill will help the country to maintain its ecological balance; this Bill will protect the people who are affected by the environmental issues and this Bill will definitely do justice to all sections of the people – the common men, the industrialists and the Government.

With these words, I support the Bill.

SHRI KALIKESH NARAYAN SINGH DEO (Bolangir):
Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

At the outset, let me congratulate the Government for bringing forward this Bill, National Green Tribunal Bill, 2009, with increased focus on environmental degradation and the focus on global climate change, global warming and the need to have sustainable economic development friendly with environmental issues.

I congratulate the hon. Minister and his team for bringing forward this Bill.

It is a welcome move. However, as there are many a slip between the cup and the lip, both in context and structure, this Bill falls short on many counts.

Any judicial body such as this, will be judged by three factors – one, the scope and powers of that body; two, the efficiency with which it deals with the procedures or the issues it faces; and three, the access to justice.

On the scope of its jurisdiction, this crucial Bill excludes many crucial Acts which are present in many other countries, but have not found a place in the National Green Tribunal Bill. In the context of this Government, I would like to mention the Wildlife Protection Act of 1972 and the Scheduled Tribe (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2005, including the Pesticide Act. All three of these Acts would be very relevant in the context of this Green Tribunal but they have not found place. The hon. Minister may consider the same.

Secondly, the access to this Tribunal is severely restricted. The power of the common man to go to High Courts across the State now has been subsumed by this National Green Tribunal which will only have, if I remember correctly, five places of sitting to begin with. Will it be possible for a common tribal person from Orissa to reach and to have access to these courts is something that the Government needs to consider.

Thirdly, I come to Section 19 of the Bill. The *locus standi* of a person to file an application before the Tribunal reads:

“Any representative body or organization functioning in the field of environment, with permission of the Tribunal.”

It means the common man, the man who is affected or a human rights body or a body which deals in, let us say, public health will not find access to this Tribunal. This is more important because now the issue of environment falls within the purview of article 21. Access to this Tribunal must be open to all.

As regards structure of the Bill, some of the words are very subjective and vague to the extent that the Bill fails to note that if there is a direct violation of a statutory environmental obligation, it becomes a legal

wrong. Unless somebody approaches the Tribunal with a particular problem, the issue of the environmental degradation is not noted. According to the Bill, the incident should affect a large community at large. What if there is no community at large around and yet environment is being degraded? Can the Green Tribunal actually take a view on that? Can it hold proceedings on that and can it give a judgment on that? That is left out and in my view it does not fall in its purview.

Secondly, the wording "substantial damage" is very subjective. It depends upon the judgment of an individual judge to determine what is substantial damage and whether that should be applicable to the current environmental problems and whether that problem can be acceptable under this tribunal.

Sir, for some reason the Government has actually put capping on time period of liability and accountability for this Bill. With your permission I quote Section 14, sub-clause (3) of Chapter III. This is a clause which deals with Tribunal's jurisdiction, powers and proceedings. It reads:

"No application for adjudication of dispute under this section shall be entertained by the Tribunal unless it is made within a period of six months from the date on which the cause of action for such dispute first arose."

I also quote Section 15, sub-clause (3):

"No application for grant of any compensation or relief or restitution of property or environment under this section shall be entertained by the Tribunal unless it is made within a period of five years from the date on which the cause for such compensation or relief first arose."

My friend from the Congress Party, hon. Sandeep Dixitji was talking about the Bhopal Gas Tragedy. He talked about the consequences still being felt. Yet you have limited the period of action or filing of application to six months and filing of application for damages to five years. Environmental problems can be manifest 20 years or 30 years from the date of consequence. For the first ten years or 20 years or 30 years radiation and things like pollution of ground water will not be determined. We will only find out how severely it affects people after 10 or 15 or 20 years. It even manifests itself in the form of genetic defects. How can we limit on the basis of time the application to this Tribunal?

The Government has also for some strange reason limited the penal liability of companies to a maximum of Rs. 25 crore if they fail to comply with the orders of the Tribunal. The hon. Environment Minister must know that some of the environmental degradation which happens by companies can lead to damages of billions of dollars – Rs.10000 crore or Rs. 20000 crore and in that context it may be more amenable for the company to pay penalty of Rs. 25 crore and not comply with the order. The only justification or the co-relation I can see is the SEBI Act which has a clause to hold the maximum penalty of Rs. 25 crore. But that is no co-relation. The SEBI is a financial Act and it does not affect the common man and it does not affect the human lives in the way environmental degradation will.

I would urge upon the hon. Minister to ensure that just penal clauses for just action, the correct penal clauses for the kind of action that are performed should be kept in this Tribunal Bill, 2009.

Sir, one big vacuum that I find in this Bill is the scope of criminal liability. Suppose, like in the case of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy there is an essence of criminal liability to be imposed, then what happens? The National Green Tribunal will look only at civil liability. What does the affected party do? Does he approach two courts – one for the civil liability and another for the criminal liability? Or, can he hope to have one or even some sort of procedural conjunction with the criminal court from this Green Tribunal?

Sir, I would not like to take much time of the House. I would like to thank you for giving me this space. The hon. Minister did a wonderful thing in the case of the BT Brinjal. He actually went and got connected with the public to get the correct information and gauge the public view. I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister to do the same in this case. I feel that this Bill will set the standard for all economic and environmental development to follow from now.

DR. KAKOLI GHOSH DASTIDAR (Barasat): Sir, today we have to decide that the urgent requirement of human beings for development and living life as they want has to be balanced and it has to be decided whether environment that is doing so much for us whether we want to protect it and maintain a healthy life or we want to sacrifice the environment. Though the particular incident that troubled the air traffic all over the world just last week is not directly related to any of our misdoings, millions of passengers, including our hon.

Prime Minister, had to suffer because of this. A kind of gas had polluted the atmosphere in such a manner that aircrafts had to be grounded and we have rather been lucky to avoid any accident by way of mid air collision and thereby losing human lives.

Important to all of us is the living standard of human beings and particularly those living off the forests. We have to give recognition to their rights to live as they want, as they have been taught to live in the forests by their forefathers. The people in the forests have been living in the forests for time immemorial. Their forefathers have shown them and taught them as to how to live in the forests using the facilities available to them. But today their lives have been endangered by poachers, by cultivators from the higher caste who are coming into the forests and also by corporate houses who are aiming the mineral wealth hidden in the different forest areas and hilly areas.

The environment has to be protected. We are not criticizing the action against the *adhivasis*, who are up in arms against the State, we are not in favour of an armed revolution; we are not in favour of killing of human beings and we are not in favour of the politics of murder. We also have to recognise their demands. Their forefathers have taught them that forest was their land. Now, whether they want to live in the forests or get modernized and live in the cities, that right of theirs has to be appreciated and given to them.

And there lies the fine line that we have to draw. We have to, on the one hand, protect the animals in the forest, protect the flora and fauna, protect the human beings who have been living off the forests for millions of years now and, on the other hand, we have to balance and bring forward developments as we have done in the past. Our great nation has brought the life expectancy just after Independence, from 43 years of age to today where it stands at 67 years of age. It is a fine balance.

Before this time, two other regulations had been brought forward. The one brought forward in 1995 could not be enforced and it could never be set up. Then in 1997, National Environment Appellate Authority was also brought forward but it became defunct. Now provisions under article 32 and 226 of our Constitution give wide powers to the different courts to protect environment. But keeping in mind today's scenario in which water resources are getting depleted, the mountains on the sly being burst open by corporate houses for the bauxite

held within the core of the mountains and hills, the deforestation that is being brought forward by different corporate houses and the poachers killing the natural habitat. The human beings who are living within these areas are in danger. It is not only that. The environment is so polluted that very soon we will be having huge landslides, we will be having deluge like the ones given in scriptures in which Noah floated his Ark. We will also be having no resource for making electricity, we will not have enough water to water the farmlands, agriculture will be deprived and the quantum of agricultural products will fall and there might be a war for food and water. There lies the necessity for this National Green Tribunal in whose favour I stand here today.

There were certain comments by the Departmentally Related Standing Committee and the Ministry of Science and Technology and it is heartening to note that the suggestions have been incorporated. In the original Bill, a section had been there in which the Central Government had the discretion to allow different dates for different sections to come into force. The amendment says "on such date as the Central Government may by notification in the Official Gazette appoint...". The Act shall come into force and shall apply to the Act in toto." In other words, the entire Act will come into force at once and not separately.

It also states regarding the number of members. The original Bill was silent on this. But now it says qualified number of members present should be not less than ten. Likewise, there are other amendments that have been brought forward and accepted. The National Green Tribunal Bill should be brought forward, supported and brought into effect to protect the requirement of not only the forest dwellers but the perpetrators should also be brought to book. The meeting held in Rio under the auspices of the United Nations has given the right saying 'pollute and pay'. So, any corporate house or any perpetrator against our mother environment can be brought to book by this Bill.

Hence, I support this Bill.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH (Palakkad): At the outset, let me make it clear that though I have no objection to the concept of Green Tribunal, I have some strong objections – and some observations to make – to the content of this Bill.

As hon. Minister of State of the Ministry of Environment and Forests has said in his introductory

remarks, India is going to be the first country to set up a separate Tribunal for the adjudication of environmental matters. In that sense, this would have been a historic opportunity for him. But unfortunately, the Minister and the Government have completely missed this opportunity because of their ideological obsession with neo-liberalism.

In the last couple of decades we have seen that environmental issues have assumed greater significance. In the era of liberalisation, there has been a sharpening of contradictions between the so-called development and the environmental and social concerns. This has been happening throughout the world and in our country also. The growing greed for grabbing natural resources for profit under the liberalised regime has led to the intensification of exploitation of nature and environment. This is the environment of creating environmental battles. These environmental battles are reflected and resulted in the proliferation of litigations in the courts in recent years. It is these battles which make this legislation a necessity. I agree with that. However, this legislation cannot be used as an effective instrument to protect the interest of our people in these environmental battles. On the contrary, this will become a sharp-edged weapon in the hands of corporates. Even some of the *prima facie* positive aspects of this Bill, like the recognition of the need to involve the experts in adjudication and quick justice delivery, will not serve the interest of the people because of the highly flawed nature of this Bill and its corporate affinity.

Now, I will briefly deal with some of the objectionable features of this Bill. Firstly, the Bill leads to a restriction of access to justice. There is over-centralisation of powers with the Union Government. This is evident in determining the location, constitution, mandate and procedures of the Tribunal. Clause 3 of this Bill gives too much powers to the executive. This Bill has ignored the principle of separation of powers between the judiciary and the executive. In keeping with the Law Commission's recommendations, I suggest that each State must have a bench.

Then comes the most undemocratic and anti-people clause of the Bill. This is clause 22 (2). This clause has a provision to declare a claim "untenable". Not only that. Even there is a provision to impose penalty on the person appealing. This is nothing but a deliberate attempt to prevent people from bringing issues before the Tribunal. I would like to demand that this clause must be deleted.

According to clause 15 (3), there is a five-year stipulation for filing application for compensation. Damages occur over a long period and it is not always immediately noticeable and traceable to the source. For instance, chemical exposures and radiation exposures take more than five years to manifest themselves. Therefore, this fixed period of five years should be removed.

Now, I come to clause 28. This clause contains yet another objectionable provision. Civil courts are barred from adjudicating matters that lie within the Tribunal's jurisdiction. This is completely contradictory to the Law Commission's recommendations. This is problematic because distance alone could be a huge deterrent for the people in remote areas. Reaching out to a few Green Tribunal benches may be impossible. So, the jurisdiction of other courts must not be barred.

15.00 hrs.

There is no provision for appeal in this Bill. I would suggest that people must be allowed to go to the Supreme Court.

Clauses 4, 5 and 6 deal with the composition of the Tribunal. The composition itself is highly problematic. The criteria for expert members create the apprehension that the Tribunal may become a club of bureaucrats and technocrats. It is highly surprising that there is no space for social scientists and there is no mention of the socio-economic impact of environmental issues also. In India, most projects are being located in tribal and rural India. So, there has always been a conflict between livelihood and rights of the local community and the access to resources. So, experts must have the criteria that enable the appointment of social scientists and non-bureaucrats.

The second feature of the Bill which I oppose, which I criticise is the narrow and vague jurisdiction. This Bill narrows the culpability and responsibility for environmental accidents. Clause 14 (1) includes enforcement of any legal right relating to environment but this has not been specified. The Bill leaves out of its purview three key legislations. These key legislations are: the Forest Rights Act, 2006; the Indian Wildlife Protection Act, 1972; and the Provisions of Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996. These three Acts must override this Bill.

Clause 2 (1) (m) says that the Tribunal will be dealing only with "substantial questions relating to the

environment" affecting "community at large." The environment is protected by Article 21. So, any violation is obviously substantial and should be brought within the ambit of this Act.

The definition of polluting activities in clause 2 (1) (m) should be more comprehensive and inclusive.

The third and most unacceptable aspect of this Bill is its corporate orientation. There are many provisions that are highly lopsided and partial to the private sector in this Bill. If you take clause 2 (1) (o), there is a reference to workman but the definition is not comprehensive enough to include contract labourers, casual labourer, the daily wage worker beside the regular employees.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH: I am concluding. According to clause 16 (i), this Bill opens up the space for speedy clearance within six months and grants access to judicial remedy against Executive refusal of environmental clearances. So, earlier, the private companies could not appeal in the courts against the refusal by the Government to grant environmental clearances. But this provision opens up that area. This implies that even in the Fifth and Sixth Schedule Areas, the private sector can appeal against the Panchayat on natural resources.

Sir, I am coming from the district of Palakkad which is having the experience of large-scale loot and exploitation of ground water by Coca Cola. All of you must be aware of Plachimada area....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH: I am concluding....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Sir, since this Bill is very important, we have to be given time to speak....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Rajesh, you have to conclude. How much time do you need?

SHRI M.B. RAJESH: I will conclude within two minutes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can take only one minute.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH: I will take two minutes because it is a very important field. I have studied a lot in this regard.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are so many Members to speak.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH: In Plachimada, we had seen how the Coca Cola Company challenged the Panchayat's authority in issuing a licence. Against the Panchayat's refusal, the Coca Cola Company approached the courts and obtained licence to run their bottling plant and through the mindless exploitation of ground water, they ruined the entire area.

I fear that this Bill will encourage such type of exploitation and will further undermine the community rights over natural resources. So, Clause 16 (1) must be deleted.

As far as Clause 25 (2) is concerned, that clause seems to confine itself to relatively non-serious offences. This is not adequate to deal with offenders like Warren Anderson and serious cases like the Bhopal Gas tragedy. I am of the view that in the era of corporate business, the role of companies and Government departments and the provision of penalties for their acts of omissions and commissions are of huge significance. So, the provision of imprisonment must be increased to at least 14 years. The present provision of 3 years is grossly inadequate. Further the termination or suspension of contracts must be specifically included in both the penal clauses, that is, Clauses 26 and 27.

Then, liabilities of heads of companies have been diluted to actual consent or connivance of the person in charge of the company. The penalty for violation is set at Rs. 25 crore. This is highly inadequate. This amount is not enough to meet tragedies like the Bhopal Gas tragedy. So, what does this mean? Is this not a calculated effort to help the corporate houses and multinational companies? Only the likes of Warren Anderson and Union Carbide will be happy.

Lastly, the Bill completely misses the issue of non-compliance with the conditions of environmental and forest clearances.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH: Sir, I am concluding.

I can tell from our experience as to how the Coco Cola company has blatantly violated the conditions attached to the environmental clearance in Palakkad and devastated a whole village. The Bill, in its sum and substance, is anti-people and undemocratic. It does not protect the interests of the people of our country and it

is evident from the provisions that the sole object of this Bill is to protect the interests of private companies.

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH (Hamirpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I must thank the hon. Minister for bringing this National Green Tribunal Bill, 2009.

15.08 hrs.

[SHRI P.C. CHACKO *in the Chair*]

Looking to its object, it appears as a laudable object to achieve. But a quick glance of the Bill suggests that the Bill has copied the old Act on the issue and the label has been changed. These days, it has become a fashion to appoint only retired judges as Chairpersons of such bodies. Clause 5 (1) says:

“A person shall not be qualified for appointment as the Chairperson or Judicial Member of the Tribunal unless he is, or has been, a Judge of the Supreme Court of India or Chief Justice of a High Court.”

In the last 10 or 15 years, it has become a fashion to appoint only retired judges as Chairpersons of such Tribunals. I am from the community of lawyers – I have been a lawyer – but every time the Chairman is a judicial person. The hon. Judge of the Supreme Court retires at the age of 65. At that age, he has very little to contribute. There are other persons also who are very much spirited. So, there should not be a complete embargo on other persons from being appointed as Chairpersons of these Tribunals. There are eminent environmentalists like Medha Patkar, Sundarlal Bahuguna and even the hon. Minister himself. If he is not in politics, he would have been the best man to be the Chairman of this Tribunal. ...*(Interruptions)* No, not at all, I am the last person. I have been his fan and I have been reading his articles earlier. So, my point is, the post of Chairperson of this Tribunal should not be limited only to judicial persons. Anybody who has a national stature in the field should be allowed to become the Chairman and it should be left open to all.

Take the case of CAT, the Central Administrative Tribunal. The hon. judicial members are only interested in getting their grand children married and not doing justice. So, I would request the hon. Minister to look into it.

Kindly see Section 5 sub-clause 2. It says, for the other members, “has administrative experience of fifteen

years including experience of five years in dealing with environmental matters in the Central or a State Government or in a reputed National or State level institution.” Mr. Chairman, this is very vague. What will happen is that – with due respect I would like to say – all the people of Government of India will find ways and means from this wide window to adorn this place. The entire Tribunal will be packed by those officers on the premise that when they were District Magistrates they were dealing with these matters.

In Allahabad, there is a member in the CAT. He was a Railway member dealing with the court and in the CAT you have to decide the law about service matters which has no meeting grounds. So, I want this administrative experience of fifteen years including experience of five years in dealing with matters should be little more widened. I have seen in my fifteen years' career that at least half-a-dozen tribunals have failed because the members who were adorning the place did not have that spirit. Nobody goes through the CAT, only very small matters are being argued and later on everybody goes to the Supreme Court. But Income Tax Tribunal is very effective because they have different rules. So, I want that the appointment should be real because it is the teachers who make students and not the walls and the building.

Now, I come to clause 14. Mr. Narayanasamy appears to be nodding for the first time.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Why is he creating unnecessary problem? I am appreciating him.

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: Thank you

MR. CHAIRMAN: Time is limited please. Please speak on the subject.

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: Yes Sir. Kindly see section 14 sub-clause 3. It says, “No application for adjudication of dispute under this section shall be entertained by the Tribunal unless it is made within a period of six months...” That means, you knock the door within six months and if that period of six months is gone, you cannot knock. This is not correct. I would urge the hon. Minister to make it one year because by the time you know about the matter six months have gone. In Motor Accident Claims Tribunal, the period for

knocking the door is one year. So, please make it one year also otherwise, the people may not understand its importance and effects. By the time they understand, say, toxic gas and all that, six months have gone. Although, there is some provision that you can explain and all that, there will be no difficulty if instead of six months the period for knocking the door is made one year.

Please see Section 28 (2). It says, "No civil court shall have jurisdiction..." In India, the Civil Procedure Court is 200 years old. If in the village somebody's *naali* is polluting somebody's health, they go to the civil court. So, there is no difficulty if concurrent jurisdiction is left alive. Otherwise, what will happen? A poor man from Tehsil level who has a Munsif at the door will be deprived. So, let the civil court may carry on the jurisdiction and if still there is some problem that can be sorted out later. So, please do not close the doors for entry of dispensation of justice...*(Interruptions)*

No, whatever the corporate desires, the hon. Minister has brought this Green Tribunal Bill, but I do not know how much green it is. It says: "No civil court shall have jurisdiction to settle dispute..." So, please do not bar people. Supposing, I am a serviceman and I am dismissed. I can go to the civil court and also go to the tribunal. I can take the help of article 226 and I can straightaway go, under article 34, to the Supreme Court of India. So, there are three jurisdictions. So, please do not stop this matter here.

Then one last thing – although it is a very short time – is that the execution machinery should be very sharpened like in DRT Act. Suppose you impose a fine, if the fine is being recovered as a civil court jurisdiction, then it will take another 10 years. So, have strong, sharpened teeth for execution. In consumer courts etc., execution machinery is very time taking, so nobody is going. Whatever it may be, I can sit and give more detailed comments on this. Supposing there is an order of penalty, punishment, money or whatever it may be, it should be very strong; the time lag should be avoided.

It is not the Act, it is the zeal that is behind, that is implementing, that will matter. Thank you very much for giving me time to speak.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will be responding to all the suggestions made by the hon. Members in my reply.

But I want to clarify one thing very clearly today. Community control over natural resources will continue. This Bill will not destroy or weaken community control over natural resources, particularly in tribal areas. There should be no ambiguity on this score; community control on resources particularly in tribal areas – because this is the concern of many Members who have mentioned it – will not be weakened. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, under Section 133 of the CrPC, if my neighbour's generator is creating a loud noise, I can file a complaint before the Magistrate and can get him three months' imprisonment. So, please continue those community control or other laws open. Otherwise, you will bar everybody and this Tribunal will not be able to do the justice.

SHRI S. SEMMALAI (Salem): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Bill. I welcome the introduction of the National Green Tribunal Bill, 2009 as it would pave way for expeditious disposal of civil cases relating to the environmental protection. With environmental protection, ecology preservation and afforestation getting pre-eminence, I have my own doubts whether the setting up of one Tribunal, though it is stated that it is sitting in five places, is sufficient to handle all cases and disputes which are ever on the increase. The Bill is drafted in a suitable manner, added with a number of clauses. There are some discrepancies here and there. I think, these may be sorted out and resolved before passing the Bill.

Hon. Minister may be pleased to see Section 6 of the Bill. Section 6, Clause (3) of the Bill provides for the appointment of Judicial Members and Expert Members of the Tribunal on the recommendation of such Selection Committee and in such manner as may be prescribed. But my submission is that no mention about the Members of Selection Committee is made in the Bill. Nowhere it is stated or explained. So I suggest that the composition and nature of Selection Committee for making recommendation on appointment of Judicial and Expert Members be specified in the Bill itself. That is my submission.

It may also be made clear whether the recommendation made by the Selection Committee is binding on the Central Government or not. Also, whether any discretion to reject the recommendations of the Committee rests with the Centre may also be incorporated in the Bill.

One more suggestion I would like to make. In the present form, the Expert Members are mostly drawn from the retired Civil Servant groups.

Already while these members who were being in the Government service had failed to tackle the environment issue. Putting them back in the Tribunal will serve no purpose. I would request the hon. Minister that the Tribunal should not be converted into a habitat for the retired civil servants.

There is no provision for Ecologists, Environmentalists, Civil Societies and NGOs to become expert members of the Tribunal. So, experts from various disciplines should be appointed to make the Tribunal really an effective mechanism to tackle this issue.

Some Members have expressed their doubts about this Bill. So, the hon. Minister has to clear the doubts of the Members. Their fear is that it may be used against the Tribals. At any cost this Act should not be misused against the Tribals.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our hon. Minister for the issuance of moratorium on BT Brinjal.

Coming to this Bill, I would request the hon. Minister to consider my suggestion and make a suitable amendment in the Bill.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The next speaker is Shri Jayant Chaudhary.

Shri Jayant, your time is up to 3.30 p.m.

SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY (Mathura): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I stand to speak on the National Green Tribunal Bill.

It seems that the very usage of the word 'green' in the name of the Tribunal is perhaps to convey a strong message that the Tribunal, the Ministry and the Government is here to protect the environment and to address the wrongs and to just add nation's growth trajectory to be well attuned to the need for equity, sustainable development and environmental consciousness. So, I welcome the usage of the word 'green' in the name of the Tribunal. Especially because our country is seen as a developing country; largely rules, procedures and laws related to environment have then given consideration only in passing.

I read that the Minister himself had recently commented on the high rate of environmental clearances that are granted in our country. There are so many examples, that I want to give, of political will and industrial might coming together in making institutions that are meant to protect the environment appear as mere by standards.

You know what happened in Uttar Pradesh with acres and acres of erstwhile green areas being converted into self-serving, concretized memorials and parks. You have a proposal in Andhra Pradesh for conversion of reserved forest area into a memorial. In today's paper, I read about 70,000 trees being felled in Ghaziabad's lone forest area, according to a Report by the Ministry of Environment. So, seriously in some quarters, it is actually said that MoE should be branded MoEC, that is, Ministry of Environmental Clearances. In that light, I think, there is a need for a redressal mechanism which is accessible to the common man.

Also we must give certain attention to the legislation that is already there, to the institutions that have already been created in this space. Previously Members have commented on NEEA and NET. They have really been like mythical yeti and unicorn. They have been on paper but they have not been there as institutions.

About NEEA, there was an RTI activist who found out that none of the members actually did any site visits. They went to Shirdi and Benaras on religious tourism, nothing to do with any investigations they were actually carrying out. So, given that experience, we do acknowledge the need for a redressal mechanism but then the question does arise that where previously we have failed, how this new Act signify a change in regime, a change in the thought regime, if I may say so.

I would also like to point out – given the experience of NET and also recently a publication came out with an article on this issue – that there are several Acts enacted by Parliament and they are not being notified. In fact, since 2004, three legislations passed by Parliament have not been notified. Also selective notifications are undertaken.

In the PNGRB Act, for instance, there was a selective notification. In the Food Safety Act, there was a selective notification done by the Ministry. Therefore, Section 1 sub-section (2) is the standard practice now, that is, to leave it to the discretion of the Central Government. When will the Act come into force? But I

would urge the Minister—since he wants this Tribunal to see the light of the day—why not create a challenge for himself and for the Ministry and set a time limit by when this Act will come into force?

About the reach and scope of this Tribunal, prior to me several Members have voiced their doubts. I think I am in agreement with most of the issues that have been raised about the community at large being affected and about the use of words like 'substantial' in the law, which would, perhaps, restrict the application and the reach of the Tribunal to a lot of people, specially individuals. The preamble of this Bill states about the need to protect the right to life as enshrined in the Constitution of India. But at the same time, we are restricting individuals from approaching the Tribunal. So, that is a big question mark.

Also coming to the composition of the Tribunal, this point has been made again and again but I would just like to join the list of people. The Government made a point in the Bill that people with administrative experience of 15 years and up to five years in dealing with environmental matters in the Central or State Government or in a reputed national or State level institution can also be expert members. It will be really a magic act if you can pull them out of the hat because I cannot think of any real State level or Central level institutions that have really upheld, what is needed, the laws of the land for the protection of the environment. So, where are you going to get these capable administrators? Actually, it has been their culpability. It is because of the lack of a strong political will and administrative capabilities that we are actually today debating on the need for a Tribunal.

Also, the definition of an aggrieved person includes people who have not been given clearances. Of course, the laws of natural justice do mean that all parties should get a hearing but when there is a typically poor person, who is an affected party, and on the other hand you have a big corporate house and if you let both of them approach the Tribunal, I am afraid that most of the time the Tribunal is going to spend on listening to perpetrators of crime rather than the aggrieved parties.

Also, this point has been made. Again, I am going to repeat it. It is about the penalties that can be imposed. There is no provision in the law about the right of the Tribunal to revoke licences, the take away clearances that have been granted. So, in most cases, especially, for corporates it is a big money of Rs.25 crore. The economic benefit that would trickle down from wilful contravention of law will far outstrip any penalty that could be imposed on them.

I am aware of the time shortage. In the end, I would just state that the meek shall inherit the earth but whatever is left offered after the greedy have done. The water is getting polluted. Forests are diminishing. Our food chain is getting polluted. Here, the Government has a unique opportunity to create institutions, systems, processes, rules and laws which can actually lead to a change in our growth pattern and make it one that enables sustainable development.

We have the shame and agony of Bhopal in our nation's history. Sir, 1.2 lakh people are still suffering from ailments because of exposure that they suffered and that experience also shows us the varying corporate response to such tragedies. Dow bought the Union Carbide in 2001 and asbestos workers in Texas were given 2.2 billion dollars in aid and that same company till today says that we have no culpability, no obligation for Bhopal gas tragedy victims. Therefore, to end my speech, any legislation in the environmental space must also pass the litmus test.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jayant Chaudhary, you have half a minute. Otherwise, you will have to be on your legs for a long time.

SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY: I am concluding. It must categorically state and mean that the main objective of the law should be that incidents and tragedies like Bhopal do not happen again.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Hon. Members have made a number of important suggestions. I will take note of them. Even though they may not be part of the official amendments, I have a completely open mind on this issue and I will not hesitate to actually withdraw certain Sections. I am sensitive to the concerns that have been expressed that we are giving in this law a window for those whose clearances have been rejected to come back and have it reviewed. I assure the hon. Members that when I reply, I will revisit this section, and if need be, I will withdraw this section.

15.31 hrs.

MOTION RE: SIXTH REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[English]

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH (Hamrpur): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Sixth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 20th April, 2010."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Sixth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 20th April, 2010."

The motion was adopted.

15.32 hrs.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

(ii) Special economic development package for eastern districts of the state of Uttar Pradesh—*Contd.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up further discussion on the following resolution moved by Rajkumari Ratna Singh on the 11th December, 2009:

"Considering the socio-economic backwardness of the eastern districts of the State of Uttar Pradesh, also known as the Poorvanchal region, this House urges upon the Government to take immediate steps to formulate and implement a special economic development package for the region on the lines of package announced for Bundelkhand region."

The next speaker is Shri Harsh Vardhan.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Shri Harsh Vardhan has informed that he has some work. Therefore he has not come. You can call the other Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Shri Ramkishun to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMKISHUN (Chandauli): Hon. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on the resolution moved by Rajkumari Ratna Singh on 11 December, 2009. The resolution

touches upon the economic condition of the eastern district of Uttar Pradesh. The Purvanchal region of Uttar Pradesh today. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMKISHUN: Social, economic and educational backwardness has led to widespread poverty and slow rate of development in the region. There is neither industrial house nor any big industry in the region which could help the unemployed your of the region get employment or provide a roadmap for their development. Despite availability of abundant water in rivers and resources for irrigation and irrigation network, the condition of farmers in Purvanchal is pitiable and deplorable and they are facing lot of problem in irrigation because the available resources are not being strengthened and are not being properly maintained. Consequently water for irrigation is not reaching the farms of these farmer. So for as educational of the there are universities such as Kashi Hindu Vishwavidyalaya, Gorakhpur Vishwavidyalaya, Purvanchal Vishwavidyalaya and Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya but Sir, through you, I would like to inform the government that the educational system in the region is not adequately equipped to cater to the vest population of the region. Lakhs of unemployed your from the region are migrating to other areas in seach of work. Hence, I would like to say to the government, through the resolution and through you that Purvanchal region needs the same kind of Central assistance as is being given for the development of Bundelkhand region in Uttar Pradesh in the farm of huge package for removing poverty and unemployment for starting irrigation resources for and the farmers of the region. I would also like to say that Purvanchal region in Uttar Pradesh is a backward and poor region and has a large number of weavers. Today the condition of those weavers is quite deplorable and they are resorting to suicide.

They are economically weak. The weavers are unable to pay back their loans or their electricity bills. I would like the government to waive the loans of weavers and provide financial assistance to people of Uttar Pradesh on lines of the package provided to Bundelkhand.

I would like to say to the government, through you, that Purvanchal is an important agricultural area. It has fertile land but Chandauli and Benaras in particularly are

called paddy and wheat bowls. Ghazipur has a strong agricultural base but farmers are facing water scarcity despite presence of water in the region. Water is supplied to the people of Purvanchal from the large Sharda Sahayak canal. This canal has become delapidated and damaged. If this canal is strengthened then water that reaches Bahraich from a distance of five hundred km but does not reach Jaunpur, Benaras, Ghazipur and Azamgarh can be made available to these areas. Similarly, Narayanpur pump canal, which is the largest pump canal in Asia, has twelve pumps but its water cannot be supplied even upto fifty km radius. This canal is also dilapidated and damaged. The farmers of Chandauli are affected by drought and have to resort to public agitations. The farmers of the region go on dharnas and carry out demonstrations and agitations over the issue of water scarcity and the government respond with lathicharge and firing. There is only one solution to the problem. If the main canal of Bhapauli and Narayanpur pump canal is strengthened by utilising a crore or two crore rupees then, rice production and the condition of farmers in the area of Purvanchal which is called the rice bowl of the country, can be improved. There are many districts in Purvanchal which are coming under the influence of naxalism. The youth in the region is picking up arms. They are facing just one problem — that of unemployment. Feudal powers have snatched their rights. Capitalists and rich persons have taken over the resources and this has led the youth of the region towards naxalism. The erstwhile Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, hon. Mulayam Singhji had floated a number of schemes for the development of the region during the regime of Samajwadi Party in the state. However, those schemes are not running now because the Central Government did not provide any assistance for them and the State Government did not take any interest in their implementation. I would like to ask the government, through you, to sanction the Karamnasa package formulated at the cost of crores of rupees, which has been put into cold storage, and to work for the development of those areas in order to stop naxal activities.

Ban Sagar Project for Purvanchal is a very important project. Mirzapur, Chandauli and Sasaram districts will get water from the Sone river under this project. This project is lying incomplete and should be completed.

I want to talk of the pollution of the river Ganga. There is water in the river but it is polluted. Benaras is the capital of Purvanchal. It is the most ancient, religious, and cultural capital of the world. The Central Government

should provide assistance for its economic and social development. Today, through you, I would like to say to you that the development of Uttar Pradesh cannot take place till the development of Purvanchal is under taken. Purvanchal is an important region where people are suffering financial hardships and have few sources of income. A special financial package should be provided for the backward areas on lines of the package provided to Bundelkhand in order to improve the social, economic and educational status of the region. Otherwise Purvanchal will fall into the category of a backward, poor area which will be a bane for the entire country. The area which gave the country great political figure to the Lal Bahadur Shastri and great saints such as Sant Kabir and Buddha has remained, neglected for a long time. Successive governments have done nothing but nothing out step-motherly attitude towards Purvanchal.
...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Ramkishun ji, please conclude now.

SHRI RAMKISHUN: I urge upon the government, through you, to stop meeting out this step-motherly treatment to Purvanchal. Development of Bundelkhand should be done. I have no dispute with that.
...(*Interruptions*) It should be provided packages and its economical development should be promoted. But, through you, I demand that the government should also establish industries in that area which lacks industries.

With this, I conclude.

SURI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (*Domariyaganj*): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very grateful to you for allowing me to speak on this Resolution. Today there are as many as 27 districts in Eastern Uttar Pradesh which are reeling under poverty, backwardness and regional imbalances. Economic disparities prevailing there and the gap between poor and rich is continuously widening. While drawing attention of the House towards this issue in all seriousness, I would like to say that atleast this government has taken an initiative to provide special economic package to the areas in the country which are reeling under regional imbalance under schemes for equitable development. So I would request the Union Government that as they have provided special economic package to Bundelkhand in the same way Eastern U.P. should be considered. For this I would like to highlight certain important points with regard to Eastern Uttar Pradesh. Until Eastern Uttar Pradesh which is reeling under extreme poverty and economic backwardness is provided special economic package by the Union

Government it will not only remain a case of regional imbalance for whole of UP but it will further lag behind in comparison to any other part of the country.

Today, 40 percent population of Uttar Pradesh reside in 27 districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh. But annual plan or plan outlay of Uttar Pradesh does not provide 40 percent share for the development of Eastern Uttar Pradesh in the budget. What could be the parameter of development for any region today? Agriculture sector could be the parameter of development for any region as to what is the agriculture produce or cash crop of that region? This parameter could also be set through impact of this cash crop on condition of farmers or industry could be a parameter. These parameters can be vital in measuring the development of any region. It is unfortunate for Eastern Uttar Pradesh that its cash crop was sugarcane. Today sugar mills of Eastern Uttar Pradesh are being closed down one by one. Recently State Government has decided to close down state sugar mills and sale these units to private sector. It has been decided in previous years but no action has been taken for the revival of these sugar mills. When Congress was in power, we used to revive two sugar mills per year through sugar development fund. I want to say that the population of Eastern Uttar Pradesh is about 40 percent of population of the state which is around 18 crore. Irrespective of the fact if State and Union Government provides any kind of support to this region or not, there is a need to ponder over one point. The Reserve Bank of India had taken an initiative with regard to credit deposit ratio under which if people and farmers deposit fund in the bank of any particular area, then atleast 60 percent loan in the ratio of deposited amount will be provided to that particular area whether it is provided in the form of crop loan or industry sector. Besides R.B. Baj Committee of Reserve Bank of India had stated in one of its recommendations that 60 percent CD ratio would be achieved by the year 2002 in Uttar Pradesh.

Today, there are various states in the country where CD ratio is above 100 percent. CD ratio of Uttar Pradesh is 42 percent and CD ratio of Eastern Uttar Pradesh is only 22 percent. If Rs. 100 deposited then only Rs. 22 is being provided to local people in the form of loan for development purposes and rest amount is being transferred to other region through a bank headquarters in Mumbai. It is unfortunate that after Congress government was out of power it has neither been the priority of successive governments in Uttar Pradesh as how the state will make progress nor have they any action plan as how they can put pressure on the banks

in the light of recommendation made by Reserve Bank of India. However the fact is that RBI had said that a core group should be constituted. We had constituted core group and under that core group task force was constituted under chairmanship of SDM in tehsil of each districts of the state. If a person farmer, labourer, young person, unemployed applies for loan in a bank, then SDM will monitor the same as to how much amount has been sanctioned against the loan demand. But today all these priorities has been discontinued. Hon'ble Vijay Bahadur Singh ji is sitting here. Now their only priority is parks, monuments, statues. It is not their priority to help unemployed who have high expectations for future.
...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The interruptions will not go on record. Please allow the hon. Member to speak.

*(Interruptions)...**

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Hon'ble Member has been with me in State Assembly also and he is aware as to how many letters of intent of capital investment and industry have been issued during Congress Government. It is such issue, two leaved people are sitting here who are associated with Government. They should tell how much money has been invested for industrial development or major industry has been set up or any letter of intent has been issued in the last three years. After all how can unemployment be removed in absence of industrial development in a state? Today, the households in Eastern Uttar Pradesh are being run by money order economy of money sent by post graduate and graduate youths of eastern UP working as labourers on the streets of Mumbai, Kurla, Andheri, Sakanaki. There are no industries in our State these days, people have no work. This money order economy is the only support. The household are being run on money orders sent by people serving in the army or PAC. The relatives of the people working in Mumbai go there every month because their family members or the natives of their village or state are living there. Doesn't it reflect a picture of Uttar Pradesh that if there were work opportunities or a state plan seeking to remove the backwardness of eastern Uttar Pradesh, or the state had any objective or a dream, then definitely the people would not have migrated from there. Today it has because the fate accompany of the state.

*Not recorded.

Last year, when the entire country was reeling under severe drought condition, there was flood in eastern Uttar Pradesh since we are in the foothills of Nepal. When the Karnali, the Jalakundi, the Kosi or any other river of Nepal is flooded we get immediately affected since we are in the foothills, it has become the predicament of 27 districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh that crops are damaged every year from either flood or drought. The hard work in the form of crops of farmers get damaged by flood and drought. And the remaining crops, you would agree get burnt by frequent fires in the fields of farmers of eastern Uttar Pradesh the entire yields and barns are gutted by fire. The fields of farmers in the Sant Kabir Nagar constituency of an Hon. Member of Bahujan Samaj Party were burnt by fire which lasted four days. The farmers approached Mahuli Police Station and requested for fire brigade, which was not called in the request for compensation was answered with bullets on farmers. Five farmers are still fighting for life. It would be gross injustice if the damage to the field of farmers is not attributed to natural calamity, if the damage to their crops is attributed to fire is their barns however, with the advent of combine machine no crop is taken from the fields to barns thrashing.

This machine separates the wheat, the hay and the stubs on the fields itself. Today an amendment in the concerned Act is need of the hour and if the tire breaks out even in the field it should be treated as a natural calamity and compensation should be paid to the farmers. However, it is not being done. We had a discussion in this House regarding the death of thousands of children due to Japanese encephalitis. Today, we have not been able to ascertain the virus of that disease. It could be done as a preventive measure however, once a person gets infected he is crippled for life and is compelled to live a cursed life. And such persons become a burden on their family members. Paradoxically, the farmer is stricken with poverty on one hand and has a helpless and disabled son on the other. One can well imagine the predicament of the head of the family. This way the parents of that child lose hope in upbringing the child.

We all know that the industries in eastern Uttar Pradesh have closed down. The fertilizer factory in Gorakhpur closed down. The Basti industrial estate is lying closed down. Today my district Siddharth Nagar is a zero industry zone. There are so many districts in Eastern Uttar Pradesh which have no industry at all. No one talks of setting up an industry there. We are not getting even our 40 percent due share in the State's outlay. In the light of all these facts how one can say that development of Uttar Pradesh will take place.

The former UPA Government had passed a Bill in this very Lok Sabha. The bill had a provision as per which ethanol could be manufactured here on the lines of Brazil. If we wish to revive the sugar mills of eastern Uttar Pradesh and envisage a qualitative change in the abject state of poverty of farmers so that their living conditions could be improved to facilitate then to augment the possibilities of earning livelihood of their families, then the State Government should pass such a Bill in this state. Recently, the State Government had passed a Bill to this effect that they would manufacture ethanol from sugarcane juice or molasses. However, the day when the State Legislative Assembly passed a bill, seeking to manufacture ethanol facilitating generation of alternative forms of energy, the same day this decision was also taken to close down all the sugar mills of the state sugar corporation. How can the development of eastern Uttar Pradesh take place through such double standards.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude in two minutes.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Sir, I am not diverting from the issue, I am sticking to it only.

Today, even the per capita income of the state is the lowest. During the year 1993-94 per capita income at All India level was Rs. 7690 while it was only Rs. 5000 in Uttar Pradesh. During the year 2003-04 per capita income at all India level rose one and a half times to Rs. 11,799, however, per capita income of Uttar Pradesh was only Rs. 5702 even at that time. It means that per capita income of Uttar Pradesh has risen merely by Rs. 500 during the last ten years. One can compare that per capita income at national level doubled from Rs. 7000, it rose by only Rs. 500 in Uttar Pradesh. It is a well known fact that these figures are official. These figures show that per capita income has doubled across the country whereas it is constantly declining in Uttar Pradesh, it has risen from Rs. 5066 to Rs. 5702 only during the last ten years. It means that the per capita income of farmers and the poor in Uttar Pradesh is not increasing. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you know that the figures of per capita income of Uttar Pradesh which is Rs. 5702 includes the income of not only the farmers but also that of the industrialists, doctors, advocates, farmers and even unemployed persons. Per capita income is derived from annual average income. It is a clear indication that eastern Uttar Pradesh is passing through the most critical economic phase in the country.

I understand that it is need of the hour and our U.P.A. Government at the Centre is running all kinds of

schemes to offset the regional imbalance. Presently the responsibility of construction of road lies with the State Government be it PWD or Construction of roads, these are state subjects. The connectivity of villages would facilitate development there and they can be brought in the mainstream. The agricultural produce of farmers would reach the Mandis directly. The farmers would be freed from the middlemen. The procurement centres of wheat have not been set up. Assurance has been given to open six thousand procurement centres. 40 lakh metric tone of wheat would be procured from Uttar Pradesh. So far only one lakh fifteen thousand metric tone wheat has been procured. If the Government of Uttar Pradesh is not procuring for Central Pool. how the demand for wheat and rice would be met. Nevertheless, we would definitely provide them with that, however certain priorities should be fixed in public interest. The people of the state also have some priorities. Let them implement their programmes of glorifying the sages, saints, great spiritual leaders or even Behanji or even pay obeisance to their Statues. I only want that due regard should be given to the interests of the people. ...*(Interruptions)* I want to say that if roads are being constructed in the state, these are only under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. The state does not have funds to construct roads. I had convened a meeting of the District Vigilance and Monitoring Committee. I averted the dam before floods, Gorakhpur, Siddharth Nagar, Maharajganj, Bahraich, Shravasti, Balrampur etc.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time allotted for this discussion is exhausted. There are four more speakers and the hon. Minister has to reply. If the House agrees, we will extend the time of this Resolution by one hour.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time for discussion on this Resolution is extended by one hour.

Shri Jagdambika Palji, you should conclude your speech in one minute.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI (Bhadrak): The next Resolution is very important. We should have ample time so that that Resolution is taken up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: I am grateful that the House is taking this issue quite seriously. Be it the treasury benches or the Opposition Members, all are concerned. The Tanda Bridge or other major bridges are being referred to. Be they CRF, National Highways or rural roads under NREGA, if there has been some check over migration, it has been possible only through these factors that we have been able to provide work opportunity to the rural people as per their demand. Otherwise the condition of Uttar Pradesh would have become more critical and horrible.

15.59 hrs.

[SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI in the Chair]

I feel that eastern Uttar Pradesh begins from Faiza, Barabanki and extends upto Devaria including Varanasi, Allahabad, Ajamgarh, Gorakhpur, Devipatan and Basti divisions. These 27 districts have the highest number of malnutrition cases. Today, the people in villages are not getting the required 1400 or 1700 calories in the form of two square meals every day. This is reality. We may be belonging to any political party. The Opposition or the ruling party, the state of poverty in a village makes us feel that we have not been able to do justice with that region. Today, the people in that region are succumbing to diseases. Those districts should be equipped with medical facilities. ...*(Interruptions)* I demand a special package for eastern Uttar Pradesh on the lines of Bundelkhand. They are in the ruling party in Uttar Pradesh. They are accountable to the people. They should enumerate the development schemes implemented by them during the last three years.

16.00 hrs.

Which sugar mills have been run? Have they set up any new sugar mill under the Sugar Corporation Federation in the private sector. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Pandey ji, please sit down. Your point will not go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Today the power situation is such that it is a Union subject and if the Government Grants, a package of Rs. 80,000 crore then how it would run? We grant them funds and they would erect statues.

We will not give Centre's fund for unproductive use. We will give Centre's fund for productive, planned, development and growth, so we have done three things. We enacted NREGA to provide livelihood and employment. We enacted National Food Security Bill to provide food security to the people. We empowered the people with Rights to Information Act. We have empowered the people with the biggest right. Be it the question of food or right to information. I want that special economic package should be given to eastern Uttar Pradesh.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ghanshyam Anuragi.

SHRI GHANSHYAM ANURAGI (Jalaun): I want to speak from this seat.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not in your seat, so you should take permission from Chair.

SHRI GHANSHYAM ANURAGI: Mr. Chairman Sir I want to speak from this seat, with your permission.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Permission granted.

SHRI GHANSHYAM ANURAGI: Hon. Chairman Sir, today the entire country is facing severe drought condition because of scanty rainfall. Bundelkhand and my entire parliamentary constituency is facing acute drought conditions. There is no other means of livelihood apart from agriculture. Farmers have been ruined and become labourers. Labourers are definitely migrating to big cities. There is no difference between a farmer and a labourer. There is acute crisis and scarcity of drinking water in my area and there is no irrigation facility. Farmers do not get water because there is no deep tubewells. Package was announced for Bundelkhand but not a single penny was released. Package does not include deep borewells and new pump canals. It is a matter of concern, hence there should be irrigation facility in the interest of farmers and therefore package for Bundelkhand should invariably include deep borewells and pump canals. People should be provided drinking water facility. I demand that handpumps of o 2000 India mark should be provided for each district. There is no road connectivity and road should be constructed in villages, majras and cities and it should be included in the package. Delhi gets uninterrupted power supply whereas power supply has not been provided. Delhi has no space but we construct roads and lay rail lines but there is ample space but roads are not constructed. In my region people succumbed to death due to hunger and here dogs get

bread and butter in abundance to eat and destroy. Men and animals succumbed to death for want of water. There is only one way to help the farmers and the people. I request you to include the Bundelkhand region under accelerated irrigation benefit schemes. There is acute crisis. As the accelerated irrigation benefit scheme has been implemented in Koraput, Kalahandi and Bolangir in Orissa, a similar scheme should be implemented for Bundelkhand, then only people will be benefited. Even the condition of the education system is pitiable there. Villages are scattered there and there are majras and houses but no school facility. If school is there then it lacks teachers. There is a need to construct schools and appoint teachers in Bundelkhand. Similarly, there is acute shortage of hospitals. Hospitals lack medicines and doctors. Male-female ratio in the population there is equal but there is no female doctors or specialists in the hospitals. I demand that medicines should be provided and doctors should be appointed immediately.

Educational system is not being properly imparted. The present situation is very critical. Whether it is the Government of Uttar Pradesh or the Union Government, they are not sensitive towards Bundelkhand. Today the condition of Bundelkhand is quite pitiable and people there are starving and dying. I am saying this with great a heavy heart. I would like to request through you that if it is not possible to provide tubewell for drinking water, then at least provide handpumps. The problem of drinking water has worsened there. They say that package has been provided to Bundelkhand but Bundelkhand has not yet received a single penny.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, you have received the special package.

SHRI GHANSHYAM ANURAGI: No Sir, Bundelkhand has not yet received a single penny. ...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): We are here discussing the issue of Purvanchal and you are making speech about Bundelkhand. You may raise the issue of Purvanchal. ...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI GHANSHYAM ANURAGI: Sir, I belong to that state. I was saying that there is a need of deep tubewells. You have provided a meager amount of Rs. 7.5 thousand crores for Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh in the package whereas both these states require Rs. 30

thousand crores. Therefore, it is my request that the package of Bundelkhand should be increased to Rs. 30 thousand crore wherein irrigation, education, medicines, fertilizers, seeds for farmers should be made available free of cost and a separate provision of electricity should be made in the region. I would like to say that either the Government of Uttar Pradesh is provided fund or they may be asked to provide sufficient electricity to Bundelkhand. Electricity is being provided only for two hours. People are reeling under extreme heat waves. The climate is very hot in that region. But unfortunately, only we can say about the Government of Uttar Pradesh, is that it is insensitive.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I request that there is an urgent need for irrigation, medicines, education and roads. Therefore, a big package should be prepared for Bundelkhand and irrigation facility should be provided. Arrangements may be made to alleviate poverty and starvation. Therefore, I especially request you for the same.

Secondly, I would like to say that schemes formulated for Bundelkhand in the package are insufficient. They are like a drop in the ocean. Officers have formulated schemes for embezzlement purposed. These schemes will not bring any results. These are new schemes. I think that schemes should be formulated in consultation with representatives. These schemes should be passed in district planning or district Panchayat or a committee should be constituted under the chairmanship of a member of Parliament and public representatives and officers of the districts, and schemes should be formulated in consultation with the hon'ble public representatives and the fund allocated for Bundelkhand should be spent under these schemes only. Suggestions were not sought for these schemes. Officers have formulated these schemes in A.C. rooms. They are doing all this to get higher commission and swindling the package of Bundelkhand. These officers of the Union and State Governments want to embezzle the fund to be provided under the package. They don't want the region to progress.

Therefore, I request you to be sensitive towards the poor, farmers and labourers. Apart from this 50 km area adjoining Bundelkhand whether it is Etawah, Auraiya, Kanpur Dehat and Bhognipur Assembly Constituency, Ghatampur, people here are facing similar conditions. Conditions of these areas are similar. They all should be provided packages like Bundelkhand, and since the conditions of these areas are similar, development schemes should be formulated for these areas, otherwise

they should be included in a similar package as for Bundelkhand.

Again I request the Government through you that the Union Government should consider it. Besides, I would like to say that the Government of Uttar Pradesh is misusing the funds of central schemes, hence CBI inquiry should be conducted in this regard. 'NREGA' scheme has been transformed as MNREGA here. These schemes are not being implemented, they are extorting the money and officers are making money keeping aside rules and guidelines and preparing false data.

Therefore, CBI inquiry should be conducted against the Government and officers. The Government and officers will be in dock when a CBI inquiry is conducted.

With these words I conclude my speech.

*SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR (Balurghat):
Sir, I am not against any special package for Bundelkhand but we should frame a specific policy. India is a big country with 619 districts. There are remote villagers, farflung areas where people cannot always reach. There has been selective development around the cities and towns. A proper policy should be there to decide which region is backward and which is not. Thus my proposal is a National Commission for Integration of Backward districts and Regions should be set up as soon as possible by the Central Government. The socio-economic picture of the country will be clear if we look at the report of this commission. If that is not done, then no development will be possible. The Government is saying that the Eastern India is less developed. You are aware that West Bengal can be divided into two parts – one part is North Bengal which is a backward region. Western Bihar, North Bihar and North Bengal lead to as far as Arunachal Pradesh. You will not see any irrigation facilities in the entire stretch. In India there are 5101 big dams for irrigation but in West Bengal we have only 28 dams. Arunachal Pradesh is the bordering state. But ironically the entire area lags behind on every account. If we want to have more progress, we have to take good care of the agricultural sector.

In order to develop agriculture, irrigation facilities must be improved. But there are major pressure groups which exercise their rights to be heard and have power to arm-twist the administration. If political will is lacking, then we will never have any development in the

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

underdeveloped areas, this has to be kept in mind. You know that the districts of Purulia, Bankura, Midnapore of West Bengal, are termed as 'Jangalmahal' area and these are Naxal-affected region. Who is going to bring about development in this area? The Government should include it within its policy.

I hail from South Dinajpur. My specific proposal is to set up the commission and usher in development in right earnest. In North Bengal there is dearth of factories, enterprises or infrastructure. Colleges, technical educational institutions are also nowhere to be seen. In my Balurghat, not a single engineering medical or technical college is there. Transport facilities are also not up to the mark. Though Dalkhola is the gateway to Eastern India the roads are in very poor shape. Irrigation facilities are extremely inadequate. People are forced to drink arsenic contaminated water. In Tapan, and gangarampur block, potable drinking water is not available. Water is life. So something must be done in this regard. I wish the country progresses in the right direction. With these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Baharampur): Sir, I will appreciate Rajkumari Ratna Singh as she has brought forward a most relevant resolution and without any ambiguity all the Members of this House should support the Resolution for the people of Eastern Uttar Pradesh.

The State of Uttar Pradesh is largely a collection of various geographical and historical regions which was carved out under the colonial administration. Later on, various regions have been segregated from Nawab of Oudh and the King of Garwal to form the United Province. Sir, in 1950, there were 51 districts in UP. With the creation of 15 more districts during the two regimes of Mayawati Government, the number shot up to 82. After 2000, when Uttaranchal has been constituted, UP is left with 70 districts. With the exclusion of Uttaranchal, the districts of UP could be categorised into six regions, namely, Rohilkhand, Bundelkhand, Upper Doab, Lower Doab, Eastern and Western UP. In so far as economic region is concerned, UP is categorised into four regions. And now, we are here deliberating on the situation of Eastern UP. It has been proposed by the Resolution that as the package of Bundelkhand has served some succour to the parched population of that rocky terrain, people of Eastern UP should be offered this kind of a package. This is the essence of the Resolution. Due to our young leader, Shri Rahul Gandhi, Bundelkhand had shot into prominence and by dint of his persistent endeavour, Bundelkhand has got the package.

Similarly, Eastern UP which is not only one of the most populated regions in our country but also one of the poorest areas of our country should be given the package like Bundelkhand. I support such a package.

If you see the parameters used to determine an area to be recognised as backward, then all the parameters will merge in Eastern UP. As far as population is concerned, Eastern UP consists of 40 per cent population of Uttar Pradesh. As far as density of population is concerned, Eastern UP has the high density of population in UP. It is 776 persons per square kilometre.

As far as urbanisation is concerned, it is one of the parameters which determines the backwardness of region. If you go by the index of human development, then urbanisation constitutes one of the indices. In terms of urbanisation, in the entire UP, highest percentage of urbanisation occurs in Western region. That is 28.25 per cent. But so far as Eastern UP is concerned, urbanisation has now been hovering around merely 11.78 per cent. That means out of 100 people in Eastern UP, only 11 people live in cities or towns. It clearly indicates that Eastern UP is a backward area not only in UP but also in the country as a whole.

So far as literacy is concerned, Eastern UP has a low literacy rate estimated at 54.27 per cent. In so far as foodgrain productivity is concerned, I must admit that foodgrain productivity in Bundelkhand region is the lowest among all the regions in UP. That is 11.56 quintal per hectare. For Western Uttar Pradesh, it is 25.19 quintal per hectare. The gross value of the agricultural output in Eastern Uttar Pradesh is merely Rs. 16,000 to 18,000 per hectare.

As far as irrigation is concerned, Eastern Uttar Pradesh is regarded as a low irrigated area in Uttar Pradesh. The per capita power consumption is also one determinant to define an area as backward. In terms of per capita power consumption, it is the lowest in Eastern Uttar Pradesh, that is 118.80 kilo watt in the Eastern Uttar Pradesh, whereas the highest per capita power consumption is in Western Uttar Pradesh, that is 273.70 kilo watt.

Majority of the farmers in Eastern Uttar Pradesh are categorised as marginal farmers. 84.20 per cent of farmers in Eastern Uttar Pradesh are categorised as marginal farmers.

If you come to the industrial scenario of Eastern Uttar Pradesh, it is abysmal. The number of people in Eastern Uttar Pradesh who are engaged in registered factory is only 97 per lakh, whereas in Western Uttar Pradesh it is 645 per lakh. So, it is easy to assume that Eastern Uttar Pradesh is a backward region of Uttar Pradesh.

There is a place in Eastern Uttar Pradesh called, Chauri Chura, which has a historical significance. Mahatma Gandhi propagated and led the non-violent movement. At that time, people from Chauri Chura were leading a peaceful demonstration. When the demonstration was passing through a police station of that area, the local police pounced on them without any provocation. In retaliation, those peaceful demonstrators had thrown all the police personnel in the fire. It means that if we neglect a spark, in future it will engulf the entire edifice. Already Maoists are encroaching into the area by taking advantage of the poverty and the impoverishment of Eastern Uttar Pradesh.

However, Eastern Uttar Pradesh is a land which can be exploited to the benefit of the common people, which can be utilised to the benefit of the common people because it has fertile lands for agriculture. It has a huge tourism potential. It has Banaras. Buddhist places are there. A number of tourist places are there in Eastern Uttar Pradesh.

So, if a package could be given to Eastern Uttar Pradesh, I think it will do justice to the people of Eastern Uttar Pradesh. In this regard, I would request the Government to take immediate steps so that the content of the Resolution could be materialised.

With these words, I thank you and conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI GORAKHNATH PANDEY (Bhadohi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for allowing me to speak on this resolution. In support of the demand for a special package for our eastern Uttar Pradesh made by Rajkumari Ratna Singh Ji on the lines of Bundelkhand, I would put some points before you as demand and as suggestions as well.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it has been 60 years since the country became independent and if there is any party which has ruled it most in these years then it is the

Congress party. No area, region and district can be developed in a year which requires many years. But, even today, the people of Purvanchal are backward. Our per capita income and our resources are little. Our people there are sad, victim, hungry and naked. It is not some political issue. It is worth considering as to why we have been left behind in progress? Why are we, the people of Purvanchal, in pitiable condition even today. The Congress party is most responsible for it as they had ruled the state for 45 years. Today, Pal Saheb was saying that the present Government is busy in the statues and stones.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Hon. Member if the Government never installed the statues or built the parks before this? ...*(Interruptions)* Please listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)* Try to have courage to listen. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Pandey, please address the Chair. Do not look to the other side. Please look at me. Please address the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, take your seat.

SHRI GORAKHNATH PANDEY: You should try to have courage to listen. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Jagdambika Pal, please sit down. Shri Goraknath Pandey, please address the Chair and speak on the economic development of the area. Do not blame this side or that side. In that way, we are to be blamed; everybody is to be blamed.

[Translation]

SHRI GORAKHNATH PANDEY: This point was raised by them and that is why it had become necessary to say this. ...*(Interruptions)* They are used to speak but do not have the listening capacity. They are unable to listen because they have made the mistakes. To please the buck on others is easy but, first, they should think as to what have they done in the 45 years?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to say that a bridge is being constructed on river Ghaghra in

the area from which Pal Saheb hail. Foundation stone was laid there by the two previous Governments. ...(*Interruptions*) Congress as well as SP did it. Stones were put up there and then they vanished. Today, a bridge on the same Ghaghra river is being constructed with an estimated cost of Rs. 100 crore which will reduce the travel time from there to Allahabad to one hour from 5 hours. This will save the time of the people too. ...(*Interruptions*)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to say that while Uttar Pradesh produces the electricity but the Centre gets it supplied from Uttar Pradesh to other states. Electricity is being produced in Purvanchal but when the same electricity is supplied to Madhya Pradesh or other states and then the rates at which it is purchased in the Uttar Pradesh again ...(*Interruptions*). You listen to me first ...(*Interruptions*) they are the sellers and make allegations against the present Government ...(*Interruptions*).

Sir, I request you that they should try to listen. ...(*Interruptions*) Electricity is being produced in Uttar Pradesh at Anpara, Obra, Renukoot, Rihand, NTPC. The Centre takes away the share of other state from there and then the same electricity is being supplied to Uttar Pradesh at a higher cost. We are being given step motherly treatment in two ways. The real situation is that of natural calamity. Floods come every year and Gorakhpur, Basti and the surrounding areas are devastated every year.

Sir, I hail from the Bhadohi parliamentary Constituency. Bhadohi district is known for its carpet industry and is dominated by the weavers. Not only Bhadohi, several districts in Purvanchal adjoining it have been centres of handloom engaged in weaving and where many such poor families live there. They live below poverty line. There is no alternative job for them. They have not become poor today. Their poverty is continuing which they have inherited from Sultanate. It would be unjust if all their responsibilities are handed over to the present Government today. People saying so should look within themselves. They speak about the thermal power, but who has sold it—present Government or the previous Governments? They put their own back on MNREGA. The whole House knows today the number of persons being benefited through MNREGA and the achievement of the villagers?

Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention towards 2 points. There are many areas adjoining my

area, which is Bhadohi constituency area where people connected with carpet industry live. They are on the verge of starvation. The Government should waive their loans, make special arrangements and provide a special package to them. Thousands of acres of land is being lost annually by the persons living in the areas surrounded by rivers and which face soil erosion every year. Arrangement should also be made in this regard. The Government should also protect the areas which are getting lost due to the floods every year. Through you, I demand that our Hon. Chief Minister has demanded Rs. 80,000 crore. This amount should be provided by the Central Government so that the development of Purvanchal can take place.

DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY (*Shrawasti*): Sir, I am grateful to you as you gave me an opportunity to speak on the resolution presented by Rajkumari Ratna Singh in this august House regarding the demand of special economic package for the eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh state.

Sir, emphasizing the resolution presented by Rajkumari Ratna Singh, figures presented by Rajkumari Ratna Singh, figures presented and statement given by the hon. Shri Jagdambika Palji, I am especially grateful to Shri Adhir Ranjan Choudhary who beautifully presented the pains of Purvanchal before this House through figures which highlights the need of such a resolution.

Sir, I through you, would like to request this highest House and like to present my views by associating myself with the figures presented by all hon. Members. Since I am familiar with this area I myself am a son of Purvanchal and a lot of pains remains to be articulated, but the time of this House is precious.

Before your bell starts ringing, I would like to present my point of view by associating myself with all those figures and would like to request this august House to pass this resolution unanimously. Purvanchal is a backward, if we talk about independent India the districts of Purvanchal will figure with most backward in development index. Time, whatever allotted, will fall short in describing its pains. Hon. Pal Saheb talked in detail about the scourge of floods. More than fifty percent area of Purvanchal is affected by floods. We live in Shivalik belt, terai of Himalaya our area falls in terai district. Beharai Shrawasti, Balarampur, Siddharth Nagar ...(*Interruptions*) you are talking about their glory, I am also coming to that point. If everything is done in a systematic manner and the flood water coming from Nepal and which is causeduffering is utilized by us will prove a boon for us.

Earlier time. Members asked how many Prime Ministers have come from Purvanchal, It is a very important question. When we sit in this august House, when India is projected in the world map then the story of India is not complete without the glorious story of Purvanchal. Take the example of the Revolution of 1857. Take the arrangement which prevailed earlier ...*(Interruptions)*

Take the example of Mangal Pandey. ...*(Interruptions)* Probably we shall have to undergo blood test to find out how such people came to be included in Pandeys. They forgot to salute the tricolour. He talked about the development of entire India in no uncertain terms. He laid his life with a feeling to serve. The land of Purvanchal is worthy to be saluted. Martyr Ashphakullah, Rajguru, Ram Prasad Bismil all of them laid their lives in the districts of Purvanchal. Soil of that area has given birth to such martyrs. The soil of that area is adorable for entire India. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a long list of speakers. Please try to confine to the subject.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): He is probably the last speaker.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No.

[Translation]

DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY: Sir, I am directly coming to the suggestions. Please allow me to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I can give you time but please be precise.

[Translation]

DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY: There is unemployment in our area. We have fertile land and man power as a result of which the productivity of India increases. If utilized systematically these things will prove boon for us.

I would like to talk about Budha package. Budha circuit, tourism should be added in the special package for Purvanchal. If the breeding centre for Dolphanes is anywhere in the world it is in Purvanchal. The breeding

centre for crocodiles is also located there. Buddhist pilgrim places like Shrawasti, Lumbani, places like Shrawasti, Lumbani, Kushinagar, Sarnath etc. are also located there. Pilgrimage places for Jains are also located in that area. International tourist visit there. There is reserve forest and we are richest in wild life in India. We have also tribes. We should systematize everything to encourage tourism. If we do some more co-ordination in the schemes being implemented and arrange it then it will grow not only as an industry but also turn out to be a boon for us. India will get an opportunity to be the biggest source of foreign exchange. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, we provide Purvanchal development fund to BRGF, Border Area Development, MHDP, NRHM, MANREGA etc. implementation rests with State Governments in a federal system. My hon. Brother was saying. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not go to that side; you please conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY: I just want to say that he raised the issue of electricity. Sir, Congress has not been in power in Uttar Pradesh during the last 20 years. If we conduct a proper enquiry into the fact that in peak hours in Uttar Pradesh how much power they have purchased from private sector, apart from NTPC, why they purchased, what was the rate and where this electricity was used? After putting that in the grid is that electricity is not being sold to the industrial areas adjacent to Uttar Pradesh? Sir, a scam involving crores of rupees is being done there whereas they talk about Congress ruled States. The development work being carried out in Purvanchal till date. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY: All that is the contribution of the Congress. After that Uttar Pradesh has only been looted. Today business is being carried

out in the name of politics there. ...(*Interruptions*) Politics has been commercialised ...(*Interruptions*) the dignity of democracy is being violated ...(*Interruptions*) when is this House ...(*Interruptions*) we talk about that we feel ashaed ...(*Interruptions*) what type of morality they talk about, what kind of politics they refer to? ...(*Interruptions*) who have violated the dignity of democracy ...(*Interruptions*) commercialized politics, such things do not suit such people, ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now not a word spoken by Pandeyji will be recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)*

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (Machhlishahr): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank Rajkumari Ratna Singh Ji for drawing attention of the House towards the Purvanchal. The eastern part of Uttar Pradesh, which we call Purvanchal, is an extremely backward region. The major reason behind that is that special attention has been paid towards other parts of Uttar Pradesh but no attention has been paid to eastern Uttar Pradesh. For this I would clearly like to say that Congress has remained in power at Centre for a very long period and Congress has also ruled in the state for long as well. Today, all of my colleagues are shouting a lot. I would like to tell them that here we are discussing about seeking a Purvanchal package and not for merely playing politics. We are blaming and accusing each other, why are they feeling bad? If it is being said that the Congress has remained in power after freedom, so it is responsible, why can not you tolerate that? They must listen to it. ...(*Interruptions*) we are here to demand a special package. ...(*Interruptions*) This Government remained in power and they are playing politics. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Silence, please.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Please listen, have patience. ...(*Interruptions*) Consider the facts. If Purvanchal is backward. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Rashid ji, please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Demand a special package for Purvanchal. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: All of you please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Sir, In Purvanchal there are four or five such districts like Balia Gazipur, Azamgarh, Banaras etc., which are continuously suffering from drought for the last three years. It is not raining there at all as a result ground water level has gone down. People over there are facing acute shortage of even drinking water ...(*Interruptions*). We had seen in the last few days, some figures were given by the Union Government stating that it had provided Rs. 75,000 crore for rain water harvesting, no one knows if even 75,000 liters of water was stored from the set prepared by that money, only the Union Government can tell about it. Rainfed water shed were also set up but in Purvanchal, nowhere I saw any arrangements for water harvesting. What is the Government doing? ...(*Interruptions*) The Hon. Member should tell us. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Saroj Ji, you please address the Chair.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Theni): Are you talking about Central Government. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Where does issue of Tamil Nadu arise? You please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: If we look at it from industry point of view then in the entire Purvanchal the Union Government can not see any district other than Sultanpur, Amethi and Raibareilly the issue of setting up any industry in Uttar Pradesh comes up, the Government can only think of Raibareilly and Amethi and no other district comes to their mind. People are starving all over in Purvanchal, there are no industries. Situation of power is also extremely bad, the children their do not remember when they last studied in the presence of electricity. No one knows when power comes and goes. At present a ratio of five, six, seven and ten hours has been made. There is continuous power cut for ten hours and it is only for five to six hours that they have power. Out of total

population of people of Uttar Pradesh living in Mumbai 50 percent belong to our area *i.e.* Gazipur, Azamgarh, Baliya, Gonda, Bahraich, Banaras and Deoria. If adequate power supply arrangements are made in Purvanchal then these people who go to Mumbai, get beaten up and abused and are considered second category citizens, would never go to Mumbai and they can open some small enterprises at their homes with the help of power. The people of Purvanchal are very much laborious. If they can earn money in Mumbai and if they are provided electricity and the problem of power is resolved then the farmers there are so hard working that they can even do farming and earn their livelihood. The Government of Uttar Pradesh is also not concerned about the farmers. The capital city Lucknow has become unsympathetic then how can it think about what is happening to farmers in Purvanchal and whether they are getting power, water and water for irrigating their fields etc.? The Government of Uttar Pradesh is not even thinking about all these things. But I would like to tell the Union Government that it is benevolent. Please give due respect to the people of Purvanchal. I would demand a package of at least 50,000 crore rupees.

I would like to thank you for allowing me to speak.

SHRI KAMAL KISHOR 'COMMANDO' (Bahraich): Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

I thank Rajkumari Ratan Singh ji very much for at least raising a demand for special package for the development of Purvanchal. First of all, I would like to tell you that it has more population than all other areas of Uttar Pradesh. There is not any industry in this region. The main reason for this is that there was Government of either Samajwadi Party or BSP during the last 20 years. That is why there is so much poverty and unemployment in the eastern Uttar Pradesh today.

Besides, there is severe problem of malnutrition in the eastern Uttar Pradesh. At least, 22 percent of the population is dalit in this area. I want to say with conviction that no industry has been set up there during the terms of SP and BSP Governments in Uttar Pradesh during the last 20 years. So many of my colleagues are present in the House and they can tell us if any industry has been set up there during this period. No power plant was set up during their rule due to which there is acute people of electricity in the entire Uttar Pradesh including eastern Uttar Pradesh. Whatever developmental works took place there, those were during the Congress Party's rule. No development took place thereafter. It has to be

accepted that if the people of this area follow the Congress Party, then the entire Uttar Pradesh could be developed including the Purvanchal.

Today, much is said about the dalits in our state. I am myself a dalit and know what the Governments of these have done for upliftment of dalits. They have done nothing. If any work has been done there for upliftment of dalits, it has been done during the Congress Party's rule. I am saying so as a son of a dalit.

When Rahul Gandhi ji pays a visit to our state then protests are made there. I do not want to take anybody's name but would like to ask whether the leader of the ruling party there has even visited any other part of the state except Lucknow? The Government has no free time except for stalling of stones in Lucknow only. If they could have used these stones for some poor man's house, then atleast he have been benefited. Therefore, I want to say that Purvanchal can not be developed just by installing statues. The development of eastern Uttar Pradesh is possible only when there is Congress Party's Government with full public support. Today, we are sitting in the Lok Sabha—who is to be thanked for making this possible? If it is due to Baba Saheb Ambedkar then from where did he come and who brought him, who gave him the right? The Congress party had given him the right. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Pandey ji, sit down. It is not proper to interrupt like this when an hon. Member is speaking.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have spoken, now your point will not go to record.

...*(Interruptions)**

SHRI KAMAL KISHOR 'COMMANDO': Baba Saheb Ambedkar got so much respect because of his ability ...*(Interruptions)*. Apart from collection of funds, no other work is being done in eastern Uttar Pradesh today ...*(Interruptions)*. Someone may tell me if any developmental work is taking place there. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Pandey ji, Jagdambika ji, all of you please sit down. This is not the way, you should not interrupt like this.

SHRI KAMAL KISHOR 'COMMANDO': Mr. Chairman, Sir, I also have as much right to speak as much they have. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You sit down. You have already spoken. Now, nothing you say is going to record.

SHRI KAMAL KISHOR 'COMMANDO': Just have a look at the condition of the roads in eastern Uttar Pradesh today. They are in very poor shape. It is a glaring example of the corruption that is taking place in Purvanchal today. I will not say much. I would like to thank Ratna Singh ji that she has moved this important resolution in the House due to which we are discussing the problem of eastern Uttar Pradesh, its development and a special package for it.

Everyone knows very well the drama staged by the Government when Rahul Gandhi ji had demanded a special package for Bundelkhand. I want to say that such low politics should not be played in the development related works. Today, the farmers are committing suicide there. Rahul Gandhi ji has encouraged them by touring there, I would say that the entire populations of the state and all of us are with him. One should go to villages and see what are the conditions there. The State Government can not see beyond Lucknow. I hail from Bahraich and I travel between Bahraich and Gorakhpur, at least, once a week. Therefore, I know how much poverty is there in the villages and how the poor people are dying. What is wrong is someone listens to the poor and talks about their development. I will welcome if someone works for the poor and for their development.

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH (Hamirpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you allowing me to speak.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, you can speak from your seat. Otherwise, at least you take permission from the Chair

[*Translation*]

and you should conclude within 5 minutes.

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: You have given me 5 minutes time to speak. I promise that I will conclude within 4 minutes but there should be no interruption from any hon. Member. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair and do not look at them.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: The Bill presented by Rajkumari Ratna Singh ji is a very good bill. Even the Purans say that whenever Yajna is performed, devils appear ...(*Interruptions*). I want to raise the level of the debate. I want to tell you an example when Lord Dunning was the Chief Justice of England. This is mentioned in the Act. A boy murdered his parents, when the trial started, the barristers debated that he should be pardoned as he had become an orphaned.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, the time extended for this Resolution is over. If the House agrees, the time for this Resolution may be extended by another one hour.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time for this Resolution is extended by one hour. There are two more Members to speak. Then the hon. Minister will reply and thereafter the mover of the Resolution will also reply. Then we will take up Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh's Resolution. Please confine your speech to five minutes.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HUKMADEO NARAYAN YADAV (Madhubani): Sir, I have an objection to this. I have written in this regard. The Rules for the Private Member's Bills, say that the Private bill and the resolution should be completed within the time limit specified for the purpose.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the House agrees, the time can be extended not only once, but more than once. You are a very senior Member, please sit down.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: When the case was referred to the House of Lords, the Barrister said that the boy might be pardoned because he had been orphaned. Lord Dunning said that the question was not that he be pardoned, the question was that who had rendered him orphaned.

[English]

He himself was the author of his orphanhood by murdering his father and mother.

[Translation]

the hon'ble member is saying that they themselves are responsible for this state of affairs, Purvanchal has suffered the same fate in Uttar Pradesh. I tell you the reasons for the present state of Purvanchal.

17.00 hrs.

Now I will tell you how this happened Congress ruled for 43 years out of the 61 year oldjourney of independent India. First Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru became Prime Minister followed by Shastri ji, Indira Gandhi ji, Rajiv ji, Chandreshkhar ji and Vishwanath Pratap ji. This is still going on and as they are saying that people are standing.

[English]

You are like the child about whom I mentioned just now. You have orphaned yourself. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

you don't understand my point. I would like to say that the reason of the same is that they kept the people in dark for 45 years. They used to say that they won us freedom and came with a pair of bulls to seek out votes. They did not work for development but they destroyed everything. Today you are making a demand for package? I would like to say in front of you that in Gorakhpur, there was a major 'Chand' mark urea factory which closed down during the Congress regime. Then I was the Advocate of this firm and today 5,000 worker are jobless for the last ten years, out of which 83 have committed suicide but no action has been taken in this regard. Today you are demanding package. Secondly I would like to say that prices are rising and pulses are being sold at Rs. 90 per kg. I was in the legal profession but my base is agriculture. Farmers sell their pulses at Rs. 18-20 kg and the difference of Rs. 70 is shared by the agent, the transporter, or the wholeselar, the businessmen of Mumbai and Kolkata. Who is responsible for it? I do not wish to disclose the facts regarding sugar industry. Now you see their cleverness that they suddeny feel affection for Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar. There's no use to felicitate him after making all efforts to defame him. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only the speech of Shri Vijay Bahadur Singh will go on record and nothing else will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...**

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: I am thankful to the Chair. When Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar contested the election, the Congress made all efforts and defeated him by projecting his private secretary against him. When Vishwanath Pratap was Prime Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You suggest measures to improve the area.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: Good singers don't sing nonsense. I am not singing Kawwali. If leader of the House Pranab Mukherjee would have been present here, then he would surely teach the Congress MPs discipline. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude your speech.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: Please listen to me. Since BJP Government is in power hence they will create problem for them. The Minister of External Affairs is sitting here. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why are you looking at them? You address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: Please listen, I am telling you a very important point that national highway 76 and 86 enter Uttar Pradesh through Chitrakoot via

Mirzapur-Purvanchal and Allahabad. The point from where it enter Uttar Pradesh via Jhansi has not been repaired for the last five years. We have asked the Government of Uttar Pradesh to make this national pot hole as a national monument and treat this pot hole as national highway. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now. Hon. Member Shri Sanjay Nirupam to speak now.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: Secondly, you say that you are the Messiah of the poor. When I went to my constituency, I found that there was a shortage of 70 percent in the BPL list, only 20 per cent names are there and 70 percent BPL people are yet to be enlisted. Why don't you increase the number of BPL people? You want to provide a package of rupees fifty thousand crores instead of rupees two thousand crores. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called Shri Sanjay Nirupam.

[*English*]

Hon. Member Shri Sanjay Nirupam will speak now. Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Vijay Bahadur Singh, you conclude now. I have called him.

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: Sir, I am concluding my speech.

Hon. Chairman, I have been requesting and begging of you that if there is an interruption, then I must be given time for the time that has been eaten in interruptions and which is not ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: After reducing the time taken in interruptions, you have spoken for more than six minutes. Please sit down now.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: They* are children.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This will not go on record. Please sit down now.

(*Interruptions*)...*

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: I am concluding. I am saying it for your own good. I am saying that if you have ample wealth, why don't you increase the member of BPL cards? You may provide a package of rupees fifty thousand crores on rupees one lakh crore, but it is wrong if you provide it to get votes.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point. Please conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: I support their demand regarding BPL and request the Government to provide assistance to Purvanchal as per its requirement. But 'Behenji' had asked for Rs. 80 crore but was not given even Rs. 80. What kind of a joke is it?

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Vijay Bahadur Singh, please sit down. I have called him.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: In the end I would like to say. ...(*Interruptions*)*

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This will not go on record.

It is required not only on this side, but it is required on every side.

Shri Sanjay Nirupam.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM (Mumbai North): Hon'ble Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for allowing me to speak on this important issue.

17.08 hrs.

[DR. M. THAMBIDURAI *in the Chair*]

I grateful to Rajkumari Ratna Singh, hon'ble Member of Parliament and appreciate her as she has raised a very important issue through a Private Member's Resolution. Purvanchal has not developed, Purvanchal is backward or it has lagged behind in the race of development. If all these things' reflection is visible anywhere, it is in Mumbai. People from various districts of Purvanchal are living in Mumbai. I repeatedly say and once again say in this House that not a single Bhojpuri speaking person from Purvanchal who is in Mumbai is found begging in Mumbai though the people speaking various languages are found begging at every signal across Mumbai which is a testimony to this fact that people from Purvanchal who are there are labourers. They work hard and earn their bread and not only build their home in Mumbai but also build a home in Jaunpur, Ghajipur, Ballia etc. The village, area, state of such diligent class is deprived of development, and with this pain, Rajkumari Ratna Singhji has presented this resolution in this House and I rise to support this resolution.

Purvanchal is an integral part of Uttar Pradesh. My village is located about hundred kilometre away from Purvanchal. I know more about Kashi and Varanasi than I know about Patna. I am proud that out of three important pilgrim places Kashi, Mathura and Ayodhya located in Uttar Pradesh, two are located in Purvanchal. One is Varanasi and second is located in Ayodhya. If we look at Purvanchal from historical, traditional and religious perspective then Sarnath, the Buddhist centre of the country is also situated here. Purvanchal has made important contribution to the country. Purvanchal has given so many Prime Ministers to the country. If we start from Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, then there is Lal Bahadur Shastriji, Rajivji, V.P. Singhji and our Chandrashekharji was also from Ballia. Late Mangal Pandey, who started the fight for Independence in the country, also belonged to Ballia. Mangal Pandey, Chittu Pandey all belonged to Ballia. The area with such a historical background has lagged behind and I am here to express my regret on this plight. I would like it if the Central Government gives

a package for the development of Purvanchal. A small district like Bhadohi produces largest number of carpets in entire Purvanchal. Carpets are exported from there. There was a proposal to set up an SEZ at Bhadohi, I don't know what is the status of that proposal at present. When I happened to go to Bhadohi about one or two years ago from Varanasi, I was told that certain areas were being acquired. It appears to me that the development of Bhadohi is essential for the development of the entire region. The development of Allahabad is also necessary. Allahabad was once known as the literary capital of India. Learned people liked to live there and it was an education hub. Famous litterateurs from Suryakant Tripathi Nirala to Amarkant lived there. ...(*Interruptions*) Suryakant Tripathi Nirala lived there throughout his life, I myself have visited his home. I mean to say that Purvanchal has such a golden history and background but today it is left behind and we should try to bring it forward. Kashi and Varanasi are big centres of religious tourism. We at least go twice there in a year, I also go to Varanasi. But the development of Varanasi is not taking place in the real sense of the term. We should put our whole strength in it, we must develop a perspective, a vision for this. Unfortunately what is taking place at Purvanchal is. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, please wind-up your speech.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Sir, I will conclude in one or two minutes. Unfortunately, today, statues are being constructed in Uttar Pradesh. ...(*Interruptions*) They do not feel good hearing such things. When the people of Purvanchal ask, Government replies that development is not taking place as the Government has no funds but in the same Uttar Pradesh one after another statue is being erected by spending Rs. 14 thousand crore. It appears that the government is not working in the right direction. ...(*Interruptions*) Dara Singhji, people from Mau and Ajamgarh work on a large scale in our city and we work with them holding them in high esteem.

Sir, I want to mention here that taxi drivers in Mumbai are from Pratapgarh, the place from where Ratnaji comes. Persons selling milk across Mumbai are from Jaunpur and Varanasi, persons selling vegetables and fruits across

Mumbai are from Gorakhpur and Ajamgarh. The entire Mumbai has an integral relationship with Purvanchal and on the basis of that relationship I want that State Government and Central government should pay some attention towards the development of Purvanchal.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, you can start speaking.

...(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Sir, I would like to mention here that when a stampede occurred at an Ashram in Pratapgarh and about one hundred people died, their Chief Minister did not visit there but our young leader Shri Rahul Gandhi especially went there from Delhi, met the affected persons and provided facilities to them ...(*Interruptions*) how many times the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh ...(*Interruptions*) visited Purvanchal during the last three years? ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not convert the Parliament into UP Assembly. Please, I request you not to convert the Parliament into UP Assembly.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You had raised the point, and I do not want this kind of thing.

...(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Sir, it is an issue in itself. ...(*Interruptions*) I am telling all these things because I think, Purvanchal has been neglected by the State Government. Package should be given by the Central Government but the State Government should also pay special attention towards the development of Purvanchal, this is my submission.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (*Vaishali*): Sir, I thank Rajkumari Ratna Singh ji for this Resolution. The Government are intended to remove regional disparity but it should not be done on pick and choose policy. The Government have rightly provided the package to

Bundelkhand keeping in view regional disparity, backwardness, poverty and severe drought condition there. Adjoining Purvanchal is also facing the similar conditions. I didn't have any intention to speak on this issue as I was interested in expressing my views on the Resolution only but I am compelled to do so as there is no scope left.

Political debate that took place here is for welfare of people of Purvanchal. Point is that you have provided a package to Bundelkhand, then why won't you provide package to Purvanchal? I would like to know the stand of the Government in this regard. Then, it will be cleared that those who have extended their Support will immediately withdraw. ...(*Interruptions*) Won't they withdraw? I would like to make it clear that no force will be able to deny package to Purvanchal. It has the support of all the Members and the entire House. They have also raised their voice for them but are you in favour of providing package to Purvanchal? It has the support of the entire House. Now you will see stand of the Government but I would like to cautioned the Government for making request to withdraw the Resolution, otherwise, there will be voting and we will get it passed. That is why I am raise my voice. Otherwise voting process will reveal that which way you will cast your vote. It is the policy of the Government to remove regional disparity. When the Government have provided package to Bundelkhand for removing its backwardness, then why are it is neglecting the Purvanchal? If such indiscrimination is done, then no one will be able to stop to make Purvanchal as full-fledged state. I would like to say that regional disparity is dangerous for integrity of the country. The main reason behind the demand of seprate small states is regional disparity. There are a number of problems before the country including regional disparity. There is regional disparity within Uttar Pradesh. Western Uttar Pradesh is well ahead in terms of development followed by Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bundelkhand is far behind. Therefore, demand of package is justified. The Government have provided a package to backward region Bundelkhand of the state, then there is no justification for denying package to Purvanchal. Therefore, Shri Narayansamy ji will have to say rightaway whether the Government are providing package, otherwise be prepared for the voting. None of the members of that side will support the Government on the issue, since it has the support of the entire House. This step will remove the egeional disparity and Members have discussed about the history, geography and culture of Purvanchal, now nothing is left to be discussed. Therefore, I rise to support

the Resolution with a view that a package would be announced right away for Purvanchal. I am leaving it on the Government to decide the quantum, the time and the mode of package but the Government have to say right now that Purvanchal will get the package on the lines of Bundelkhand and the Government does not adopt policy of pick and choose and discrimination. With these words I support the Resolution. I am waiting for the reply of the Government as also whether the answer is positive. Government should not say as to we have done this and that, hence, Resolution should be withdrawn. With these words I support the Resolution.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister wants to reply today itself. Therefore, please be brief, Shri P.L. Punia. Today, we want to complete this. Please try to be brief.

[Translation]

SHRI P.L. PUNIA (Barabanki): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for allowing me to speak on this Resolution. I would like to congratulate Rajkumari Ratna Singh ji for presenting such an important issue in the form of Resolution in the House. A comprehensive discussion has been held and each party has supported it. It is such an important issue and the need of the hour is to provide special package for the development of Purvanchal and I hope special attention shall be paid towards development of Purvanchal. We are all aware that Purvanchal region is spreaded from Kanpur to Fatehpur and further to border of Nepal. Some area of Bihar is also known as Purvanchal. The entire region is backward and people are poor, population is quite high but the land is most fertile there. It is the land of Gautam Buddha which covers Kushinagar, Shravasti, Lumbini where people from all over the world particularly Japan and Korea visits but the region has not been developed. Roads were constructed in the name of Buddhist Circuit but now the same are in dilapidated condition and no one is there to maintain it. What is the reason for the same? The main reason of the same is that the population is quite high. Ghaghra, Ganga, Rapti, Gandak and Budi Gandak rivers flow through this area. Each year crores of people affected due to the menace of flood. Each year they are displaced, their huts get ruined and each year they construct their hut and the very next year it get ruin. How can the development take place? Development cannot take place in such a situation. My constituency is situated along the Ghaghra River, hence, we have made a demand that a dam should be

constructed on the bank of Ghaghra river. I am grateful to Shri Pawan Bansal ji that he asked the State Government to forward the proposal through Ganga Flood Control Commission, Patna after conducting survey in this regional in order to prepare action plan. But progress of the survey is very slow. The State Government should expedite the same. I am not politicizing the issue. Everybody is affected. There are railway overbridges at various places.

I had made a demand for construction of railway overbridge from Deva Road to Barabanki but the same is still pending. It requires a certificate from the State Government that crossing will be closed after construction of the bridge. But I don't know as to what is the problem therein? Development will take place if every work is executed by removing such obstacle. It may recalled that Purvanchal fund was constituted by the Government of Uttar Pradesh which is still continuing and it was constituted by the Congress led Government. Congress party had considered the same well in advance and provided separate fund for Bundelkhand and Purvanchal so that backward region could be developed. I am grateful that Bundelkhand has been provided a package and it has been said to constitute an Authority also but it is quite unfortunate that State Government has not agreed for the constitution of an Authority. What is the problem in constitution of an Authority? The fact is that the money is not being incurred on the schemes. Recently Rs. 400 crores has been provided for second green revolution in Purvanchal, which also include Bihar. An amount of 3,000 crores has been provided for 60 thousand villages. Development of Purvanchal could be done through Bharat Nirman scheme and NREGA, but it is unfortunate that State Government in each matter ...*(Interruptions)*...* State Government has no time for development work. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot use that word 'corruption'. That word will not go on record.

(Interruptions)...*

[Translation]

SHRI P.L. PUNIA: The Chief Minister has time to install her statues but she don't have time for any other thing ...*(Interruptions)* if the issue is corruption and that matter is not discussed here, then where it should be discussed. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: In the beginning itself I had said that please do not convert this Parliament into Uttar Pradesh Assembly.

[Translation]

SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Where we can raise the issue of corruption if not here? MNREGA ...(*Interruptions*)...* The matter should be discussed and it will take place here itself. ...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot say about a State Assembly. You cannot substantiate it.

...(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI P.L. PUNIA: We all including Union and State Government have to work together for the development of Purvanchal. ...(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)...*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHANKAR RAJBHAR (Salempur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, each and every MP from, Purvanchal, and in fact the entire House, supports the resolution moved by Rajkumari Ratna Singh for the development of Purvanchal. I do not want to discuss the allegations levelled by people who did not look towards Purvanchal during 48 years of their reign and are now finding faults in merely three years of governance. This is not the point ...(*Interruptions*)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, a hue and cry is raised even when Uttar Pradesh honours, those great personalities who have remained neglected so far. I do not want to discuss this point either. I want so come to the main point. There is a Deoria district in Purvanchal which had 13 sugar mills which used to supply sugar across the country at the time when Kushinagar had not been made a district. That district which had 13 sugar mills now

doesn't have even three. There is the issue of fertilisers. I am MP from Balia district. Balia birth place of Mangal Pandey who played a key role in the revolution of 1857, through it is a border district in Bihar but it is suffering from shortage of roads, power and industries even today. I don't want to talk about how many Prime Ministers have belonged to Bahujan Samaj Party. Whatever be their number, the people from that region have taken the entire country ahead. But Purvanchal is in a very poor state today. It is facing floods and drought. We construct houses for BPL families under Indira Awas Yojana. Thousands of huts of villagers have gone up in flames in a number of villages but they don't figure in the BPL list. Though all their savings which they had kept for marriage of their daughter and all the food they had for their children were lost in the flames but people are not given any assistance for rebuilding their huts, we because they do not figure to BPL list. I add may support to the support of the House for a package for Purvanchal. Through the people of Purvanchal, work in construction sector in Mumbai, Haryana and Punjab, but they are facing lack of housing themselves. ...(*Interruptions*) Why should this be? Hence, this package for the development of Purvanchal should be as substantial as possible. Allegations are being levelled against government of Uttar Pradesh but if my colleagues in the House are sincere in their intentions then a package should be announced.

Mr. Chairman, I conclude with these words.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to hon. Members: Rajkumari Ratna Singh; Shri Hukmadeo Narayan Yadav; Shri Shailendra Kumar; Shri Dara Singh Chauhan; Shri Harsh Vardhan; Shri Ramkishun; Shri Jagadambika Pal; Shri Ghanshyam Anuragi; Shri Prasanta Kumar Majumdar; Shri Adhir Chowdhury; Shri Gorakhnath Pandey; Shri Sanjay Nirupam; Dr. Vinay Kumar Pandey; Shri Tufani Saroj; Shri Kamal alias Commando Kishor; Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh; Shri B.L. Punia; Shri Ramashankar Rajbhar; and Shri Vijay Bahadur Singh. There are about 17 Members who spoke on this Resolution.

Hon. Member Rajkumari Ratna Singh has given an opportunity to the Members to raise the issues facing Poorvanchal region. In the Resolution she wanted to highlight the socioeconomic backwardness of the Eastern

*Not recorded.

Districts of the State of Uttar Pradesh, also known as Poorvanchal region, and she wanted the House to consider and take immediate steps to formulate and implement a special economic development package for the region on the lines of the package announced by the Government for the Bundelkhand region. This is the Resolution which the hon. Member brought.

When the hon. Members spoke, they have been very particularly mentioning about the backwardness of the region; in the education index, it is backward; health indicators are also not up to the national average; and also the power sector where they need improvement; the road facilities have to be improved; industrial development has to come and it is a thickly populated area where the hon. Member Shri P.L. Punia has highlighted several important areas where they need development. One is about backward area; secondly, he mentioned that the land is fertile; water is available but still we are not able to concentrate more on agricultural production. That point the hon. Member has mentioned.

He has also mentioned about the funds that have been given by the Government – both by the State Government and also by the Central Government – for developing the region but the funds are not sufficient. Therefore, the Government of India has to consider and then, a special package has to be given as it is given to Bundelkhand region. The planning process is being done and after due deliberations, the policy that has been evolved by the National Development Council and thereafter, the Planning Commission calling the officials of the State Government and also the Chief Ministers of various States when the budget is proposed and then submitted for consideration. The Chief Ministers are present in the meeting and thereafter, the budget proposals are cleared, according to the guidelines that have been framed for the whole country. The backward region has been given due care by the Planning Commission at the time of formulating the Budget.

Apart from that, there is a very clear cut policy that apart from the Budget money, the Government of India is giving funds under the Centrally sponsored scheme, that is, additional fund given by the Government of India because there are certain regions where we need more focus. Therefore, the Government of India gives money for those schemes.

As far as Uttar Pradesh is concerned, especially the eastern region where the hon. Member wanted that a special economic package has to be given by the

Government of India, the Poorvanchal has got 27 districts which the hon. Members have mentioned and I do not want to go district by district because of paucity of time. But the hon. Members know pretty well and you know that because you have seen the deliberations that has been going on, and the kind of discussions that have been going on, one blaming the other and the other blaming the Members of the Party which is ruling the State. There are some issues which I would like to highlight very clearly. The primary responsibility lies with the State Government for developing the State. The State Government is the authority which prepares the plan, schemes, and projects and send them to the Government of India, either for the Budget or for the Centrally sponsored schemes. It is the duty of the Central Government to supplement the State Government for the purpose of overall development of the State. Therefore, the primary focus lies with the State Government.

I would like to mention only a few figures as to how the Uttar Pradesh Government has been supported by the Government of India. I would not go into the previous periods. Let me start from 2007-08. During the Annual Plan 2007-08, the amount that was given for the Budget was Rs. 25,000 crore. In 2008-09, it was Rs. 35,000 crore; and in 2009-10, it was Rs. 39,000 crore. The total is about 11.42 per cent higher than the Plan outlay of 2008-09. During the 11th Plan, the Government of India has allocated Rs. 1,81,094 crore for Uttar Pradesh as against the money allocated during the 10th Plan by the NDA Government.

[Translation]

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN (Ghosi): This is our share, you have not given anything. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANSAMY: I did not interfere when you were speaking. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you want to say something, you can speak afterwards. I will permit you. Let the Minister speak. Do not interrupt the Minister now. Let him conclude.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: In the 11th Plan, the UPA Government has given Rs. 1,81,094 crore for the overall development of Uttar Pradesh. It is a plan budget. Then in the Tenth Plan, compared to NDA

regime, the Government of India gave Rs. 59,708 crore which is 50 per cent more. It is not left with that. I would like to mention here that under the Centrally-sponsored scheme Rs. 1,20,264 crore were given. It was only one-third at Rs. 35,967 crore in the Tenth Plan under the Centrally-sponsored scheme.

I would like to say under the Centrally-sponsored scheme-wise what is the money provided to Uttar Pradesh because that would highlight how Uttar Pradesh has been taken care of by the Central Government schemes.

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: You are spinning a tale. Tell us what you purpose to give. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Plase speak after I have completed. I am speaking to your query. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Minister reply.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, the total amount allocated for one year, namely, 2009-10 was Rs. 39,000 crore, out of which Uttar Pradesh alone was given Rs. 7384 crore...(*Interruptions*) I am talking from the records. Kindly hear me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen. You are a leader and if you go on interrupting like this, he will not be able to complete his speech. Let him speak.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Are you disputing these figures?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Except the Minister's speech, nothing would go on record.

(*Interruptions*)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is mentioning the programmes. Please listen to him. He has not finished his speech.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Kindly hear me. When you were speaking, I did not interrupt you...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not called you people to speak. I have asked the Minister to speak. Nothing would go on record except the speech of the Minister. You should have patience. You can raise the points afterwards.

(*Interruptions*)...*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I am telling about the Centrally-sponsored schemes one-by-one. They can speak after my speech.

Under the National Rural Health Mission, Rs. 2906 crore were given in 2009-10. Under Indira Awas Yojana, Rs. 1056 crore were given. Under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme, Rs. 1752 crore were given. Under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Rs. 5500 crore were given. Under Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyuti Karan Yojana, the amount is Rs. 1000 crore. For Integrated Child Development Programme, it is Rs. 844 crore. Under Sarva Siksha Abhyan, the amount is Rs. 3812 crore. Under Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission, it is Rs. 1715 crore. The total figure in 2009-10 is Rs. 30,000 crore which is given to Uttar Pradesh under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair, Mr. Minister. What hon. Members are saying will not go on record. Only the hon. Minister's speech will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)...*

[*Translation*]

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Please listen to me. ...(*Interruptions*) When you spoke, I listened to all of you quietly. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Be silent and listen to his reply.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: If every hon. Member interrupts like this, then how can I run the House? So, please cooperate with the Chair. Mr. Minister, address the Chair and no interruptions are allowed.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: In the XI Plan, the target was about 6.1 per cent growth. But Uttar Pradesh could not reach 5.2 per cent. Agricultural growth has grown from 3.6 per cent to 4 per cent in the previous period. But as far as the tertiary sector, that is, the service sector, it was below national average. It was only 7 per cent but the all India average is between 10 and 10.5 per cent. As far as industrial production in the State is

concerned, I would like to mention that it was a revenue surplus State earlier. I mean before 2006 when the surplus was Rs.4900 crore and it declined to Rs. 1573 crore in 2009-10. It was a revenue surplus State and the figure got reduced to Rs. 1573 crore. Sir, the hon. Members have been raising a particular point as to why the Government of India is not supporting them. The kind of argument that has been coming is that.
...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Poorvanchal has plenty of water. Even when there was drought in other parts of the country, there was flood in this area. The land there is very fertile. There should be a focus by the State Government for increasing agricultural production there.
...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister is quoting figures for entire Uttar Pradesh although we are talking only about Purvanchal.
...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is going to explain the situation in Purvanchal.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: The Central Government will give money to the State of Uttar Pradesh. It will not grant separate funds for Purvanchal. ...(Interruptions) It will not give funds for Purvanchal separately secure it is a part of Uttar Pradesh. It is will a separate entity.
...(Interruptions) Don't you have know this?
...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only the Minister's statement will go on record and nothing else will go on record.

(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: After the reply of the Minister, you may raise your points and I will allow you to raise them. Do not interrupt like this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: After the Minister's reply, you can raise these points.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I appreciate what they have been doing. In the agriculture sector, the State Government is giving 100 per cent subsidy for sprinkler irrigation. They are giving 100 per cent subsidy for sprinkler irrigation for both Bundelkhand and Purvanchal regions. I am telling that also.

As far as the power situation is concerned, the State Electricity Board has been divided into three parts. One is for thermal, another is for hydro and the third one is for transmission. But there is only one Chairman. Therefore, we told them that there should be concentration on that. What is the power generation there? The generation capacity is 5,050 mega watt. The State's deficit in peak time is 21 per cent. There is 21 per cent deficit in the State. Now, two power generation units are being promoted. One is for 500 mega watt and another is for about 1,000 mega watt. That plan is under consideration. The State is purchasing power at the rate of Rs. 4.20 per unit. They are purchasing 64 per cent of power from public sector and private sector agencies. When the State Government purchases 64 per cent of power, definitely it is going to be a burden on them.

As far as the rural development is concerned, what kind of employment are they giving to women? It is only eighteen per cent. Under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, only 18 per cent of women are getting employment there, when compared to the national average of 48 per cent. I am giving only the figures. I do not want to go into the details. If I go into the details, then you will be in trouble.
...(Interruptions)

In education, the national average is 57 per cent, but in Uttar Pradesh it is only 45 per cent. As far as the health indicators, I do not want to quote the figures.

They were talking about development of Bundelkhand. This region is a dry one. Continuously for three or four years there is no rain and there is no water supply. People are migrating from there to other areas. Therefore, the hon. Prime Minister, hon. UPA Chairperson and on the initiative of hon. Member of Parliament, Shri Rahul Gandhi, a package was given for Bundelkhand region by the Government of India. Now,

the Bundelkhand region requires special attention by the Government of India. I went to Bundelkhand region. I went to part of Madhya Pradesh. I was there. ...(*Interruptions*)

I am coming to Purvanchal. I went to that area. I found that water supply is not there. Roads are not properly maintained. Even for the purpose of getting their day-to-day work done, they are suffering. Therefore, the special package given to Bundelkhand is justified. Therefore, the Government of India, the hon. Prime Minister, hon. UPA Chairperson and Shri Rahul Gandhi took a decision to help the poor people of both the backward regions of Bundelkhand.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What he says is regarding what has been given to Bundelkhand. He is explaining that. Then, he will come to Poorvanchal and other issues. You must listen to that. When the Resolution mentioned about Bundelkhand, therefore, he is saying about Bundelkhand also. Afterwards, he will explain it. You must listen to him.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: What are the major problems which are there?...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not argue. You are provoking.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I entirely agree with the hon. Members....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: When the hon. Minister is speaking, why are you interrupting? When your Minister is speaking, do not argue.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: It is because industrial development is not there in Purvanchal area. They want the Poorvanchal issues to be addressed. That is because of poor investment climate. Why? There is plenty of opportunity for developing agro-based industries in Purvanchal region. The initiative has to be taken by the State Government and the Central Government will help them. But the initiative has to come from the State Government. They are blaming the Central Government....(*Interruptions*)

What has the Central Government to do? The Central Government has to give the money for various schemes. It is for the State Government to implement the schemes....(*Interruptions*)

Now, I come to infrastructure bottlenecks. As I have first said, it is because of the poor investment climate. The infrastructure bottlenecks are there. Thirdly, Uttar Pradesh is a landlocked State. The governance-related issues and policy related issues are there. There are so many factors. My concern is that unless and until the climate is created for industrial development, no industry will come there. For that, a lot of concessions have to be given to the industries which are coming there by the State Government.

As far as Purvanchal is concerned, a claim has been made. It is educationally backward. Health indicators are not properly there. Apart from that, when compared to Bundelkhand, Purvanchal has fertile lands. Irrigation facilities are available there. Why do you not increase productivity? The State Government has to take the initiative. I said that they are doing one scheme, the sprinkler irrigation scheme. I support it. The State Government is supporting it. Everybody was telling about roads. Money given by the Government of India under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is Rs. 5,500 crore. No other State has got the highest allocation which Uttar Pradesh has got. ...(*Interruptions*) Uttar Pradesh deserves it. It requires proper implementation by the State Government. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, please address the Chair.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: If a little focus is given by the State Government to Uttar Pradesh, the Purvanchal Region will not only satisfy the entire population of Uttar Pradesh in terms of production of food grains but also it can give food grains to the Central kitty. The State Government has to take a lot of steps for increasing agricultural production and productivity, fisheries, etc. ...(*Interruptions*)

In the Bundelkhand region, other items like dairy farming, live-stock rearing, goatery, poultry, fishery are there. A lot of opportunities are there. The State Government has to focus on them so that a lot of people will get the benefits. There will be employment generation and revenue earning will also be there....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No commentary is allowed. Please listen to him. Let him finish. Afterwards, you can speak.

I will give an opportunity to you. If at all you want to raise certain issues, I will give you the opportunity. You raise the issue and the Minister will also answer. I am not denying the opportunity to you. Let him finish it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Purvanchal region being a thickly-populated area, there is large manpower potential. That larger manpower potential can be utilized for progress, for development and for the purpose of increasing productivity there. But, unfortunately, the focus has to be given on agriculture and industrial development in Porvanchal, on the tertiary sector also. The initiative has to be there by the State Government.

The Central Government cannot direct the State Government everyday. It is the responsibility of the State Government to utilise the funds given by the Government of India under various schemes and implement the schemes in right earnest. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except what the hon. Minister says.

(Interruptions)...*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, as far as Eastern Uttar Pradesh is concerned, the hon. Members have mentioned that flood control is one area where focus should be there because the flood situation gets alarming during the monsoon season. The State Government should draw up a plan and it should take all possible steps for controlling the flood situation there.

As far as urban development is concerned, the hon. Members were mentioning about Varanasi. The Government of India is cleaning River Ganga now. They were saying that Ganga water is polluted. For cleaning of River Ganga, when Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister, he gave a package and thereafter the Government of India is concentrating more on cleaning River Ganga. It is not only the responsibility of the Government of India, but it is the responsibility of the State Government also to see that Ganga water is not polluted so that it can be used for drinking water, it can be used for irrigation and also for transport, if possible.

The State Government's focus should be on development of agro industries, industrial development, development of education, employment generation and

development of health infrastructure. These are the areas where the State Government has to pay its attention. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (Machhlishahr): The Minister has not said anything about Purvanchal, house I am staging a walk out.

17.58 hrs.

(Shri Tufani Saroj then left the House)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister, you continue.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I will conclude within a minute.

Sir, Purvanchal is the land of Buddha. It has got very important tourist destinations like Allahabad, Ayodhya and Varanasi. All these religious places are there in the Purvanchal region. So, roads have to be developed there. If the State Government sends the proposal which is acceptable to the Government of India, we will extend support to them.

Therefore, as the Government of India is giving more and more attention for the development of Uttar Pradesh by providing more funds, I would request the hon. Member to withdraw her Resolution.

[Translation]

RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH (Pratapgarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I listened to the Minister's reply to our demands. Now I understand that the government of Uttar Pradesh does not channelise the funds granted by the Central Government towards Purvanchal. The State Government does not give Purvanchal its rightful due. The State Government should act impartially and every district should be granted equal rights. Purvanchal is lagging behind because on Chief Minister has come from this area for a long time.

18.00 hrs.

No one in Purvanchal knows what is a Chief Minister. All Chief Ministers have belonged to Western UP. Through you, I withdraw the resolution but on one condition-Delhi should give special attention to Purvanchal in the twelfth financial plan. Purvanchal will not get its rights till Uttar Pradesh gets a Congress Government.

SHRI RAMKISHUN (Chandauli): When special package has been given to Bundelkhand, what is the problem in giving special package to Purvanchal? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)...**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the pleasure of the House that the Resolution moved by Rajkumari Ratna Singh be withdrawn?

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

18.02 hrs.

(ii) IDENTIFICATION OF FAMILIES LIVING
BELOW POVERTY LINE AND WELFARE
MEASURES FOR THEM

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we will take up item no. 19. Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Sir, I beg to move the following resolution-

"That this House expresses its serious concern over plight of person living below poverty line and urges our the government to take the following steps in a time bound manner in order to eradicate poverty from the country by the year 2015:-

- (i) identify families living below poverty line in all the states;
- (ii) provide vocational training and thereafter gainful employment to at least one member of each such family;
- (iii) provide family pension at the rate of not less than rupees three thousand per month to each such family , where gainful employment is not provided to any member of that family; and
- (iv) provide quality education upto senior secondary level to all children of such families free of cost."

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, you can speak next time. The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

18.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, April 22, 2010/Vaisakha 2, 1932 (Saka).

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