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(English Version)

Fifth Session
(Fifteenth Lok Sabha)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, August 26, 2010/Bhadra 4, 1932 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MADAM SPEAKER in the Chair]

REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

Birth Centenary of Mother Teresa

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, today is the birth centenary of Mother Teresa. She founded the Missionaries of Charity in Kolkata in 1950 and for over forty-five years served the poor, the sick and the orphaned. She received Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 and Bharat Ratna in 1980 for her humanitarian work.

The House pays its homage to this great humanitarian and noble soul on her birth centenary.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI (Dhar): Madam Speaker, all health services in Madhya Pradesh have failed. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: I will take up this issue later.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Q.No. 421—Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala is not present. According to the amendment of the rule, now his Question becomes the property of the House.

The first supplementary would be asked. Does someone want to ask the first supplementary?

Shri R. Dhruvanarayana may ask the first supplementary.

*Not recorded.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Outsourcing of Services at Airports

*421. DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Aviation Company of India Limited (NACIL) has outsourced various activities at the airports of Mumbai and Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of the activities outsourced alongwith the procedures specified for the purpose;

(c) whether complaints have been received regarding irregularities in the engagement of the outsourced agencies by NACIL;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Air India and its subsidiary Air India Air Transport Service Limited (AIATSL) have outsourced comprehensive handling of pax/baggage for some of the international airlines, transportation for security staff and crew, maintenance of AC Units, water coolers, GCU and vehicles, aircraft cleaning, loading/offloading and other flight related activities, servicing of software and data punching etc. on manpower/service contract basis through tendering process.

(c) to (e) Three complaints have been received, the details of which are as under:

(i) A complaint in January 2009 was received alleging irregularities in the tender for hiring of security services. Action on this was taken after addressing the shortcomings in the procedure.

(ii) Complaints dated 29-07-2009 and 04-08-2009 were received from one of the bidders in the tender for Facility Management Services (FMS) at the stage of technical evaluation of the

tenders. After due consideration, it was decided not to proceed further with this tender and to re-tender for the job.

- (iii) Complaints were again received from three vendors, when the job of FMS was re-tendered, raising objections on the turnover criteria. None of these three vendors had themselves responded to the tender. The issue was referred to the competent authority and the tenders were processed and finalized after due diligence.

[English]

SHRI R. DHYUVANARAYANA: Madam, even though Mysore Airport was inaugurated two months back, it is still due for operation. I would like to ask the hon. Minister, through you, when he is going to start operations and flights from that airport.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Madam, this does not arise from the main Question at all. We are talking of temporary employees in our national carrier. Therefore, this would be completely unrelated.

MADAM SPEAKER: It is all right. You need not answer.

SHRI R. THAMARASELVAN: Madam, there are about 53 operational airports of Airports Authority of India, out of which 47 airports are used for regular flight operations in the country. I came to know that only five airports of Airports Authority of India have so far obtained license from the DGCA and the remaining are in operation without any valid license. So, I would like to know, through you, from the hon. Minister whether any directions have been given to these unlicensed airports to obtain license quickly so that incidents like the one which had happened recently in Mangalore can be averted.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Again, this is completely beyond the purview of this Question.

Since the hon. Member would like to know about licensing, I can only state that though some airports have been licensed, it does not mean that the other airports are operating without a proper dispensation from the DGCA. All airports across the country, licensed or otherwise, are completely adhering to International Civil Aviation Organisation's requirements and are safe technically and otherwise.

As far as Mangalore airport is concerned, it was certainly a licensed airport as on the date of the tragic incident.

[Translation]

SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY: Madam, my constituency is Cooch Behar. Air services were conducted from there till December, 1992 but were discontinued thereafter. The Chief Ministers of the nearby states had requested the Centre to reinstate the air services in the area. The Union Government and the hon. Minister had accepted the said request in 2007-2008.

An amount of 35 crore rupees were provided for construction of airport and its development in the area. But, air services have not been started from there yet. I would like to ask the hon. Minister the time by which air service is likely to be started from Cooch Behar.

[English]

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Madam, again this question is completely out of the purview of the Question before us.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please ask relevant questions.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: I can only state that as far as we are concerned, the Cooch Behar Airport is ready for operation and we would be more than happy to accord approval to any airline wishing to operate from there.

MADAM SPEAKER: Thank you. Shri Gurudas Dasgupta.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Madam, the Minister—with all his enthusiasm as a part of privatization and as a part of improvement—has embarked upon a plan of outsourcing. It is all right. My specific question to him is this. How many people, who are now in the job as permanent or contract employees, will be downsized because of the outsourcing and will be given a VRS?

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Madam Speaker, firstly, it is not my enthusiasm to outsource jobs. Certainly, if the organization does require some external help for certain functions, then they have been doing this from time to time. Outsourcing does not mean that there is any reflection on the capability or the requirements of the

people who are working within the organization. As of now, there is no ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I am asking about permanent and contract employees both.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: What about them?

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I am asking about permanent and contract employees both.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: What about them?

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I am asking this because in Alliance most of them are contract employees.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: No, the contract employees, by definition, are not regular employees. So, those who are permanent employees will continue to remain employees, and there is no question of any people, who are permanent, to be removed from the job.

SHRI PRATAP SINGH BAJWA: Madam, NACIL is contracting private parties to provide manpower at various airports. The contracted private companies are engaging or employing fresh Graduates or Post Graduates -- in order to maximize their profits -- who do not have the requisite technical or professional knowledge to handle operations at various airports. Since the antecedents of people who are employed by the contracted companies are not verified, it poses a big security risk at airports, which is a very sensitive area. Above all, the grouse of the airline operators is that their own staff ends up doing all the work since the manpower deployed by the private companies do not have the professional skills. They have also lodged serious complaints in this regard.

Is the Ministry aware that unskilled employees of contracted companies not only pose a security threat, but were also caught red-handed stealing cargo at the Amritsar Airport worth lakhs of rupees? There is an FIR lodged by the CISF on the 16 August 2010 vide FIR No. 38 while some exports containing tobacco was being sent to Afghanistan. Are they also aware that the passenger baggage is being stolen regularly by these employees resulting in severe public outcry and anger over the lost baggage? This is what I wanted to ask from the hon. Minister.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: The relevant question whether people working on contract or otherwise at airports are

a security risk, the answer is that no person can work within the premises of any airport in India until he or she has been cleared by the Police Department / Home Ministry, and until we get the clearance, the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security will not give a pass for any person to enter or work within the airport premises. I am sure that this is a safeguard, which is undertaken and it is absolutely followed without any deviation.

As regards the other issue, if there are some issues of theft of baggage, I am sure that the concerned people are then handed over or the issues are handed over to the local Police for investigation. In case there is any further information, which the hon. Member would like regarding the Amritsar Airport, then I would most certainly ask the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security and the CISF at the Amritsar Airport to be as vigilant as possible.

Promotion of Silk Industry

*422. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes undertaken for increasing production of silk during the Eleventh Plan period;

(b) whether any action plan has been formulated in consultation with the State Governments for the remaining period under the Eleventh Plan for the development of silk industry;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is expanding the role and activities of the Central Silk Board for promotion of the silk in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the role envisaged for NGOs and the private sector for promoting silk industry in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Government through Central Silk Board has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme viz.

Catalytic Development Programme (CDP) for increasing silk production in the country. The programme promotes farm practices, innovation of technology, post cocoon infrastructure, upgradation of reeling and processing technology. The Central Silk Board is the nodal agency for development of silk industry for providing research and development support. It also provides for basic seed support to the State Governments for production of commercial silk worm seeds.

(b) and (c) On the basis of proposals received from the State Governments for development of sericulture and silk industry, State-wise annual action plan is drawn by the Central Silk Board. The action plan accordingly drawn would be implemented for the remaining period under the XI Five Year Plan.

(d) and (e) In order to ensure that the Central Silk Board plays an important role in improving the quality of seeds, in consonance with the amended provisions of the Central Silk Board Act, the Central Silk Board has recently been empowered to administer the newly notified Central Silk Worm Seed Committee, Hybrid Authorisation Committee and Registration Committee. The Board has also been authorized to regulate the mobility of silkworm seeds through registered entrepreneurs.

(f) Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) and Self Help Groups (SHGs) have been associated as cluster development agents for effective implementation of Catalytic Development Programme. The silk industry is open for private sector participation without any restriction.

SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR: Madam Speaker, as the House is aware, silk is the queen of all fabric and historically is one of India's most important industries. India produces a variety of silk, namely, mulberry, tasar, eri and muga. It is very disheartening to note that we have not yet been able to fully exploit this advantage so far. The sericulture industry today employs over 7,00,000 families, who are mostly concentrated in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, and to some extent in Assam and West Bengal. Karnataka accounts for more than 70 per cent of the total silk production in the country. No doubt, sericulture is one industry which is beneficial to agriculturists.

I would like to know whether it is a fact that sericulturists want imports of raw silk to be restricted so as to have better market for their produce whereas

exporters want import of raw silk so as to be able to export more silk products at competitive rates. If so, what are the steps being taken in this direction so far for fully exploiting the advantage and make our presence felt in the international scene more prominently than at present by setting up Regional Silk Centres in the backward districts like Karimnagar in Telangana Region in Andhra Pradesh in the remaining period of the Eleventh Five-Year Plan?

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: The hon. Member has asked me whether we are allowing import of silk. Although India can boast of being the second largest producer of silk in the world, we still have to import more than 30 per cent of our consumption and basically we are allowing import of silk. In fact, we are allowing import of higher grade silk; we are not allowing import of lower grade silk. In fact, we have now imposed anti-dumping duties for import of low grade silk which competes directly with our production. It is also seen that our silk production is in no way affected.

The hon. Member also asked as to whether any development schemes are coming for silk rearing in Karimnagar. We are now successfully implementing sericulture in Andhra Pradesh, especially in Karimnagar and we are seeing good results of tasar silk being cultivated in Karimnagar.

SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR: Madam, India is the second largest producer of raw silk after China. I agree with the hon. Minister. China contributes 82 per cent, whereas India contributes 15 per cent. India produced 19,00,690 MT during 2009-10, but we have still imported raw silk to the tune of 12,00,450 MT. When this is the situation, the cultivation by mulberry silk farmers has fallen from approximately 194 lakh hectares in 2002 to 183 lakh hectares in the year 2010. If it continues, we may have to import more quantities of raw silk for our domestic requirement at the expense of our foreign exchange reserves. Therefore, I want to know from the hon. Minister what steps are being taken to encourage farmers for not diverting their land to produce other crops or for other purposes. In other words, what incentive is being planned to be given, apart from the existing ones, to maintain the status.

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: As the hon. Member mentioned, yes, we are the second largest producer of silk, but we also are the largest users of silk; more than

China, we use a large amount of silk for production and most of them are exported. As the hon. Member mentioned, yes, we have been seeing a decline in the area of cultivation of mulberry silk in our country. This is mainly because of the mass urbanization which is taking place in our country. In fact, two years back, we have lost 10,000 hectares of land wherein mulberry silk was being cultivated basically because of the construction of a new airport at Devanahalli, near Bengaluru in Karnataka. It was a prime area for silk cultivation. The moment the airport came, right in the heart of the mulberry sericulture area, a lot of real estate development also took place. This is a constant fight which the Central Silk Board has been facing because as and when we introduce more areas under sericulture, we also lose a lot of area to urbanization.

This is a part of a process. In fact, we have been canvassing more farmers to come into sericulture. This is the primary duty of the Central Silk Board. In fact, the Catalytic Development Programme of the Central Silk Board is canvassing there. Fifty per cent of the project cost is given by the Central Silk Board, 25 per cent by the State Governments and 25 per cent by the farmers. We have seen that with the amendments made to the old Silk Act we are able to increase the revenue from Rs.170 per kg of silk to Rs.250. We are taking all initiatives. It is an ongoing process. We cannot do miracles because this activity involves agriculture also. After agriculture comes the seed. It is a continuous process. It is about the mindset. We are trying our best to improve it.

[Translation]

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Madam Speaker, sericulture used to be practised in 100 acre land area in my constituency Chandrapur in Maharashtra but was discontinued, because the silkworms used to die due to pollution and the environment was not conducive for sericulture. When I submitted a question in the Lok Sabha in this regard, I was told that sericulture was discontinued because the silkworms used to die due to pollution and the environment was not conducive for sericulture. I would like to inform the hon. Minister that this is not the ground reality. Many farmers practise sericulture privately in the said area. Hence, I would like to ask the government if it would make efforts to restart the said centre for sericulture?

[English]

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: Madam, sericulture is done mostly by the private sector. It is true that every State Government has got a Sericulture Department and through the State Governments we try to encourage farmers to come into sericulture. Since this is not like any other agricultural activity where the farmer just sows the seeds and reaps the harvest, it has to be a disciplined process. In the process of seeding we have to be very careful because we have a live worm there and the worm does get affected by disease. In the process we have seen that we find that farmers are a little reluctant to migrate immediately from the regular farming activities to sericulture. We also realize that more marketing activities are necessary. We are trying to encourage sericulture in every area possible.

[Translation]

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Madam Speaker, the weavers in this country are facing ruin even though six decades have passed since independence. The government is not giving any attention to those weavers. Silk is being smuggled from China via Bangladesh. The middlemen are providing silk to weavers at extremely high rates. Weavers work in all sectors particularly in Uttar Pradesh - be it Banaras, Mubarakpur or other places in UP. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he would make efforts to raise the production capacity of silk and provide silk to weavers at concessional rates with a view to curbing smuggling and ensure that the indigenous weavers do not face starvation but are able to lead a prosperous life.

The second part of my question is related to the fact that not a single Silk Board has been constituted in the country. Hence, the Union government should either invite proposals from the state governments and release funds directly to the states or constitute a Silk Board in North India, particularly in Uttar Pradesh which has a large population of weavers.

[English]

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: Madam, even though this does not relate directly to the Question, I would like to answer it. We do realize that on the one side we are trying to promote silk production in the country and on the other we find that weavers, especially in Varanasi, are demanding more and more silk. The main issue is

that of non-availability of good silk. We have realized that. In this year, the Ministry of Textiles through its public sector undertakings will be importing 2000 tonnes of silk from China to be sold to the weavers not only in Varanasi but also in Kanjeeपुरam and in other areas which are using silk.

SHRI O.S. MANIAN: I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, Madam, this. Handloom weavers and industry are facing a lot of problems, especially in repaying the loans of cooperative weavers society. Will the Government come forward for total waiver of loans provided to the handloom industry to save them from the present crisis.

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: Hon. Member is from State, even though his question does not relate to this question, I would still say that the Government of India is considering this.

SHRIMATI ANNU TANDON: This is about textiles and Shri Dara Singh ji has already asked on behalf of Uttar Pradesh.

[Translation]

but whenever textiles are discussed in India, the Indian women remember the Banaras silk sarees. I personally prefer these sarees.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: But you do not wear silk sarees.

SHRIMATI ANNU TANDON: I do wear silk sarees. I want to promote the ancient art of weaving of Banaras silk sarees but silk thread is imported from China to meet the shortage of silk thread in the country. This shortage has been mentioned by the Minister as well and this is the reason why thread is in shortage in Banaras also. The hon. Member has talked about smuggling but it is imported also. Sadly, the cost of import of silk thread is higher than the cost of import of silk cloth from China as a result of which the handwoven silk clothes are costlier than cloths imported from China. The Minister has talked about imposition of anti-dumping duty but still such imports are bad news for weavers and their ancient art.

Madam, through you, I would like to ask the Minister whether any effort is being made to address this irregularity. Banarasi silk sarees have become more

expensive than Chinese silk cloth due to import of silk thread. Is any effort being made to reduce the gap between Indian production of silk and its requirement? Besides this, I have one more query.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please ask just one question.

SHRIMATI ANNU TANDON: Madam, it is a part of this question. Is the government thinking of raising the quantum of import of silk threads or providing subsidy to our weavers? The Minister has made a very important point about art silk. Is the government formulating any policy under which silk and not art silk is promoted so that the Banarasi silk weaving art could be saved?

[English]

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: As I mentioned earlier, this is not related to this question but I would still like to reply to the hon. Member. As mentioned earlier, there has been complaint that some silk have been smuggled into our country from China. Basically, we are trying to protect our domestic industry because we produce not the excellent variety of silk. So, we have imposed anti-dumping duty so as to protect our domestic sector. But there are also concerns from the weavers, especially from Banaras, Kanjeeपुरam and from our Tamil Nadu that they need good quality yarn because of this, they are finding it very difficult to import and also the black-marketeers are spoiling this show. In order to put an end to it, the Ministry of Textiles will be importing 2,500 MT of high grade silk to be sold to the weavers of Banaras, and Kanjeeपुरam so that they can produce good quality sarees, and I hope, when I see the hon. Member, she wears a good Banaras saree and enter the House. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, you may like to give one to her!

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Ramkishunji, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMKISHUN: They are on the verge of starvation.

*...(Interruptions)**

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down. Your speech is not being recorded.

[English]

DR. RATNA DE: Women play a major role as workers in the silk industry. West Bengal has become a famous destination for silk industry.

Those women workers in the silk industry are deprived of good health facilities. There is health insurance scheme for women. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, the number of women workers covered under this scheme, since the implementation of the scheme in 2008-09.

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: West Bengal stands third in silk production in the country after Andhra Pradesh, primary being Karnataka. In the Ministry, the Central Silk Board has been offering insurance schemes only for the women workers in this sector.

At this moment, I do not have those details; since this supplementary is not related to the Main Question, I will definitely send the details to the hon. Member.

Allocation of Natural Gas

423. + SHRI VIKRAMBHAJ ARJANBHAJ MADAM:
SHRI BALKRISHNA KHANDERAO SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether allocation of gas for commercial utilization under the New Exploration Licensing Policy has been finalized;

(b) if so, the details of sectors covered under the scheme;

(c) whether modalities for supply of gas to the small and medium enterprises including in Gujarat under the scheme have been finalised;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) constituted to decide issues related to commercial utilization of gas under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) has taken decisions regarding the various priority sectors to which the gas produced from KG D6 would be supplied. The following priority sectors have been decided keeping in view the larger public interest:

1. Existing gas-based fertilizers plants producing subsidized fertilizers.
2. Existing gas-based LPG plants
3. Existing gas-based power plants and those to be commissioned in 2009-10, including liquid fuel plants which are now running on liquid fuel and could switch over to natural gas
4. City Gas Distribution (CGD) entities for supply to domestic and transport sectors
5. Existing gas-based steel plants (only for feedstock and not for captive power requirement)
6. Existing gas-based petrochemicals plants (only for feedstock and not for captive power requirement)
7. Existing refineries
8. CGD entities for supply to commercial and industrial sector customers consuming up to 50,000 scmd (standard cubic meters per day).
9. Captive power plants

(c) and (d) In accordance with the decisions taken by EGoM in its meeting held on 27.10.2009, 2.165 million standard cubic meters per day (mmscmd) of KG D6 gas has been allocated on fallback basis to City Gas Distribution (CGD) entities for supply to their industrial and commercial customers, whose total consumption of natural gas (including KG D6 gas) does not exceed 50,000 standard cubic meter per day (scmd). Out of the above allocation, a quantity of 0.875 mmscmd has been allocated to M/s Gujarat Gas Company Limited (GGCL), M/s Sabarmati Gas Ltd. and GAIL (India) Ltd. for supply to their industrial and commercial customers in the areas of Surat, Bharuch, Ankleshwar, Gandhinagar, Mehsana, Sabarkantha and Vadodra in the State of Gujarat.

KG D6 production is presently around 60 mmscmd. Hence, in view of the firm allocations of 63.715 mmscmd already made in accordance with EGoM decisions, GSPAs with CGD entities for the mentioned fallback allocations have not yet been signed by the Contractor.

[Translation]

SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Madam Speaker, I am very glad to hear the reply from the hon. Minister after the exploration of gas in K.G.D. 6 basin in the country, its availability has gone up. Through you, I would like to know from the Minister as to what the situation in the year 2010 was in comparison to the one in the year 2009 and with the exploration of this gas, how much quantity of gas has been added to the available stock and what impact it is going to have on the economy of the country.

SHRI JITIN PRASADA: Madam Speaker, so far as the question of the Hon. Member is concerned, I would like to tell the House and the Hon. Member that there is an 80% increase in the production of gas as compared to the last year and its main reason is the gas explored in K.G. D 6 block in India which the Hon. Member is mentioning and the Empowered Group has taken a well thought of decision in this regard because the demand in India is more where as the supply is meagre. Therefore, priority sectors have been identified to which the gas has been supplied and the fertilizer sector is on the top priority. As on date, all the fertilizer plants in India are being supplied gas and highlighting the benefits accrued by providing this gas, I want to inform that the fertilizer sector has produced 76 lakh tonne more urea which has resulted in Rs.4000 crore savings for the Government.

Power Sector is under second priority to which the gas from K.G. D 6 basin has been provided in large quantity. On account of providing gas to the power sector, 10,000 megawatt more electricity has been generated which will lead to a profit of approximately Rs. 11,000 crore to this sector. Similarly, gas has been supplied to LPG units, steel industries, small scale city gas distribution like CNG, transport, petrochemicals and small scale industries so that the country can witness more progress.

SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Madam Speaker, what the Government is going to do in respect of the demand existing within various sectors in the

country and particularly I would like to ask about Gujarat. Gujarat is a developing state where 1500 small scale industries are on the verge of closure due to shortage of gas. For the last two days, a delegation from Gujarat is here. It is meeting myself and all other MPs from Gujarat. If gas is not provided to small scale industries then, 15 lakh Gujarati people working in these sectors will go jobless. Therefore, I would particularly like to know from the Minister as to by when the Government will provide gas to the small scale industrialists of Gujarat, who might have perhaps met you also, at the earliest and what you are going to do to save the 15 lakh labourers who are on the verge of losing their livelihood?

SHRI JITIN PRASADA: Madam Speaker, as far as the question of Gujarat is concerned, I can understand the problem of the hon. Member. So far as question of gas is concerned, I have already told that the demand is more but the supply is less, however, whatever quantity of gas is being produced in India, approximately 40 per cent of it is being used in the state of Gujarat and efforts are on to give priority to Gujarat as and when gas becomes available. Small scale industries of Gujarat have been mentioned where people are facing problem and they will not be able to get employment and this I can understand. However, since the production of gas is low, the hon. Member will agree with me that our Government's priority is the fertilizer sector with which the farmers are concerned and also the power sector where electricity is generated. We have made efforts to provide gas to these sectors on priority basis. LPG, which is used for cooking food in every household, has also been given the priority. Thus, the small scale industries being mentioned by the Hon. Member are in the Government's priority but they come at serial No. 8 in the priority list. Therefore, as and when gas becomes available, Gujarat will be taken care of particularly because the state is in Government's priority as various industries are set up there and as I have told that the 40 per cent gas in the country is being used in Gujarat itself. Two LNG terminals in Gujarat have been set up in Dahej and Hazira so that the gas imported from abroad can be utilized by the people and the small scale sector there. Since, this terminal is located in Gujarat itself, the transportation cost is also low and this will benefit the small scale industries of Gujarat. The employment opportunity there will also go up and this is what I like to assure the hon. Member.

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Balkrishna Khanderao Shukla—Absent.

PROF. RAMSHANKAR: Madam Speaker, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that all the industries have been completely shut down in Agra due to presence of the Taj Mahal there. As per the order of the Supreme Court for total closure of industries, a large number of youth are unemployed there. No industry of occupation can be set up there. Only smaller industries were operating there with natural gas but with 60 per cent rise in prices of natural gas, even these industries are on the verge of closure. Ferozabad and Agra are two such regions where no industry can be set up as per the Supreme Court's order. Therefore, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister as to whether the shortage of natural gas will be compensated in Agra and Ferozabad and whether the increase in prices will be brought down. What is the opinion of Hon. Minister in this regard for the people of Agra and what is the Government thinking about the ten lakh labourers in Agra?

SHRI JITIN PRASADA: So far as Agra is concerned, I can understand the feeling of the hon. Member. The Taj Mahal in Agra comes under the Trapezium Zone regarding which the Supreme Court has ordered not to use coal and other types of fuel. Similarly, the Supreme Court order stands for Delhi and Mumbai. Efforts are being made to provide gas to the people in more quantity so that the industries there can operate. So far as the question of price is concerned, the rate at which gas was being sold as per Administered Price mechanism was causing huge losses to the oil companies and if the rate which was prevalent before APM is compared to the crude oil price, it was coming to 12 dollars per barrel crude oil whereas the rate of crude oil per barrel is 70 dollars.

Therefore, it became necessary to increase the same. So far as the employment opportunities for youth in new industries in Agra or elsewhere is concerned if new industries are set up, they will get gas at increased prices whereas the old industries are getting cheaper gas.. Thus, new industries will not be able to bloom there and they will not get the chance of equal competition. This has been the reason for bringing prices of gas at equal footing. Efforts are also being made there. I also hail from Uttar Pradesh and I am also a young person. I am making special efforts for Agra so that the people there can get employment. Effort will be made to provide gas to the people there.

SHRI HARISH CHOUDHARY: Madam, there is a possibilities of production of 20 to 25 per cent domestic crude oil is my Lok Sabha constituency, Barmer. ONGC and Cain got this block in Barmer. We have been getting information from the newspapers for last few days that an agreement was signed under the new licence policy in which despite ONGC getting 30 per cent royalty, it was paying 100% royalty. ONGC was incurring losses despite having 30% of royalty. Cairn energy was performing efficiently there. We got information from the newspapers that Vedanta Company had acquired Cain Energy. We have been informed by the Government continuously for past one month that the acquisition of Cain Energy by Vedanta does not have the approval of the Government. Yesterday only, the Minister has told that the counter bid to be given by Vedanta could not be submitted by ONGC. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to whether the loss being incurred to ONGC will be taken into consideration?

SHRI JITIN PRASADA: Madam, this question does not pertain to the issue. Hon. Member may come to my office and I will provide him the full details over a cup of coffee.

SHRI HARISH CHOUDHARY: It is not a matter of having coffee. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Shailendra Kumarji is asking a question. You can go to his office. Let him ask the question.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Madam, I am grateful to you for giving me the opportunity to ask a question. Hon. Minister has said in his statement that he also comes from U.P. You have come to know as to what is the extent of problems of electricity in U.P. The esteemed member from Agra has also mentioned it. A gas based power project was to come up in Dadri. For the purpose, the land was acquired long ago and some work was also done there but the project could not be commissioned due to non-supply of gas by the Government of India. Through you, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister whether the Government will supply gas for the Dadri project? If not, the reasons therefore? In my view, with the commissioning of this plant, not only the power situation in Uttar Pradesh will be strengthened but other states can also be supplied power through it.

SHRI JITIN PRASADA: Madam as I have told so far as the question of the Hon. Member is concerned that demand is more as compared to the supply. For this reason, the empowered group has set a priority. With regard to the power plants, the priority has been fixed to provide gas to those existing plants which are operating. All the plants in the country which have 70% plant load factor *i.e.* their capacity are being supplied to 70% of gas instead of 100%. All the existing plants are being supplied gas and those which were to be set up last year are also being provided with the same. As far as the Dadri plant is concerned, it will also be supplied gas fully. I would like to assure you that as and when this plant will be in a position to use the gas it will be provided with the same.

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Madam Speaker, I want permission to speak from here.

MADAM SPEAKER: Why, where is your seat?

SHRI GANESH SINGH: My seat is at the back.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Am I allowed to speak from here?

MADAM SPEAKER: No, you go to your seat.

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Madam, through you, I would like to tell the Hon. Minister that he has mentioned about the congestion of traffic at both Delhi and Mumbai airports where the flights are operated and talked about the operation of 690-700 aeroplanes from both the airports. But, there are several such airports in the country and I would particularly like to mention those, where the foreign tourists have a to and fro movement. There is not much congestion there. Hardly, one or two aircrafts operate from there. However, it is often seen that inspite of having no bad weather condition and any other technical snag, there is a delay in the movements of aircrafts there. I think that somewhere down the line the foreign tourists have begun to realize that the Government of India is not being able to get it complied.

I would like to tell the Minister that atleast the aircrafts run on time at those airports which are not congested. I would particularly like to mention about

Khazuraho. It is often seen that at Khajuraho the aircrafts make a delayed movement. Whereas only one or two aircrafts operate from there. I would like to ask as to whether you will fix punctuality at those airports where not much aircrafts take off and land? If it is not so, whether any provision has been made to penalize those aircrafts?

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Madam, regarding Mumbai and Delhi airports, I have told in my reply that nearly 60% of air services in our country originate from Delhi-Mumbai Airports. When there is a delay in these airports, it has a cascading effect on other air services as well. As you have mentioned about Khazuraho, the aircraft for Khazuraho-originate from Delhi and if it gets delayed in going and arriving from Delhi, then the air service for the further entire day gets affected. For this reason, DGCA has modified the circular and implemented it. As a result, not only in Delhi and Mumbai but the air services throughout the country has got a positive impact. I hope that it will not only remain in force in Delhi and Mumbai but will be implemented to big airports like Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru from where the air services originate and consequently all our airports and all the air services will begin to have right impact.

When we talk of upgradation, it is not only for passengers but also for cargo movement. A lot of expansion will be taking place for movement of cargo from in and out of Chennai.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Madam Speaker, the hon. Minister has given reply to some of the questions asked here, however, the flights landing at Mumbai and Delhi Airport particularly at the latter have to face congestion in the evening. People prefer to travel by air to save time, they spend money to travel by air, however, even if the flights arrive at 8, 9 or 9.30 or even before that the aircrafts are made to hover in the air for 30, 35 and even 40 minutes before landing. It is so disgusting that it spoils the pleasure of traveling by air.

Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that by when the new runway is likely to be constructed. Although the Airport management has been entrusted in private hands by the Government yet the condition can be likened to a bus stand as pointed out by Shri Baalu ji. I would like to have a categorical

reply from the hon. Minister that by when the circumambulation of Delhi Airport for 30-40-45 minutes is likely to end.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Madam Speaker, in regard to the question regarding circumambulation raised by Sharadji, I would like to say that it will have to be checked at some point of time. In regard to the time taken in landing of Aircrafts I would simply adduce this reason that the new runway for Terminal-3 has been constructed at the other end. We will start this Terminal-3 for domestic operation in the next few months. This moving around from T-3 upto the domestic terminal currently would be checked and it would be possible to reach one's parking stand in T-3 in 5-7 minutes. Secondly, the work of resurfacing, re-carpeting of the old runway after a gap of 10-12 years, is in progress and would be completed. There have been a lot of diversions due to this work on the old runway, so it takes time to arrive at this runway from the new runway. However, I would like to definitely state to the hon. member that this circumambulation would be shortened by 15 or 30 October.

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Madam Speaker, the hon. Minister has attributed two reasons for congestion-first, the flights are running behind schedule and secondly, the bad weather. The third major reason is that the Airport cannot be expanded. I am asking this question in regard to the Mumbai Airport. There are approximately eighty thousand Jhuggis in 200-acre land at Mumbai Airport. I would be obliged if the hon. Minister would throw some light on the status of the survey during the last four years and whether and by when they would be shifted and how many flats are being constructed and where these are being constructed.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Madam Speaker, everybody is aware of this menace that there have been encroachments on the land during the last several years and there are approximately eighty thousand Jhuggis called slums which have impeded smooth operations at the Mumbai Airport. At the time of entrusting Mumbai Airport in joint venture we put a condition. While carrying out expansion of the Airport every person who has encroached in the complex would be rehabilitated under the SRA scheme of the Slum Rehabilitation Authority of the Government of Maharashtra by allotting an alternate accommodation. These persons cannot be evicted from that land till they are rehabilitated. The work is going on

under the scheme. The construction of initially 17,000 houses is going on in Kurla at a distance of one or one and a half kilometre from there and the first lot of 17,000 families would be definitely shifted from there by the year end. We had a meeting with the Government of Maharashtra last month and we took stock of the situation that alternate arrangements for accommodation could be made for another 6,000 people by this year-end. Despite that there we need to rehabilitate more than 50,000 families. The Government of Maharashtra is trying to make arrangements for some land. All the hon. Members are well aware that it is not an easy task to rehabilitate such a large number of people in a short duration and that too in a city like Mumbai where the displaced persons want to be rehabilitated near the-area of eviction. So we are making a lot of effort for another Airport in Mumbai. My colleague is sitting here and we are making concerted and sincere efforts for getting a new Airport constructed and we are very eager.

[English]

Congestion at Delhi and Mumbai Airports

*424. SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of flights handled at the Mumbai and Delhi airports, respectively, on any given day, domestic, international, private and charter;

(b) the causes of congestion and delays at the airports, especially in the peak morning and evening hours;

(c) the regulations governing arrival/departure and annual slots at these airports, respectively;

(d) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued new guidelines with regard to the arrival and departure slots at these airports;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether DGCA departs from its own guidelines and sanction slots indiscriminately;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether the open/ground radar at both these airports are functional; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (i) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) The total number of flights handled at Mumbai and Delhi airports at any given day are approximately 690 and 710 respectively.

(b) Each scheduled flight is allocated a Fixed Departure and Landing Time in Winter and Summer Schedules. Slots are staggered as per guidelines prescribed by International Air Transport Association (IATA) in consultation with stakeholders, including airport operators. The landing clearance is issued by Air Traffic Controllers to the each arriving aircraft as per their sequence for landing at concerned airport. When due to any reason, the flights can not adhere to the Fixed Landing Time allocated to them, then, bunching of flights take place. In such cases, the aircraft may have to hover in airspace waiting for their turn to land as per their sequence. However, the cause for congestion at Delhi and Mumbai airports are as follows:

- (i) due to commercial and technical reasons the flights may not adhere to the Fixed Landing Time allocated to them, then bunching of flights takes place.
- (ii) Some times bad weather may also cause congestion and delays to flights.

(c) to (g) To mitigate delays the Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued an Air Transport Circular 10 of 2009 in October, 2009 on procedure to be followed by the Airlines, Air Traffic Control Units and Airport operations.

In order to ensure enforcement of the flight schedules, following procedure has been laid down for strict compliance of all concerned:

- (i) Departure slots may be distributed evenly within an hour with not be more than five departure slots in 10 minutes and total of 30 per hour.
- (ii) Airlines shall file flight plan with scheduled time of departure as per approved schedule.

(iii) Generally, the flight plan with scheduled time of departure as per approved schedule.

(iv) Aircraft shall contact Clearance Delivery Unit (CLD) for ATC clearance not more than 45 minutes prior to scheduled time of departure and not later than 15 minutes prior to scheduled time of departure.

(v) Aircraft shall contact Surface Movement Control (SMC) for pushback and start up at least 15 minutes prior to schedule time of departure.

(vi) Approval for push back and start up shall be valid for five minutes only. Aircraft not adhering to pushback clearance will go back in the sequence. Subsequent clearance will be given based on available slot.

(vii) Sequence of departures shall be decided by ATC based on the position and readiness of aircraft approaching the entry point of the runway.

(viii) Aircraft shall complete all pre-departure checks and cabin procedures prior to entering the runway and start rolling as soon take-off clearance is issued by ATC.

(ix) Airport operators shall prepare parking plan in such a way that no two aircraft having departure within 20 minutes are parked on the same block of parking bays.

(x) Airlines shall forward aircraft routing by 1800 hrs the previous day to Airport Operational Control Centre (AOCC) so that aircraft parkings are planned accordingly.

(xi) In case of weather related or emergency related delays, Watch Supervisory Officer (WSO) shall be responsible for allocation of alternate slots.

(xii) Airlines not adhering to the approved time slots time slots shall be liable to lose the historicity in the next schedule.

(h) and (i) Ground radar at IGI Airport Delhi is functional and equipment has been procured at Mumbai Airport.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Madam, through you, first of all I would like to congratulate the Minister for giving international airport to Delhi & Mumbai.

[*English*]

Madam Speaker, in his reply the Minister has pointed out that there is a DGCA circular which says that there should be a departure from Delhi and Mumbai Airports every two minutes, i.e., five in ten minutes and 30 in an hour. This Question relates to congestion at Delhi and Mumbai Airports.

The problem is apparently the implementation of the circular is not proper. It is because reports suggest that during rush hours there are 10 departures in 10 minutes from Delhi and Mumbai airports and there 40 departures in an hour. At times there are five aircraft which are scheduled for departure at the same time. I do not know whether these reports are correct or whether these reports are wrong. But these reports have appeared in the public space.

I would only like to ask the hon. Minister if he would kindly enlighten the House as to how many departure slots have actually been sanctioned at Delhi and Mumbai airports between 5 am and 9 am and 5 pm to 10 pm.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Madam, the hon. Member is right when he asked about the congestion and the kind of aircraft movement that is allowed per hour at both the Delhi and Mumbai airports.

In Mumbai we have a cross runway operation which allows up to 32 movements an hour. It is a cross runway and so it allows 30 movements an hour. In Delhi, after the opening of the major runway, the total capacity of the runway is about 48 movements per hour. If there is a single runway in operation and if there are some technical and weather reasons, then it is 30 movements per hour. To say that there are more flights operating in a specified hour, the capacity cannot be increased or stretched beyond what it is. Airlines usually tend to be late not only for operational reasons but sometimes for technical and other reasons also. That is why the DGCA brought in a circular and it is strictly being monitored now first in Mumbai and now also being brought into Delhi where all airlines have to ask for push back 15 minutes before departure. The last month's review of

this new circular has shown very positive results. Both in Delhi and Mumbai the number of on-time arrivals and departure have gone up to almost 90 per cent.

So, I think, with this kind of strict implementation of the circular, I am sure—I am not saying that congestion can always be a thing of the past; as traffic will grow, the need of Mumbai and Delhi will grow and congestion is likely to happen—it certainly cannot be beyond the approved capacity of airports. Ultimately, all flight arrival and departure are monitored by a Slot Committee and therefore, they will only allow slots if there is capacity available and beyond that no slot is given to any airline.

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Madam, my second question pertains to the absence of ground radar at Mumbai airport. The hon. Minister has informed that it is being procured. As I understand it, I am subject to correction, that the absence of ground radar means that the ATC is blind to the movement on the tarmac and anybody who has been to the Delhi and Mumbai airports would see that the volume of traffic has increased on the tarmac. Their buses, luggage trolleys, their aircraft and their people who are moving around, at any point of time there can be a serious mishap, even some of the people who drive these buses can put the blue line bus drivers to shame.

Madam, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he would consider deploying traffic marshals at the Delhi and Mumbai airports to regulate the ground traffic otherwise, we may head into a major disaster.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: I fully agree with the hon. Member that as the volume of traffic has grown it is important to have the best technologies available to monitor the movement of specially aircraft and other activities like vehicles and other ancillary equipment.

Madam, I would only like to say that the Surface Movement Radar will be operationalised by September 2010, that is, in a month's time from now. Not to say that while this is being operationalised, there is no tracking of aircraft or other equipment vehicle on the ground. There are enough, I would say, agencies looking into all these aspects and regulating the flow of traffic.

However, to say that the ATC is completely blind to all activities is not fair. The ATC towers are designed to have a complete 360 degrees view of every nook and corner of the airport. Notwithstanding that, the surface

movement radar will be operationalised by September, 2010.

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Madam, we notice that the passenger and cargo traffic have increased exponentially in all the metro airports. In Chennai Airport, day in and day out, we could see that both the Kamaraj Terminal and the Anna Terminal are overflowing like anything. In fact, it looks like a mofussil bus stand. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether, with the ongoing expansion project at the Chennai Airport, the passenger traffic and cargo traffic will hold good by 2020 taking into account the present growth rate.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: In fact, hon. Member, Shri Baalu, would be well aware that the expansion of the Chennai Airport is very much on track. Most of it falls within his own constituency. I am sure that he sees it much more often than I do. But certainly, I can state that there is massive expansion going on and more than Rs. 2000 crore are being spent on the upgradation of the Chennai Airport to make it as competitive as the other major airports like Mumbai and Delhi Airports.

[English]

Import of Steel

425. + SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the production, consumption, availability and stock of steel in the country;

(b) the quantum and value of import of steel of different varieties during the last three years and the current year;

(c) the countries from which imports were made and the foreign exchange outgo as a result thereof during the above period;

(d) whether the domestic steel industry has been adversely affected because of such imports;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the manner in which the Government proposes to help the domestic steel industry in clearing the mounting stocks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The details of production, consumption, availability and stock of finished steel during the period 2009-10 and April-July 2010-11 are given below:

	(in million tonnes)	
	2009-10	2010-11 (April-July)
Production	59.69	19.98
Consumption	56.48	19.99
Availability (Production + Import – Export)	63.75	22.78
Stock	1.31 (on 1.4.10)	1.62 (on 1.8.10)

(b) The quantum and value of import of major categories of steel, during the last three years and current year (April to July 2010-11) are given below:

	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11 (April-July)	
	Quantity (Million Tonnes)	Value (in Rs. Crores)	Quantity (Million Tonnes)	Value (in Rs. Crores)	Quantity (Million Tonnes)	Value (in Rs. Crores)	Quantity (Million Tonnes)	Value (in Rs. Crores)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Semi Finished	0.357	617	0.580	1979	0.423	812	0.213	487
Hot Rolled Coil	2.947	8079	2.293	9901	2.939	7551	1.568	4837

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Other Hot Rolled Steel	1.481	5905	1.046	6282	0.903	3605	0.510	1646
Cold Rolled Coil	0.821	2220	0.710	3057	0.882	2802	0.489	1670
Bars and Rods	0.437	1307	0.433	1692	0.588	1804	0.263	881
Alloy Steel	0.457	3429	0.588	4620	1.054	4616	0.378	2346
Others	0.529	2307	0.189	3183	0.507	4433	0.246	1574
Total	7.029	23864	5.839	30714	7.296	25623	3.667	13441

(c) The major countries from which the steel imports have taken place are given below in terms of quantity. The total value of imports in Indian Rupee terms are already given above in (b).

(in million tonnes)

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11 (April-July)
China	1.842	1.516	1.012	1.438
East European countries	0.773	0.423	1.562	0.618
Japan	0.551	0.624	0.629	0.294
Korea	0.929	1.063	1.186	0.449
Other countries	2.934	2.213	2.907	0.868
Total	7.029	5.839	7.296	3.667

(d) and (e) The increase in import of steel is apparently due to the increase in steel demand in the country. During the period 2009-10, consumption of finished steel in the country has gone up by 7.9%, whereas increase in production has been 4.4%. Similarly, during April to July period of 2010-11, the increase in steel consumption is 10.7%, whereas production increase is 2.7%. Normally, the excess demand of steel in the domestic market is being met through imports. No apparent adverse impact causing injury has been noticed, so far.

(f) The total stock position of steel as on 1.8.2010 is 1.62 million tonnes, i.e. 10 days production, which is the average norm. The Ministry, however, is keeping a close watch on production, availability, consumption, import and price of steel in the country and will initiate appropriate action whenever necessary.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Madam Speaker, in spite of the growth in the steel sector in our country year by year, why the domestic traders are continuously representing to the Government saying that the import of steel is responsible for the piling up of the stocks of steel with them and they are forced to sell their products at a loss? In this connection, I would like to know what steps the Government are taking to remove the grievances of the domestic steel producers and take serious look into the practical and genuine difficulties of the steel producers, particularly when, in the present economic melt down, the Government is expected to provide every possible assistance to indigenous industry to face the existing economic situation.

SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH: Madam Speaker, I would like to say that steel import in India has shown an increasing trend over the past two years. As soon as

the domestic economy emerged out of the shadows of the global economic recession in and around March 2009, the consumption of steel in the country showed an increasing trend. Due to the limitation in growth of production capacity, the increase in steel consumption in the domestic market was met through imports from other steel-producing countries where surplus capacity had existed.

Although the import of steel has increased higher in percentage terms, there is not much concern as steel import as a percentage of total finished steel consumption is still low. This shows that most part of the steel consumption in the country is met through domestic production and only a small share of it is being met through imports.

I would like to say that I have been meeting the stakeholders off and on. Whatever difficulties they have, they discussed with me and they are fully satisfied so far as I am concerned.

12.00 hrs.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Madam, an elaborate answer is given in the written reply of the hon. Minister. But today, India's growth rate of steel is 2.7 per cent as against China's 13.5 per cent. With a view to increase its production, not only the capacity of the existing steel plants needs to be increased, but other producers are also required to be provided incentives. The main reason is alleged to be the lack of resources.

MADAM SPEAKER: Question Hour is almost over. Please be very brief.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Due to this the steel industry is unable to fulfill the domestic demand of consumers. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps are being taken to incentivise production, increase cutting edge value added products and for making available steel to the consumers at a reasonable price by discouraging import.

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, please be brief.

SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH: The answer to this is, we have to increase the production of steel in the country. Towards this end, we are taking appropriate action both

in the public sector and the private sector. We have a massive scheme for modernization of steel mills in the public sector and also to increase the capacity. Similarly, in the private sector also production is increasing very fast. As against production of 56 million tonnes of steel, today we are producing 72 million tonnes of steel and by the year 2012 we hope to reach the target of 120 million tonnes.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

New Textile Parks

*426. **SHRI RAVNEET SINGH:**
SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Scheme for the Integrated Textile Parks (SITPs) facilitate setting up of textile parks with world class infrastructure facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of textile parks set up in various States during the last two years and the current year, State-wise and yearwise alongwith the period by which they are likely to be fully operational;

(d) whether some of the State Governments have sent proposals for setting up of more number of such parks;

(e) if so, the details of such States; and

(f) the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) and (b) Yes Madam. The scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP) was commissioned in the year 2005 with an objective of providing Government support to create world class infrastructure on public private platform through a Special Purpose vehicle. The Government of India (GoI) support under the Scheme by way of grant of equity is limited to 40% of the project cost subject to a ceiling of Rs.40 crores.

(c) The list of textile parks sanctioned in the year 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 are at Statement. The stipulated period for completion of a park under the scheme is 30 to 36 months from the date of the sanction.

(d) No Madam. Proposals under the Scheme for Integrated Textiles Parks (SITP) are to be submitted by Industry Associations/Group of Entrepreneurs.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Statement

The list of textile parks sanctioned under the Scheme for Integrated Textiles Park (SITP) during 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11

Sl. No.	Project Name	State	Year of sanction
1.	RJD Integrated Textile Park Ltd.	Gujarat	2008-09
2.	Deesan Infrastructure Pvt Ltd.	Maharashtra	2008-09
3.	Asmeeta Infratech Pvt Ltd.	Maharashtra	2008-09
4.	Islampur Integrated Textile Park	Maharashtra	2008-09
5.	Latur Integrated Textile Park	Maharashtra	2008-09
6.	Purna Global Textiles Park Ltd.	Maharashtra	2008-09
7.	Jaipur Integrated Texcraft Park Pvt. Ltd.	Rajasthan	2008-09
8.	Rhytham Textile and Apparel Park Ltd.	Punjab	2008-09
9.	Ludhiana Integrated Textile Park Ltd.	Punjab	2008-09
10.	CLC Textiles Park Pvt Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	2008-09
11.	Bharat Fabtex and Corporate Park Pvt Ltd.	Rajasthan	2008-09
12.	Vaigai HiTech Weaving Park	Tamil Nadu	2009-10
13.	Kanchipuram AACM Handloom Silk Park	Tamil Nadu	2010-11

Complaints Against Companies

427. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Special Fraud Investigation Organisation (SFIO) and Registrar of Companies (RoC) have received complaints against various companies/legal entities, including private telecom companies during the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the nature and details of complaints; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) The Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) is a multi disciplinary organization consisting of experts under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs to carry out investigation under the Companies Act, 1956. On receipt of complaints, the allegations are examined by Registrars of Companies and report under Section 234(6) of the Companies Act, 1956 is submitted to the Ministry with the recommendation to order investigation into the state of affairs under Section 235 of the Act. After processing the report under Section 234(6) of the Act, orders for Investigation of Corporate

entities by SFIO are issued by Ministry of Corporate Affairs. During the last three complete years and the current year, 44 cases have been referred to SFIO for investigation including one private telecom company. Registrars of Companies (RoC) receive complaints against various companies from various stakeholders, such as shareholders, creditors, financiers, other Government Departments, members of public etc. These complaints can be grouped under two categories, namely, investors' complaints such as non-receipt of Balance Sheets, share certificates, dividend warrants, notices of shareholders' meetings, non-holding of Annual General Meetings, non-registration of transfer of shares etc., and complaints of serious nature against management such as non-payment of fixed deposits/interest on deposits and debentures, non-redemption of debentures/ bonds, diversion of funds, manipulation/fudging of accounts, mismanagement etc. The allegations pertaining to Company Law violations are looked into by Registrars of Companies and other matters outside the domain of this Ministry are looked into by concerned agencies like, Ministry of Finance, Reserve Bank of India, Securities and Exchange Board of India, Deptt. of Telecommunication, Enforcement Directorate, Central Bureau of Investigation, Income Tax Department etc. for necessary action.

(c) For redressal of investors' complaints, the offices of ROCs have an Investors Grievances Redressal Mechanism whereby the grievances are referred to the companies for redressal. Where the companies do not redress the investors complaints or the complaints involve allegations of serious nature, such as non-payment of fixed deposits/interest on deposits and debentures, non-redemption of debentures/bonds, diversion of funds, manipulation / fudging of accounts, mismanagement etc., scrutiny is taken up by the ROCs under Section 234 of the Companies Act, 1956 for logical conclusions and the ROCs initiate necessary legal actions/prosecutions against the errant companies. In cases, where wider public interest and serious allegations such as non-payment of fixed deposits/interest on deposits and debentures, non-redemption of debentures/bonds, diversion of funds, manipulation/fudging of accounts, mismanagement etc. are involved, inspections under Section 209A or investigations under Section 235/237 are carried out and thereafter, prosecutions for violations of provisions of Companies Act, 1956, Indian Penal Code, 1860 etc. noticed during such inspections and investigations are filed.

Railway Network in Difficult Terrains

*428. SHRI THANGSO BAITE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways consider volume of traffic, economic development and social parameters, while considering viability of a project and also undertake cost-benefit analysis, before initiating any project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways pay special emphasis for laying of railway network in hilly, difficult and inaccessible areas including North-Eastern States, even if the rate of return is negative;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of the Railway projects undertaken in these areas for the last three years; and

(f) the present status of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) and (b) Surveys are undertaken to examine the feasibility and to assess the likely investment, potential of traffic volumes and financial rate of return from the proposed project. During this evaluation, the financial rate of return is worked out under Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) technique and a project is considered financially viable if the return is equal to or more than 14%. The policy followed for taking up new line projects was enunciated by the National Transport Policy Committee 1980 and the following criteria was prescribed:

- (i) Project oriented lines to serve new industries for tapping mineral and other resources;
- (ii) Missing links for completing alternative routes to relieve congestion on existing saturated routes;
- (iii) Lines required for strategic reasons; and
- (iv) Lines for establishment of new growth centers or giving access to remote areas.

Besides the above, new lines are also taken up as socially desirable projects for the development of the economically backward areas.

(c) and (d) There is no such classification of Railway Projects as hilly, difficult and inaccessible area projects. However, 16 no. of projects are in progress to provide connectivity in Himalayan Region including North East region costing about Rs.34,600 Crore which on completion will add about 1473 Km of broad gauge line to the network.

(e) and (f) In last three years and current year, 7 new line projects have been taken up for Himalayan Region including North East at a cost of Rs.12,525 Crore. These projects are in initial stages of final location survey, preparation of plans and estimates, land acquisition, etc.

Transportation of Commodities

*429. SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI:
SHRI RAJU SHETTI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the guidelines/instructions orders issued by the Railways for according priority for transportation/movement of different classes of commodities including fertilizer, coal etc;

(b) whether large quantity of these commodities remained at Railway siding due to non-availability of railway wagons;

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

(d) whether a number of State Governments have urged the Railways for additional rakes for the movement of fertilizer and coal;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Railways to transport fertilizer and coal to its designated places expeditiously; and

(g) the other steps taken by the Railways to increase the number and capacity of rakes?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (c) Priority for transportation/movement of different classes of commodities including fertilizer and coal are detailed in the Preferential Traffic Order(PTO)

No. 83 effective from 15th August 2009 issued by Railway Board and further extended for a period of one year i.e. upto 31st March 2011. A summary of the PTO is as under:

1. Priority 'A'-Military Traffic when sponsored by MILRAIL and approved by Railway Board
2. Priority 'B'-Goods for emergency relief like flood, drought, earthquake etc, Foodgrains and levy sugar for Public Distribution System when sponsored by Central/State Government or nominated organizations.
3. Priority 'C'-Programmed traffic of Coal, Edible Salt, Raw Material to Steel Plant, Fertilizer and POL when sponsored by nominated authorities and approved by the Railways.
4. Priority 'D'-All other traffic not included in priority A to C.

Indian Railways are according priority for movement of fertilizers from Ports/Plants and rakes are being provided for loading of fertilizers in consultation with Department of Fertilisers as per their requirements on placement of indents. Availability of wagons can be assessed from the fact that fertilizer loading on Indian Railways grew by 16.75 per cent in July 2010 as compared to July 2009.

The quantity of vendible coal available at pithead and railway sidings in Coal India Subsidiaries, as furnished by Ministry of Coal, has reduced by 10.82 million tonnes as on 16.8.2010 as compared to 1.4.2010. Availability of wagons can be assessed from the fact that the loading of coal from all sources on Indian Railways increased by 10.61 per cent in July 2010 as compared to July 2009.

(d) to (f) The Central Government has mechanisms to address the issues of availability of fertilizers and coal including those represented by State Governments through institutionalized Inter-Ministerial sub-groups and committees. Movement of fertilizers is based on the priorities given by the Department of Fertilisers and on placement of indents. For coal, the dispatch programme is based on Fuel Supply Agreements (FSA) signed between customers and coal companies and actual offers by coal companies. All issues pertaining to availability of fertilizer and coal are monitored on a regular and periodic basis.

(g) The Railways are continuously acquiring higher number of wagons over the years. New wagons being manufactured are also designed for carrying greater payloads. Besides this, a large number of existing wagons are being retrofitted to enable them to carry higher payloads. These steps have not only increased the number of rakes available for loading but have also resulted in moving more tonnage in each train.

Use of Naptha

*430. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:
SHRI S. ALAGIRI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Naptha (Acquisition, Sales, Storage and Prevention of Use in Automobile) Order, 2000 issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 seeks to prevent diversion and misuse of Naptha;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether cases of adulteration of Naptha is on the rise;

(d) the number of cases lodged under the above Order during the last three years and the current year, year and State-wise;

(e) the details of conviction reported during the above period; and

(f) the steps taken for prevention of the adulteration of Naptha including making the provisions of Naptha Order, 2000 more stringent?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Government have issued the Naptha (Acquisition, Sales, Storage and Prevention of Use in Automobile) Order, 2000 under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 Vide G.S.R. 518(E) dated 5th June, 2000 to prevent diversion and misuse of Naptha for adulteration.

(c) to (e) The possibility of mixing of Naptha with petrol by some unscrupulous elements cannot be ruled out owing to easy miscibility of Naptha with petrol. The Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have informed that no case of established adulteration of Naptha has been reported in past three years. However, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered six cases in current year for suspected diversion/ adulteration

of Naptha under Naptha Control Order, 2000. CBI has reported that none of these cases has resulted in conviction so far. The state wise details of these six cases of suspected misuse of Naptha are given in statement.

(f) State Governments have been empowered to take action in the case of malpractices/irregularities under the Naptha Control Order. In order to check adulteration, the Government has also taken a number of initiatives viz., Automation of Retail Outlets, Third party certification of Retail Outlets, Monitoring of movement of tank trucks through Global Positioning System (GPS), Smart Card Scheme etc.

Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) undertake regular and surprise inspections of Retail Outlets and also take action under Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG) and Dealership Agreements against those indulging in adulteration and malpractices. MDG provide for termination of dealership in the first instance itself for serious malpractices like adulteration, tampering of seals, and unauthorized fittings/gears in dispensing units.

Statement

State-wise details of suspected cases registered by CBI for diversion/adulteration of Naptha during the current year

Sl.No.	RC No. & Date of Reg.	State
1.	PE 3/2010-EO-III Dated 9.6.10	U.P.
2.	RC-17/2010-ACB/Delhi Dated 14.5.2010	UP
3.	RC-18/2010-ACB/Delhi Dated 18.5.2010	Haryana
4.	RC-19/2010-ACB/Delhi Dated 18.5.2010	Haryana
5.	RC-20/2010-ACB/Delhi Dated 18.5.2010	Haryana
6.	RC-21/2010-ACB/Delhi Dated 18.5.2010	Haryana

[Translation]

Failure of Radar System at Airports

*431. SHRI BHUDEO CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the radar system at Delhi Airport's Traffic Control (ATC) had developed snags in the recent months;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of flights directly affected and its cascading delays particularly on VIP flights during this period;

(c) whether incidents of radar failure has occurred at other airports also in the recent past; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the flights affected and the steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. On 3rd August, 2010, one of the two radars installed at IGI airport, was unserviceable for about 4 hours due to cut in the optical fibre cable link. However, operations were not affected since the second radar was working.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The details of radar failure are at Statement. There was no flight disruption due to failure of radar at other airports. A proper and dedicated maintenance procedure of the radars is in place to undertake maintenance and to attend to the failures. Scheduled maintenance of radars and associated systems is carried out at regular intervals as per the laid down procedures. In case of radar failures due to breakdown, Air Traffic Services are provided through laid down non-radar procedures.

Statement

Details of instances of radar failures at other airports

1. 5 times at Ahmedabad airport on 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th July 2010 and 20th August 2010.
2. 3 times at Mumbai airport on 9th and 14 July 2010 and 4th August 2010.
3. 2 times at Hyderabad airport on 13th July and 10th August 2010.
4. 2 times at Behrampur ACS on 14th and 23rd July 2010.
5. Once at Varanasi airport on 23rd July 2010.
6. 2 times at Trivendrum airport on 27th and 28th July 2010; and
7. 2 times at Guwahati airport on 18th and 23rd August 2010.

[English]

Flights to Middle East Destinations

*432. SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether air passengers are facing inconvenience due to frequent delay/cancellation of flights to middle east destinations;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Sometimes passengers face inconvenience due to delays which are beyond the control of the airlines arising out of factors such as Air Traffic Control (ATC), weather, technical reasons, security checks etc. The Indian carriers flying to Middle East destinations generally operate on time and as per schedule. Moreover, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued fresh directions to be followed by Airlines, ATCs and Airport operators, now being enforced to reduce flight delays.

Air India and its subsidiaries and also Jet Airways have restructured/withdrawn some of their flights to/from Middle East, with a view to bring about synergies in the operations of flights operated between them and their subsidiary airlines. The flights on Calicut-Ras al Khaimah/ Fujairah, Hyderabad-Sharjah, Bangalore-Sharjah, Goa-Sharjah, Chennai-Sharjah, Delhi- Sharjah, Bahrain-Cochin, Bahrain-Calicut, Doha-Calicut, Doha-Cochin, Calicut - Kuwait, Calicut- Muscat, Cochin-Muscat routes have been rationalized/withdrawn because of low profitability and replaced some with its routes to Dubai, while its Chennai-Trichy-Sharjah flight has been replaced by an Air India Express daily service on the Chennai-Trichy-Dubai route, since the distance between the Dubai and Sharjah airport is only about 20 kms.

Likewise, Jet Airways has also cancelled its flights between Delhi-Kuwait, Cochin-Kuwait, Cochin-Bahrain, Calicut-Muscat and Calicut-Doha by similar route rationalization.

Integrated Skill Development Scheme

433. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched a new scheme to improve the skills of workers in various segments of the textile industry;

(b) if so, the salient features of the said scheme alongwith the targets fixed under this scheme;

(c) the amount earmarked for this scheme under the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) the manner in which the resources are to be generated to meet the target fixed under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Madam. An Integrated Skill Development Scheme for the Textiles Sector was launched by the Government in August, 2010. The salient features of the scheme are to leverage the strength of existing training institutions under the Ministry of Textiles as also to tap private sector institutions through a PPP model to address the skill gap in the textiles sector in India. The total expenditure earmarked under the scheme for training 2.56 lakh persons during the remaining two years of the 11th Five Year Plan, is Rs. 272 crores, of which the Government's contribution works out to Rs. 229 crores and Rs. 43 crores would be generated through industry/beneficiary contribution.

Availability of Natural Gas

*434. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of natural gas available at present and the quantity likely to increase in the next two to three years in the country;

(b) the total requirement of natural gas at present in the power and fertilizers sectors and the likely increase in demand in the next two to three years in the country;

(c) the cost of production of natural gas and the rate at which it is being sold to these sectors;

(d) whether there is a gap between demand and supply of natural gas in the country; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to meet the demand of natural gas in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) At present, total availability of natural gas in India, including imported Liquid Natural Gas (LNG), is around 167.80 million standard cubic meters per day (mmscmd), which is

projected to be around 202.97 mmscmd, 256.6mmscmd and 271.92 mmscmd during 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 respectively.

(b) The present total requirement of natural gas in power and fertilizers sector is around 77.44 mmscmd and 39.61mmscmd respectively. The projected additional demand of natural gas in power and fertilizers sector in each of the next three years is as follows:

Sector	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Power	15.59	60*	60*
Fertilizers	3.43	13.44	46.78

*As communicated by Ministry of Power, the total requirement of proposed power plants, whose expected date of commissioning has yet to be certified by Central Electricity Authority (CEA), is around 600 mmscmd. However, only 60 mmscmd has been included in each of the years 2012-13 and 2013-14.

(c) Cost of production of natural gas varies from field to field, depending on inter alia geological conditions, age of field, location of field, cost of equipments and services, etc. Gas available under Administered Price Mechanism (APM) and New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) is sold at US \$ 4.2 /million british thermal unit (mmbtu) inclusive of royalty. As regards customers in the North-East, subsidy of 40% is given by the Government. Gas available under pre-NELP contracts is sold at an average price of US \$ 5.24/mmbtu. Further, LNG imported under long-term agreement is sold at US \$ 6.53/mmbtu, while the price of spot cargo presently varies in the range US \$ 5.40-9.4/mmbtu.

(d) The present demand of various priority sectors in the country is largely being met. Further, spare regasification capacity is available in the country for import of LNG.

(e) The Government has adopted a multi-pronged strategy to enhance availability of natural gas in the country, consisting inter alia of the following:

- (i) Intensification of domestic Exploration and Production (E and P) activities through NELP rounds,
- (ii) Coal Bed Methane (CBM),
- (iii) Underground Coal Gasification,
- (iv) Gas Hydrates,
- (v) Import of LNG from various countries, and

- (vi) Transnational pipelines, viz., Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) Pipeline and Turkmenistan- Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) pipeline.

CAT III B System

*435. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether CAT III B Instrument Landing System facilitate easy take off and landing visibility;

(b) if so, the details of runways at Delhi airport, which are CAT III B compliant;

(c) whether the Government/NACIL proposes to equip all the runways with CAT III B Instrument Landing System at Delhi airport; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) CAT III B ILS primarily provides a landing aid to the aircrafts. It facilitates to land the aircrafts even when the Runway Visual Range(RVR) is less than 200 meters but not less than 50 meters.

(b) ILS CAT-IIIB is installed at Runways 28, 29 and 11 at IGI Airport to meet the operational requirement.

(c) and (d) No, Madam. Three nos. CAT IIIB ILS are operating for the two runways which are primary runways. Since all landing and takeoff are taking place during low visibility and fog from these two runways using the three numbers CAT III B ILS systems and therefore, at present, no need arises for equipping other runways with CAT IIIB ILS.

Frivolous PIL

*436. SK. SAIDUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Public Interest Litigations (PILs) Filed in the Supreme Court and various High Courts, court-wise;

(b) whether the Government is aware of filing of frivolous litigation under the guise of PIL;

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

(d) whether the Government proposes to initiate action to check such frivolous litigation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW and JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (e) The data regarding the number of Public Interest Litigations filed in the Courts is not maintained by the Department of Justice as the matter falls exclusively within the writ jurisdiction of the higher judiciary. At times, the Courts have commented on the frivolous cases being filed in the guise of PIL.

The Jurisdiction as to Public Interest Litigations has been exercised by the Courts within their jurisdiction which has been conferred by the Constitution. The Courts have been exercising their jurisdiction and discretion in selecting cases which should be heard by them in detail. The Courts have also laid certain parameters to sieve worthy PILs from Publicity/Private/Pise/Political Interest Litigations. In Dr. B.K. Subbarao Vs K. Parasaran 1996(7) JT 265, the Court cautioned "No litigant has a right to unlimited drought on the Court time and public money in order to get his affairs settled in the manner as he wishes. Easy access to justice should not be misused as a licence to file misconceived and frivolous petitions."

There is no proposal before the Government to check the PIL jurisdiction forming part of the writ jurisdiction of the Courts which is one of the basic features of the Constitution.

ROB/RUB Over Level Crossings

*437. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria in vogue in the Railways for the construction of Railway Over Bridge/ Under Bridge over the level crossings;

(b) the number of railway crossings still pending for the construction of ROB/RUB which have Train Vehicle Units numbering more than one lakh in the country particularly in Ahmedabad, zone-wise; and

(c) the time by which the construction of ROB/RUB are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) As per the present criteria, level crossings where minimum TVU (Train Vehicle Unit) is one lakh are considered for conversion to ROB/RUB on Cost Sharing basis.

The ROB's could also be constructed at less TVUs (Train Vehicle Unit) provided the State Governments approach the Indian Railways to construct the ROB's/RUBs on Deposit Terms in which case the entire cost of the work is to be borne by the State Governments.

(b) The details of Level Crossings with TVU (Traffic Vehicle Unit) more than one lakh and where ROB/RUB works are still pending is tabulated below:

Sl.No.	Zonal Railways	Number of Level Crossings with TVU more than one lakh but ROB/RUB works still pending
1	Central	81
2.	Eastern	114
3.	East Central	45
4	East Coast	20
5	Northern	271
6	North Central	115
7	North Eastern	53
8	Northeast Frontier	52
9	North Western	117
10	Southern	61
11	South Central	127
12	South Eastern	49
13	South East Central	37
14	South Western	4
15	Western	168
16	West Central	50
	Total	1364

On these 1364 level crossings where TVU is exceeding One Lakh so far State Governments have not communicated their final acceptance for construction of ROB's/RUBs on cost sharing basis. The matter is being continuously pursued by Railway authorities with State Governments. On similar lines for Ahmedabad there are 39 level crossings which are pending for construction of ROB's/RUBs due to non response from State Government.

(c) Construction of ROB's/RUBs on the level crossings falling within the criteria is a continuous process. As the traffic is increasing, additional number of level crossings would qualify for construction of ROB's/RUBs.

Even on the existing level crossings which have become due, sanction of the works of ROB's/RUBs will depend upon the willingness of the State Governments to share the cost.

Cargo Handling at Airports

438. SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the target set for cargo handling at various airports during the last three years and achievement made thereof;

(b) the reasons for shortfall in achieving the targets, if any;

(c) whether the Government has assessed the expected growth of cargo traffic during the next five years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to strengthen the infrastructure to deal with the increasing cargo traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The target set for and the achievement made for international and domestic cargo traffic for all the airports taken together during the last three years (2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10) are given at Statement-I.

There is a shortfall in achieving the targets of international cargo in the year 2008-09 and 2009-10 and domestic cargo in the year 2007-08 and 2008-09 due to global economic slow down. However, the achievement

exceeds the targets in domestic cargo during the year 2009-10.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has forecasted the growth of International cargo and Domestic cargo at all the airports taken together @10% and 15% during the year 2010-11 and 2011-12;

@ 10% and 12% during the year 2012-13 and 2014-15 respectively taking 2009-10 as the base year.

(e) The steps taken and proposed to be taken to strengthen cargo facilities at various airports are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Cargo Traffic during the last 3 years

(in '000 Metric Tonnes)

Year	International Cargo			Domestic Cargo		
	Targets	Achievements	Increase/ Decrease	Target	Achievement	Increase/ Decrease
2007-08	1133.41	1146.75	13.34	575.34	568.23	-7.11
2008-09	1259.94	1149.92	-110.02	627.90	552.06	-75.84
2009-10	1402.49	1270.71	-131.78	686.01	690.90	4.89

Statement-II

Steps taken/proposed to be taken to strengthen Cargo Facilities

Kolkata Airport

- The Phase I of New Integrated Cargo terminal (NICT) admeasuring 19150 sqms was made fully operational in 2008 thereby augmenting the total area to 21906 sqms with annual capacity of 1.25 lakh Metric Tonne (MT).
- The Phase I of the NICT is provided with Elevated transfer Vehicle (ETV) in the export wing and the Automated Storage and Retrieval System (AS and RS) in the Import wing for automated Cargo handling operations and usage of space vertically.
- As per the cargo estimation, the existing capacity of Kolkata Airport is sufficient to meet the requirement till 2020.

Chennai Airport

- Phase III/IV of the New Integrated Cargo terminal, with latest Automated Storage and

Retrieval System is under construction at Chennai Airport enhancing the area from 35920 sqms to 54620 sqms. With the commissioning of this project, the annual cargo handling capacity would rise from 3.5 lakh MT to 5.15 lakhs MT.

- As per the cargo estimation, the existing capacity of Chennai Airport is sufficient to meet the requirement till 2020.
- In addition to augmentation of the space, it is proposed to add more facilities for automation and mechanization for speedy clearance of cargo at metro Cargo Terminals. The following actions have been planned:
 - To handle export cargo by conveyor belts
 - Scissor lift at Truck Dock area for handling loose cargo and shipper loaded Unit Load Devices (ULDs) for bonded truck operations
 - Up-gradation of Old NT Hub (Net Transaction) for WEB based EDI (Electronic data Interexchange) transaction.

Coimbatore Airport

- At Coimbatore Airport, AAI has further augmented the international export/import cargo annual handling capacity from 18950 MT to 31240 MT.
- Steps are being taken to implement EDI under Customs ICES Version 1.5 to facilitate the trade.

Amritsar Airport.

- EDI under ICES Version 1.5, for white shipping bills (for No Customs Duty Draw back) has been implemented by the Customs Authorities.
- Further steps are being taken to implement EDI for green shipping bills (for Customs Duty Draw back) under Customs ICES Version 1.5 to facilitate the trade.

IGI Airport, Delhi

DIAL has entered into a Joint Venture with CELEBI for modernization of existing integrated brown field cargo (Terminal Size : 70,000 Sq. Mtrs.) & also awarded 2nd a concession to Cargo Service Centre for development of Green field cargo (Terminal Size : 50,000 Sq. Mtrs.) operation. Additionally DIAL has also identified areas for proposed development of supporting Cargo infrastructure e.g. Facilities for Forwarders/Logistics and special Handling etc. There is a proposed expansion of the Cargo Apron to cater to the cargo aircraft movement increases.

Bengaluru International Airport, Devanahalli

- Establishment of Cargo village for 200 agent and freight forwarder.
- Providing rent-free space to animal quarantine, plant quarantine and drug controllers' office.
- Increase in vertical storage space to cater to increasing cargo.
- Introduction of mezzanine floor in one of the cargo terminals in the future.
- Streamlining of cargo transactions through e-trade initiative and in-house software.

Future expansion plans in respect of other AAI managed airports

- **Cargo terminal at Port Blair Airport** has been taken over from Andaman and Nicobar Administration. Modalities are being finalized to commence the domestic cargo operations from the said Terminal.

- Construction of the Cargo terminal at **Srinagar Airport** is in the planning stage.
- Considering the demand of the trade, viability study for constructing the Cargo Terminal at **Surat Airport** is being done by AAI to know the future potential for planning the Terminal.
- Viability study for constructing the Cargo Terminal at **Pune Airport** has been completed by AAI and the matter is submitted to the appropriate authority for 'in principle' approval.
- The proposed Air Cargo Terminal at **Patna** airport is planned in joint venture between AAI and the state govt. (Bihar Industrial Area Development Authority [BIADA]).
- Under CPC policy, AAI has identified the sites for establishing cold storage facility at **Agartala, Dimapur and Guwahati** Airports.

Revival of Hosiery Mills

*439. SHRI MAROTRAO SAINUJI KOWASE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hosiery industry plays an important role, in the employment generation and economic development of a region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of hosiery units, Statewise;

(d) whether several hosiery mills in the country have closed down or are on the verge of closure;

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

(f) the steps taken by the Government to revive them?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The hosiery industry provides employment to over 4.3 lakh persons. The production of knitted cloth, which accounts for 22.79% of total cloth production, stood at 13623 million square metres in 2009-10.

(c) Hosiery units are predominantly in the decentralized sector and the State wise details of number of units are not available.

(d) and (e) No, Madam. The production of knitted cloth has shown an increase of 12.8% in 2009-10 as compared to previous year. The increasing trend of production indicates that there is no large scale closure of hosiery industries.

(f) Does not arise in view of (d) and (e) above.

[*Translation*]**Promotion of Handicrafts**

440. SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN
SHRI JAGDISH THAKOR

Year (April-July)

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the export of handicrafts products during the current year as compared to the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of foreign exchange earned from the above export during the said periods country-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to protect and promote handicrafts industry at the national as well as regional levels?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) to (c) As reported by Carpet Export Promotion Council, New Delhi and Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi, there is an increasing trend in exports of handicrafts and handmade carpets and other floor coverings during current financial year for the period April-July, 2010, as compared to corresponding period of

2009-10. The export of handicrafts and handmade carpets of corresponding period during last three years is as under:

2007-08 : Rs. 3680.38 Crores (US\$ 892.55 Million)

2008-09 : Rs. 3555.73 Crores (US\$ 853.60 Million)

2009-10 : Rs. 3033.61 Crores (US\$ 622.80 Million)

2010-11 : Rs. 3548.48 Crores (US\$ 763.68 Million)

The country-wise export data is being maintained on annual basis. The details of foreign exchange earned during last three years country-wise are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The steps taken by the Government to protect and promote handicrafts industry include implementation of schemes like Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY) for integrated development of selected handicraft clusters; Design and Technology Up-gradation; Marketing Support and Services; Research and Development; Human Resource Development, Handicraft Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme.

Statement

Country-wise exports of handmade carpets and other floor coverings for the last 3 years:

Sl.No.	Country	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
		U.S. \$ Million	U.S. \$ Million	U.S. \$ Million
1	2	3	4	5
1	Argentina	1.79	2.33	1.87
2	Australia	15.54	15.20	13.35
3	Austria	4.75	5.25	5.39
4	Belgium	14.41	2.56	2.22
5	Brazil	4.41	1.04	2.70
6	Canada	14.74	8.92	6.45
7	Denmark	7.05	4.17	3.35
8	Finland	4.04	3.25	2.20
9	France	14.11	10.82	8.50
10	Germany	160.67	135.85	115.75

1	2	3	4	5
11	Italy	26.32	5.65	2.21
12	Japan	14.86	10.80	9.60
13	Netherlands	10.94	4.23	3.15
14	Norway	2.22	1.42	0.86
15	Sweden	11.53	4.05	2.20
16	Switzerland	2.27	5.95	4.30
17	Spain	20.39	5.40	3.15
18	U.S.A.	414.62	301.12	241.43
19	U.K.	45.48	24.85	16.84
20	Others	85.57	47.20	80.35
	Total	875.71	600.06	525.87

Source: Ministry of Commerce website.

Country-wise Exports of Handicrafts for the last 3 years:

Sl.No.	Country	2007-08 In US \$ Millions	2008-09 In US \$ Millions	2009-10 In US \$ Millions
1	AUSTRALIA	52.37	23.73	24.62
2	CANADA	107.04	51.47	52.09
3	FRANCE	167.43	79.43	81.15
4	GERMANY	339.4	163.57	164.27
5	ITALY	118.29	59.37	61.84
6	JAPAN	95.91	41.16	42.33
7	NETHER-LAND	110.87	50.92	52.21
8	UAE	215.36	105.11	108.73
9	SWITZER-LAND	51.12	24.56	25.46
10	U.S.A.	1119.84	495.6	522.52
11	U.K.	374.28	189.63	194.81
12	LAC	59.14	29.12	30.34
13	OTHER COUNTRIES	670.09	484.21	469.86
	Total	3481.14	1797.88	1830.23

Source: Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts.

Railway Land Pathankot

4824. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware of the matter regarding the construction of some portion of canal under Sidhata Medium Irrigation Project on the railway land going through Pathankot Jogendra Nagar narrow gauge railway line under Jwali tehsil of district Kangra in Himachal Pradesh is still pending for years;

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

(c) the time by which it is likely to be sanctioned/ approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The proposal for leasing of railway land measuring approximately 1898 sqm. on Pathankot-Joginder Nagar Section for crossing and construction of RCC Box Culvert across and along railway track for Sidhata Medium Irrigation Project received from Himachal State Government has since been approved.

[*English*]

Emirates Aircraft Incident

4825. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Emirates aircraft carrying 350 passengers from Dubai to Kochi encountered severe turbulence over the Arabian sea leaving many passengers injured due to erratic movement;

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

(c) the number of passengers suffered injuries due to turbulence and the latest position of the passengers who got injured and the number of Indian passengers were travelling in it;

(d) whether the Emirates officials have given any justification for this turbulence and the same has been corroborated by the aviation meteorologists;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Emirates officials have ordered any enquiry into the incident; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. On 25th April 2010, Emirates Airlines B777-200ER Aircraft A6-EML operating flight No. EK-530 from Dubai to Kochi encountered turbulence when cruising at Flight Level (FL) 350. The reasons shall be known after completion of investigation.

(c) Two passengers sustained serious injuries and 16 passengers sustained minor injuries. All injured passengers are in healthy condition. Total numbers of passengers on board were 364, out of which 207 were Indian passengers.

(d) to (g) The incident is under investigation by Inquiry Officer appointed under rule 77C of Aircraft Rules. Emirates Airlines and Gulf Civil Aviation Authorities are participating in the investigation process.

[*Translation*]

Complaints against Booking Clerks

4826. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have received complaint regarding cases of overcharging done by ticket/parcel booking clerks of Patna, Hazipur and Darbhanga stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the preventive steps taken by the Railways in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) 24 complaints have been received against the booking/parcel clerks of Patna, Hajipur and Darbhanga stations during the last three years (since April 2007).

(c) To prevent malpractices such as overcharging done by booking/parcel clerks, frequent checks are conducted by Commercial as well as Vigilance departments and the staff wherever found responsible are taken up under Discipline and Appeal Rules.

*[English]***Hindustan Photo Film**

4827. SHRI S. SEMMALAI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to disinvest the shares of the Hindustan Photo Film;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to revive the Hindustan Photo Film (HPF) situated in Ooty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) No, Madam.

(c) Department of Heavy Industry has released Rs. 30 crores as non-plan loan in February, 2010 towards working capital to execute the pending orders and to facilitate uninterrupted operations.

Reservation of STs in Aviation Sector

4828. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is successfully maintaining the requisite percentage of Scheduled Tribes (STs) reservation in jobs in the Ministry and its various organisations;

(b) if so, the current status there, if organisation-wise;

(c) if not, the details of the backlog status and the steps taken to fill up the vacancies;

(d) whether the number of ST representation in Indra Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Academy is less as compared to Scheduled Castes (SCs); and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Flight Training

4829. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether flight training can be obtained under the Aircraft Act, 1934 without Commercial pilot licence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation has amended this rule through a circular; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Possession of Commercial Pilot Licence (CPL) is not a pre-requisite for flying training as CPL is issued after completing the requisite flying training prescribed in the Section J of Schedule II to the Aircraft Rules, 1937.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

*[English]***Import of Bentonite and Barytes**

4830. SHRI BHARAT RAM MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the oil companies/firms, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), Oil India Limited (OIL) etc. are being importing Bentonite commercial powder and Barytes powder to use in drilling of oil wells for crude oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the quantity imported during the last three years separately, year-wise and country-wise; and

(c) the names of Indian firms presently involved in importing and supplying the said chemicals (powder) to the oil companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) No, Madam.

(c) The list of Indian firms presently supplying Bentonite powder and Barytes powder to Oil and Natural Gas Corporation and Oil India Limited are as under:

Bentonite powder

- M/s Ashapura International, Mumbai
- M/s Manek Minerals, Mumbai
- M/s Jagshanti Minerals, Jodhur
- M/s Maruti, Minerals, Barmer (Rajasthan)

Barytes powder

- M/s Gimpex Ltd. Chennai
- M/s IBC Ltd. Chennai
- M/s BASS Minerals (India) Pvt. Ltd., Kodur
- M/s APMDC Ltd., Hyderabad
- M/s Shri Vijayalakshmi Minerals Trading Co., Chennai
- M/s Ghousia Minerals, Cuddapah.
- M/s C.M.Ramanatha Reddy, Chennai.

[*Englisg*]

Setting up Fashion Hub

4831. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is inordinate delay in setting up Fashion Hub in NCT of Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the amount allocated for Fashion Hub is lying unused for the last three years;

(d) if so, whether there is any deadlock in selection of place or in allotment of land for Fashion Hub;

(e) if so, whether any steps have been taken to ensure immediate creation of Fashion Hub; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Setting up of Fashion Hub involves many steps like

consultation with stakeholders, finalisation of concept paper, identification and procurement of land and inviting expression of interest/bids etc. The Ministry of Textiles is engaged in this process.

(c) to (f) A provision of token money of Rs.1.00 crore only is being made in the budget of this Ministry for the last three years which was not utilised due to the ongoing process as mentioned above.

[*English*]

Fake Gas Agencies in Bihar

4832. SHRI RAMKISHUN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some gas agencies refuse to issue new LPG connections to people in various parts of Bihar;

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

(c) whether some gas agencies are run by fake properties in connivance with officials of oil marketing companies in various parts of Bihar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government against the guilty LPG distributors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA) : (a) and (b) The enrolment of new LPG customers and release of new LPG connections is a continuous process. New LPG connections are made available as soon as possible and in any case, within a period of sixty days. During the period April - July 2010, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have released 95,000 new LPG connections in the State of Bihar.

OMCs have not detected any established cases of non-release of new LPG connection against their LPG distributors in the State of Bihar.

(c) and (d) OMCs have not reported any established case of benami LPG distributors or connivance of their officers in such cases in the State of Bihar.

During LPG distributorship selection process and finally while awarding LPG distributorship, utmost care is taken by OMCs to ensure that the distributorships are

awarded to the persons belonging to that category only under which distributorship is rostered and advertised.

Cost of Vaccines

4833. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the prices of retail vaccines across the country are highly inflated;

(b) If so, whether certain pharmaceutical companies in the country are offering the price of their vaccines to private doctors at a discounted price, resulting in huge margin of profit to doctors;

(c) If so, whether the Government has any plan to place vaccines back under price control as was the case till 1995; and

(d) If so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) This Ministry is not aware of any such report in the recent past. Vaccines are non-Scheduled drugs and not covered under the price control category of drugs under the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95). The manufacturers fix the prices by themselves without seeking the approval of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA). However, NPPA, as a part of price monitoring activity, regularly examines the movement in prices of non-scheduled formulations. The monthly reports of ORG IMS and the information furnished by individual manufacturers are utilized for the purpose of monitoring prices of non-scheduled formulations. Wherever a price increase beyond 10% per annum (20% before 01.04.2007) is noticed, the manufacturer is asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which, subject to prescribed conditions action is initiated under paragraph 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995 for fixing the price of the formulation in public interest. This is an ongoing process.

(c) and (d) Presently, there is no proposal to place vaccines under the price control.

Joint Venture with NPCIL and Railways

4834. SHRI P. KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector firm Nuclear Power Corporation of India and Railways have decided to set up a power plant jointly for the railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when it is likely to be executed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) No, Madam. There is no proposal to set up a power plant jointly with the public sector firm Nuclear Power Corporation of India (NPCIL) and Railways.

Haj Yatra

4835. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is funding/providing subsidy for performing Haj Yatra;

(b) if so, the details of such funding provided to the pilgrims of each State especially Karnataka;

(c) the number of persons benefited in Karnataka as a result thereof;

(d) whether the State Governments including Karnataka have requested to enhance the allocations quota made to the Haj pilgrims; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Ministry of Civil Aviation makes travel arrangements for pilgrims performing Haj through Haj Committee of India. Since 1994, such pilgrims have been paying Rs.12000/- as air fare and the remaining cost of their air travel is borne by Government. The cost borne by the Government for Haj 2007, 2008 and 2009 was approximately Rs. 476.75 crore, Rs. 894.77 crore and Rs. 689.91 crore respectively. Subsidy is not provided directly to the pilgrims.

(c) 5917 pilgrims from Karnataka travelled on subsidised fare during Haj-2009.

(d) No, Madam.

(e) Does not arise.

Research Extension Centres

4836. SHRI S. PAKKIRAPPA:
SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Silk Board has established Research Extension Centres in various parts of the country particularly in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu to support the sericulture farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main objectives of these centres;

(d) the extent to which these centres are likely to be helpful for the sericulture farmers;

(e) whether necessary infrastructure, support and financial assistance has also been provided to the farmers to promote sericulture; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Madam. The Central Silk Board has established Research Extension Centres (RECs) in various parts of the country for providing research extension support to the sericultural farmers. There are three RECs in Karnataka and five RECs in Tamil Nadu.

(b) The CSB has established 62 RECs in different parts of the country under the administrative control of main research institutes established for the development of sericulture. State-wise list of RECs and its location is given as under:

Sl.No.	State	No. of RECs	Location
1	2	3	4
1.	Karnataka	3	Chitradurga, Madivala(Kolar) and Bidaraguppe (Anekal)
2.	Andhra Pradesh	6	Venkatagiri Kota, Rayachoty, Madaksira, Viakrabad, Eluru and Bhadrachalam
3.	Tamil Nadu	5	Krishnagiri, Samyanallur, Hosur, Gobichettipalayam and Udumalpet
4.	West Bengal	4	Coochbehar, Bagmara (Mothabari), Nabagram and Purulia
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	3	Y.K. Pora, Barnoti and Nowshera
6.	Kerala	1	Palakkad
7.	Maharashtra	4	Nasik, Amaravathi, Parbahani and Baramati
8.	Gujarat	1	Navasari(Jalalpore)
9.	Madhya Pradesh	2	Hosangabad and Katghora
10.	Odisha	2	Deogarh and Bangriposi
11.	Rajasthan	1	Fathenagar
12.	Uttar Pradesh	6	Robertsganj, Jhansi, Gonda, Chutmalpur, Gorakhpur and Fathepur
13.	Himachal Pradesh	3	Palampur (Kangra), Una and Duttanagar (Rampur)

1	2	3	4
14.	Punjab	1	Sujanpur
15.	Assam	4	Umaragshu, Diphu, Lakhimpur and Mongoldoi
16.	Meghalaya	2	Tura (West Garo Hills) and Shillong
17.	Manipur	2	Imphal and Yaikongpao
18.	Mizoram	1	Aizwal
19.	Tripura	1	Agartala
20.	Nagaland	2	Dimapur and Kikrma
21.	Sikkim	1	Rangpoo
22.	Chattisgarh	1	Singhanpur
23.	Uttarakhand	3	Gopeshwar (Chamoli), Bageswar and Udham Singh Nagar
24.	Jharkhand	3	Maheshpur raj, Gumla and Hatgamria
TOTAL		62	

(c) Main objectives of the RECs are:

- To serve as a nodal agency for multiplication of improved varieties of mulberry evolved by the main R and D institute.
- To serve as a disseminator of appropriate low cost technologies to the farmers for adoption.
- To demonstrate latest technologies evolved by the main research institute among the farmers community.
- To organize extension communication programmes for the benefit of the farmers.
- To organize supply of quality silkworm seeds.
- To conduct intensive practical training.

(d) Dissemination of advanced technologies supplemented by the quality seed supply, extension programmes, training, technical assistance etc. have resulted in improvement of production, productivity and quality of mulberry cocoons in the field. There has been considerable impact on increase in uptake of silkworm *seed and enhancement of raw silk production per unit area*. There has been up-gradation of infrastructure of

farmers, improvement of skills and knowledge of the farmers and paved way for strict discipline in sericulture practices. This has been made possible through technology demonstration programmes, adoption of new technologies in mulberry cultivation, silkworm rearing and disease management. Besides this other extension activities viz. Krishi mela/ field days/farmers days/ Exhibition/Audiovisual/Vichara-gosthi /Workshop/film shows are undertaken to reach more number of beneficiaries and keep abreast of the latest methodologies among the farmers.

(e) and (f) Yes. As a part of developmental initiatives, for promotion of sericulture, CSB has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme viz "Catalytic Development Programme (CDP)" in collaboration with all the state sericulture departments in all States. Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided to the stakeholders of silk industry in the country through the respective State Governments. CDP is a unique and an effective tool for transfer of technologies in the field evolved by the Research Institutes. The CDP initiated during the IX Plan is being continued during the XI Plan also with certain modifications and additional inputs. The components under CDP envisaged development and expansion of host plant, development of farm and post cocoon infrastructure, up-gradation of reeling and processing technologies in silk,

Enterprise Development Programme, support for extension and publicity etc. The components under CDP are beneficial for both existing and new farmers for practicing sericulture. The State department has to identify the existing as well as new farmers and offer the components available under CDP.

Year-wise allocation and expenditure for CDP during XI Plan (2007-08 to 2010-11) and the year-wise expenditure incurred in respect of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu States during the same period are as follows:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Total approved outlay under CDP	Total Expenditure	of which expenditure incurred for—	
			Karnataka	Tamil Nadu
2007-08	81.01	80.82	10.15	7.45
2008-09	76.73	90.74	18.77	9.55
2009-10	146.12	144.06	23.07	9.12
2010-11	275.33	149.80*	20.98*	16.26*

*reported expenditure till July, 2010.

[Translation]

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Development Scheme for Minorities

4837. SHRI JITENDRA SINGH BUNDELA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States from which the Government has received proposals in regard to development of minorities during the last two years and current year;

(b) the details of proposals, State-wise;

(c) the details of action taken so far on the proposals received, proposal-wise;

(d) whether all proposals would be approved during the current financial year; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (e) The names of the States/Union Territories and the amount released based on the proposals received for development of minorities under the schemes of pre-matric scholarship, post-matric scholarship, merit-cum-means scholarship, coaching and allied scheme and multi- sectoral development programme (MsDP) for minority concentration districts, which are considered for approval as per the guidelines of the scheme/programme concerned, for 2008-09, 2009-10 and current year i.e. 2010-11 upto 31-07-2010, are given at Statement-I to Statement-V.

Statement-I

I. Details of Physical and Financial achievements under Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme

Sl.No	States/UTs	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		
		Physical	Financial (Rs. in crore)	Physical	Financial (Rs. in crore)	Physical	Financial (as on 31.07.2010) (Rs. in crore)	
							Amount released against proposals received	Amount released as advance grants
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Andhra Pradesh	25923	5.37	86248	13.90	105324	18.64	0
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3	Assam	0	0.00	87376	16.83	38259	8.37	0
4	Bihar	43582	10.71	35668	9.22	39898	6.11	7.33
5	Chhattisgarh	1600	0.24	4765	1.07	0	0	0.93
6	Goa	151	0.02	594	0.04	0	0	0.04
7	Gujarat	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0
8	Haryana	3727	0.51	14867	1.58	0	0	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	540	0.18	1095	0.09	0	0	0
10	Jammu and Kashmir	4842	1.02	53421	7.44	0	0	0
11	Jharkhand	12003	2.71	18510	2.10	0	0	0
12	Karnataka	21018	1.89	86829	13.93	28758	3.27	0
13	Kerala	46347	3.50	161590	12.24	89322	6.77	13.80
14	Madhya Pradesh	13719	2.44	18278	2.18	0	0	2.18
15	Maharashtra	58052	4.51	201490	15.78	0	0	0
16	Manipur	1960	0.46	10780	3.10	0	0	0
17	Meghalaya	5479	0.71	10518	1.26	0	0	0.24
18	Mizoram	2661	0.44	9428	1.58	0	0	0
19	Nagaland	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0
20	Odisha	3542	0.28	17049	1.34	0	0	0
21	Punjab	49996	3.79	123907	15.10	0	0	0
22	Rajasthan	18775	1.83	60318	4.72	0	0	0
23	Sikkim	0	0.00	604	0.09	0	0	0
24	Tamil Nadu	24135	2.33	84150	7.82	70114	6.49	7.20
25	Tripura	821	0.07	1069	0.08	0	0	0.08
26	Uttar Pradesh	97785	12.98	371189	48.63	45576	6.02	30.50
27	Uttarakhand	0	0.00	449	0.07	0	0	0
28	West Bengal	68235	5.36	240548	19.72	317049	24.80	20.88
29	Andaman and Nicobar	220	0.04	96	0.01	0	0	0.01
30	Chandigarh	398	0.04	1518	0.17	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	21	0.01	40	0.02	0	0	0
32	Daman and Diu	30	0.01	110	0.02	0	0	0
33	Delhi	6918	0.71	26313	2.77	6617	0.66	0
34	Lakshadweep	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0
35	Puducherry	177	0.05	259	0.01	0	0	0
Total		512657	62.21	1729076	202.94	740917	81.12	83.19

Statement-II*Details of Physical and Financial achievements under Post-matric Scholarship Scheme*

Sl.No.	State/UT	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		
		Physical	Financial (Rs. in crore)	Physical	Financial (Rs. in crore)	Physical	Financial (as on 31.07.2010) (Rs. in crore)	
							(Amount released against the proposals received)	(Amount released as advance grants)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Andhra Pradesh	9248	6.23	26692	19.96	29520	25.46	5.00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	8479	4.87	9908	8.32	189	0.14	0
4	Bihar	18192	10.86	13245	3.80	0	0	7.42
5	Chhattisgarh	563	0.24	822	0.60	0	0	0.55
6	Goa	269	0.13	0	0.00	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	5763	1.97	7766	2.88	0	0	0
8	Haryana	1934	0.93	1897	0.68	0	0	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	158	0.08	349	0.17	0	0	0
10	Jammu and Kashmir	1867	0.98	5992	3.67	0	0	0
11	Jharkhand	4473	2.86	7221	3.67	0	0	2.97

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12	Karnataka	7232	0.46	27598	8.82	6355	2.10	0
13	Kerala	13018	2.43	52861	11.21	0	0	0
14	Madhya Pradesh	4319	1.85	3107	1.10	0	0	1.20
15	Maharashtra	11551	4.03	15333	8.17	8734	5.86	0
16	Manipur	1055	0.75	3422	2.85	0	0	0
17	Meghalaya	56	0.03	65	0.04	0	0	0.04
18	Mizoram	1226	0.87	3184	2.54	0	0	0
19	Nagaland	27	0.02	23	0.02	0	0	0
20	Odisha	837	0.35	1288	0.46	0	0	0
21	Punjab	2647	1.26	17737	10.73	0	0	0
22	Rajasthan	4341	2.14	8144	4.00	529	0.23	0
23	Sikkim	0	0.00	245	0.10	0	0	0
24	Tamil Nadu	8004	2.42	26342	11.04	412	0.32	4.43
25	Tripura	203	0.05	165	0.07	0	0	0.07
26	Uttar Pradesh	31995	16.46	53928	24.78	23478	12.30	11.68
27	Uttarakhand	264	0.10	145	0.06	0	0	0
28	West Bengal	31289	7.72	75660	18.43	0	0	12.83
29	Andaman and Nicobar	49	0.03	24	0.01	0	0	0.01
30	Chandigarh	120	0.05	159	0.05	2	0.00074	0
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	17	0.01	25	0.01	0	0	0
32	Daman and Diu	4	0.02	20	0.02	0	0	0
33	Delhi	951	0.39	922	0.43	0	0	0
34	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Puducherry	122	0.04	98	0.03	0	0	0
Total		170273	70.63	364387	148.74	69219	46.41	46.20

Statement-III*III. Details of Physical and Financial achievements under Merit-cum means based Scholarship Scheme*

Sl.No.	State/UT	2008-09		2009-10		2010-11	
		Physical	Financial (Rs. In crore)	Physical	Financial (Rs. In crore)	Physical (as on 31.7.2010) (Rs. In crore)	Financial
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	1411	3.61	1319	2.36	0	
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	
3	Assam	1372	3.68	1910	5.86	83	0.25
4	Bihar	2500	4.71	2718	8.68	0	
5	Chhattisgarh	78	0.21	121	0.32	0	
6	Goa	52	0.13	68	0.19	0	
7	Gujarat	526	1.07	705	1.43	35	0.09
8	Haryana	344	0.87	300	0.74	0	
9	Himachal Pradesh	19	0.05	35	0.09	0	
10	Jammu and Kashmir	1392	3.24	1278	2.73	0	
11	Jharkhand	620	1.52	709	1.96		
12	Karnataka	1383	3.64	1756	4.60	15	0.05
13	Kerala	2239	5.40	3504	9.45	0	
14	Madhya Pradesh	490	1.21	984	2.44	0	
15	Maharashtra	2006	4.81	3028	7.67	0	
16	Manipur	158	0.54	98	0.23	0	
17	Meghalaya	51	0.08	85	0.32	0	
18	Mizoram	179	0.67	122	0.33	0	
19	Nagaland	0	0.00	143	0.57	0	
20	Odisha	188	0.50	241	0.63	0	
21	Punjab	592	1.63	1884	5.37	0	
22	Rajasthan	882	2.15	956	2.40	1	
23	Sikkim	0	0.00	20	0.10	0	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24	Tamil Nadu	1659	4.40	2209	5.80	0	
25	Tripura	23	0.07	54	0.16	0	
26	Uttar Pradesh	4268	10.82	4808	14.47	826	1.99
27	Uttarakhand	65	0.22	109	0.30	0	
28	West Bengal	3336	8.73	6379	17.40	0	
29	Andaman and Nicobar	5	0.04	8	0.03	0	
30	Chandigarh	25	0.05	28	0.09	0	
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	
32	Daman and Diu	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	
33	Delhi	322	0.65	387	0.79	3	0.01
34	Lakshadweep	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	
35	Puducherry	10	0.03	16	0.04	0	
	Total	26195	64.73	35982	97.51	963	2.38

Statement-IV*IV. Details of Physical and Financial achievements under Free Coaching and Allied Scheme*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	States	Achievement 2008-09		Achievement 2009-10		Achievement 2010-11 (upto 31-07-2010)	
		Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical	Financial	Physical
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andaman and Nicobar		-	-	-	-	-
2	Andhra Pradesh	49.27	650	17.05	100	-	-
3	Arunachal Pradesh		-	-	-	-	-
4	Assam	-	-	23.39	150	-	-
5	Bihar	-	-	13.00	100	84.69	500
6	Chandigarh	6.80	50	-	-	-	-
7	Chhattisgarh	10.44	90	7.57	50	-	-
8	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	Daman and Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Dellhi	82.38	541	56.96	500	-	-
11	Goa	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	Gujarat	12.06	100	10.28	-	-	-
13	Haryana	15.90	140	16.81	40	11.59	100
14	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	2.82	25	-	-
15	Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	9.20	-	-	-
16	Jharkhand	07.10	75	-	-	33.50	200
17	Karnataka	81.46	520	106.49	535	5.74	-
18	Kerala	18.37	200	4.19	25	29.44	500
19	Madhya Pradesh	22.32	220	48.82	215	6.50	-
20	Maharashtra	116.09	980	16.93	130	290.99	2200
21	Manipur	14.99	118	33.66	230	5.03	-
22	Meghalaya	-	-	6.69	50	-	-
23	Mizoram	29.47	180	9.49	50	-	-
24	Nagaland	07.02	50	7.03	-	-	-
25	Odisha	07.91	75	39.94	230	-	-
26	Punjab	05.80	50	36.89	220	-	-
27	Rajasthan	75.70	75	155.35	682	11.07	-
28	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	-	4.32	100
30	Tripura	08.54	100	-	-	-	-
31	Uttar Pradesh	82.24	685	80.11	150	-	-
32	Uttaranchal	-	623	-	-	-	-
33	West Bengal	76.02	-	419.20	2050	5.97	50
34	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	Puducherry	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		729.88	5522	1121.86	5532	488.84	3650

Statement-V*V. Achievements under MsDP since 2008-09*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Approved projects with number of units in brackets	Amount released in (Rs.in lakh)			
			2008-09	2009-10	2010-11 (as on 31/07/10)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Uttar Pradesh	IAY houses (74307), AWC (8191), Health sector (852), Drinking Water (2346), ACRs (331), School buildings (7) and ITI buildings (3)	12442.11	29436.33	771.4	42649.84
2	West Bengal	IAY houses (23726), AWC (6490), Health sector (667), Drinking Water (6123), ACRs (3549), School buildings (41), Teaching aids (40), Laboratory equipment (15), Solar lanterns (5000), and Girls' hostel (3)	4327.59	23539.13	0.00	27866.72
3	Haryana	IAY houses (2000), AWC (71), Health sector (6), ACRs (128) and School buildings (7)	1401.23	460.45	0.00	1861.68
4	Assam	IAY houses (65310), AWC (1305), Health sector (79), Drinking Water (4579), ACRs (1402) and Solar lanterns/ lights (9905)	4226.65	15192.08	1870.44	21289.17
5	Manipur	IAY houses (5940), AWC (75), Health sector (152), Drinking Water (670), School buildings (362), ITI building (1) and Integrated water shed development programme (6000 hectare)	3011.78	6004.25	0.00	9016.03
6	Bihar	IAY houses (12256), AWC (4014), Health sector (145), Drinking Water (1044), ACRs (641), School buildings (134), Laboratory equipment (19), Solar lanterns (385) and Toilet and drinking water supply scheme (279)	1675.21	10503.92	49.24	12228.37
7	Meghalaya	IAY houses (5000), Drinking Water (1301) and ACRs (50)	0.00	1086.82	0.00	1086.82

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	Andaman and Nicobar Island	AWC (35) and ITI building (1)	0.00	109.14	15.93	125.07
9	Jharkhand	IAY houses (9215), AWC (1205) and Health sector (122)	0	4429.83	20.79	4450.62
10	Odisha	IAY houses (5740), AWC (151), Health sector (15) and ACRs (11)	0.00	1041.24	992.24	2033.48
11	Kerala	Health sector (10)	0.00	76.50	0.00	76.50
12	Karnataka	IAY houses (1667), AWC (150), Health sector (15) and ACRs (50)	0.00	580.18	925.71	1505.89
13	Maharashtra	IAY houses (10157) and AWC (596)	0	2227.11	20.50	2247.61
14	Mizoram	IAY houses (890), AWC (55), Health sector (22), ACRs (23) and School buildings (4)	0	403.04	0.00	403.04
15	Jammu and Kashmir	AWC (40), Drinking Water (82) and ACRs (34)	0.00	599.58	0.00	599.58
16	Uttarakhand	AWC (412)	0.00	811.85	0.00	811.85
17	Delhi	ACRs (80), Toilets block (17)	0.00	155.00	0.00	155.00
18	Sikkim	AWC(6)	0.00	0.00	9.00	9.00
19	Madhya Pradesh	AWC (200), ACRs (120), IAY (1000)	0.00	645.60	0.00	645.60
20	Arunachal Pradesh		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grand Total			27084.57	97302.05	4675.25	129061.87

[English]

NAWO

4838. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that three days conference of women leaders from marginalized communities; Dalits, Minorities and Muslims organized by National Alliance of Women (NAWO) was held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether various laws framed by the Government for the development of these communities are not implemented properly;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the remedial steps taken in view of the outcome of said conference to be taken by Government for proper implementation of laws framed in these communities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Pending Cases of dishonouring of Cheques

4839. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in courts regarding dishonour of cheques by banks during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up more courts to dispose of such cases; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) Such information is not being maintained centrally.

(b) and (c) Courts at subordinate level are set up by the State Governments in consultation with the respective High Court.

The Government has accepted the recommendations of the 13th Finance Commission to provide a grant of Rs. 5000 crore to the States for improvement in delivery of justice which includes a grant of Rs. 2500 crore for setting up of morning/evening/shift/special magistrates' courts. The High Courts can, *inter-alia*, assign cheque bouncing cases also for disposal to such courts.

Modernisation of Sadulpur Churu Stations

4840. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to expand and modernise the Sadulpur, Churu and Ratangarh railway stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated amount required for the said purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) All basic amenities as per norms are already available at Sadulpur, Churu and Ratangarh railway stations. Upgradation/modernization of passenger amenities is a continuous process and works in this regard are undertaken under the plan head of passenger amenities according to extant policy.

[English]

Penalties on Private Gas Companies

4841. SHRI K.R.G. REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are provisions for steep penalties on not sticking to the works schedule of private gas companies and gas related projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to incorporate the provisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) Government of India has enacted the 'Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) Act, 2006', wherein PNGRB has been entrusted with the responsibility of regulating downstream oil and gas activities, including granting authorizations to City Gas Distribution (CGD) networks and natural gas trunk pipelines. In case the entities fail to fulfill the commitments made to PNGRB, Regulations framed by PNGRB provide for following penalties:

- (i) Encashment of Performance Bank Guarantee submitted by the entity,
- (ii) Cancellation/termination of the authorization, and
- (iii) Civil penalty under section 28 of the PNGRB Act, 2006 in addition to taking actions prescribed for offences and punishment under Chapter IX of the Act.

[Translation]

Jamalpur Rail Factory

4842. SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds spent for the expansion of the Jamalpur railway factory to increase its production/capacity during the last five years, year-wise; and

(b) the status of productivity vis-a-vis the amount of expenditure as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The details of funds spent on expansion of capacity of Jamalpur workshop during the last five years are as below:

(Amount in Lakhs of Rs.)

2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
478.47	120.95	1377.27	158.50	596.70

(b) The year-wise physical output of major items and the total value of production is given below:

Output of Major Items	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
A. PERIODICAL OVER-HAULING (POH) OUTTURN					
(i) Wagon POH in Vehicular Units (VU)	4093	4408	4478	4397	4213
(ii) Diesel Loco POH (Nos.)	70	73	76	77	80
B. ROLLING STOCK PROGRAMME ITEMS					
(i) Rehabilitation of BOXN wagons	509	426	644	648	610
(ii) Manufacture of bogies	-	-	-	97	138
C. MANUFACTURING ITEMS					
(i) Manufacturing of 140 T crane (Nos)	3	1	-	4	7
(ii) Manufacturing of BLC wagons (VU)	-	44	56	180	292
(iii) Manufacturing of BOXNHL wagons (VU)	-	-	-	-	37
Total Value of Production (Including All Other Items) (Amount In Lakhs of Rs.)	21700	25300	28300	38400	51800

[English]

Conference of State Food Processing Ministers

4843. SHRI JAGDISH THAKOR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Processing Industry is suffering due to lack of finances, raw materials, technology and backward linkages with farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of outcome of the recently held national conference of the State Food Processing Ministers; and

(d) the further action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) As per the Vision 2015 document of the Ministry, the food processing sector is suffering from lack of finances, inadequate variety of raw materials, low level of technology and poor backward linkages with farmers. The

major constraints of food processing industry is confronting at various stages of handling after harvesting due to fragmented and traditional farming, lack of adequate post-harvest infrastructure such as lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage facilities, lack of processable variety of raw material, lack of adequate inflow of investment in the sector etc.

(c) The State Food Ministers' Conference was organized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries which was inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister in Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on 06-10-2009. Some of the important issues that were discussed during the Conference related to development of rural farm gate infrastructure, addressing procedural and regulatory constraints, uniform Food Processing Policy, Food Safety and Quality and Human Resources Development.

(d) Taking into consideration of the out come of the conference, this Ministry has urged all the State Governments/Union territories to frame suitable food processing policies catering to specific needs of the respective states/Union territories.

[Translation]

Fast Track Courts in Chhattisgarh

4844. SHRIMATI KAMLA DEVI PATLE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Chhattisgarh seeking allocation of funds for setting up of the fast track courts, family courts, construction of court and residential buildings and computerisation of district session courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the said amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) Government provides financial assistance to States including Chhattisgarh for operation of Fast Track Courts. Grants have already been released to Chhattisgarh till 2009-10. Government has not received utilisation certificate from the State Government for the grant released during the year 2009-10.

A proposal for release of a grant of Rs. 30 lakh under plan for the year 2008-09 was received from the Government of Chhattisgarh for expenditure on construction of buildings of three Family Courts. A grant of Rs. 130 lakh was released to the Government of Chhattisgarh under plan from the year 2002-03 to the year 2007-08 for construction of buildings of Family Courts. As per the scheme, the State Government had to provide at least a matching share. However, the Government of Chhattisgarh informed that an expenditure of Rs. 82.36 lakh only was incurred by the State Government upto the year 2008-09. Thus, further grant for construction of buildings of Family Courts can be released only after the State Government indicates the utilization of an amount of at least Rs. 260 lakh on construction of buildings of the Family Courts including the State share of at least Rs. 130 lakh.

Under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for the Judiciary, the Central Government releases grant to the States based on the requirement of funds projected by the States viz-a-viz resources available with the Central Government based on the allocation made by the Planning Commission.

The States are required to provide at least a matching share.

During the year 2008-09, the Government of Chhattisgarh had projected a requirement of Rs. 49.28 crore against which a grant of Rs.7.22 crore was released. During the year 2009-10, against the requirement of Rs. 31.07 crore from the Government of Chhattisgarh, a grant of Rs. 9.05 crore was released.

Central Government is implementing a scheme for computerisation of District and Subordinate Courts in the country including Chhattisgarh which is being implemented by National Informatics Centre.

Petrol Pumps on Lease Period

4845. SHRI BADRI RAM JAKHAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol pumps whose lease period has expired during the last three years;

(b) whether there is a proposal to again lease out these petrol pumps;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) The lease in respect of 501 Retail Outlet (RO) sites of public Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) *i.e.* Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) have expired during the last three years and the current year (from 1.4.2007 to April-June, 2010). Before expiry of the lease period of the land, all endeavours are made by OMCs to renew the lease of the RO site at the terms mutually acceptable to both the parties as a part of their normal business process and to safeguard the interest of the corporation and public at large.

[English]

Fictitious Booking of Seats by Airlines

4846. SHRI RANJAN PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some malpractice of fictitious booking of low fare seats by airlines and travel portals have come to notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation has prepared any draft to stop fictitious booking of low fare of seats by travel portals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which these rules will come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued regulations to prevent fictitious booking by airlines and travel agents on 31-07-2010. Under relevant regulations, violations due to fictitious bookings and abusive ticketing practice is a punishable offence under Rule 133-A of the Aircraft Rules, 1937. Maximum penalty of six months imprisonment of Rs. 2 Lakhs fine or both can be imposed for violation of the regulations.

Market Share of NACIL

4847. SHRIMATI PRIYA SUNIL DUTT:
SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the market share of passenger traffic of the National Aviation Company of India Limited (NACIL) is decreasing every year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether poor quality of services/food provided by NACIL is the main cause of decrease in market share; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b)

Yes, Madam. The market share of an airline is a relative term, which is not only dependant on an airline's own carriage/capacities but also on the carriage/ capacities of the other airlines in the market. With the continuous capacity induction by the other airlines in the Indian domestic as well as international market to/from India, NACIL's capacity share has been declining in the past few years thus impacting its market share. However, number of passengers flown per year by Air India and its subsidiaries has been increasing steadily. Moreover, the number of aircraft and capacity of Air India has also increased over the years.

(c) No Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

LPG Dealers in Bihar

4848. SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG dealers appointed in the country including Bihar during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the procedure for opening the said LPG outlets have not started in various districts including Patna in spite of appointment of dealers of various categories particularly those reserved for women belonging to Scheduled Castes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the distribution of LPG would start in Patna and other areas of Bihar by the selected dealers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) During the last three years and April - July 2010, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies have commissioned 630 LPG distributors in the country including 47 in the State of Bihar.

(b) to (d) The setting up of LPG distributors under all categories including SC (W) category involves advertisement, scrutiny of applications, dispatch of

intimation letter to all eligible candidates for interview, declaration of merit panel, field investigation of 1st empanelled candidate, clearance of Court Cases, identifying of a suitable location, arranging land for construction of godown/showroom and obtaining statutory clearances etc. It is therefore, not possible to indicate any time frame for commissioning/opening of LPG distributors, but every effort is made to do so as quickly as possible.

Ghaziabad New Delhi Railway Line

4849. SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether passengers travelling on Ghaziabad-New Delhi stretch under Northern Railways have to face inordinate delays daily because of heavy load of traffic caused by inadequacy of railway lines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective measures taken/being taken by the railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) There are no inordinate delays of trains daily between Ghaziabad-New Delhi stretch of Northern Railway. During peak hours, there is occasional bunching of trains in morning and evening which takes place due to various reasons like miscreant activities, alarm chain pulling, cyclonic storms, damage to track due to breaches, law and order problems, bad weather, cattle run over and electricity grid failure, equipment failure etc. As several trains follow each other very closely in a queue in morning and evening peak hours, additional transit timings sometimes affect scheduled platform berthing and maintenance slots and have a chain reaction, impacting passenger operations adversely.

(c) The following steps are taken for ensuring punctuality of trains:

1. Intensive, round the clock monitoring of trains at all three levels viz. Divisional, Zonal Head Quarters and Railway Board.
2. Punctuality drives are being conducted from time to time.

3. Improvements in Time tabling to provide a clear path.
4. Improvement in standard of maintenance of assets to reduce equipment failures.
5. Training, counseling and motivating staff to ensure punctual running.
6. Up-gradation of technology of track, rolling stock and signaling.
7. Up-gradation of infrastructure to improve terminal and line capacity.

Security Arrangements in Delhi Railway Stations

4850. SHRI PREMCHAND GUDDU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether irregularities have been found in security arrangements at Delhi railway stations;

(b) if so, whether most of the metal detectors are out of order and at several places security personnels have not been deployed;

(c) if not, the number of metal detectors installed at Delhi based railway stations, Station-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Railways to ensure safety at these stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) No Madam. However, due to continuous use some metal detectors become temporarily out of order. Such metal detectors are immediately repaired. Security personnel always monitor/handle the metal detectors.

(c) Number of door frame metal detectors installed at Delhi based railway stations is as under:

New Delhi-13, Delhi Kishan Ganj-03, Delhi Sarai Rohilla-05, Delhi Cantt-04, Shakur Basti-01, IRCA-01, Delhi-13, Hazrat Nizamuddin-05, Delhi Safadarjang-04, Delhi Shashtra-03, Tilak Bridge-01, Tugalkabad-01 and Anand Vihar-02.

In addition, 176 Hand Held Metal detectors are available with RPF personnel at these stations and 1 baggage scanner each is installed at New Delhi and Delhi (Main) railway stations.

(d) The following steps have been taken/proposed to be taken by the railways to ensure safety of passengers at these stations:

- (i) Effective coordination with GRP, Local police and Intelligence agencies.
- (ii) Supervisory staff has been put on maximum alert.
- (iii) Sensitization of Railway employees, Taxi Drivers, authorized vendors and coolies to keep watch on suspicious persons/objects and articles.
- (iv) Regulation of traffic at platform and Foot over bridges.
- (v) Deployment of staff at entry points on Door Frame Metal Detector's for frisking of selective passengers and close watch on suspicious person/objects.
- (vi) Checking by Dog Squad in station premises, trains and at platforms.
- (vii) Access control is being maintained to check the entry of unauthorized persons in stations premises.
- (viii) The passengers are being sensitized through PA system, loud hailers and pamphlets regarding activities of criminals.
- (ix) Regular meetings with GRP, Police and Intelligence agencies.
- (x) Surveillance by CCTV and use of modern gadgets.
- (xi) 'Integrated Security System' has been approved for Delhi area stations at an estimated cost of Rs.22 crore. The system comprises of following broad areas:
 - (a) Internet Protocol Based CCTV System with Intelligent Video Analytics.
 - (b) Access Control.
 - (c) Personal and Baggage Screening System.
 - (d) Bomb Detection and Disposal System.

Low Fare Hotels in Rajasthan

4851. SHRI IJYARAJ SINGH:
SHRI HARISH CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have made any efforts to provide low fare hotels at railway stations in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of railway stations where such hotels have been provided;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of the Railways thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The concept of World class stations for Ajmer Jn., Jaipur and Kota railway stations and Multi-functional complexes for Abu Road, Bharatpur Jn, Bikaner, Jodhpur, Kishangarh, Sikar, Sawai Madhopur and Udaipur City railway stations in the State of Rajasthan have been developed, which may have budget hotels based on market potential.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Rub Project at Nanjangud Railway Station

4852. SHRI R. DHROUVANARAYANA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware of serious allegations of sub-standard work being done on the Rail Under Bridge (RUB) project at Nanjangud Railway Station on Mysore-Chamarajnagar section of the South Western Railway and another at Mariyala Gate on the outskirts of Nanjangud Railway Station at very slow pace;

(b) if so, whether there are reports of faulty design of the said RUBs; and

(c) if so, steps being taken to rectify the defects in design and for speeding up the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) At present there is no RUB under construction at Nanjangud Railway

Station. However, one RUB was constructed by Railways two years back in lieu of LC No.19 on Chamarajanagar end of Nanjangud station. As per rules, Railway decides Bridge portion only and approaches decided by Public Works Department/Local Authorities. In this case, the plan for approaches was prepared and signed by Nanjangud Municipality based on land constraints and other factors. The approach work was executed by Railways strictly as per the plan prepared and signed by them. There is no sub-standard work done for this RUB. Before construction of drainage system, there was some seepage of water from nearby canal which was since stopped after completion of drainage work around 1½ years back. Since then, no problem was reported.

As regards, the Road Over Bridge under construction at Mariyala Hundi in lieu of LC No.53, there was slow progress prior to 2009, but on the appropriate action by Railway, the contractor has accelerated the progress w.e.f. Jan. 2010. The work is in full swing and the same is likely to be completed by end of Sept. 2010.

(b) There were no reports of faulty design of bridge and the bridge is constructed as per the plan approved by local authority for approaches and as per standard railway drawings for bridge proper.

(c) As regards ROB under construction, the work is in full swing and likely to be completed by September 2010.

[Translation]

Production of Steel by SSP

4853. SHRI ADHI SANKAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Salem Steel Plant (SSP) is producing the steel with the help of scraps purchased by this plant and not by the iron ores produced in the local area;

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

(c) the steps taken to purchase the iron ores explored in the local area and use in the steel production of Salem Steel Plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (c) Steel melting

facilities with Electric Arc Furnace has been installed at Salem Steel Plant. The Electric Arc Furnace operates with scrap as input. Some amount of Directly Reduced Iron produced from iron ore can also be used to partially replace scrap in Electric Arc Furnace for which Salem Steel Plant (SSP) has submitted an application for allocation of Kanjamalai iron ore deposit to the Government of Tamil Nadu.

[English]

Airports in Bangalore and Hyderabad

4854. SHRI T.K.S. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to operationalize the old airports in Bangalore and Hyderabad since closing of these airports indirectly promotes business interest of private airport operators;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these airports are still handling VIP and Charter flights apart from helicopters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The decisions to close civil commercial operations at HAL, Bengaluru and Begumpet, Hyderabad from the date of commissioning of the greenfield airports were taken in the year 2000. There is no proposal under consideration to operationalize the old airports at HAL, Bengaluru and Begumpet, Hyderabad.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. General aviation services (other than those relating to commercial aircraft, charter flights, aircraft hired or operated under commercial arrangements) continue to be provided at the existing airports.

Review of Cost Accounting Standards

4855. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has since examined the report of the Expert Group constituted to review the Cost Accounting Standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to bring in flexibility and to reduce Compliance Cost for companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) The report of the Expert Group constituted to review the Cost Accounting Standards is under examination.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Airports in Chhattisgarh

4856. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any proposals to set up airports in Chhattisgarh;

(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 CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) No such proposal has been received in the Government of India, either from the State Government of Chhattisgarh or from any Private entity for setting up of a Greenfield airport in Chhattisgarh.

[*English*]

Implementation of UID Project

4857. SHRI SOMEN MITRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government and the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for implementation of the UID project to curb the petroleum pilferage;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any decision has been taken to start pilot project on this; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) This Ministry has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) to partner in the Project related to distribution of PDS kerosene and domestic Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) using the platform of UIDAI for better targeting of subsidy to the intended beneficiaries.

Unique Identification Number (UID) with the Biometric details will help to identify and target the delivery of product only to customer or his family members without any leakages. The initial pilots would be launched in the city of Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh and Mysore and Tumkur in Karnataka and city of Pune in Maharashtra. In addition, Pasgawan Block in Lakhimpur Kheri District and Farah Block in Mathura District, both in the State of Uttar Pradesh are also proposed to be covered under the Pilot. Roll out in other parts of the country would depend on the success of the pilots.

Cleanliness in Railways

4858. DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have declared that cleanliness aspect will be taken on a priority;

(b) if so, the necessary measures taken in this regard so far;

(c) whether there has been large number of complaints about the cleanliness of toilets in the trains;

(d) if so, whether the condition of toilets, particularly for ladies are in pathetic state; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Railways to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) With a view to improve the standard of cleanliness, Railways have planned multi-pronged action by synergising technology, education of users and provision of mechanized equipments. Various measures

taken include introduction of mechanized cleaning process, award of ragpicking/garbage disposal contracts, pay and use toilet scheme. Besides, cleanliness drives are also launched from time to time. Inspection by various officials at the railway stations are also conducted to monitor cleanliness to identify weak areas and take remedial measures.

Additional posts of Health and Malaria Inspectors have been created during the last three years. To ensure better supervision of cleanliness at railway stations.

(c) to (e) References, suggestions and complaints are received from time to time regarding cleanliness of toilets in the trains and acted upon appropriately by Indian Railways.

Improving the standards of cleanliness and hygiene in the trains including toilets have also been a high priority area of Indian Railways. Though there are no separate toilets for the ladies, all the coaches of a train including the toilets are intensively cleaned before commencement of journey, during maintenance/ attention in the Coaching Maintenance Depots. Identified trains are also given cleaning attention at nominated 'Clean Train Stations' enroute their journey during their scheduled halt.

On Board Housekeeping Scheme` has also been launched in select trains to further improve upon the standard of cleanliness and hygiene in coaches including toilets. On these trains, travelling safaiwalas clean the toilets of the train enroute.

[Translation]

Chandpur Bahjoi Rail Line

4859. SHRI SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to lay railway lines between Chandpur to Bahjoi and Nazibabad to Roja junction;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Nazibabad is already connected to Rosa through a broad

gauge double line via Moradabad and Bareilly. There is no proposal for construction of Chandpur-Bahjoi rail line.

[English]

Special Tourist Trains

4860. SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways plan to introduce a special train in collaboration with Cox and Kings covering Delhi-Agra-Gwalior-Khujuraho-Bandhavgarh-Varanasi-Gaya-Calcutta to boost tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the time by which its is likely to be introduced;

(c) whether the Railways plan to extend this train to Odisha to explore Buddhist tourism sites of Odisha;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Maharajas' Express, a luxury tourist train, has already been introduced by the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) in association with Cox and Kings on the sector.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The destinations are planned based on market potential and consumer demand.

Stoppage of Garib Rath and Yuva Express

4861. SHRI LALUBHAI BABUBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any requests for stoppage of Garib Rath and Yuva Express at Vapi, Valsad, Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Palghar; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Railways on such request ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli are not railway stations. However, requests for stoppages received for 2909/2910 Bandra (T)-Nizamuddin Garib Rath Express (tri-weekly), 2215/2216 Bandra (T)-Delhi Sarai Rohilla Garib Rath Express (tri-weekly) and 2247/2248 Nizamuddin-Bandra (T) Yuva Express (weekly) at Vapi, Valsad and Palghar have been examined but not found feasible at present.

Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hast Shilp Vikas Yojana

4862. SHRI P. VISWANATHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of craftsman benefited from the Baba

Sahib Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY), State-wise; and

(b) the details of the amount provided under the scheme, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The number of craftsman benefited from the Baba Sahib Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY)-State wise from 2001-02 to 2009-10 is as per Statement-I attached.

(b) The details of amount provided under the scheme state wise from 2001-02 to 2009-10 is as per Statement-II attached.

Statement-I

State-wise details of artisans benefited under AHVY during 2001-02 to 2009-10

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	Grand Total
		Artisans	Artisans	Artisans	Artisans	Artisans	Artisans	Artisans	Artisans	Artisans	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Andhra Pradesh	1454	1451	11010	323	3952	1600	1660	4506	5601	31557
2	Arunachal Pradesh	243	100	120	000	500	200	400	200	500	2263
3	Assam	3545	000	1238	1790	2356	1140	4374	6680	2895	24018
4	Bihar	000	1200	550	1034	1070	828	1511	3500	2258	11951
5	Chhattisgarh	2249	000	000	265	00	00	200	1050	400	4164
6	Delhi	390	3180	100	120	400	700	460	200	1050	6600
7	Goa	000	000	500	000	200	200	500	00	500	1900
8	Gujarat	2804	1500	5950	8266	16600	750	3100	2572	3450	44992
9	Haryana	1393	507	500	350	520	300	1340	878	1150	6938
10	Himachal Pradesh	2465	220	1071	1315	296	220	200	700	483	6970
11	Jammu and Kashmir	1122	2520	550	1710	2090	720	2475	00	3243	14430
12	Jharkhand	250	570	200	600	300	1030	2108	1800	1050	7908
13	Karnataka	1501	775	2790	373	1660	247	1510	650	723	10229
14	Kerala	3589	000	2490	570	585	600	798	600	2050	11282
15	Madhya Pradesh	4293	850	2000	982	1684	1613	2200	2000	1500	17122

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
16	Maharashtra	813	000	2883	190	00	500	1420	1850	1950	9606
17	Manipur	201	000	417	700	3405	1025	1550	2000	2584	11882
18	Meghalaya	198	000	000	000	300	300	500	500	500	2298
19	Mizoram	210	000	000	165	75	200	360	200	650	1860
20	Nagaland	604	000	220	695	1330	810	550	660	1000	5869
21	Odisha	4975	1600	200	555	550	1370	2010	3555	2687	17502
22	Puducherry	177	000	000	000	00	00	00	600	00	777
23	Punjab	914	307	100	133	133	256	800	1300	600	4543
24	Rajasthan	5192	270	500	475	750	250	1550	1500	2210	12697
25	Sikkim	000	550	000	000	00	00	00	1110	00	1660
26	Tamil Nadu	4284	000	300	3530	630	1077	220	3535	2710	16286
27	Tripura	1437	209	350	840	513	112	1300	2683	2526	9970
28	Uttar Pradesh	10510	100	3185	3441	3620	4270	3025	8860	8085	45096
29	Uttaranchal	790	1476	550	000	100	860	940	2218	1150	8084
30	West Bengal	12,536	1120	450	2150	1615	1562	1505	1572	5100	27610
31	Chandigarh	00	00	00	00	00	00	200	500	00	700
32	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
33	Daman and Diu	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	250	00	250
34	Lakshadweep	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
35	Dadra and Nagar Havelli	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
TOTAL		68139	18505	38224	30572	45234	22740	38266	61829	58614	382123

Statement-II*State-wise details of amount provided under AHVY*

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	2001-02 Amount Released/ Expenditure incurred	2002-03 Amount Released/ Expenditure incurred	2003-04 Amount Released/ Expenditure incurred	2004-05 Amount Released/ Expenditure incurred	2005-06 Amount Released/ Expenditure incurred	2006-07 Amount Released/ Expenditure incurred	2007-08 Amount Released/ Expenditure incurred	2008-09 Amount Released/ Expenditure incurred	2009-10 Amount Released/ Expenditure incurred
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Andhra Pradesh	17,60,178	21,43,813	1,47,19,882	1,77,42,483	2,67,74,169	1,89,83,889	2,67,29,141	5,50,48,014	2,81,94,997
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1,73,000	7,08,868	27,15,572	27,70,751	27,56,467	38,13,964	1,11,46,246	86,43,965	46,21,000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
3	Assam	34,05,125	26,31,215	1,51,53,420	3,26,39,754	3,42,24,013	2,28,12,681	2,64,27,026	5,02,31,174	5,21,87,114
4	Bihar	000	1,40,500	5,45,000	15,63,000	13,76,500	22,70,255	49,44,794	50,12,615	1,00,60,190
5	Chhattisgarh	31,15,000	000	17,91,867	19,33,600	11,24,000	11,97,120	50,000	5,49,500	12,97,000
6	Delhi	3,06,700	36,35,415	32,56,192	33,60,318	16,31,376	46,33,487	19,78,155	43,72,030	1,62,94,497
7	Goa	000	000	2,50,000	-	1,00,000	1,00,000	3,00,000	4,37,000	10,54,000
8	Gujarat	12,92,500	16,22,603	69,40,979	1,08,03,579	3,29,61,000	2,38,93,552	4,13,41,584	3,31,99,765	3,78,03,636
9	Haryana	12,68,500	26,39,250	25,14,058	31,71,519	36,56,551	59,81,980	35,64,500	39,25,441	1,45,15,256
10	Himachal Pradesh	26,73,900	32,92,265	53,91,622	1,25,02,753	96,79,853	76,61,496	89,98,778	27,89,942	53,09,002
11	Jammu and Kashmir	5,60,000	67,94,993	40,61,168	54,18,259	1,15,14,111	85,21,225	1,72,40,351	2,54,04,269	2,54,27,891
12	Jharkhand	1,77,750	8,93,000	6,46,000	10,91,040	17,99,500	26,25,404	38,15,620	37,71,729	98,25,000
13	Karnataka	7,55,000	4,18,250	38,70,696	40,95,909	65,36,785	32,30,490	77,22,077	1,47,16,597	59,59,301
14	Kerala	6,37,113	14,26,911	74,63,947	44,31,514	94,17,669	49,22,902	70,05,864	1,98,71,859	78,78,763
15	Madhya Pradesh	41,62,466	59,40,600	66,23,241	69,73,483	70,72,925	44,75,719	66,82,450	1,05,53,132	2,85,78,573
16	Maharashtra	15,54,500	10,94,381	23,64,716	33,04,386	18,78,430	14,91,856	7,98,733	2,90,73,750	96,35,602
17	Manipur	54,245	6,46,705	20,01,220	17,73,514	76,37,276	1,63,35,514	1,71,95,809	1,81,52,070	4,50,68,029
18	Meghalaya	45,000	3,56,200	4,57,870	000	1,50,000	97,500	6,75,500	75,000	75,000
19	Mizoram	1,80,250	000	15,82,250	16,58,500	37,500	36,37,500	4,73,500	52,33,946	15,72,500
20	Nagaland	7,00,000	21,23,500	30,11,325	12,03,500	40,06,000	15,31,500	30,29,340	1,24,37,349	1,95,14,324
21	Odisha	14,62,800	48,81,261	79,13,837	76,78,523	2,07,47,866	1,55,53,264	2,78,70,678	60,28,656	2,12,94,530
22	Puduchery	85,500	000	-	16,905	-	-	-	90,000	-
23	Punjab	4,05,000	15,80,000	41,61,579	15,12,250	56,96,700	56,43,133	37,63,250	30,26,300	1,49,30,270
24	Rajasthan	24,65,150	28,52,109	64,69,404	88,01,206	58,59,061	1,72,29,366	57,95,145	34,94,034	95,17,049
25	Sikkim	000	2,75,000	000	-	-	-	57,50,000	1,27,500	9,52,500
26	Tamil Nadu	18,00,200	9,45,691	33,44,689	31,14,809	93,75,986	1,29,31,074	55,27,915	1,83,61,574	1,19,82,532
27	Tripura	5,29,500	16,16,477	34,97,284	49,08,529	36,76,317	46,15,236	43,39,500	71,44,863	1,75,25,396
28	Uttar Pradesh	51,82,500	95,71,750	1,64,25,535	2,61,06,197	3,63,47,707	5,68,42,740	5,71,04,761	4,61,13,211	10,34,28,380
29	Uttarakhand	4,25,000	17,33,000	59,78,205	21,13,500	40,12,521	63,89,285	85,32,871	12,85,555	1,47,49,934
30	West Bengal	23,01,160	51,62,115	78,14,680	1,66,41,449	1,20,16,684	72,34,103	76,46,561	86,66,985	2,95,09,308

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
31	Andaman and Nicobar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32	Daman and Diu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62,500	-
33	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34	Chandigarh	-	-	-	-	-	-	50,000	75,000	-
35	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		3,74,78,037	6,51,25,872	14,09,66,238	18,73,31,230	26,20,66,967	26,46,56,235	31,65,01,149	39,79,75,25	54,87,61,574

Jobs for Land Oustees

4863. SHRI NILESH NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways provide jobs to a member of the family, whose land is acquired for railway projects; and

(b) if so, the number of persons who have been given job in lieu of lands acquired during the last two years and the current year particularly in Konkan railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Railways have issued policy guidelines in July-2010 for providing employment to one eligible member of each land loser family. Prior to the issue of these guidelines, employment has been provided to 2028 persons, including 1550 persons in Konkan Railway, whose land has been acquired by railways during the last two years.

Computerisation at Mettur Railway Station

4864. SHRI R. THAMARASELVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are considering to undertake computerisation of all reservation centres across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether many railway stations in Dharmapuri districts in Tamil Nadu are yet to be computerised, including Mettur railway station;

(d) if so, whether it is also a fact that no canteen facility is existing at said railway station; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Policy exists for computerization of reservation at stations where manual reservation quota has been provided. Computerised reservation facility has been provided at 2141 locations with 7911 counters.

(c) Yes, Madam. In Dharmapuri district, 4 stations, namely, Morappur, Bommidi, Boddireddipatty and Dharampuri Junction have been provided with computerized reservation facility while at Mettur Dam Railway Station it is planned. Other stations do not qualify for this facility at present.

(d) and (e) Scale of catering facilities at station is provided duly considering the quantum of passenger traffic, demand of the passengers and availability of space. Dharampuri railway station is a 'D' category station of South Western Railway wherein Railway has already initiated action for provision of catering facility through inviting of application for running of a vegetarian refreshment room and a tea-cum-coffee stall for the benefit of passengers.

Subsidised Air Fares

4865. SHRI C.M. CHANG: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to subsidise passenger and cargo air fares in the North-Eastern region in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Welfare of Minorities

4866. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements made so far under Prime Minister's 15 point programme during the current Five Year Plan, Ministry-wise;

(b) the number of Ministries/Departments earmarked 15% of outlays under various schemes for Minorities development;

(c) the total expenditure so far incurred under scheme during 11th Five Year Plan, year-wise;

(d) whether any change in the 15 point programme has been envisaged by the Government in view of the

shortcomings particularly the administrative manpower shortage as noticed in the present set up; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) The Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities was announced in June, 2006. It provides that, wherever possible, 15% of targets and outlays under various schemes should be earmarked for minorities. Ministries/ Departments achievements made during the current Five Year Plan for schemes included in the new programme, including those schemes amenable to earmarking for minorities, are given at Statement I and II.

(d) and (e) The Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme was amended in October, 2009 for incorporating a few schemes under the programme and for inclusion of Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assembly in the State and district level committees for implementation of the programme. The functions expected to be discharged have been carried out fully and presently, no change is envisaged by the Government for the programme.

Statement I

I. Ministry/Department-wise financial achievements made during the current Five Year Plan for schemes included under the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities

Sl.No.	Name of Scheme and Ministry/Department	Rupees in crore		
		2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1	2	3	4	5

A. Schemes amenable to earmarking

1.	Indira Awas Yojana (IAY): M/o Rural Development	443.06	1040.28	69.69
2.	Swarn Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY): M/o Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation (HUPA)	25.13	16.83	17.64
3.	Upgradation of Industrial Training Institue (ITIs) into Centres of Excellence. Ministry of Labour & Employment	10.37	29.86	22.19

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Priority Sector Lending D/o Financial Services	58662.67	82864.65	112038.82
B.	Schemes where flow of fund to minority concentration area is quantified			
1.	Basic Services for Urban Poor (BSUP): M/o Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation (HUPA)	6368.52	5234.39	5576.38
2.	Integrated Housing & Slum Development Programme (IHSDP), M/o HUPA	832.17	1660.16	1770.83
3.	Urban Infrastructure & Governance (UIG): M/o Urban Development (UD)	Scheme included in 2009-10	Scheme included in 2009-10	8623.66
4.	Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small & Medium Towns (UIDSSMT): M/o Urban Development (UD)	Scheme included in 2009-10	Scheme included in 2009-10	2533
5.	National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP): D/o Drinking Water Supply (DWS)	Scheme included in 2009-10	Scheme included in 2009-10	3732.66
C.	Scheme under 15 PP where achievements is reported			
1.	Intensive area development scheme (Madrasa modernization)	33.65	Bifurcated into SPQEM and IDMI	Bifurcated into SPQEM and IDMI
2.	Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madarsa (SPQEM)	Scheme introduced from 2008-09	65.42	46.23
3.	Infrastructure Development of Minority Institues (IDMI)	Scheme introduced from 2008-09	0.25	4.48
D.	Schemes of the Ministry of Minority Affairs			
1.	Pre-matric	Scheme implemented from 2008-09	62.21	202.94

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Post-matric	9.63	70.63	148.74
3.	Merit-cum-means	40.91	64.73	97.51
4.	Coaching	5.74	6.18	11.21
E.	Fund disbursed under schemes of NMDFC and MAEF			
1.	National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDEC)	144.13	130.73	197.74
2.	Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF)	4.81	14.48	18.08

Statement II**II. Ministry/Department-wise physical achievements made during the current Five Year Plan for schemes included under the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities**

Sl. No.	Name of the scheme and Ministry/Dept. concerned	Units in number		
		2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA) Ministry of Human Resource Development			
(i)	No. of primary schools constructed	1725	3266	3237
(ii)	No. of upper primary schools constructed	2008	2662	1220
(iii)	No. of additional classrooms constructed	36565	15563	20588
(iv)	No. of new primary schools opened	1207	1386	1905
(v)	No. of new upper primary schools opened	3001	3176	1625
(vi)	No. of teachers sanctioned	24868	15759	7765
(vii)	No. of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) sanctioned in educationally backward blocks having a substantial minority population	219	133	27

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Swarojgaris assisted under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY). M/o Rural Development	143385	275121	177165
3.	Below Poverty Line (BPL) families assisted under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY). M/o Rural Development	155980	383245	543413
(i)	Individual enterprises Urban Self-Employment Programme (USEP)	25745	24684	9468
(ii)	Skill Training for Employment Promotion amongst Urban Poor (Step-Up)	41466	27837	30416
5.	Operationalisation of Anganwadi centres under ICDS. M/o Women & Child Development	21014	No target was earmarked for 2008-09 as expansion of the ICDS was under consideration	23712

[English]

PSUs in Haryana

4867. SHRI JITENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Public Sector Undertakings functioning at present in the State of Haryana;

(b) the total number of employees working in these units; and

(c) the details of profit and loss thereof during the last three years?

in the state of Haryana, as per their Registered Offices, as on 31.3.2009. The total number of employees in these two CPSEs, on the roll as on 31.3.2009 stood at 12363. The details of profit and loss of these two CPSEs during the last three years, are shown below:

(Rs. in crore)

Years/CPSEs	Profit/ Loss
NHPC Ltd.	
2008-09	1075.22
2007-08	1004.09
2006-07	924.80
IDPL	
2008-09	(-) 388.96
2007-08	(-) 298.24
2006-07	(-) 351.16

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (c) As per information available in Public Enterprises Survey (2008-09) that was laid in the Parliament on 25.2.2010, two Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs), namely, NHPC Ltd. and Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (IDPL) were functioning

Security for Ladies in Trains

4868. SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have taken immediate steps to provide security for the ladies who are travelling in the suburban trains during late night:

(b) if so, whether there has been number of case of security lapses during the period; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Madam. Following measures are being taken to provide security for the ladies travelling in suburban trains during late night.

1. Suburban trains are being escorted by RPF/GRP during late night keeping extra vigil on ladies compartments.
2. Regular drives are conducted by Government Railway Police, Railway Protection Force and Railway Commercial staff against male passengers travelling in ladies compartments and the offenders are prosecuted under the provisions of the Railways Act.

(b) It is not a fact that there has been number of cases of security lapses during the period.

(c) 'Policing on Railways' is a State subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases and their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments concerned which they discharge through the Government Railway Police (GRP) and Civil Police. Railways bear 50% cost of expenditure on the Government Railway Police.

However, Railway is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments by deploying Railway Protection Force to escort important trains in addition to trains escorted by Government Railway Police.

Following steps are being taken for security of lady commuters in suburban trains:

- (1) Regular coordination meetings are held with GRP and Civil Police at all levels to review security of passengers.
- (2) 10% reservation for women has been made in the recruitment of all ranks of Railway Protection Force to ensure better service to lady passengers.
- (3) Special trains exclusively for lady commuters have been introduced in Metro Cities.
- (4) 12 Companies of women RPF personnel are proposed for improving security of women passengers.
- (5) One Mahila Battalion is proposed to provide better security to women passengers.

Air Services to Tourist Destinations

4869. SHRI HARISCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to provide air services on Short-Haul routes covering major tourist destinations and major Urban cities covering a distance of 200-300 Kms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether private sector airlines would be given an incentive package to start services on these Short-Haul routes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) At present, scheduled air services are available to/from 82 airports, which include tourist destinations also.

Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued Civil Aviation Requirements for Scheduled regional air transport service with a view to promote air connectivity within a region, expand air travel services for Tier II and Tier III cities and between specific regions.

Government has laid down route dispersal guidelines with a view to achieving better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different services of different regions of the

country including North-East region. It is, however, up to the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability while complying with the Route Dispersal Guidelines.

(c) and (d) No incentive package is under consideration with the Government at present for private airline to start air services on Short-Haul routes.

[Translation]

Decline in Production in Mumbai High

4870. SHRI MAROTRAO SAINUJI KOWASE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of crude oil has been started in Mumbai High;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether production of crude oil has declined as the oil wells in Mumbai High are too old;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the said decline in production in terms of percentage; and

(e) the corrective steps taken/ proposed to be taken to increase the production at Mumbai High?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) had discovered Mumbai High field in 1974. Crude oil production from Mumbai High started in May 1976 and had increased from a level of 0.410 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) during 1976-77 to its peak level of 20.085 MMT in 1989-90, after which the field has entered the natural decline phase.

(c) and (d) The details of decline in oil production from Mumbai High during last three years *i.e.* 2007-08 to 2009-10 are as under:

Year	Oil Production (in MMT)	Percentage decline from previous year
2007-08	12.108	0.9
2008-09	11.621	4.0
2009-10	10.842	6.7

(e) ONGC has launched, major initiatives in the form of redevelopment schemes with the induction of state of art technologies in the areas of drilling, reservoir characterization and well completions. The first phase of redevelopment scheme for Mumbai High North and South were completed in December, 2006 and May, 2007 respectively. Thereafter, the second phase of redevelopment of Mumbai High North and South has commenced.

North East Frontier Railway

4871. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of contractors who were assigned the work of conversion of meter gauge railway line into broadgauge from Hydergaon to Merabari and Sonkaya junction to Silghat junction in the year 2006 by the Railway board and the amount given in advance to each contractor at the time of starting the work alongwith the complete details in this regard;

(b) whether the railways had cancelled the contracts because a number of irregularities were committed in awarding the contracts for supply of gravel;

(c) if so, the amount of loss suffered by railways due to it;

(d) whether the Railways had taken any action within the time limit for recovery of the amount; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Total 17 contractors in Haibargaon-Mairabari and 12 contractors in Senchoa-Silghat were assigned the gauge conversion work and no advance money was given.

(b) No, Madam. However, one contract of construction of bridge in Haibargaon- Mairabari Gauge conversion was terminated because of slow progress by contractor.

(c) No loss was suffered by Railway in this regard.

(d) and (e) As per contract condition, earnest money and security deposit were forfeited and performance guarantee has been encashed.

State Funding of Expenditure

4872. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the absence of state funding of elections, there is a likelihood of black money occupying the centre stage of the electoral process;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to cleanse the electoral system of the country?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) It is not correct to say that in the absence of state funding of elections, there is a likelihood of black money occupying the centre stage of the electoral process;

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

LPG Consumers

4873. SHRI BHOOPENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indane (LPG) consumers alongwith the domestic and commercial consumers in Sagar area of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the number of Indane agencies functioning to supply LPG cylinders to the consumers and the number of consumers registered with them;

(c) whether the LPG cylinders are being supplied to the consumers in this area even after 20-25 days of booking for cylinders; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) As on 01.08.2010, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) is operating six LPG distributorships in Sagar area of Madhya Pradesh who are serving 49,373 domestic LPG customers, 142 Non-Domestic Exempt Category customers and 458 commercial customers respectively.

IOC has reported that at present there is no waiting list for release of new LPG connections with their LPG distributors in the State of Madhya Pradesh including Sagar area.

(c) and (d) IOC has reported that they do not have any supply constraints and LPG supplies to distributors are being made by them in accordance with the genuine demand of customers registered with the LPG distributors. LPG supplies are generally being made within 48 hours. However, delay may be experienced due to backlog, non-availability of filled LPG cylinders, non-availability of trucks, road breaches, floods, strikes, bandhs, etc. At present, the LPG supplies are normal in Sagar area of Madhya Pradesh.

Vardhraj Committee Report

4874. SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vardhraj Committee's report was placed before the Court which clearly pointed out that the management of Union Carbide had full information regarding the faulty design of the plant that may result in accident any time but no precautions were taken; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The CBI has informed that the Vardhraj Committee's Report was placed before the Trial Court and, it was also exhibited in the Trial Court as one of The Prosecution Documents. Dr. S. Vardharajan, Dr. M. Sriram, Dr. R.A. Masalkar, Dr. O.G.B. Nambiar, Dr. S. Shivram, Dr. A.K. Lahari, Dr. K.V. Majumdar, Dr. C.S.P. Aiyar and Dr. A.A. Khan, all members of the Vardhraj Committee were also examined as Prosecution Witnesses.

Production of Fertilizers

4875. SHRI SAJJAN VERMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fertilizer are being manufactured in Dewas city in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the agencies in Dewas given licence to manufacture the fertilizers by the Government alongwith the basis for issuing such licences;

(d) whether raw material for the fertilizers is easily available;

(e) if not, the place from where the raw material is brought and the distance it has to be transported;

(f) whether regular quality-control checks are carried out by any Government agency; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA):

(a) and (b) Single Super Phosphate (SSP) fertilizer is being manufactured by M/s Agro Phos (India) Limited, Dewas, Madhya Pradesh. This unit is covered under the Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy and accordingly it is claiming payment of subsidy from Department of Fertilizers on the sale of Single Super Phosphate (SSP). The detail of annual capacity, production and sale of SSP by the above said unit is as under:

Annual installed Capacity : 45000 MTs

Production during 2009-10 : 22,615 MTs

Sale during 2009-10 : 16,838 MTs

(c) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh is the authority to issue license to M/s Agro Phos (India) Limited for manufacturing fertilizers in the State. However, the unit has been inducted into the subsidy scheme by Government of India based on the prescribed procedure and license given by State Government.

(d) and (e) For production of Single Super Phosphate (SSP), Rock Phosphate and Sulphur/Sulphuric Acid are required. Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited (RSMML) is the indigenous source of Rock Phosphate for M/s Agro Phos (India) Limited. However, it also procures its Rock Phosphate from the imported sources. The unit gets Sulphuric Acid from M/s Hindustan Zinc Limited, Udaipur, Rajasthan. The unit procures raw materials based on the its requirement and availability of the same.

(f) and (g) State Governments are the authority to administer the quality of all the fertilizers under the Fertilizers (Control) Order, 1985. Further, in the implementation of Nutrient Based Subsidy policy for Single Super Phosphate (SSP) w.e.f. 1.5.2010, the State Governments of the States where the SSP fertilizers units are located, are required to check the quality of the SSP produced in the State month wise based on which the 85% 'On Account' payment of concession is released to SSP units. The State Governments also issue certificate each month certifying that the units are printing 'Quality Certified' on each bag released in the market and also they are in possession of well equipped laboratories to test the quality of the fertilizers. The State Governments also certify the quality of the SSP while issueing certificate of sales in prescribed Proforma 'B' based on which the units are given their 15% balance payment. The Department of Fertilizers has also deputed Project and Development India Limited (PDIL), a PSU under administrative control of Department of Fertilizers, to check the quantity and quality of the SSP manufactured by the units, in its six monthly inspections. The State Governments have been requested by Department of Fertilizers for testing the samples of Single Super Phosphate (SSP) in collaboration with PDIL at the retailers level. The SSP marketers are also responsible for supply of quality fertilizers.

[English]

Opening of Training Centres by ICAI

4876. SHRI MUKESH BHAIRAVDANJI GADHVI : Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India proposes to open more training centres across the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Madom.

(b) The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India has informed that it is setting up two more IT training centres at Bhavnagar and Kannur.

Rail Project

4877. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether after having approved the Annual Budget for 2010-11 in respect of the new rail links, the Railway Board have recently directed the Zonal Railways to transfer such projects to Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. for execution and to make Bankability studies in respect of Khurda Road-Bolangir rail link; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for such decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. (RVNL) has been advised to conduct bankability studies for some of the ongoing new line and gauge conversion projects. Two new line projects have also been entrusted to RVNL for implementation. The aim is to generate additional resources for bankable projects. As regards Khurda Road-Bolangir new line, it has been decided not to transfer the project to RVNL.

Ground Handling Operations

4878. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any decision to set up subsidiary companies for ground handling at airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Air India Transport Services Ltd., a fully owned subsidiary company of erstwhile Air India, was incorporated on 09-06-2003 to carry out ground handling activities. On 16-05-2009, Government approved the formation of a Joint Venture company between NACIL and Singapore Air Terminal Services (SATS) at metro airports. In the AI-SATS Joint Venture Company, both parties have equal equity.

Goods Trains

4879. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of goods trains provided to Andhra Pradesh for transportation of rice in each of the last three years and current year, till date;

(b) whether there is shortage of goods train transporting rice in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) steps taken by the Railways in the matter.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The details of goods trains provided to Andhra Pradesh for transportation of rice in each of the last three years and current year upto 19.08.2010 are as under:

(Figures in terms of rake)

Year	Loading	
	Food Corporation of India	Trade
2007-08	1621	897
2008-09	2182	371
2009-10	1871	445
2010-11 (upto 19.8.10)	526	166

(b) to (d) The overall demand for covered wagons is more than the availability. Railways are making all efforts to supply rakes for Food Corporation of India, foodgrains on private account and fertilizers. Supply of rakes is also dependent upon loading and unloading capabilities at the terminals. At times, the Railways has to give priority for evacuation of fertilizer (imported fertilizer) which is also an essential commodity for farmers to raise their crops. Modified BCNHL covered wagons with each rake of 58 wagons with more carrying capacities has been inducted from April 2009.

Elevation of Judges

4880. SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether similar norms have been laid down for elevation of judges to High Courts from services and bars;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons that each High Court adopts its own norms for such elevations;

(d) the number of times and details when these norms were disregarded by different High Courts or same High Court during the last one year; court-wise;

(e) whether in such elevations consideration is also given to SC/ST cases, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) if so, the details of judges belonging to SC/ST elevated to different courts during the last three years both from services and bars?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b), and (c) Appointment of Judges of High Court is made by the President under article 217 of the Constitution after consultation with State constitutional authorities/Chief Justice of the High Court and the Chief Justice of India. A person shall not be qualified for appointment as a Judge of a High Court unless he is a citizen of India and has for at least ten years held a judicial office in the territory of India; or has for at least ten years been an advocate of a High Court or of two or more such Courts in succession.

The appointment of Judges of the High Courts is done keeping in view the educational qualifications, nature and extent of practice, the field of specialization of the persons being considered. Besides this, the competence of the person, his judicial potential, temperament, seniority and integrity are also considered. The complement of Judges in the High Courts is in the ratio of 2:1 between the Bar and the Judicial Services.

(d) These norms are followed by all the High Courts.

(e) Appointment of Judges of the High Courts is made under Article 217 of the Constitution of India, which does not provide for any reservation,

(f) No such information is maintained.

Palghat Coimbatore Section

4881. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Palghat-Coimbatore section of the Southern Railway crosses one of the largest elephant corridors;

(b) if so, whether large number of elephants has been killed on the railway tracks in this segment; and

(c) if so, the number of elephants died in the last three years and the preventive measures taken by the Railways in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) Eight elephants have died in the last three years. The speed of trains is restricted to 45 kmph between 18:00 hrs to 06:00 hrs for a length of 38.5 km between Podanur and Palakkad.

[Translation]

Pending Cases of Illegal Mining

4882. SHRIMATI DARSHANA JARDOSH:
SHRI K. R. G. REDDY:
SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:
SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:
SHRI RAJAI AH SIRICILLA:
SHRI P. BALRAM:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pending cases of illegal land mining in various courts in the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up additional benches to hear the cases related to mines and minerals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the demands of the State Government and public in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) Such information is not being maintained centrally

(b) No, Madam

(c) and (d); Do not arise.

[*English*]

Private Contractors Engaged at Delhi and Mumbai Airports

4883. SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the private contractors engaged at Delhi and Mumbai airports;

(b) whether these contractors hired subcontractors/workers for the execution of jobs entrusted to them; and

(c) if so, the details of the policy of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Criteria for awarding sub-contract/sub-lease and sub-licensing at Delhi and Mumbai airports have been stipulated in the Clause 8.5.7 of Operation, Management and Development Agreement (OMDA) signed with the Joint Venture Companies (JVCs) by the Airports Authority of India for restructuring and modernisation of these airports. In accordance with Clause 8.5.7 (c), JVCs are required to follow the procedures for competitive bidding in the field of public works concessions and in any case for every contract whose value exceeds Rs.50 crores the JVCs shall ensure that the selection of the counter party is by way of a competitive bidding procedure.

Grant to Sanskriti School

4884. SHRI JAYWANT GANGARAM AWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have granted a sum of Rs.10 crores to Sanskriti School in Delhi during 1999-2000 and again in 2000-01;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether wards of Railway employees would also get some benefits in the said school; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Railways had sanctioned an amount of Rupees Twenty Lakhs only during the financial years 1999-2000 and 2000-01 (Rs. Ten lakhs each year) to Civil Services Society, which manages the Sanskriti School at New Delhi.

(c) and (d) Sanskriti School has been inter alia established to meet educational needs of wards of Officers belonging to All India Services/Group `A` Central Services, who face problems in securing admission of their children in schools on posting in Delhi. Accordingly, Railway Officers also get preference in admission of their wards in the school along with other eligible services/categories.

Bilateral Rights to Airlines

4885. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has put a freeze on grant of bilateral rights to airlines of foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Fly Dubai, a low cost airline from Dubai have been permitted to operate flights to and from interior parts of Southern India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Fly Dubai has sought permission to operate from multiple parts in India on a single flight;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether Emirates Airlines have stake in Fly Dubai and it is seeking Hub and Spoke Operations in India together with Fly Dubai; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Madam.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) and (h) Fly Dubai was founded by the Government of Dubai as a low cost subsidiary of flag carrier Emirates.

There is no such proposal for Hub and Spoke operations in India by Emirates together with Fly Dubai.

Irregularities against LPG Agencies

4886. SHRI C. R. PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of complaints were received against Gas Agencies in Gurgaon area of Haryana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some agencies have been found guilty for selling the LPG cylinders in black market;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Whenever Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) receive complaints, these are investigated. If the complaint is established, action is taken against the erring LPG distributor in accordance with the provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG).

OMCs have reported that action has been taken in five cases on establishment of various complaints against their LPG distributors in Gurgaon area of Haryana State during the last year and April-July 2010 under the provision of MDG.

(c) to (e) The possibility of blackmarketing/diversion of subsidized domestic LPG cylinders by some unscrupulous elements cannot be ruled out due to the wide gap between the retail price of LPG for domestic use and the market price for commercial LPG.

OMCs have reported that based on the established complaints of black marketing/diversion of domestic LPG by LPG distributors, action has been taken in two cases in Gurgaon area of Haryana State during the last year and April-July 2010 as per provisions of MDG/Distributorship Agreement.

Code of Conduct for Judiciary

4887. SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI:
SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a code of conduct exists for judiciary; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) The full court meeting of the Supreme Court of India on 07.05.1997 adopted the Restatement of Values of Judicial Life (annexed as statement) to serve as a guide to be observed by Judges, essential for an independent, strong and respected judiciary, indispensable in the impartial administration of justice. These are not meant to be exhaustive but illustrative of what is expected of a Judge.

Statement

Restatement of Values of Judicial Life

(1) Justice must not merely be done but it must also be seen to be done. The behaviour and conduct of members of the higher judiciary must reaffirm the people's faith in the impartiality of the judiciary. Accordingly, any act of a Judge of the Supreme Court or a High court whether in official or personal capacity, which erodes the credibility of this perception has to be avoided.

- (2) A Judge should not contest the election to any office of a Club, society or other association; further he shall not hold such elective office except in a society or association connected with the law.
- (3) Close association with individual members of the Bar, particularly those who practice in the same court, shall be eschewed.
- (4) A Judge should not permit any member of his immediate family, such as spouse, son, daughter, son-in-law, or daughter-in-law or any other close relative, if a member of the Bar, to appear before him or even be associated in any manner with a cause to be dealt with by him.
- (5) No member of his family, who is a member of the Bar, shall be permitted to use the residence in which the Judge actually resides or other facilities for professional work.
- (6) A Judge should practice a degree of aloofness consistent with the dignity of his office.
- (7) A Judge shall not hear and decide a matter in which a member of his family, a close relation or a friend is concerned.
- (8) A Judge shall not enter into public debate or express his views in public on political matters or on matters that are pending or are likely to arise for judicial determination.
- (9) A Judge is expected to let his judgments speak for themselves. He shall not give interview to the media.
- (10) A Judge shall not accept gifts or hospitality except from his family, close relations and friends.
- (11) A Judge shall not hear and decide a matter in which a company in which he holds share is concerned unless he has disclosed his interest and no objection to his hearing and deciding the matter is raised.
- (12) A Judge shall not speculate in shares, stocks or the like.
- (13) A Judge should not engage directly or indirectly in trade or business, either by himself or in association with any other person, (publication or a legal treatise or any activity in the nature of a hobby shall not be construed as trade or business).
- (14) A Judge should not ask for, accept contributions or otherwise actively associate himself with the raising of any fund for any purpose.
- (15) A Judge should not seek any financial benefit in the form of a perquisite or privilege attached to his office unless it is clearly available. Any doubt in this behalf must be got resolved and clarified through the Chief Justice.
- (16) Every Judge must at all times be conscious that he is under the public gaze and there should be no act or omission by him which is unbecoming of a high office he occupies and the public esteem in which that office is held.

[*Translation*]

Introduction of New Trains

4888. SHRI LALJI TANDON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Northern Railways propose to introduce new trains on its routes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. 2 pairs of Duronto Express, 16 pairs of Express trains, 5 pairs of passenger trains and 1 pair of Matribhoomi (Ladies Special) train which have been announced in the Railway Budget 2010-11, shall be put into operation in the Northern Railway routes.

(c) Does not arise.

Disasters and Accidents in Chemical Industries

4889. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any legislation to deal with the disasters and accidents in the chemical industries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether leakage of poisonous gas has taken place in many public and private industries

(d) if so, the details of industries from where leakage took place during the last three years;

(e) whether any action has been taken against the officials found guilty in these cases; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) India has put in place a robust regulatory framework to deal with the disasters and accidents in the chemical industries. The regulatory framework for ensuring chemical (Industrial) safety is covered under various Acts and Rules given below:

- (1) The Disaster Management Act, 2005
- (2) The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, as amended, in 2006, The Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989 as amended in 2000 and the Chemical Accidents (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response) Rules, 1996
- (3) The Factories Act, 1948 (Amended) 1987
- (4) The Motor vehicles Act, 1988 and the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989
- (5) The Petroleum Act, 1934 and the Petroleum Rules, 2002
- (6) The Explosive Act, 1884 and the Explosives Rules 1983
- (7) The Gas Cylinder Rules, 2004
- (8) The Static and Mobile Pressure Vessels (Unfired) Rules, 1981.

(c) and (d) The details of Gas Leak Accidents which occurred during 2007-10 is as under:

Sl.No.	Date	Name of the Unit
1.	28.08.2007	M/s. I.G. Petrochemicals Ltd. MIDC, Taloja, Distt. Raigad, Maharashtra
2.	27.05.2008	M/s. Tata Motors Limited, Telco Colony, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand
3.	1.10.2008	M/s. Meditech Chemical Pvt. Ltd. Site-4 Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh
4.	20.03.2010	M/s. National Fertilizers Ltd. Naya Nangal, Punjab
5.	14.07.2010	Hazi Bunder Storage Yard, Mumbai Port Trust, Maharashtra
6.	31.07.2010	M/s. A.S. Chemopharma Pvt. Ltd. Distt. Thane, Maharashtra.

(e) and (f) As per the State Factory Rules, the concerned State Government has initiated action against the owners of the units.

[English]

Rail Yojana

4890. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to introduce the Pradhan Mantri Gram Rail Yojana to provide rail connectivity to rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways propose to undertake various initiatives for better welfare of rail employees *i.e.* in health, housing and education sectors;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The scheme is presently under consideration and will be formulated.

(c) to (e) The railways have taken the following initiatives for better welfare of rail employees in health, housing and education sectors:

- (i) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Railways for development of healthcare infrastructure along the rail network of country. These health care infrastructure facilities shall be developed by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on the vacant railway land, which is not required for immediate operational use. On the land identified by the Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare shall develop OPD and Diagnostic Centre, Secondary level General Specialty Hospitals, Tertiary level Super Specialty Hospitals. Setting up these healthcare facilities shall provide affordable and modern quality health care services to Indian Railway employees as well as to railway passengers, public living around such areas and to the citizens at large.
- (ii) A scheme titled as 'House for all' has been announced in Railway Budget 2010-11. Details of this scheme are being evolved with Ministry of Urban Development.
- (iii) Ministry of Railways has signed a MoU with Ministry of Human Resource Development for

development of educational facilities on Railway premises. A High Powered Working Group has been constituted consisting of Senior Official from both the Ministries for achievement of the objectives of MoU. Six new Kendriya Vidyalayas to be set up on Railway land have been sanctioned so far by Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Mass Rapid Transit System

4891. SHRI C. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) total fund allocated so far for the Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS) in Chennai, during the last three years, and the current year;

(b) total fund utilised so far to this project, during the said period;

(c) the time by which this project is likely to be completed; and

(d) the details of fund likely to be allocated during the rest of the Eleventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Total fund allocated so far by the Railways (Rlys) and the State Government of Tamil Nadu (GoTN) for the Mass Rapid Transit System in Chennai during the last three years and the current year is as under:

(Figures in Crores of Rs.)

Work	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11	
	Rlys	GoTN	Rlys	GoTN	Rlys	GoTN	Rlys	GoTN
MRTS Phase-I	1.60	--	2.00	--	6.00	--	10.00	--
MRTS Phase-II	8.00	8.09	12.00	63.00	13.00	20.00	10.00	--
MRTS Phase-II Extension	--	--	20.00	67.00	12.00	40.00	20.00	--

(b) Total fund utilised so far to this project, during the said period is as under:

(Figures in Crores of Rs.)

Work	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11	
	Rlys	GoTN	Rlys	GoTN	Rlys	GoTN	Rlys	GoTN
MRTS Phase-I	1.58	--	2.00	--	5.57	--	2.17	--
MRTS Phase-II	8.00	22.77	12.00	38.57	13.03	33.77	21.95	--
MRTS Phase-II Extension	--	--	18.20	14.92	12.00	20.63	14.34	--

(c) The project is likely to be completed by 30.06.2013.

(d) Funds to the tune of Rs. 278.46 crore would be required to be provided in the rest of the Eleventh Plan period, with Rs.177.75 crore to be given by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

Appointment of Judges

4892. SHRI UMASHANKAR SINGH:
SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether judges are appointed without any police verification or clearances; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) Pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgment of October 6, 1993 in the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record and Anr. Vs. Union of India, read with the Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998, the entire process of initiation of proposal for appointment of a Judge of a High Court lies with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. He consults the two seniormost Judges regarding the suitability of the names proposed and forward the proposal to the State Constitutional authorities who, along with their comments, send the proposal to the Union Government. The Union Government obtains confidential report on the recommendee's character, antecedents and integrity, etc. The complete information along with the confidential report of the recommendees are made available to the Chief Justice of India for consideration by the Supreme Court Collegium. The advice tendered by the Collegium is submitted for consideration of the President.

Time Bound Resolution

4893. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to fast track procedures for time bound resolution as promised through public pronouncements by the Union Minister for cases relating to women concerning rape, dowry and molestation and cases relating to terror trials; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) The Government has decided, in principle, to set up a National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms which will also have, among its strategies, fast tracking of court procedures for time bound resolution of cases. Such fast tracking of procedures is proposed to be achieved, *inter alia*, by better case management, re-engineering of procedures, appointment of court managers and greater use of alternate dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms. The Thirteenth Finance Commission has recommended providing grants to the States, *inter alia*, for appointment of court managers and for promotion of ADR mechanisms in the country. The recommendations of the Thirteenth Finance Commission in this regard have already been accepted by the Government.

[*Translation*]

Construction of Railway Line

4894. SHRI GOVIND PRASAD MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the construction work of Indore-Dahod and Dhar-Chhota Udaypur railway line was started;

(b) whether said railway line projects would be completed on priority basis by the Railways keeping in view the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor Project;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the construction work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) Dahod-Indore (200.97 km) and Chhota Udepur-Dhar (157 km) new line projects were included in the Budget 2007-08. Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor Development Corporation Limited (DMICDC) has requested Ministry of Railway for early completion of these projects for development of Pithampur-Dhar Investment Region and Multi-Model Logistic Park (MMLP). Works is being progressed as per availability of resources. The target date of completion has not yet been fixed.

Installation of Electronic Data Charger Machine

4895. SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL) is pressurizing petrol pump owners not to install electronic data charger (EDC) machine of any bank other than ICICI Bank, Axis Bank and American Axis Bank with whom HPCL has signed the commercial agreement;

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

(c) whether the Federation of All Maharashtra Petrol Dealer Association has made a request to Competition Commission of India in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) is not pressurising its dealers and petrol pump owners regarding installation of Electronic Data Charger (EDC) machine of any bank. The credit cards issued by all the banks are accepted at HPCL Retail Outlets (ROs). All the petrol pump dealers enter into an agreement directly with various banks after which the concerned bank installs these terminals at the petrol pumps. However, HPCL has an agreement with ICICI Bank effective from the year 2001, for giving waiver of surcharge on fuel on its co-branded credit card and this surcharge waiver is applicable only on the ICICI Bank Charge Slip. This issue has been raised by the Federation of All Maharashtra Petrol Dealer Association and the matter is sub-judice with the Competition Commission of India.

[English]

Palghat Railway Division

4896. SHRI ANTO ANTONY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

Staff Category	Palghat Division			Salem Division		
	Sanctioned Strength	Actual Strength	Vacancy	Sanctioned Strength	Actual Strength	Vacancy
Group 'A' and 'B'	64	64	0	63	63	0
Group 'C'	5558	4788	770	7121	6286	835
Group 'D'	2283	2070	213	3076	2397	679
Total	7905	6922	983	10260	8746	1514

(a) the annual revenue generated by Palghat Railway Division in Southern Railway before and after its bifurcation;

(b) the revenue generated by Salem Division in Southern Railway since its inception, year wise;

(c) the details of total expenditure incurred by Railways to set up Salem Division;

(d) the number of posts created for setting up of Salem Division and whether there is any shortage of railway staff in Palghat and Salem Divisions; and

(e) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The annual originating revenue generated by Palghat Division before and after bifurcation and that of Salem Division since its inception (*i.e.* 1st November'2007) is as under:

Year	(Rs. in crore)	
	Palghat Division	Salem Division
2005-06	455.12	-
2006-07	587.71	-
2007-08	563.61	140.22
2008-09	468.42	372.33
2009-10	614.48	413.12

(c): An amount of Rs. 16.11 crore (approximately), has been spent by the Railway till July' 2010, to set up Salem Division.

(d) and (e) No posts were created for setting up of Salem Division and the vacancy position of railway staff in these Division is as under:

[Translation]

New Express Train

4897. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any request to start separate lines express trains from Korba and Ambikapur in Chhattisgarh upto Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Representations from various quarters including from Dr. Charan Das Mahant, MP have been received.

(c) The proposal has been examined but has not been found feasible due to operational constraints.

Unmanned Level Crossings

4898. SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to start manning of unmanned railway level crossings in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways propose to make an amendment in the provision meant for funds sharing for the construction of railway level crossings in the rural areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Manning of level crossings is not location dependent. Decision for manning of level crossings depends on the train vehicle units (TVUs) being handled at those level crossings. Presently, the level crossings irrespective of their location (urban or rural) are manned, if the TVUs are greater than 3000.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

Installation of Vigilance Control Device

4899. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have decided to install vigilance control device in all train engines by May, 2012; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount spent on the project, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The tentative date for providing Vigilance Control Device (VCD) on all diesel and electric locomotives is March 2012. So far about 1764 diesel and 550 electric locos have been provided VCD. All efforts are being made to provide balance locomotives with VCD within the target date.

The total amount expected to be spent for provision of VCDs on all the balance diesel and electric locos is Rs. 245 crores. However, it may not be feasible to provide State-wise expenditure as diesel and electric locos run seamlessly all over Indian Railways, and at times get transferred from one Railway to the other.

[English]

Corruption in DFCL

4900. SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have received complaints of large scale corruption in the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Railways have received a report from Central Vigilance Commission in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Railways in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) Source information regarding irregularities in contracts awarded by Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited, including a report from the Central Vigilance Commission, has been received, which is under investigation by Departmental Vigilance.

Gauge Conversion of Railway Line

4901. SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Audit Report has mentioned about an unproductive expenditure of Rs. 890.18 crores regarding gauge conversion of Lumding-Silchar-Giriban, Badarpur-Kumarghat Project;

(b) if so, whether the said report has also highlighted about improper planning and other aspects regarding the said project;

(c) whether the Railways have examined the report and adopted remedial measures in compliance to that report; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Madam.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Assistance for Allahabad High Court

4902. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has requested the Union Government to bear 50 percent amount of the estimated cost of Rs. 772 crore for construction of new building of Allahabad High Court branch at Lucknow;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to bear 50 percent amount of the estimated expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. A proposal for central assistance for construction of a new building for the Lucknow Bench of the Allahabad High Court at Lucknow at an estimated cost of Rs. 772.00 crore was received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(c) Provision of infrastructure of the High Court as well as the district and subordinate courts is the responsibility of the State Government. However, the Central Government implements a plan scheme for augmenting the financial resources of the States in this regard, within its plan and budget allocations. In this case, the Detailed Project Report indicating the detailed cost estimates was sent to CPWD for vetting and its comments. The comments and observations made by CPWD have been sent to the State Government for requisite clarification / information on the issues brought up by the CPWD. No response has been received from the State Government till date.

Manufacturing of Power Equipment by BHEL

4903. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details and the number of power generation projects for which the responsibility of making equipments has been entrusted to the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL);

(b) the target fixed for power generation from these projects during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(c) whether the work of several projects of BHEL are lagging behind the target; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) 124 number of utility power

generation projects aggregating to 73,234 MW have been entrusted to Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) for commissioning in 11th and 12th Plan periods, as of mid-August 2010. Out of this, in 93 projects aggregating to 56,628 MW, BHEL's scope is limited to main plant package, Balance of Plant (BoP) being in the customer's scope.

Out of 73, 234 MW, 33,145 MW is targeted for Eleventh Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. Some projects are on delayed path due to various reasons.

The setting up of power plant is a complex process and is dependent on the performance of several players. In majority of the projects targeted during 11th Plan for capacity addition, BHEL's scope of work is limited to Boiler and Turbine Generators package, whereas the balance scope of work viz., BoP and civil works are in customer's (Project developer's) scope.

The Department of Heavy Industry regularly monitors the progress of implementation of various power projects by BHEL, to ensure that in spite of delays due to various factors beyond the control of the Company, BHEL puts in adequate extra efforts to minimize the slippages in commissioning of the projects.

[English]

Survey of Bhopal Gas Victims

4904. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the only comprehensive survey of Bhopal gas victims undertaken by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) two and half decades ago is now untraceable;

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

(c) whether the survey commenced just two weeks after the date of leak in 1984 involving the total of 478 students, 41 faculty members and 13 staff members covering more than 25,250 households in a period of 6 weeks;

(d) if so whether the survey was funded by the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust since the then State Government refused to finance it; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (e) Yes, madam The Government of Madhya Pradesh has informed that the survey was conducted 26 years back and the relevant documents are not readily available.

Merger of IAAI and NAAI

4905. SHRI SHASHI THAROOR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether merger of International Airports Authority of India and National Airports Authority of India has been completed as consequence of AAI Act 1994;

(b) if so, the reasons for common cadres of executives and non-executive of AAI working with separate seniority; and

(c) the time by which inter seniority of common cadres of executive and nonexecutive of AAI will be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) After the formation of Airports Authority of India (AAI) in April 1995, the erstwhile IAAI and NAA were working as separate divisions for a period of one year which was further extended for a period of one year till 31-03-1997. On 31-03-1997, it was decided that till such time the common service conditions were finalized and put in place, the employees shall work with the same service conditions which they were enjoying before merger. The erstwhile IAAI and NAA had different processes and procedures for recruitment and promotion, different work culture, functioning etc. and governed by different service conditions. Hence, the inter-se-seniority could not be implemented. However, the common service conditions, namely, AAI (General Conditions of Service

and Remuneration of Employees) Regulations 2003 and Recruitment and Promotion guidelines were formulated and implemented in 2003 and 2005 respectively. Common recruitment in most of the cadres is being done including posting of employees. However, the common inter-seniority could not be decided in view of the fact that it involved complex issues like different processes and procedures etc. affecting large number of employees; hence the process is taking time.

Transportation of Wheat

4906. SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA:
SHRI S. R. JEYADURAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether rail wagons were booked for transporting wheat from Sarhind in Punjab to Bokaro which took 440 days to reach Bokaro;

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

(c) whether any enquiry has been initiated in the matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) A rake of 39 BCX wagons was loaded from Sirhind in Punjab to Bokaro and Tatisilwai on 02.05.2009. This rake reached in a complement of 37 BCX wagons (95 %) on 07.05.2009 at Tatisilwai and part of the rake was unloaded there on 08.05.2009. The second part of the rake for Bokaro was unloaded at Bokaro on 10.05.2009. The transit time for 95 % of the rake from loading to reaching destination was only 5 days.

However, two BCX wagons developed defects en route. These wagons were detached. After carriage and wagon examination, one wagon was made fit and despatched to the destination which reached Bokaro on 13.07.10. The other wagon was declared mechanically irreparable and its contents were transhipped on to another BCN wagon. This wagon has also been moved

and is en route to destination. The incident is being looked into.

Performance of Jute Sector

4907. SHRI MOHAN JENA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has assessed the performance of jute sector keeping in view the competitive open market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether jute cultivation is declining in different States in an alarming rate;

(d) if so, the details thereof since last five years, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government is aware about the reasons of decline of jute cultivation; and

(f) if so, the corrective measures taken by the Government to encourage jute cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes Madam. The government assesses the performance of jute sector from time to time. Some of the salient features are as follows:

(i) The area of cultivation of raw jute is stagnant between 700,000 ha and 850,000 ha.

(ii) The production of raw jute has increased considerably between 1974-78 and 2003-04, and thereafter has been stagnant (fluctuating around 100 Lakh Bales) in the last decade.

(iii) The yield has increased considerably from 1300 Kg/ Ha (74-78) to around 2400 Kg/Ha (2009-10).

(iv) The total production of jute goods has shown fluctuation over the years. However, it has increased from about 11.92 Lakh MT in Year 1987-88 to a maximum of 17.76 lakh MT in 2007-08. Average production in last few years is around 16.00 lakh MT. There has been a dip

below the average in year 2006-07 and 2009-10 mainly because of strike in jute mills in West Bengal.

- (v) The domestic consumption as a percentage of total production has increased from 80% (1987-88) to nearly 91% (2009-10).
- (vi) The export of jute goods has increased from

Rs. 166 Cr. in 1978-79 to Rs. 1200 Cr in 2008-09. However, in 2006-07 and 2009-10 there has been a decline in exports, mainly due to global recession and Strike in Jute Mills.

(c) and (d) No Madam. The major jute producing states have shown an increasing trend in jute production. Statewise cultivation/production of jute in the last 5 years is as below:

[Unit: Thousand Bales]

STATES	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10#
Assam	410.4	578.9	558.6	656.8	647.5	713.1
Bihar	1056.2	1298.6	1253.3	1251.5	1054.8	1161.1
Jharkhand	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.8
Meghalaya	20.2	35.5	35.0	34.9	34.6	-
Nagaland	6.7	10.5	5.9	6.4	1.3	-
Odisha	41.0	44.4	47.8	49.8	19.9	3.0
Tripura	10.7	11.4	4.0	3.7	3.7	-
West Bengal	7853.0	7989.2	8411.5	8216.0	7872.6	8782.5
Others	-	-	-	-	-	39.9
All India	9399.3	9969.5	10317.1	10220.1	9634.4	10700.3#

[Source: Ministry of Agriculture]

Based on 4th advance Estimates made by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. The Jute Advisory Board, has however estimated a crop of 90 lakh bales for 2009-10.

(e) and (f) For the year 2010-11, the Jute Advisory Board has estimated a production of 107 lakh bales, which indicates that there is no significant decline in jute cultivation. The step taken by Government for encouraging jute cultivation mainly include:

- (i) Conducting Minimum Support operations for providing price security to farmers.
- (ii) Government has launched Jute Technology Mission, for overall development and growth of jute sector.
- (iii) Jute Corporation of India has been distributing certified seeds to farmers.

(iv) Continuation of policy for compulsory packaging of Foodgrain and Sugar in jute.

Opening of a Separate Office of Explosive Department in Gujarat

4908. SHRI KUNVARJIBHAI MOHANBHAI BAVALIYA:
Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received a proposal from the Government of Gujarat for opening of a separate office of the Explosive Department at Alang Ship Recycling Yards in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the present status in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Fraud Land Transactions

4909. SHRI S. RAMASUBBU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) was duped recently by an individual by selling 166 acres of Bay of Bengal as land in Tamil Nadu to the tune of Rs. 26 crore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the IOC has taken any steps to probe the transactions and action against the cheater and to recover the losses incurred to the organization; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM and NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) has purchased approx. 102.93 acres of land from M/s Shri Ram Enterprises at Ennore in Tamil Nadu against public tender in 1999-2000 at a total amount of Rs. 5.05 crores on the basis of Single Valid offer against Public Tender. A total of 102.93 acres of land was purchased comprising of 77 sale deeds from M/s Shri Ram enterprises who was Power of Attorney (POA) holder for different pieces of land.

Some of land owners who have sold the land to IOC are disputing sale of land to IOC and have gone to Court. They have challenged the sale of land to IOC alleging that Shri R. Devadoss of M/s Shri Ram Enterprises have created forged POAs and illegally sold land to IOC without their consent, knowledge and permission. A total of 10 cases are pending in court and a police complaint has also been filed on 21.8.2008.

[Translation]

Criminal Act

4910. SHRI RAMASHANKAR RAJBHAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of castes in the country which were included in the Criminal Act by the Britishers, State-wise;

(b) whether any commission was constituted to get them excluded from the Criminal Act and the recommendations thereof;

(c) the facilities being given to the castes excluded from the Criminal Act at present;

(d) the list of such castes in respect of Uttar Pradesh which have been excluded;

(e) whether the excluded castes of Uttar Pradesh were included in the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(f) if so, the names of such castes and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

National Auto Fuel Policy

4911. SHRI SONAWANE PRATAP NARAYANRAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any National Auto Fuel Policy to check air pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to ensure supply of eco-friendly fuels to transport sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Government of India has a National Auto Fuel Policy, aimed at improving ambient air quality. In August 2001, it was decided to constitute a Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, Director General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) to recommend an Auto Fuel Policy for the country and to devise a

roadmap for its implementation. The Committee recommended introduction of Bharat Stage-II (BS-II), Bharat Stage-III (BS-III) and Bharat Stage-IV (BS-III) standard fuels (MS/HSD).

(c) and (d) In pursuance of the Auto Fuel Policy, the Government had introduced eco-friendly fuels (MS and HSD) BS-III fuel (equivalent to Euro-III norms) in 13 cities, namely Delhi/NCR, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Pune, Surat, Kanpur, Agra, Lucknow and Solapur w.e.f 1.4.2005 which was subsequently upgraded to BS-IV (equivalent to Euro-IV norms) w.e.f 1.4.2010. Similarly, supply of BS-II fuel (equivalent to Euro-II norms) was introduced in the rest of Country in 2005 and which is being upgraded to BS-III fuel in a phased manner in the rest of the Country between 1.4.2010 and 1.10.2010.

[English]

Acquisition of Coal Mines Abroad by NMDC

4912. SHRI SANJAY BHOI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) proposes to acquire coal mines abroad;

(b) if so, the names of the countries where it would acquire the mines;

(c) whether this is under the joint venture;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the production capacity of said mines; and

(f) the quantum of investment likely to be made by the NMDC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (f) NMDC is presently considering proposals for acquiring coal mines in different countries including Russia, Mozambique and USA. However, the process is at preliminary stage only and no final decision for acquisition of coal mines abroad has been taken so far.

Energy Security

4913. SHRI MAHABAL MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil reserves of the country are shrinking:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase energy security of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The oil and oil equivalent gas reserves (O+OEG) in the country has been increasing over the years. On March end of 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10, the balance oil and oil equivalent gas reserves of the country have been 1657.93 Million Metric Tonne of Oil Equivalent (MMToe), 1667.38 MMToe and 1741.16 MMToe respectively:

(c) Several measures have been taken to accelerate hydrocarbon exploration and production activities in order to enhance energy security of the country. These measures include:

(i) Carving out more and more areas for exploration under various rounds of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) and Coal Bed Methane Policy (CBM).

(ii) Application of Enhanced Oil Recovery/Improved Oil Recovery techniques for increasing recovery factor from existing fields.

(iii) Acquisition of exploration acreages and producing properties overseas to bring in equity oil.

(iv) Arresting decline from ageing fields.

(v) Substitution of oil through use of non-conventional source of energy such as bio-diesel, ethanol etc.

Apart from the above, Underground Coal Gasification and Gas Hydrates assessment are in the experimental stage.

Policy Initiatives

4914. SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of policy initiatives and policy pronouncements on a host of issues cutting across the spectrum of the remit of the Ministry of Law and Justice

have been made by the Government from 21-5-2009 to 1-7-2010;

(b) the item/subject wise and policy initiative/pronouncement-wise details thereof;

(c) whether any task forces were set up by the Government to study each of the policy initiatives/pronouncements and give considered recommendations;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the legal fraternity was consulted with regard to the efficacy and implementability of these policy initiatives and pronouncements;

(f) if so, the steps taken to implement these policy pronouncements in the form of concrete actionable proposals; and

(g) the details of audit done about the impact of these policy initiatives on the legal and judicial system, if any?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M.VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

1. CONSULTATIONS:

(i) Department of Justice organized a National Consultation for strengthening of Judiciary toward Reducing Pendency and Delays` on 24-25 October, 2009 at Vigyan Bhavan; New Delhi which was, among others, attended by the Chief Justice of India, other Supreme Court Judges, Chief Justices of High Courts along with another Judge of every High Court, two District Court Judges from every High Court, State Law Secretaries, Advocate Generals of State Governments, representatives of Academia, eminent Jurists and the President and office bearers of the Bar Council of India. In the consultation, a Vision Statement containing an Action Plan was presented by Hon`ble MLJ to the Chief Justice of India.

(ii) Regional Meetings of the High Courts and the State Governments were held in Guwahati,

Kolkata, Chennai, New Delhi and Goa in June-July, 2010 under the Chairmanship of Hon`ble Minister of Law and Justice to discuss the implementation of the Thirteenth Finance Commission`s grants, e-Courts, Mission Mode Project and other measures for Judicial Reforms.

(iii) The Chief Justices of High Courts, Law Ministers of the States, Executive Chairpersons of the State Legal Service Authorities, the Home/Law Secretaries and Finance Secretaries of the States participated in the meetings.

2. THIRTEENTH FINANCE COMMISSION

Department of Justice also submitted a Memorandum to Thirteenth Finance Commission (TFC) for providing grants to improve the justice delivery system in the country which was accepted by the TFC. The Government has also accepted the recommendations of the Thirteenth Finance Commission to provide a grant of Rs. 5000 crore to the States for improving the justice delivery system in the country. The first installment of Rs. 500 crores has already been released to the States. With the help of these grants, the States can, inter-alia, set up morning /evening/shift/special magistrates` courts, also organize more Lok Adalats and strengthen mediation with a view to reducing court pendencies.

3. NATIONAL MISSION FOR DELIVERY OF JUSTICE AND LEGAL REFORMS

A Vision Statement indicating an Action Plan was presented in the National Consultation organized by the Department of Justice in October, 2009. To implement the Action Plan contained in the Vision Statement, the Government has, in principle, decided to set up a `National Mission for Delivery of Justice and Legal Reforms and a Special Purpose Vehicle` (SPV), that will manage and implement various actions plans. This is expected to serve to reduce arrears from an average of 15 years to an average of three years by 2012 after its strategies and definitive plan of action are completely implemented. A proposal for setting up the National Mission is under consideration.

4. GRAM NYAYALAYAS

The Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008, that was enacted to enable the State Governments to establish one or more Gram Nyayalayas for every Panchayat at intermediate level to cater to specified Civil and Criminal cases in rural areas, was brought into force w.e.f 2nd October, 2009. Under the scheme, over 5000 Gram Nyayalayas are likely to be set up across the country. As per the information available, 144 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified so far out of which 47 have been operationalized. A grant of Rs. 1964.40 lakh has been released to the States so far for this purpose.

5. INCREASE IN THE AGE OF RETIREMENT OF JUDGES OF THE HIGH COURTS

The Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice in its 39th Report had recommended to raise the retirement age of the Judges of the High Courts from sixty-two years to sixty-five years to be at par with the retirement age of the Judges of the Supreme Court.

The Government has decided to increase the age of retirement of Judges of the High Courts from sixty-two years to sixty-five years. Further necessary action to introduce an appropriate Bill in the Parliament to suitably amend the relevant articles of the Constitution is being taken.

6. THE NATIONAL LITIGATION POLICY

The National Litigation Policy, with a view to transform Government into an efficient and responsible litigant, was launched by this Ministry on 23.06.2010. The purpose underlying the said policy is to reduce Government litigation in courts so that valuable court time would be spent in resolving other pending cases so as to achieve the Goal in the National Legal Mission to reduce average Pendency time from 15 years to 3 years. The core issues involved in the litigation will be focused and addressed squarely so that the same is managed and conducted in a cohesive and coordinated manner. All stake holders concerned with the success of the policy have been requested to take necessary action to implement the policy in letter and spirit. This Ministry is in the process of constituting empowered committees at National level as well as Regional level as envisaged in the said policy.

7. REFORMS IN LEGAL EDUCATION

- (i) The Ministry of Law and Justice, in collaboration with the Bar Council of India and National Law University, Delhi had organized a National Consultation for Second Generation Reforms in Legal Education on 1st and 2nd May, 2010 at Vigyan Bhavan New Delhi.
- (ii) The said National Consultation was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and a Vision Statement was presented to him for bringing radical institutional reforms in the field of Legal Education. The vision statement focused on the reform agenda based on the three pillars of Expansion, Inclusion and Excellence in the field of legal education.
- (iii) A Resolution was adopted in the Valedictory Session on 2nd May, 2010, for restructuring the system of legal education to impart substantial knowledge, enhance legal research and create legal practitioners with social responsibility and strong professional ethics, and to respond to the unmet legal needs of the deprived sections of the society.
- (iv) It was resolved in the National Consultation that—
 - (a) four National level institutions at the regional level would be established as Centers of Excellence focused on research;
 - (b) in every state there will be a National law University;
 - (c) accreditation standards would be laid down to evaluate existing law schools/colleges to upgrade them and to create and provide opportunities to the students therein;
 - (d) National data base of all legal practitioners in the country would be maintained to track domain expertise and professional development for identifying lawyers for various roles and appointments including law officers and judges;
 - (e) modules for law teaching methods would be developed and also network for virtual class rooms would be established;

- (f) the Indian law institute would refocus on research in law and conduct of specialized courses in various fields of law;
- (g) National Digital Law Library should be established; and
- (h) the Delivery of Justice and Law Reform Trust of India would develop courses for court administrators and managers.

In view of the Resolution, following three Bills have been prepared by the Law Ministry:

- (a) The National Law Schools Bill, 2010.
- (b) The Centres for Advanced Legal Studies and Research Bill, 2010.
- (c) The Higher Legal Education and Research Bill, 2010.

8. Initiatives relating to the Legislative Department

Making of policy initiatives is an ongoing and long drawn exercise and it is not practicable to segregate it with reference to any specific period. However, the following policy initiatives pertain to the Legislative Department-

- (a) Empowerment of Women: Rendering gender equality by way of reservation of seats for women in Lok Sabha and the State Legislative Assemblies.
- (b) Removal of gender inequality in personal laws.
- (c) Implementation of the Law Commission of India's report making irretrievable breakdown of marriage as a ground of divorce.
- (d) Bringing in comprehensive electoral reforms,
- (e) Conferment of voting rights for citizens of India living abroad, owing to their employment, education or otherwise.

The implementation of above policy initiative are in progress as under:

- (a) The Constitution (One Hundred and Eighth Amendment) Bill, 2008 which inter alia seeks to

provide as nearly as may be one-third of the total number of seats in the House of the People and to the Legislative Assemblies of the States including the National Capital Territory of Delhi reserved for women has been passed by Rajya Sabha on the 9th March, 2010 and is pending consideration of the Lok Sabha.

- (b) The Personal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2010 has been passed by both the Houses by the Parliament during the current Session of Parliament. The Bill is aimed at bringing gender equality in the matter of guardianship under the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890 and in the matter of giving in or taking in adoption of a son or a daughter by a father or mother under the Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956.
- (c) The Marriage Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2010 has been introduced in Rajya Sabha on 4th August, 2010. The Bill seeks to provide irretrievable breakdown of marriage as a ground of divorce under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 and the Special Marriage Act, 1954.
- (d) A National consultation is considered necessary in this regard.
- (e) After withdrawing the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2006, the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2010 has been introduced in Rajya Sabha on the 21st August, 2010 which seeks to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 for conferring voting rights to the citizens of India, who have not acquired the citizenship of any other country and who are absenting from their place of ordinary residence in India owing to employment, education and otherwise, outside India (whether temporally or not).

[Translation]

Gajraula Mainpuri Rail Line

4915. SHRI DEVENDRA NAGPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of the construction of the new rail line from Gajraula to Mainpuri via Sambhal and Etawah announced in the rail budget;

(b) the date fixed for starting the construction of the said rail line;

(c) whether there is any plan to construct railway overbridges over level crossings number 45/C, 51/C and 28/C along the Delhi-Lucknow rail line;

(d) if so, by when alongwith the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) As per the Budget announcement of 2010-11, Updating Survey for Sambhal-Gajraula new line has been taken up. Another survey for Gajraula-Mainpuri new line via Sambhal, Badaun and Etah is also in progress. Further decision on these projects can be taken once the surveys are completed and survey results become available.

(c) to (e) The train vehicle unit of level crossing No. 45C, 51C and 28C of Delhi-Lucknow section is above one lakh which is the qualifying benchmark for replacement of a level crossing by a railway over bridge. Cost sharing proposals received from the State Government are under examination.

Rail-cum Road Bridge over Ganga River

4916. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of pending and on-going Railway projects, in the State of Bihar;

(b) whether these projects have undergone time and cost overruns;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the present status of rail-cum-road bridge at Digha-Pahlejaaghat over the Ganga in Patna (Bihar);

(e) the original estimated cost, the period of completion, total estimated cost and the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(f) the time by which the said bridge is likely to be completed and made operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) 33 New

Lines, 5 Gauge Conversion, 12 Doubling projects are in progress in the State of Bihar. Due to limited availability of resources and huge throwforward, it is not always possible to fix time schedule for completion of all projects. Hence, the targets for the projects are generally fixed on yearly basis. While some projects are in progress according to schedule, some others are partly lagging due to procedural formalities and resource constraints.

(d) The sub structure of the rail-cum-road bridge over River Ganga at Digha-Pahlejaaghat near Patna is nearing completion and super structure work has been taken up.

(e) and (f) The original cost of the project was assessed as Rs. 600 crore. Present anticipated cost is Rs. 1389 crore and expenditure of Rs. 585.57 crore has been incurred upto 31.3.2010. The project is targeted for completion during 2012-13.

[English]

Appointment of Handicapped Persons in Railways

4917. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways follow Government of India instructions in regard to appointment of handicapped persons in various categories of jobs, in letter and spirit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of handicapped persons appointed by the Railways during the last three years;

(d) the number of vacant posts reserved for handicapped as on date; and

(e) the action being taken by the Railways to fill them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. 3% vacancies against direct recruitment quota to Group 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' on the Railways are reserved for disabled persons in various categories.

(c) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Upgradation of Airports

4918. SHRI VIJAY BAHUGUNA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any proposals for upgradation of airports in the Himalayan and North Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the length of certain runways in the country for landing of Boeing jets do not conform to prescribed international standards;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Details are at Statement.

(c) No, Madam.

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

Statement*Development of Aviation Infrastructure in Himalayan Region**State of Airports operated by AAI including Civil Enclaves (IAF airports) August, 2010*

Sl.No.	Airports (State)	Status	Works recently completed	Work in progress	Works Planned
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Srinagar (IAF) (Jammu and Kashmir)	Operational	1. Expansion and modification of Terminal Building 2. Expansion of Apron.	1. Extension of Apron (6 parking bays)	Development of Cargo complex.
2.	Leh (IAF) (Jammu and Kashmir)	Operational	1. Construction of Civil Apron.		Construction of New Terminal Building. (Transfer of land/NOC from IAF awaited).
3.	Jammu (IAF) (Jammu and Kashmir)	Operational	1. Provision of Cat I Lighting System	1. Expansion of Apron (Tender Stage) 2. Expansion of existing Terminal Building. (EFC sent to MoCA).	Runway Extension subject to land transfer by Army. New Civil Air Terminal subject to provision of land by State Govt.
4.	Kullu (Himmachal Pradesh)	Operational	1. New Terminal Building. 2. New Apron and Link taxiways. 3. New Fire Station Cat IV and Emergency Medical Center. 4. Provision of Ground Lighting facilities. 5. Resurfacing and Strengthening of runway.		Extension of Runway, subject to river training works by the State Government.

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Kangra (Himachal Pradesh)	Operational	1. Extension of runway. 2. New Terminal Building. 3. New Fire Station. 4. Provision of Ground Lighting Facilities.		
6.	Shimla (Himachal Pradesh)	Operational	1. Provision of Ground Lighting facilities.	1. Construction of New Fire Station	Works related to restoration of Basic Strip and prevention of soil erosion etc.
7.	Pantnagar (Uttarakhand)	Operational	1. Runway Extension and associated works. 2. Provision of Ground Lighting facilities.	1. Provision of DVOR.	New Terminal Building.
8.	Dehradun (Uttarakhand)	Operational	1. Strengthening and extension of runway, apron for A-320 type of aircraft. 2. Provision of Ground Lighting Facilities. 3. New Terminal Building with New Technical Block, Control Tower, Fire Station and EMC. 4. Provision of DVOR.	1. Provision of ILS	Expansion of apron.

The report is prepared by Directorate of Aerodrome Planning, Airport Authority of India, Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi 10003.

Development of Aviation Infrastructure in North East Region July, 2010

Status of Airports operated by AAI including Civil Enclaves (IAF airports)

Sl.No.	Airport (State)	Status	Works recently Completed	Works in Progress	Works Planned
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Dibrugarh (Assam)	Operational	1. Modern terminal building of 500 Pax. 2. Apron expanded to accommodate 4 A320 and 2 ATR at a time.	Strengthening of runway	Runway will be extended by 640M to make total length of 2470m for A320 aircraft.
2	Guwahati (Assam)	Operational	1. Runway extension by 360M to make runway length 3103M, sufficient for operation of A310,	1. Filling/Leveling of newly acquired land. PDC August, 2010. 2. Boundary wall in the	1. Parallel taxiway 2. Integrated terminal building 3. Two hangers for A321 type aircraft.

1	2	3	4	5	6
			A-300 (Cat-D) type of aircraft. 2. Apron extension 11 new bays.	newly acquired land PDC Dec, 2010.	
3.	Jorhat (IAF) (Assam) (Civil Enclave)	Operational	—	—	Expansion of civil Apron and new terminal building subject to availability of land from State Govt.
4.	Silchar (IAF) (Assam) (Civil Enclave)	Operational	1. Runway has been extended by 500 M to make the full runway length 2286M sufficient for the operation of A320 without any load penalty. 2. Instrument Landing System for runway 06 has been commissioned. 3. Runway 06/ 24 has been equipped with aeronautical ground lighting facilities.	—	—
5.	Lilabari (Assam)	Operational	—	—	Installation of ILS subject to land acquisition by State Govt.
6.	Agartala (Tripura)	Operational	1. Construction of Technical Block has been completed. 2. Apron - 10 Bays 3 A320 3 A321 and 4 ATR-72	1. New Control Tower is in progress. 2. Strengthening of existing runway is in progress	1. Provision of one hanger for cat C type of aircraft. 2. Facilitation for setting up of perishable cargo by APEDA/ NERMAC (State Govt Agency).
7.	Shillong (Meghalaya)	Operational	1. Passenger Terminal Building for 100 passengers	—	Runway extension from 1829M to 2286M subject to availability of additional land from State Govt.
8.	Imphal (Manipur)	Operational	1. Night Operation Certified	1. Apron expansion to park 3 more aircrafts. 2. Link Taxiway construction	Preparation of master plan for future expansion. Land taken over from State Govt.
9.	Lengpui (Mizoram) S/Govt.Airport.	Operational	—	1. Installation of ILS 2. DVOR/DME	—
10.	Dimapur	Operational	—	1. Apron and Taxiway expansion 2. Drainage System at the airport.	Face Lift work of the terminal building.

1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Tezu (Arunachal Pradesh)	Non- Operational	—	—	Airports Authority of India has been tasked to develop Tezu Airport at a cost of Rs. 79 Crores for operation of ATR-72-500 type of aircraft. State Govt. yet to hand over the airport and additional land. AAI has prepared master plan and estimates.
12.	Pakyong, Gangtok (Sikkim)	Under construction	—	Greenfield airport is being developed for ATR 72 operations. Work started on 10th Jan, 2009. PDC June, 2012.	
13.	Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh)	Project is yet to be approved.	—	—	Revised proposal for PIB for bigger aircraft of type A321 is under submission. Estd cost -Rs. 820 crores.
14.	Chiethu, Kohima (Nagaland)	Project is yet to be approved.	—	—	State Govt. has approved the DPR prepared by AAI. The Proposal is now to be put up to PIB, for approval. Estd. cost - Rs. 953 crores.

The report is prepared by Directorate of Aerodrome Planning, Airports Authority of India, Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi-110003

Setting up of Special Bench in Supreme Court

4919. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set a special bench in Supreme Court to monitor the facilities for Judges and Lawyers in the subordinate judiciary;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) In Interlocutory Application No. 279 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 1022 of 1989 titled 'All

India Judges Association Vs. Union of India and Ors' in the Supreme Court of India, the Hon'ble Court has decided to sit on every Monday to re-visit the infrastructural problems faced by the Subordinate Courts.

Efficient Application Technology

4920. SHRI KALIKESH NARAYAN SINGH DEO:
SHRI PURNMASI RAM:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Institute of Pesticide Formulation Technology (IPFT) entrusted with the tasks of development and production of the state-of-the-art environment friendly pesticide formulation technology and promotion of efficient application technologies have not utilized allocated funds till 31 January, 2010;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken in the matter; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure optimum and methodical utilization of funds by IPFT to achieve its objectives and to improve its effectiveness along with the revenue earned through the introduction of these measures during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Plan provision for procurement of sophisticated scientific/technical equipment for development of eco and environmental friendly technologies, during 2009-10, could not be fully utilized due to receipt of very less number of bids, even single bids in some cases, against open/global tenders. In order to ensure proper utilization of funds, Justification and Specification Committees have been constituted to streamline the procurement process and to float global tenders for greater competition and participation by prospective bidders.

(c) IPFT is essentially working on the development of environment and user friendly new generation pesticide formulations. During the last three years, IPFT has developed number of formulation technologies and successfully transferred the same to the different pesticides industries in India for commercialization. In addition, IPFT has also initiated awareness programmes/workshops in application technologies for all stake holders in collaboration with State Governments. An overall revenue of Rs. 60.97 lakhs has been generated during the last three years.

Stampede due to Change of Platform

4921. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:
SHRI P. VISWANATHAN:
SHRI K. SIVAKUMAR ALIAS J.K. RITHEESH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of changing platforms of trains at the last moment on the railway stations of Delhi since May 2010 till now;

(b) the reasons for each of these incidents alongwith the number of persons killed and injured;

(c) the officers found responsible for each of the incident and action taken against them; and

(d) the measures taken to check the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) There has been no incidents of changing platform of trains at Railway Station in Delhi at the last moment since May 2010. However, there was a melee at New Delhi Railway station recently on 16.05.2010 arising out of an incident of stumbling of a lady passenger due to falling of luggage, in which 03 persons died and 08 persons sustained minor injuries. The incident was enquired into by a High Level Committee. The inquiry committee in its interim report has observed that it was an incident of stumbling of a lady passenger due to falling of luggage.

(d) The following steps are being taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents:

1. Running of special trains from different stations especially in Metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai etc. to clear extra rush during holidays and festive seasons to decongest major stations.
2. Better crowd management through effective use of Public Address System and Electronic Surveillance System at important Railway stations.
3. Restriction of issuing platform tickets in specific periods especially during summer rush/festive seasons.
4. Deployment of additional staff during peak rush periods.

[*Translation*]

Losses to ONGC

4922. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN ALIAS SINGH:
SHRI HARSH VARDHAN:
SHRI BAIDYANATH PRASAD MAHTO:
SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the profit of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation is negligible and the production of crude oil is not satisfactory despite spending a huge amount on crude oil exploration during 2004-08; and

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

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) No, Madam. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) had a profit (after tax) of Rs. 75,885 Crore during 2004-08. The crude oil production during the said period was 128.249 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) and the expenditure incurred on exploration during the same period was Rs. 25,215 Crore.

Ban on Sale of Fertilizer

4923. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any kind of ban on sale of fertilizers within ten kilometer bordering area of Uttar Pradesh adjacent to Nepal;

(b) if so, the manner in which the supply of fertilizers to farmers in this area is ensured;

(c) whether the farmers living in this area are facing the problems in getting fertilizers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Yes, Madam. Government of Uttar Pradesh has confirmed that there is ban on sale of fertilizers by private dealers within ten kilometers bordering area of Uttar Pradesh adjacent to Nepal.

(b) In this area, distribution of fertilizers is arranged through cooperatives and Government institutional agencies.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Government of Uttar Pradesh is taking all steps to ensure timely and adequate availability of fertilizers in the above said area. Already the Government of Uttar Pradesh has opened many sale points of Cooperatives and other Government apex bodies.

DTC Bus Service to IGIA

4924. SHRI K. ANANDAN:
SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI:
SHRI MANICKA TAGORE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Transport Corporation bus is not allowed to go upto terminal T3 in Delhi airport but the private taxi/radio taxi are allowed due to which the passengers are facing a lot of inconvenience while going/coming from airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Madam. DTC Airport Service buses are coming up to Terminal 3 at Delhi Airport. No inconvenience has been reported by the passengers in this regard.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Development of FPI

4925. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:
SHRI G. M. SIDDESWARA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to explore the potential of development of Food Processing Industries in the country;

(b) is so, the estimated requirement of food processing facilities and the availability of these facilities in the States/Union Territories;

(c) the number of food processing units approved in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(d) the amount allocated to the States/Union Territories during the said period, State-wise;

(e) the details of schemes pending or under implementation in the country, State-wise;

(f) the details of units closed during the past few years; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to make these units operational?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has conducted study for preparation of vision 2015 in respect of potential of food processing facilities in the country. The level of wastage of agricultural food items is estimated to be about Rs.30,000 crores occurring at various stages of handling after harvesting due to fragmented farming, provisions in Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act, lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage and processing facilities etc. Vision Document 2015 finalized by the Ministry envisages trebling the size of the processed food sector by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20%, value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by 2015.

(c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries extends financial assistance in the form of grant- in-aid to entrepreneurs @ 25% of the cost of Plant and machinery and Technical Civil Works subject to a maximum of Rs.50 lakhs in general areas or 33.33% subject to a maximum of Rs.75 lakhs in difficult areas under the Scheme of Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/ Modernization of food processing industries. The details of financial assistance extended to the units under the scheme during last three years, State-wise is at statement-I.

(d) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) has been implementing various plan schemes for promotion and development of food processing sector *i.e.* i) Scheme for Infrastructure Development with major components *i.e.* Mega Food Park, Cold Chain, Modernization of Abattoirs and Value Added Centres, ii) Setting up of Technology Upgradation/ Modernization/ Expansion of FPI, iii) Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards and R and D iv) Scheme for Human Resource Development, v) Scheme for Strengthening of Institution and vi) Scheme for Upgradation of Quality of Street Food. All implementing agencies engaged in setting up/expansion/modernization of food processing industries covering all segments are eligible for financial assistance. The implementing agencies include Central/

State Government organizations/PSUs/NGOs/Cooperative societies and private sector units and individuals. The funds are allocated scheme-wise which are project-oriented in the country. No separate funds are earmarked to States/Union Territories.

(e) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) has been implementing various plan schemes for promotion and development of food processing sector *i.e.* (i) Scheme for Infrastructure Development with major components *i.e.* Mega Food Park, Cold Chain, Modernization of Abattoirs and Value Added Centres, (ii) Setting up of Technology Upgradation/ Modernization/ Expansion of FPI, (iii) Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards and R and D iv) Scheme for Human Resource Development, v) Scheme for Strengthening of Institution and vi) Scheme for Upgradation of Quality of Street Food. All implementing agencies engaged in setting up/expansion/modernization of food processing industries covering all segments are eligible for financial assistance. The implementing agencies include Central/State Government organizations/PSUs/NGOs/Cooperative societies and private sector units and individuals.

(f) The data on approval and closure of food processing units in the country is not centrally maintained by the Ministry.

(g) The Government has taken various steps for the coordination with the State Government for the development and modernization of food processing industries such as organization of State Food Processing Ministers Conference held on 06-10-2009, interaction with State Nodal Agencies to discuss the problems to strengthen the industries from time to time, suggest the measures to boost the industry in order to inspections made by the State Nodal Agencies towards the financial assistance provided by the Ministry. Besides, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) has been implementing various schemes for promotion and development of food processing industries in the country. MFPI through its various schemes for financial assistance and other promotional measures, facilitates creation of food related infrastructure including processing facilities aimed at reducing wastages, enhancing value addition and increasing shelf life. The Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernisation of Food Processing Industries is aimed at creation of new processing capacity and up-gradation of existing processing capabilities, modernization of Food Processing Sector including fruit and vegetables processing units.

Statement

Number of project received, approved and financial assistance provided during the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10, State-wise under the scheme of Setting up/Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/ Modernization of FPIs.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of State	2007-08			2008-09			2009-10		
	Received	Approved	Amount released	Received	Approved	Amount released	Received	Approved	Amount released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	125	43	947.49	159	48	908.999	18	41	677.05
Andman and Nicobar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arunachal Pradesh	3	0	0	0	1	17.67	0	3	376.14
Assam	9	12	442.17	16	17	176.79	1	22	418.74
Bihar	1	5	83.915	5	2	42.3	1	2	35.59
Chandigarh	3	6	138.08	5	0	0	0	0	0
Chhattisgarh	90	0	0	91	10	163.725	1	4	45.46
Delhi	24	0	0	17	7	160.65	12	2	50
Goa	0	1	17.00	1	1	24.57	1	1	24.26
Gujarat	80	32	544.06	89	39	714.81	36	42	665.18
Haryana	56	19	418.72	91	23	349.415	13	11	134.96
Himachal Pradesh	2	12	325.09	8	5	152.745	5	10	269.58
Jammu and Kashmir	11	9	109.855	0	3	22.05	9	7	59.73
Jharkhand	2	2	9.09	5	0	0	3	3	44.09
Karnataka	105	34	529.62	140	35	629.895	22	24	269.55
Kerala	42	47	876.8	40	32	545.37	15	33	567.53
Madhya Pradesh	24	10	172.32	41	14	201.87	5	18	273.03
Maharashtra	232	95	1696.805	151	121	1802.633	39	113	1717.3
Manipur	0	3	61.74	0	3	45.51	0	6	163.75
Meghalaya	2	1	8.19	0	2	159.57	0	2	123.02
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	11
Nagaland	0	1	27.485	1	4	178.205	0	1	64.99

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Odisha	17	6	129.41	10	2	38.68	2	6	84.4
Puducherry	0	2	31.3	0	0	0	3	0	0
Punjab	147	32	481.45	149	61	841.36	11	13	172.37
Rajasthan	75	35	566.075	70	44	551.975	23	27	325.46
Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	75	53	951.79	41	36	594.355	11	41	672.11
Tripura	2	2	39.98	0	1	13.86	0	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	75	63	1123.425	69	43	875.475	21	32	560.63
Uttrakhand	5	9	339.78	3	6	163.15	0	12	307.57
West Bengal	15	35	653.56	21	19	390.135	7	10	136.48
Total	1222	569	10725.2	1223	579	9765.767	259	487	8249.97

[English]

Business in Aviation Fuel Sector

4926. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to allow private oil companies to operate their business in the aviation fuel sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has decided to tighten the entry norms in permitting new private oil companies in the aviation fuel sector; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) As per the Resolution of Government of India dated 08.03.2002, the authorization to market transportation fuels, namely Motor Sprit (MS), High Speed Diesel (HSD) and Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) can be given to any company, subject to the company investing or proposing to invest Rs. 2000 crore in exploration and production (E and P), refining, pipelines

or terminals. Oil Marketing Companies in Private Sector i.e. Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL), Essar Oil Limited (EOL) and Shell India Markets Private Ltd. (SIMPL) have already been given authorization to market ATF.

[Translation]

Stoppage of Trains at Urai

4927. SHRI GHANSYAM ANURAGI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received for providing stoppage to Udyog Nagri and Udyog Karmi Express trains at Urai Station in Bundelkhand of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Railways thereon; and

(c) the time by which the said proposal is likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) Stoppages of 2173/2174 Lokmanya Tilak (T)-Partapgarh Udyognagari Express with effect from 14.09.2010, 2943 Valsad-Kanpur Central Udyogkarmi

Express with effect from 16.09.2010 and 2944 Kanpur Central-Valsad Udyogkarmi Express with effect from 17.09.2010 are being provided at Orai Railway Station on an experimental basis for six months.

[English]

Drilling of Oil Wells in KG D6 Basin

4928. SHRI RAJAJIAH SIRICILLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) set to drill two more oil wells in KG-D6 basin block; and

(b) if so, the details and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) RIL has not submitted any proposal to drill two more oil wells in the block KG-DWN-98/3. Out of 6 oil wells approved in the Field Development Plan (FDP) of the said block, RIL has drilled 5 oil wells so far.

Surplus Land with PSUs

4929. SHRI M. KRISHNASWAMY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the surplus lands held by Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) across the country;

(b) whether the Government has proposed to develop these surplus lands with the help of private players; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (c) Details of land of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) is maintained by the concerned CPSE and is not centrally maintained. The decision regarding use of surplus land, if any, for expansion, diversification, sale for restructuring or development either on its own or alongwith others is taken by appropriate authority as per their requirement on case to case basis.

[Translation]

Retail Market of Medicines

4930. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the retail market of medicines in the country has increased constantly during the last few years;

(b) if so, the average annual growth rate of the business in retail market during the last three years;

(c) whether the business of foreign medicine manufacturing companies and joint ventures with foreign companies in the country is increasing thereby;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the names of the ten companies doing maximum business in retail market alongwith the number of foreign joint ventures in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) As per the information available from ORG-IMS, the Moving Average Turnover value for the last 3 years along with annual growth rate is given below:

Year/Month	MAT value	Annual %increase (Rs. Crore)
May 2007	28559.18	-
May 2008	32604.53	14.16
May 2009	36048.38	10.56
May 2010	43176.89	19.77

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, because of the favourable business climate in the country, the business of pharmaceutical industry including foreign medicines manufacturing companies has increased. This has also resulted in setting up of various joint ventures with foreign companies in the country.

(e) As per the data available from ORG-IMS, the top ten companies in terms of MAT value (May 2010), are given below:

Sl.No.	Company Name
1	CIPLA
2	PIRAMAL HEALTHCARE
3	GLAXOSMITHKLINE
4	SUN PHARMA
5	MANKIND
6	ALKEM
7	LUPIN LIMITED
8	ZYDUS CADILA
9	ABBOTT
10	DR REDDY LABS

The approval of joint ventures is given by Ministry of Commerce and Industry and this Department does not maintain any data of the same.

[English]

Doubling of Renigunta-Guntakal Rail line

4931. SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of doubling work between Renigunta and Guntakal;

(b) whether the said project is progressing according to targets fixed;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by Railways to expedite its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) On Renigunta-Guntakal route (309 km), double line already exist on Guntakal-Gooty (29 km) section and 173 kms portion of Renigunta-Gooty. During 2010-11, 62 km section is targeted for completion and the balance section is expected to be completed during 2011-12. The project has been delayed due to obstructions in the work by local people. The matter has been resolved with the help of State Authorities.

Coastal Railway Zone in Kerala

4932. SHRI M. B. RAJESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to set up a coastal railway zone in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when it will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Surat Bhagalpur Express

4933. SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an extra eleventh sleeper coach is being attached with Surat Bhagalpur Express for the last four years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some irregularities have been found in the reservation of eleventh bogie; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) One extra sleeper coach as eleventh coach was being attached in 9047/9048 Surat-Bhagalpur Express from 03.04.2007 upto 15.06.2010 each way to clear extra rush of passengers. With effect from 26.06.2010, this coach has been made a part of the standard composition of the train.

(c) and (d) The matter relating to irregularities in the reservation of eleventh bogie is under investigation.

[English]

Catering in Railways

4934. SHRIMATI P. JAYAPRADA:
SHRI S. R. JEYADURAI:
SHRI LALUBHAI BABUBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether new catering policy will benefit big players and oust small catering units from catering of railways;

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

(c) whether any guidelines/policy has been issued regarding tendering process for catering licenses; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The new catering policy, 2010 addresses the concerns of all stake holders including that of small catering units.

(c) Detailed guidelines under the catering policy, 2010 have been issued regarding selection of licensees.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Discontinuation of Rail Service

4935. SHRI MADHU KODA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have discontinued trains on Khadagpur-Rourkela railway section of Howrah-Mumbai railway line during night time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry proposes to start additional trains during day time to resolve the inconvenience; and

(d) the details regarding the security arrangements made on said railway line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Temporarily, 3 pairs of Mail/Express trains scheduled to run during night time on Kharagpur-Rourkela section have been diverted and 2 pairs of passenger trains run during night time have been cancelled. All other trains scheduled to run on Kharagpur-Rourkela section are now temporarily regulated to avoid running over the section during night time.

(c) One special train (0805/0806) has been introduced to run between Rourkela-Jharsuguda section almost in the same path of 8008/8006 Howrah-Koraput Express, which is now running on diverted route. Suitable connection of this special train has been provided at Jharsuguda with 8105/8106 Rourkela-Bhubaneswar Express.

(d) 'Policing on Railways' is a State subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are, therefore, the statutory responsibility of the State police, which they discharge through the Government Railway Police (GRP) of the State concerned. However, to provide better security to the travelling passengers in trains and passenger areas, the Railway Protection Force, supplements the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways.

Setting up of a Refinery

4936. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of the scheme of the Government to set up a refinery at Lohgara in Allahabad after the Bina refinery having already been set up;

(b) whether the Government is likely to return the land of the farmers in case the plan of the Government to set up the said refinery at Lohgara in Allahabad has changed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) Consequent on de-licensing of refinery sector since June, 1998, a refinery can be set up anywhere in India by a Private or Public Sector Enterprise depending on its techno-commercial viability. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has informed that timelines for setting up of UP Refinery project at Lohagara can be considered realistically based on supply demand scenario as well as techno-commercial viability of the project only after the Bina Refinery project is completed and stabilized.

Disbursement by NMDFC

4937. SHRI JAGDANAND SINGH:
SHRI S. SEMMALAI

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) provides financial assistance (loan) to minority communities through State Governments and Non-Government Organizations at national level;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether required amount of funds have been provided through State Governments during each of the last three years State-wise;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken to strengthen this corporation keeping in view the backwardness of minority communities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS: (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) National Minorities

Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) extends loans to persons belonging to minorities living below double the poverty line for undertaking self employment and income generating activities. The schemes of NMDFC are being implemented through 36 State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) spread across 28 States and UTs and through a network of over 240 Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). NMDFC provides term loans to individuals through its SCAs which are nominated by the respective State/UT Governments. Term loan up to Rs. 5.00 lakh is provided at an interest rate of 6% per annum. Besides, it provides micro-credit to the minorities organized into Self Help Groups (SHGs) through SCAs and NGOs. An amount of Rs. 25,000 per member of SHG is provided at an interest rate of 5% per annum. NMDFC also extends Educational Loan upto Rs. 2.5 lakh at the interest rate of 3% per annum, through its SCAs for pursuing technical and professional courses.

(c) and (d) NMDFC does not provide loans through State Governments. It channelizes funds through the State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the respective States. State-wise disbursement of funds during last three years is at statement.

(e) To further strengthen the corporation and suggest measures to increase the outreach of NMDFC, a consultancy firm is studying the restructuring of NMDFC.

Statement*Disbursement by NMDFC*

Statement Showing state-wise Disbursements for the last three years and current financial year

(Amount in Rs. lakhs) (as on 31-07-2010)

Sl.No.	State	Name of State Channelising Agencies (SCAs)	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1.	ANDHRA PRADHSH	APSMFC	Andhra Pradesh State Minorities Financial Corporation	889	47	45	0
2	ASSAM	AMOFCC	Assam Minorities Development Corporation Ltd.	134	0	12	0
3	BIHAR	BSMFC	Bihar State Minorities Financial Corporation Ltd.	205	905	5	5

1	2		3	4	5	6	7
4	CHANDIGARH	CHSCFDCL	Chandigarh SCs/BCs/Minorities Finance and Development Corporation Ltd.	5	2	6	0
5	CHHATTISGARH	CHACDFC	Chhstisgarh State Antyavasayee Coop. Finance and Dev. Corpn. Ltd.	0		100	0
6	DELHI	DSCSTFDC	Delhi SC/ST/OBC/Minorities and Handicapped Financial and Development Corporation	21	17	45	0
7	GUJARAT	GMFDC	Gujarat Minorities Finance and Development Corporation Ltd.	200	300	340	0
8	HIMACHAL PRADESH	HPMFDC	H.P. Minorities Finance and Development Corporation	150	75	230	65
9	HARYANA	HBCKN	Haryana Backward Classes and Economically Weaker Sections Kalyan Nigam	450	359	550	0
		MDA	Mewat Development Agency	0	0	526	0
10	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	JKSCSTDC	J and K SC/ST S BC Development Corporation	0	0	0	0
		JKWDC	J and K Women's Development Corporation	388	420	560	250
11	JHARKHAND	JSCSTDC	Jharkhand State Scheduled Tribes Cooperative Development Corporation Ltd.	54	110	0	0
12	KERALA	KBCDC	Kerala State Backward Classes Development Corporation Ltd.	2700	2900	1914	848
		KSCFFDC	Kerala State Cooperative Federation for Fisheries Development Corpn Ltd.	400	650	1810	164
		KSWOC	Kerala State Women's Development Corpn Ltd.	50	675	1460	0
13	KARNATAKA	KMDC	Karnataka Minorities Development Corporation Ltd.	525	450	350	0
14	MAHARASHTRA	MAAVM	Maulana Azad Alpsankhyak Aarthik Vikas Nigam	800	500	500	690
15	MANIPUR	MTDC	Manipur Tribal Development Corporation	2	2	0	0
16	MADHYA PRADESH	MPBCMFC	M.P. Backward Classes and Minorities Finance and Development Corporation	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
		MPHDC	Madhya Pradesh Hastshilp Avam Hathkargha Vikas Nigam	0	0	0	0
17	MEGHALAYA			4	0	0	0
18	MIZORAM	MCAB	Mizoram Cooperative Apex Bank	400	300	310	59
		ZIDCO	Zoram Industrial Development Corporation Ltd.	0	0		0
19	NAGALAND	NIDC	Nagaland Industrial Development Corp'n Ltd.	400	400	600	0
		NHDC	Nagaland Handloom and Handicrafts Development Corporation Ltd.	113	100	520	0
		NSSWB	Nagaland State Social Welfare Board	0	0	50	0
		HFL	Hornbill Finance Limited	200	0		0
20	ORISSA	ORSCSTFDC	Odisha State SCVST Finance and Development Corporation	0	27	38	0
21	PUDUCHERRY	PDBCMD	Puducherry Backward Classes and Minorities Development Corporation	23	100	200	0
22	PUNJAB	BACKFINCO	Punjab State BCs Land Development & Finance Corporation	750	400	470	225
23	RAJASTHAN	RMFDCC	Rajasthan Minorities Finance and Development Cooperative Corporation Ltd.	252	100	302	0
24	TAMIL NADU	TAMCO	Tamilnadu Minorities Economic Development Corporation	1516	965	2135	0
25	TRIPURA	TMDC	Tripura Minorities Cooperative Development Corporation	30	50	96	0
26	UTTAR PRADESH	UPMFDC	U P Minorities Financial Development Corporation Ltd.	45	0	0	5
27	UTTARAKHAND	UMFDC	Uttaranchal Alpsankhyak Kalyan Thatha Wakf Vikas Nigam	0	0	20	0
28	WEST BANGAL	WBMDFC	West Bengal Minorities Development and Finance Corporation	3708	3214	6607	1000
TOTAL				14412	13068	19800	3311

Note: The above figures also include funds disbursed through Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in the respective States.

[English]

**Agreements between India and Hungary
for Oil and Gas Exploration**

4938. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Hungary signed an agreement for oil and gas exploration;

(b) if so, the details of the agreements signed and the extent to which both the countries have agreed to cooperate in oil exploration; and

(c) the extent to which it is likely to be helpful to improve the energy security of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c). Yes, Madam. An MOU for cooperation in the hydrocarbon sector has been signed in January, 2008 between MOL, Hungarian Oil and Gas Plc., the Hungarian oil company and the India's Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC).

Following signing of MOU, a proposal for assignment of 35% participating interest in Block HF-ONN-2001/1 (an exploration block in Himalayan Foothill) to BMN investment Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of MOL Hungarian Oil and Gas Plc., was approved by the Government of India on 27th July, 2009.

As MOL has experience of working in similar geological setting elsewhere, this partnership helps in exploration activities in the aforesaid Block located in Himalayan Foothills.

Profit to Oil Refining Companies

4939. SHRI G. M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of net profit, per barrel, earned by the public sector oil refineries during the last three years;

(b) the quantum of oil refined by these public sector refineries during the last three years; and

(c) the quantum of production achieved against the installed capacity of these crude oil refining companies during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Profitability of the individual refineries is measured in terms of Gross Refining Margin (GRM) earned by the refineries. Gross Refining Margin represents the difference between the cost of crude oil and the average price realized on the finished products. GRM of the public sector refineries during the last three years is as under:

Refinery	Gross Refining Margin		
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Indian Oil Corporation Limited's Refineries	9.15	3.69	4.47
Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited's Refineries	5.89	5.38	3.33
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited's Refineries	6.48	4.27	2.70
Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited's Refineries	8.47	1.22	4.75
Numaligarh Refineries Limited	15.92	14.43	11.19
Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited	6.93	5.33	5.46

\$/bbl

(b) and (c) Installed Refining Capacity, Crude Thruput (quantum of oil refined) and Actual Production of Public

Sector refineries during the last three years is as under:

(Million Tonnes)

Year	Installed Capacity	Crude Thruput	Actual production (Petroleum Products)
2007-08	105.47	112.52	108.97
2008-09	105.47	112.17	109.01
2009-10	109.59	112.09	108.95

Gas Reserves at KG Basin

4940. SHRI K. SUGUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) is holding about 3 trillion cubic feet of gas reserves in KG basin block from which it plans to produce 25-30 million units a day by 2016;

(b) if so, whether the Directorate General of Hydro Carbon has approved this commercial viability of the 9 fields of ONGC; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has submitted Declaration of Commerciality (DOC) for the Northern and Southern Discovery Area in the block KG-DWN-98/2 operated by them. An In-Place gas reserve of 3.42 Trillion Cubic Feet (TCF) and Recoverable gas reserve of 1.904 TCF have been estimated in the DOC. As per the DOC submitted by ONGC, the first gas is expected during the Financial Year 2016-17.

(b) and (c) ONGC has submitted DOC of 7 oil/gas discoveries in the Northern Development Area of the block KG -DWN-98/2 along with the Cluster Development Plan with 2 other gas discoveries in the adjacent Godavari Nomination PELs, namely GS-4 and GS-29-5 gas discoveries. The said DOC is under examination in the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH).

Mangalore Airport

4941. SHRI SHIVARAMA GOUDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the license of the Bajpe Airport at Mangalore has been lapsed at the time of crash of Air India Express aircraft at Mangalore;

(b) if so, whether it will affect that insurance companies may not be liable to pay compensation in case of an accident; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a), (b) and (c) No, Madam. The Bajpe Airport at Mangalore had a valid license at the time of crash of Air India Express on 22-05-2010.

[*Translation*]

Reservation in Allotment of Petrol Pumps LPG Dealership

4942. SHRI HUKAMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is reservation in the allotment of the dealership of petrol pumps and LPG gas agencies;

(b) if so, the category-wise number of reserved category persons allotted dealership in each category out of the total number of dealership by various oil companies;

(c) whether the persons of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) are not given reservation in the allotment of dealerships;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether other persons are obtaining licenses in the name of Scheduled Castes / Scheduled Tribes and freedom fighters;

(f) if so, whether the Government has conducted any inquiry in this regard; and

(g) if so, the action taken by the Government against the guilty person?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The percentage of reservation for different categories provided by public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs.), viz., Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPC) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPC) is as follows:

Sl.No.	Category	Percentage reservation
1.	Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST)	25%
2.	Defence Category (DC)	8%
3.	Paramilitary/Police/ Government Personnel (PMP)	8%
4.	Physically Handicapped Persons (PH)	5%
5.	Freedom Fighters (FF)	2%
6.	Outstanding Sports Persons (OSP)	2%
7.	Open (OP)	50%

33% of the dealerships/distributorships in all categories mentioned above will be reserved for women belonging to that category.

However, as per the revised guidelines, issued by this Ministry recently for selection of regular LPG distributorships, reservation under categories mentioned

at Sl. No. 2, 3 and 5 above have been merged at 18% and under Sl. No. 4 and 6 have been merged at 7%.

(b) As on 1.7.2010, the category-wise details of allotments of Retail Outlets (ROs) and LPG distributorships made by OMCs are given in statement.

(c) and (d) Since, there is already 50% reservation in the selection of dealership/ distributorship of petroleum products of OMCs, no reservation is provided for Other Backward Classes (OBCs). Further, allotment of dealership/ distributorship of petroleum products does not amount to employment under the Government.

(e) to (g) While awarding RO dealerships and LPG distributorships, utmost care is taken to ensure that the dealerships are awarded to the person who has applied and got selected. The Letter of Intent (LOI) is issued after conducting Field Investigation Report wherein all the information provided by the candidate is checked. This ensures that the candidate selected by the Selection Committee has necessary resources and no one else in his name is trying to obtain the dealership. During the regular inspections carried out by our Field Officers and Senior Staff they also look into this aspect whether the allottee is managing the ROs and LPG Distributorships personally. If any doubts arise then the document like Bank Account, Sales Tax Registration, Retail License etc, are checked to ensure that there is no benami operation. In case any benami operation is detected, action for termination of the dealerships / distributorships are taken as per the provisions contained in the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG).

Statement

Category-wise details of Allotments of Retail Outlets and LPG Distributorships made by OMCS

Category	Retail Outlet Dealerships	LPG Distributorships
1	2	3
SC/ST	5234	1999
Defence	472	515
Freedom Fighter	195	237
Physically Handicapped	784	625

1	2	3
Outstanding Sports Person	129	47
Paramilitary/Police/Govt. Personnel	140	128
Open	23430	3955
Total	30385	7649

[English]

Broad Gauge Conversion of Rail Track

4943. DR. KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have received any proposal to undertake gauge conversion of Kalol Kato San rail track;

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

(c) the time by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) As per available records, no such request has been received from the State Government of Gujarat in recent past.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Ltd.

4944. SHRI M. SRINIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved the restructuring of Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Ltd. (BBUNL) to improve the functioning of its units in Tamil Nadu and West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the financial assistance received for the purpose so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes Madam. Cabinet Committee of Economic Affairs (CCEA) on 10.06.2010

has approved the financial restructuring of Bharat Bhari Udyog Nigam Ltd (BBUNL) and transfer of administrative control of the wagon manufacturing units of its subsidiaries Burn Standard Company Ltd. (BSCL) and Braithwaite and Co Ltd (BCL) to Ministry of Railways (MoR) and transfer of refractory unit of BSCL to Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL), under Ministry of Steel.

In order to clean the balance sheet of BSCL, the Government has also approved conversion of Plan loan, Non Plan loan and zero rate debenture of BSCL into equity and subsequently reduction of the equity with a corresponding reduction in accumulated losses and waiver of normal and penal interest of BSCL on Govt. of India loan.

(c) No financial assistance has been received so far. The implementation of Government decision dated 10.06.2010 is under process.

Special District Courts for Disposal of Insurance Claim

4945. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to set up special district courts to award accident insurance claims without delay to the affected families;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Courts proposed to be set up and the time by which such courts are likely to be set up; and

(d) the number of such cases pending till 31st March, 2009?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) As per information received from the Department of Financial Services, 9,90,188 Motor accident claim cases in respect of all the member companies of General Insurance (Public Sector) Association of India were pending as on 31.3.2009 in Motor Accident Claims Tribunals.

Directorate of Legal Education

4946. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up Directorate of Legal Education to monitor, improve and standardize legal education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the role and the scheme of this Directorate?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Export of Drugs

4947. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is mulling over a unique identification system to tag drugs exported from India to curb counterfeit drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any technology has been selected to enforce the new system;

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal under consideration to introduce such a system in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (e) Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Commerce) has informed that, in the wake of motivated campaign in the international media about export of spurious drugs from India, consultations are being held with the industry to adopt suitable tracing and tracking technologies to establish genuineness of drugs manufactured in India. Many manufacturers/exporters are using such technologies.

Irregularities in Distribution of Fertilizers

4948. SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received reports regarding irregularities in the distribution of fertilizers in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Union Government to check such irregularities and make fertilizers available to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA):

(a) and (b) No, Madam. No such reports of any irregularities in distribution of fertilizers have been received from the State Governments.

(c) The State Governments, as the enforcement agencies, are adequately empowered under Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 to take appropriate action against any offender who indulges in any kind of malpractices including black marketing. State Government can also initiate action under para 3 of the Fertilizer (Movement Control) Order, 1973—against smuggling/illegal export of fertilizers.

Further, the following steps are being taken to make fertilizers available to the farmers:

(i) Each state in consultation with the fertilizer suppliers is required to prepare monthly supply plan district wise within overall availability at state level for ensuring availability of fertilizers in all parts of the state;

(ii) The movement of fertilizers is being monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system (www.urvarak.co.in) also called as Fertiliser Monitoring System (FMS);

(iii) As per provisions contained in para 4 of FCO, 1985 - Every dealer, who makes or offers to make a retail sale of any fertilizer, shall prominently display in his place of business - a list of price or rates of such fertilizers fixed under Clause 3 of FCO and for the time being in force;

(iv) The state governments have been advised

(i) to instruct the State Institutional agencies to coordinate with manufacturers and importers of fertilizers for streamlining the supplies;

- (ii) to review the railway rake points in their states and take up the issues with the Railways for improvements, if any, required to ensure availability of fertilizers in every nook and corner of the State;
- (v) The Government has introduced a Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) Policy in respect of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers w.e.f. 1.4.2010. Under the NBS, State Governments have to play more proactive role to co-ordinate with the manufacturers/importers to tie up supplies of fertilizers as per the requirement of states;
- (vi) Under NBS, Fertilizer companies are required to print Maximum Retail Price (MRP) along with applicable subsidy on the fertilizer bags clearly. Any sale above the printed net retail price will be punishable under the EC Act.;
- (vii) All possible steps are taken by the Department of Fertilisers to match the availability of fertilizers with the assessed requirement.

Stoppage of Durgam Cheruvu and Jan Shatabdi Express

4949. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request/proposal to sanction stoppage of the Durgam Cheruvu and Jan Shatabdi Express trains to the district headquarters/main stations of the destination States is under the consideration of the Railways; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

Reduction in Cost of Medicines

4950 SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL
KHATGAONKAR:
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether healthcare cost was the second biggest reason for rural indebtedness;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to bring down the cost of medicines;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) This Ministry is not maintaining such details.

(c) to (e) As per the provisions of the Drugs (Price and Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO,95) the prices of 74 bulk drugs and the formulations containing any of these scheduled drugs are fixed/revised by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA). The NPPA monitors prices of all formulations including imported scheduled formulations.

The NPPA has fixed/revised the prices of scheduled bulk drugs in 488 cases and 10530 formulations since its inception. Of these, the prices of 8 scheduled bulk drugs and derivatives and 190 formulations were fixed / revised during the period 2010-11 (1st April.2010 to 31st July 2010).

In respect of drugs not covered under the DPCO, 95 i.e. non-scheduled drugs, manufacturers fix the prices by themselves without seeking the approval of NPPA. However, NPPA, as a part of price monitoring activity, regularly examines the movement in prices of non-scheduled formulations. The monthly reports of ORG IMS and the information furnished by individual manufacturers are utilized for the purpose of monitoring prices of non-scheduled formulations. Wherever a price increase beyond 10% per annum (20% before 1.4.2007) is noticed, the manufacturer is asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which, subject to prescribed conditions action is initiated under paragraph 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995 for fixing the price of the formulation in public interest. This is an ongoing process.

[*Translation*]

Stoppage of Jan Sadharan Express

4951. SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a stoppage has been provided/proposed to be provided to Jan Sadharan Express 5267, 5268, 9269 and 9270 train service running from Muzaffarpur to Porbander at Chakiya Railway Station under North-Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Chakia station is under the jurisdiction of East Central Railway and there is no proposal to provide stoppage to the trains mentioned.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Stoppage of 5267/5268 Raxaul-Lokmanya Tilak (T) Express and 9269/9270 Porbandar-Muzaffarpur Express at Chakia is neither commercially justified nor operationally convenient.

Construction of Table Top Runways

4952. SHRI K. P. DHANAPLAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to reconstruct the table top runways in airports like Karipur, Kerala in view of Mangalore Air Crash; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b): The Mangalore Air Crash is being investigated by a Court of Inquiry constituted by Government of India. Any plan to reconstruct the table top runways in the airports is subject to recommendations of Court of Inquiry.

Disappeared Companies

4953. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies disappeared during the current year;

(b) whether the Government is contemplating to amend the norms to trace the disappearing companies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) The term disappeared companies is not defined under the Companies Act, 1956 or the Rules and Regulations issued thereunder. However, no case of disappeared company has been brought to the notice of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs in the current year.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme

4954. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently introduced a marketing and export promotion scheme for the Handloom sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of handloom clusters where the scheme would be implemented, State-wise;

(d) the number of handloom products and the artisans that would be covered/benefited under the scheme in Andhra Pradesh State and Khammam district in particular; and

(e) the total amount earmarked and spent under the scheme during 2009-10, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. With a view to develop and promote the marketing channels in domestic as well as international markets, a scheme under the name of Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme has been introduced for the handloom sector for implementation during the 11th Five Year Plan in the country. The Scheme has following two components:

1. Marketing Promotion
2. Handloom Export Promotion

The Marketing Promotion covers the following activities:

- Organisation of exhibitions, events and Craft Melas
- Setting up of Urban Haats
- Setting up of Marketing Complexes
- Publicity and Awareness
- Geographical Indication Act
- Handloom Marketing Complex, Janpath, New Delhi
- Handloom Mark

The Handloom Export Promotion covers the following activities:

- Export Projects to develop export worthy handloom products.
- Participation in International Fairs and Exhibitions.
- Setting up of Design Studios.
- Miscellaneous Promotional events/activities.

(c) The scheme is being implemented throughout the country and the scheme is not cluster specific.

(d) A wide range of handloom products are being produced in the country including Andhra Pradesh and all products are eligible for coverage under the scheme. During the year 2009-10, 45,563 handloom weavers were covered / benefitted in Andhra Pradesh under the Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme. In Khammam district, 275 weavers were covered/benefitted and Carpets, Bedsheets, Dhories, towels and livery items are widely produced in the district.

(e) State-wise allocation of funds is not made under the scheme.

However, State-wise amount released for activities covered under the scheme during the year 2009-10 is as under:

Sl.No.	Name of State	Amount Released (Rs. in Crore)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	2.10
2	Assam	4.11
3	Bihar	0.05
4	Chhattisgarh	0.37
5	Delhi	0.62
6	Gujarat	0.76
7	Haryana	0.28
8	Himachal Pradesh	0.51
9	Jharkhand	0.02

1	2	3
10	Karnataka	1.20
11	Madhya Pradesh	0.68
12	Maharashtra	1.37
13	Manipur	0.47
14	Meghalaya	0.89
15	Nagaland	3.73
16	Odisha	0.74
17	Rajasthan	0.73
18	Sikkim	0.04
19	Tamil Nadu	0.80
20	Tripura	0.36
21	Uttar Pradesh	1.73
22	Uttarakhand	0.45
23	West Bengal	0.60
Total		22.61

Demand of Petroleum Products

4955. SHRI GAJANAN BABAR:
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the demand for petroleum products was estimated during the beginning of 11th Five Year Plan excluding the liquid fuel requirement for power generation;

(b) the growth rate of petroleum products estimated for 11th Five Year Plan;

(c) the extent of the demand of petroleum products estimated during the beginning of 11th Five Year Plan has been met by indigenously; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government for intensify exploration and enhancement of hydrocarbon reserves to boost the growth of petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The estimated and actual demand of petroleum products (excluding the requirement for power generation) for the 11th Five Year Plan is as under:

Year	Million Metric Tonne (MMT)		
	Estimated	Actual	Growth Rate
2007-08	117.55	128.95	6.8
2008-09	121.95	133.56	3.6
2009-10	127.79	138.19 (Provisional)	3.5
2010-11	136.59	—	—
2011-12	141.79	—	—

(c) Under the 11th Five Year Plan, during the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10, 25%, 23.3% and 22.8% respectively of the domestic demand for petroleum products was met indigenously.

(d) Government has taken various steps to intensify exploration and enhancement of hydrocarbon reserves to boost the growth of petroleum products, which are summarized below:

- (i) Carving out more and more areas of exploration for offer under various rounds of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP)/Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Policy.
- (ii) Application of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)/Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) techniques for increasing recovery factor from existing fields.
- (iii) Acquisition of exploration acreages and producing properties overseas to bring in equity oil.
- (iv) Arresting decline from ageing fields.
- (v) Substitution of oil through use of non-conventional sources of energy such as bio-diesel, ethanol etc. Extraction of Gas from Gas Hydrates under National Gas Hydrates Programmes (NGHP) by evolving suitable production technology.

[Translation]

Steel Consumer Council

4956. SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steel consumer council has been constituted; and

(b) if so, the number of members nominated to this council State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) Steel Consumers' Council has been re-constituted under the chairmanship of Minister of Steel in February, 2010.

(b) The State-wise details of nominated Members are as under:

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Number of Members
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	29
2.	Assam	02
3.	Bihar	11
4.	Chandigarh	02
5.	Chhattisgarh	07
6.	Delhi	28
7.	Gujarat	12
8.	Haryana	07
9.	Himachal Pradesh	43
10.	Jharkhand	12
11.	Karnataka	18
12.	Kerala	01
13.	Maharashtra	16
14.	Madhya Pradesh	09
15.	Mizoram	01
16.	Odisha	09

1	2	3
17.	Punjab	13
18.	Rajasthan	15
19.	Tamil Nadu	07
20.	Uttar Pradesh	19
21.	Uttrakhand	02
22.	West Bengal	03
Total		266

In addition to above, six members from prominent media persons and experts have also been nominated in the Steel Consumers' Council.

[English]

Transportation of Fertilizers

4957. SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is facing problems for catering and transportation of urea fertilizer from Kandla port which is lying idle presently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF) is the handling agent for imported urea at Kandla port. About 74,631.05 MT of urea was available in Kandla port in RCF's account as on 1st July, 2010. During the month of July '10 fresh stocks of 79,652.10 MT of urea were received at Kandla port in RCF account aggregating the stocks to 1,54,283.15 MT including opening balance. During the month of July, 10 the priority was given to dispatches of DAP and MOP from Kandla port as DAP being the basal dose was urgently required for the crops in the ongoing Kharif season. Only 47,960.80 MT of Urea could be dispatched to various states. Due to limited warehousing space available in the port, the urea stored in the open got solidified due to rains and because of its hygroscopic nature. Even though the urea has become

solidified in Kandla and Ghandhidham in RCF account, it has not lost nutrient value. Later on this urea was shifted to Gandhidham godowns. Out of the available stock, 36,752.60 MT of Urea has been moved to various states after converting it into free flowing form during the period from 1st to 24th August, 2010. About 69,569.45 MT of urea is still available in RCF account as on 24th August, 2010. RCF is making all efforts to move one rake load (equivalent to about 2,700 MT) per day, as it is taking lot of time for converting the lumpy urea into free flowing urea.

Amendment in Food Adulteration Act

4958. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to make foodstuff adulteration offences non-bailable and to impose strict penalties including life term imprisonment for such offenders; and

(b) if not, the manner in which the Government proposes to tackle this menace prevailing in the country on a large scale?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Exploration of Hydrocarbons

4959. SHRI VITTHALBHAI HARNRAJBHAI RADADIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation has discovered hydrocarbons in many notified blocks in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the names of those notified blocks and the areas in which these are located;

(c) the names of companies to which gas has been given on the basis of APM from these new notified blocks alongwith the quantity of gas given to these companies;

(d) whether the Government is aware that some of these Companies sell allocated gas in black market; and

(e) if so, the action taken against these companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) As on 01.08.2010, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has made 122 discoveries in the nomination blocks and 4 discoveries in the NELP

blocks in the State of Gujarat. Details of these discoveries are given as Statement.

(c) to (e) Gas produced by National Oil Companies, viz. ONGC and OIL, from new fields in the nomination blocks is not sold at Administrative Price Mechanism (APM) rate.

Statement

Discoveries made by ONGC in Gujarat in the Nomination blocks since inception as on 1.8.2010

Sl.No.	Field Name	Name of PEL/ML	District
1	2	3	4
1.	Ankleswar	Ankleshwar (Main) ML	Bharuch
2.	Kalol	Kalol (Main) ML	Mehsana, Gandhinagar, Ahmedabad
3.	Sanand	Sanand ML	Mehsana, Ahmedabad
4.	Kosamba	Kosamba ML	Surat, Bharuch
5.	OLPAD	Olpad (a) ML	Surat
6.	Nawagam	Nawagam ML	Kheda, Ahmedabad
7.	Kathana	Kathna ML	Kheda, Anand
8.	North Kadi	Kadi ML	Mehsana
9.	Ahmedabad	Ahmedabad-Bakrol ML	Ahmedabad
10.	South Kadi	Kadi Ext-1 ML	Mehsana
11.	Sobhasan	Sobhasan ML	Mehsana
12.	Wasna	Nawagam ML	Kheda
13.	Balol	Balol ML	Mehsana
14.	Dabka	Dabka ML	Vadodara & Bharuch
15.	Santhal	Santhal ML	Mehsana
16.	Lanwa	Lanwa ML	Mehsana
17.	Linch	Linch ML	Mehsana
18.	Southwest Motwan	Sonaokhurd ML	Bharuch
19.	Siswa	Siswa ML	Anand
20.	Nandasan	Nandasan-Langhnaj ML	Mehsana
21.	South Sobhasan	Sobhasan ML	Mehsana

1	2	3	4
22.	West Sobhasan	West Sobhasan ML	Mehsana
23.	Jhalora	Sanand ML	Mehsana
24.	Padra	Padra ML	Vadodara
25.	Jotana	Jotana ML	Mehsana
26.	Sisodra	Motwan ML	Bharuch
27.	Viraj	Viraj ML	Mehsana
28.	Gajera	Umra ML	Bharuch
29.	West Motwan	Motwan ML	Bharuch
30.	Akhaj	Linch ML	Mehsana
31.	Dahej	Dahej ML	Bharuch
32.	Langhnaj	Langhnaj ML	Mehsana
33.	Kudara	Kudara ML	Bharuch
34.	Mewad	Sobhasan ML	Mehsana
35.	Gamij	Gamij	Ahmedabad & Gandhinagar, Kheda
36.	Wadu-Paliyad	Wadu ML	Mehsana, Ahmedabad
37.	South Mewad	Gheratpur ML	Mehsana
38.	Gandhar	Gandhar ML	Bharuch
39.	South Viraj	Viraj ML	Mehsana
40.	Limbodra	Limbodara ML	Mehsana, Gandhinagar
41.	Pakhajan	Pakhajan ML	Bharuch
42.	South Malpur	Malpur ML	Bharuch
43.	Bechraji	Bechraji ML	Mehsana
44.	Elao	Elao ML	Bharuch
45.	Nada	Nada ML	Bharuch
46.	Mansa	Mansa ML	Mehsana
47.	Andada	Ankleshwar Ext-I ML	Bharuch
48.	Nandej	Nandej ML	Ahmedabad/Kheda

1	2	3	4
49.	KIM	Kim ML	Bharuch
50.	Jambusar	Umra Ext-I ML	Bharuch
51.	Halisa	Halisa ML	Gandhinagar
52.	Wadasma	Langhnaj-Wadasama ML	Mehsana
53.	Kherwa	Open Acreage	Mehsana
54.	Asmali	Asmali ML	Ahmedabad
55.	Vatrak	Asmali ML	Ahmedabad
56.	Anklav	Anklav Ext-I	Anand
57.	North Sarbhan	Kural ML	Bharuch
58.	Akholjuni	Akholjuni ML	Kheda
59.	Sadra	Nawagam South Ext.-II ML	Kheda
60.	Chaklasi	Chaklasi-Rasnoi	Anand
61.	Katpur	Kim Ext-I ML	Bharuch
62.	Degam	Degam ML	Bharuch
63.	Wamaj	Wamaj ML	Mehsana
64.	Wadsar	Kalol-West Ext-I ML	Mehsana
65.	Deloli	Balol ML	Mehsana
66.	Mehljaj	North South Ext-I ML	Kheda
67.	Karzan	Karjan ML	Vadodara
68.	Matar	Matar (Applied for ML)	Bharuch
69.	Cambay	Cambay ML	Anand
70.	Asjol	Asjol ML	Mehsana
71.	Hazira	Hazira ML	Surat
72.	Bhandut	Bhandut ML	Surat
73.	Sabarmati	Sabarmati ML	Ahmedabad
74.	Baola	Baola ML	Ahmedabad
75.	Modhera	Modhra ML	Mehsana

1	2	3	4
76.	Wavel	Wavel ML	Gandhinagar
77.	Dholka	Dholka ML	Ahmedabad
78.	Barkol	Bakrol ML	Ahmeabad
79.	Indrora	Indorra ML	Ahmedabad-Gandhinagar
80.	Lohar	Lohar ML	Mehsana
81.	Karjisan	Karjisan ML	Ahmedabad
82.	Allora	Allora ML	Mehsana
83.	Kanawara	Kanawara ML	Kheda
84.	North Balol	North Balol ML	Mehsana
85.	North Kathana	North Kathana ML	Kheda
86.	Dholasan	Dholasan ML	Mehsana
87.	Unawa	Unawa ML	Mehsana
88.	Sanganpur	Sanganpur ML	Mehsana
89.	Ognaj	Ognaj ML	Mehsana, Ahmedabad
90.	West Becharaji	West Becharji ML	Mehsana
91.	Khambel	Khambel ML	Mehsana
92.	Hirapur	Hirapur ML	Ahmedabad
93.	Kamboi	Kamboi ML	Mehsana
94.	South Patan	South Patan ML	Patan
95.	Palej	Palej ML	Vadodara, Bharuch
96.	Charada-3 (CRAB)	Charada ML	Mehsana
97.	Mahi High	Cambay ML	Anand
98.	N. Kural	Kural ML	Bharuch
99.	Karvan	Karjan Ext-II PEI	Vadodara
100.	Motera	Sabarmati ML	Gandhinagar
101.	Virgovindpura-3	Wadu extn. 1 ML	Mehsana
102.	Linch-59	Kadi ML	Mehsana

1	2	3	4
103.	Linch-60	Linch ML	Mehsana
104.	North Kadi-435	Kadi ML	Mehsana
105.	Kosamba-40	Kosamba Ext-1 ML	Surat
106.	Mewad-20	Sobhasan ML	Mehsana
107.	Sobhasan-250	Sobhasan ML	Mehsana
108.	Ankaleshwar-317	Anklaeshwar (Main) ML	Bharuch
109.	Ankaleshwar-320	Ankaleshwar Main ML	Bharuch
110.	Kosamba-41 (KMAN)	Kosamba ML	Surat
111.	Akhouljuni-18	Akhouljuni ML	Kheda
112.	Dabka-57 (DBBG)	Dabka Sarbhan PEL	Vadodara
113.	Chaklasi-8	Chaklasi-Rasnol PEL	Kheda
114.	Linch-65 (LNBO)	Jotana-Warosan ML	Mehsana
115.	Halisa-12 (HAAL)	Halisa ML	Gandhinagar
116.	South Khadi-143 (SKPP)	Kadi ML	Mehsana
117.	Olpad-31	Olpad-Dandi Extn-1 ML	Surat
118.	Mewad-25	Sobhasan ML	Mehsana
119.	South Kadi-144 (SKBF)	Balasar PEL	Mehsana
120.	Matar-11 (MRAM)	Dabka-Sarbhan PEL	Vadodara
121.	Ahmedabad-124 (AMBC)	Valod Extn.-I PEL	Ahmedabad
122.	South Kadi-155 (SKFY)	Kadi PML	Mehsana

The four NELP discoveries made by ONGC, in the state of Gujarat are located in Kheda, Anand and Mehsana districts. Details are as under:

Name of Discovery	NELP Round	District Name
West Patan-3	IV	Patan & Mehsana
Nadiad-I	III	Anand
Karnnagar-I	VI	Mehsana
Vadtal-I	VI	Kheda & Anand

*[English]***Jute Works**

4960. SHRI RAKESH SACHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up 'Jute Parks' in the country with a view to promote diversification of jute products;

(b) if so, the total number of such parks set up in the country so far and their locations;

(c) the number of parks that are proposed to be set up, location-wise;

(d) the details of facilities being provided to the entrepreneurs under these parks; and

(e) the details of steps being taken to popularize jute/jute products in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a), (b) and (c) Under the Jute Technology Mission, Government has a scheme for establishing Jute Parks. 9 Jute Parks have been sanctioned. The details of jute parks sanctioned and their locations are annexed.

(d) The subsidy available under this scheme for establishment of Jute Park is 40% of the eligible cost for setting up common infrastructure in the Jute Park (excluding the cost of land), subject to a maximum of Rs.7.5 crores. For setting up Jute Parks in NE States

the subsidy is 90%. Under the scheme, common infrastructure such as compound wall, electric power supply, roads, effluent treatment plant, water supply, sanitation, sewerage and drainage system etc. can be constructed.

(e) For creating mass awareness regarding various schemes being implemented for promotion of jute and jute products and their impact on the target audience and the benefits accrued out of the schemes, the following publicity measures are taken by the National Jute Board:

- (i) Organising Awareness Workshops at different locations.
- (ii) Holding Interactive Sessions
- (iii) Organisation of Buyer-Seller Meets
- (iv) Holding Fashion Shows
- (v) Distribution of promotional materials
- (vi) Setting up of Permanent Sales Outlets
- (vii) Promotion and sales of jute products through retail chains
- (viii) Institutional Advertisements in newspapers inviting offers.
- (ix) Dissemination of information through websites
- (x) Promotional campaign through various media
- (xi) Press meets

Statement

Jute Technology Mission/Mini Mission-IV/Scheme No. 7.5—Scheme for Setting up Jute Parks for the Diversified Sector

Sl.No.	Name of the Jute Park	Location
1	2	3
1	Cooch Behar Jute Park, Infrastructure Ltd.	Chakchaka, Cooch Behar, W.B.
2	Murshidabad Jute Park, Infrastructure Ltd.	Rezinagar, Murshidabad, W.B.
3	Shaktigarh Jute Park Infrastructures Limited	Shaktigarh, Dist. Burdwan, W.B.
4	HMC Jute Park Enterprises Ltd.	Panchla, Howrah, W.B.

1	2	3
5	Sikaria Jute Park Pvt. Ltd.	Makdampur and Bilaspur Mouza, Raiganj, Uttar Dinajpur, W.B.
6	Punrasar Jute Park Ltd.	Purnea, Bihar
7	West Bengal Multifibre Pvt. Ltd. (Beldanga)	Beldanga, Murshidabad, W.B.
8	Dibru Jute Park	Dibrugarh, Assam NER
9	Silchar Jute Park	Silchar, Cachar Dist., Assam, NER

6th CPC Recommendations

4961. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether recommendations of 6th Central Pay Commission (CPC) Under Chapter 7.56 of VI PC recommendations, page No.604: *i.e.* "parity between IA and AD will also be extended to organized accounts like Railway Accounts" as accepted vide Gazette notification No.304 dated 29-08-2008: "Extraordinary [part 1-sect.1] Para (X) (C), page 30 and 31 (all cadres kept in Group 'B') is implemented by the Ministry of Railways;

(b) if not, the reasons for not extending the Group 'B' status to SSO (A/cs.)/Sr. TIA, in Railway Accounts; and

(c) the time by which the same will be implemented and the steps taken by Railways in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Sixth Central Pay Commission in Chapter 7.56 (Para 7.56.9), page 604 in its report had recommended revised pay structure for specific posts in Indian Audit and Accounts Department and its extension to other organized Accounts cadres including Railway Accounts based on the existing parity. The revised pay structure as accepted/modified by the Government has accordingly been implemented for Railway Accounts department. There is no specific recommendation of the Sixth Central Pay Commission or decision of the Government, for grant of Group 'B' status to Senior Section Officer (Accounts)/Senior Travelling Inspector of Accounts in Railways.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

ROBs in West Bengal

4962. SHRIMATI DEEPA DASHMUNSI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Road Overbridges (ROBs) under construction in West Bengal since the last three years;

(b) whether there is any proposal to construct ROBs on national highways in West Bengal; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) There are 15 road over bridges under construction in West Bengal since last three years (six in Eastern Railway, eight in South Eastern Railway and one in Northeast Frontier Railway).

(b) and (c) Yes, Madam. There are 23 proposals to construct Road Over Bridges on National Highways in West Bengal (12 in Eastern Railway, four in South Eastern Railway and seven in Northeast Frontier Railway).

[English]

Financial Fraud in Northern Railway Cooperative Society

4963. SHRI PULIN BIHARI BASKE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether financial fraud of around Rs. 400 crore was noticed in Northern Railway Cooperative Society Ltd. of Indian Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Northern Railway Cooperative Society Ltd. launched a group insurance scheme for its employees and members in 1998;

(d) if so, the present status of the scheme; and

(e) the steps taken by Railways in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Northern Zone Railway Employees Cooperative Thrift and Credit Society is a multi-state cooperative society and its working comes under purview of the Registrar of the Cooperative Societies, New Delhi, Ministry of Agriculture. Ministry of Railways has not detected any such fraud. However, complaints regarding working of the Society had been received in this Ministry, which were forwarded to the Registrar, Cooperative Societies, New Delhi for taking appropriate action.

(c) and (d) Schemes, if any, launched by the Society do not come under the purview of the Ministry of Railways.

(e) As the matter does not pertain to the Ministry of Railways, the complaints received regarding working of the Society were forwarded to the concerned department for appropriate action at their end.

Rail Marshals

4964. SHRIMATI ANNU TANDON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are considering the possibility of posting armed rail marshals similar to air marshals in trains passing through areas affected by the Naxal insurgency; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) No, Madam. However, important passenger trains are escorted by RPF and GRP Personnel as per need and availability of Force/Police personnel. On average 1275 trains are escorted by RPF and 2200 trains by GRP daily.

[*Translation*]

Procurement of Food for Catering

4965. SHRI RADHEY MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the norms/procedure followed by the Railways for procuring food articles including non-veg items;

(b) whether the passengers/employees have ever fallen sick after consuming said non-vegetarian food in the recent past;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the preventive measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) There is an elaborate system of shortlisting reputed suppliers of various Proprietary Articles Depot (PAD) and Non - Proprietary Articles Depot (NPAD) items for use and service over Indian Railways network. All the suppliers including Non-veg items are shortlisted after fulfilling various stringent parameters of eligibility criteria.

(b) and (c) As per conclusive reports available, an incident involving few passengers falling sick after consuming non-vegetarian breakfast (Bread-omelette) had been reported on 17.05.2010 in Hazrat Nizamuddin-Ernakulam Duronto Express at Kozhikode. In this incident 19 passengers were hospitalized and 11 passengers took treatment in the OPD in Government Hospital, Calicut. After treatment the passengers were taken to Ernakulam by Parasuram Express on 19.05.2010.

(d) Supervision and monitoring has been strengthened through an institutional mechanism to be put in place by the zonal railways as per new Catering Policy 2010. Similarly, a Standard Bid Document for selection of service providers will be redesigned with weightage for quality parameters to ensure cleanliness and hygiene.

[*English*]

FPI in North-Eastern Region

4966. SHRI PREM DAS RAI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Food Processing Industries functioning in the North-Eastern States and Sikkim at present, location-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up more Food Processing Industries in the North-Eastern States;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the financial assistance provided for the purpose during the last three years, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to promote and developed FPI, in the North-Eastern Region?

Sl.No.	Name of the States	Number of registered Food Processing Units
1.	Assam	897
2.	Tripura	50
3.	Nagaland	16
4.	Meghalaya	13
5.	Manipur	12
6.	Sikkim	0

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHA): (a): Food Processing Industries are set up both in organized and unorganized sectors and as such data on the number of food processing units in the country including North Eastern States is not centrally maintained by the Ministry. However, as per report of the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council, Government of India, the total number of registered food processing units in North Eastern States and Sikkim are as under:

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries extends financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid to implementing agencies/entrepreneurs @ 25% of the cost of Plant and machinery and Technical Civil Works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in general areas and 33.33% subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 lakhs in difficult areas under the Scheme of Technology Upgradation/ Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries. The details of the financial assistance extended under the Scheme to the units in North East States including Sikkim, State-wise during last three year are as under:

(Rs. in lakh)

Name of the State	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
	Approved	Financial Assistance	Approved	Financial Assistance	Approved	Financial Assistance
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	1	17.67	0	0
Assam	2	61.81	17	176.79	8	81.83
Manipur	2	77.62	3	45.51	6	126.74
Meghalaya	1	29.57	2	159.57	2	47.28
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	1	11.00
Nagaland	0	0	4	178.205	0	0
Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tripura	1	26.12	1	13.86	0	0
Total	6	195.12	28	591.605	17	266.85

(d) Government has formulated and is implementing several Plan Schemes to provide financial assistance for the establishment and modernization of Food processing units in the country including North-Eastern Region i.e. creation of infrastructure, support of R and D, human resource development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries. Moreover, the Government has taken several fiscal incentive measures like tax reduction, waiver/reduction of excise duty, reduction of custom duty on specific food items with a view to encourage the growth of Food Processing Industries and make them more competitive. Further, the Ministry under its Plan Scheme of establishing Food Testing Labs, Implementation of Quality Systems such as Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP), Promotion of Research and Development, Capacity Building and Human Resources Development provide assistance to food processing industries to enable them to compete in the international market.

Under the Scheme of Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of FPIs Ministry has decided to designate all the Regional Managers of Banks in the North-Eastern Region to act as Focal Point Bank to process the proposals from North Eastern Region for more effective implementation of the scheme.

Godda Hanodeha Railway Line

4967. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Godda-Honodeha Railway line projects as announced during Railway Budget Speech 2010-2011;

(b) whether Railways have received any proposal from the Government of Jharkhand for 50 per cent funding in the aforesaid Railway project;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the action taken by the Railways thereon;

(d) whether the Railways have prepared any time bound programme to complete this project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Railway had

earlier conducted the survey for new line from Hansdiha to Godda in September, 2006. The updating survey of the new line has been taken up.

(b) Railway had requested the State Government to share 50% of the cost of the project but Government of Jharkhand has not agreed.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Advocates from Rural Areas

4968. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to launch a programme to train first generation advocates from rural areas;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the aims sought to be achieved?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) Access to Justice is recognized as a fundamental right under the Constitution of India. Article 39A of the Constitution recognizes equal justice and free legal aid to the people of the country. It imposes a duty on the State to secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice, on a basis of equal opportunity and in particular State shall provide free legal aid to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities.

An effective justice delivery system requires that (i) justice be made available at the door step of people and (ii) there should be talented/dedicated and qualified legal professionals who serve at the grass root level. So far as providing justice at the doorstep is concern, there are courts at the district and taluka levels. Now, 'Gram Nyayalaya' at village and intermediate level are also coming up. There is no dearth of talented and dedicated law graduates at grass root level but there is no motivation and encouragement for them to come forward and stay in legal profession at district Taluka and village

level. Result is, despite their ability most of these young lawyers are not getting proper opportunity and exposure in the profession. At the end, they become brief less lawyer. Further, there is a need to give proper professional training so that they may become good lawyer and compete with solicitor of high profile law firm. Training would also help them in updating their lawyering skill and knowledge.

In order to ensure motivation and encouragement for young talented lawyers and to give them professional training the Central Government has formulated a scheme/plan.

Object

Main object of the plan is to give motivation and encouragement to young lawyers who are practicing in Magistrate and Munsif Courts, by providing proper professional training for a period of Two months so that they may serve the need of law professional at grass root level. This will encourage them to stay in the profession at the grass root level and it will also help in elimination of their frustration. Nation would also get benefit of their services in the field of providing justice to all. In short object of the plan is:

“To motivate and encourage young talented meritorious lawyers to remain in practice at Bar at grass root level, and for that purpose—impart them professional training.”

Salient Feature of the Scheme/plan

- (1) Each year, from each State, not more than Ten, depending upon the population of the State, practicing young advocates, shall be selected for imparting professional training.
- (2) While selecting candidates, preference shall be given to those candidates who belong to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other backward classes, women and physically handicapped.
- (3) Inviting Application—Each year, at the beginning, application from desired candidates shall be invited. Wide publicity of the scheme and invitation of application shall be given.

Application shall be called in prescribed format. Applications shall be scrutinized to verify the eligibility conditions.

- (4) Eligibility for selection—At the time of selection, candidate should fulfill following conditions:
 - (i) He/She should have been enrolled as an Advocate and should have been engaged in actual practicing in a Magistrate and Munsif Court.
 - (ii) He/she should not be above the age of 30 years;
 - (iii) His/her monthly income should not be more than Rs 6000/-per month;
 - (iv) He/She should in the opinion of selection committee be meritorious and talented advocate; and
 - (v) He/She should also be ready and willing to make available his/her services for legal aid programme under the District Legal Aid Authority.

[Translation]

Misconduct by TTEs

4969. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the instances of Travelling Ticket Examiners (TTEs) after collecting fines from passengers let them re-enter into the reserved compartments in consequence of which the passengers in the reserved compartments have to face difficulties;
- (b) if so, whether strict actions have been taken against the said TTEs; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Some instances do come to notice of the Railways occasionally.

(b) and (c) Action is taken against the erring Travelling Ticket Examiners (TTEs) under the Discipline and Appeal Rules as and when complaints are received. However, the details of the action taken are not compiled.

[English]

Requirement of Railway Coaches

4970. SHRI S. PAKKIRAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have assessed the annual requirement of air conditioned and other coaches;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the annual requirement is met through the rail coach manufacturing units of railways; and

(d) if not, the manner in which the Railways plan to meet the requirement of coaches?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) As per report of the Working Group on Railways Programmes, annual requirement of air conditioned coaches and other coaches has been assessed as 660 and 3878 respectively during the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d) Coach manufacturing Units of Railways substantially meet the annual requirement of coaches. In order to further increase coach production, a new Rail Coach Factory is being set up at Rae Bareilly. Coach factories at Kanchrapara, Sankrail and Palghat are also being planned through joint ventures.

Rajdhani Train from Anandpur Sahib

4971. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to run Rajdhani train from Anandpur Sahib in Punjab to Bidar in Karnataka via New Delhi and Nanded in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Rajdhani Express trains are long distance fast moving trains primarily meant for passengers between the National Capital and State Capitals.

Stock of Fertilizer

4972. SHRI K.R.G. REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fertilizer stocks gain momentum ahead of rains in some States;

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise especially in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the present position in comparison to the last three years, State-wise especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Urea is the only fertilizer under partial movement, distribution and statutory price control of Government of India. It is imported for direct agriculture use on Government account through State Trading Enterprises (STEs) *i.e.* MMTC, STC and IPL. The gap between the assessed requirement and indigenous production of Urea is met through imports. All other fertilizers viz. DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are decontrolled/ de-canalized since 1992 and are imported under Open General Licence (OGL). The companies import these fertilizers as per the requirement projected by Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. Government is paying subsidy on these fertilizers under Nutrient Based Subsidy policy. Union Government monitors availability of fertilizers at State level and State Governments are responsible for further distribution within the State.

The State-wise requirement (demand), availability and sales of fertilizers including Andhra Pradesh during the years 2007-08 to 2010-11 (April to July) is annexed as statements I-IV. As can be seen, supply (availability) of Urea, DAP, MOP and NPK in all States including Andhra Pradesh during current Kharif 10 (April 10 to July 10) has been adequate.

Statement I*State-wise Cumulative Demand, Availability and Sales of Fertilisers during 2007-08 (April to July)*

States	Urea			DAP			MOP		
	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales
2007-08									
Andhra Pradesh	585.00	709.74	475.44	180.00	200.87	181.32	100.00	100.56	62.69
Karnataka	450.00	441.84	380.87	280.00	219.81	211.24	119.00	162.53	114.42
Kerala	51.00	46.22	44.69	11.76	9.36	9.01	46.00	42.70	39.81
Tamil Nadu	264.00	238.22	174.17	132.70	73.90	69.99	134.00	172.00	126.95
Gujarat	490.00	553.23	498.32	214.00	245.66	188.61	48.00	52.23	49.08
Madhya Pradesh	325.00	383.10	294.35	260.00	200.32	171.43	36.00	34.08	20.89
Chhattisgarh	253.00	279.93	253.43	60.95	81.63	72.67	36.10	29.82	25.26
Maharashtra	1000.00	884.26	849.93	340.00	259.88	256.13	100.00	126.20	111.74
Rajasthan	298.00	356.21	299.92	115.00	117.69	97.68	3.56	7.83	4.54
Harayana	585.00	640.76	571.14	119.00	134.45	113.17	18.00	11.67	7.69
Punjab	1060.00	966.64	910.70	185.00	156.10	130.47	50.00	28.53	19.20
Uttar Pradesh	2000.00	1595.60	1318.62	410.00	307.34	205.78	115.00	47.70	25.21
Uttaranchal	90.00	101.79	93.88	8.20	7.25	5.01	5.00	1.27	1.23
Himachal Pradesh	32.00	31.41	29.62	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.00
Jammu and Kashmir	70.66	66.59	52.46	43.17	9.82	9.78	14.31	3.66	2.94
Bihar	510.00	490.37	375.39	142.00	93.46	73.80	55.00	27.81	19.50
Jharkhand	77.00	52.58	43.53	40.50	45.72	41.40	5.00	3.61	1.59
Odisha	173.00	144.81	109.68	42.50	86.76	56.51	33.60	48.49	38.70
West Bengal	253.00	301.93	203.73	143.00	145.64	117.65	80.00	89.67	67.12
Assam	61.60	76.11	66.13	13.20	3.67	3.67	20.80	22.98	16.30
All India Total	8683.80	8361.34	7046.00	2755.67	2399.33	2015.32	1027.85	1013.34	754.86

Statement II*Statewise Cumulative Demand, Availability and Sales of Fertilizers during 2008-09 (April to July)*

State	Urea			DAP			MOP			NPK		
	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales
2008-09												
Andhra Pradesh	520.00	738.76	477.79	210.00	265.25	260.79	95.00	117.93	109.83	526.00	406.65	390.80
Karnataka	420.00	461.83	360.37	294.00	287.89	277.45	149.00	169.43	162.07	349.00	282.64	267.70
Kerala	49.84	67.89	66.52	13.14	8.25	8.24	47.00	56.68	55.74	65.64	63.91	62.65
Tamil Nadu	270.00	304.42	273.88	112.00	116.63	116.56	126.00	185.97	182.04	104.00	75.36	72.94
Gujarat	570.00	516.32	458.52	252.00	286.60	277.27	55.80	65.16	83.32	170.90	169.22	134.32
Madhya Pradesh	425.00	403.05	305.80	305.00	316.96	271.94	59.00	65.88	38.72	242.00	92.49	87.18
Chhattisgarh	436.50	299.55	247.92	121.50	112.98	110.43	55.80	48.93	46.82	87.85	69.62	69.28
Maharashtra	928.70	988.43	856.11	378.20	376.26	359.60	123.80	181.65	167.47	767.20	425.57	415.28
Rajasthan	333.00	388.85	302.59	130.00	189.59	180.26	6.60	13.04	5.41	51.00	25.68	24.07
Harayana	650.00	571.47	511.04	136.00	188.56	180.14	12.00	11.70	11.63	15.70	11.53	11.30
Punjab	1050.00	872.49	812.62	145.00	207.10	204.59	50.00	42.23	32.68	22.00	22.04	21.81
Uttar Pradesh	2100.00	1760.24	1450.89	260.00	309.84	288.11	80.00	80.81	79.85	233.41	148.50	132.19
Uttarakhand	90.00	96.80	85.95	10.00	11.26	9.26	5.60	2.03	1.98	16.25	17.31	14.22
Himachal Pradesh	36.00	36.46	34.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.40	0.00	0.00	8.80	5.50	5.48
Jammu and Kashmir	61.55	56.71	50.99	36.88	22.09	21.82	15.65	3.78	3.71	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bihar	510.00	535.17	390.27	120.00	123.60	112.49	35.00	76.90	61.80	120.50	61.94	52.00
Jharkhand	67.10	61.50	53.69	50.00	36.88	34.92	5.00	4.14	3.30	14.45	14.05	12.79
Odisha	135.00	165.03	103.38	68.00	76.93	68.13	40.00	56.07	49.29	126.37	95.95	86.56
West Bengal	251.19	346.42	230.01	127.00	126.17	117.90	83.97	145.84	137.25	176.30	141.23	133.74
Assam	76.80	70.74	68.26	37.12	2.18	0.85	35.84	18.51	17.25	9.60	0.00	0.00
All India Total	8980.68	8742.13	7140.87	2805.84	3065.02	2900.75	1081.46	1346.68	1230.16	3106.97	2129.19	1994.31

Statement III*Statewise Cumulative Demand, Availability and Sales of Fertilizers during 2009-10 (April to July)*

State	Urea			DAP			MOP			NPK		
	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales
2009-10												
Andhra Pradesh	640.00	618.20	479.21	315.00	466.08	397.14	135.00	125.22	108.11	660.00	553.53	496.42
Karnataka	400.00	404.26	389.70	313.30	496.50	457.37	162.00	166.30	160.98	360.40	349.70	335.16
Kerala	65.75	53.81	50.41	13.00	16.86	15.16	55.40	61.22	55.32	73.75	82.30	80.56
Tamil Nadu	275.00	243.09	237.20	110.00	141.47	138.84	182.00	120.57	116.49	115.00	185.97	178.01
Gujarat	526.50	562.58	526.55	309.40	409.07	352.53	69.60	73.04	72.97	139.50	132.97	114.33
Madhya Pradesh	442.00	379.44	336.55	342.00	437.45	378.89	58.80	38.82	35.76	187.00	54.38	49.05
Chhattisgarh	435.50	257.33	242.80	121.50	162.32	150.57	60.80	44.79	44.75	90.00	49.69	47.86
Maharashtra	835.83	835.36	816.47	396.89	802.02	788.40	156.52	208.62	207.85	685.71	369.36	355.16
Rajasthan	324.00	331.07	276.28	191.00	239.91	216.86	7.30	14.61	12.61	52.95	13.10	12.48
Haryana	600.00	495.22	464.23	200.00	277.27	262.10	18.00	18.91	18.90	17.00	5.63	5.19
Punjab	960.00	792.10	759.27	200.00	271.61	253.53	36.00	23.72	23.72	20.00	6.33	4.38
Uttar Pradesh	2100.00	1566.98	1245.54	300.00	598.54	521.34	80.00	57.86	57.26	225.00	124.63	108.83
Uttarakhand	85.50	82.23	71.91	8.70	21.61	20.07	4.50	0.02	0.02	24.50	4.61	4.56
Himachal Pradesh	35.00	24.59	22.29	0.00	2.65	2.65	0.25	0.00	0.00	7.80	7.45	5.71
Jammu and Kashmir	61.55	40.77	38.18	34.38	21.01	20.96	9.14	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bihar	490.00	427.27	350.42	145.00	98.29	91.47	65.00	47.01	46.20	127.50	85.02	82.31
Jharkhand	73.00	54.83	40.12	47.50	35.31	32.55	3.50	5.86	5.86	16.50	21.00	21.00
Odisha	170.00	136.32	115.33	79.00	107.30	87.79	77.00	51.05	46.92	125.30	128.20	105.52
West Bengal	247.10	266.18	221.45	142.50	173.47	150.59	80.97	92.69	88.10	176.65	232.68	226.72
Assam	76.80	89.24	88.91	9.60	9.81	9.26	35.84	28.07	23.88	3.52	4.89	4.89
All India Total	8843.53	7660.87	6772.82	3278.77	4788.55	4348.07	1297.62	1178.88	1126.20	3108.08	2411.44	2238.14

Statement IV*Statewise Cumulative Demand, Availability and Sales of Fertilizers during 2009-10 (April to July)*

State	Urea			DAP			MOP			NPK		
	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales	Demand	Availability	Sales
2010-11												
Andhra Pradesh	655.00	753.12	678.33	325.00	440.87	431.12	125.00	111.23	89.24	540.00	646.87	458.31
Karnataka	405.00	468.29	460.02	480.00	481.19	464.88	166.00	142.37	27.84	417.10	483.78	78.87
Kerala	55.75	52.94	50.26	15.20	17.75	17.42	60.20	64.24	59.75	92.50	85.60	161.11
Tamil Nadu	275.00	236.90	236.03	112.00	78.07	76.64	182.00	107.44	202.70	127.00	167.34	184.63
Gujarat	565.00	590.14	585.79	360.00	303.15	294.58	70.00	59.62	56.33	139.50	206.46	126.62
Madhya Pradesh	417.60	419.58	409.14	400.00	376.50	340.26	37.10	60.14	47.17	90.40	130.02	64.77
Chhattisgarh	430.25	273.48	269.68	205.00	182.40	176.79	72.00	45.65	41.67	83.17	67.65	622.70
Maharashtra	880.00	913.08	905.93	720.00	676.76	664.34	205.00	191.73	172.17	592.40	632.66	38.42
Rajasthan	327.00	301.76	271.18	195.00	200.72	195.60	17.50	18.23	11.97	39.30	39.47	29.38
Haryana	585.00	565.18	550.44	200.00	276.62	267.08	21.00	26.02	21.69	17.00	36.99	30.60
Punjab	950.00	1044.97	1036.08	330.00	278.60	268.18	36.00	38.15	24.67	20.00	34.44	6.47
Himachal Pradesh	30.00	29.07	28.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.35	0.00	0.00	8.00	6.52	0.00
Jammu and Kashmir	66.92	71.93	69.19	43.45	31.56	28.31	14.53	0.94	0.93	0.00	0.00	442.24
Uttar Pradesh	181000	161065	1363.52	640.00	477.19	447.57	90.00	61.25	35.61	365.00	477.94	33.36
Uttarakhand	92.00	90.18	84.13	21.35	8.41	6.23	4.50	1.77	1.53	14.00	37.56	79.12
Bihar	490.00	424.26	384.47	145.00	103.56	92.64	65.00	48.01	37.71	115.00	91.73	12.83
Jharkhand	73.00	56.40	49.94	49.00	26.93	24.37	7.00	3.61	3.61	27.50	14.96	99.93
Odisha	155.00	129.44	110.49	95.00	110.97	98.81	62.00	50.36	42.46	120.00	110.42	207.56
West Bengal	240.10	307.34	267.97	168.54	144.73	130.25	80.97	68.25	61.35	201.05	214.91	4.50
Assam	79.20	123.23	118.04	11.77	10.64	7.46	39.60	26.37	25.45	3.39	4.60	10.41
All India	8648.03	8480.74	7947.19	4533.91	4229.26	4038.41	1370.05	1126.60	965.26	3027.54	3500.42	3007.72

Includes sales of 5.88 LMT of Urea Stock Pre-positioned during March, 10 against requirement of Kharif 10.

Includes sales of 3.55 LMT of DAP stock pre-positioned during March, 10 against requirement of Kharif, 10.

Includes sales of 5.23 LMT of NPK stock pre-positioned during March, 10 against requirement of Kharif, 10.

[Translation]

Computer Training Camps for Minority Women

4973. SHRI BADRI RAM JAKHAR: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of professional and computer training camps organized for women of minority community in Pali district of Rajasthan alongwith the status of progress in this regard: and

(b) the details of these camps organized in Rajasthan district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No training camp has been organized so far by National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) through the State Channelising Agencies (SCA) viz. Rajasthan Minorities Finance and Development Cooperative Corporation (RMFDCC) in Pali district of Rajasthan.

(b) The following training camps have been organized by NMDFC in the districts of Rajasthan during the last three years through RMFDCC:

Year	District	Trade
2007-08	Dungapur	Computer training
2008-09	NIL	—
2009-10	Sikar	Computer Financial accounting
2009-10	Tonk	Electrician motor winding, Diesel pumpset repairing.

[English]

Setting up of Mini Steel Plants

4974. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA:
SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up more mini steel plants in the country under the expansion programmes;

(b) if so, the number of licences issued and sanctioned by the Government to install mini steel plants at Amreli, Rajkot, Porbandar, Bharuch, Surat, Mehsana and Himatnagar and the basis on which licences have been issued; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to promote the setting up of mini steel plants in the State to meet the demand of steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (c) According to the New Industrial Policy announced in July, 1991, steel industry has been de-licensed and removed from the list of industries reserved for the public sector subject to certain locational restrictions. No industrial licence is, therefore, required for setting up steel plants under the Industrial (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 and the entrepreneurs are free to set up such plants anywhere in the country except in the restricted locations based on their commercial judgement. The role of Government is that of a facilitator for an overall and healthy growth of steel sector in the country.

(b) As per information furnished by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), no licence has been issued by the Government of India for setting up of mini steel plants for the districts Surat, Mehsana, Rajkot, Amroli, Bharuch, Porbandar and Himatnagar during the last three years.

Appointment of Company Secretaries

4975. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the companies which have paid up the share capital of Rs. five crore or more under section 383A of the Companies Act, 1956 mandatorily appoint company secretaries;

(b) if so, whether a number of companies in both public and private sector in the country are functioning without the company secretaries;

(c) if so, the number of companies found violating said section of Company Act during 2008-09 and 2009-10 in the country, company-wise;

(d) the name of the defaulting companies against whom the Registrars of Companies have taken action so far during the said period; and

(e) the remedial action taken by the Government to check recurrence of such violations by the companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) to (e) Whenever any case of a company found violating the provisions of Section 383A of the Companies Act, 1956 come to the notice, Show Cause Notices are issued to the company and defaulting directors. After consideration of the reply to the Show Cause Notices, prosecutions are filed in the jurisdictional Courts. Though certain companies do not appoint Wholetime Company Secretary due to their poor financial position, stoppage of business operations, non-availability of qualified company secretaries at remote places, prosecutions are filed regularly on year-to-year basis. During 2008-09, prosecution against 52 companies for non-compliance of Section 383A of the Act were filed. In the year 2009-10, prosecutions against 39 companies have been filed. Besides, show cause notices in respect of 210 companies have also been issued during the year 2009-10.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Iron and Steel Industries

4976. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of iron and steel industries set up in

Chhattisgarh as on date apart from the Bhilai Steel Plant alongwith the names of the places where these have been set up;

(b) the types of these industries and the production capacity of each unit;

(c) the area of land acquired and the number of workers employed by each of these industries; and

(d) the production capacity, cost and location of such plants under construction and proposed in the State as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a), (b) and (d) Government of India has not entered into any Memorandum of Understanding with any steel investor, for setting up steel units in the country. However, some of the State Governments have entered into Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with various prospective steel investors in connection with setting up steel units in their respective States. The MoUs contain the intention of the respective Governments for extending assistance in land, mineral resources and other facilities. The details of MoUs signed alongwith the name of companies for setting up of iron and steel plants in the state of Chhattisgarh and the present status of projects, project-wise are annexed as statement, as per the record of information available in the Ministry of Steel.

(c) Since the projects are at very preliminary stage, such details are not available.

Statement

List of Iron and Steel Plant Projects for which MoUs have been signed with the Government of Chhattisgarh

Sl.No.	Name of the Company	Location	Proposed Capacity in MTPA	Proposed Investment (Rs. in crore)	Date of signing of MoU	Present status and progress
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	M/s Jindal Organisation	Raigarh	Steel - 0.205 Steel Product - 0.205	1900.00	21.5.2001	Partially Commissioned
2.	M/s Monnet Group of Industries	Raigarh and Raipur	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.6 (b) Steel - 0.9	1160.00	21.5.2001	Partially Commissioned
3.	M/s. Bhushan Limited	Raigarh	Steel Product - 1.2	2285.00	11.07.2001	MOU cancelled

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	M/s MSP Steel and Power Private Ltd.	Raigarh	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.4 (b) Steel - 0.21	173.59	3.2.2003	Partially Commissioned
5.	M/s Sunil Sponge Iron Ltd.	Raigarh	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.09 (b) Steel - 0.1	105.11	3.2.2003	Production not Started
6.	M/s Visa Industries Ltd., Raigarh	Raigarh and Korba	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.45 (b) Steel - 0.2	1015.00	5.3.2003	Production not Started
7.	M/s Ind Agro Synergy Ltd.	Raigarh	Sponge Iron and Steel Billet - 0.4413.00		5.3.2003	Partially Commissioned
8.	M/s. Sunvijay Rolling and Eng. Ltd.	Raigarh	Sponge iron - 0.32	465	21.04.2003	MOU cancelled
9.	M/s Anjani Steels Pvt. Ltd.	Raigarh	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.18 (b) Steel - 0.15	185.00	17.7.2003	Partially Commissioned
10.	M/s. Agio Ind. Pvt. Ltd.	Raigarh	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.099 (b) Steel Melting Shop - 0.024	180.00	13.08.2003	MOU cancelled
11.	M/s Superior Sponge Pvt. Ltd.	Durg	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.2 (b) Steel Melting Shop - 0.3 (c) Pig Iron - 0.15 (d) Rolling Mill - 0.225	330.00	29.8.2003	Production not Started
12.	M/s Nawbharat Group of Companies	Bastar, Korba, Raipur .	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.5	1460.00	8.9.2003	Partially Commissioned
13.	M/s Akshaya Investment Pvt. Ltd.	Rajnandgaon	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.09 (b) Induction Furnace Unit -0.105	115.00	8.9.2003	Production not Started
14.	M/s Vandana Energy and Steel Pvt. Ltd.	Raipur and Korba	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.15	145.00	8.9.2003	MOU cancelled
15.	M/s. Shree Bajrang Power and Ispat Ltd.	Raipur	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.09 (b) Pig Iron - 0.06	130.0	08.09.2003	Partially Commissioned
16.	M/s National Steel and Agro Industries Ltd.	Durg.	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.15 (b) Steel Melting Shop - 0.15	150.00	08.09.2003	MOU cancelled
17.	M/s Aryan Ispat and Power Pvt. Ltd.	Raipur	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.46 (b) Steel Billets - 0.348	860.00	16.08.2004	MOU cancelled
18.	M/s Godavari Power and Ispat Ltd.	Raipur	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.65 (b) Steel Billets/Ingots - 0.55	493.00	16.8.2004	Partially Commissioned
19.	M/s Alliance Integrated Metallic Ltd.	Raipur	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.2 (b) Mini Steel Plant - 0.15	475.00	16.8.2004	MOU cancelled
20.	M/s Vandana Global Ltd.	Raipur	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.351 (b) Furnace (Ingot/Billets)-0.16752	426.00	16.8.2004	Partially Commissioned
21.	M/s SKS Ispat Pvt. Ltd.	Raipur .	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.27 (b) Steel Melting Shop - 0.21	295.47	16.8.2004	Partially Commissioned

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
22.	M/s Magnum Steel Ltd.	Durg	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.3 (b) Semi and Rold Products-0.3	212.00	16.8.2004	MOU cancelled
23.	M/s GPT Metal Industries Ltd.	Bilaspur	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.105 (b) Induction Furnace - 0.06	139.00	16.8.2004	MOU cancelled
24.	M/s. BEC Project Limited	Durg	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.135	129.00	16.08.2004	MOU cancelled
25.	M/s Chhattisgarh Iron and Steel Co. Ltd.	Durg/Raigarh	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.105 (b) Steel Melting Shop - 0.1	115.65	16.8.2004	MOU cancelled
26.	M/s Mega Powers Builders Pvt. Ltd.	Durg/Raigarh	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.105 (b) Steel Melting Shop - 0.1	115.00	16.8.2004	MOU cancelled
27.	M/s Anand Ispat Udyog Pvt. Ltd.	Dantewada	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.15 (b) Induction Furnace and Concast - 0.13	110.00	16.8.2004	MOU cancelled
28.	M/s Feral Engineering Ltd.	Chhattisgarh	(a) Sponge Iron 0.2 (b) Steel Melting Shop 0.01	100.00	13.9.2004	MOU cancelled
29.	M/s Jindal Steel and Power Ltd.	Raigarh	(a) Steel Melting Shop - 1.25 (b) Blast Furnace - 1.25 (c) Wire Rod/Rolling Mill - 0.7	2595.00	07.1.2005	Partially Commissioned
30.	M/s Chhattisgarh Electricity Co. Ltd.	Raipur	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.6 (b) Steel Plant - 1.0	2010.00	7.1.2005	Production not Started
31.	M/s Prakash Industries Ltd.	Champa	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.4 (b) Steel Melt Shop - 0.9 (c) Pig Iron 0.25 (d) Rolling / Wire Rod Mill - 0.6	1017.00	7.1.2005	Partially commissioned
32.	M/s Bigboss Steel and Alloys Ltd.	Janjgir, Champa	-	700.00	7.1.2005	MOU cancelled
33.	M/s Vasundhra Steel and Power Ltd.	Bilaspur	Integrated Steel Plant - 0.4	465.00	7.1.2005	MOU cancelled
34.	M/s Rexon Strips Ltd.	Bilaspur	Integrated Steel Plant - 0.40	465.00	7.1.2005	MOU cancelled
35.	M/s. Chhattiagarh Steel and Power	Janjgir, Champa	Sponge Iron - 0.38	464.88	07.01.2005	Production not Started
36.	M/s. Pushp Steels and Mining Pvt. Ltd.	Borai Growth Centre, Durg	Sponge Iron 0.315	380.00	07.01.2005	Production not Started
37.	M/s Salasar Sponge and Power Ltd.	Raigarh	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.165 (b) Steel - 0.1	287.51	7.1.2005	Partially Commissioned
38.	M/s Shri Radhe Industries Pvt. Ltd.	Bilaspur	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.26 (b) Steel Melting Shop - 0.05	232.50	7.1.2005	Partially Commissioned
39.	M/s Satyarth Steel and Power Ltd.	Raipur	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.22 (b) Induction Furnace - 0.182 (c) Re-rolld Products 0.0314	175.00	7.1.2005	Partially Commissioned

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
40.	M/s API Ispat and Powertech Pvt. Ltd.	Raipur	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.315 (b) Steel Ingot - 0.0864	158.00	7.1.2005	Partially Commissioned
41.	M/s Topworth Steel Pvt. Ltd.	Borai Growth Centre, Durg	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.21 (b) Steel Melting Shop - 0.1	129.00	7.1.2005	Production not started
42.	M/s Shri Shyam Global Pvt. Ltd.	Raipur	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.165 (b) Induction Furnace - 0.072 (c) Re-rolld Product - 0.06	124.00	7.1.2005	MOU cancelled
43.	M/s. Crest Steel and Power Pvt. Ltd.	Durg	Sponge Iron - 0.231	116.5	07.01.2005	Partially Commissioned
44	M/s. Balaji Vidyut and \Sponge Iron	Raipur	Sponge Iron - 0.06	105.01	07.01.2005	MOU cancelled
45	M/s. Texas Power Zen	Bilaspur	(a) Sponge Iron - 0.72 (b) Induction Furnace - 0.216 (c) Rolling Mill - 0.216	5550.00	22.5.2005	MOU cancelled
46	M/s. Tata Steel	Bastar	Integrated Steel Plant-5.00	10000.00 (Approx)	4.6.2005	Production not Started
47	M/s Essar Steel Chhattisgarh Ltd.	Bastar	Integrated Steel Plant-3.2	7000.00 (Approx)	5.7.2005	Production not Started
48	M/s. Ind Synergy Limited (Expansion Project)	Raigarh	Sponge Iron - 0.40	960.00	06.10.2006	Partially commissioned
49	M/s. Shree Bajranj Power and Ispat Limited (Expansion Project)	Raipur	Sponge Iron - 0.60 Blast Furnace - 0.231	1400.00	06.10.2006	Production not Started
50	M/s. SKS Ispat Limited (Expansion Project)	Raipur	Sponge Iron - 0.33 Mini Blast Furnace - 0.5	1175.00	06.10.2006	Partially commissioned
51	M/s. Raipur Alloys and Steel (Expansion Project) Limited	Raipur	Sponge Iron - 0.50 Steel - 0.24	720.00	06.10.2006	Partially commissioned
52	M/s. Shree Bajrang Metallics and Power Limited (Expansion Project)	Raipur	Pig Iron - 0.060	109.41	21.10.2006	Production not Started
53	M/s. Rajesh Strips Limited (Expansion Project)	Raipur	Steel Melting Shop - 0.30	120.00	18.05.2007	Production not Started
54	M/s. Jindal Steel and Power Ltd. (Expansion Project)	Raigarh Started	Blast Furnace - 0.32	8000.00	18.05.2007	Production not
55	M/s. Bhushan Power and Steel Ltd.	Rajnandgaon	Integrated Steel Making Facility - 1.2	5500.00	06.10.2006	Production not Started
56	M/s. Monnet Ispat and Energy Ltd. (Expansion Project)	Naharpalli, Raigarh	Blast Furnace - 1.0 Sponge Iron for captive use - 0.40	2087.00	04.05.2007	Production not Started

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
57	M/s. Vandana Ispat Limited	Borai, Durg, Anjora, Rajnandgaon	Integrated Steel Plant - 0.83 Steel Melting Shop - 0.75	1310.00	04.05.2007	Production not Started
58	M/s. Topworth Steel Pvt. Ltd. (Expansion Project)	Borai, Durg	Blast Furnace - 0.50	1225.74	04.05.2007	Production not Started
59	M/s. MSP Steel and Power Limited (Expansion Project)	Raigarh	Pig Iron - 0.40 Sponge Iron for captive use-0.3	1400.00	04.05.2007	Production not Started
60	M/s. Salasar Sponge and Power Ltd. (Expansion Project)	Raigarh	Steel Plant - 0.10	230.00	04.05.2007	Production not Started
61	M/s. Prakash Industries Ltd. (Expansion Project)	Champa, Janjgir, Champa	Steel Plant - 1.2	2145.00	18.06.2007	Production not Started
62	M/s. Singhal Enterprises (Expansion Project)	Raigarh	Sponge Iron - 0.2 Steel - 0.3	500.00	23.06.2007	Production not Started
63	M/s. Anjani Steel Private Limited (Expansion Project)	Raigarh	Integrated Steel Plant- 0.25	410.00	02.08.2007	Production not Started
64	M/s. H.E.G. Limited (Expansion Project)	Durg	Sponge Iron - 0.35	280.00	02.08.2007	Production not Started
65	M/s. Mangal Sponge and Steel Limited (Expansion Project)	Bilaspur	Sponge Iron - 0.12	445.00	02.08.2007	Partially commissioned
66	M/s. S.K. Sarawagi and Company Pvt. Ltd.	Bilaspur	Sponge Iron - 0.21 Steel - 0.15	330.00	02.08.2007	Production not Started
67	M/s. Aarti Sponge and Power Pvt. Ltd.	-	Sponge Iron - 0.105 Steel Melting Shop - 0.09	305.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
68	M/s. API Ispat and Powertech Pvt. Ltd.	-	Sponge Iron - 0.525	1000	08.08.2008	Production not Started
69	M/s. Jai Balaji Industries Ltd.	-	DRI Plant - 0.6 Steel Melt Shop - 1.0	1450.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
70	M/s. Baldev Alloys Pvt. Ltd. (Expansion Project)	-	Sponge Iron - 0.54 SMS Plant - 0.2	430.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
71	M/s. Crest Steel and Power Pvt. Ltd. (Expansion Project)	-	Sponge Iron - 0.75 Steel Melting Shop - 0.5	EAF - 0.32	1536.00	08.08.2008 Production not Started
72	M/s. Godawari Power and Ispat Ltd.	-	DRI - 0.6 Steel Billet - 0.6	1570.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
73	M/s. Jindal Steel and Power Ltd. (Expansion Project)	Gram Saraipali, Kosampali, Dhanagar, Raigarh	DRI - 5.1	18300.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
74	M/s. Khetan Sponge and Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. (Expansion Project)	—	Sponge iron - 0.09 Induction Furnace - 0.06	209.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
75	M/s. Nalwa Steel and Power Ltd. (Expansion Project)	Gram Taraimal, Raigarh	DRI (coal based)- 0.33 Steel Melting Shop - 0.336 DRI (gas based)-2.0	3100.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
76	M/s. Jaysawal Necco Industries Ltd.	-	Sponge Iron - 0.6 Steel Billet - 0.7	2020.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
77	M/s. Nova Iron and Steel Ltd. (Expansion Project)	Bilaspur	Sponge Iron - 0.6	606.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
78	M/s. Raipur Power and Steel Ltd.	-	Sponge Iron 0.135 Induction Furnace - 0.09	135.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
79	M/s. Rashmi Ispat Pvt. Ltd.	-	Sponge Iron - 0.315 Steel Melting Shop - 0.21	550.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
80	M/s. Real Ispat and Power Ltd. (Expansion Project)	-	Sponge Iron - 0.30	720.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
81	M/s. R.L. Steel and Energy Ltd.	-	Sponge Iron - 0.4	293.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
82	M/s. Satya Power and Ispat Pvt. Ltd.	-	Sponge Iron - 0.24	376.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
83	M/s. Shri Shyam Sponge and Power Ltd. (Expansion Project)	-	Sponge Iron - 0.135	205.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
84	M/s. SKS Ispat and Power Ltd.	-	Sponge iron - 1.2 Blast furnace - 0.27	3611.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
85	M/s. Surya Global Steel and Jenpower Ltd.	-	DRI - 1.4 Blast furnace with PCM- 0.6	3000.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
86	M/s. Visa Steel Limited	-	Blast furnace with sinter - 1.5 Sponge iron - 1.0	4750.00	08.08.2008	Production not Started
87	M/s. NMDC Limited	-	Integrated Steel Plant - 3.00	10000.00	03.09.2008	Production not Started
88	M/s. K. Energy Limited	-	Sponge iron - 0.21 Induction furnace - 0.192	469.00	12.09.2008	Production not Started
89	M/s. Prakash Industries Limited	-	Blast furnace - 1.15 Sponge iron - 1.6 Steel Melting shop - 2.0	2750.00	12.09.2008	Production not Started

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
90	M/s. Singhal Steel Pvt. Ltd.	-	Blast furnace - 0.3 Sponge iron - 0.2 Induction furnace - 0.3 EAF - 0.3	700.00	01.10.2008	Production not Started
91	M/s. MSP Steel and Power Ltd.	-	Sponge iron - 0.9 Blast furnace - 0.7 Steel melting shop - 1.5	4930.00	01.10.2008	Production not Started
92	M/s. Mahendra Sponge and Power Pvt. Ltd.	-	Sponge iron - 0.27 Steel Billet - 0.15	485.00	01.10.2008	Production not Started
93	M/s. Hind Energy and Coal Beneficiation (India) Pvt. Ltd.	-	Sponge iron - 0.405 Steel melting shop - 0.216	505	03.10.2008	Production not Started

E-Ticketing

4977. SHRI P. KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have decided to take E-Ticketing also from its subsidiary Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation after taking over catering services in trains from it;

(b) if so, whether the Railways shall propose to handover the task of E-Ticketing to Centre for Railways Information System (CRIS); and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Madam. There is no such proposal, at present.

(b) and (c) Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS) is developing the software application for a web portal of Indian Railways through which all commercial transactions including e-ticketing will be channelized.

Introduction of New Trains

4978. DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new trains introduced till date as announced in the Rail Budget 2010, zone-wise;

(b) the time by which the remaining trains are likely to be introduced; and

(c) the steps taken by Railways in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) On the basis of the location of the depot undertaking primary maintenance of a train, the following trains announced in Rail Budget 2010-11 introduced till 20.08.2010 on zone-wise basis are:

- (i) 88 suburban trains by Central Railway,
- (ii) 1 pair of express train, 2 pairs of Matribhoomi (Ladies EMU Special) and 5 pairs of suburban trains by Eastern Railway,
- (iii) 1 pair of express train each by North Central and South Eastern Railways,
- (iv) 2 pairs of express trains and 1 pair of passenger train by North Western Railway,
- (v) 2 pairs of express trains by South Western Railway, and
- (vi) 1 pair of passenger train by South East Central Railway.

(b) and (c) Train services announced in the Railway Budget are introduced during the course of the financial year *i.e.* 2010-11.

Overbridge at Chengalpattu Level Crossing

4979. SHRI P. VISWANATHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any proposal for construction of an over-bridge at the level crossing at Chengalpattu of Southern Railway in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has also agreed to the cost sharing;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the response of the Railways thereto and the time by which the overbridge is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam.

(c) and (d) The State Government has sponsored two proposals, one in lieu of level crossing No.1 at Km. 0/700-800 in between Chengalpattu-Palayaseevaram stations and another in lieu of level crossing No.54 at Km. 61/3-4 in between Chengalpattu and Thirumani stations for replacement by a road over/under bridge on cost sharing basis. The work of Road Over Bridges (ROBs) have been sanctioned. The progress of ROB works at Level Crossing No.1 is at planning stage and at No.54 will be completed by 31.03.2011.

Doubling of Panvel Madgaon Rail Line

4980. SHRI NILESH NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to undertake doubling of the railway line from Panvel to Madgaon;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said line is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) On this route, doubling of Panvel-Pen (35 km) and Pen-Roha (40 km) sections has been taken up. There is no proposal of doubling of Roha-Madgaon. Panvel-Apte section of Panvel-Pen and Pen-Kasu section of Pen-Roha are targeted for completion during 2010-11 and balance sections are likely to be completed in next two years as per the availability of resources.

Safety of Railway Tracks

4981. SHRI N CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether trains are plying on the tracks having no paddle fastener clip;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Railways in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) No, Madam. Pandrol clips (now called elastic rail clips) are used on Indian Railways. Daily patrolling of track is done on Indian Railway to ensure that there are no missing clips. However, instances of theft of track fittings, including elastic rail clips, do get reported from time to time. Immediate action is taken to replace them.

Modernisation of Railways Stations in Punjab

4982. DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Railway stations identified for further development and modernisation in Punjab during each of last three years and current year;

(b) the total amount allocated/sanctioned and expenditure incurred on the above said projects; and

(c) the time by when these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Nine railway stations from the State of Punjab viz. Abohar, Beas, Chakki Bank, Faridkot, Gurdaspur, Jalandhar Cantt, Patiala, Phagwara and Sirhind have been identified for upgradation/modernization under the Modern Stations scheme and Adarsh Stations scheme since April, 2007. Whereas upgradation/modernization of Abohar, Beas, Jalandhar Cantt., Patiala, Phagwara stations has since been completed, upgradation/modernization of Chakki Bank, Sirhind, Faridkot, Gurdaspur is planned for completion by June, 2011.

Works of upgradation/modernization of stations are undertaken under Plan head "Passenger Amenities". The

State of Punjab is served by Northern and North Western Railway and an allocation of Rs.136.45 Cr. and Rs. 23.37 Cr. respectively has been made under this plan head for these Railways for the year 2010-11.

Regional Centres for Advanced Legal Studies

4983. SHRI R. THAMARAISELVAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to establish five regional centres for advanced legal studies, in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said regional centres will have any autonomous power; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam, The Ministry of Law and Justice in collaboration with the Bar Council of India and the National Law University, Delhi had organized a National Consultation for Second Generation Reforms in Legal Education on 1st and 2nd May, 2010 at Vigyan Bhavan New Delhi. In the said National Consultation, a Resolution was adopted for restructuring the system of legal education to impart substantial knowledge, enhance legal research and create legal practitioners with social responsibility and strong professional ethics, and to respond to the unmet legal needs of the deprived sections of the society. In view of the Resolution, the Ministry of Law and Justice has prepared 'The Centres for Advanced Legal Studies and Research Bill, 2010 which provides that the Central Government shall, by notification, establish an autonomous Centre for Advances Legal Studies in each region in the country.

(c) and (d) The Centres for Advanced Legal Studies and Research will have autonomous status.

Diphu Imphal Railway Line

4984. SHRI C.M. CHANG: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the proposed Diphu-Imphal railway line via Pereu;

(b) the time by which it will be completed; and

(c) the reasons for delay if any ?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) There is no proposal for construction of a new line between Diphu and Imphal via Pereu.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Facilities at Nashik Airport

4985. SHRI HARISCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Halcon project and export hub at Nashik;

(b) whether any step has been taken by the Government to promote export from Ozar, Nashik airport;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether export hub project is likely to be shifted from Nashik to anywhere else; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (e) Ojhar airport at Nashik belongs to Hindustan Aeronautical Limited (HAL), Ministry of Defence.

At present, there is no such proposal under consideration of this Ministry.

[Translation]

Rail Roko Andolan

4986. SHRI BHUPENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the citizens had staged Rail Roko Andolan at Makronia-Sagar-Beena-Naryawali-Jaruwakheda-Khurai and Mandi Bamora stations of Western Central Railway recently; and

(b) if so, the details of their demands and the steps taken by Railways in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Madam. On 10.02.2010 a Rail Roko Andolan was staged by the citizens at Makronia, Jeruakhera, Nariaoli and Khurai stations in Bina-Sagour-Ganeshganj section over Jabalpur division of West Central Railway.

(b) The main demands are given in the enclosed statement.

Out of 34 demands, 13 have been implemented. Other demands are not found feasible at present.

Statement

1. Introduction of Intercity Express Train between Sagour and Bhopal.
2. Stoppage of 2823/2824 Nizamuddin - Durg Chhattisgarh Sampark Kranti Express at Sagour Railway station.
3. Running of proposed Jabalpur - Bangalore train via Sagour - Bina.
4. Independent running of 2411/2412 Nizauddin - Jabalpur Gondwana Express.
5. Increase in the frequency of 1449 / 1450 Jabalpur - Jammu Tawi (weekly) express.
6. Provision of quota in Rewanchal Express at Sagour.
7. Change in timings of 8235/8236 Bhopal - Bilaspur Exp/Passenger to provide connection to 2137/2138 Punjab Mail.
8. Construction of stadium, Mall, Park etc. in the vacant Railway land at Sagour.
9. Completion of two lane road between Sagour Railway station to Apsara Cinema.
10. Widening of Foot Over Bridge at Sagour Railway station and construction of ramp between platform no. 1 and 2.
11. Construction of road by the side of Railway track near Level Crossing No. 23 and 24.
12. Makronia station should be declared as Sub-city station of Sagour and stoppage of all trains at Makronia.
13. Opening of Computerized Reservation/Ticket counters at Makronia Railway station.
14. Construction Road Over Bridge on Railway level crossing no. 3A at Makronia Railway station and doubling of road between Makronia station and National High Way.
15. Stoppage of 1449/1450 Jabalpur - Jammu Tawi Express (weekly) and 1271/1272 Itarsi - Bhopal Vindhyaachal Express at Nariaoli station.
16. Provision of passenger amenities at Nariaoli and Khurai stations.
17. Stoppage of 2181/2182 Jabalpur - Jaipur Dayodaya Express (weekly) and 1449/1450 Jabalpur - Jammu Tawi Express at Khurai station
18. Fixation of quota in Gondwana Express for Khurai.
19. Sanction of road over bridge and road under bridge at Bina station.
20. Construction of stadium, shopping mall and park on vacant Railway land and widening of all Railway roads at Bina.
21. Provision of drinking water at Bina Railway station during summer by constructing stop dam.
22. Stoppage of Shatabdi, Tamil Nadu, Goa and Puspak express trains at Bina.
23. Provision of latest medical facilities and availability of specialized doctors in Railway hospital Bina.
24. Proposal of Rail coach factory, Central Stores and Railway Hotel at Bina.
25. Running of train from Bina to Katni between 14.00 and 16.00 hrs. or extension of existing Bina - Bhopal passenger upto Sagour / Damoh.
26. Provision of passenger amenities at Malkhedhi Railway station and construction of parallel road to Railway track between Malkhedhi and Bina.
27. Shifting of Mahadevkhedi Railway station to village Dehri near Hanuman temple.

28. Stoppage of 1078 Jhelum Express and 2197/2198 Gwalior- Bhopal Intercity Express at Mandi Bamora.
29. Increase in height of platform and extension of shed at Mandi Bamora station.
30. Construction of foot over bridge and provision of passenger amenities at Jeruwakheda station
31. Stoppage of 9305/9306 Shipra Express, 1071/1072 Kamayani Express and 8477/8478 Utkal Express at Jeruwakheda station.
32. Laying of additional Railway track between Katni and Bina in view of increase in goods traffic.
33. Restoration of previous route of Durg - Jaipur Express via Katni - Damoh - Sagour.
34. Extension of Chirimiri - Damoh passenger train upto Sagour/Bina.

Landing at IGIA

4987. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:
SHRI P. LINGAM:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the domestic flight landing at the airport have to taxi for about 45 minutes to reach the domestic terminal area even after the facilities at Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) have improved very much after its renovation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for the problems of clogged runways and long taxing time being faced by the domestic airlines; and

(d) the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Presently, Runways 11/29 and 09/27 are in use at Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport, Delhi. Runway 10/28 is undergoing rehabilitation and will be ready for operation by end of September, 2010. At present, it takes around

20 minutes for domestic flights to reach its parking stand after landing on new Runway 11/29. If the landing is on Runway 09/27, it takes only 5 minutes to reach the parking bay.

(d) Runways at IGI Airport, Delhi are developed keeping in mind the construction of new Terminal 3. With the scheduled shifting of full scale Domestic Airlines to Terminal 3 and mixed mode operation of all three runways (09/27, 10/28, 11/29), the taxing times will further decrease, bringing in more efficiency in airport operations.

LTC 80 Scheme

4988. SHRI C.R. PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India seats under LTC 80 Schemes for the next two months are not available;

(b) if so, whether the Government servants who wish to go on LTC are facing difficulties in getting seats under LTC 80 scheme as very few seats have been earmarked under the scheme;

(c) if so, whether any percentage of seats has been reserved in flight for the purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps the Government proposes to take to redress grievances of Government servants in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) No, Madam. Except on certain sectors during peak season, seats under LTC fare on Air India flights are easily available. Seats in economy class on Air India flights are divided into various sub-classes (RBDs). Each RBD is allocated a certain number of seats, which are directly proportionate to the price of the ticket. For LTC travel, RBDs X and G/Q have been assigned and approximately 45% of the total available seats in the economy class are assigned for these classes. Seats under these RBDs are allocated on first come first serve basis.

(e) Government has recently permitted booking of LTC tickets in `G` RBD on 9 sectors, where the demand of LTC tickets was more. LTC travel by other airlines has also been permitted from Delhi/Amritsar to any place in Jammu and Kashmir.

Rajkot Airport

4989. SMT. DARSHANA JARDOSH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have received any proposal from the Ministry of Civil Aviation to hand over unused land to Airports Authority of India for development of Rajkot Airport; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Railways in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) A request was received by Railways from Airport Authority of India (AAI) for leasing of railway land measuring 14.7 hectare for extension of runway at Rajkot Airport. AAI has been requested to submit a comprehensive proposal with their consent to bear the cost of shifting of existing structures and lease charges based on market value of land as per railways extant policy.

Kanishka Crash

4990. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issues concerning Kanishka crash that took place in mid 80's near the Irish Coast has been settled;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken up the matter with the Canadian Government to seek appropriate damages including the compensation for Indian victims;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The loss to Air India due to this incident has been compensated by the insurers *i.e.* General Insurance Corporation of India Limited (GIC). The insurers have paid Air India a compensation of USD 91.79 Million towards the Hull Loss Claim of the aircraft. The

compensation payable to passengers has been settled by GIC in accordance with the international treaty.

(c) The Enquiry Commission constituted by Canadian Government has recommended one-time *ex-gratia* payment to family members of the victims of flight-182.

(d) and (e) The Canadian Government has stated that the recommendation made by Commission is under review of the Government.

Appointment and Removal of Judges

4991. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing process for appointment of Judges in High Courts and Supreme Court as reportedly voiced by sections of the bar and the Judiciary itself is not satisfactory;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the existing system for removal of judges of the higher judiciary also is cumbersome and insufficient and there is a need for evolving an alternative method for removal of judges in addition to existing system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) The existing procedure for appointment of Judges of Supreme Court and High Court is based on the Supreme Court Judgment of October 6, 1993 in the case of Supreme Court Advocates on Record and Anr. Vs. Union of India, and the Advisory Opinion of the Supreme Court dated October 28, 1998. The procedure has been debated in various fora and there have been demands to change the same. However, there is, at present, no specific proposal to bring about any change in the present system of appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts.

(c) and (d) The Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968 lays down the procedure for removal of a Judge under Article 124 (4) read with proviso (b) to Article 124 (2) and proviso (b) to Article 217 (1) of the Constitution. To ensure greater accountability and transparency in the higher judiciary, the Government is considering to bring forward a fresh legislation which *inter alia* provides a mechanism for taking action on complaints against the Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts.

Child Custody

4992. Shri SANJAY DINA PATIL:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:
DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government proposes to enact a legislation, for protecting the right and interest of children borne of breakup marriages of people of Indian Origin; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) No separate legislation in this regard is considered necessary for the present.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Rail Accident due to Human Error

4993. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR:
SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to equip all electric and diesel engines with air-conditioners;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and

(c) the details of the total number of rail engines in the country and the number of staff employed to run them for each of the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) 33 numbers of electric engines have been provided with air conditioning so far. Further, a provision of 50 air conditioners for diesel engines has been made during the current year 2010-11. Estimated cost of air conditioning of an engine is about 12 lakhs each. Balance

fleet of engines will be provided with air conditioners in a phased manner.

(c) The details are as under:

Year	Number of Electric Engines	Number of Diesel Engines	Total	Number of Staff employed
2007-08	3294	5021	8315	558644
2008-09	3443	4985	8428	558011
2009-10	3586	5105	8691	573464

[*English*]

Study for Analysis of Jute Cycle

4994. SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA:
SHRI ABDUL RAHMAN:
SHRI S.R. JEYADURAI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a technical study regarding analysis of Jute Cycle has been conducted by Indian Centre for Plastics in the Environment (ICPE);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any survey or study regarding the ill-effects of high use of chemicals in jute and paper on jute workers and also the ill-effects of Jute Batching Oil (JBO) which is used for processing jute and is considered a major health hazard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) A study on life cycle analysis on plastic film bag vis a vis jute bag for Atta packaging was commissioned by Indian Centre for Plastics in Environment (ICPE), New Delhi and was conducted by IIT, Delhi in September, 2002. The report is available on the website of ICPE.

(c) to (e) The mainly chemical used in the manufacturing process of jute bags is Jute Batching Oil

(JBO). No study has been conducted regarding ill effects of use of chemicals in jute mills on jute workers through the Ministry of Textiles. The jute bags manufactured by the jute mills are covered by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) specifications which prescribe a safe limit on use of JBO in manufacturing of jute bags.

[Translation]

Establishment of Auto Hubs

4995. SHRI BALKRISHNA KHANDERAO SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has issued an advertisement for establishment of ten auto hubs on Delhi-Mumbai Freight Corridor; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the proposed locations of the auto hubs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (b) No Madam. The Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL), a Special Purpose Vehicle, formed for implementing the Dedicated Freight Corridor Projects, has not advertised for establishment of ten auto hubs on Delhi-Mumbai Freight Corridor.

Hanger at Flying Club

4996. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether land/hanger has been allotted to Mumbai Flying Club at Juhu airport, Mumbai by the Government;

(b) if so, the area of land/hanger allotted to them, the terms thereof and the details of purpose for which these have been allotted; and

(c) the year-wise amount provided to the Government by Mumbai Flying Club?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Allotment of land/hanger to Mumbai Flying Club (MFC) at Juhu airport was made by Government prior to formation of Airports Authority of India (AAI).

(b) As per joint measurement of the premises under the occupation of MFC on 23-11-2006, the following areas are under their occupation:

Land - 7584.25 Sqm

Hangar - 1846.54 Sqm

Non Residential Space - 1959.40 Sqm.

(c) There were no charges of licence fee upto 20-02-2007. The Competent Authority of AAI approved 10% of the applicable charges at Juhu Airport to MFC from 21-02-2007 and accordingly the statement of bills raised and payment made by MFC are as under:

Bill raised from 21-02-2007 to 31-03-2008:

Hangar - Rs.1954705/-, Land - Rs.1076217/- and Non-Residential Space - Rs. 1056706/-.

Payment made by MFC is Nil.

Reservation Counters at Azamgarh Railway Station

4997. DR. BALI RAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether passengers have to face difficulties due to shortage of reservation counter at Azamgarh Railway Station;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Railways in this regard;

(c) whether reservation charts are put up after considerable delay as a result of which passengers have to go through lot of difficulties; and

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

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) All efforts are made to print reservation charts well in advance for the convenience of all reserved passengers. However, at times, printing of reservation charts get delayed due to operational/technical reasons.

Instructions have been issued to concerned Divisional Authorities to strictly ensure that reservation charts are printed sufficiently in advance of the departure of train.

[*English*]

Delhi Ferozepur Rail

4998. SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any request for a train from Delhi to Ferozepur via Moga;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Railways in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Representations from various quarters including that from the Hon'ble Member of Parliament have been received for introduction of a direct train from Delhi to Firozpur via Moga.

(c) The proposal has not been found feasible due to operational constraints.

Evening Courts

4999. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM:
SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN:
SHRI JAGDISH THAKOR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the State Governments including the Government of Gujarat have set up Evening Courts in their States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has received requests from the State Governments including the Government of Gujarat for special grant for the purpose in the recent past; and

(d) if so, the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Some

State Governments including the Government of Gujarat have set up Evening Courts in their States. As per the information received from the States, the number of evening courts in the States is given below:

Sl. No.	Name of the States	Number of Evening Courts set up
1	Gujarat	87
2	Delhi	6
3	Tamil Nadu	39

(c) and (d) No proposal has been received from the State Governments in the recent past. An earlier proposal from the State Government of Gujarat for central assistance was not agreed to as there was no such scheme under which central assistance could be provided to the States for Evening Courts.

Government has accepted the recommendations of the Thirteenth Finance Commission which, *inter-alia*, provided for a grant of Rs. 2500 crore to the States for setting up Morning/Evening/Shift/Special Judicial Magistrates' Courts. A grant of Rs. 250 crore has already been released to the States for the purpose.

[*Translation*]

Allocation of Natural Gas

5000. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:
SHRI VITTHALBHAI HANRAJBHAI
RADADIYA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that gas produced by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) in the designated blocks is utilized for Administered Price Mechanism (APM) allocation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether complaints have been received, in regard to bogus existence of companies;

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

(e) the corrective measures taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Natural gas produced by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGCL) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL) from their existing producing fields in their nominated blocks is supplied under APM allocation.

APM gas is being supplied to only the following categories of consumers:

- (i) Power sector consumers
 - (ii) Fertilizers sector consumers
 - (iii) Consumers covered under court orders
 - (iv) Consumers having allocations of less than 0.05 million standard cubic meters per day (mmscmd)
- (c) No, Madam.
- (d) and (e) Do not arise in view of (c) above.

Multi Level Parking at IGIA New Terminal

5001. SHRI BHUDEO CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether tenders had been invited before awarding the contract for construction of the multi-level parking at Terminal-3 in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the contract was awarded as per the rules;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the terms and conditions of the contract alongwith the details thereof; and

(f) the action proposed to be taken against persons found involved in irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) In accordance with Clause 8.5.7 (c) of Operations, Management Development Agreement (OMDA), the Joint Venture Company *i.e.* M/s Delhi International Airport Pvt. Ltd. (DIAL) is required to follow competitive bidding for every sub-contract/sub-leasing and licensing which exceeds Rs. 50 crores. M/s DIAL has informed that the

process for award of contract for multi-level parking at IGI Airport, Delhi was through competitive bid process wherein the vendor with best proposal has been awarded the contract.

(e) The selected party is responsible to finance, maintain and operate the parking facility at IGI Airport, Delhi for a period of 25 years.

(f) Does not arise.

[English]

Old Exploration in Kerala-Konkan Basin

5002. SHRI M. I. SHANAVAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of oil drilling operation in Kerala-Konkan basin of Kochi conducted by the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation;

(b) whether deep sea drilling in the above cited region proved to be fruitful in terms of prospects of oil; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has drilled total 15 wells in Kerala-Konkan Offshore Basin which includes 9 wells in shallow water and 6 wells in deep water. Out of them, 5 wells comprising 4 wells in shallow water and 1 well in deep water have been drilled in area off Kochi.

(b) and (c) No hydrocarbon discovery has been made so far.

Looting in Trains

5003. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:
SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR:
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:
SHRI R. THAMARASELVAN:
SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Lal Quila Express and Howrah-Amritsar Express trains have been looted in Bihar recently;

(b) if so, the details of enquiry conducted in said cases;

(c) whether the Railway Protection Force has failed to provide safety to the passengers in these trains;

(d) if so, the action taken against the official responsible for such lapse;

(e) whether the Railways have announced compensation to the passengers for the valuable articles looted by the dacoits;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the number of passengers killed and injured in the said incidents and the steps taken by the Railways to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) On 06.08.2010, Train No. 3111 Kolkata-Delhi Lal Quila Express was stopped by miscreants at Kunder Halt between Jamui-Mananpur Railway stations in Jhajha-Kiul section over East Central Railway in Bihar by pulling alarm chain. The miscreants numbering around 20/25 looted the passengers travelling in 4 sleeper coaches and 1 air-conditioned coach. On resistance by the Government Railway Police escorts, the miscreants opened fire causing bullet injury to one of the Constables. Government Railway Police/ Jhajha has registered a case vide crime no. 24/2010 dated 06.08.2010 under section 147, 148, 149, 323, 324, 353, 332, 224, 307, 379 Indian Penal Code and 27 Arms Act.

On the night of 08.08.2010 some miscreants looted the passengers of Train No. 3049 Howrah-Amritsar Express while the train was running between Lahabon and Telwa Block Halt in Jasidih-Jhajha section over Eastern Railway in Bihar. Government Railway Police/ Jhajha has registered a case vide crime no. 30/ 2010 dated 09.08.2010 under section 395 Indian Penal Code.

(c) and (d) No Railway Protection Force personnel was deployed in these trains.

(e) and (f) No, Madam. Railway rules do not provide compensation for loss of personal belongings carried by passenger in his charge unless booked for carriage against a receipt and unless it is proved that the loss, destruction, damage or deterioration was due to

negligence or misconduct on its part or on the part of any of Railway personnel.

(g) No passenger was killed in the above incidents. However, one Constable of Government Railway Police and 15 passengers sustained injury in the incident took place in Train No. 3111 Lal Quila Express and 6 passengers sustained injury in the incident took place in Train No. 3049 Howrah-Amritsar Express.

'Policing on Railways' is a State subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases and their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments concerned which they discharge through the Government Railway Police (GRP) and Civil Police. Railways bear 50% cost of expenditure on the Government Railway Police. As such Railway has to depend largely on the State Governments. RPF does not have any legal power to prosecute the offenders involved in criminal offences like dacoity/robbery/theft of passengers' belongings, drugging etc.

Following measures are being taken by the Railways for the security of passengers:

1. 1275 trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force daily on an average, in addition to escorting of 2200 trains by Government Railway Police of different States.
2. The Ministry of Railways has been closely coordinating with the State Governments for prevention and detection of crimes on Railways and maintenance of law and order.
3. A coordination meeting with the State Home Secretaries, officials of Ministry of Home Affairs, Intelligence Bureau and Railways was held on 20.01.2010 at Rail Bhavan, New Delhi.
4. Regular coordination meetings are being conducted with GRP and Civil Police by Railways at Zonal and Divisional level to review the crime position in Railways.
5. An amendment in the RPF Act is under examination to enable RPF to deal with the passenger related offences more effectively.

[Translation]

Educational Upliftment of Minorities

5004. SHRI BHISMA SHANKAR ALIAS KUSHAL
TIWARI:
SHRI RAM SUNDAR DAS:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sachar Committee in its report had observed that the minorities, particularly Muslims, are the most backward community educationally;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to promote education among this community during the last three years;

(c) the number of educational institutes opened by the Government in Muslim dominated areas during the last three years alongwith the details of education from primary level to higher level and technical education imparted therein;

(d) whether the Government has any scheme to bear all expenses relating to education to the children of minority community including expenditure on study material, uniforms, boarding and lodging;

(e) if not, whether the Government proposes to formulate such scheme in future; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) As per the Sachar Committee Report, the literacy rate among Muslims was 59.1%, which was below the national average of 64.8 %. However, it was higher than literacy rate of 52.7% among Scheduled Castes (SCs)/Scheduled Tribes (STs). Besides this, the mean years of schooling (MYS) is lower among Muslims compared to the average MYS for all children, 25% of Muslim children in the age group of 6 - 14 years have either never attended school or have dropped out, the majority of Muslim girls and boys fail in their matriculation examination or drop out before that and less than 4% of Muslims are graduates or diploma holders compared to about 7% of the population aged 20 years and above.

(b) A number of steps have been taken by the Government to promote education among minorities, including Muslims, and the following schemes have been launched:- (i) pre-matric scholarship scheme, (ii) post-matric scholarship scheme, (iii) merit-cum-means scholarship scheme for technical and professional courses, (iv) Maulana Azad National Fellowship scheme for M.Phil, and Ph.D. students, (v) Free Coaching & Allied scheme and (vi) Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) for minority concentration districts.

(c) Under Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP), which is a special area development programme, sanctions have been given for construction of 559 school buildings, 6679 additional class rooms and 34 laboratories for primary, secondary, higher secondary / college education, 37 hostels for girls and boys, 9 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and 16 Polytechnics in 90 minority concentration districts (MCDs) where there is substantial minority population, including Muslims, since the scheme was launched in 2008-09. Under Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA), 12,300 primary and upper primary schools were opened in minority concentration blocks during the last three years. Under the scheme for upgradation of existing Industrial Training Institutes (ITI) unto Centres of Excellence, 60 ITIs have been taken up in districts having a substantial minority population.

(d) to (f) There is no scheme where all expenses relating to education to the children of minority community including expenditure on study material, uniforms, boarding and lodging is borne by the Government, other than scholarship schemes mentioned above. At present, the need for formulation of such scheme by the Government in the future is not envisaged. However, under Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA) text books are given to students, including those from the minority communities, who are eligible under the scheme.

[English]

Local Trains in Maharashtra

5005. SHRI RAJU SHETTI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to start new local shuttle trains between adjacent cities in Maharashtra like Pune-Nasik, Sangli-Kolhapur, Solapur-Pune etc.; and

(b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) At present, there is no proposal to introduce local trains between Pune-Nasik Road, Sangli-Shri Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj (T) (Kolhapur), Solapur-Pune etc. However, extension of 1629 Sangli- Miraj Passenger, 1610 Pune-Miraj Passenger upto Shri Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj (T) (Kolhapur) and 1551/1552 Pune-Daund Passenger upto Baramati have been announced in Railway Budget 2010-2011.

Rail Link to Pilgrimages in Gujarat

5006. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received representation from various sections of people including Government of Gujarat for providing train connections to places of pilgrimage in the country including Dakor, Ambaji, Junagadh, etc; and

(b) if so, the present status thereof and the time by which these places are likely to be connected with trains to facilitate pilgrimage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Dakor is on Anand-Godhara section while Junagadh Jn is on Rajkot-Veraval section which are well connected on the Broad Gauge network of Indian Railways. Survey to connect Ambaji to Mahesana-Taranga Hill section has been completed recently. Introduction of trains to connect various places of the country is an ongoing process subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility and availability of resources.

[*Translation*]

'Doctor on Train' Scheme

5007. SHRI RAMASHANKAR RAJBHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Doctor on Train' scheme has been initiated in Duranto trains;

(b) if so, whether the Railways proposed to extend this facility in other trains as well;

(c) if so, the names of trains wherein this facility is likely to be provided; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) Yes, Madam. Railways have started a pilot project to provide doctor on Duronto Trains. The feasibility of extending this facility in other trains will depend on the outcome of the pilot project.

Capital Investment in PSUs

5008. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:
SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:
SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment made in the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) during the past three years;

(b) the percentage of profits being earned therefrom by the PSUs during the said period;

(c) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding the capital investment in the private sector and the percentage of returns therefrom; and

(d) the reasons for the wide disparity in the profits earned by the public and private sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) As per Public Enterprises Survey (2008-09) that was laid in the Parliament on 25.2.2010, the details of Capital Investment (equity + long term loan) in Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) and percentage of profit in relation to capital investment, during the last three years, are given below:

Years	Capital Investment (Rs. crore)	Total Profit (Rs. crore)	Profit as %age of Capital Investment
2008-09	528951	84228	15.92
2007-08	455367	81314	17.86
2006-07	420771	81055	19.26

(c) and (d) The Central Statistical Organisation (Government of India) makes estimation of capital investment in the private sector, which includes both the private corporate sector and the (private) household sector. A comparison between the profitability of the private corporate sector (based on the RBI Monthly Bulletin, December, 2008) and the CPSEs (based on the Public Enterprises Survey, February, 2010) shows that wide disparity does not exist between the profit earned by the public sector and the private sector. While gross profit as a ratio of fixed assets stood at 20.31% in the case of 217 CPSEs in 2006-07, it was 23.21% in the case of 1259 private limited companies during the corresponding year.

[English]

Transfer of Land for Airport Projects

5009. SHRI KALIKESH NARAYAN SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the prevailing rate/market rate, at which the land was acquired for the construction of Delhi, Mumbai and Bangalore airports;

(b) whether land transferred for airport projects were undervalued;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) to (d) Land at Delhi and Mumbai airports have been vested in the Airports Authority of India (AAI) on its formation by an Act of Parliament. Subsequently part of these airports lands were leased to two Joint Venture Companies (JVCs) namely M/s Delhi International Airport Pvt. Ltd. and Mumbai International Airport Pvt. Ltd for a period of 30 years (extendable for another 30 years) for operation management and Development of these airports on revenue sharing basis. The ownership of the land at Delhi and Mumbai airports vests with AAI. Greenfield airport at Bangalore has been set up by a Joint Venture Company namely, M/s Bangalore International Airport

Limited (BIAL) for which the State Government of Karnataka has provided the land to the Karnataka Industrial Investment and Development Corporation Limited (KSIIDC), the nodal agency of the Government of Karnataka for the new Airport Project at Bangalore, who had handed over the land to BIAL on lease basis.

[Translation]

Cotton Consumption

5010. SHRI MAROTRAO SAINUJI KOWASE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the domestic consumption of cotton in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the cotton consumption is likely to go up in the coming years;

(c) if so, the estimated quantum of cotton production and consumption in the country during the current year and the next year; and

(d) the steps taken to meet the demand for cotton in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The domestic consumption of cotton in the country during each of the last three years and the current year is as under:

Cotton season (October-September)	Domestic Consumption of cotton (Mill/Non- Mill/SSI) (in Lakh Bales of 170kgs each)
2006-07	232.03
2007-08	236.88
2008-09	229.00
2009-10	250.00

Source: Cotton Advisory Board.

(b) Yes, Madam. In the four year period from cotton season 2006-07 to 2009-10, there has been an overall increase of 7.7% in domestic consumption.

(c) For cotton season 2009-10, Government has assessed domestic production at 295 lakh bales and consumption at 250 lakh bales. Question does not arise for Cotton season 2010-11, as season commences on October 1, 2010.

(d) To strengthen the raw material base of cotton for textiles industry, Government launched Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) in February 2000.

[English]

Investigation of AIR Crashes

5011. SHRIMATI INGRID MCLEOD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to inculcate a system to independently examine black boxes in aircraft crashes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up a system of inquiry where the personnel of Indian Government agencies are present when the black boxes are examined in foreign countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government proposes to set up a system to cross-examine the reports compiled from examination of black boxes by foreign companies; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The system of independently examining black boxes (Flight Data Recorders (FDR) already exists in the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), wherein black boxes are examined in DGCA's laboratory for most types of FDR. However, when the requirement for examining any different type of FDR arises, for which facility is not available with DGCA or when the recorders are badly damaged, these are sent to National Transport Safety Board (NTSB), USA or Bureau d' Enquetes et D'Analyses (BEA), France accompanied by the DGCA representatives.

(c) and (d) Indian Officials are invariably present when the black boxes are examined in foreign countries.

(e) and (f) The transcript prepared by the foreign agencies from the black boxes is examined in detail with other evidences such as wreckage analysis and validated before reflecting in the final investigation report.

Body Scanners at Airports

5012. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:
SHRI P. VISWANATHAN:
SHRI K. SIVAKUMAR ALIAS J.K. RITHEESH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a trial run of full body scanners has been conducted at the Indira Gandhi International Airport recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security has cleared the specifications of the new scanners;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which these body scanners will be installed and activated at all the airports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) A Committee has been constituted for technical assessment study of Body Scanners. Bureau of Civil Aviation Security and Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) have been instructed to invite installation of the body scanners by all willing vendors in the market for trials.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) A time-frame will be decided once the specifications are frozen after the technical assessment.

Salaries in Corporate Sector

5013. SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plans to fix the maximum limit of salary and perquisites in the corporate sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be implemented;

(c) whether the Government is also planning to fix the limit of incentives like commission on sales/share in profits and passenger loading in airlines etc;

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

(e) if not, the manner in which the parity likely to be brought in salaries of public and private sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a), (b) and (c) The Companies Act, 1956 lays down the maximum limit for Board level managerial remuneration in the Corporate Sector.

(d) In view of (a), (b) and (c) above, the question does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Cancelled Tickets

5014. SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have earned considerably on cancellation of reserved tickets; and

(b) if so, the revenue earned by the Railways on this account during the last three years and till date?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) During the last three years and upto July 2010, the railways have received the following amount through collection of cancellation charges on reserved tickets:

Year	Cancellation charges (Rs. in crore)
2007-08	128.83
2008-09	290.21
2009-10	460.95
2010-11(upto July)	163.02

Training to Jobless Textiles Workers

5015. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated a policy for the rehabilitation of workers rendered jobless due to closure of textiles units in the country particularly in backward and rural areas;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps to take help of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) for providing proper training to these workers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) centres functioning in the country at present, location-wise;

(e) whether the Government proposes to set up more such centres in the near future; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS) provides interim relief to the textile workers rendered unemployed as a consequence of permanent closure of any particular portion or entire textile unit in the private sector. Assistance under the Scheme is payable to eligible workers for the purpose of enabling them to settle in another employment. The Scheme is applicable across the country.

(b) No, Madam.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) A Statement is placed at enclosed.

(e) and (f) Yes, Madam. Two new centres of NIFT are being set up at Budgam (Jammu and Kashmir) and Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu).

Statement

Details of NIFT Centres

1. Bangluru (Karnataka)
2. Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh)

3. Bhubneshwar (Odisha)
4. Chennai (Tamil Nadu)
5. Gandhinagar (Gujarat)
6. Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)
7. Jodhpur (Rajasthan)
8. Kangra (Himachal Pradesh)
9. Kannur (Kerala)
10. Kolkata (West Bengal)
11. Mumbai (Maharashtra)
12. New Delhi (Delhi)
13. Patna (Bihar)
14. Rae Bareli (Uttar Pradesh) and
15. Shillong (Meghalaya).

[English]

Surplus Land of NTC Mills

5016. SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR:
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:
SHRIMATI JAYA PRADA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any audit has been conducted regarding the sale of surplus land and buildings of National Textile Corporation Mills;

(b) if so, whether land and buildings were sold below

reserve price in contravention of prescribed norms;

(c) if so, the quantum of loss caused to the Government in the sale of land/buildings of NTC Mills;

(d) the details of action taken against the officers responsible for selling NTC's land and buildings below reserve prices; and

(e) the details of land and buildings owned by NTC together with their locations alongwith the number of Mills whose land and building have been sold and the details of the remaining Mills proposed to be auctioned, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) and (c) Out of 79 cases, audit observed sale below reserve price in 3 cases. The difference between sale price and reserve price as observed by audit was Rs. 84.35 lakhs.

(d) Assets were sold through a transparent bidding process and a duly constituted Assets sale Committee (ASC), consisting of representatives of the Ministry of Textiles, State Government, Operating Agency (Industrial Development Bank of India), nominees of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) and Chairman of National Textile Corporation (NTC). The decision was taken in the best interests of the company and the highest value received against each tender was confirmed by the ASC.

(e) Details of land and building sold and available for sale are at Statement-I and Statement-II respectively.

Statement-I

Sl.No.	Name of The State/Mill	Area of Land Actually Sold (In Acres)	Building (Salvage Material) Sale Price (Rs. Crores)
1	2	3	4
ANDHRA PRADESH			
1.	Natraj Mills, Nirmal	70.00	-
2.	Netha Mills, Secunderabad	12.00	0.35

1	2	3	4
3.	Adoni Mills, Adoni	-	0.39
4.	Azam Jahi Mills, Warrangal	201.02	3.81
5.	Tirupati Cotton Mills	5.25	-
KARNATAKA			
6.	Mysore Mills, Bangalore	18.69	3.34
	Mysore Mills (Bungalow No. 106)	1.88	-
7.	MSK Mills, Gulbarga	165.20	2.00
8.	Minerva Mills, Bangalore	27.18	-
	Minerva Mills, Bangalore	1.20	-
KERALA			
9.	Alagappa Mills, Algappanagar	1.96	-
10.	Kerala Luxmi Mills, Trichur	14.19	-
DELHI			
11.	Ajudhia Textile Mills, Delhi	4.54	0.37
PUNJAB			
12.	Kharar Textiles Mills, Kharar	8.28	-
13.	Surat Textile Mills	7.05	-
14.	Panipat Woollen Mills, Kharar	7.69	-
RAJASTHAN			
15.	Edward Mills, Beawar	18.28	0.52
16.	Mahalaxmi Mills, Beawar	-	-
17.	Bijaynagar Cotton Mills, Bijaynagar	7.83	-
18.	Udaipur Cotton Mills, Udaipur	29.77	-
GUJARAT			
19.	Ahmadabad New Textile Mills	11.19	-
20.	Rajkot Textile Mills Rajkot	8.72	0.61
21.	Ahmadabad Jupiter, Ahmd.	17.47	1.43
22.	Jehangir Mills, Ahmadabad	13.15	3.09

1	2	3	4
23.	Rajnarar No.1, Ahmadabad		1.32
24.	New Maneckchowk, Ahmd.		1.19
25.	Mahalaxmi Mills Bhavnagar		1.45
26.	Himadri Textile Mills Ahmd.	7.31	0.92
27.	Petlad Textile, Petlad		0.84
28.	Viramgam Textile Viramgam	36.81	1.17
29.	Fine Knitting Mills Ahmadabad	9.30	-
MAHARASHTRA			
30.	RBBA Mills, Hinghanghat		-
	(Plot No. 1 with old Bunglow)	0.16	
	Ginning and Processing Factory		
31.	Savatram Ram Prasad Mills, Akola	0.10	-
32.	Vidarbha Mills,.Achalpur(Plot No1-2)	4.99	-
	Plot No. 6)	0.89	-
	Vidarbha Mills, south side mills gate	1.81	-
33.	Model Mills, Nagpur		
	Model Mills (Plot No. 2)	0.21	-
	Model Mills (Plot No. 3 plot of old labour chawls)	1.29	-
	Model Mills (Plot No. 1 Near S.T. Stand)	6.98	-
	Model Mills (plot with 5 Bungalow)	1.49	-
	Model Mills (old labour Chawls)	3.16	-
	Model Mills (land inside Road)	28.96	-
	Model Mills (Staff Quarter)	0.61	-
	Model Mills (Chawls)	0.29	-
34.	RSRG Mills, Akola (Plot No.3)	1.96	3.00
	Plot No. 1	1.10	-
	Plot No. 2	1.06	-
	RS RG (plot with Staff Quarter)	1.27	-

1	2	3	4
35.	Tata Mills, Mumbai	4.40	-
36.	Indu Mills No. 1, Mumbai		-
37.	Indu Mills No. 2, Mumbai	**10.64	-
38.	Indu Mills No. 3, Kalachowki, Mumbai	**5.40	-
39.	Kohinoor Mills No. 3, Mumbai	4.91	-
40.	Barshi Mills, Barshi	1.87	-
41.	Dhule Textile Mills, Dhule	10.28	-
42.	Challisgaon Mills, Challisgaon	12.82	-
	Challisgaon Mills, Challisgaon	0.28	-
43.	Apollo Mills, Mumbai	7.43	-
	Apollo Mills (Bunglow)	1.29	-
	Apollo Mills, Mumbai (Right to Way and Strip.)	0.04	-
	Apollo Mills (Sale of FSI)	0.95	-
	Apollo Mills (Land under D.P. Road)	0.08	-
	Apollo Mills (60" D.P. Road)	0.36	-
	Apollo Mills (Tringular Portion)	0.67	-
44.	Mumbai Textile Mills, Mumbai	16.66	-
	Mumbai Textile Mills (New Jack Printing Press)	1.00	-
45.	Jupiter Textile Mills, Mumbai	11.11	-
46.	Elphinstone Mills, Mumbai	7.76	-
	Elphinstone Mills, Mumbai (Chawls and six flats)	0.31	-
47.	Bharat Mills, Mumbai	8.38	-
48.	New Hind Mills, Mumbai	**8.33	-
49.	Aurangabad Mills, Aurangabad	5.33	-
50.	Podar Process, Mumbai	2.39	-
51.	Nanded Mills, Nanded	92.01	-
52.	New City Mills	-	-

**Surrendered to to BMC/MHADA

1	2	3	4
MADHYA PRADESH			
53.	Burhanpur Tapti Mills	-	0.12
54.	Indore Malwa, Indore	20.00	7.60
55.	Hira Mills Ujjain	-	2.86
56.	Kalyanmal Mills Indore	0.02	1.97
	Kalyanmal Mills Indore (Godown No. 40)		-
57.	Swadeshi Mills, Indore	15.32	1.72
58.	Bengal Nagpur Mills	-	2.02
59.	Kalyanmal Mills, Indore		
TAMIL NADU			
60.	Pankaja Mills, Coimbatore	0.34	-
	Pankaja Mills (Parcel A alongwith Bldg)	9.49	-
	Pankaja Mills (Parcel A alongwith Bldg)	1.24	-
61.	Omparasakthi Mills, Coimbatore	14.25	0.28
62.	Kalleswarar 'A' Mills (site No.2)	0.18	1.44
63.	Sri Rangavilas Mills, Coimbatore	6.21	-
	Sri Rangavilas Mills, Coimbatore	3.46	
64.	Coimbatore Murugan Mills, Cmb.	0.84	-
65.	Krishnaveni Mills, Coimbatore	4.52	0.25
66.	Balramvarma Mills, Shencattah	20.22	-
67.	Somasundaram Mills, Coimbatore		0.52
68.	Sri Sarda Mills, Coimbatore		-
	Sri Sarda Mills, (Parcel B)	1.46	-
	Sri Sarda Mills, Coimbatore	1.95	-
69.	Coimbatore Spg. and Wvg. Mills	-	1.47
70.	Kothandrum Mills, Madurai	2.66	

1	2	3	4
PUDUCHERRY			
71.	Sree Bharti Mills (under sale to PTC)	15.12	-
72.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills	10.37	-
73.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills	42.93	-
UTTAR PRADESH			
74.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Naini	6.43	-
75.	Bijli Cotton Mills, Hathras	5.82	-
76.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Kanpur	3.23	4.80
77.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Kanpur	1.53	
78.	Atherton Mills, Kanpur	-	1.64
79.	Luxmi Rattan Mills, Kanpur	-	2.87
80.	New Victoria Mills, Kanpur	-	1.03
81.	Muir Mills, Kanpur	-	4.38
WEST BENGAL			
82.	Luxmi Narayan Textile Mills, Rishra	12.30	-
83.	Rampooria Textile Mills, Serampore	24.29	1.68
84.	Bengal Luxmi Tex. Mills, Serampore	27.72	4.12
85.	Bangashri Textile Mills, Sukhchar	26.71	1.29
86.	Central Cotton Textile Mills, Belur	12.06	1.52
87.	Shree Mahalaxmi Textile Mills, Palta	11.34	0.86
88.	Bengal Fine Tex. Mills No.2 Kattaganj	-	0.63
89.	Bengal Fine Tex Mills No.1 Konnagar	14.58	1.26
90.	Kanoria Industries	4.01	-
91.	Manindra B.T. Tex. Mills, Cossimbazar	27.64	-
92.	Jyoti Weaving Factory, Kolkata	4.98	0.63
BIHAR			
93.	Gaya Cotton Textile Mills, Gaya	29.30	1.62
ODISHA			
94.	Odisha Cotton Textile Mills, Bhagatpur	62.17	
TOTAL		1421.68	74.38

Statement-II

Sl.No.	Name of the State/Mill	Land Available for Sale (In acres)
1	2	3
ANDHRA PRADESH		
1.	Tirupati Mills, Reningunta	43.41
2.	Anantpur Mills, Tadapatri	9.25
	TOTAL	52.66
KARNATAKA		
3.	Mysore Mills, Bangalore	7.22
4.	MSK Mills, Gulbarga	40.12
5.	Minerva Mills, Bangalore	2.00
6.	Sree Yellamma, Tolahunse	98.80
	TOTAL	148.14
KERALA		
7.	Alagappa Mills, Algappanagar	5.38
8.	Kerala Luxmi Mills, Trichur	13.25
	TOTAL	18.63
PUNJAB		
9.	Kharar Textile Mills, Kharar	18.10
10.	Panipat Woollen Mills, Kharar	12.60
11.	Dayalbagh Mills, Amritsar	9.84
	TOTAL	40.54
RAJASTHAN		
12.	Mahalaxmi Mills, Beawar	5.17
	TOTAL	5.17
GUJARAT		
13.	Ahmadabad Jupiter, Ahmd.	4.97
14.	Jehangir Mills, Ahmadabad	3.15
15.	Rajnagar No.1, Ahmadabad	4.29

1	2	3
16.	New Maneckchowk, Ahmd.	8.99
17.	Mahalaxmi Mills Bhavnagar	16.32
18.	Petlad Textile, Petlad	29.28
19.	Viramgam Textile Viramgam	14.10
	TOTAL	81.10
MAHARASHTRA		
20.	Vidarbha Mills, Achalpur (Plot No1-2)	
	Plot No. 6)	9.36
	Plot No. 1	13.11
	RS RG (plot with Staff Quarter)	
21.	Indu Mills No.4 Mumbai	7.79
22.	Jam Mills, Mumbai	7.99
23.	Sita Ram Mills, Mumbai	8.43
24-25.	Kohinoor Mills No. 1 and 2, Mumbai	21.72
26.	RBBA Mills, Hinghanghat (Plot No. 1 with old bunglow)	6.04
27.	Savatram Ram Prasad Mills, Akola	1.03
28.	Tata Mills, Mumbai	9.98
29.	Indu Mills No. 6, Mumbai	11.96
30.	Madhusudan Mills, Mumbai	11.24
31.	Mumbai Textile Mills, Mumbai	7.17
32.	Digvijay Mills, Mumbai	9.33
33.	Barshi Mills, Barshi	32.86
34.	Finlay Mills	10.40
35.	Aurangabad Mills, Aurangabad	10.41
	Total	178.82
MADHYA PRADESH		
36.	Indore Malwa, Indore	84.21

1	2	3
37.	Hira Mills Ujjain	96.45
38.	Kalyanmal Mills Indore	33.83
39.	Kalyanmal Mills, Indore	
40.	Bengal Nagpur Mills,	52.10
41.	New Bhopal Tex. Mills	71.30
42.	Burhanpur Tapti Mills	39.88
	TOTAL	377.77
	TAMILNADU	
43.	Kalleswarar 'A' Mills (site No.2)	15.88
44.	Somasundaram Mills, Coimbatore	6.87
45.	Sri Rangavilas Mills, Coimbatore	7.53
46.	Coimbatore Murugan Mills, Cmb.	1.47
47.	Coimbatore Spg. and Wvg. Mills	20.00
	TOTAL	51.75
	UTTAR PRADESH	
48.	Bijli Cotton Mills, Hathras	1.74
49.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Kanpur	45.06
50.	Lord Krishna Mills, Saharanpur	24.70
51.	Atherton Mills, Kanpur	23.47
52.	Luxmi Rattan Mills, Kanpur	13.80
53.	New Victoria Mills, Kanpur	29.64
54.	Muir Mills, Kanpur	49.20
55.	Sree Vikram Mills, Lucknow	9.86
56.	Raibareilley Textile Mills, Raibareilley	30.42
57.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills, Naini	6.19
58.	Swadeshi Mills, Maunathbhanjan	9.20
	TOTAL	243.28

1	2	3
	WEST BENGAL	
59.	Bengal Fine Tex. Mills No.2 Kattaganj	19.04
60.	Manindra B.T. Tex. Mills, Cossimbazar	6.07
61.	Aarti Cotton Textile Mills, Howrah	6.25
62.	Associated Industries, Chandrapur	50.00
	TOTAL	81.36
	BIHAR	
63.	Bihar Cooperative Tex. Mills Mokameh	22.20
	TOTAL	22.20
	Grand Total	1308.59

Air India Debt

5017. SHRI M. KRISHNASSWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has a huge amount of debt to pay;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to help Air India to come out of this burden?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) NACIL and its subsidiary company, Air India Charters Limited, has an outstanding loan of US\$3856.245 million and Rs.6475.695 crores to finance acquisition of its aircrafts and spare engines for replacement of its ageing fleet and to cater to expansion plans. In addition to above, Air India has also resorted to working capital borrowings of Rs.17,956.75 crores.

(c) In view of the deteriorating financial position of NACIL, the turnaround Plan of NACIL is being monitored by Government. Government has released an amount of Rs. 800 crores in two tranches of Rs. 400 crores each in February and March, 2010 in the form of equity. A provision has also been made in the Budget 2010-11

towards equity infusion of Rs.1200 crores in NACIL subject to meeting the specified Trigger points set for the airline by the Group of Ministers.

Duration of Air India Flights

5018. SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL:
SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:
SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India flights from Mumbai to Delhi take 2 hours 15/20 minutes while other airlines like Jet Airways, Kingfisher, Go Air, etc. take 15 to 20 minutes less;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the efforts made/being made by Air India to be competitive to other airlines in respect of saving of time;

(d) whether Air India would consider further reduction in flight timings in other routes also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The published block timing for current summer 2010 time table for Bombay-Delhi is 2.15 hours. The actual flying time between Bombay-Delhi is around 1:40 and remaining 00.35 accounts for taxi times and holding delays at Bombay and Delhi. After commencement of runway 29 and due to enormous increase of air traffic especially at Bombay and Delhi airports, the block time for Bombay/Delhi sector has been revised to 2 hours and 15 minutes.

(c) to (e) NACIL believes in publishing a mere realistic block time and then to maintain its on-time schedules to further its improve image in the market.

As and when T3 terminal at Delhi becomes operational for Domestic flights, the taxiing time required to reach the parking bays would reduce substantially and block timings would then be revised accordingly.

[*Translation*]

Rail-tel

5019. SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to set up rail-tel;

(b) if so, the route in kilometers on which Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) network has been set up so far and the bandwidth capacity thereof;

(c) the number of railway stations connected so far with OFC network;

(d) whether laying of OFC have reduced rail accidents; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) RailTel Corporation of India Limited (RCIL) was formed in the year 2000.

(b) Till July 2010, Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) network with a bandwidth capacity of 2.5 Giga bits per second (Gbps) has been set up on 35948 Route Kilometers (RKMs). On the same OFC network, Dense Wave Division Multiplexing (DWDM) with 30 Gbps capacity has been created on 10000 RKMs on separate pair of fibre.

(c) As on 31 July 2010, 3,788 stations are connected on OFC network.

(d) and (e) OFC network is being used to provide communication for train operations and does not have a direct bearing on accident avoidance measures.

[*English*]

Manufacturing of Medicines by Small Scale Units

5020. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:
SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the small scale units are manufacturing medicines in the country;

(b) if so, the total number of such units functioning in the small-scale sector in the country, State-wise;

(c) the value of medicines manufactured by these units on an average annually;

(d) the percentage of value of such medicines out of the value of total medicines produced;

(e) whether the government proposes to buy generic drugs from small and medium enterprises for distribution to masses at affordable prices;

(f) if so, whether the quality control of these SME units has been taken into consideration; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA):

(a) and (b); Yes Sir, as per the information furnished by Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, there are total 1549262 Micro and Small Scale enterprises working in the country.

(c) and (d) This information is not maintained by the Department of Pharmaceuticals.

(e) to (g) Every Government Department purchase medicines for distribution, keeping into consideration the quality and price of these medicines.

Setting up of LPG Filling Stations

5021. SHRI MUKESH BHAIKAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to set up LPG filling stations at Banaskantha area of Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) At present, one Auto LPG Dispensing Station (ALDS) is operating at Deesa in Banaskantha District of Gujarat by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL).

There is no proposal to set up any more ALDS in Banaskantha area of Gujarat State due to low sales potential for Auto LPG.

Contract Farming

5022. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:
SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the status of contract farming in food processing sector;

(b) the details of food processing sectors where it is proposed to be implemented;

(c) whether the third party investment in contract farming in Food Processing Sector ensure better technology, raise productivity and bring maximum benefits to the farmers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not maintain data on the Contract Farming in Food Processing Sector.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has not undertaken any survey to assess the impact of contract farming in the sector. However, a recent survey (2010) by FICCI on challenges in food processing sector, indicated that to overcome the long and fragmented supply chain, contract farming can emerge as a significant opportunity for companies whereby they can create direct farm linkages to source appropriate quality, quantity and varieties of inputs.

Air Indian Flights

5023. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India is not operating any flights to Sri Lanka and Paro in Bhutan from Delhi in spite of heavy traffic on these routes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to permit private airlines to operate on Delhi-Paro-Delhi and Delhi-Sri Lanka-Delhi routes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Though Air India does not operate direct flights from Delhi to Sri Lanka and Paro, it provides a same day connectivity between Delhi and Sri Lanka via Chennai daily. On account of inadequate market potential, Air India does not find it commercially viable to operate direct flights on these sectors.

(c) and (d) No private airline(s) has yet been granted permission to operate on Delhi-Paro- Delhi and Delhi-Sri Lanka- Delhi routes.

Cost of Generic and Branded Drugs

5024. SHRI SANJAY BHOI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any cost difference between the Generic and Branded drugs being sold by the Jan Aushadhi outlets in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA):

(a) Yes Madam:

(b) The following table containing a sample comparison of some of the prices between Generic and Branded medicines will establish such a cost difference:

Name of salt	Dosage	Pack	Average Market Price of Branded medicines (Rs.)	Price of Generic Medicines in Jan Aushadhi (Rs.)	Difference
Antibiotic: Ciprofloxacin	250 mg	10	55.00	11.10	5 times higher
Pain Killer: Diclofenac	100 mg	10	36.70	3.50	10 times higher
Common Cold: Cetirizine	10 mg	10	20.00	2.75	7 times higher
Fever: Paracetamol	500 mg	10	10.00	2.45	4 times higher
Pain and Fever Nimesulide	100 mg	10	25.00	2.70	9 times higher
Cough Syrup	110 ml	bottle	33.00	13.30	2.5 times higher

The prices of branded medicines are generally higher than generic medicines due to various reasons *inter-alia* including branded drugs having patent protection and there being a limited number of drugs under price control under the Drug (Price Control) Order, 1995 etc.

[*Translation*]

Lalitpur Singrauli Railway Project

5025. SHRI JITENDRA SINGH BUNDELA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Lalitpur-Singrauli railway project and the budget provision made for this purpose;

(b) whether the project is being delayed, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the work on Panna-Khajuraho and Panna-Satna line has been started; and

(d) if not, the time by which this work is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) On Lalitpur-Satna, Mahoba-Khajuraho and Rewa-Singrauli new line, Mahoba to Khajuraho (65 km) has been completed. Lalitpur-Udaipura (32 Km) is targeted for completion during 2010-11. The work is being progressed as per the availability of resources. An outlay of Rs. 100 crore has been provided for the work during 2010-11.

(c) and (d) No, Madam. Survey for alternative alignment avoiding Gangau Sanctuary has been taken up.

[English]

PIDS at IGIA

5026. PROF. RANJAN PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Perimeter Intrusion Detection System (PIDS) has been installed at Indira Gandhi International Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be installed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Out of 26 Km of perimeter at IGI airport, Perimeter Intrusion Detection System (PIDS) has been installed on a stretch of 12.1 kms. The installation is scheduled for completion by December, 2010.

[Translation]

Catering Facilities for Diabetic Patients

5027. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether separate catering facilities are available in the Railways for passengers suffering from diabetes;

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

(c) the time by which the said facility is proposed to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. An effort has been made to provide diabetic food to passengers of 2301-02 Howrah Rajdhani and 2273-74 Howrah Durgam Express Trains as a pilot project.

Pilferage of Petrol from Pipeline

5028. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pilferage of petrol is taking place by cutting Mathura-Jalandhar pipeline of the Indian Oil;

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

(c) the arrangements made by the Government for checking such incidents of pilferage of petrol, preventing fire incidents and the leakage of petrol in the future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL) has reported that since 16th October 2008, Mathura-Jalandhar Pipeline (MJPL) of IOCL has had 22 cases of pipeline pilferage. Out of these 22 cases, 17 took place in the State of Haryana, 3 in the State of Uttar Pradesh and one each in the State of Uttarakhand and Delhi. FIRs have been lodged in all the 22 cases with the respective Police Stations.

(c) Following measures have been taken by IOCL to strengthen safety and security of its oil pipelines:

- Patrolling of Right of Way (ROW) through physical walking by line patrolmen.
- Time to time surprise checks by officers to verify the efficacy of patrolling by patrolmen.

- Leak detection system has been installed in MJPL which gives alarm in case of any pressure drop due to leak/pilferage activities.
- Monitoring of operation parameters through Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition (SCADA) system.
- Interaction and sensitizing villagers through awareness programs along the ROW.
- Close and regular interaction with State administration and district authorities.

Apart from the above, keeping in view the increased pilferage activities in MJPL, following additional steps have also been undertaken to strengthen the surveillance system:

- (i) Intensifying line patrolling by deployment of Director General of Rehabilitation (DGR) sponsored guards for physical patrolling of the complete stretch every day.
- (ii) Night patrolling of vulnerable stretches of Right of Way (ROW) and road crossings by DGR armed guards.
- (iii) Frequent joint patrolling of pipeline ROW along with local police at night.
- (iv) Provision of CCTV based surveillance system at repeaters for remote monitoring.
- (v) Amendments have been proposed in the Petroleum and Mineral Pipeline Act, 1962 for making it more effective by providing deterrent punishment.
- (vi) Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) based surveillance system for ROW integrity management-system is under trial.

[English]

Renaming of Railway Stations

5029. DR. KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have received any proposal for renaming Surat, Ahmedabad and Rajkot railway

stations as Morarji Desai, Sardar Vallabhai Patel and Mahatma Gandhi railway station respectively;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

'Book a Meal' Scheme

5030. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:

SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have introduced "Book a Meal" scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the scheme is available for booking through e-ticketing;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is proposed to introduce the scheme in all the Mail/Express/Superfast including Garib Rath trains;

(e) if so; the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation has introduced the facilities of 'book a meal' on a pilot basis on 2779-80 Goa Express and 2627-28 Karnataka Express from 15.06.2010.

(b) and (c) Salient features of 'book a meal' scheme are as follows:

- "Book a Meal" option on the ticket confirmation page is provided so that passengers can do online booking of their meals for the journey.
- This facility is only for the fully confirmed e-tickets and not on PRS.

- The meals booked will be served by the pantry car staff during the journey according to the service timings.
- Cash payment is taken by the pantry car staff after successful delivery of the food.
- No extra charge is payable for this service.
- The facility is available only for the normal users of the IRCTC website, not for the agents.

(d) to (f) The project is launched on a pilot basis and its extension will be based on the experience gained and on the levels of passengers satisfaction.

[Translation]

Reservation to Muslims

5031. SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to provide reservation to Muslims under the OBC category;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of norms followed for providing reservation under the OBC category;

(d) whether the Government is contemplating to give reservation to any other community also besides Muslims;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) The Government has already provided reservation to some Muslim communities under Other Backward Classes category. The State-wise details of Muslim community included in the Central List of OBCs are at Statement-I enclosed.

(c) The criteria for declaring a Caste/Community backward is social, educational and economic backwardness.

(d) to (f) Proposals to notify Castes /Communities under Central List of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) are based on the advice received from National Commission for Backward Classes.

Statement

Name of Muslim castes in the Central and State List of OBC of all the States/UTs

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Entry No. in Central List	Name of the Caste
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	37	Mehtar (Muslim)
2.	Assam	13	Manipuri Muslim
3.	Bihar	130	Bakho (Muslim)
		84	Bhathiara (Muslim)
		38	Chik (Muslim)
		42	Churihar (Muslim)
		46	Dafali (Muslim)
		57	Dhobi (Muslim)
		58	Dhunia (Muslim)

1	2	3	4
		119	Idrisi or Darzi (Muslim)
		5	Kasab (Kasai) (Muslim)
		91	Madari (Muslim)
		92	Mehtar
			Lalgbegi
			Halalkhor
			Bhangi
			(Muslim)
		93	Miriasin (Muslim)
		102	Mirshikar (Muslim)
		103	Momin (Muslim)
		99	Mukri (Mukeri) (Muslim)
		67	Nalband (Muslim)
		63	Nat (Muslim)
		68	Pamaria (Muslim)
		109	Rangrez (Muslim)
		111	Rayeen or Kunjra (Muslim)
		116	Sayces (Muslim)
		131	Thakurai (Muslim)
		129	Saikalgar (Sikligar) (Muslim)
4.	Chandigarh	NIL	
5.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	9	Makarana (Muslim)
6.	Daman and Diu	NIL	
7.	Delhi	NIL	
8.	Goa	NIL	
9.	Gujarat	3	Bafan (Muslim)
		17	Dafar (Hindu & Muslim)
		19	Fakir, Faquir (Muslim)
		20	Gadhari (Muslim)
		22	Galiara (Muslim)

1	2	3	4
		23	Ganchi (Muslim)
		24	Hingora (Muslim)
		28	Jat (Muslim)
		27	Julaya, Garana, Taria, Tari and Ansari (All Muslim)
		32	Khatki or Kasai Chamadia Khatki Halari Khatki (All Muslim)
		43	Majothi Kumbhar Darbar or Badan Majothi (All Muslim)
		44	Makrani (Muslim)
		45	Matwa or Matwa-Kureshi (Muslim)
		40	Mir Dhab, Langha, Mirasi (All Muslim)
		49	Miyana, Miana (Muslim)
		54	Pinjara Ganchi-Pinjara Mansuri-Piniara (All Muslim)
		59	Sandhi (Muslim)
		65	Sipai Pathi Jamat or Turk Jamat (All Muslim)
		70	Theba (Muslim)
		73	Hajam (Muslim), Khalipha (Muslim)
		76	Vanzara (Muslim)
		76	Wagher (Hindu and Muslim)
10.	Haryana	nil	
11.	Himachal Pradesh	nil	
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	nil	
13	Karnataka	13	Chapper Band (Muslim)
		179	Other Muslim excluding (i) Cutchi Menon

1	2	3	4
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (ii) Navayat (iii) Bohra or Bhora or Borah (iv) Sayyid (v) Sheik (vi) Pathan (vii) Mughal (viii) Mahdivia/Mahdavi (ix) Konkani or Jamayati Muslims
14	Kerala	39 A	<p>Other Muslim excluding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Bohra (ii) Cutchi Menmon. (iii) Navayat (iv) Turukkan (v) Dakhani Muslim
15.	Madhya Pradesh	59	<p>Islamic Groups:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ranrej 2. Bhishti, Bhishti-Abbasi 3. Chippa/Chhipa 4. Hela 5. Bhatiyara 6. Dhobi 7. Mewati, Meo 8. Pinjara, Naddaf, Fakir/Faquir, Behna, Dhunia, Dhunkar, Mansoori 9. Kunjara, Raine 10. Manihar 11. Kasai, Kasab, Kassab 12. Mirasi 13. Barhai (Carpenter)

1	2	3	4
			14. Hajjam (Barber)
			Nai (Barber)
			Salmani
			15. Julaha-Momin
			Julaha-Ansari
			Momin-Ansari
			16. Luhar
			Saifi
			Nagauri Luhar
			Multani Luhar
			17. Tadavi
			18. Banjara, Mukeri, Makrani
			19. Mochi
			20. Teli
			Nayata, Pindari (Pindara)
			21. Kalaigar
			22. Pendi
			23. Nalband
			24. Mirdha (Excluding Jat Muslims)
			25. Nat (Other than those included in the SC List)
			26. Niyargar, Niyargar-Multani Niyaria
			27. Gaddi
16.	Maharashtra	187	Chhapparband (including Muslim)
17.	Manipur	nil	
18.	Odisha	nil	
19	Puducherry	nil	
20	Punjab	nil	

1	2	3	4
21	Rajasthan	23	Julaha (Hindu and Muslim)
22	Sikkim	nil	
23	Tripura	nil	
24	Tamil Nadu	26	Dekkani Muslims
25	Uttar Pradesh	44	Muslim Kayastha
		22	Teli Malik (Muslim)
26	Uttarakhand	Nil	
27	West Bengal	nil	
28	Andaman and Nicobar	nil	
29	Mizoram	No OBC	
30	Nagaland	No OBC	

[English]

Sixth Pay Commission

5032. SHRI RAMKISHUN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees and officers of Railways are being given salary as per the Sixth Pay Commission but no provision has been made about PTO (Railway Pass) as per new scales;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Railways propose to make provisions for railway passes as per the pay scales of Railway employees and officers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) Revision of entitlements of Railway employees to rail travel facilities on privilege passes and P.T.Os consequent upon implementation of recommendations of the 6th Central Pay Commission, thereby introducing the concept of Grade Pay, is under active consideration. Pending decision in this regard, the entitlements continue to be regulated by existing provisions.

Excise Duty on Steel Projects

5033. SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the increased excise duty on steel products has led to increase in prices of steel products in the international and domestic markets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering to give rebate in excise duty to steel units functioning under the small industrial sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b) Excise Duty is cenvatable and it has no effect on the base price of domestic steel products, although it may affect the cost of procurement for the end consumer.

Excise Duty on steel items was reduced from 14% to 10% on 7.12.2008. It was later reduced to 8% on 24.2.2009, as an economic stimulus measure during the global economic crisis. The current rate of Excise Duty on Steel products is 10%.

(c) and (d) No, Madam. There is no proposal in the Ministry of Steel to give rebate on Excise Duty, to steel units functioning under the small industries sector.

[English]

Coco Retail Outlets

5034. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of COCO retail outlets so far sanctioned and started by various OMCs in the country, state-wise;

(b) the number of officers and staff of these OMCs engaged for operation of such outlets; State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has advised Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies to operate more permanent Company-Owned-Company-Operated retail outlets vide letter dated 06.09.2006;

(d) if so, the number of such outlets set up since 2006, State-wise; and

(e) the details of the steps taken for the welfare of officers and staff deputed/likely to be deputed to operate such retail outlets in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) As on 01.07.2010, 394 permanent and 1020 temporary Company-Owned-Company-Operated (COCO) Retail Outlets (ROs) of public sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs.), viz., Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPC) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPC) are under operation in the country.

(b) 226 officers of OMCs are engaged for operation of permanent COCOs. Apart from these officers, local area sales officers also oversee the operation of these permanent COCO. The State-wise details of officers and staff engaged in operating these permanent COCOs are available with Director (Marketing) of OMCs.

(c) and (d) This Ministry vide letter dated 06.09.2006 has advised OMCs to operate these permanent COCOs

through their own officers. However, the Government have not advised OMCs to increase the number of these permanent COCOs. The State-wise number of such outlets is available with Director (Marketing) of OMCs.

(e) The officers manning such permanent COCOs are governed by the service and welfare rules of OMCs. The staff for operation of such permanent COCOs are provided by the service providers who are governed by the local labour laws as applicable in the State/area.

Development of Calicut Railway Station

5035. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Calicut Railway Station is being developed according to international standard;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount/manpower sanctioned/deployed to complete the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) All essential amenities as per norms have been provided at Kozhikode (Calicut) railway station. Development of stations by augmentation/improvement of passenger amenities is a continuous exercise and works in this regard are undertaken based on increase in passenger traffic and other relative priorities. Works for augmentation/upgradation of facilities have been accordingly taken up at Kozhikode railway station under various schemes and works viz. face lifting of station building, improvement of circulating area, improvement of lighting arrangements, provision of coach guidance system on platforms, construction of second entry booking office, etc. have been completed.

(c) Kozhikode has been identified for development into World Class Station through PPP (Public Private Partnership) mode and accordingly preliminary activities have been undertaken. A high level multi-disciplinary project team and a monitoring team comprising senior level officials have been nominated. In the PPP mode, Government's expenditure is limited to consultancy and viability gap, if any, which will be known after competitive bidding process is completed.

Over Bridge at LC No. 113-B

5036. SHRI JITENDER SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Railway overbridge is proposed to be built over level crossing No.113-B at national highway No.71 at Jind, Haryana; and

(b) if so, the present status of the overbridge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. A Road Over Bridge (ROB) was sanctioned at Level Crossing (LC) No.113-B in the Works Programme of 2009-10. Train Vehicle Units of this LC has gone above three lacs. This is also on a National Highway. Accordingly, the State Government has proposed to change the 2-lane ROB to 4-lane. The firm proposal is awaited from the State Government.

National Passenger Advisory Board

5037. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has decided to set up a National Passenger Advisory board to address the passengers grievances;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to improve the facilities/amenities to passengers at the airports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. A 3 level Customer Advisory Forum is proposed to be established for feedback mechanism. This Forum will create a platform where NACIL involves the customer and will generate ideas for improvement of its product and services.

(c) and (d) Upgradation and modernisation of airports and improvement of facilities at airports are a continuous process. Various airports have recently undergone extensive modernisation and upgradation.

Import of Crude Oil from Turkey

5038. SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Turkey has offered a fresh and potentially viable alternative that could get Central Asian and Caucasian oil to India's doorstep;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received any concrete proposal from Turkey in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) and the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d). The project is still in a conceptual stage and requires a detailed feasibility study to establish its techno-commercial viability. The second tripartite meeting between Turkey-Israel-India was held in July 2009 in Israel to discuss conceptual features of the project. There has been no further development on the project proposal since then.

[Translation]

Churu Bhadra Rail Section

5039. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of railway line between Churu-Ratangarh-Sujangarh-Sardarshahar-Sadulpur-Nohar and Bhadra area of Western Railways alongwith the location-wise details of manned/unmanned level crossings thereon;

(b) whether there are no level crossings at some places in the aforesaid area for upto 30 kilometres;

(c) if so, whether absence of level crossings has led to closure of roads being used for decades in the rural areas;

(d) if so, whether the Railways are considering to issue any guidelines for construction of level crossings in these areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) A statement is attached.

(b) There are three locations having distance more than 30 kilometers.

(i) Ratangarh-Churu-37 km

(ii) Ratangarh West-Sardarshahar-31 km

(iii) Sadulpur-Nohar-33 km

(c) No, Madam.

(d) No, Madam.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

(a) The details on location-wise and length of manned/unmanned level crossings on North Western Railway is as under:

Section	Length (Kms)	LC No.	Manned/Unmanned	Location (Kms)
1	2	3	4	5
Sujangarh (Km 370.16 to Ratangarh (Km 324.33))	45.83	23	Unmanned	370/9-10
		22	Manned	358/7-8
		21	Manned	369/2-3
		20	Unmanned	360/8-9
		18	Unmanned	358/7-8
		17	Manned	357/3-4
		15	Unmanned	351/5-6
		14	Manned	347/0-1
		11	Manned	342/9-10
		9	Manned	340/9-10
		6	Manned	333/3-4
Ratangarh (Km. 324.33 to Km. 223.76)	42.41	1	Manned	326/0-1
		191	Manned	323/14-15
		188-A	Manned	320/7-8
		168	Manned	283/5-6
Churu (Km 324.33) to Sadulpur (Km. 223.76)	57.76	167-A	Manned	282/4-5
		165	Manned	280/3-4
		156-A	Manned	264/3-4

1	2	3	4	5
		155-A	Manned	262/4-5
		149-A	Manned	253/10-11
		147	Manned	249/9-10
		144	Manned	224/5-6
		142	Manned	223/0-1
		139	Manned	222/2-3
Sadulpur (Km 178.58/70.28/223.76) to Suratpura Jn. (Km.174.07)	04.50	43	Manned	68/4-5
		41	Manned	67/0-1
Suratpura (Km 174.07 to Tehsil Bhadra (Km 113.45)	60.62	81	Manned	143/0-1
		80	Manned	142/4-5
		74	Manned	132/6-7
		67	Cannal/Manned	117/0-1
		65	Manned	114/9-10
		62-A	Manned	113/7-8
		61-A	Manned	112/10-11
		61	Cannal/Manned	109/13-14
		60	Cannal/Manned	105/5-6
		58	Cannal/Manned	102/3-4
Ratangarh West (Km 0.00) to Sardarshahar (Km 43.50)	43.50	1	Manned	0/10-11
		8	Unmanned	10/7-8
		22-A	Manned	41/1-2
		24-A	Manned	42/13-14
		25	Manned	43/1-2

*[English]***Modernisation of Railway Stations in Maharashtra**

5040. SHRI GOPINATH MUNDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have any proposal for extension and modernisation of railway stations in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this project is likely to be executed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) 107 stations in the State of Maharashtra have been selected for upgradation under various schemes, namely Model Stations scheme, Modern Stations scheme and Adarsh Stations scheme. All the works for development and upgradation of these stations are planned to be completed by 30 June, 2011.

(c) Does not arise.

Retirement Age of Judges

5041. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to increase the retirement age of High Court Judges from 62 to 65 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether All India Bar Association (ABSA) has demanded to increase the retirement age of Supreme Court Judges from 65 to 68 and 60 to 62 of lower courts judges;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government is also considering not to give any assignment to the retired judges after increasing their retirement; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Government has decided to increase the age of retirement of High Court Judges from 62 to 65 years.

(c) and (d) No such representation demanding increase in the retirement age of Supreme Court Judges from 65 to 68 and 60 to 62 of lower courts judges has been received from All India Bar Association (ABSA). However, the Federation of Judicial Officers Association of India has represented that the retirement age of subordinate judges should also be suitably enhanced to bring it at par with the proposed increase in the retirement

age of High Court Judges as proposed by Justice Shetty Commission.

(e) and (f) There is no such proposal regarding 'not to give any assignment to the retired judges after increasing their retirement' under consideration of the Government.

Variation in Prices of Medicines

5042. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices/cost of the same brand of medicines and drugs varies in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the reasons therefor and number of such cases brought to the notice of the Government during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) the names of important life saving medicines/drugs which falls under the Government Pricing Control Mechanism;

(d) whether the Government has reviewed the existing pricing control mechanism in the recent past;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof and follow-up action taken in this regard; and

(f) the specific measures/steps taken/propose to initiate to keep prices of life saving and other medicines under control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) No such cases have come to the notice of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in respect of variation in the prices/cost of same brand drug/medicines in various parts of the country. Ceiling price of scheduled formulations fixed by NPPA without excise duty and taxes under Para 9 of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 1995) are uniformly applicable to all manufacturers across the country. Non-ceiling price fixed by NPPA for specific company/product/brand without excise duty and taxes is also not subject to change in different States and it remains same across the country.

(c) Life saving medicines have not been defined in the DPCO, 1995. Under the provisions of the DPCO, 1995 the prices of 74 bulk drugs, as listed in Schedule I of the said Order, and formulations containing any of these scheduled drugs are controlled. The list of 74 scheduled drugs is available in the NPPA website www.nppaindia.nic.in.

(d) and (e) No Madam.

(f) NPPA fixes or revises prices of scheduled drugs / formulations as per the provisions of the DPCO, 1995. The NPPA monitors the prices of all formulations including imported scheduled formulations under price control. As per the provisions of the DPCO, 1995 no person can sell any formulation (medicine) of price controlled category to a consumer at a price exceeding the price notified/ approved by the NPPA. In case, a company is found selling at prices higher than the price notified/approved by the NPPA action is taken against them as per the provisions of the DPCO, 1995.

In respect of drugs-not covered under the DPCO, 1995, *i.e.* non-scheduled drugs, manufacturers fix the prices themselves without seeking the approval of NPPA. However, as a part of price monitoring activity, NPPA regularly examines movement of prices of non-scheduled formulations, for which monthly reports of ORG IMS and information furnished by individual manufacturers are utilized. Wherever a price increase beyond 10% per annum is noticed, the manufacturer is asked to bring down the price voluntarily failing which, subject to prescribed conditions, action is initiated under paragraph 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995 for fixing the price of the formulation in public interest.

The Draft National Pharmaceutical Policy 2006 which is under consideration of the Government proposes to include essential drugs as contained in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) 2003 under price control.

Setting up of Heavy Industries

5043. SHRIMATI J. SHANTHA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of the Government for setting up any Heavy Industry in Public Sector with the assistance of World Bank or any

other international organization during the current Five Year Plan particularly in the backward districts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated/proposed to be allocated for the purpose; and

(d) the time by which the work in this regard is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) No Madam.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Circuit Benches in Karnataka

5044. SHRI ADAGOORU H. VISHWANATH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to grant permanent status for the two circuit benches at Dharwad and Gulbarga in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these two circuit benches are likely to be granted permanent status?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) Yes Madam.

(b) and (c) A confirmation about availability of infrastructural facilities at Dharwad and Gulbarga for setting up of permanent Benches of Karnataka High Court is awaited from the Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court.

[*Translation*]

New Terminal at IGIA

5045. SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT:
SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH:
SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the terminal-3 at Indira Gandhi International Airport has recently been operationalised.

(b) if so, the original estimated cost of the project and the actual cost of the project at the time of completion;

(c) whether there was any time and cost overruns in the projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the user charges that were proposed to be levied by the developer from the passengers as per the initial cost projection of the project;

(f) whether the developer has the right to pass on the burden of rising cost on the passengers by way of increasing the user charges in the event of cost overrun in the project; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Madam. The Terminal-3 has been operationalized for international operations with effect from 28-07-2010.

(b) to (d) As per the provisions of Operation, Management and Development Agreement (OMDA) and State Support Agreement (SSA) signed by M/s Delhi International Airport Pvt. Ltd. (DIAL) with the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Government of India respectively, DIAL had prepared a Master Plan for development of IGI Airport, Delhi (including Terminal T-3) with an estimated cost of Rs. 8975 crores. Project was completed as per Schedule on 31-03-2010 at a cost of Rs.12,857 crores. The increase in project cost was on account of change in scope of work with a larger intention of development of 'world class' infrastructure and due to revised traffic forecast.

(e) to (g) DIAL has been allowed to levy the 'Base Airport Charges' as envisaged in State Support Agreement (SSA). Computation of the 'Base Airport Charges' is based on the criteria provided in Schedule 1 of the SSA. In addition, DIAL has also been permitted to levy and collect Development Fee (DF) from the passengers for a period of 36 months w.e.f.01-03-2010 in accordance with the provisions of Section 22A of AAI Act, 1994 to bridge the funding gap of Rs.1827 crores. Funds collected through the levy of DF can be utilised

only for the construction of such aeronautical assets which will be transferred by DIAL to AAI upon completion of the lease period.

Compliance Report of Companies

5046. SHRI HARISH CHOUDHARY:
DR. SANJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether companies are required to submit a compliance report to the department of corporate affairs regarding enforcement of labour laws;

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

(c) the number of companies which have not submitted compliance report during the last three years;

(d) the number of companies against whom action has been taken during the last three years in this regard; and

(e) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) No Madam.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Employees of Paramount Airways

5047. SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any representation or complaints from the employees of Paramount Airways against non-payment of their wages and other dues; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Investment in Stock Exchange

5048. SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI:
SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:
SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) have made investments in stock exchange;

(b) if so, the names of these PSUs along with the amount that has been invested by them in the share market as on date;

(c) the reasons for such investment made in the share market by these PSUs;

(d) whether the Government has accorded its permission for this purpose or PSUs are making investment on their own; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (c) Details of the investments in stock exchange made by Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) are not maintained centrally.

(d) to (e) CPSEs have not been permitted to invest in the share market directly. However, Government have permitted, in August, 2007, Navratna and Miniratna CPSEs to invest 30% of their surplus funds in schemes of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) regulated public sector mutual funds.

No Objection Certificate to Terminal-3 of IGIA

5049. SHRI GOVIND PRASAD MISHRA:
NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fire service department has granted a no objection certificate to the Terminal 3 of Indira Gandhi International Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the fire service department has given suggestion to equip the whole premises with the fire extinguishers;

(d) if so, the time by which the equipments are likely to be installed; and

(e) the time by which Terminal-3 is likely to become fully operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Delhi Fire Services (DFS) had carried out intensive inspection of the entire Terminal-3 Building. Design and construction of all the fire safety aspects of the building was reviewed and NOC was accorded by DFS vide letter dated 29-06-2010 and 28-07-2010 for the areas opened for commercial operations.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. DFS had suggested for Portable Fire Extinguishers and the suggestion has been implemented by Delhi International Airport Private Limited and based on subsequent inspection, DFS has issued a NOC vide letter on 29-06-2010.

(e) International Operations commenced from the Terminal-3 building with effect from 28-07-2010.

[*English*]

Incident at Cochin Airport

5050. SHRI K. SUGUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a cargo consignment of chemicals of low inflammable intensity evaded the multi-level cargo level screening and made its way to a Chennai bound aircraft at the Cochin airport recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government has taken regarding the negligence in handling hazardous substances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) No, Madam. The cargo consignment was not loaded on the aircraft. An incident of smoke coming out from a cargo consignment at Cochin Airport, was detected before being

loaded in Flight IT-2482 bound for Chennai came to notice on 25-07-2010 at 0850 hrs. The consignment was moved to a safe distance from the aircraft. On further enquiry, it was learnt that the consignment of chemical samples was booked by M/s Hindustan Uniliver limited.

(c) Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) has been instructed to issue necessary directions to avoid recurrence of such incidents to all airport and air operators, in handling hazardous substances.

[Translation]

Production of Additional Urea

5051. SHRI BHISMA SHANKAR ALIAS KUSHAL TIWARI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fertilizer producing units, which have produced additional urea under the Additional Urea

Production Policy during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the additional urea produced under the said policy was exported also; during the said period;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of revenue earned by the Government therefrom during the said period year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA):

(a) The number of fertilizer producing units which produced additional urea during the last three years are at statement.

(b) No Madam.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Since additional production of urea is not exported, no revenue was generated by the Government therefrom.

Statement

Details showing units producing additional urea during the last three years

Sl.No.	Name of the unit	Capacity (MT) MT	2009-10 MT	2008-09 MT	2007-08 MT
1	2	3	4	5	6

Feed-Stock: Gas (Pre 1992)

1.	BVFC-Namrup	315000			
2.	IFFCO-Aonla	864600	135858	122322	13600
3.	INDOGULF-Jagdishpur	864600	2337790	205091	16502
4.	KRIBHCO-Hazira	1729200	41002	14299	1561
5.	NFL-V pur	864600	1540	1116	33917
	Sub total	4638000	412190	342828	65580

Feed-Stock: Gas (Post 1992)

6.	NFCL-Kakinada	597300	16327	171642	158890
7.	CFCL-Kota	864600	155336	45239	141900
8.	TATA	864600	365285	156091	210731

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	KSFL	864600	107769	608	41400
10.	NFCL-Kakinada exp.	597300	126882	11920	131100
11.	IFFCO-Aonla exp.	864600	135563	153756	1400
12.	NFL-V Pur Exp.	864600	72559	73376	78500
	Sub Total	5517600	1123721	622632	763921
	Total-Gas	10155600	1535911	955460	829501
	Feed-Stock: Naphtha (Pre 1992)				
13.	IFFCO-P, PUR	5511100	171517	111436	78500
14.	MCFL- Mangalore	379500			
15.	MFL-Madras	486750			
16.	SFC-Kota	379500	4151	15033	
17.	SPIC-Tuticorin				
18.	ZACL- Goa	399300		13138	
	Sub Total	2196150	175668	139607	78500
	Feed-Stock: Naphtha (Post 1992)				
19.	IFFCO-P,PUR exp.	864600	135503		59300
20.	CFCL-II	864600	134603	143655	144900
	Sub total: Total	1729200	270106	143655	204200
	Total-Naphtha	3925350	445774	283262	282700
	Feed-Stock: FO/LSHS				
21.	GNFC-Bharuch	636900			31945
22.	NFL-Nangal	478500		35916	
23.	NFL-Bhatinda	511500		25918	
24.	NFL-Paniat	511500			
	Total-FO/LSHS	2138400	0	61834	31945

1	2	3	4	5	6
Feed-Stock:Mixed					
25.	GSFC-Baroda	370590			
26.	IFFCO-Kalol	544500	55627	15366	
27.	RCF-Thal	1706897	5319	196624	129103
Total-Mixed		2621987	10856	211990	129103
Grand total (6 Groups)		18841337	2090441	1512546	1273249

Appointment of Public Prosecutors

5052. SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quality of public prosecutors has suffered since the provision under Section 24 of the CrPC to consult Chief Justice of the High Court in the appointment of public prosecutors has been withdrawn;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) whether the Government proposes to review the procedure of calculation of number of pending cases in trial courts; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M.VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(d) No, Madam.

(e) Does not arise.

Residential Colony Near IGIA

5053. SHRI JAYWANT GANGARAM AWALE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has found in a security audit that a colony near Indira Gandhi International Airport

could pose security threat to it;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some other airports in the country are also facing similar problem;

(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 CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Two colonies namely, East Mehram Nagar and West Mehram Nagar could potentially affect the security of IGI Airport.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. Similar situation is there at some other airports like Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Agartala, Jammu etc.

(e) Following steps have been taken by the Government:

(i) Perimeter Security has been tightened.

(ii) The issue has been taken up with the concerned airport operators/state DGPs/state Governments to take remedial action for better perimeter security.

(iii) City side security has been enhanced.

(iv) Perimeter Intrusion Detection System is being installed at all the sensitive airports.

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now Papers to be laid.

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management, 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 National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management, New Delhi, for the year 2008-2009.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3038/15/10]

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology, Thanjavur, 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 Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology, Thanjavur, 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-3039/15/10]

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A copy of the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Oil from Ships) Rules, 2010 (Hindi and English versions) published in the Notification No. G.S.R. 329 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th April, 2010, under sub-section (3) of Section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3040/15/10]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Aircraft (2nd Amendment) Rules, 2010 (Hindi and English versions) published in the Notification No. G.S.R. 643(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th July, 2010, under Section 14A of the Aircraft Act, 1934, together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3041/15/10]

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please keep aside the newspapers and do not read them.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited for the year 2008-2009 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3042/15/10]

[Translation]

SHR CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad): Madam newspapers have reported that ...(*Interruption*)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except papers being laid.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please do not display papers.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) on the progress made in the intake of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes against vacancies reserved for them in recruitment and promotion categories on the Railways for the year ending 31st March, 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-3043/15/10]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 62 of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006:

- (1) The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Exclusivity for City or Local Natural Gas Distribution Network) Amendment Regulations, 2010 published in the Notification No. G.S.R. 604(E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th July, 2010.
- (2) The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Authorizing Entities to Lay, Build, Operate or Expand City or Local Natural Gas Distribution Networks) Amendment Regulations, 2010 published in the Notification No. G.S.R. 605(E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th July, 2010.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-3044/15/10]

12.01½ hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA AND BILL AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA*

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Madam, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 25th August, 2010 agreed without any amendment to the Jharkhand Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Bill, 2010 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 17th August, 2010."
- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2010 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 25th August, 2010."

2. Madam, I lay on the Table the Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2010, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 25th August, 2010.

12.02 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

4th Report

[English]

SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI (Jodhpur): Madam, I beg to present the Fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Empowerment of Women (2009-10) on the subject 'Working Conditions of ASHAs'.

12.02½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM
AND NATURAL GAS

4th and 5th Reports

[English]

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI (Rajahmundry):
Madam, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi
and English versions) of the Standing Committee on
Petroleum and Natural Gas (2009-10):

- (1) Fourth Report on Petroleum and Minerals
Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land)
Amendment Bill, 2010.
- (2) Fifth Report on Action Taken by the Government
on the recommendations contained in First
Report on 'Demands for Grants (2009-10)' of
the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

12.04 hrs.

*At this stage Shri Chandrakant Khiare and some
other hon. Members come and stood
on the floor near the Table.*

12.04½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON CHEMICALS
AND FERTILIZERS

12th Report

[English]

SHRI GANESHRAO NAGORAO DUDHGAONKAR
(Parbhani): Madam, I beg to present the Twelfth Report
(Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee
on Chemicals and Fertilizers on Action Taken by the
Government on the recommendations contained in the
First Report of the Committee (2009-10) on 'Demands
for Grants (2009-10)' of the Ministry of Chemicals and
Fertilizers (Department of Pharmaceuticals).

12.05 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON
COAL AND STEEL

Statements

[English]

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE (Sreerampur): Madam, I
beg to lay on the Table the following Statements (Hindi
and English versions) of the Standing Committee on
Coal and Steel:

- (1) Statement showing Action Taken by the
Government on the recommendations contained
in Chapters I and V of the 21st Action Taken
Report (14th Lok Sabha) on "Demands for Grants
(2006-07)" of the Ministry of Mines.
- (2) Statement showing Action Taken by the
Government on the recommendations contained
in Chapters I and V of the 22nd Action Taken
Report (14th Lok Sabha) on "Demands for Grants
(2006-07)" of the Ministry of Steel.
- (3) Statement showing Action Taken by the
Government on the recommendations contained
in Chapters I and V of the 27th Action Taken
Report (14th Lok Sabha) on the subject
"Prevention of Illegal Mining" of the Ministry of
Mines.
- (4) Statement showing Action Taken by the
Government on the recommendations contained
in Chapters I and V of the 28th Action Taken
Report (14th Lok Sabha) on "Demands for Grants
(2007-08)" of the Ministry of Coal.
- (5) Statement showing Action Taken by the
Government on the recommendations contained
in Chapters I and V of the 29th Action Taken
Report (14th Lok Sabha) on "Demands for Grants
(2007-08)" of the Ministry of Mines.
- (6) Statement showing Action Taken by the
Government on the recommendations contained
in Chapters I and V of the 30th Action Taken
Report (14th Lok Sabha) on "Demands for
Grants (2007-08)" of the Ministry of Steel.
- (7) Statement showing Action Taken by the
Government on the recommendations contained

in Chapters I and V of the 34th Action Taken Report (14th Lok Sabha) on the subject "Review of Performance of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)" of the Ministry of Steel.

- (8) Statement showing Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapters I and V of the 36th Action Taken Report (14th Lok Sabha) on "Demands for Grants (2008-09)" of the Ministry of Coal.
- (9) Statement showing Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapters I and V of the 37th Action Taken Report (14th Lok Sabha) on "Demands for Grants (2008-09)" of the Ministry of Mines.
- (10) Statement showing Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in Chapters I and V of the 38th Action Taken Report (14th Lok Sabha) on "Demands for Grants (2008-09)" of the Ministry of Steel.

12.05½hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

21st Report

[English]

SHRI SHAIENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Madam, I beg to present the Twenty first Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

12.05¼ hrs.

At this stage Shri Chandrakant Khaire and some other hon. Members went back to their seats

12.06 hrs.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

- (i) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 7th report of Standing Committee on Railways on Demands for Grants (2010-11), pertaining to the Ministry of Railways.***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): I beg to lay the

*Laid on the table and place in library, see No. LT 3045/15/10.

statement on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 7th Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways in pursuance of directive 73 A, of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin, Part-II dated 1st September, 2004.

The 7th Report of the Committee on "Demands for Grants 2010-11" presented in the Lok Sabha on 15.04.2010 contained 28 recommendations and Action Taken Notes thereon were furnished to the Committee on 14.07.2010 (English version) and on 27.07.2010 (Hindi version).

Statements showing details of all the recommendations contained in the Reports and implementation status thereof are enclosed. Since the statements are voluminous, I request that the same may be taken as read.

12.06½ hrs.

- (ii) **Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 17th Report of Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas on 'Strategy for Development of alternative Sources of Oil and Gas', pertaining to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): I beg to lay the Statement on the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventeenth Report of the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas (14th Lok Sabha) on 'Strategy for development of alternative sources of oil and gas' in pursuance of direction 73A of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha vide Lok Sabha Bulletin Part II dated September 01, 2004.

The Seventeenth Report of the Standing Committee on Petroleum & Natural Gas (14th Lok Sabha) was presented to the Lok Sabha on 19.11.2007. The Report relates to the strategy for development of alternative sources of Oil and Gas.

**Laid on the table and place in library, see No. LT 3046/15/10.

Action Taken Statements on the recommendations/ observations contained in the Report of the Committee had been sent to the Standing Committee on Petroleum & Natural Gas on 4.2.2009.

There are 33 recommendations made by the Committee in the said Report where action is called for on the part of the Government. These recommendations mainly pertain to issues like alternative fuels like ethanol and bio-diesel, assessment of the indigenous availability of ethanol in the country, major roadblocks in the successful implementation of the Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme, extension of 5% to 10% blending of ethanol, formulation of National Biofuel Policy, development of bio-fuels in the country, facilitating cultivation of *Jatropha*/ *Pongamia*, R&D studies on alternative sources of energy, imparting training on *Jatropha* cultivation and bio-diesel extraction, Bio-fuel technologies, improved seed varieties, oil production, usages, etc, Coal Bed Methane (CBM) resources, Underground Coal Gasification (UCG), hydrogen-CNG blends, Solar energy etc.

Present status of implementation of various recommendations made by the Committee is indicated in the Annexure to my Statement, which is laid on the Table of the House. Replies of Government in respect of certain Recommendations of the Standing Committee have been accepted by the Standing Committee. But some of the replies have not been accepted by the Standing Committee. However, Final replies have been submitted to the Standing Committee in respect of these remaining recommendations in 21st Report of Standing Committee. I would not like to take valuable time of the House by reading out all the contents of this Annexure. I request that this may be taken as read.

12.07 hrs.

**PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE AND
PROTECTION TO PERSONS MAKING
THE DISCLOSURES BILL, 2010***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; MINISTER OF STATE

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 26.08.2010.

OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; MINISTER OF 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): Madam, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to establish a mechanism to receive complaints relating to disclosure on any allegation of corruption or willful misuse of power or willful misuse of discretion against any public servant and to inquire or cause an inquiry into such disclosure and to provide adequate safeguards against victimization of the person making such complaint and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to establish a mechanism to receive complaints relating to disclosure on any allegation of corruption or willful misuse of power or willful misuse of discretion against any public servant and to inquire or cause an inquiry into such disclosure and to provide adequate safeguards against victimization of the person making such complaint and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN: Madam, I introduce the Bill.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit quietly.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: What is this?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please maintain silence.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please be silent. This is Zero Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan if you wish you may make your submission.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN (Sabarkantha): Madam speaker, Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar-Udaipur railway line passes through my parliamentary constituency, Sabarkantha, Gujarat. There is 202 level crossing between Surajpura and Wantada village between Virawada and Raigarh station on Himmatnagar to Udaipur railway line. This a manned railway crossing which is useful in allowing passage to Surajpura-Watanda village farmers besides the irrigation department.

This railway crossing has been used by the public since the inception of rail route. Now, Railway has closed this crossing for public. People have complained about the matter to the DRM. Ajmer and other officers, but to no avail. They said that this crossing was for irrigation and not for public.

Madam, what kind of law is this which harasses the farmers? People of both villages particularly farmers are facing great difficulties due to this. It is my request that said LC No. 202 should be reopened. If necessary, keys of this crossing should be handed over to any officer of Pantda station who can close the crossing during passing of trains. Although train passes through this stretch only twice a day. It will be alright if the crossing remains closed during night. It is my humble request to kindly open this crossing during day time. People are facing difficulties. There is possibility of agitation due to this. Therefore, I humbly request that efforts should be made to reopen this crossing in view of difficulties being faced by the farmers.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Let us have the 'Zero Hour'. We will talk it over in my Chamber.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: We will talk it over in my Chamber. Let us have the 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN: Madam Speaker, it is my humble request to open this crossing during day time only because people are facing difficulties...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Let the Zero Hour run. I have said that we will discuss about this problem in my chamber. but, please let the Zero Hour run.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please let the Zero Hour run. Would you not allow Zero Hour to run. Let the Zero Hour run.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Let the Zero Hour run.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN: Madam, there is possibility of public agitation, therefore, it is my request that efforts should be made to reopen this crossing keeping in view difficulties being faced by farmers...(Interruptions)

12.10 hrs.

At this stage Shri Chandrakant Khair and some other hon. Members come and stood on the floor near the Table.

12.11 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Matters Under Rule 377 be laid on the Table of the House. Those Members who are desirous of laying their matters

*Treated as laid on the Table.

under Rule 377 on the Table of the House may send slips at the Table within 20 minutes. Only those matters for which slips have been received at the Table shall form part of the proceedings. The rest of the matters shall be treated as lapsed.

(i) Need to upgrade Royapuram Railway Station in Chennai, Tamil Nadu as a Model Railway Station

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul): Royapuram Railway Station established in the year 1856 in the city of Chennai is the second Railway Station set up in India and first in South India. It has a platform with no access. It is just 4 kms. away from Central Railway Station. The 100 year old Royapuram Bridge on the western side of the Royapuram Railway Station could be replaced by a Road Subway. Royapuram Station will get 72 acres of land at its disposal. Now this station is just used as a yard for stationing empty coaches.

Royapuram is between Central Station and Egmore Station connecting North via Arakonam, East via Gummidipoondi and towards South via Tambaram. More than 25 lakhs of middle class and lower middle class people live around Royapuram Station. People coming from Andaman and Nicobar Islands to Chennai Harbour will have easy access to Royapuram Station because it is just at a walking distance. If this station is converted into a Terminal, the North bound trains from Central Station can be diverted to this station. It is well connected to the city with already existing roads on all four sides of this station.

I urge upon the Hon'ble Minister of Railways to consider and allot sufficient funds to convert the Royapuram Railway Station into a most modern and model Rail Terminal. This will ease traffic congestion at Central and Egmore Railway Stations.

[*Translation*]

(ii) Need to improve basic amenities in Duranto trains on New Delhi–Lucknow and Allahabad–New Delhi routes

RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH (Pratapgarh): Duranto train service has been introduced in the country. This train service is very good and time saving. Apart from this, said train service has succeeded to a large extent

to cater to the needs of ever increasing number of passengers in the country, but facilities provided in the train are not as good as this train service. I often travel in this train which runs between Allahabad to New Delhi and New Delhi to Lucknow. Cockroaches are found all over in this train which fall over passengers while they are sleeping and even bed bugs are there due to which I have also suffered infection twice while travelling in this train and now I have to carry my own blanket. Besides condition of toilet is very bad.

Through the House I request the government that quality basic amenities should be provided in this train as per reputation of the train and special attention should be given towards cleanliness of this train, otherwise foreign tourists will avoid travelling in this train.

(iii) Need to provide adequate compensation to police and revenue department officials who died in an incident of sudden fire in a fireworks factory in Sivakasi Taluk in Tamil Nadu

[*English*]

SHRI MANICKA TAGORE (Virudhunagar): In Tamil Nadu, Sivakasi is famous for its fireworks, matchsticks and printing works. Many households are fully engaged in the production of matchsticks, small and medium variety of fireworks like small scale industry throughout the year.

In this city and its surrounding a number of factories are producing fireworks. While checking production of fireworks in a village called V. Meenakshipuram in Sivakasi Taluk on 10.8.2010 morning, a joint team from Revenue and police departments Government of Tamil Nadu made a surprise raid/visit, in which 4 officials from Revenue department and 4 from police department died due to sudden fire in a factory. The family members of the deceased are demanding that the medical expenditure incurred for their medical treatment be borne by the Government and Rs. 20 lakhs be sanctioned as interim relief/compensation and suitable employment may be given to one of the family members on compassionate ground.

The district collector has also recommended to the Government that a compensation be sanctioned immediately to the deceased family as they were the

sole bread winner in the family. But so far, the Tamil Nadu Government has sanctioned Rs. 5 lakh compensation to them. In addition to that, the police department has agreed to give an additional compensation of Rs. 5 lakhs to the deceased police officials only but the revenue department officials could not get anything.

Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to intervene in the matter for providing relief and enough compensation equally to both police and revenue department officials who died in the sad accident leaving their small school going children without any income. Moreover, the Government may take necessary precautionary measures to prevent such incident in future.

(iv) Need to develop Markhanda Devasthan, a religious place in Gadchiroli-Chimur Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra as a tourist site of national importance

[Translation]

SHRI MAROTRAO SAINUJI KOWASE (Gadchiroli-Chimur): There is a major religious place named Markhanda Devasthan in Charmorshi Taluka under Gadchiroli-Chimur Parliamentary Constituency in Maharashtra which is also known as Kashi Devasthan. It has a very religious importance and holy Wainganga river flow along the temple. Pilgrims in large number not only from Maharashtra but from all over the country visit this place and on occasion of Mahashivratri around 15-20 lakh pilgrims visit the temple. Besides, significance of this holy place is found in the Purana too. But, there is acute shortage of basic amenities for pilgrims.

I request the Union Government to develop Markhanda religious place situated in tribal dominant area as a tourist place while including it in the list of central level tourist places and take necessary action to provide basic amenities alongwith its beautification.

(v) Need to set up a Trauma Centre at Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh with a view to provide immediate treatment to the people injured in road accidents on National Highway

SHRI P.L. PUNIA (Barabanki): Barabanki is an important district of Uttar Pradesh which is about 28 k.m. from Lucknow but the district lacks necessary medical facilities. The district being situated along National Highway witnessed a number of road accidents

in which injured people succumbed to their injuries due to absence of proper medical treatment. Though, there is Trauma Centre in Lucknow which has to cater to the need of entire state and which could not be categorized as general Trauma Centre. Distance of Bahraich, Gonda and Shravasti is around 100 k.m. to 145 k.m. and people rush to Lucknow Trauma Centre in case of any accident. People, have to get the injured person admitted to private hospitals due to non availability of bed in Lucknow Trauma Centre. It is very costly for them. A number of seriously injured persons succumb to their injuries due to lack of money. It Trauma Centre in set up in Barabanki which is backward area situated along National Highway then rush at Lucknow Trauma Centre will be reduced and better treatment could be provided to the injured person and their lives could be saved.

Therefore, I demand that the Union Government should issue an order to set up Trauma Centre in Barabanki in order to save lives of people injured in road accidents in Barabanki as well as in far flung areas of Gonda, Bahraich and Shravasti.

(vi) Need to provide adequate infrastructural facilities at Model Schools set up under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan in Karnataka

[English]

SHRI R. DHRUVANARAYANA (Chamrajanagar): While the Centre has taken commendable steps towards the attainment of the goal of universalisation of secondary education through its flagship programme like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and enactments Like Right to Education Act, the implementation of the Schemes has fallen short of expectations.

Under the new concept of Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan Government has launched setting up of Model Schools in each of the educationally backward blocks. However, the Model Schools functioning within my constituency Chamrajanagar in Karnataka lack basic infrastructural facilities which is a pre-requisite for the successful functioning of schools. In many cases the Model Schools are located in inaccessible areas and that too in makeshift premises like Anganwadi Centres. These model schools with English Medium have raised high hopes among the rural population to get public School Education at affordable cost. But their hopes have been belied due to lack of infrastructure in these Model Schools. I urge the Government to take immediate corrective steps to ensure that these Model Schools prove to be a role model for more such schools planned to be set up in future.

(vii) Need to accord approval for construction of Mega Highway Project from Hanumangarh to Phalodi via Anupgarh-Khajuwala-Gaudu in Rajasthan

[*Translation*]

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (Bikaner): The Western region of Rajasthan is lagging behind from the development point of view due to its being a border area and a desert region. The construction of national highways also is relatively less. Through you, I would like to demand from the Road Transport and Highways Minister of the Government of India that if a mega highway is constructed from Hanumangarh to Phalodi for the border and desert areas of Rajasthan, then it will help in linking Shri Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, Bikaner, Jodhpur and Jaisalmer districts of Western Rajasthan together and also reduce the distance of the present road route. It will link India-Pakistan border area with the National Mega Highway and industrial and economic development of the border districts will also take place at a fast pace. Furthermore, the construction of this Mega Highway will provide an alternative route for to and fro movement for the states like Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat etc. There will also be less pressure on the present congestion of traffic on the National Highways which will reduce the risk of road accidents. There will also be less number of Railway crossings on this proposed new highway area which will get rid of unnecessary wastage of time for the freight carriers.

Therefore, through you, I would like to demand from the Road Transport and Highways Minister to immediately sanction the construction of a National Mega highway along the 350 km, of road route from Hanumangarh to Phalodi via Anupgarh-Khajuwala-Gaudu.

(viii) Need to provide railway service between Solapur junction and Tuljapur, Maharashtra

SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK (North Goa): The Tuljapur place in Maharashtra is a famous pilgrim spot of Maa Tulja Bhawani. Lakhs of people throng here every year for darshan of Maa Tulja Bhawani. Particularly during the Navratri Mahotsava, devotees come here in a very large number. Since, lakhs of people come here from Goa, Karnataka and the adjoining states, therefore, the heavy road traffic creates problem for the devotees

as well as the local people. In view of the number of people coming here, it is necessary to link this place with rail service and a broad gauge rail line should be constructed from Solapur Junction to Tuljapur city.

As the Railway Minister has announced earlier that all the holy places will be linked with railway service, I would like to request the hon. Minister to take necessary action for constructing the broad gauge railway line from Solapur Junction to Tuljapur city on priority basis.

(ix) Need to implement the recommendations of Renke Commission report on Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes

SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL (Jalore): In the year 2005, the Union Government had constituted a commission under the chairmanship of hon. Bal Krishna Renke regarding welfare of de-notified, Nomadic and Semi-nomadic tribes. After the study, this commission submitted its report to the then Social Justice and Empowerment Minister on 2 July, 2008. But the recommendations made in this report have not been implemented so far. Making the report public, it should be implemented at the earliest and in public interest, I would like to demand the following:

1. The cow rearing Rabari tribe of Rajasthan particularly the Jalore, Sirohi district, which flock to Haryana and Punjab for cattle grazing should be given entry passes and provided security.
2. The sheep rearing people of Rabadi tribe of Rajasthan go to Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh on account of famine, they should also be given entry passes and security as well.
3. The prices of all the commodities have gone up over the last 15-20 years, only their living has gone down resulting in a miserable condition of the sheep rearers. Anti dumping duty should be levied on the wool imported from abroad in order to provide relief to the domestic wool growers.
4. Just as the Forest rights act has been enacted by the Union Government, similarly the sheep-raisers and the cow-rearers should be given the legal right for cattle gazing in the pasture land.

5. Schemes should be formulated for the welfare of Banjara and Kalbi tribes.

(x) Need to ensure payment of dues to sugarcane growers by sugar mill in Hardoi, Uttar Pradesh and start operation of sugar mill at Ghatampur in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI RAKESH SACHAN (Fatehpur): The sugarcane of thousands of farmers of Bakewar, Khazua and Ghatampur (Kanpur) area of my parliamentary constituency Fatehpur goes from procurement Centres to Baghaulti sugar mill in Hardoi for crushing and grinding. Rupees 5-6 crores for the sugarcane of farmers is due on this mill. The cheques given to the farmers have bounced and have been returned to the farmers by the banks without payment due to which they are running from pillar to post for their money. Now, this sugar mill has been sold to someone else. So, the farmers are worried as to who will pay their dues now and for this they are meeting the mill workers and officers but their efforts are to no avail. Therefore, I would request the Union Government to issue directions to the Government of Uttar Pradesh to get the dues of the sugarcane of the farmers paid at the earliest and simultaneously revive the closed sugar mill at Ghatampur immediately as the production of sugarcane in Fatehpur and Ghatampur area this year is in plenty and the farmers should not have to send their produce of sugarcane to the mills located in far-flung areas.

(xi) Need to release sufficient quantity of Vaccines to check the spread of Japanese Encephalitis in Eastern Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHANKAR RAJBHAR (Salempur): Japanese Encephalitis A.E.S. has spread across 35 districts of Uttar Pradesh among which Gorakhpur, Deoria, Ballia, Kushinagar, Basti, Maharajganj, Sant Kabir Nagar, Siddharth Nagar etc. are most affected. This is approximately 80-85 per cent of all J.E./A.E.S. patients the specialists of the Government of India have taken a decision to organize special J.E. vaccination campaign in the most affected districts of Uttar Pradesh.

74,20,941 doses of J.E. vaccine would be required for running J.E. Vaccination campaign for a total of 67,46,309 children in the age group of 1 to 15 years.

Drawing the attention of Government of India in a meeting of Rural Health Mission organized in the capital on 12th April 2010, a total of 74.20 lakh doses of vaccine were sought from the Government against which the order to release only 17 lakh doses was issued by the Government and only 15.47 lakh doses of vaccine has been made available in Varanasi in May 2010. The medical officers of the state department examined V.V.M. with 'naked eye' and found out that more than 50 per cent vaccines were not fit for use and the expiry date of various batches of vaccine was found to be June and July 2010. So, the J.E. vaccination campaign beginning from May 2010 was postponed. So, necessary measures should be taken to make required quantity of vaccine available in the affected districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh.

(xii) Need to fix royalty on Coal at 20% sale price on ad-valorem basis

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): The Twelfth Finance Commission has observed that Government of India has not been revising the royalty rates as regularly as provided for, particularly in case of coal and lignite. The commission recommended that the rate of royalty should be fixed on ad-valorem basis. The Hoda Committee has also recommended ad-valorem royalty system and this is more commonly used internationally. In a system of ad-valorem rates or royalty, revision of rates becomes necessary only when fundamental changes take place in the mineral economy, justifying a review of the rates. In our country there is unanimity among the states now in the demand that royalty rates should be shifted from tonnage to ad-valorem.

The ad-valorem system of royalty will be proportionate to the sale price. Therefore, the levy of royalty will not affect the economics of mining of coal in the event of any change in the price structure. Moreover, the states will be enabled to draw proportionate benefit out of any hike in the sale prices even if royalty rates are not revised in time.

I would urge upon the Government to fix royalty on coal at 20 percent of sale price on ad-valorem basis.

(xiii) Need to set up a Deer sanctuary in Aurangabad, Maharashtra

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad): There are nine Taluks under Sambhajinagar in Aurangabad,

Maharashtra. Apart from scanty rain fall and resultant water scarcity, the villagers of Kannad, Vaijapur, Gangapur, Paithan and Khulotabad are facing problems due to Deers and Kalwits. For the past eight years, standing crops have been damaged by the Deers and Kalwits roaming in the area.

The menace has become severe particularly over the past three years. The population of deer has shown a rapid spurt. Now thousands of them roam around in groups of 30-40, damaging crops. Deers have proved more dangerous than drought. Even fencing is not helpful.

The State Forest Department had planned a project worth Rs. 9.53 crore and submitted it to the Government of Maharashtra. However, due to financial constraints of the State Government, it could not be sanctioned. The work to set up a Deer sanctuary in Talwada Bhadli has not seen any progress.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to take necessary action for implementation of the said project to save Deers/Kalwits as well as the farmers, in the public interest.

(xiv) Need to provide funds under Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) for construction of a road bridge across Sarabanga canal in Edapadi Municipal town in district Salem, Tamil Nadu

SHRI S. SEMMALAI (Salem): There is an absolute need for the construction of a road bridge across Sarabanga Canal in Edapadi Municipal Town limit of Salem District, Tamil Nadu. Two important areas namely Vellandivalasu at one end and Groundampatty at the other end remain unconnected because of crossing of the canal. As a result people on either side find it very difficult to reach from one place to other. They have to take circuitous route to go to their places. Due to this needless traffic congestion arises. Since Edapadi Municipality does not have sufficient funds, I request the Union Government to take up the issue on an urgent basis and allot sufficient funds under Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) for construction of the said bridge. This is a long felt need of the people of that locality.

(xv) Need to review the new Railway Catering Policy 2010, with a view to protect the interests of small stall holders and vendors

SHRI PROBODH PANDA (Midnapore): The 'Catering Policy 2010' has been announced by the railways after a prolonged review of policy of 2005.

Though it is a welcome move and some really progressive steps have been taken but it has failed miserably to fully address the problems of small stall holders and small vendors.

Following the implementation of policy of 2005 thousands of small vendors were evicted throughout the Indian Railway System. But the circular released by the railways following the declaration of new policy 2010 states that only those vendors who were evicted within the last six months of declaration of new policy would be rehabilitated. But the question arises that what would be about others who were evicted much earlier.

The new policy spared no word for them. Even the new policy put these small vendors in direct competition with the big business houses.

I, therefore, urge the hon'ble Railway Minister to re-examine the policy and take necessary steps to protect the interests of small stall holders and small vendors including the rehabilitation of evicted small vendors.

[English]

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Since you are not ready for 'Zero Hour' now, we will take up 'Zero Hour' in the evening.

Now, we shall take up item no. 17 – Discussion under Rule 193.

Shri Gurudas Dasgupta.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Ghatal): Madam, how can I speak in din? ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

12.11 hrs.

Shri Chandrakant Khaire and some other hon. Members then left the House.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Discussion on Jammu and Kashmir has begun, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Raghuvansh Babu, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: The discussion on Jammu and Kashmir has begun, please keep silence now.

[English]

Shri Gurudas Dasgupta ji, please begin now.

12.13 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Situation in Jammu and Kashmir

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Ghatal): Madam Speaker, at long last Parliament finds it possible to discuss Kashmir. It is a belated discussion. This House owes an explanation to the people of Kashmir why this issue of that State is not being able to be discussed in Parliament, and why Kashmir has become a matter of low priority for this highest forum of parliamentary system.

The problem of Kashmir is persisting over decades, may be since Independence. There has been hardly any decisive move or decisive change in the situation.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, let us have order in the House. A very serious discussion on Jammu and Kashmir is going on. Please maintain order and silence.

Shri Gurudas Dasgupta ji, please continue your speech.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Madam, ever since Independence, the problem of Kashmir had been baffling. There have been steps, there have been moves but the matter remains unresolved for a prolonged period of time to the great detriment of our national interest.

Of late, there is some respite for a few days. I hope, it sustains.

I take this opportunity to appeal to the younger generation of Kashmir to come back to the national mainstream and find a place in the political spectrum. I can assure them that the Indian democracy is vibrant and pluralistic. There may be difficulties but solution will be found by the representatives of the people in consonance with the interest of the people who are living in Kashmir. This is an appeal for normalcy; this is an appeal for discussion; this is an appeal for reconciliation; and this is an appeal to come back to the mainstream. Although there is a respite but it is all well-known that Kashmir is on fire for a pretty long time.

It is also true that the problem of Kashmir is grave, may be as never before. What is most disturbing, what is most painful is that nearly 50 to 60 people—many of them are innocent, some of them are teenagers—have been killed; 10 to 12 policemen are also dead; and 1,800 security people, as per the report, have sustained injuries. It goes without saying that in a situation like this, the normal life has come to a standstill. People have lost their business and income and the commoners are the worst sufferers.

While it is true that brutalities have been perpetuated by some of the protesters, while it is true that pelting of stones have turned into a stone war as if we have gone back to the Stone Age, it is also true at the same time—right or wrong—that there is a complaint that excessive force is being used by the security personnel in the name of maintaining law and order.

The present cycle of violence had erupted with the death of an innocent teenager, a student while he was returning home from studies and he was hit by a teargas shell. That created the problem, and that was the beginning of the present cycle of violent crisis.

What is most important to take note of, Madam, is that thousands of teenagers are in the protest; they are all our children, all are the citizens of India and so closely linked with the mainstream of the country. A large number of women are on the street. It goes without saying what is to be taken note of by the Government. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please be silent, please listen.

...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please address the chair. They will keep quite.

...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please keep quite and listen to him silently, a very serious discussion on Jammu and Kashmir is going on.

[*English*]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: What is important is that there is an element of anguish; there is an element of deep feelings of sorrow.

And, I am constrained to say to the Government and to the people of this country that there is a sense of alienation among a large number of people in Kashmir. That is the point to be reckoned with. I do not know why the situation could have been dragged to this critical point. Madam, it is difficult to believe that so many people could be moved into action by political manipulators. Somehow, a bridge has been built between the forces of recession and the people who are anguished. There is a bridge that has been built up. It is an important point to be taken note of.

I can hardly believe—tension is so high—that tension can be artificially whipped up if there was no genuine ground for grievance. That is an important point to be taken note of, and that genuine grievance is being

exploited by the people who are unfriendly to India. Maybe, strings are being pulled from across the border but they would not have succeeded if there was no genuine grievance.

I am constrained to say, Madam, that there is a gap, as it exists today, between the Government and the governed, between those who rule and those who are ruled. There is a widening gap. It is the unfortunate tragedy for the Indian democracy. I must say that the political system as it exists in that part of the country, has failed to represent or reflect the aspirations of the common people. Therefore, what is needed is an initiative, aggressive initiative, or if I use the phrase of my senior friend, Advani Ji, proactive political initiative is needed. Has it been taken Or, is it that the absence of that makes the situation worse The political initiative must be coupled with an economic package, for economic empowerment, for the economic improvement, for the economic advance of that State and of the people living in that State.

Madam, it is a matter of surprise to me that Kashmir does not have any elected local body even today. It is a part of India. Indian Constitution applies. Everywhere in the country there are elected local bodies. Why in Kashmir there is no elected body Democracy does not find its place at the root. That might be a reason why there is a gap between the rulers and the ruled, between the Government and the governed. And that is why, as I explained, the political alienation sends absence of a feeling of belonging to that part of the country.

Madam, there is a complaint. We are spending too much of money on Kashmir. Heavily you are spending. Does it go to the people or is it eaten by politicians and corrupt bureaucrats? Who is eating the money. There is a complaint, I am constrained to say, of poverty, baffling poverty. There is a complaint of underdevelopment. There is a complaint of underpayment. There is a complaint that people do not get benefit out of the funds that Indian Government allocates for that part of the country. Corruption is rampant. I know we are just living within the boiling pot of corruption, India's own. It appears that the political system in Kashmir is more corrupt. There is a complaint of corruption. There is a complaint that nobody is there to listen to their complaints. That is more dangerous. There are no people to listen to their complaints.

In a situation like this, I am not ready to say that every act of protest is to be considered as an act of hooliganism. What is most surprising is that crores of rupees are spent for Central Government projects, but the projects remain incomplete. Money is spent, projects are sanctioned. But they are not complete. Who is there to take care of it? Will the hon. Home Minister take care of it? Or will the Finance Minister; or the newly appointed Chief Minister of the State do so? You are promoting youth. Let us do it. We want young people to become Chief Ministers. We may desire a young man to become the Prime Minister.

DR. MIRZA MEHBOOB BEG (Anantnag): He is an elected Chief Minister.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Yes, he is elected, appointed by the Legislature. I concede....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please address the Chair. Please continue.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: He is the elected Chief Minister of the State. A young man has been promoted. I do not grudge.

DR. MIRZA MEHBOOB BEG: Promoting like a system....(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Madam, this is not the way.

[Transltion]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): You are adding spice to it.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: No spice.

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH (Hamirpur): You are adding flavour to the debate.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: It is no flavour. It is disflavour. It is a disservice to his own State. I am speaking for his own State. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please continue with your speech. Dr. Beg. please sit sown.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I am only saying that youths should come in the forefront. I do not grudge. But what I am saying is that the change of guard does not automatically lead to change of policy. Is there any point on that? Change of guard will not automatically lead to change of policy.

Agriculture in our entire country is in crisis. It is more in crisis in Kashmir. Unemployment is rampant. Social infrastructure has not been built. People living in high altitude do not have access to elementary human rights. How do I explain this?

There are many issues. I met the Prime Minister on a number of occasions requesting him not to close down the watch factory.

There was a watch factory. Since it is sick, it is closed down. I told the Prime Minister that HMT is a strategic issue and involves employment of hundreds of Kashmiri youth. Unfortunately, despite my talking to the Prime Minister and despite the Prime Minister writing to me that that watch factory would not be closed, it is almost closed. Then, ITI-Indian Telephone Industries Limited is limping. A number of Central Government public sector units are sick. There is the problem of *anganwadi* women. I had taken them to the earlier Chief Minister. It is very hard for them to work in high altitude. The hon. Chief Minister, who is now a Central Minister, had promised that it would be looked into, but nothing has been done.

You cannot keep people waiting for the redressal of their grievances for a long time to come. That is an aberration of democracy. This pollution of democratic system has been very well extended to Kashmir. Who is to be blamed? Madam, do not mind if I say that the

security of the politicians has become more important than the food security of the people of Kashmir. The situation is such. ...(*Interruptions*) Madam, the hunger for food ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Dr. Beg please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Gurudas Dasgupta ji, please do not react on every thing. Please continue your speech.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Madam, this is the perennial problem of parliamentary impatience.

Madam, right or wrong, there is also a complaint of violation of human rights. I am rephrasing my sentence Right or wrong, there is a complaint of police excesses. Right or wrong, there is a complaint of assault on young women. Therefore, I must say that the State structure is insensitive in Kashmir, more insensitive than it is anywhere else in our country. Therefore, I must say humbly that the policy of the Government has not succeeded in Kashmir. I do not say that it has failed. That may be too hard. I do not want to embarrass the Government who is already embarrassed.

I do not want to pelt stones because pelting stones on the Government or at the Ministers will not end the pelting of stones in Kashmir. Therefore, I would only say that the policy of the Government of India has not succeeded in ameliorating the grievances of the people, nor bringing the Valley to normalcy nor settling the age old problem of the integration of that part of the country with the whole of India. That is the truth. Therefore, what I plead? I must plead, and I hope that I am reflecting the voice of the people, at least a part of the people of Kashmir, that the State apparatus must be cleaned. It should be cleaned with the water of River Ganga. Make the State apparatus more accountable to the people, fight corruption, eliminate the heartless role of the politicians and administrators. The whole situation does not depend only on the presence of the security forces.

I do not say that they should be withdrawn, but the presence of security forces will not yield the result if the genuine grievance of the people is not taken care of/taken note of. Therefore, the people of Kashmir must get their due, and the people of Kashmir ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please conclude.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Madam, please give me five more minutes. The people of Kashmir must get their right; they must get food; they must get job; they must have an accountable Government; they must have a vibrant democracy; and they must be allowed to feel and realise that they are enjoying democracy in the same way that the people in other parts of India do enjoy. Therefore, political package, political initiative and economic package of fruitful economic development and not fruitless economic development should take place in Kashmir.

There is a need to separate the people of Kashmir from the political miscreants. The bridge must be broken, and it cannot be broken by the paramilitary forces. It can be built by generating confidence; generating goodwill; giving the right message that here in India there are people who are ready to talk for them; who are ready to fight for them; and they do not have to look across the country as their saviours. We are here to speak for them, and I hope that the Government will respond.

I must say that peace in Kashmir does depend on the peace in the Subcontinent. It is a reality. Therefore, talks with Pakistan must go on for restoring normalcy; for restoring tranquillity; and for having normal economic relationship. I must say that the Pakistan society is a fractured society. Definitely, there is a large section of democratic people who want friendly relations with India. I believe that a majority of the people of Kashmir also want peace. I believe that the Indian people want to live in peace with Pakistan, with Bangladesh, with Nepal and with Sri Lanka, that is, the South-Asia region. Therefore, peace dialogue with Pakistan is an essential element that I am stressing on along with political initiative and along with economic empowerment. ...(*Interruptions*)

Madam, please be a little more generous. You have always been generous.

MADAM SPEAKER: You have already taken so much time. Please conclude now.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I know it, Madam, but it is after a long long time that Kashmir is there on the agenda.

There is a talk of hard-line in this country. Hard-line will harden the situation, and it will not soften the situation. There is a slogan of 'no concession to anybody'. I do not plead for any concession, but political initiative presupposes taking care of the feeling of alienation of the people of that part of the country. As a special case, the Government should consider broadening the framework of autonomy to the people of Kashmir, of course, within the sovereignty and integrity of the country. There has to be broadening of the autonomy. How it is to be done is for them to decide. My point is that be hard on the terrorists and there be compromise with cross-border terrorism, but be soft on the people and defuse the feeling of alienation. It is the feeling of alienation, which is at the bottom of the present situation, to a large extent, that has erupted.

Therefore, I appeal to the Government for taking immediate initiatives. I appeal to the people of Kashmir to come back to the mainstream of political life. I appeal to the whole spectrum of Indian political body to be one and together in order to assuage the feeling of Kashmir and give them the belief, give them the confidence that their problem can be solved only in India; even if they go out of India, their problem will not be solved. Therefore, their problem can be solved in India only. That is why I appeal to the people of Kashmir and I have always believed that the whole House will join me in extending our hand of friendship and instilling a sense of confidence among the people of Kashmir who are being sought to be misled by a number of miscreants.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Varanasi): Madam, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on this important subject. Kashmir has always been an integral part of our country and I believe that it will always remain so. No power in the world can take it away from India.

Kashmir is a place where there were traditions of sages, Sufis which created an atmosphere of harmony across the country. The Members of parliament from Kashmir are present here, they are Members at present and they had been Members in the past also, they always say that they believe in the tradition of sages

and Sufis. But the question is that why Kashmir which gave us literature, natural beauty, famous pilgrim places, which is the crown of this country and has a place in the literature, religion, culture of this country, is burning today? This is the same Kashmir about which it is said—gar phirdaus bar Ruyen Jamin Ast Haminasto, Haminasto, Haminast. It means that if there is haven anywhere on this earth, it is here, it is here, it is here. But how the fury of hell came into this haven. This is not the right time to discuss this issue. But at some point of time issue shall have to be debated in this country.

Today we are discussing especially in the light of the statement given by the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs, Prime Minister and the reply given by the Minister of External Affairs. I just want to say that Kashmir is such an issue 'Lamhon ne khAtA ki thi, Sadiyon ne saja pai'. As many as 60 years have passed and the people of Kashmir are still sufferings and the entire country in suffering and the entire country is suffering. All these causes should be looked into I want that there should be serious debate on this issue. It should be discussed keeping the entire historical perspective in mind. This discussion be held in the perspective of the history of partition of India. Why the situation in Kashmir took such turn. Why the situation in Kashmir was divided in such a manner, we can arrive at a real solution of Kashmir problem only after going through all these facts.

The statement of hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs is before me. He has raised four-five important points in it. One of his points that this violence in Kashmir started due to stone pelting is correct. It began with stone pelting. He says—

[English]

Usually the violence is triggered by stone pelting by larger groups and their targets of attack are police stations, police outposts and other public property"

[Translation]

This is his statement and again you say that such danger was emanating

[English]

"danger of police stations and police outposts being overrun has compelled the Security Forces to use force both in self defence and in order to protect public property".

[Translation]

This is the fact, but the point is that which is repeatedly said that the Indian Army opened fire there. At which point it started? If I am wrong correct me in the beginning, the J & K police opened fire first. But our Armed Forces are being targeted whereas they opened fire first. ...*(Interruptions)* I am just reading out the statement of Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs, if the statement is not correct, it should have been corrected that very day. ...*(Interruptions)* He said that [English] There have been instances where the security forces have been fired upon by someone in the protesting crowds. There is reliable intelligence that some armed militants may have mingled with the crowds and fired on the security forces.

[Translation]

This is the statement of the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs, this is not my statement. As per my knowledge this statement is correct. I would like to congratulate him in this regard that he said it very correctly and this is what happened there. But one thing I like to say that Government had such information with itself in April that such things could happen, intelligence reports were with the Government. Again he says the security forces showed a lot of restraint in this regard. Again it is further stated that the Prime Minister and the Chief Minister held in dialogue and appealed in which it was stated that

[English]

"He offered a dialogue for the redressal of grievances including a dialogue to resolve the political issues that concern the people of Jammu and Kashmir."

[Translation]

But what are those political issues? Those political issues are among which parties? Whether these issues are between the people of Kashmir and the Government of Kashmir or between the two factions of the Government of Kashmir or between the Government of Kashmir and their Government of India, what are those political issues, why don't they mention them? Further they say

[English]

"Government of Jammu and Kashmir is actively considering political and administrative measures that will help restore normalcy in the State."

[Translation]

What are these measures, the Chief Minister does not meet the people there. Where bullets were being exchanged, a fight had erupted between the security forces and the people he was either enjoying in any Shikara or was playing golf. The point is that what kind of dialogue he is holding there. What he is doing is beyond my comprehension. He did not even go to see those people. Again you say that the Government has clearly stated its policy about Jammu & Kashmir several times. Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs also stated that

[English]

"These issues have to be addressed through the political process, through a dialogue with all sections of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Government has always favoured a dialogue. In fact, in 2009, the Central Government initiated a quiet dialogue with key political groups and individuals."

[Translation]

Which are these groups, what quiet dialogue took place? He didn't tell the country and the Parliament, but since that time has passed and year 2009 has gone and the year 2010 has arrived, so now he can reveal as to with whom that quiet dialogue took place. Was it to facilitate the release of Gilani Saheb from the jail. Whether it was with other people or Hurriyat or Lashkar-e-Toiba, with whom it was—We should be told. Again, he says that when Shri Fazrul Haq was lethally attacked, then this dialogue came to an end. Hon. Home Minister, Sir, should have come to know that these people don't like dialogue, they are against the people resorting to such measures. Those people, who are carrying out this agitation, will never like the dialogue nor they will allow it to happen. We should move keeping this in mind. And then he says that if peace prevails then we will be

[English]

holding a dialogue, redressing genuine grievances

[Translation]

what are these genuine grievances, we have not been able to understand till today. Throughout the country, grievances are there, are they un-genuine ones? What is the limit of their genuine grievances? Which grievances are genuine and which ones are not genuine. They say that the Government of India is sending its forces there, India is attacking us, it has occupied us. Are these the grievances? We have not heard from the mouth of even a single agitationist that they have any economic demand or demand for development.

We haven't heard from anybody that they have any demand for development or have any grievances against the government, except the slogan that we don't accept this government. What genuine grievances do they have? They have only one grievance "freedom or autonomy" and except this, I haven't come across any third grievance in this agitation. If the government considers this genuine grievance of theirs, then I will request that the only way of resolving it is by telling them in clear terms that autonomy or freedom is not acceptable.
...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Beg Sahib, you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Prime Minister gave a statement which is very important. He had given it in the all Party Meeting ... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Shariq ji, you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except Joshiji's speech.

...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Shariq ji when your turn comes, you put your viewpoint.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record. Shariq ji, you sit down.

...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: All of you, please sit down, Shariq ji, you go and take your seat. Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record. All of you sit down and be quiet.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: You all will get the chance to speak. When your turn comes, only then you speak. Right now, your speech is not going on record.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: You people sit down and let Dr. Joshi speak. Nothing will go on record except Dr. Joshi's speech.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Dr. Joshi has said.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: You please sit down. Leader of the Opposition is saying something.... (Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: That has not gone on record. You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing is going in to the record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Well, discussion is taking place on a very sensitive issue right now. Please have a little bit of patience. You please sit down. No one will talk now. Your party has also been allotted time. Whatever your feelings are you can express them.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing is going into the record.

...(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (Vidisha): Madam Speaker, we are discussing a very serious issue in the House the issue of Jammu and Kashmir is a very serious issue. Therefore, I, through you, would like to appeal to the House that we may differ in our opinions. The views of my party may be different, the opinion of NC and other parties may also differ. This House represents diverse opinions. All are likely to get time to speak. You cannot put your words in our mouth and we cannot change your opinion. But let all of us put our views in this House very seriously. Today the entire country is listening this debate what Dr. Joshi is saying, he is representing the views of Bhartiya Janta Party. When National Conference will get time, they may express their views clearly. What CPI opines, Gurudas Das Gupta was expressing those views. In the end, Minister of Home Affairs will reply. That is why I appeal to the House that this debate is being watched not in the country but in abroad also that what is the view of Indian Parliament in this regard. Therefore, I request all of you with folded hands to allow everyone to put forth one's views very seriously and listen patiently.

13.00 hrs.

...(Interruptions)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Madam, Speaker, I am referring the statement given by the Hon. Prime Minister in All Party Meeting it was stated.

[*English*]

We should not do anything to demoralize the security forces.

[*Translation*]

This is correct. But today the condition of Security Forces is such that they do not want to go for field duty. I have the reports, such news has been published in newspapers that they do not want to go on field duty here is often ill will among Jammu and Kashmir police and CRPF Security etc. regarding this issue. If an officer does not want to go on field duty, it means he is demoralized it clearly implies that he is hesitating. I have the reports in which it is said that the separatists, forced the Jammu and Kashmir Police to raise slogan with them and throw stones along with them. This is the outcome of demoralization. Demoralization is going on and we are unable to check it. They say time and again.

[*English*]

Nothing should be done to demoralize the security forces.

[*Translation*]

But the fact is that Security Forces are demoralized. Had they not been demoralized they would not have hesitated to go on field duty. The police personnels do not want to perform their duty near their homes. It is a clear fact. If they deny this, they will deny the fact and move away from reality. They say that they are helping Kashmir economically a lot and this should be done. Till date an amount of Rs. 94,000 crore has been given to Jammu and Kashmir. Each year an amount of Rs. 8000, 9000 or 10,000 crore is given to the State. These are the figures of the Planning Commission. They are providing funds there. Gurudas Ji said that funds are being provided there. The fact is that so many things are being provided there. But where it is going? Who is getting all this money? If there is corruption in it, it is the corruption of Jammu and Kashmir Government. What is the fault of Government of India in this? What is the meaning of holding India responsible in this regard? If this fight would have been against the Government of Kashmir, it may be understood that funds were given to the Government of Kashmir and it did not provide the facilities to the people, and did not carry out development work. Fight against them. We will also ask them what happened to the funds provided to the state? Why funds did not reach the people? But the Government of India cannot be held responsible for this. The Union Government is providing funds with good intention. The population of Jammu and Kashmir is just one percent of the population of the country whereas 10 or 11 percent financial assistance is being provided. Which economic package is talked about? Gurudas Gupta ji said that economic package has required? Which economic package is required? How much is required? For what it is required? Who will execute it. A lot has been given in the last 60 years and much more has been given during the last ten years. To say that it is an economic problem is not correct at all in my view.

13.04 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I heard it in the slogans of a movement, saw it in newspapers that they never demanded any economic

package. They have one voice-freedom, autonomy, freedom from the Government of India. Now I shall read out the statements given there. The Government appoints committee. They have given economic package. They appointed committee for the third time. Earlier a committee was appointed under the chairmanship of Shri Rangarajan. It submitted its report on development. What happened to that report? Where has this report gone? And again a committee was appointed for the third time. They constituted a committee but one of the member told that he had not been consulted. Shri Kalandar says that he had not given his consent, it was constituted without consulting him and he was also made the member of the economic package committee without any consultation. They constitute such committees? Two-three committees are constituted but their reports are not discussed. Where are these reports? Have these been put in the cold storage, nothing is known about them?

Again you constitute a committee. Due to which people of the valley don't trust the Government.

[English]

They have no trust.

[Translation]

You don't fulfill your promises. You have not yet implemented the promises which you had made. Everybody is of the opinion there that they don't trust you.

I have the statement of Syed Ali Shah Giliani. He has stated.

[English]

"I do not give any importance to these meetings. What is the Prime Minister going to offer to the Party? There will be no result as far as the people of Jammu and Kashmir are concerned. These meetings are held in New Delhi under conviction that J&K is an integral part of India."

He says that it is under conviction. Yes, it is a conviction. It is a constitutional fact. It is a historical fact. It is a geographical fact. It is a political fact. How can he say that it is 'under conviction'? It is under conviction. Then he says:

"The Government is not even ready to recognize the political problem of Kashmir and the aspirations of independence of the people of Jammu and Kashmir."

This is the aspiration and not the economic development and not the package. He says further:

"As long as India denies the people of Jammu and Kashmir their rights, their power and independence, the struggle will continue. India will have to recognize the independence of Kashmir and allow the people of Jammu and Kashmir to determine their own fate. Any other form of governance imposed from New Delhi is not acceptable to our people."

This is the statement after the announcement from the Prime Minister. What in your demand?

"First, India must agree to withdraw all security forces from the State. Pakistan will also be asked to take back its troops. There should be a referendum on the future of J & K."

Is it that premise on which you are going to hold the dialogues? He further says:

"This has been our demand for the last 62 years. India must accept this demand."

[Translation]

Will you hold dialogue with them. You say that dialogue should be conducted within the ambit of constitution of india. Whether these steps are being have towards that direction. He further stated.

[English]

"These so called talks have been going on since March 23, 1952. There have been, at least, 130 rounds of talks between the Government of India and the people of Kashmir. The result has been a big zero. These talks are a futile exercise. They call us to fool us. They want to fool the people of Jammu and Kashmir. The Government of India tries its tricks to deviate us from our struggle."

[Translation]

This in the position of the Government of india for the last 60 years.

[English]

You are not trusted. You are supposed to be fooling the people of Kashmir. You are supposed to be fooling the people of India also. He further says that.

“All factions of the Huriyat want freedom from Indian security forces and a referendum on the future of Jammu and Kashmir.”

This is what they want. Are you going to hold dialogue on this? Will it form the basis of your dialogue? Is it on the agenda? If yes, say: yes openly. If no, then say: no

[Translation]

Even Mehbooba Sahiba who has been part of PDP and the Government says:

[English]

“The PDP which welcomed the PM’s opening remark, however, reacted guardedly on the autonomy issue saying ‘Kashmir is not a problem between the Centre and the State. It has both internal as well as external dimensions which have to be addressed. Devolution of powers can be a part of resolution but cannot be a resolution by itself because we need to sort out relations with the other side of the Kashmir.”

[Translation]

Are you going to invite them and Pakistan for such dialogue?

[English]

What is the external dimension? She has cleared this that there is an external dimension.

[Translation]

I would live to inform you that there is an external dimension behind stone pelting other pelting also.

[English]

there is an external dimension. How are you going to solve it? Do you agree that there is an external dimension? Then he further says:

“Mirwaiz Omar Farooq and Mr. Abdul Ghani Bhatt rejected the autonomy offer saying it was no solution to the problem that is begging resolution for the past six decades. Autonomy is an arrangement between Delhi and Srinagar. Kashmir has tasted autonomy. The autonomy that swallowed the Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir body and soul together.”

Therefore, this autonomy is meaningless, they say. The Chairman of the hard line faction of the Huriyat, Syed Abdul Gilani has said,

“The PM has spoken many words about Kashmir but neglected the real issue. I want to make it clear that the jobs and economic packages cannot be substitute to the right to self-determination of Kashmir.”

[Translation]

You provide economic package and they say.

[English]

“This is not substitute. What we want is freedom from India; freedom from the yoke of Indian Forces and the Government of India should not impose any set up in Jammu and Kashmir.”

[Translation]

If it is so, then how are you going to solve this problem. I want to know whether you will hold dialogue, if so, the manner in which you are going to hold dialogue alongwith the time by when and whether you allow separatists to play their cards. It is the basic question.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I remember that a few days back Army Chief had said that they had missed the chance. He has correctly said but later it was stated that Army Chief should not have made such a political statement. I think that he had correctly said so. Why this problem had arisen. There was a time when a number of agitators were silent, militancy was marginalized and a number of people were ready to participate in the democratic process. There was a time when Gilani Saheb was part of your democratic process. Then what went wrong. It is the result of your policies. You should understand this fact. Now they say that had the democratic process started during that period, then

present situation would have not arisen. As I said intelligence report was being conveyed since April. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs may be aware of this that some activists proliferated at local level in a strange manner. These people were coming from Western countries.

[English]

Muslim from the Western countries.

[Translation]

They were coming and interacting with the local people. I know all this and hon. Minister of Home Affairs must be aware of this too. There was a time when Mujahideen surrendered in large numbers. They were promised rehabilitation after getting released from prison. The number of these people was around 10-12-15 thousand. I regret to say that the Government has not made any effort for their rehabilitation. One of the persons had told me that I was thinking as how we are going to be rehabilitated but when such thing were not materialized, then I accepted offer of separatists to be their spoke person because I have widow mother and younger sister to look after and now I am getting Rs. 5000 per month. What welfare measures are being taken by the Government and whether economic package is being provided? If ten thousand people are fuming silently over this issue and say that the Government has made false promises, then it would not be considered incorrect. The Government policies are proving to be a failure and the Government is not paying attention towards Kashmir. Today these people are involved in stone pelting. The Government must have intelligence reports in this regard. If the Government don't have any information, then efforts should be made to get such information. They are making statements in the media that they had quite Jihadi activities and supported India but what in the Government doing for them? The Government has failed to keep these people on its side. You should consider this aspect that none of your policy has been successful there.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, certain people said regarding incident of stone pelting that the Government of India has neither taken any welfare measures and nor has provided any economic package for these people. Such opinion of these people has been developed on the basis of Government's attitude towards

Kashmir and talks were held with Pakistan. Such situation would have not arisen had the Government not changed the policies initiated during NDA regime under the leadership of Shri Vajpayee ji. The NDA Government had clearly stated in this regard that we will talk within the ambit of humanity and there in no question of autonomy and independence. Devolution of Powers can be considered on the basis that centre-state relationship should be reviewed afresh for the entire country and we have no objection to this. Certain changes in respect of power could be made in the centre-state relations in view of the present scenario. But you have not taken any action towards this direction.

The Hon. Prime Minister painted Pakistan also as a victim of terrorism and then made a reference to Balochistan in the statement. He did not stop at this. He also effectively negated the agreement signed between Musharraf Saheb and the Vajpayee government wherein it was agreed that no talks would be held till terrorism is eliminated. He made this agreement void by delinking terrorism from talks. This has opened the doors for terrorism to continue unchecked in Kashmir. This has opened the doors for Mujahideens to flourish and for Kashmir to be terrorised. These conditions have been created due to a certain situation. America wants to flee from Afghanistan and needs Pakistan's help to do so. It has provided unfathomable financial and military aid to Pakistan. Pakistan has also befooled America. It kept asking for aid from America in the guise of curbing radicalisation. It would catch a few Taliban people and then ask for aid and help in the matter of Kashmir. That is why America keeps on pressurising India to do something. The Hon. Prime Minister is not here and also the hon. Minister of External Affairs is not here but they favour the policy of appeasement which is not right. They do not have the right to sacrifice the interests of India to protect the interests of America and Pakistan. It is America's choice whether it wants to stay on, in Afghanistan or leave. It got a drubbing in Vietnam and in Iraq. It get a drubbing in Afghanistan now. The point is that if it leaves Afghanistan in the hands of Taliban then Pakistan would also fall into the hands of Taliban. If, at such a time, such laxity and poor relations with Kashmiris continue and the Army is also withdrawn then chances of Kashmir being snatched from India become high. Efforts to send Kashmir from India are being made for the last sixty years. We are well aware of this policy of the Western Block. They need Pakistan and Kashmir for their own political and geo-political strategic interests.

They want a base there to keep an eye on China, the Gulf countries and on India. Their need for Pakistan is greater than Indian interests. China is also with Pakistan. We are alone. Why are policies which are isolating the country being followed. We are also not displaying our strength and our courage. We have forgotten the proposal passed in this House in 1994 in which it was said that Kashmir is an integral part of India and every inch of its land is part of the country. This proposal was passed in the time of Shri Narsimha Raoji's regime. Have you forgotten that. Is the dialogue following that line. Are efforts being made to weaken article 370 to alienate Kashmir? Think what will happen in the North-East if autonomy is considered for Kashmir. Think about it carefully. It is not as if the only crisis is on this border. There is crisis in the North-East also.

Assam is facing the same crisis. The seven sister states in the North East are facing the same crisis. Show courage and be bold. Tell those people that Kashmir is an integral part of India and they should stop the terrorist activities. There should be no hesitation in this regard. Terrorism has to be checked so that the genuine demands of the State could be attended to. I want to say one more thing. Now Shri Farooq Sahab has come forward. A few years earlier there was a power struggle between Farooq Sahab and Gul Shah. I was touring Kashmir at that time. I came here and submitted my report to Shri Rajiv Gandhi. What happened is between the two of us. I do not want to repeat it. Even now a power struggle is going on between the PDP and the National Congress. PDP is repeatedly trying to overthrow Omar Saheb. What do you want to do? Do you want to dislodge the elected government by resorting to stone pelting? What kind of guidance do you want to provide? Do you want to teach that elected governments can be overthrown through stone pelting? Whether this is a good Government or a bad Government is a separate issue. Internal change within democratically elected Government is acceptable and change of Guard in the Legislative Assembly is acceptable but if stone pelting becomes the accepted means for changing Governments then no State would remain unaffected. ...(*Interruptions*)...* That is a different issue. I should not be saying this but I would like to submit to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that if any Chief Minister expresses a preference towards being hit by a shoe rather than by a stone then it means that

such a Chief Minister wants himself to be hit by shoes to show the people that shoes are softer than stones.

He may quietly swallow the insult in the form of shoe hurled at him, however, he cannot be allowed to hold the honour of the citizens of the Government and the entire Parliament to ransom. What is this? What sort of things are being said? Please make him understand how he should work. He may go to the people, that is a separate issue it is whether he would meet them or not. However, I would request you to consider it that Kashmir alone is not at risk. The entire country is integrated with it and faces the risk. It is a serious crisis of international politics of our meak domestic policy, crisis of not comprehending the history of Kashmir. And above all it is a crisis of not comprehending the unity and integrity of the country.

How will you resolve this crisis? You do not have any roadmap. The hon. Prime Minister attributes the problem to the past sixty years, he says it is complicated. That's true, but who made it complicated? Did I make it or the BSP or the CPM, who complicated the issue? The Government has created all the complications. Now, you tell us to look for a way out. You tell us the way out. We will tell you if the ways are proper. We shall cooperate in strengthening the ties with Kashmir. We will help you in all the issues that the Government will take up to make; India a free, sovereign power. We will help the Government in executing all the policies to hold out foreign pressure and to retaliate, however, if the Government would buckle under the foreign pressure and make compromises with secessionism and accede to the wishes of stone pelters wanting to bring change in the regimes then this country will never support you. This country will support you if you integrate Kashmir with India, firmly. If you wish to step ahead casually then consider section 370 seriously. However, instead of following that course of action I regret, that today a question was raised which was related to your statement regarding saffron terrorism. I would humbly request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that... ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. Your statement will not go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Varanasi): With due reverence I wish to submit that saffron is on the top of our national flag. Wherever the national flag would be taken, saffron would go with it propagating peace in the country and the world. It cannot be a symbol of terrorism. Perhaps, you may not be aware of the history of Congress. The party formed a committee before independence to decide the colour of the Indian flag.

It unanimously opined a single coloured flag; in saffron colour. It was saffron that gave India, the identity of a Guru...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please keep silence.

...(Interruptions)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: It was saffron which was worn by the great personalities, philosophers and saints of our country who travelled to Korea, China, Japan, Indonesia, entire South Asia, South-East Asia and West...(Interruptions). It was saffron which disseminated the message of peace and harmony...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please be silent. Please speak on your turn.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: I would humbly remind you not to use any derogatory words for it...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please keep silence. Please speak on your turn.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: It will create a heavy reaction in the country. At times, I feel that the Government wants people to react. I wish to tell you not to use such terms in future that will galvanise people to react. It will further complicate things and create hurdles in resolving the issues of Kashmir.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I express my gratitude to you for providing me an opportunity to keep my views and I request the entire House to make concerted efforts to frame a complete roadmap and take concrete measures to make Kashmir an integral part of India.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Chittorgarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today we are going to discuss an issue which is certainly important for the entire world. At the outset I

would like to congratulate Shah Faizal of Kashmir an IAS topper on behalf of my party and the entire House. It is necessary to encourage people like Shah Faizal. Breezes of Kashmir cools our desert and waves of Dal Lake look like giving message of peace. I would like to convey my regards to the lady who had lead the parade last year.

Before I start I would like to ask the House particularly my earlier speakers that everybody was willing to discuss the Kashmir issue but on one hand proceeding of the House was adjourned ten times without any reason on the other hand Hon. Prime Minister has conveyed his message from the rampants of Red Fort and during his visit to Ladakh in Kashmir and heal the wounds of the people there. I would like to quote the speech of the Hon. Prime Minister delivered on 15th August.

[English]

"Kashmir is an integral part of India. Within this framework, we are willing to move forward in any talks which would increase the partnership of the common man in governance and also enhance their welfare."

[Translation]

He had further said,

[English]

"The years of violence should now end."

[Translation]

Issue of today's discussion is that violence should end now and new chapter should be started. I would like to say to Murli Manohar ji and Gurudas Dasgupta ji that it is not a political issue. It is not an issue to blame political parties or earlier Governments but we all have to make such efforts for restoration of peace in Kashmir as Dr. Joshi has said in his speech. We are discussing the issue here. After two decades Kashmir had started breathing freely again, peace was resorted there, wind was blowing, people were singing and workers were back to their work and young people were moving ahead. But suddenly things have changed and we will have to think on it. We are concerned and therefore, the UPA and earlier Congress Government have made efforts for

restoration of peace and initiation of development works. Rs. 94 thousand crores has not been provided for any charitable purpose but for the development of state for which Dr. Joshi ji himself stated that if there is heaven on earth it is here in Kashmir. Various Governments provided Rs. 94 thousand crores in a different period of time for the development of Kashmir and to bring the people into the mainstream of the country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, through you, I would like to state that right from the beginning everybody be it late Shri Jawaharlal Nehru ji or Shrimati Sonia Gandhi ji and Shri Manmohan ji have emotional association with Kashmir. These people have always paid special attention to Kashmir because they are emotionally associated with Kashmir. I was in Kashmir few days ago and I got the chance to meet some friends there. They clearly said which I would like to repeat before the House that we are tired of hearing lip sympathy offered by various political parties. We don't want such sympathy. "Tera Shok Bhi, Tera Joke Bhi, Mere Darde Dil Ki Dawa Nahi." We are grateful to the Government for making such efforts for Kashmir. I would like to refer to the recent visit of hon'ble Prime Minister ji and what he said that the Government is willing to provide relief measures to Kashmir because Kashmir and Laddakh are facing huge problems. On one hand people particularly younger generation is indulging in the incidents of stone pelting and on the other hand nature is creating havoc there. In such a situation relief and rehabilitation measures should be started on priority basis. Therefore, the Government and the entire country are with the people of Kashmir in this testing time. We have to identify the root cause of these violent incidents.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, through you, I would like to submit that the Government has made an appeal to begin it all afresh. I would like to emphasize on this fresh beginning and add that if we will continue to harp on the things bygone, past records then it would be difficult to obtain a fresh result. Since the issue is recent and the objectives are also fresh, so we will have to make a fresh beginning. The efforts made by the UPA Government for this purpose are definitely in sync with the objectives. I am not leveling any allegation while referring to the dialogue with Pakistan, however, this country also knows that dialogues definitely bear same result, however, if we only level allegations on the Government as to what the basis of the talks was and what the results was, it can also be stated that the

result was Kargil war. Thousands of soldiers who fought this war and laid down their lives were from my state. What was the cause of the war? So, it would be incorrect to level any allegation on the U.P.A. Government that its dialogues are leading to an impasse. This could not begin just by quoting a person or two. The Government made efforts to hold talks with Pakistan and have participation in trade. That is why the bus service was started so that the ties could be set up between the two hearts that had fallen apart end on either side. Several rounds of round-table conference were held even with the separatist group on the other side, those groups were called upon since dialogue was the only way out.

Here I would like to state that our country would not have achieved freedom if there were no dialogue. We cannot forget the principles of non-violence of Gandhiji and we cannot forget dialogues. Big issues can be resolved through dialogues then how far would it be proper to act only on political ground forgetting dialogue? So, I make an appeal to the House to give an assurance to the people of Kashmir to trust the Government of India who has always stood by them and would continue to do so in future. We definitely want to give the people of Kashmir a chance to live in peace and the Government is not negligent in providing them opportunities, be they those of employment or physical and human resource infrastructure.

We referred to independence here. I would request all my colleagues and everyone present here that today the youth of Kashmir has gone astray, so it is not only the responsibility of the Government but all of us to save them from going astray. We will have to make them understand the correct meaning of independence. They are integral part of India. The independence has definitely given impetus to development and several others works. The onus of development lies on the Government and it is fulfilling its responsibility quite well. They will have to be told that they are citizens of free India and independence means freedom economic, social and freedom to equality. Today, they have all those rights.

For this purpose, there is a dire need to utilize the funds given by the Union Government and to make people have faith in the State and the Union Government and we as civil society, should definitely participate.

There is no denying the fact that the security is under pressure and unable to work. In such a situation we make an appeal to the State Government to look into it and identify the problems and try to resolve them. Packages have been given by the Hon. Prime Minister in a bid to maintain peace and particularly the road to Pakistan is open, we are focusing more on dialogue now, committees have already been set up and their meetings are going on. Persons like Narayan Yukti have been appointed to give impetus to harness technology and this Government is making efforts to mobilize several resources to provide employment there. I feel that the Government is whole heartedly with the people of Kashmir, however, I on behalf of the Government, would like to make an appeal to the people to have faith in the Union Government for establishment of peace there. Peace and development would go hand in hand and there is no doubt that whatever efforts the UPA Government is making there shall yield good results. Even we will have to make efforts in the direction of winning the confidence of the people there. It would not be proper to say that the Government is focusing on war. I also make an appeal to the political parties to continue dialogue there.

This message should go that the country is standing with Kashmir and UPA Government is with it. It would not be correct if we try to spread communalism by making allegations against each other in the House. It will never serve our purpose of bringing peace in Kashmir and guide those youths towards a right direction. Sir, I want to submit and quote Prime Minister Saheb:

[English]

“Today I wish to share with you my sense of hope for the people of Jammu and Kashmir that I have long nurtured.

The State is only now emerging from the shadow of more than two decades of a deadly insurgency, which brought only death and devastation to the beautiful State. These were two last decades in the history of Jammu and Kashmir’s development.”

[Translation]

Today the skies of Jammu and Kashmir are overcast with the clouds of smoke but these clouds will go away undoubtedly because the opportunity being provided by

the Government is the opportunity of economic development. To say that economic opportunity does not make any difference, I think it would be incorrect to say it by quoting just one person that there is no substitute for economic dialogue despite the provision of so much funds by the Central Government. After the visit of Kashmir we shall feel that despite lagging behind continuously for the last two decades now it has started taking turn for change, now the time of revalidation has come, in such a situation if there are some clouds of smog is there, It may be dispelled only by dialogue. I would like to appeal to the youths because the debate and the dialogue going on here symbolize that the youths whose mothers themselves are giving them stones, must understand that the duty of the youths is to build a progressive Kashmir so that they can ultimately ensure their participation in nation building. We cannot teach them the lesson of non-violence superficially. Here there is a need of civil society and this society must come forward. It is our appeal that in any form here the Central Government is legally fully committed to ensure economic development and dialogue there, on the other hand civil society and the state government should also see this.

Sir, I also want to state that the atmosphere of peace and decline in the incidence of cross border terrorism has been brought about by the efforts of the Government but it appears and as I said the air which reach the desert get perverted by the air coming across the border. The Government should pay more attention towards cross border terrorism. There is a need of confidence building among the people and in the Government also that Government of India is working in the interest of the people and the Central Government is standing alongwith them. The visit of the Prime Minister began with a new assurance. I would like to appeal here and also to the next Speakers that the duty of the mother is to ensure the wellness of their sons and they should realize this. Here there is gap somewhere and there is a need to understand it. I would like to request that the atrocities committed against women in Kashmir must be stopped and development works should be carried out. For this the state Government must find out the new ways for itself, but we should not forget that when we are marching forward towards development and a hurricane comes in its way, then our first duty should be to check it and put the state back into track of development. Today the Government of Kashmir is doing the same thing.

That is why not only the intention of the Government but the entire infrastructure of the Government of India is behind it. It is better to think the ways to check the youths from getting misled as how to bring the real meaning of freedom to them, how to provide more facilities to people like Shah Faisal, so that they come into the mainstream of this country and not to curse the State and the Central Governments.

The most important thing I want to tell here and regarding which all are serious that the teaching of non-violence should be imparted to the children through curriculum to various dialogues. It is true that at times atrocities have been committed against them but we should try to rectify it instead of putting all these things under the carpet. For this the mind of the UPA Government is quite open. We are proud of Kashmir that it is still standing bravely and protecting us despite so many difficulties. That is why I am optimistic and with that hope I may tell that such disturbances will ease but for that dialogue cannot be done away with. There are three stages of dialogue. The first state is dialogue with the youth because it is the young generation which has come forward. Dialogue with Pakistan is also necessary the evil air of which at times affects the people of Kashmir and they do not understand.

As far as the political parties are concerned, I would like to request the political parties in the state to give priority to re-establishment of peace in Kashmir through non-violent means. We will be able to take up other issues only when peace is established. However, the UPA Government knows that developmental works, providing employment to the youth, rehabilitation are equally important as establishment of peace in isolation would not be enough. There has been a lot of delay. We have to send out the message that assurances will be fulfilled. There should be no disparity between our words and our deeds. Works have to be completed on immediate basis. The UPA Government has envisaged Bharat Nirman for the entire country. It has also given special package for Kashmir because development will lag behind till the smallest hamlet, the smallest habitat in Kashmir is not covered under Bharat Nirman. The biggest problem for the youth is finding employment. Life is good only when there is money in the pocket and food on the table. We should not undervalue this truth. Hence the government is making efforts to create

new hubs of science and technology (especially technology), tourism and education in the State. These efforts have to be appreciated and we have to agree to participate in these efforts which will show the way to development.

It is my desire that the invigorating winds from Kashmir which shower health upon those they touch should again welcome people from far away places. The waves from Jhelum and Chenab should again please the hearts. The saffron fields should remain fertile. The craftsmen should remain busy in their work. Handicrafts and other works should flourish. The Kashmir which was on the forefront in scholarly work should also flourish in the educational field and achieve foremost ranking in the world. We should try to understand the pain of the youth of Kashmir who have lost their way and try to bring them back onto the right path through non-violent means. They need correct guidance. No one can doubt our intention.

The previous Congress governments and the present government have taken both logic and emotion into consideration while taking decisions. Mere logic cannot solve the Kashmir problem. Empathy is needed to solve this problem. Empathy is needed to soothe the wounds sustained by the people. The people who have grown up seeing perpetual violence need the right guidance. Hence, the dialogue which took place today should have been held ten to twelve days earlier. It was continued despite the delay. This discussion should reach the valley. We have to appeal to the mothers of the youth of the valley. No one is going to benefit from the violence. The only loss that is going to occur is to the mothers who are going to lose their sons. It is the woman who loses a husband, a son, a brother whenever violence occurs. Hence, I particularly want to appeal to my sisters to preach non-violence to the youth instead of handing them stones to throw. They should tie rakhis on their wrists and give them the vision of a new India, a new Kashmir. I concur with Rahul Gandhi when he says that Kashmir should be shown the progress made by Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi and Mumbai. The economic growth rate of India is higher than nine percent despite the economic slump. We have proved to be an example for the world. Presently, we may be depending on Asean or EURO, but even USA is looking at us with respect. We have to tell the people of Kashmir that Obama could not hold himself back in saying that when Manmohanji speaks the entire world listens. Even

America is pondering how to get its youth to emulate the India youth. Hence more young people like Shah Faisal are needed. For this I would like to appeal to the mothers and to the youth in Kashmir to stay with the Congress which has always supported them. If the people of Kashmir resort to stoning they will be injuring their own brother, son or father. They should avoid such a situation. Kashmir should remain safe, it should develop, it should have more young people like Shah Faisal. The woman who led the parade today was representing not only Kashmir but the entire country. We need to soothe the wounds. The entire country has united for Kashmir in these troubling times. So the dialogue should be allowed. Developmental works should be started. The government of Kashmir and its people should be reassured of our support so that the state can be made prosperous. Our Parliament and all the parties need to be unanimous to ensure that the violence in the state is ended and peace and development can be ensured. Kashmir needs to be converted into a paradise again and all of us have to work together towards this goal. I would like to end by saying that the violence being witnessed by the world can be ended only through development and dialogue. The future of the country lies in having faith in the UPA government.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the situation of Jammu and Kashmir. I was listening to hon. Joshi Ji and Smt. Girija Vyas Ji, It seemed for some time as if we were in Kashmir Valley. This is a fact that Kashmir is an inseparable part of India and our forefathers and our present leaders have ceaselessly struggled to ensure the unity and integrity of the country. All out efforts have been made for the development of Kashmir. I have gone through the written statement presented by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs in the House. It has been said in that statement that the law and order situation has worsened there after 11th June, 2010. In fact some stray incidents have been taking place from time to time before 11th June, 2010 but the incidents which took place after 11th June, 2010 were matter of concern and very much deplorable. This report says that not only the law and order situation but peace and harmony is also under serious threat in Kashmir. My friend Shri Lal Singh ji is sitting here. I would not like to repeat here what Shri Lal Singh Ji has told us but you may assume that we are very much grieved to hear that. I had visited

Kashmir two or three times before this incident our relatives are there. It is very pleasant to stay there. When hon. Girija Vyas Ji was speaking about Kashmir valley just a while ago, it seemed for a moment as if we were in Kashmir. If we assess the incidents that took place during this period of time, we find a large number of stone pelting incidents took place. During the period from June to August as many as 872 incidents of stone pelting occurred there and jolted the situation of law and order to its hilt. I have got authentic information that those indulging in stone pelting take the cover of children and women. The children and women are .paid Rs. 500 per day for carrying out stone pelting. There are no employment opportunities these at present, so the women and children are paid Rs. 500 and used as a cover for stone pelting and the terrorists outfits are behind them and they open fire on our security forces. Our security forces always try to ensure that the children and women are not hurt, so the forces use teargas shell first, thereafter plastic shells, then resort to lathicharge and when our security forces come under fire from such elements, then they, out of compulsion also resort to counter-firing in self-defense. So far 63 civilians have been killed in such incidents and after 13th July itself, 12 people have been killed 1266 personnel of our security forces have also been injured seriously, public property is also damaged during such incidents, specially police vehicles, police stations, schools and colleges are targeted which causes enormous loss and disorder and the youth is the most affected class. It is quite natural that if there is any such incident, our security forces are also compelled to use force. I have listened to Joshi Ji and Girija Vyas Ji very seriously. It is not a permanent solution that if there is any such incident, the Security Forces should be sent and use some Force there.

14.00 hrs.

We need to find out a political solution for Kashmir. Today all the Members of this House, be they from ruling party or from opposition parties, are concerned about this problem and therefore this issue is being discussed here under Rule 193. We have been demanding a discussion on this issue for long and today this issue is being discussed, though a bit late.

As far as law and order situation in Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, lot of news is reported in print media as well as electronic media. We are grieved to

hear and watch those news reports about Kashmir. The entire country is concerned about restoring peace in Kashmir and ensuring development of Kashmir. We are discussing this issue at the fag end of monsoon session of the Parliament. I, therefore, appeal to the entire House to rise above the party politics and make efforts for restoring peace and order in Jammu and Kashmir and ensuring facility for the security forces. We want the Kashmir is get back normalcy and for that we should find out a solution and try to implement that.

So far as local government of Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, the government keeps on changing and the state is run by coalition governments. The State government has made its best efforts and talked to all the concerned people as it has been reported in this report also. The State government's action is 510 a reaction and the state government can not do much. So there is a need to have coordination between the Union Government and the State Government and to take a concrete step. The law and order situation and peace have been disturbed in Kashmir and as a result the people have to suffer a huge loss. The remaining parts of the country have also been affected. When I had gone to Kashmir, I also visited the apple orchards. Those apples are so costly today that I bought them at Rs. 150 to 175 per kilo in Delhi. Large numbers of tourists come to Kashmir. When people from other parts of the country come to visit Amarnath shrine, they are afraid. In such a situation I would like to appeal to the State Government, Union Government, Prime Minister and the Home Minister to continue the process of talks and to make all efforts to restore peace in Kashmir.

I would pray to God that peace may be restored there at the earliest and the people of the state may lead a peaceful life. At the same time I would like to ask the miscreants in Kashmir, including the women and children, to think about this and to protect their families. May good sense prevail upon them and peace be restored in Kashmir. Kashmir is economically dependent on tourism. Large number of tourists come there. If peace is restored there, then even more tourists would arrive there and would give a thrust to the local economy thereby bringing improvement in the living standards of the people living there.

I conclude with this appeal. I thank you for giving me time to speak.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, today a serious issue is being debated in this House. I have been sitting here from the very beginning of this debate. Farooq Abdullah Saheb, please sit down.

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): I am going nowhere. I am sitting here.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: The objective of this debates is to find out a solution of the serious problem of Kashmir. I would like to refer to the day since we became independent in 1947.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the country became independent at midnight of 14th August. Had the partition of the country not taken place, the question of Kashmir would never have become complicated, but it became complicated. We all are aware that India got its independence on 15th August, 1947 and three months after that Kashmir got its independence on 27th October, 1947. Sheikh Saheb is not with us today. Kashmir of today has changed a lot from Kashmir of Sheikh Saheb's time. At that time the name of Farookh Saheb's National Conference was Muslim Conference and when Jinna Saheb visited Kashmir at the time of partition of the country, Sheikh Saheb was the leader of the people there. He had obtained his degree from Aligarh University in the year 1931. The tragedy was that the Dogras ruled over Kashmir and he had gone to Jammu and Kashmir after getting education in Aligarh.

...(Interruption)

SHRI S.D. SHARIQ (Baramulla): It was not against Dogra regime, perhaps it was against Shakhshi regime.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: There is a large book containing extensive correspondence which led to this problem but today I do not want to go into that. His love and affection for India is reflected in the fact that he changed the name of Muslim Conference to National Conference in the year 1938. It was the result of his association with Late Jawahar Lal Ji. I just want you to go back to that time when we began our journey. The speech delivered by Sheikh Saheb in UNO is a wonderful speech. It is very necessary for us to get the essence of that speech before starting this debate in the House. At the time of partition Mr. Jinnah had gone

there to constitute the Muslim league there but the dexterous statesmanship of Sheikh Saheb compelled him to go back and he was told that his (Jinnah's) manoeuvring would not work there. In the year 1938 Sheikh Saheb said in UNO, "I refuse to make Pakistan a party on Jammu-Kashmir issue. We have decided to work and die with India. There is no need for constituting a state on religious basis." Whatever is happening in Kashmir today, we must look at and keep in mind the history of Kashmir.

Sir, I would like to say that Kashmir has been the same as it was in the days of Sheikh Saheb. When I was a child my family was loyal to Congress. Sheikh Saheb was a respectable figure all over the country. His association with Jawahar Lal Ji was a topic of respectful discussion in the country. When India was partitioned, Jammu and Kashmir was the one and only state where no communal riots occurred, lakhs of people were killed all over the country, though minor incidents had occurred in Jammu but there was at all no such incidents in the valley despite the fact that valley was Muslim dominated but not a single Hindu or Sikh was hurt. It is not my statement but Mahatma Gandhi said this in his prayer meeting. Everyone should read the book titled 'Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah-the tragic hero of Kashmir'. What has been said by Mahatma Ji in the prayer meeting? No leader was as much hurt as Gandhi Ji was hurt due to partition. Mahatma Ji has not given such a big tribute to anybody. *[English]* 29 December 1947, two months after the State joined the Indian Union. It must be evident to the outsiders as it is to me that Kashmir must be lost, invaders otherwise called the raiders, if Sheikh Abdullah Saheb's efforts to hold together the Muslims and minorities fail. My sole hope and prayer is that Kashmir becomes the beacon of light in this benighted subcontinent. *[Translation]* Mahatma Ji has said in his prayer meeting in the year 1949 that Kashmir was his only hope. I do not think that any person in India is more secular than Mahatma Ji. Such a great man like Mahatma Ji could never speak anything false. He always told the truth. How did the situation in Kashmir deteriorate? He was kept in prison for 20 years. I would like to tell my friends in Congress party that Shri Jai Prakash Ji and Lal Bahadur Shastri Ji are not with us today. Something was stolen from Hazrat Bal. Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru was the Prime Minister at that time. He sent Shastri Ji there. Shastri Ji was second in rank in the government after Shri Nehru. Shastri Ji not only found out a solution but also submitted his report

to Jawahar Lal Ji. I would not like to read the report because there is paucity of time but it is certain that Jawahar Lal Ji made Sheikh Abdullah Ji Chief Minister again on the basis of Shastri Ji's efforts and his report.

The election held in the year 1982 was not an election in real sense. Salauddin who went to Pakistan had won the election.... *(Interruption)*

DR: FAROOQ ABDULLAH: When the holy Hair of Prophet Mohammad was brought back to India, then Sheikh Saheb was not appointed as Prime Minister. Baskhi Saheb was the then Prime Minister. Shamshuddin Shah became Prime Minister when Bakshi Saheb was dismissed. He was in office only for 14 days because he could not control the situation. Then Sadiq Saheb became Prime Minister who released Sheikh Saheb.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: You know better than me and you have corrected my point. But I know that it took 20 years to solve the problem when talks were held with Sheikh Saheb when he was released from jail. Elections were held in 1982 and you have participated in those elections. Everybody including the entire world knows as to how such elections were conducted. At that time thousands of people have migrated to Pakistan from Kashmir and they lost their faith in democracy due to unfair means adopted in the election.

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: It is incorrect. There was an issue due to which I had been dismissed later. But it was the election of 1987 wherein charges were levelled against us that election was rigged. As POK based Hizbul Mujahideen were winning and we defeated them in that election. I would like to state that many Ministers of my Government lost their election. It is not like that Ministers of my Government were not defeated in these election. Ministers of the Government have lost in that election. But if there is rigging in the election, we have option to move to Election Commission. You can prove your point and say such irregularities are committed. But it is not appropriate to take up arms. Is there any instance in the history of India where one take up arms in case he loses an election. No one can use religion in an election. They used religion in the election. They put up banner of Allah and Nabi Karim Sallahu Aleh Vasallam. Besides they also put up holy flag. If I have to put up

any banner I will put up plough which is election symbol of my party and congress will put up its election symbol 'Hand' and not put up banner of Lord Rama. They contest the election but poster of Lord Rama were not put up by them. ...(*Interruptions*) Therefore, they say that things happened in this manner. This is due to the kindness of those persons who are sitting up there. I can't describe as to how much trouble they have caused there. The House will not be able to listen if I narrate the entire story of their capacity to create imaginary scenes. I still remember as how they create stories in 1983. They wrote that 300 house were burnt and 300 people were killed. These are all baseless news. I regret such functioning of media. Our media should function in a sincere manner. Why do they publish such baseless stories by taking money. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Farooq Sahab has refuted my point of view and he said that election was fair. There is no doubt that he knows better than me. But it is a fact that J.M Shah was made Chief Minister of the state, then what kind of game played by I.B. there. Azad Saheb may be aware of all this. It is you achievement ...(*Interruptions*) I was saying that everybody was of the view that this was a major problem. I admit that it is a serious issue.

The issue of Kashmir has been there since independence. Mahatma Ji said in this regard that if there is any hope of secularism and light of humanity, it is found in Kashmir. I would like to say that Kashmir is not only integral part of the country and not only known for its beauty and valley. ...(*Interruptions*) It is necessary to improve present condition of Kashmir and at the same time it should be seen in a proper perspective in order to establish secularism in Kashmir. Through the House I would like to convey Mufti Saheb that he was the first Muslim Home Minister. I would also like to say that he had contested election from Muzaffarpur and Katihaar, the heart land of the country. ...(*Interruptions*) He had registered win in the recently conducted Assembly Election. He was the Chief Minister during recent Legislative Constituency elections. He was part of the coalition Government with Azad Saheb. Earlier Azad Saheb was with him and now he has joined hands with Farooq Saheb. You should not change your partners. You keep on changing your partners which has further deteriorated condition of Kashmir. You change your allies as per your convenience and you know that issues are

not solved with such attitude. Sometimes people oppose the persons having such attitude.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): I have learned such tactics from people like you in Delhi...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: You may be correct but issue of Kashmir is very sensitive but your attitude has remained the same. It is clear that situation of Kashmir was not better in the past also. Both the State Government and the Central Government are responsible for such state of Kashmir because it required two hands to clap. If I ask you as to how many people were used to resolve this issue. Your Government was in power there. How many people were used by hon'ble Rajiv ji to sign Rajiv-Longowal Pact. I myself met him four times...(*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Member, it would be better if you speak in brief. There are many Members who have to make submissions. They would be denied an opportunity since the hon. Minister has to give a reply. It would be better if you bear this in mind while making submissions.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I am concluding. I would like to state that the situation was worse in Punjab than in Kashmir. After the Rajiv-Longowal Accord they opted for elections. I would reiterate that history repeats itself and Kashmir boils time and again as the wheel of history revolves. ...(*Interruptions*)

DR. RATAN SINGH AJNALA (Khadoor Sahib): That Accord did not see the light of the day...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: You are standing, are you against it?

DR. RATAN SINGH AJNALA: Absolutely right.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: However, some way out was found. It was through elections of Panchayats and Corporation followed by the Legislative Assembly elections. Dr. Saheb did not contest those elections but the Congress and the BSP parties did. ...(*Interruptions*)

DR. RATAN SINGH AJNALA: 25 candidates from our party were killed....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: I am referring to the year 1985 when Badal Saheb was in Salem Central Jail. Then Chaudhary Devi Lal and I approached him and asked him to contest the elections. Corporation and Legislative Assembly elections were conducted there. So I urge upon Farrukh Saheb not to withhold the elections process there. There is no difference between a Hindu and a Muslim of India. Social dissensions will come to the fore as soon as you begin the elections process. Elections have not been held in Jammu and Kashmir. Normalcy has been restored in Punjab after elections. Gram Panchayat elections were held in Punjab. The supporters of Khalistan desisted everyone to vote. However, the public defied the call for boycott of elections and participated in the process. So, on the question of Kashmir I would like to extend our support to the Government. I have many references there. I know Dr. Farrukh Abdullah although never discussed it, he is always occupied. I would not like to go in history on the question of Kashmir. I have only stated that Kashmir had a different part from that of the rest of India. Where a man never raised any finger, never got involved in a fight. The Kashmir which captured the market with its embroidered cloth and garments but never fought, is boiling again. There is disturbance once again. I cannot blame the Government of India. The Government would be working in the right earnest. But pay attention to the efforts on other fronts. Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru was the biggest leader of the Congress party. He used the services of Jai Prakash Ji. Mufti Saheb has been here. We share a close relationship. Farrukh Saheb has been our ally several times. There are two extremist groups there. I share a good rapport with them, many of them.

In the end I would ask the Congress party to follow the footsteps of their predecessors and involve others in their efforts who have no personal, political and other financial hidden agenda. Then we will be able to resolve

this problem peacefully. Killing be that of a youth or an army jawan is extremely regretful. They are sons of this soil on either side who are fighting with each other, pelting stones or firing rubber or real bullets. All this is not acceptable. Kashmir is in our soul. When I used to study in Engineering College I had many Kashmiri classmates. Their culture and even their food is so delicious that I do not have words to appreciate it.

So in the end, I would request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to make sincere efforts. I firmly believe that peace would be established there. Peace was restored there several times in the past and it will be restored again. It only needs to be seen how the Government exercises its full statesmanship and work out a way and we extend our support in these efforts. Even if we are asked to render our service for Kashmir at odd hours we shall be there. Kashmir is an integral part of India without which we would not be complete and our Status as a secular country would not be recognized. With these words I conclude.

14.30 hrs.

MOTION RE: TWENTY-FIRST REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI
PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Sir, I beg to move:

“That this House do agree with the Twenty-first Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 26th August, 2010.”

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

“That this House do agree with the Twenty-first Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 26th August, 2010.”

The motion was adopted.

14.31 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Situation in Jammu and Kashmir—Contd.

[Translation]

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN (Ghosi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have been carefully listening to the discussion going on since morning on the situation in Jammu and Kashmir. Hon. Shri Sharad Yadavji has expressed his opinion but I do not want to delve so deep into this serious issue.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is indisputable, that the contentious manner in which this issue has been discussed so far by both the sides has proved to be a setback to the people who wanted to raise it in the House with the purpose of finding a solution to this problem. Today is the day for discussing the Kashmir problem in this highest and foremost institution in the country. I would like to say, through you, that not only the people of the world but also the people of our country, particularly the youth, the older citizens and the women of Kashmir would be listening to each word spoken in the House today with at attention. They must be curious to find out how much interested the Members of this August House are in resolving this problem and the manner in which they propose to resolve it. It has been repeatedly said that Kashmir is an integral part of India and there is no doubt about it. We have been taught from childhood that India starts from Kashmir. When we drew the map of India we started drawing from its Northernmost tip, *i.e.*, Kashmir. I would like to state clearly that Kashmir is an integral part of India. My party believes that a permanent solution to this problem needs to be found. What is the reason for this problem becoming a perpetual thorn in our side? No one can find a solution till the reason of this problem is identified. What is the reason for the uncooperative attitude of the people of the State? If the government is serious about this issue then it will have to give serious consideration to this problem. In my view playing a blame game is not going to be helpful. Instead it would be more fruitful to discuss the pain of the people of the State.

The people would be hurt. Hence I think that this House should unite to give consideration to the problem. I understand that the government has consistently made

efforts in this direction but why should not all the parties get together to discuss this problem. Maybe the government is interested in taking all the accredit and may therefore jettison the efforts to find a valid solution. All the people feel responsible. Everyone feels the pain of the people of Kashmir. *...(interruptions)* I feel that leaders of all parties need to get together and discuss. *...(interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please remain calm. Let him speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: We say that there is a need to bring the people of the state into the mainstream. We will not be able to do so till we empathise with them completely. This is my view.

Sir, once when I was in the Central Hall, I heard a journalist talking about the painful situation in the state on the phone. Had the Members of the House been able to listen to that conversation they would have set aside their differences and tried to find a solution to the Kashmir problem unanimously. It is not only a question of development. The government continuously tries to carry out development. I read in Class Sixth or Seventh that if there is paradise on earth then it is in Kashmir. People always dream of going there. I have also got the opportunity to go there on tours of committees once or twice. God has given it abundant natural beauty. Development is not the only issue. We need to do something different. There is large scale unemployment in the state which is causing the people to rebel. What are we doing to address the problem of unemployment? To achieve a target we will first have to set a target. Mere discussion in the Parliament is not enough. It is necessary to provide them food alongwith dignity and respect. The reasons for naxalism in the country are no secret. I want that we should empathise with the pain of the people and the House should get together to bring them into the mainstream and set a target for this. Only then would we be able to think about a solution. It is a general consensus that those people have to be brought into the mainstream. We are also responsible for ensuring that. It is not enough to spend a night there. We should go and stay in the Valley. I am not blaming any one party for this. This is the responsibility of all parties to work together and the government should realise that simply grant of packages

of development is not enough. We have to take effective steps to find a permanent solution to the problem of unemployment. Till we find a permanent solution to this problem faced by the youth we will find it difficult to attain our objective. This is my suggestion on behalf of my party.

It is my suggestion on behalf of my party that we should be cordial with each other and then think about development of the state since development is very important. To maintain the respect Kashmir has in the world, it is necessary to induce the youth of the state to move in step with the rest of the nation. For this the Central Government has to find a permanent solution to the problem of unemployment. With these words I conclude.

DR. MIRZA MEHBOOB BEG (Anantnag): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, on behalf of my party Jammu Kashmir National Conference, I would like to put forth my view point regarding the issue which is before this highest forum of India. Just as Sushma Ji made her speech, I hope that the whole House and the esteemed gathering will listen and I also hope that you will listen attentively to what we want and what grief and pain is there in Kashmir.

With regard to what Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi ji said about giving autonomy to Jammu and Kashmir, I would like to caution that Jammu & Kashmir is a political issue and it should be addressed politically. It is alright that employment is also a big issue and unemployment there can only be removed by the state government. But it is basically a political issue which should be addressed politically. Forgive me for saying that when you compare it with North-East, Punjab and other states, either you don't understand the historical perspective of Kashmir or you don't try to understand it intentionally. Just now, Sharad Yadav ji was talking about the tallest and undisputed leader Sheikh Abdullah of Kashmir. Perhaps Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi forgets while talking that this was not BJP nor any other party but it was our National Conference Party to which leader Mohammad Sheikh Abdullah belonged. There was a time when the people in the whole sub-continent used to take decisions in the name of religion but just as Sharad Yadav Ji said, Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah left Qaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah the Founder of Pakistan and joined hands with the secular democracy of India.

I would like to submit that when you compare Kashmir with other states you have to understand that when Jammu-Kashmir became a part of the Union after the accession treaty, a lot of negotiations underwent with the Government of India and a document was prepared as to what would be the relationship of Jammu-Kashmir with the rest of the country. After this process, the accession of the fully autonomous Jammu-Kashmir with the country took place. Any member in this Parliament may tell, if there was any state accession of which was done on these grounds. Definitely, there is no other Kingdom accession of which was done in this manner.

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (Godda): Sikkim is there.

DR. MIRZA MEHBOOB BEG: Please, listen to what I am saying. The Elected representatives of Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly from Jammu, Kashmir, and Laddhakh who are not separatists and secessionists unanimously passed a resolution that Jammu & Kashmir should not be given autonomy but the same has to be restored. Today Kashmiries ask me this question. You people talk here but I have to go to Kashmir and face those who have voted for me.

They ask me that when the accession with India took place, it was on the conditions of full autonomy, so where is that autonomy today. When I go there, they ask me that how come the Government of India side tracked the resolution of Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly within ten days. I am made to face this situation. I have to reply to these things. The Kingdom of Kashmir, which is a Muslim majority state, openly made a decision to always be a part of India of Gandhi, Nehru and Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad. But what did it get in return? I would like to tell you with all honesty. I don't want to keep you under any illusion you. You have to resolve this political issue in a political manner. Let a single Hon. member tell me that if the resolution passed by your assembly is rejected in this manner, then how would you feel? I have to reply to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. I felt very sad, I listened to the arguments of my colleagues and it was okay but the general view expressed there was to reject their demand because they are separatists. I am asking you, where should we go? Perhaps, for this occasion, a poet had said. "Na khuda hi mila, na wasale sanam. Na yahan ka raha, na wahan ka raha." You consider me as a Pakistani but even I am not safe there. They consider me a

Hindustani. You decide, where should I go? You don't compare it with other states. The Government of India is talking with Naga Rebels. The Government of India talks with them not only in the country but outside also with dignity and when they are offered autonomy as came up in the print media, they reject it and again talks are held with them. What is the reason? I have to go back to Kashmir. What is the reason that when talks are held with Kashmiri people, it is not done with any dignity? Unless this is done, whatever we speak in our speeches, the issue of Kashmir will not be resolved politically. So far as my party the conviction and commitment of my party are concerned, the basis on which we became a part of this country, we shall have to return to those basics. My Party has the commitment and the conviction, but you want to provide us facilities and comfort there, if you want to talk about our philosophy, commitment with your head high, than you will have to address it, there is no other option than this.

Sir, in which state are all these things present? Jammu and Kashmir state has got the highest number of water resources. Had we have self control over water resources, we the people of Jammu and Kashmir would not have only become self-sufficient but also would have provided it to other states too. But under the Indus water Treaty we do not have control over our water and all water goes to Pakistan. Those whom you think are our well-wishers, those well wishers are utilizing our water quietly. What is the present situation? At present the entire Jammu and Kashmir is in darkness there is no ray of light we do not demand to scrap that International Treaty but is it not the responsibility of the Government of India to pay heavy compensation to Jammu and Kashmir for the damage caused to Jammu and Kashmir by that International Treaty because it has no control over its own water. The Government of India has no kept that water of Punjab with itself but the entire water of Jammu and Kashmir, which was our biggest strength, was given to Pakistan. If we want compensation is it a Separatist move? We do not want anything. I respect the honble Prime Minister a lot. He has said in his statement that they would address the alienation of Jammu and Kashmir. Just see what a good impression it created there. He said that the problems of Kashmir will be addressed, see what a good impression it created there. He said that the problems of Kashmir will be addressed, see what a good impression it created there. He said that the Government will talk on autonomy within the parameters of the

Constitution. He would talk if there is consensus in this regard.

The trust deficit between the Kashmiris and the rest of the country keep widening because it is within the ambit of the Constitution. The Prime Minister cannot ignore this because autonomy is quite within Indian Constitution, not a single word of autonomy falls out of Indian Constitution. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

DR. MIRZA MEHBOOB BEG: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am concluding. our committees have been constituted, our Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh has also constituted committees, these committees were not constituted by Jammu and Kashmir National Conference. Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh Ji constituted the Committees, they submitted their recommendations, but these recommendations have not been implemented till date. The Kashmiris are asking us when these committees had been constituted by the Prime Minister himself, and when they submitted their recommendations, and why these recommendations are not being implemented. As a result trust deficit widening.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to bring certain things into notice. One of the Committees recommended that 390 megawatt Dulhasti Hydel Power project should be transferred from NHPC to the state government. Is it a dangerous thing? It was not implemented. It increases trust deficit. If this committee has been constituted, and it recommends to transfer it to the state government and it is not transferred and we again demand for its transfer because it is the recommendation of your committee how is this a separatist issue? I am telling this on economic front. Again Rangrajan Committee was constituted, this committee has already submitted its recommendations and a task force was set up to execute it, but these recommendations have not been implemented till date. I just want to know if this is the situation and Kashmir is handled in such a way then such discussions and debate will have no result. One of our colleagues said that youths are given money to carry out stone pelting, in which part of the earth such things take place. For a mother has son is everything. If we forget such things. do not talk on such things, ignore them then no power on earth can keep Kashmir to this side. No mother gives stone to her sons, this is a political issue.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

DR. MIRZA MEHBOOB BEG: It will have to be addressed politically and unless this is addressed, unfortunately alienation will further increase, and not come down.

[English]

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

Sir, we discuss a very serious issue as well as a very sensitive issue. We discuss this issue after 63 years of our Independence. At the very outset, I pay my hearty condolence to the victims who lost their lives in the Valley and also condemn the atrocities. After 1947, there were various ups and downs in the political situation of Jammu and Kashmir. The most serious situation that we witnessed was in 1963-64. The agitation went on for about one month even in the chilling cold and people were fully in the midst of the road. There was a huge agitation. The situation prevailing now in Jammu and Kashmir is more serious. So, we have to take this issue in such a way that we find a way out to it.

Today, we have the privilege to discuss this issue in this House. There are two eminent ex-Chief Ministers of Jammu and Kashmir who are sitting near our Home Minister. Of course, their experience may be sought to solve this issue.

The situation has worsened for the last two to three months. About 60 persons have lost their lives. I think it started on 11th June. The 17 year-old Tufail Mattoo was fatally hit by the teargas shell. In the first week of August, 49 civilians had died. Today, we see the report in the newspapers that two more persons died just because of police torture and other issues. We have never seen such a fierce political uncertainty in the Valley. Thousands of protesters come on the street and they are also forcing the police and the CRPF to retreat.

They set on fire Police Stations, other Government buildings and shops. We have never seen this kind of serious situation. The Government has to bear in mind that the new generation is slowly getting alienated from the mainstream. Why is it so? In the report made by the Home Minister, it is stated that there is stone pelting

from the side of the young children and also that this stone pelting should not be met by bullets. Of course, it is true that tear gas and lathicharge were used. But at the same time, the Home Minister's statement itself says that there were about 890 stone pelting incidents in the Valley in the last four months. Why is the young generation getting alienated from the mainstream? This has to be looked into very seriously. This is not merely a law and order situation which we are seeing in Jammu and Kashmir. The Government should bear in mind that the new generation has lost faith in the State Administration. This is one of the main reasons for the recent violence and the Government has to seriously look into it.

There were elections to the State Assembly in Jammu and Kashmir about 1½ years ago. Then, there were Lok Sabha elections in May, 2009. At that time, a good number of people have gone to the polling booths and the outcome was very good. This is a good message that the Government has to take into consideration. Both the State Government and the Central Government have failed to utilise this message of the people of the Kashmir Valley to strengthen the democratic forces there. That is the main issue which we have to analyse now. A large number of people have gone to the polling booths to cast their votes and they have elected their Government. Even then, after 1½ years, thousands of people are going to the streets, shouting slogans and pelting stones at the CRPF personnel and the State Police force. I do not blame any Government for this. But at the same time, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir and the Government of India have to use these sentiments of the people of Jammu and Kashmir because they are ready to have an elected Government. On this ground, there is a failure on the part of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir and also the Central Government.

Sir, when there was a Round Table Conference about two years ago, our Prime Minister participated in that and all political parties had also participated in that Round Table Conference. It was a good beginning. The Prime Minister has given an assurance that a 'Zero Tolerance' policy would be followed against violations of human rights in the Kashmir Valley. It was accepted by all. I do not know whether I am right or wrong, but no action has been taken on that front even when there were violations of human rights in the Kashmir Valley.

Now, when the situation in Jammu and Kashmir worsened, there was an All Party Meeting, but some political parties have not participated in that meeting. Even then it is a step taken in the right direction. But at the same time, cases of violations of human rights have to be taken very seriously. There was a good beginning made at the time of the last election as far as the Government is concerned. But after two or three months, I think, the situation has changed because some unfortunate incidents have taken place as stated by Comrade Gurudas Dasgupta. Two youngsters have died and some allegations have been made. It is true that it is not possible to change the situation only by imposing curfew and also with the help of the police forces. So, the need of the hour is to start a dialogue with all the sections of the State of Jammu and Kashmir, irrespective of whether they have representations in the State Assembly or not. We have to gain the confidence of the people in the Kashmir Valley. That is the major issue to be considered by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir and also the Central Government.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: The Government has to think whether we have to give more powers to the State of Jammu and Kashmir and also see whether there are other issues which have to be taken into consideration. This should be part of the political process.

15.00 hrs.

The Government should realise the facts that the huge alienation especially from the young generation is seen. So what we need is to evolve a credible mechanism of dialogue with all sections.

Maintenance of law and order situation in the Valley is important especially when there are secessionist forces and intervention of Pakistan in some issues is also there. So, the Government has to take steps, I do not disagree with that. But at the same time, the most important thing is to gain the confidence of the people. So, the Government has to take administrative as well as political steps. With these two steps, I think, we can go forward.

Just blaming the Central Government will not help. The Government has taken a number of steps, a huge amount has already been sent to the State of Jammu & Kashmir. At the same time, the local administration

has failed to utilise that amount. I do not know whether I am correct or not, but it is true that we do not know whether this amount has really reached the hands of the people. So, these issues are really exploited by others. So, we have to take some good initiatives.

I do say that this august House should give a strong message to the people of the Valley that we are with them. They should come with democratic process. They should come with the mainstream of the Indian nation. That is the only way. They should give up violence. The youth and other people should join with them. Then only we can take this issue in a more positive manner.

Sir, with these words, I would like to give one more suggestion that whatever we can do, we have to make it possible; and whether it is possible or not, but an all Party delegation of the Parliament should go to the Valley. That also would get a channel to have interaction with the people that they can understand that this Parliament is the utmost place where we can discuss all those issues. So, such steps can be taken.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (Dhenkanal): Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. We are all non-Kashmiris, but yet everybody is concerned about the country and therefore, we are all willing and very keen on finding out what is wrong with this nation.

Sir, I have noticed one thing that whenever there is a Congress-NC Alliance, whether it was in 1987 when the former Chief Minister said that the media had alleged that the elections were rigged; immediately two years later, in 1989, the trouble arose and there was so much problem that everybody thought that Kashmir would break-away from the Union.

15.03 hrs.

[DR. M. THAMBIDURAI *in the Chair*]

Similarly, in 2008, after the fresh elections, today we sit here in this House in August 2010, exactly two years later, again we are faced with the same problem. So, whether it is NC-Congress Alliance that is creating the problem or not, it has to be delved into and looked into very deeply.

Sir, it is not the question of politics, we all have to look into history and learn from history and not dwell

and keep repeating history or what happened in which year in this House and not come up with some tangible solution. Just talking, each Party getting some time and you shutting us up is not the solution to find what has to be done to this country.

Let us first deal with what is our problem at the Centre. Is it really insincerity? Is it really carelessness? Do we bother about Kashmir? Are we just talking something out of our heads? I will give two small examples. After the UPA-II came to power at the Centre, again with the NC Alliance here, although NC is a very small party, what has happened? Let us take the example of Faisal Haq. I am sorry nobody has mentioned this till now.

Faisal Haq and the hon. Home Minister had secret dialogues. The poor man was killed in December 2009.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): He was not killed. He is alive. Do not say, he is killed. He is alive.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: He survived; all right. Insha'Allah, the Lord blessed him. *...(Interruptions)* There was a killer attempt, a fatal attempt on his life but Allah, the merciful, protected him, and he survived. But, have we ever tried to find out that how did this secret dialogue between the Home Minister and Haq come to light? Is it not the Central intelligence agencies which leaked the information that we endangered his life?

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: Nothing remains secret; these people know everything.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: That is one way of looking at it; a former Chief Minister talking so carelessly is surprising. But let us also take what happened in June 2009 immediately after the UPA came to power. I am not politicizing the issue. It has nothing to do with the UPA or with any individual. It is the process which our hon. colleague from the NC spoke earlier. I could feel the pain in his heart.

In June 2009, the Home Minister said that the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act will be reviewed, and, maybe, in Kashmir, it shall be revoked. But let us find out what has happened today. I am not questioning the Home Minister. This is not a question-answer session. But we all know—we read the papers—the same

newspapers and the same TV channels that we wish to decry, that the former Chief Minister says concoct stories, is the same media that has upheld the dignity of democracy in this country. It is not us, the politicians, not the judiciary, not the bureaucracy; it is the media. But what happened after June 2009? Today we are in the end of August 2010. Has the AFSPA been revoked in Jammu and Kashmir? Have our utterances, the Central Government's utterances been honest? Have we really cared for Kashmir? Are we bothered about it? No, we are not. Let us face the facts. If you are a group of administrators, I am not saying anything about UPA or NDA, all of them are of the same view. We saw that yesterday. We saw how the voting took place. We saw how the House was full to pass the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Bill because Washington is looking at Lok Sabha live television. But, today, Kashmir, which is such an integral part of India, nobody is bothered to be present here on both sides. I am not naming any one side. It shows the concern. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please come to the point.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: I am happy that you gentlemen are here. Please keep up this good habit. We recommend it. You please keep up this good habit and be here. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Satpathy, address the Chair. Come to the point because your time is very short.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Sir, I am sorry; I apologise.

Sir, it is not Kashmir Valley alone. I had gone to Meghalaya last weekend. I was there and I had an opportunity to talk to some young people from Manipur and Nagaland. You will be surprised to hear how they refer to India. They refer to India as a foreign country. They refer to us: "You have come from India. What is happening in India?" This is their tenor. It is not Kashmir alone. It is happening all around us. Why is this happening? It is happening because we, the people sitting here, do not care for this country. There is no love today. We have fought for Independence. We have brought back that sublime, that subservient attitude back into our lives, and we are responsible for it. We have

all become yes men; we have all become followers; we are incapable of thinking what should be done to this country.

Sir, the hon. Member of Parliament from Kashmir mentioned about the Special Agreement that Kashmir had. I would like to mention in this House it is not Kashmir alone. If Kashmir had Article 370, Sikkim had Article 371, and Goa also, which joined this Union after Independence, had Special Agreements with the Government of India.

Sir, let us also understand whether it is my State or your State or anybody else's State, all of us today feel that we have been neglected by successive Governments at the Centre for no fault of ours. It is not Kashmir alone. Jammu and Kashmir passed a Resolution and the Centre ignored it. So did the Centre ignore Bihar when Bihar was split into two States and when Bihar wanted Rs.5,000 crore, it was not given to Bihar. So also is the case with Odisha. When the Chief Minister of Odisha and the people of Odisha said: "We have minerals. It is given by God to us and we have the right to develop and work shoulder to shoulder with self respect with other States", we were denied under the pretext of environmental damage. So, people who have done a course in EDAT— Environmental Damage Aptitude Test—today have the right to sit here and decide that Polavaram project can come in Andhra Pradesh because it is ruled by the Congress Party but in Odisha, since it is ruled by the non-Congress Party the Chief Minister of Odisha and the people of Odisha will be deprived of development. This is something which should make all of us ashamed of what we are doing here today.

Sir, I would like to say that a time has come to raise this issue beyond politicization. Sir, whether it is Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Jammu and Kashmir, Goa, Manipur, Nagaland and Odisha, all of us are one. We are one country.

When the Prime Minister and the Leader of the House could stand here and beg this House to pass the Nuclear Civil Liability Bill, I would have been happy if those same gentlemen were begging this House today that let us find a solution for Kashmir; let us find a solution for the North-East; let us not politicize the issue; let us not talk about 1987's rigging; let us not blame the media; let us love India. But it is not possible today because we need Indians in India today, not foreigners.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, many thanks to you for giving me time to speak during the ongoing discussion on Jammu and Kashmir. Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs had issued a statement on 4th August and this discussion is about that. His several statements have come, I will talk about these in the end. Jammu and Kashmir is a mythical and historical place of Indian culture. It is an integral part of India. Many of our Members of Parliament told that earlier Jammu and Kashmir was known as heaven. Keeping in view the current circumstances, I will tell that development of Kashmir had started when Omar Abdullah the son of Abdullah ji was in the NDA Government. As many as Rs. 94 thousand crore have been spent in Jammu and Kashmir so far. Railway tracks are being constructed there. All these developments are taking place there because Jammu and Kashmir is a part of our country. But separatists, terrorists and people from Pakistan are deliberately instigating them and they are saying that they want to go to Pakistan and are reluctant to live in India.

In our childhood when we were in college, we used to deliver speeches, take our processions. Kashmir hai Hindustan Ka, nahin Kisi ke... I cannot utter this word here, it will not be proper at this place. Kashmir is a part of India and since then we are watching that fight is going on for Kashmir. Many Governments came to power, out of it the Congress Government remained in power for the longest period of time. Several Members of parliament from Kashmir expressed their feelings. I agree with them on many points that development has not taken place there, care was taken there, the opportunity for employment is static. I visit Jammu and Kashmir twice in a year—first to have a darshan of Baba Amarnath and second to have darshan of Mata Vaishno Devi and I also go there with our Parliamentary Committee whenever it visits the state. We go and meet people there. When we go for Amarnath Yatra we find that all persons with horses are Muslims, hundreds of people are engaged in this task. Shopkeepers are also Muslims, there are many Muslim traders in Srinagar, who are jobless. They have nothing to do, they are helpless. There was a time when their business was thriving when it was a tourist place. All know that shooting of films used to take place there. Kashmir Ki

Kali, Himalay Ki God Me etc. films were shot there....*(Interruptions)* All used to see that Kashmir was very-very beautiful. But, today it is nothing. Many of the Kashmiris, whether they are from Muslim, Sikh, Hindu or other community, are with India. But they are being instigated, they are being told to act in a particular manner, they are being pressurised.

It is also a fact that dirty politics is being played there....*(Interruptions)* Due to politics the condition of the people of that area is not good. Many people have been killed. The Kashmiri Pandits, who were the original inhabitants, have been chased away. Many of them came to our Maharashtra. Shiv Sena Chief Hon'ble Bala Saheb Thakre ji did a lot to help them and their children. They accept this. Hon'ble Adwani ji and Hon'ble Atal ji also helped them in Delhi. ...*(Interruptions)* Today they cannot go there because they have been chased away from there. The condition of Kashmir turned from bad to worse in the last 20 years. ...*(Interruptions)* Abdullah Saheb, eight-nine years ago I had seen a news paper. Some figures were published in Nav Bharat Times. About figures you told that the media exaggerated the figures. Through those figures it was shown that these terrorists spare nobody. They killed 31000 people out of which 11000 persons belonged to Muslims community. I just want to tell the Muslim community of our country that terrorism is a serious issue and terrorists spare nobody. ...*(Interruptions)* Sir, please give me some more time to speak. ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to tell you that the people are suffering today, our Government is not doing anything for them. They only hold dialogues. The Minister of Home Affairs called them and held talks with them. But Abdullah ji was also included in the peace process which was achieved during Atal ji regime. If we exclude that period, the Government did nothing in the remaining period. How long we shall keep talking to these terrorists? Shoot them, shoot all*...*(Interruptions)* If we will not kill them today ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The unparliamentary word will be deleted from the records.

...*(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANAT KHAIRE: Shoot the terrorists, the terrorists who from that country. ...*(Interruptions)* Shoot the terrorists shoot them. ...*(Interruptions)* I will say that

[English]

MR. CHARIMAN: I have already said that any unparliamentary word will be removed from the records.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Khaire please address the chair.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Kill the terrorists. Shiv Sena will always be with the Kashmiri people. Today if the Government does something for Kashmir, we will remain with them because we are with Kashmiri people and Kashmir is the integral part of India. The Government should strictly check the anti-national elements there. If anyone does like this anywhere in the country, he should be condemned. We want the violent agitation in the valley to end.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chandrakant Khaire, please try to wind up.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit that whenever the Amarnath Yatra begins in Kashmir, some terrorist activities always happen there. Efforts are made to create obstruction in this pilgrimage for atleast 15 days. Hurriat people say that Amarnath Yatra should be obstructed whereas perhaps they don't know that the pujari there is a Muslim. But deliberate obstruction is created in the yatra and they say that they won't allow Hindus to have a darshan there. Therefore, the Government should also do something to contain the fanatics who are against the Hindus.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please try to wind up. You have already taken 10 minutes. Please wind up.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: I would like to urge the Home Minister that in his statement he has said that the saffron terror is rising which is not good. You can see, how much terror has been spread by the Maoists and Naxalites in certain parts of the country. Naxalites have killed so many CRPF and Police personnel in Chhattisgarh. But you are not doing anything about them rather making a statement about Saffron terrorism which is not appropriate. Thus, Home Minister should not make such type of statements. It damages the prestige of Hindus throughout the country and moreover, there are a lot of Hindus in congress party as well. So many people from your own party have told me that whatever I have said, is correct.

The Government should work towards removing unemployment in Kashmir and providing employment to the people. Develop Kashmir and make security arrangements for the tourists because tourism is the backbone of economic development there. The Government should make all out effort to restore the tourism climate there as it existed earlier. Simultaneously, the fanaticism spreading there should be checked. The Government is not working towards creating harmony among the people in India. Kashmir Pundits living in separate parts of the country should be rehabilitated in Kashmir and for this purpose, the government should return their land and property. The Government develop feeling among the people that Kashmir is a part of our country and terrorism should be rooted out. At any cost no effort should be made to confer autonomous status to Kashmir.

I would request the Home Minister to have cordial talks with everyone. If you do so, terrorism will come to an end. Therefore, spread harmony among the people and not make such type of statements that Saffron terrorism is spreading in the country. Kashmir is ours and is a part of India. With these words, I support the Kashmiri people on behalf of my party Shiv Sena and want to say that the whole India is with you.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Asaduddin Owaisi, you speak briefly. You will be given five minutes' time.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI (Hyderabad): At the outset, I would like to congratulate the people of Jammu and Kashmir, the State Government and the UPA Government for the successful and peaceful organization of the Amarnath Yatra. ...*(Interruptions)* I will complete.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I want to share with this House that this year 4,57,324 Yatris completed the Yatra, exceeding the number of 3,92,000 last year. Likewise, so far 5,16,972 tourists have visited J&K, far exceeding the number of 3,55,960 last year.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: I know that. I also have these figures and I wanted to place them in the House, but didn't get the time.

[English]

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI (Hyderabad): Sir, you watch my time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: The figures given by the hon. Home Minister are very clear. Having congratulated the Government, in this august House, I would like to take this opportunity to offer my condolences to the 65 people who have been killed barbarically by the security forces. I offer my condolences to the policemen also who have been killed.

An ideal situation in Kashmir should arrive wherein Muslims of Kashmir live peacefully, the lakhs of pandits who are living outside Kashmir should return back and Sikhs should live peacefully. That is an ideal situation.

Having said that, I would like to submit that the 65 people, who have been killed, include people of all ages starting from eight years to senior citizens. On June 11 eight-year old Tufail died. Milad from Pahalgam was eight years old. Then, nine-year old Sameer Ahmad was trampled over by the security forces in Batmaloo. Those who died also include a 45-year old fruit vendor and a retired ASI. Whenever funeral processions are taking place, the security forces are firing on them. What is happening is that the killing of people of Kashmir is not stopping them from coming out; in fact, it is making them more aggressive.

I would like to go on to say, without any prejudice to the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir who is a good friend of mine, that honest speaking should be done over here and it is that he has completely failed in terms of providing administration. What is the situation now over there? It is the Kashmiris versus the security forces. There is no buffer zone now. The more we talk about the administration, the less it is. To cover a distance of eight kilometres to go and meet the injured people, the Chief Minister has to travel by helicopter. This is the state of governance over there.

The person who had thrown a shoe over the Chief Minister, though the Chief Minister had forgiven him in the month of Ramadan, was given a hero's welcome in his village. Instead of improving the situation, armaments are being improved. I can give an example wherein one boy had a pellet injury. When his post mortem was done, there were different holes in his intestine. Is this how we are going to control the situation?

What is happening now? For the last six weeks, the Jama Masjid of Srinagar is closed. In this month of Ramadan, people cannot go out and do the night prayer of *taravi*. Hazratbal is locked. Local masjids are locked. I would like to take this opportunity *...(Interruptions)* Farooq Saheb, let me complete. I am not yielding.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is a Minister. A Minister has the right.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: I know. I want to complete. *...(Interruptions)*

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: I think, the time has come that it should be *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be courteous.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Sir, let me complete. *...(Interruptions)*

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: You do not want to listen the truth. Hazratbal is not closed. *...(Interruptions)* You take your words back. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: You cannot speak to me in this tone, Dr. Farooq Abdullah. I have the right to

speak what is right. Let me speak. *...(Interruptions)* I have the right to say. *...(Interruptions)*

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: You are giving wrong information to the House. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: You can clarify. You do not think that I am under your pressure. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Ghatal): Sir, nobody should be interrupted by the Minister, particularly from Kashmir. This gives a wrong message to the whole nation. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. That I cannot.

...(Interruptions)

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: He is speaking wrong in the House. *...(Interruptions)* Do you mean to say that I should keep quiet? *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Sir, you watch my time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am already watching your time. Please be brief.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: In Ramadan, only for one last Friday, Jama Masjid was opened. Why do you not allow the people to go out and pray in their local masjids, why do you not allow the people to protest? Is it not right, Dr. Abdullah?

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you address him, he will answer. That is the problem. Why are you addressing him? You address the Chair.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Sir, you can delete it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Is it not right that because of curfew, small baby food is not available, medicines are not available, and people are dying and starving because of lack of basic necessities, that too

in this holy month of Ramadan? The statement of the hon. Home Minister says that a quiet dialogue is happening. He is right to say that nothing is secret, but I would like to know how it is possible that details are known in the Press of how Mirwaiz Umar Farooq was called to Khan Market. Apparently, Khan Market is a favourite joint for all Kashmiri leaders.

He was called to Khan Market inside an optical palace, and then he was told to go out from the other door of the optical palace after having a dialogue. How can the details of it come out in the newspaper? ...*(Interruptions)* This is what I am saying. What has happened? You have discredited Mirwaiz Umar Farooq. What has happened because of us or you not doing anything to him? The hardcore separatists like Gilani's writ runs in Kashmir. He says that: "We will open on Sunday and Kashmir is open on Sunday." He says that: "We will close on Saturday and it is being closed on Saturday." What is happening? Youngsters are doing *ragda* with the hardcore separatists like Alam, and bullets are being fired at them.

In conclusion, I would like to say and bring to the notice of the hon. Home Minister that it is also for the Congress Party to see that heavy political marginalisation is taking place over there. The great steps that were taken by the Congress Party under the leadership of Shri Azad or whatever happened, what is happening over there? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: It is the past.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: Please Mr. Satpathy, I do not agree with all your views. Therefore, keep them to yourself. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, no comments from the other side.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: In conclusion, I would like to say that open the masjids. Tomorrow is Friday. Let all these masjids be open. If people want to protest, let them protest. Why has bullet become the first option? How many killings can happen? The more you kill, the more tough it is going to get.

So, in conclusion, I would like to say that release the political prisoners; stop this clamp-down; let us remove the Public Safety Act; and if we cannot remove the Armed Forces Special Powers Act, then why cannot we take it from civilian areas? I am asking this because that is where the stone-pelting is happening and that is where the Army bunkers are. Why cannot we control our security forces? I am asking this because for everything they have to fire on people, and children are being killed.

Hon. Dr. Girija Vyas, the Congress Leader, has appealed to the Kashmiri women not to give stones in the hands of their children. The question is this. How can a mother who has carried her son in her womb for nine months-be forced to say that take this stone and throw it on to the Police? What is the reason behind it? This is where the success lies, that is, if we go behind and see the question. Why is she telling her children to take the stone and throw it? Thereafter, we will find our answers.

Lastly, as regards the threatening letter being issued to Sikhs, I condemn it. But at the same time, I would like to bring this to the notice of the august House. What happened in Chattisinghpura where people have been killed? Let the Kashmiri Minister answer over here. In Chattisinghpura, the people who were butchered and massacred and Sikhs were massacred, and later on when their bodies were taken out, they were known to be local people. What happened in Nadihal in Baramullah District? An Army Major gave money to labourers and killed them to get reward. What is the message that we are sending? In Kupwara, 70 year old man was killed and later on when his body was exhumed, it was found that he was a local beggar. Is this the message that we are going to send?

So, I totally agree that a Parliamentary Delegation should go there. I am not for Shri Omar Abdullah to be removed. I want him to complete his term, and the people will decide whether he is popular or not popular. But we have a right to send a message. Kashmir is part of India, and we love Kashmir. But why do not we love the Kashmiris? It is high-time that we love Kashmiris, and then only this problem can be addressed in the right way.

SHRI C. RAJENDRAN (Chennai South): Hon. Chairman, Sir, we would not be speaking on the law

and order subject of a State in the normal course, which has an elected body to control and take stock of the happenings in the State. This is one of the exceptional cases where this House has decided to discuss this subject, which is otherwise beyond the purview of the House, namely, 'the situation in the valley of Jammu and Kashmir'.

After flag-marches and curfew by the Army in the valley and bandh-calls, the situation in the valley is limping back to normalcy. We, in this House, should not create a situation whereby it ferments more trouble than bringing peace and calm in the valley.

The Prime Minister announced, during the Independence Day celebrations, that he is going to announce some sort of a package for the people of Jammu and Kashmir. I request that before making any such announcement, the Government of India may consult all the political parties so that some consensus is arrived at.

In the normal circumstances, again, it is not fair to blame the elements from across the border for whatever happens inside our soil. But in this case, there are clear indications, intercepts, which show that the trouble was being fomented by the elements inimical to peace in the Valley, inimical to the unity of the country. They were out to create tension in the Valley.

There were two successful elections conducted in that troubled State. There were considerable gains achieved against the terrorists. The support to these elements was diminished. There was revival of tourism in that State over the past few years. Hence, the trouble mongers were working to a plan to reverse the gains achieved by the State of Jammu and Kashmir so far, and they fomented trouble.

There were reports which indicate that they were planned by Pakistan-based elements. They are funding the trouble-makers by organizing transfer of money on a daily basis. The involvement of hard-line separatists in engineering some of the violence was indicated by an intercept between two of the separatists. They were discussing about the killing of at least 15 people in a procession near Srinagar on 7th of July. Moreover, it is a common knowledge that whenever there is a peace initiative between India and Pakistan, the level of violence went up in Jammu and Kashmir due to the elements who were opposed to the talks.

In this hour of crisis, what is needed is an effort to restore calm and peace. There has to be some kind of an initiative to reach out to the people so that the Kashmir situation improves. There has to be special efforts at the highest level to bring back credibility to the institution of dialogue. There is a very urgent need for taking these efforts because the so-called separatists are inching closer to hardliners after these incidents.

Hence, the whole House should send out a signal to the people of the Valley that all of us are supportive of their concerns. A calm and peaceful Kashmir will not allow the separatists to come to the fore. It will also ensure that elements from across the border cannot create any trouble inside India. The whole House should condemn the efforts of the people from across the border in creating and fomenting trouble inside India. We condole the death of those innocent lives.

*Dr. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA (Khadoor Sahib): Hon'ble Chairman Sir, I thank to you for allowing me to participate in this serious debate on the 'Situation in Jammu & Kashmir'.

Sir, 63 years have passed since we attained independence. All of us made supreme sacrifices for this noble cause. However, along with our independence came the partition of India. Pakistan was carved out of India. I hail from a region that now falls in Pakistan. We had to migrate to India. Those were traumatic times. Lakhs of people migrated from India to Pakistan and vice versa. Lakhs of people were butchered in cold blood. Property worth billions of rupees was destroyed. 63 years have passed since we attained independence. But we have not been able to find a solution to any of the vexed issues that plague us.

The Jammu and Kashmir problem is like a festering wound that refuses to heal. If a father commits a mistake, his children and successive generations have to sometimes pay the price. The then leadership of the country had failed us. The Jammu and Kashmir problem is the legacy of the mistakes of the then leadership of India. We are saddled by the baggage of history. We have not been able to solve this vexed issue till now.

Sir, we have fought so many wars with Pakistan. In 1965 and 1971, both the nations went to war against

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Punjabi.

each other. We helped in the liberation of Bangladesh from Pakistan in 1971. Thousands of soldiers of Pakistan army surrendered to the Indian troops. We made them prisoners. That was the time when we should have pressurized Pakistan to give up the Pak-occupied Kashmir area. We should have resolved this issue then. However, the leadership of the country failed to act in a decisive way. We were too liberal with our enemy. The Pakistani troops were released without getting anything in return.

Sir, what was the need for our Government to take the issue of Kashmir to U.N.O.? It was a blunder committed by the then leadership of this country. Hon'ble Farooq Abdulla ji is present here. I would request him to have patience and not to lose his cool. This problem cannot be solved in a fit of rage. We must put our heads together and find an amicable solution to this problem.

Sir, Hon'ble Members from Jammu & Kashmir demand special status for their state. In fact, all states of this country want such a special status. When India attained independence, Sikhs too wanted a separate state of their own. At that time, Mahatma Gandhi had promised a state to us where the Sikhs would be free and feel the spirit of independence. 63 years have passed since we attained independence. Much water has flown down the rivers. However, all the promises made to the Sikhs remain unfulfilled. In fact, Sikhs have been at the receiving end all these years. Injustice has been meted out to us. So, the Central Government will never give any autonomy to Jammu and Kashmir either.

Sir, in Jammu and Kashmir, Sikhs are a minority. The Muslims are in majority there. Christians and Hindus are also in minority there. However, the Jammu & Kashmir Government has not granted minority status to the Sikhs residing in Jammu & Kashmir. No educational facilities have been granted to the Sikh children residing there. The Government has failed to provide safety and security to the Sikhs residing in the valley.

Sir, the Sikhs residing in Kashmir valley are native Kashmiris. They are residing there for the last several centuries, since the time of Guru Nanak Dev ji. There are 126 villages of Sikhs in Jammu and Kashmir. Sir, an Hon'ble Member has made a mention of Chattisgarh. All residents of the village there were butchered. However no one was brought to book. Who was

responsible for these killings? The Government is responsible for these killings. The Government cannot wash its hands off this sordid incident. It is the duty of rulers to protect the people. Those who are in power in the state must take the blame for the gory incident. I would appeal to Farooq Abdulla Sahib and others to leave the U.P.A. and come to our fold. We will provide justice to them. This Government at the centre will not give you anything. Farooq Sahib, when you are a part of this Government, why are you complaining? You should first leave this coalition. You should come to our fold. We will give you your rights. The Central Government will not grant any autonomy to you.

Sir, the minorities in Kashmir are suffering. The Sikhs are at the receiving end. The Hindu Pandits have been hounded out of Kashmir. Now, the extremist elements are targeting the Sikhs. There is a saying—"The streets are deserted. Everyone has been made to leave. But, Mirza is enjoying this." Sir, a sinister campaign has been launched to hound the minorities out of Kashmir.

Chairman Sir, Sikhs have been targeted in Afghanistan too. Many Sikhs have left Afghanistan and migrated to Delhi. They are Afghan Sikhs. Their forefathers belonged to Afghanistan. But, fanatic elements are harassing them. Sir, I demand dual citizenship for all Sikhs and Hindus living in Pakistan and Afghanistan, because sooner or later, they are going to be targeted in Pakistan too. Secondly, the federal system in India has to be protected at any cost. We cannot become fresh signatories to continue the historical follies committed by our first Prime Minister. At no cost would the federal system of India be compromised. And the question of giving autonomy to Kashmir or any other state does not arise. These are my main suggestions.

Sir, there should be no discrimination among citizens of India. We must all live together in peace and harmony. All the citizens of India should get equal treatment. In fact, we should rise as one man to face any threats to our country.

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir, for this opportunity. I would like to put some things straight to my friends from the Opposition as well as people on my side. Kashmir is not a simple problem. Do not make it look simple. In this very House, many of your must have been Members of this House, a Bill has been passed.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: If you speak in Hindi, the whole country will understand.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him speak in a language of his choice. Do not compel him.

[Translation]

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: Alright, I will speak in Hindi. This is the same House in which that Bill had been passed that the whole of Jammu and Kashmir, which belonged to Maharaja Hari Singh, whose some part is in Pakistan's occupation, some of it with China, which is called Azad Kashmir and we call occupied Kashmir and northern territories which include Skardu, Gilgit, Hunja and Nagar, all these were part of Maharaja's Jammu & Kashmir. But today, I haven't heard even a single member speaking about any of these areas. Nobody knows as to what is happening there and what atrocities are being inflicted? Those sitting in Press gallery also never write about the same.

It is alright, you people say a lot but remember that a lot of misunderstandings are created. The Kashmir with us did not become a part of India through its own power, your fire power and Air force. Kashmir became a part of India by watching the policies of Mahatma Gandhi, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru and those leaders who fought for freedom of India together with Sheikh Abdullah. Not only it became a part of India, but maintained its position very strongly. When so many battles took place including the battle of Kargil, it didn't dither rather stood firmly. But the regrettable thing is that when we pour out our heart before you, either you don't recognize us or you don't understand us. Neither any machine is there which can open our heart and show our love for India. But you don't see it. You stop at very small things.

Today, even a small child asks for freedom there. Do you ask him, why he demands it, what is the purpose behind it? Can Jammu & Kashmir remain free? On the one side, China is inching ahead and gradually trying to infiltrate in our Laddakh area.

On the other side there is Pakistan which is trying to save itself from the deluge and is also trying to send

terrorists over to India. Look at the situation. Can Kashmir remain free in the hands of these three countries which are armed with atom bombs? Are we not aware of the situation in Afghanistan? Are we not aware of Al-Qaeda and Taliban? Will Kashmir not face the same situation some day?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I remember the day when I visited Kabul alongwith the then Vice President of India, Shri Sharma Sahib. Badshah Khan was to be buried in Jalalabad. I had also accompanied that delegation. I went from Jalalabad in car upto the Khyber province in the border region of Pakistan to bring back his mortal remains and I did not see a single undamaged bridge or house.

Are those people who ask for freedom of Kashmir able to see the bungalows? When they get down from the aircrafts do they see any Kutcha house? May God never let us face the situation which is prevalent in Afghanistan. That is why I ask those sitting on the opposite side to understand what is in my heart. When I had introduced the resolution for autonomy my effort was to create harmony. I want to remind you that I had first asked for two things. I had said that we did not have the facility to prepare our children to clear IAS exams. We need to create the facilities. We are establishing such institutions. We had wanted 50 percent promotee vacancies and 50 percent direct recruitment in IAS for children from our state. At the time Shri Rajiv Gandhi was Prime Minister, Shri VP Singh was Finance Minister and Dr. Manmohan Singh was the Vice Chairman of the Planning Commission. When I took over the reins of power once again in 1986 I held a meeting with them. When I placed this proposal Shri Rajiv Gandhi said that this demand should be acceded to. Dr. Manmohan Singh may not remember but he has said that Shri VP Singh, the Finance Minister was not agreeing to the proposal. I said that since other backward states were being provided funds in the ratio 90 percent grant and 10 percent loan. Jammu and Kashmir has been associated with those states but the percentage accorded to it was in the ratio of 70:30. We should also be granted funds in the same ratio which would help reduce the burden of debt on the state. He said that Shri VP Singh was not agreeing to do so. We got 90:10 ratio and 50:50 ratio when guns and grenades started to roar in 1990 and Pakistani terrorists started their attacks but there was no seller. I was in Bangalore when the resolution for autonomy was introduced. Prime

Minister Vajpayee had summoned me. It was the day for commemorating the memory of Late Shyama Prasad Mukherjee and you all had to go to Calcutta. In the meeting of the Cabinet committee it was decided not to take up the resolution although some Cabinet Ministers said that they had not read the resolution and asked for time to read it before reaching a decision. But these people are adamant that they want to withdraw Article 370 and they want to rule not hearts but only land. If they want to rule over hearts then they have to understand the heartbeat. Only then will India remain united. It will remain united only when you consider the wishes of everyone in the country. If you do not understand the hearts of the people of the North-East you will not succeed. India will not remain strong if you understand only the desires of Delhi, not that of the other states. I came here and pleaded with the Prime Minister. I asked him if he had read the resolution. He said he had not. I asked him the basis of his decision. I asked him to first read it through and let me know which point he felt would weaken India. I was ready to listen. I said we had not made any unalterable plans. I said that this was not the verses of the quran which could not be changed. Try to make us understand where we went wrong. We have formulated the resolution and we can make changes in it. Instead of doing so you have simply rejected it. You have made me lose face. I get this treatment despite being part of the government. The point today is that we have to win the hearts of people. Logic will not help. You cannot win the hearts of children through logic. The people are not asking for compensation for those who have lost their lives. Will you not give me the chance to mete out justice? Can we not talk? You have given a list of 20 persons to Pakistan and have refused to carry out talks till these 20 persons are handed over to India. Have you forgotten that you invited General Musharraf Sahab to India but nothing has been done about the list of 20 persons.

These people did not return to India. Why did you call him. Because there is no other recourse. Dialogue with Pakistan is the only way to resolve issues. I remember what your Prime Minister said at the Pakistan border. He said that we can change friends but not neighbours. We can either live cordially or let our development be affected due to our mutual hatred. Hence today I appeal to all of you with folded hands to try and understand the feelings of the people. We do not want to break away from India. The people who

want to do so are not aware of the ground reality on the other side.

[English]

They think everything is green on the other side till they land. I would like to correct my people here, there is a lot of mis-information, and a lot of things have been said wrong. I would like to request all of you to try to understand that we want to find a solution within India, not within Pakistan or China or America. So, if we want to find a solution, let us sit down rather than have an obstruction that Article 370 will go and we will have a better India. You will never have a better India unless you win hearts and minds of people. To win the hearts and minds of the people, for God's sake open your hearts, open your brains and accommodate people's views.

[Translation]

Sir, I will speak to Sardar Ajnala in Punjabi. He has said that we will not get autonomy. Therefore, we should forgo autonomy. Let me tell you, Sir, without autonomy, you too will not get what you want.

[English]

What I feel, one day India will have to have a true federal structure. A true federal structure will mean that every State will have its power and Centre will have its power. If a State is weak the Centre will never be powerful. If you want to make Centre powerful then the States must be made powerful because they are the arms, legs and the body of India and unless the body of India is strong the mind can never be strong. Therefore, my request to all of you is that if we have to get on, let us make a prosperous India where people live together not in hatred.

I have no hatred for Hindus. Why? It is because I see God in various forms. To me, if you believe in God as Rama, Krishna, Mahesh, Vishnu or Brahma, the creator, let me tell you as far as a Muslim is concerned, it is one vision. It is the same power except the view you see is different. You see him in different forms but the power is the same. I see him as Allah. The power is the same. To you I say, let us not build animosity on religion for your religion is welcome to you and my

... This part of the Speech originally delivered in Punjabi.

religion is welcome to me. That is what makes India great. That is what makes India strong because we follow so many different religions yet are with one body and one soul and that soul is India and that soul will remain India so long as we remember that we have to work for the betterment of the people. That is why, we are here. We are here for the success of the people and the success of our nation depends if we work together.

Therefore, to Shri Murli Manohar Joshi, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj and to all of you I would say, let us sit together, let us find out a way forward where we can win the hearts and minds of these young people rather than using bullets and firing on right sights. That is the only way we can do it.

I would request the Home Minister to do something in this regard. I would request Shrimati Gandhi to bring all of us together and let us find a way forward in solving the problem of Jammu and Kashmir. At the same time, when our Prime Minister goes across the border or their Prime Minister comes here, it is made abundantly clear to them that not only is 'this' Jammu and Kashmir ours, 'that' Jammu and Kashmir is also ours.

16.00 hrs.

We forget this. We do not ever mention this as if we have given that to them. The time has come when we must tell them with one voice—enough is enough. We are not going to take it sitting down. That country belongs to us and it will remain with us. Let us start thinking of that. To the media, I would say that my earnest request to you is that please think of India. Please write for India because I know in my own State how the media puts the things in such a manner that it creates hatred.

MR. CHAIRMAN (DR. M. THAMBIDURAI): Please address the Chair.

[Translation]

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH (Srinagar): When you see the photos published in the Urdu newspapers there you will feel distressed at the dichotomy between what they write and what they actually do. You may have friends there. I appeal to you with folded hands not to spread hatred ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair.

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: My best request is that we are not only Kashmir but it is Jammu, Kashmir, Ladakh, POK and Northern Territory, that is India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, discussion on this issue shall continue tomorrow.

16.01 hrs.

NALANDA UNIVERSITY BILL, 2010

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House will take up Item No.18—Nalanda University Bill, 2010.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of Shri S.M. Krishna, I beg to move:

“That the Bill to implement the decisions arrived at the Second East Asia Summit held on the 15th January, 2007, at Philippines and subsequently at the Fourth East Asia Summit held on the 25th October, 2009, at Thailand for the establishment of the Nalanda University in the State of Bihar as an international institution for pursuit of intellectual, philosophical, historical and spiritual studies and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.”

16.02 hrs.

[SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA *in the Chair*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

“That the Bill to implement the decisions arrived at the Second East Asia Summit held on the 15th January, 2007, at Philippines and subsequently at the Fourth East Asia Summit held on the 25th October, 2009, at Thailand for the establishment of the Nalanda University in the State of Bihar as an international institution for pursuit of intellectual, philosophical, historical and spiritual studies and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.”

[*Translation*]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN (Bhagalpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I extend my thanks to you for allowing me to speak on Nalanda University Bill after the important issue like Kashmir and the speech of Farooq Sahab.

It is very fortunate for us that ever since our Government came to power in Bihar we made efforts to revive the glory of Nalanda University. It was the initiative of former President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam and Chief Minister Nitish Kumar ji that the State Government passed a resolution and decided to establish Nalanda University on 17.8.2006 through Resolution November 1495. The University of Nalanda Act, 2007 was passed by the Bihar State Legislative Assembly. Notification for establishment of University of Nalanda was issued on 24th August, 2007 and former President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam was appointed the first visitor on the same day. Our Government had spent around seventy five crore rupees for this purpose and acquired 500 acre land which will be handed over to Nalanda University on lease for 99 years.

We all know that Bihar has been the educational hub and a centre of learning. People of Bihar are considered to be intelligent and we have inherited it. The land of Bihar is the birth place of great personalities like Aryabhata, Chandragupta Maurya, Ashoka, Chanakya, Guru Gobind Singh, Lord Mahavir, Gautam Buddha, Shamsul Haque Adilabadi an Islamic Scholar, Sher Shah Suri, noted poet Ramdhari Singh Dinkar, Didiyapati ji, Dr. Rajendera Prasad, Shri Jai Prakash Narayan, Babu Jag Jeevan Ram, Karpuri Thakur and my parliamentary constituency Bhagalpur is the kingdom of magnificent king Karn known as Aug. This land has been a centre of learning. Today, we talk of Oxford and Cambridge Universities but Nalanda University was the leading centre of learning in ancient time. Mahatma Buddha visited this place in the 5th-6th century B.C. The Nalanda University was founded by the Gupta dynasty in 5th century near Bada Gaon in Patna, where the remains of this university are today. It was the first residential institute which accommodated ten thousand students and two thousand teachers due to which it attracted people from all over the world. Today, ratio of student and teacher has been reduced. Here Members refer to the Oxford and Cambridge universities but you look at the ratio, there were two thousand teachers for ten thousand

students. Besides, thousands of handwritten rare books including around 40 thousand scriptures related to Buddha and Sanatan religion were available there. Famous Chinese scholar Huen Sang and Itsing studied Sanskrit and philosophy here at Nalanda University. Apart from Mahayaan and Heenyaan teachings the subjects taught here were Vedic shastra, philosophy, logic, grammar, astronomy, yoga, mathematics and medicines. The university attracted scholars and students from China, Korea, Sri Lanka, Japan, Greece, Mangolia, Sumarta and Thailand. The library was set on fire and it kept on burning for six months in the attack by Khilji in 12th century. Since then nobody took care of the university.

Sir, our Government came to power in Bihar. Bihar has witnessed good governance after a long time due to which people have high expectation from the Government. The State Government talked to the Government of India in this regard and received a positive support from the Government of India for which I am grateful to the Union Government for their contribution. You are aware that Bihar is changing and the whole country had expected good governance in Bihar. This country cannot made progress of some state are progressive and some state remains to be backward. Nine crore population of Bihar were neglected for long and there was no law and order in the state.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to state one point as to how Bihar has changed in the recent years. The Bakhtiyar Khilji who ruined and destroyed Nalanda made Bakhtiyarpur his camp. The Chief Minister of Bihar was born and brought up in Bakhtiyarpur. How history repeats itself that the person responsible for the said destruction choose the place to be his base camp and person belonging to the same place undertook the revival of the place.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Chairman Sir, now people do not say negative things about Bihar. Elections are going to be held in Bihar very soon. Tourists visiting Bihar make insulting remarks about Bihar but we take it as a compliment and it rekindles our self esteem. Today per capita income of Bihar has increased. People used to make a mockery of us. Bihar had the potential to revive the Nalanda University and to make it an inter national institute of learning. A total of 4900 crores rupees which was earmarked for this purpose has now increased to Rs. 16 thousand crores

and today the budget of Bihar is 20 thousand crore rupees. It was 3471 in the year 2005-06 and today it is more than eight thousand crore. But we have more expectations for Bihar. I am not denying the support being extended by the Union Government for the revival of Nalanda University and I am thankful to you for this gesture, but our expectations are even more.

I am proud to be a Bihari. ...*(Interruptions)* It is not an insult to be a Bihari. ...*(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are three Members to speak. Be brief, otherwise they will not get a chance to speak. You may continue now.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Chairman Sir, I am speaking on behalf of my leader and I am the only speaker. You should have no problem with Bihar. I am proud of it...*(Interruptions)* I was saying good things, please listen to my speech patiently. Please do not interrupt, since you were also in power in Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, do not disturb the House. Please maintain decorum in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I said that I am proud of it. Bihar is an integral part of the country. I have not made any anti national remark to which objections are being raised. I am proud of the fact that Nalanda is in Bihar and Vikramshila falls in my parliamentary constituency. A University being established there and I welcome this. There is Vikramshila where an area of hundred acres has been excavated. Vikramshila University was also established during the Pala dynasty. Vikramshila University was excavated during the regime of Bhagwat Jha Azad.

My colleague Kirti Azad saheb is sitting here, his father was the Chief Minister and an MP from Bhagalpur constituency. He has made efforts for carrying out excavation there and around 4600 archeological remains were found in the excavation. Twenty years ago 16 acres

land was acquired. If excavation of Vikramshila campus is carried out, it will affect my colleague Nishikant Dubey ji. A large number of tourists use to visit Vikramshila. I met the hon'ble Prime Minister and I am grateful to him because when I met him, he asked DG, Archeological Survey of India to visit Bhagalpur. He had visited Vikramshila but nothing has been done since then. It is being neglected. I am adding this point here because today history is being created and it is an important Bill, hence, and you should understand the seriousness of the Bill. Today, people refer to Oxford and Cambridge Universities. It is considered to be models for English speaking people. But here Nalanda University is being revived and it is a matter of national interest. ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Chairman, Sir, please don't be so strict. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Alright now I will address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Alright now I will address the Chair.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to bring to the notice of the House that revival of Nalanda University is a matter of pride for us, but I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that it should also consider to revive the Vikramshila University. I referred to this point for reference purpose only.

The subjects to be taught in Nalanda University after its establishment include Buddhist studies, Philosophy, Historical Studies, International Relations and Peace Studies, Public Policy, Language and Literature and I am sure that people from all over the world will make their contribution for the purpose. A number of countries are making their contributions following the consensus reached at the East Asia Summit (EAS) held in Thailand. The Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor will be appointed there. Besides, representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs the Ministry of Human Resource Development, two representatives of the Government of Bihar and three notable educationalists will be there in the governing

body. But, even this institution is equally important, hence it is my suggestion that there will be two representatives from the Parliament on the lines of other universities as there are two representatives in Aligarh Muslim University and I am one of them.

Through you, I would like to request the Government that Bihar is making progress. Whenever elections are held you may contest the election as per political agenda but you have to be concerned about Bihar. ...(*Interruptions*) You have no chance there. But today step-motherly treatment is being meted out to Bihar. We asked for special status to Bihar to facilitate private investment in Bihar but that is not being given to us. We are not getting the funds meant for flood. We have constructed 1657 kilometres long national highway with the state funds and the Union Government has not released 969 crore rupees yet so that the state government is maligned. But we understood the ulterior motive of the Union Government so the State government got those roads repaired with its own funds. If any tenant gets his rented house painted, the owner of that home should give the expenses of painting to the tenant but the Union government is not giving the money spent on repair of the Union government's roads.

We have made the roads better and restored law and order in Bihar. We have asked for coal linkage as there is power crisis in Bihar. We will set up Nalanda University but if there is no power, what would we say to our people. However if the country wants this particular institution of Bihar to be a symbol of national pride and reflection of India's glory then Bihar will have to be developed.

So, many allegations are leveled against Bihar, but I would like to make a request through you. Today the Union government has reduced the gross budgetary support for Bihar. Bihar was affected by the floods recently. I come from Kosi region. Sharadji is a Member of Parliament from Kosi region. The said region was affected by flood but the Union Government did not give a single rupee to us. Even of one thousand crore rupees were given, that money was adjusted against the expenses on army personnel.

Now, Bihar is affected by drought. We are not getting a single rupee even for drought.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member please do not go beyond the purview of Nalanda University Bill.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, often members go beyond the purview of the topic of debate in this very House...(*Interruptions*) and when I am expressing the problems of Bihar, you are prohibiting me. We need the protection of Chair. Here there is so much noise and even you won't help, how can I make my statement? I am expressing the problems of Bihar. ...(*Interruptions*) if Nalanda University is to be set up in Bihar, then Bihar needs electricity. The people from all over the world go there. Earlier about 94,000 tourists used to visit Bihar. Now the number of tourists in Bihar has increased upto four lakh and twenty three thousand. The people from all over the world are coming to visit Bihar. I am presenting the figures and authenticating it. I am not giving a political speech. I am standing here and I know that my party will erect stage for me in elections and I can give speech from that stage. I am using this platform to express the grief of people of Bihar. Today we are being subjected to injustice. The gross budgetary support for the state has been reduced from 34 percent to 23 percent. If the Union government helped Bihar, we have thanked the government. We have never been miser in giving thanks. We have told publicity that the Union government has done a good thing and supported the government. The Union government should be impartial towards Bihar to do away with the pain associated with injustice meted out to Bihar. The Congress party has got nine MLAs in Bihar. So what, if there are only 9 MLAs, we are not strangers. It goes on in politics. In the year 1992-94 we had only 4 MLAs in Karnataka but today we have formed the government there. Today you have got 9 MLAs and do some work, then you will open your account otherwise even these nine seats will be reduced.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. Now you are going to other parts of the area.

...(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: So, I would like to request, through you, the government to think upon it.

Sir, now I conclude and whole-heartedly thank the Government of Bihar and the Central Government for setting up the Nalanda University and would like to request the Government not to take rest after reviving Nalanda University. After that I alongwith Kirti Azad ji, Nishikant Dubey ji and the entire House would congratulate you when a Bill for setting up Vikramshila University is brought. I agree that it is indeed a historic day for the country and we should be proud of the culture of our country. We should be proud of our educational system. We should not be proud of Macaulay's education system rather we should be proud of Nalanda's education system. We need to revive such institutions.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Chittorgarh): Mr. Chairman Sir, You gave me an opportunity and I am thankful to you for this. I'll talk on this issue and must reply. Through you, I would like to request the next speaking Members of Parliament to clarify the meaning given by the then UPA and NDA Governments and its present meaning. Before going ahead I would like to clarify that the UPA Government has never been supportive of any difference, divisive views, any step-motherly treatment or any injustice and that is why the decision for setting up of Naland University was taken on that land where Gautam Buddha, Lord Mahavir and Guru Govind Singh were born and certainly many more traditions were born there. ...*(Interruption)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There should be no cross talks in the House.

...*(Interruption)*

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS: I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Bill regarding the implementation of the resolutions related to the setting up of Nalanda University as an international organization in Bihar state for pursuing intellectual philosophical, historical and spiritual study and related subjects passed

in the Second and Fourth East-Asian Summit held on 15th January, 2007 and 26th Oct, 2009 in Philippines and Thailand, respectively. Sir, I'll focus only on the issue and first of all I would like to thank especially to UPA Government. I would also like to thank the Government of Bihar which timely provided land etc in this regard. I would like to thank the UPA Government for its approach thinking and concept of restoring the values of Ancient India and the efforts made in this direction.

Allama Iqbal had said- "Unan-e-Mishra Roman, Sab mit gaye Jahan se, kayam hai ab tak bhi Namon Nisha Hamara". If we go to Nalanda which is now in ruins, people may have visited Takshashila or Islamabad or Vikramshila, about which our hon'ble Member was talking about it, I have got the opportunity to see several Universities of the world and I have also visited these three old Universities. For sure we can say that when we enter the complexes of Nalanda, Takshashila or Vikramshila Universities, it appears that we have forgotten Oxford, Cambridge and other big Universities of the world. The light of education is still illuminating the entire complex. That is why we welcome this decision of the Government.

I would like to take you back into our history when Nalanda University was set up. Nalanda was set up by the Gupta dynasty in the fifth century, as a hon'ble Member was telling Nalanda was such a University where ten thousand students and two thousand teachers were engaged in learning and teaching of Hinyana and Mahayana the two schools of Buddhism, Brahmin Vedic texts, philosophy, Logic, theology and Grammar.

The Chinese pilgrim Huent-sang who visited this place has written in detail about it. The ruins of Nalanda bear testimony to this fact that people had a very high intellectual, philosophical level of thinking especially they were good in Vedic, Buddhist and Jain philosophy and later on since Guru Govind Singh was also been in Patna Sahib an environment of Sikhism also prevailed there. The credit for all these things goes to administration of that time there. Alongwith this I would also like to mention Takshashila University which is located near Islamabad. Chandragupt Maurya spread light there and set up this university and Chanakya, Charvak and Charak Rishi, who codified Charak Samhita there, they not only got education there but also worked as teachers. Even today Arthashastra bears testimony to

this fact that economic policy of Chanakya is not irrelevant. Similarly Charak Samhita and its Panchakarma Therapy is still used in some way across the world. The visit of Fahien there in the year 405 AD is a symbol that at that time people used to come here to study from across the world especially from South East Asia and from remote regions of Asia, they got all kinds of knowledge here.

You mentioned Vikramshila. Alongwith this I would also like to request that a few other Universities were also present at that time. I want to mention them because the education of Buddhism, Jainism and Vedic system were imparted simultaneously there. "I want to go back to three thousand years back and its concept- Sa Vidya Ya Vimuktaye-knowledge is that which gives freedom and liberates us from all kinds of bondage. This was the concept there. I want to mention Gunshila University because today we talk about women education but in 500 BC Gunshila University was located in Bihar Which was the centre of religion and philosophy, there were arrangement of women education there and in one way it may be called women education. Kundalpur which was set up in 500 BC, which was an institute of physical training and it is a matter of surprise that at that time also such institutes were present.

Also there was Kanchi which was functional from 100 BC to 500 AD has its own place. The 14 techniques and the 64 Art Forms taught in Nalanda University as mentioned by Yu Yan is a symbol of this. 78 disciplines were taught there Nalanda University imparted education of subjects as varied as Ayurveda and Archery, Vedas and Aircrafts at the time. I have mentioned Thailand and Philippines just because. Will we be able to replicate the same educational standards in reestablishing the Nalanda University. Asia has again arisen. It is preparing for a new role. India has emerged as a new star in the Asian firmament. Hence this decision has been taken. I would like to congratulate the Prime Minister, Respected Soniaji and Shri Pranab Mukherjee ji, who was looking after this portfolio at the time, for this decision.

Sir, Bakhtiyar Khilji may have destroyed the remnants of our proud heritage but we cannot forget his contribution in our culture. Hence we will give due credit to him. Our culture, Sanskrit, Pali, Prakrit languages are going through a revival and English has contributed in the Asian renaissance. Our thinking and thought base today is Euro-based. Asia is taking on a

new role under the leadership of India. Where on the one hand, we are moving towards achievement of economic milestones with ASEAN and on the other hand we are also moving towards reclaiming our ancient heritage mixed with new age thought. UNESCO has also accepted philosophy to be a base for education. Use of ancient discipline in the field of business management, IT, education and science is the indication of the emergence of a new thought process.

Sir, I would like to point out that our knowledge and science were not limited to philosophy, Buddha philosophy, Jain philosophy or religious philosophy. Wisdom starts where science reaches its limits. The basis of computers is the invention of zero in India or the Leelavati sutra. History is witness to this fact. This has value in the contemporary world as well. Value based education- be it based on Hinduism, Jainism or Buddhism- should not be prohibited.

Sir, I would like to say that all the subjects that were studied at that time such as architecture, mathematics, science, geography, economics, Ayurveda, astrology etc. have been mentioned. But I am bringing up a common fear. The entire enterprise should not be put in the charge of the bureaucrats. Hence the hon. Member had said that two Members of Parliament should also go to that place. I would like to say that any decision in this regard should be taken in the House.

Sir, religion has not been given an exclusive place here. Religion has been defined as the philosophy of life. Pluralism or diversity has been our creed be it Jain religion or Buddhism. Hence the principles of non-violence and impartiality were and will remain an integral part of our value system. The values of India have impacted other countries. The influence of the Vrihadeshwar temple can be seen in Angkor Vat in Indonesia and in Cambodia. The Indian culture is the culture of peace and cooperation. We have adopted all religions without using force. We have always tried to adopt them harmoniously. Our basic principle has been assimilation. This is the reason why art and literature and other art forms of India have had an impact on the entire South-East Asian belt. This is the reason why, be it Nagarjuna or Huen Tsang, they liked coming here. The basic mantra of education—*Aambhadra Pratyaoantu*- i.e. good knowledge should be accepted from any

source. We should keep on reminding ourselves of this edict.

The Congress has adhered and remained committed to this tradition right from the time of the struggle for independence till date. Gandhiji had said that we are living in an era in which windows are open on all sides. We will be open to all kinds of outside influences. But it is up to us to maintain our stability in the face of such influences. How to get such stability. The governments have tried to maintain this stability. Discovery of India by Nehruji and his other treatises or the philosophy of our other intellectuals have always advocated that our economy and politics both should be value based and we are still adhering to this philosophy. We believe that Nalanda University will reflect this bent towards a value based system. India was the hub of education during the ancient times due to Nalanda, Taxshila and Vikramshila Universities and the UPA government has the vision of restoring this position to India through its universities and other educational courses. The allocation of huge amount of funds to the education department is part of an effort to implement a new concept for upgrading our educational system by adopting the patterns of our ancient universities. Nalanda University is a leap in that direction.

I am aware of time limit, so I would like to say that this university should be as dreamt of by our thinkers. Shri Sibbal Ji is sitting here, I would like to draw his attention and say that as per his report the universities are in very poor condition. I would like to appreciate the efforts being made by the Government to improve the said condition, but still a lot of work has to be done. Today communalism has penetrated into the system of education. The previous Government had made the universities communal by introducing some subjects in the curriculum of the universities. Nalanda university and Takshila universities are witness to the fact that religion meant values there at that time but now it has become equivalent to communalism. We cannot leave any values but our universities will have to adopt a new course. We will have to make those universities free of those curriculums which introduced communalism, politics and most importantly we will have to redeem them from the clutches of bureaucracy. Today a number of universities are engaged in litigation, so I would like to have a separate arrangement for them in this regard so that the universities are not engaged in litigation throughout the year. Today, so far as the concept of this

Nalanda University Bill is concerned, I would like to say only this much that the Nalanda University should tread on the path of our ancient tradition in which Buddhist religion adopted the middle path, our Indian philosophy talked about "Aapo Sarvbhooteshu" *i.e.* equality for all and "Sanggachhdhwan Sanwaddhwan" which means taking everybody alongwith us. Jain religion of our Indian culture propogated Navkar Mantra and showed respect for all other religions through the Mantra-Namo Arihantanam, Namō Siddhanam, Namō Aysiyanam, Namō Uvajjheyānam, Namō Loe Savva-Sahunam, Guru Govind Singh Ji propogated the path of harmony in Bihar. Nalanda University should include all these. Even today the place should resonate with "Buddham Sarnam Gachchhami, Dhammam Sarnam Gachchhami, Sangham Sarnam Gachchhami. Excess of science and money is taking us downward, so middle path is required which may make our insensitive culture sensitive again. Sensitivity is a necessary ingredient of education. This sensitivity has gone missing in the universities and we are trying to revive the same ethos of sensitivity in the universities through this Nalanda University and I believe that other universities will follow it. In the end, I would like to say that the Indian culture was relevant at that time and is relevant today also and that is why fair perseverances dharma, artha, kaam and moksha have been defined in our system.

Here 'Dharma' does not mean religion rather it means ethics and 'arth' means money earned through moral activities and 'kaam' means enjoying everything including marriage and cosmetics, etc. morally and use of this kind of 'arth' and 'kaam' is not prohibited. It indicates towards these things which are acceptable to all and take one to 'moksh'. Nalanda, Takshshila and Vikramshila were its examples. I want these universities to get back to their old principles so as to impart knowledge following middle path. Here I would like to refer to Rajiv Ji. Rajiv Gandhi Ji had set up cultural centres in India in pursuance of this dream and organized India's shows all over the world. He wanted the Indians to showcase not only performing arts but other aspects of our culture, our wisdom, our music and culture to other countries in the world. He fulfilled his dream even at that time and today the UPA Government is moving forward with the same commitment to fulfil that dream of value based cultural heritage including Rajiv Ji's dream. I would like to give my best wishes to this

Bill for such incomparable and unparalleled university and thank the UPA Government for bringing this Bill.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on Nalanda University Bill, 2010. I have listened to the speech of my brother Shahnawaz Ji. He has spoken about the ancient Nalanda University and all the great personalities related to Nalanda in detail. Similarly, Smt. Girija Vyas Ji also delivered a very good speech. It seemed for a moment that we are sitting in a university and Griya Vyas Ji is giving a lecture. Listening to her speech has been very pleasant.

Indian culture and civilization is unparalleled. Our country, which follows the principle of sovereignty and Panchsheel, holds a special status in the world. As the people said earlier and even the foreigners had also said that India was a golden bird, it is a fact. The natural heritage of this country has no parallel in other countries. Smt. Griya Vyas Ji and Bhai Shahnawaz Ji have expressed their views in detail.

While strongly supporting the Bill I would like to submit certain points. This Bill has been presented here for revival of Nalanda University which has been the oldest centre of learning in the world. This issue was discussed in the second East-Asia Summit held in Thailand in January, 2007 wherein it was submitted that the centre of Buddhist, Philosophy and Historical Studies Nalanda University should be revived. Through this House I would like to express my gratitude to the countries which have agreed to extend their support for this purpose.

As this University is being revived the Government of Bihar while taking swift action acquired 500 acres of land and transferred the same to the Union Government. The objective of Nalanda International University is to revive the glory of the said university as a leading institute of learning of 21st century for integration of south and east-Asia. We are going to revive Nalanda University that is the place of intellectual bonding. It will be a research institution as well as a centre of learning that includes science, technology, economics and spiritual development, ancient and modern ideology. I do not wish to go into detail, but it will be a model university based on PPP mode. Construction work is being initiated after acquiring 500 acres of land at Rajgir. A total of Rs. 1005 crore will be incurred on the construction of

this university and I extend my gratitude to the Union Government for approving a budget of Rs. 50 crores for the purpose. I was going through the copy of the said Bill that there will be representatives of the Ministries of External Affairs, Human Resource Development and Government of Bihar in the governing body of the university. Just now Shahnawaz Bhai was saying that local MPs should be included in the governing body. It is correct that we have constituted various committees, governing bodies and included local MPs therein. Hon. Girija Vyas ji has also supported this that this should be done for smooth functioning of management.

There is central university in Allahabad and two local MPs are part of the governing body there and I strongly support this. We have discussed in detail regarding the proposed schools of the university which include Environment, Language, Literature, International Relation, Peace Studies and History comparative Buddhist studies. We will make a new beginning by integrating our Vedic, Cultural, Modern and Ancient Indian Shastra (learning) there. Our various Shastra are no longer in existence. Through establishment of the university these could be revived. An Advisory Committee has been constituted under the leadership of Nobel Laureate Shri Amartya Sen, it is a good step that scholars have been included in that committee. In my view the university will start functioning very soon. It is my suggestion to include spiritual leader Dalai Lama who has always made efforts to have good relation with India, in that committee.

The Union and State Governments have made sincere efforts for coming on the Buddhist circuit and promote tourism in India. As part of that series Nalanda University is being revived. It will be based on Public-Private Partnership and the Union Government will make the major contribution. Other countries will also make their contribution for the purpose but being the host country India should have to initiate which is a good thing.

Just now Girija Vyas Ji has said in her speech that there are various kinds of irregularities in various present universities, for which the Hon. Minister will bring Bill.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit one point that there are a number of ancient universities which used to be strengthened and revived. They are in a

dilapidated state. In my view it is not correct to develop education hubs of foreign universities in the country. There are so many universities in the country where management system used to be streamlined. For example Allahabad University was called Mini Oxford, which has been accorded the status of a Central University, today there are several problems which need to be corrected. I would like to tell the Hon. Minister that it would be good if you revive universities of the country instead of developing hubs of foreign universities.

While concluding my speech I would like to say a last point that Vikramshila University should be revived on the lines of Nalanda University. While supporting this Bill, I conclude my speech.

DR. BALIRAM (Lalganj): Mr. Chairman, I express my gratitude to you for providing me an opportunity to speak on this matter. History is witness to the fact that India's culture and civilization, science and technology have been the most developed among all the countries of the world. The Bill introduced in the House pertains to Nalanda University which has been the symbol of our culture and civilization and it is heritage of our country. Just now, our colleague Shri Shahnawaz Hussain referred to it as the exclusive heritage of Bihar. However, it is not only the heritage of Bihar, it has given identity to our country. It is an institution which was attended by the people from across the world in pursuit of study of Indian culture, civilization, science and technology. I am glad that this Bill has been brought for keeping our culture and civilization integrated, however, delay has been caused in bringing up this Bill. This Bill should have been brought just after our Independence, nevertheless, the pride of the entire country is associated with the Bill. The Universities be Nalanda, Vikramshila or Takshila have been our heritage, so through you, I commend the efforts made in the international summits either that of Thailand or Philippines to revive or set up Nalanda University. The Government of Bihar has provided 500 acres of land and proposes to provide another 500 acres. The Government of India has formulated the scheme for running the university by allocating Rs. 50 crore. I can say it with conviction that it would make our culture and civilization unimpaired. The countries participating as partners include China, having a maximum of Buddhist population followed by Thailand. The people of different countries who participated in the summits is the past are coming here today.

I would request that there should be maximum participation from our country since the University is being set up in Bihar and it is being hosted by India. India would also provide maximum funds since the entire expansion involves an estimated cost of Rs. 1005 crore. The schools of Buddhist study; philosophy and religion, history, international relations and peace, management Languages and Literature, Environmental Studies would definitely enhance development of the country and the setting up of this university on large scale would deter the people of this country to pursue studies in Oxford, Cambridge and similar universities in other countries since Nalanda used to be varsity where students used to come in pursuit of studies from across the world. However, this country has been subjected to all kinds of invasions during which our universities were destroyed. However, the introduction of this Bill gives me immense pleasure that at least our Government is taking initiatives to make our culture, civilization, science and technology unique that is why I on behalf of myself and my party extend my support to the Bill.

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR (Nalanda): Mr. Chairman, I express my gratitude to you for providing me an opportunity to participate in this discussion. I represent Nalanda parliamentary constituency in this 15th Lok Sabha and it is a matter of utter pride for me and the people of my constituency that Nalanda University is being set up at its original place. I am on my legs to support Nalanda University on behalf of my party Janata Dal (United). Rajya Sabha passed this Bill on 21st August 2010 itself. It has now come for approval in Lok Sabha. The Ministry of External Affairs of the Government of India has drafted this Bill on which general consensus was reached. General consensus was reached on it during the international summit held on 25th October, 2009. I also raised the issue of re-establishment of Nalanda University during Zero Hour in Lok Sabha last year in the month of July. The reply was given by the Minister of External Affairs Shri S.M. Krishna that it would be brought in the next Bill. I appreciate this step of the Union Government. Nalanda University was established in 427 A.D and functioned till 1197 A.D. It served the humanity for approximately 650 years. The then rulers used to fund the university with the revenue collected from 100 villages. The entire revenue was for the university. It has been told that the University would be equipped with the school of Buddhist studies, philosophy, International relations, Religion, History and Peace Management, Language and

Literature, Ecological and Environmental Studies etc. Approximately Rs.1005 crore would be spent on the establishment of Nalanda University. A project office has been set up in Delhi for running the proposed Nalanda University. This office will start functioning as the Bill would be passed in the Parliament. India being the organizer will make more contribution in the first phase of the implementation of the project. The Planning Commission has allocated Rs.50 crore in the form of special grant. The Government of Bihar has acquired approximately 500 acres of land for Nalanda university.

17.00 hrs.

The place where the land has been acquired housed the ancient Nalanda University. The remains of Nalanda University are present there even today and are North viewing. I have also studied it. An additional 500 acres of land is yet to be acquired for the proposed Nalanda University. The Government of Bihar is making efforts in this direction and I sincerely thank the hon. Chief Minister of Bihar Shri Nitish Kumar for it. Through his relentless efforts in the year 2007 a proposal was unanimously passed for the re-establishment of Nalanda University and land was immediately acquired after persuading the farmers for giving their land.

Hon. Chief Minister has himself represented Nalanda Parliamentary constituency in Lok Sabha and he is a resident of Nalanda. The Chief Minister is specially influenced by the Buddhist religion and philosophy. His special interest in the Buddhist religion and philosophy has a reason because he thinks that this philosophy will be useful for humanity. The father of nation got India freed from the clutches of the British with the help of the principle of truth and non-violence of Lord Buddha. Mr. Chief Minister has got the Buddhist place of pilgrimage Bodhgaya modernized and the roads renovated. The Union Government had constituted Nalanda mentor group under the chairmanship of Noble laureate Prof. Amartya Sen on 28th June, 2007 which was asked to submit its report regarding revival of Nalanda university by August 2010. Prof. Amartya Sen and hon. Minister of External Affairs Shri Krishana ji have appreciated the works done by hon. Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar. I would like to thank all those, who have contributed to the revival of Nalanda University. All the Buddhist countries have got their Dharma Vihars and places of worship here. Bihar Government provides all the facilities there where Lord Buddha had attained

enlightenment. Here there is Mahabodhi temple where Bihar Government provides special facilities. Bihar Government has also taken the responsibilities of providing security in the complex of the proposed university and to the students.

I would like to thank all those farmers of my parliamentary constituency who have given 500 acres of land. I demand from the Government that the children of those farmers, whose land would be acquired for setting up this university, should get special concession for studies there. Simultaneously, I would like to demand that any student of my parliamentary constituency, who is desirous of studying here, should get special concession or scholarship. My parliamentary constituency has been a very backward and minority dominated area. I demand that all the shops, markets or complexes which are to be constructed here, should be given to the local people. Nalanda university has got a very old history. It had 10,000 students and 2,000 teachers. All the books in the library were written by the teachers. Chinese pilgrims Huen Tsang had visited this place and referred to this university in his travel diary. There is still Hen Tsang museum in Nalanda university where all the information relating to history of ancient Nalanda university is stored. Here there are ruins of Nalanda university and museum. But still there are several places namely Rajgir, Ghoda, Katora, Damankhanda etc. where complex of ancient Nalanda university existed. The remains of copper stone age have been found around this place. There is a need for excavation at this place so as to showcase the ancient history of Nalanda university. I would like to demand from the Union Government that a project Nalanda should be prepared and excavation should be carried out in all the places surrounding Nalanda namely, Rajgir, Ghoda, Katora, Damankhandha so that the history of ancient Nalanda is brought to light. The whole world would come to know about its history and culture after excavation of Nalanda university. Turk General Bakhtiyar Khilji had demolished Nalanda university and burnt the library of the university. It is said that the library kept burning for six months which was a proof of the volume of books in the library. When this university was demolished, Oxford university was being set up. At that time Cambridge university did not exist. Setting up of this university will restore Nalanda as a main education centre of Asia and it will be connected with Buddha

circuit of India. It would promote tourism industry as the students and researchers from all over the world would visit this place.

Hon. Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Nitish Kumar Ji has also said that the officers of state government would be sent on deputation for discharging functional duties of university till the officers of the university are appointed. It has been also informed that the governing body of this university would consist of representatives of Ministry of External Affairs, Human Resource Development and Bihar Government.

I would like to suggest that the local Members of Parliament should also be included in this body. In the end I would like to thank Prof. Gopa Sabbarwal, head of the Department of Sociology, Lady Sri Ram College, New Delhi because such an experienced Professor will be the vice-chancellor of Nalanda university. I hope that this university would progress by leaps and bounds under Mr. Sabbarwal's guidance.

[English]

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE (Bardhaman-Durgapur): Hon. Chairman, I thank you for giving me a chance to speak on this very important Bill-Nalanda University Bill. This Bill has been placed to implement the decision arrived at the Second East Asia Summit held in 2007 and the Fourth East Asia Summit held in 2009 for the establishment of the Nalanda University as an International Institution for pursuit of Intellectual, Philosophical, Historical and Spiritual studies. The Government of India constituted Nalanda Mentor Group under the chairmanship of Nobel laureate, Prof. Amartya Sen, for revival of Nalanda as a Centre of Excellence.

Sir, I do support the Bill. We, the Indians, are proud of our long heritage in the field of education, culture, knowledge and wisdom. Ours is a great ancient civilisation. We did a lot for the development and advancement of human civilisation. Various tendencies have come into us. We have assimilated tendencies and on the basis of that, we have advanced. Let me tell the words of Rabindranath Tagore:

'Sak, Hun, Dal, Mughal, Pathan—ek dehe holo lin'

It means that Sak, Hun, Dal, Mughal and Pathan all came and became part of India. They all became Indians. He also said that India is *maha milaner sagar thirthga*

which means that India is the pious ocean of great assimilation. It is this spirit of assimilation and religious tolerance that our land represented all over the world.

In the past, Nalanda did the same thing 800 years ago and for 800 years or more, Nalanda was—as described by Huen Tsang who came here in 7th Century—not only a temple of knowledge but also a temple of the highest pinnacle of tolerance. That religious tolerance is something that we have to imbibe today. So, in restarting the Nalanda University, we should look towards the future.

In India, there were other great universities also, like Vikramshila and Takshashila. Nalanda University was par excellence. It was the international symbol of India's eminence in the field of knowledge. Probably, it was the first ever large educational establishment. The college counted the great Buddha among its visitors and alumni. At its height, it had 10,000 students and 2,000 staff. It was said to have been an architectural masterpiece featuring ten temples, a nine-storeyed library—where monks used to copy books by hand—lakes, parks and students' accommodation. Its students were coming from Korea, Japan, China, Persia, Tibet and Turkey as well as from across the country.

Nagarjuna came here and was associated with it. Nagarjuna's concept of 'madhyamaka', the middle path, was very much part of Nalanda curriculum. It was not only the site of Buddhist studies but also of other fields like medicine, language, philosophy and science. Raja Ramanna, the nuclear physicist told that he was surprised to find the concept of quantum physics and relativity in a text of Nagarjuna. Even the Arabs, who are famous for discovering Arab numericals and for discovery zero, gave the Indians the credit of discovering it.

Such discoveries were made from a base like Nalanda. Today, this much celebrated centre of learning is in ruin.

The University was sacked in 1193 by Bakhtiyar Khilji, the Turkish General and he burnt down its library. This is a frightful episode in our history. Bakhtiyar Khilji destroyed Nalanda and burnt down its library, but he had not been able to destroy and burn down the very ethics of India that Nalanda stood for. Nobody will ever be able to destroy the great achievements of Nalanda.

Now, it is a wise decision to revive this great centre of learning. The proposed University will have collaboration with other old Universities including Al-Azhar University of Egypt; Oxford and Cambridge Universities in Britain; and Harvard University in the USA. But, we must remember that Nalanda was not Oxford or Harvard at that time. Rather we should be proud to say that Oxford, Harvard, Cambridge are what Nalanda was at that time.

In the revival of the old site of learning, we have to remember that our task is not just to restore the past glory, but to put forward the glory of the future. Nalanda must actually represent the building of the glory of the future. Prof. Amartya Sen has observed that the aim of the University should be to contribute to the promotion of regional peace and vision by bringing together the future leaders of East Asia who by relating to their past can enhance their understanding of each other's perspectives.

Mr. Jeffrey Garten, the Professor of Yale School of Management, Yale University has rightly observed that: "A new Nalanda could set a benchmark for mixing nationalities and cultures for injecting energy into global subject ...Today, it could be an institution devoted to global religious reconciliation." Further, this is what Vivekananda told in Chicago. He said: "Not to destroy someone's religion for the purpose of ones own religion, and every religion should bear the message of assimilation and not destruction." In my opinion Nalanda stood for this.

So, the idea behind a new University, near the site of Nalanda, should be to ensure three things. Firstly, it should be a quality centre of higher learning with emphasis on Buddhist learning, philosophy, science, literature and language, and environment studies.

Secondly, it should be a retrieval of roots, that is, a connection to the spirit of Indian learning, at least, symbolically, at almost the exact physical location of the ancient University. We must really see to it that the present architecture also reflects the ancient greatness, that is, the innovative architecture.

Thirdly, Nalanda of Yore was a global brand where scholars came from different nations. Given the collaborations with several nations, particularly, of East and South East Asia and interest groups with a stake

in this ancient seat of learning, there is every opportunity for the new University to make itself a signature of the new India in a globalised world.

This new University will be a non-State, non-profit, secular and self-governing international institution. As such, I think that it would have been better if the name of the University became 'Nalanda International University'. I think that in the global arena, Nalanda will stand for humanism; for tolerance; for reason; for adventure of idea; and for the search of truth. Many great people came here, received knowledge and went back. They also brought some knowledge and, we received it. It means that good knowledge and good thoughts came to us from every side.

In the words of Ravindra Nath Tagore: "*Debe ar Nebe, Milabe Milibe.*" It means that: "We shall give, we shall take, and we shall unite all." This is what Nalanda stood for in the past. Let this new Nalanda University play that role.

With these words, I conclude and support this Bill.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (Dhenkanal): Thank you, Sir. At the outset, I support wholeheartedly this sincere effort of our Government, and all Indians will be proud that today for the first time the UPA-led Government has thought of doing something good for this country. ...(*Interruptions*)

I must congratulate the Minister that in spite of failure of the RTE and so many other confessions of sincerity falling, by the way on the way, in the progress of the country, the Nalanda University Bill is an extremely welcome step.

Sir, in the years gone by, India has seen many great thinkers like Sri Aurobindo, Vivekananda, who rose above religion, caste, creed and colour and could envision India as a country that was destined to lead this world in the world of spirituality. Sri Aurobindo had created a small example which he wanted to manifest on earth through the education system which is practised in Sri Aurobindo International Centre of Education at Puducherry where I had the good fortune of spending a few years.

Sir, Nalanda University was side by side operating along with other universities of great learning in this country. It was not limited to Shri Shahnawaz's

Vikramshila or Takshashila alone, but what was known as Bihar and Odisha earlier, or I would put it Odisha and Bihar earlier, it used to be one whole complexity of humanity where learning was at its peak in this part of the world.

I am proud that we belong to a country which gave the very first universities to this world. When Nalanda, Takshashila and Vikramshila were operating in a certain part of the world, simultaneously, concurrently, there was also Pushpagiri about which Hiuen Tsang, Fa-Hien have written in their treatises that before Nalanda came into existence, historically it is a proven fact, Pushpagiri Vihara was the highest centre of learning in the whole world. People came from Greece, people came from Persia, from Indo-China, from China, and from very many places around the globe to study here, to teach here, to take back learning to their respective countries.

We know that when the Christ was crucified and when he was resurrected, the period in between, ensuing period, it is said that he came to East, he came to India. The Prophet, someone said, had mentioned once that the essence of wisdom he had derived in his life was from the East.

In this background, while supporting this Bill and trying to make my speech as short and definitive as possible, I would request this Government to look at our education as it is today. Since in the East Asia Summits of 2007 and 2009, so many other countries have reposed their faith on India that this is probably the only country where the base of higher education can be created, it is our solemn duty that we live up to this expectation of all our neighbouring countries. We all know we have terrible relationship with our neighbouring countries. The Minister must be congratulated for she has taken the right step that through education, through learning, we can create bonds, and we can make chords and tie chords with our neighbourhood which will go a long way in building a more peaceful, amicable and equitable Asia.

The Look East policy that was espoused by Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee is something that we all appreciate. While saying that we also know that the Mahayana Buddhism, the Vajrayana Tatva—which today is headed by the present Dalai Lama—was founded at Pushpagiri Vihara which is based in Odisha. If we are dealing with Nalanda, it is only proper that we consider Pushpagiri

Vihara as a complex which should be a part of this centre of learning, this centre of excellence.

It is not only Yale or Cambridge or Harvard that we should look up to. Only the sons of millionaires go and study there. It is not necessary to make foreign universities have an easy game of India. We were the leaders in education, but we have lost our path. We have lost our moorings in the process of history. I must congratulate Madam Minister that she has in her own way found the moorings to bring this society back on its keel.

Only two religions existed in the subcontinent once and they were Sanatana Dharma-I am not saying Hindutva because that is a coloured and discriminatory word-and Jainism. Later on came Buddhism and Sikhism. But when these two religions, these two paths of life-they are not even religions but two paths of life-existed in this subcontinent, it was a process of learning that created the Gurus. It was not a blind faith in customs and in mere rituals.

Everybody here knows that the maritime activities that were emanating from the then Kalinga, which is part of Odisha now, spread the Indian thoughts of Jainism and later on Buddhism to the Far East and even as far as Arabia. This I would like to say was a period when other parts of India were in the darkness, were uneducated-I am not denigrating anybody-and in some ways were underdeveloped. At that time, the area that is Bihar and Odisha now gave light to the human mind.

I would go back to Huen Tsang's treatises and would request this Government-I will not beg like we heard yesterday somebody was begging-and say that taking a leaf out of Sri Aurobindo's and Vivekananda's teachings, and what Huen Tsang had said in his treatises, let us create a complex of higher education where you get Pushpagiri Vihara and Nalanda together and create a centre of excellence, a centre of learning where our students, the future generations not only of India but also of Myanmar known as Burma, of Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, China, Pakistan and Afghanistan, should feel attracted to come here, they should feel attracted to study here, to learn facts of life, to learn things of spiritual excellence, thoughts not only of materialism but also thoughts which are much greater than what we encounter today on the streets.

So, I would only request that this should be considered seriously. I support this Bill wholeheartedly, which is a rare thing for me; and our Party, the Biju Janata Dal, also supports this Bill. We only want that it should be built into a Complex and Pushpagiri Vihar should also be made into a Complex along with Shah Nawaz Hussain ji's Taksha Shila, and of course, Nalanda. ...(*Interruptions*) I would suggest that this should be taken very seriously and we should go ahead with this.

SHRI S. SEMMALAI (Salem): Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on The Nalanda University Bill, 2010. Nalanda University is a prestigious institution adding glory and fame not only to Bihar but also to our nation. This is a crowning glory to our educational system. At the outset, I support the Bill.

Nalanda Mentor Group head, Shri Amartya Sen has recently stated that it would take some more time for the university to take shape. He is having a doubt in his mind about the financial constraints. The total cost for the establishment of the university will be in the range of Rs.1,000 to Rs.1,500 crore but the Planning Commission has sanctioned initially Rs.50 crore towards the endowment fund. I am sure that the Centre and the State would contribute their might to fulfil the dream. I am of the opinion that finance should not be a constraint to achieve our ambitions.

Nalanda University is perceived as a symbol of Asian cooperation – a decision taken at the East Asian Summits in 2007 and 2009. I am of the opinion that it would be better to expand the composition of the Governing Body of the university with the inclusion of members from other East Asian countries also to lend the university as a university for the whole of East Asia. There is no representation from the HRD Department in the Governing Body. The Governing Body should also be expanded with more members. Hence, I request the hon. Minister to give serious thought on it.

On reading of the Bill, I find that in Clause 12 Visitor of the proposed University has been clothed with enormous power. I am asking the hon. Minister this. Will it not erode the autonomy of the University? In Clause 9, it is stated that the University shall be autonomous and accountable to the Government but through Clause 12 overriding powers have been given to the Visitor. It is stated in Clause 12 that the Visitor

may, after obtaining the views of the Governing Body, takes such action and issue such direction, and University shall be bound to comply with the directions. Governing Board shall be bound to comply with such directions of the Visitor. I would request the hon. Minister to examine the feasibility of clipping the powers of the Visitor or Nominee in running the University. So, this Clause may be suitably amended.

Finally, I fully support and welcome this Bill, which should pave the way for international understanding and peace; and it would prove to be a landmark one in South Asia and even globally, in the days to come.

With these words, I conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAGDANAND SINGH (Buxar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this important subject. I belong to Bihar. The significance of Nalanda is well known. It has always been an important site for the country and the world at large since ancient times. The restoration of this site is being discussed in the House today. I would like to thank the government for bringing the Bill for the revival of the largest educational hub in ancient India. There is a slight quibble with the fact that this work is being undertaken under an international initiative. This work is being undertaken under an international initiative in the 63rd year of India's independence although this work should have been initiated by the Union Government much earlier. This bill has been presented in the House for implementation of the decision taken in the Second and Fourth East Asia Summit held in the year 2007 and 2009 respectively.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to mention, through you, that this University was the hub of knowledge from the year 770 in the Fifth Century AD till the Twelfth Century. It was closed down in 1197 AD. Regrettably, 812 years, *i.e.*, after the passage of eight centuries the topic of its revival has been taken up. We are lucky that the glory of Nalanda University, about which we have heard since our childhood, will be restored in our lifetime. Nalanda in Bihar is an open university which provides educational opportunity to the people. This international institution attracted knowledge seekers from all over the world during the ancient times. The world is again interested in this centre of knowledge. People

from across the world should again get a chance to enter this University which used to host the citizens of the world in ancient times. People have faith that the place in Bihar in India has the potential to become a knowledge hub once more.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am not interested in talking about the 500 acres of land acquired and handed-over by the present government in Bihar. An additional five hundred acres of land will be required and expenditure to the tune of more than one thousand crore rupees is expected. I merely want to know if the glory of Nalanda University can be restored in thousand crore rupees then where is the need for the Union Government to ask for international assistance or any foreign country to come forward with such assistance.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, one of the great poets has said, *'Wherever books are burned, human beings are destined to be burned too.'* Today Bihar is the most backward state in the country in the matter of education. It has the highest population of illiterates. If this incident had not occurred in the twelfth century then Bihar would not have ranked so low in the country. The closure of this centre of knowledge became the foundation for the present degeneration of Bihar. But I am pleased that Bihar is slowly getting back on its feet.

I do not want to make any political statement and neither do I want to reply to what Shahnawaz Saheb was saying. But now that this University is going to regain its glory it is time for the followers of Shahnawazji to depart. I have said this because all Universities in the state have been lying closed for the last three months but now we are going to establish this University there and revive the ancient glory of Bihar. Improvement of the education system in Bihar would strengthen, it help us achieve our target and take Bihar forward.

This University will promote religious and spiritual discourse and the niceties of grammar not only in the county but all over the world and will restore the glory of Bihar. Hence I want to thank the UPA-2 government for bringing this Bill. This Bill will prove a milestone on the road of development of Bihar and improvement in its education sector.

I conclude by expressing my support for the Bill.

[English]

SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO (Purulia): I am highly thankful to you for having given me a chance to speak on the Nalanda (University) Bill. I will not discuss it vividly but in brief.

A number of hon. Members have participated in this discussion. I would say that it is a prestigious Bill. In ancient times the Nalanda University had brought glory and fame to our country. If one looks at the educational system of the ancient India, one would be amazed to see the infrastructure of the Nalanda University. Not only Indian students but students from abroad used to come to Nalanda University for getting education. We know that education is the manifestation of the perfection already in man. Keeping this in mind the Nalanda University was born. The primary object of the Institution was to make the Nalanda University one of the national importance institutions. It is hereby declared that the Nalanda University is known as an institution of national importance.

In this century if we wish to develop our education system or educational infrastructure, we must revisit the ancient education system of Nalanda University and I am sure we will be able to step forward our present education system. We all know that Nalanda University was a prestigious institution which brought glory and fame to our nation. Today, when this Bill is being discussed, I hope that all matters relating to education and educational infrastructure are looked into. I am of the opinion that for an educational institution giving finance alone is not enough but proper thought and reasoning must be given towards it to make it a great institution.

My humble suggestion would be that its Governing Body should be expanded. The institution was very famous in ancient India.

Sir, I do not want to discuss it vividly. I welcome this Bill which is being discussed today on the floor of the Lok Sabha wholeheartedly. Many hon. Members have discussed this Bill. My humble submission to the hon. Minister would be to establish this prestigious institution in near future and inculcate into it our ancient and ancestral prestige.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

DR. BHOLA SINGH (Nawada): Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise to speak in support of the subject under consideration i.e. Nalanda University Act, 2010. First of all I would like to thank the Central Government and it deserves our praise.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when King Janak asked Yagyanwalakya how do we see this world? He replied we see this world through the light of the Sun. Again king Janak asked the sage when there will be no sun how will we see? Yagyanvalakya replied then we shall see in the light of the moon. Again the King asked when there will be no moon, how will we see? The sage replied when we'll call one another in the dark, both the sounds will mingle with one another, there we will see. He again asked when there will be no such situation, how we'll see? Yagyanvalakya told Janak then we'll lit the light of our soul. Nalanda University is not a body. There is no local background with it. It is the self light of cultural consciousness, culture and Samskara. When a Himalaya like mountain is created, then culture evolves.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when the Government of Bihar took steps for development it was told that when only economic development will take place, a Lanka will come into existence, and when cultural development will take place side by side with economic development then Ayodhyaya will come into existence. That is why the state government took steps for cultural development along with economic development. Someone has rightly said that

[English]

the past is never dead.

[Translation]

It gives rise to the present and contains the seeds of future. I just want to say that the Nalanda University was not set up by any state government. Nalanda University was the outcome of social consciousness as well as a result of social management. How did it function? Mr. Chairman, Sir, when Huen Sang reached Nalanda University, a gatekeeper standing on the gate, stopped him. The Gatekeeper told Huen Sang that he will have to answer his questions. Huen Sang told him to ask questions the Gate Keeper asked questions and

he replied. Huen Sang told him that he should have been the Vice Chancellor. But you are just a Gatekeeper. He replied.

[English]

I have knowledge but I have no meditation.

[Translation]

The person who will be the Vice Chancellor should have meditation along with knowledge. I have knowledge but no meditation. I want to put all these things before you to show that despite all the progress made in the field of science and technology our mind has touched the height of sky, but we have lagged behind in the field of heart. Contrary to what we learn today during that period we used to learn, who are we, what is human being, from where we have come, in education. To know the soul it is necessary to know ourselves. Without knowing ourself we cannot discover the soul. Without knowing self it is not possible to know the God. The Nalanda University has taken a big historic step in this regard.

I want to tell one more thing that Hazrat Musa had come to Nalanda University to be enlightened. It is also said that Lord Christ had also come along with Hazrat Musa. All the social and cultural languages were taught in this University. Today there is darkness, complete darkness. One hand can't see the other hand. We are on the cliff but are lagging behind in the field of consciousness. Therefore the feeling of brotherhood will spread as a result of the setting up of the Nalanda University. We shall be able to know the traditions of the countries of the world, the inner stories of the countries of the world.(Interruptions) We shall be able to know the languages of the world. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you would like to thank the Central Government. Not only Nalanda University but Takshshila and Vikramshila all are our lights of knowledge and we have to light them so that our present can become comfortable.

With these words I want to thank the Union Government once again.

SHRI MOHD. ASRARUL HAQUE (Kishanganj): Mr. Chairman Sir, I am grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak on Nalanda University Bill, 2010. I have stood up in support of the Bill and I would like to congratulate UPA Government from the core of my heart.

Since the times of Vedic Era to present modern era Indian history indicates that state of Bihar holds an important place in political, social, religious, literary and cultural arena. Three Fourth part of Ancient India's history is considered to be connected with the History of Bihar. Bihar is the land of Gautam Buddha, Mahavir, Sharfuddin, Yahya, Muneri and Guru Gobind Singh. Who were known as flag bearers of non-violence, sacrifice, spirituality, patriotism and for their yeoman service and character. This state has been a centre of Sufi Saints, learned persons and knowledge. It had united the people in ancient times and propogated the principles of Panchsheel. Peace and morality were vigorously propogated by sufi-saints in medieval times. Bihar has been the land of education, art, religion and spirituality, where people from other parts of India and abroad used to come in order to satiate their desire of knowledge in the subjects like science, philosophy, linguistics, social science, literature, Ayurveda and other subjects in Nalanda, Vikramshila and Vedantpuri Universities.

Nalanda was known as knowledge and education state of India. This University has remained a centre of Budhhist studies from 427 AD to 1197 AD. Maurya Emperor Ashoka contributed in its construction whereas it has enjoyed patronship of the then king of Gupta era. Nalanda had the status of one of the biggest historical universities.

Sir, today when we have been debating on Nalanda University Bill, 2010, I whole heartedly support the Bill. We have started to believe that the state of Bihar will once again see the revival of history by establishing the said university and the oldest education hub of the world will recreate the history where ten thousand students of China, Greece, Persia, Korea, Sri Lanka and Indonesia used to obtain education from the thousand learned teachers.

Sir, the remains of Nalanda University set up in fifth century, gives a glimpse of its glorious past and vast construction.

The basic objectives of this Nalanda University Bill are:-

1. To enable research in the ancient subjects of member countries particularly which are very important in the context of improving the

standard of living, such as philosophy, languages, history and higher education, which were in vague centuries ago in Nalanda.

2. To bring together the future leaders of East Asia, whose history is associated with each other's problem and different other aspects, in order to promote regional peace and harmony.
3. To adopt standards in education and educational system, which are acceptable to member countries in order to bring synergy in the educational standards. To create an atmosphere of beneficial partnership between scholar's and member countries. To understand the teachings of Gautam Buddha without dismissing his other thoughts, which exist in any part of the world. To promote the research on strong historical resemblance, trade, science, mathematics, religion, philosophy and cultural harmony between Asian countries particularly South West Asian countries. To prepare students to understand each other in order to make them good citizens and to form an outstanding democratic society. To improve the standards of education in the context of education in member countries and to provide professional training in different subjects and arts.

Sir, the Government of Bihar has provided land for the Nalanda University. It deserves lot of thanks and similarly we would also like to thank the UPA Government whole heartedly for providing funds generously for the construction of this great university.

Sir, as I represent Kishanganj in this House, I find it pertinent to mention that Purnia is the most backward commissionarate in Bihar in the context of education. Literacy rate among all the communities there is very low. People belonging to all the religions and castes have been looking at the state government to have a special centre of AMU in Kishanganj. If the state government provides a consolidated piece of land to this special centre of AMU instead allotting it in number of plots I am confident that by establishing the institute Bihar will register an outstanding record in the field of education.

Sir, the UPA government is showing generosity and keen interest in the promotion of education. So I would like to conclude by dedicating a line of poetry to the UPA leadership—"Koi Bazm ho ki koi Anjuman, ye sheaar Apna Qadeem hai, Jahan Roshni Ki Kami mill, wahan Ek Chirag Jala Diya.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Sir, Nalanda University reminds me of what Sant Kabir Das ji used to say—"Acharaj Dekha Bhari Sadhu, Acharaj Dekha Bhari." The State Government enacted a legislation for the University called the Nalanda University Act, 2007 and the Ministry of External Affairs of the Government of India enacted to another Act called the Nalanda University Act, 2010. The question is if this University is one single University or these are two different universities and which legislation will govern this University? There shall be a single University with two governing laws or the Act of the State Government will be repealed and that of the Union Government would prevail. It states that the legislation provides that the President of India by order shall nominate a person as Chancellor of the University. It is further stated that the Chancellor of the Nalanda University appointed under the provisions of the Nalanda University Act, 2007 enacted by the Legislative Assembly of Bihar shall deemed to have been appointed as the Chancellor under the proposed legislation and shall hold office for a period of three years from the date of commencement of this proposed legislation. There is a lot of confusion in it. That legislation provides for tenure for a period of 5 years whereas this legislation provides for 3 years tenure. They are different. The appointee of both the State Government and the President shall remain in office. What kind of legislation is it? So, I need an explanation in this regard. It should be clarified that one University is being governed by two laws. A separate legislation both of the State Government and the Union Government. I have been hearing it for the last 5 years. It has an ancient past. When Huen Tsang visited India he was appointed Vice-chancellor of Nalanda University. It was a vision of that era that a Chinese travel/who came here to study Buddhism was appointed Vice-chancellor there, Sheelbhadra was the Chancellor and Huen Tsang was the Vice-chancellor. It is not clear if the Vice-chancellor would be appointed by the State Government or the Union Government.

It is stated that the university shall be established under the PPP model. The hon. Minister of Human

Resource Development stated that model schools would also be established under the PPP model, how many years were spent in it? Something is being heard about the Nalanda University. The Chief Minister of Bihar has appointed Kalam Saheb as Professor of the University 20 times. It has also been published in the newspaper, several times that Kalam Saheb has become Associate Professor. We are anxious when the University would start functioning. Rs. 1050 crore will be spent on it, Rs. 50 crore have been allocated by the Planning Commission. Now private partners under the PPP model would be explored across the world. His Holiness Dalai Lama has not been involved since Chinese cooperation is proposed to be sought. How the Dharma Guru Dalai Lama would be involved if the Chinese cooperation is being sought. Buddhism is proposed to be taught there. The University has a rich past with a varsity of Buddhist disciples like Dharmraksha, Mahabodhkalyan, Aniruddha, Manju-Shri, Mahakasyap etal, Mahayan, Hinyaan community, Acharya Vimalkirti, Kumarjeev—the prince of Jammu-Kashmir who married the princes of China. The book of Acharya Vimalkirti was translated in Chinese eight times and in Japan, the king Japan after going through the Vimalkirti Nirdesh declared it as State religion. The question is what would be taught there and from when. Five years have been elapsed.

18.00 hrs.

The University is proposed to be established under the PPP scheme like the model schools which has not been implemented so far. It is a University which shall have participation of other countries also, if PPP model would be applied here, I wonder when the Nalanda University would start functioning. The Mentor Group of the University of Nalanda includes Dr. Amartya Sen. He is also of the view of that the reestablishment of the University is a matter of time. It is his view. So, I am afraid because PPP model is time taking process. When model schools could not be established under it so far then it is a University. So, I want an explanation on time as well as the two separate legislations, one of the State Government and the other of Union Government.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs wants to say something.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Hon. Members representing various parties at the B.A.C. yesterday were good enough to agree to my request that if we were to take up the discussion in the morning, as we did today, we would sit late and conclude two Bills today. The one Bill which is being taken up and this I hope would be concluded in the next few minutes only, and thereafter the next Bill, viz., Educational Tribunals Bill may also be taken up. Then, we can take up 'Zero Hour' matters.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the sense of the House?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, the House has agreed.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Prasanta Kumar Majumdar. Please conclude within two minutes.

...(Interruptions)

18.05 hrs.

[DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*]

**SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR (Balurghat): The most ancient university of the world is the university of Nalanda which was set up in the 5th century A.D. All the emperors of that era like the Maurya emperors, Gupta emperors or the Pal emperors gave patronage to this institution. On a land of 14 acres, the university was built with 10,000 students and 2000 teachers coming under one roof. They used to stay together and learn. Not only that, the major attraction of the institution was its library. It was a nine-storey building comprising of scores of books and manuscripts. The library was known as a treasury of truth. The architecture of the building was also a masterpiece. The curricula were so vivid that all aspects of learning were covered, all disciplines were taught. Starting from ancient science, medicine, logic, metaphysics, philosophy, yoga, Buddhism, foreign philosophy, austerity-everything was dealt with.

Shilabhadra, Atish Dipankar were the acharyas of the university. They were well-known for their in-depth knowledge and far-reaching vision.

So such was the quality and stature of the university which was situated in Bihar. But today what is the educational scenario of this state? It is in a pitiable situation. There has been absolutely no development and Bihar is lagging far behind in knowledge and education. The Government of India and the State Government should have paid more attention to this aspect. Not only that, the East-Asia Summit Conference has proposed that the teaching of Buddhism should be strengthened through international research. If that becomes possible then Buddhism will spread in the entire Himalayan region, Tibet, Bhutan. Moreover, Gautam Buddha used to stay in this region. Therefore Buddhism as well as Jainism were discussed at length. There were exchange of ideas and opinions. Various subjects used to be taken up for in-depth analysis. Scholars from all over the world—from Tibet, China, Philippines, Malaysia and other parts of East Asia used to pour in to study in this university. It was an international residential university. In fact the first of its kind. Therefore it has a rich tradition. The Government should have revived it many years ago to make it regain its past glory. Bihar could also have progressed shedding its backward tag. It is very unfortunate that neither the Central Government nor the State Government ever thought of promoting our heritage and culture. The Turkish emperors had tried their best to vanquish our rich, prosperous heritage but failed every time, they could not destroy the cultural fabric of our country. It is still shining bright. So it is time we do something about our tradition.

This Bill is non-payment, non-profit, private partnership, autonomous and accountability Bill. I wholeheartedly support the Nalanda University Bill 2010 and also emphasize that the views of Hon. MP of the area should be considered seriously. In the end I congratulate the Central Government along with the State Government for coming out of deep slumber after such a long time and introducing this important Bill in this august House. With the words, I thank you for allowing me to speak and conclude.

[English]

DR. TARUN MANDAL (Jaynagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome this Bill. This Bill will help increase the number

*Not recorded.

**English translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

of universities in our country and particularly when it is established in the name of Nalanda, it will help us to have an introspection about our past glory and rich heritage. This university will help the present day generation to develop democratic spirit and secular and scientific fabric advocated by our nation builders and great educationists of this country who thought that every seat of education should be for making a person a complete human being and it should help him to build good character in human beings. Every university should make students as comprehensive men when they come out of the university and not sectarian men.

In this connection, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards Clause 24 of this Bill where there is a provision for introduction of Business Management in relation to Public Policy and Development Studies. I believe that this goes against the very objective as declared and it should not be a part of this university's education system.

Secondly, in Clause 33 of this Bill, regarding service conditions of employees of the university it has been stated that they would be appointed on the basis of a written contract. I suggest that all employees should be made permanent. Then, there is a provision regarding arbitration for any problems of professors and other employees of the university. There is a tribunal proposed for that and there is no scope for anybody to go to court. I request that they should be allowed to go to court. If students and teachers want to lodge any complaint against the management, there is no scope for that. So, they should be allowed to go to court.

Then, PPP will be a hindrance to this great university. As one of our great parliamentarians and the then Vice President of India Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan once said, our universities and institutions should be a seat of free thinking and sovereign ideology. To achieve this, PPP would be a hindrance for the students to come into this university.

Further, the Governing Body and the Academic Council should always be elected and nominated members should be less so that the democratic fabric of our education system remains. With these words, I support this Bill.

SHRI PREM DAS RAI (Sikkim): Mr. Chairman Sir, thank you for allowing me to participate in this very

important debate. The Nalanda University Bill 2010 is, in my opinion, an extremely important step as India is a rising power and as we flex our soft power, I think, this falls within the ambit of our soft power. This would have been not possible may be 10-15 years ago but that it has happened in the year 2010 augurs well for our country and for the people at large.

My Party, the Sikkim Democratic Party, welcomes this as a very interesting and a very good development for our country and for our people. The people of Sikkim would like to thank not only the Government of India but also the people of Bihar for this great step forward. The people of Sikkim and mainly the Buddhists of Sikkim will find it a very useful mechanism for further studies.

In this context, I would like to draw the attention of this House to two very important visits made by our Prime Ministers. The first was by our Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, in 1959, when Palden Thondup Namgyal, the King of Sikkim at that time, set up the Namgyal Institute of Tibetology. You will recall that at that time, in 1959, there was already a movement in Tibet and all the Buddhist books and literature, which were there, had to be kept somewhere and in this great institution, called the Namgyal Institute of Tibetology, which is housed in Sikkim, with the help of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and the Government of India, at that time, this was set up.

Then the second was in the year 1982 when none other than our then Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, visited the same institution. This institution is a vibrant institution housing an immense amount of resource in the area of Buddhist studies. I would, therefore, make a humble plea that the Director of Namgyal Institute of Tibetology be a member of the governing council of this wonderful university that is going to come because it links the Buddhists thought of that time, which is housed in this, to the new and upcoming university.

Finally, I would like to make another comment that as history repeats itself, now we find in the year 2010, the Nalanda University coming up as a centre of great learning. It is something which we all as Indians should be very proud of. With these words, I thank the Government and this House for at least, giving full support to this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV (Siwan): Sir, I thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak on a very important bill. On the behalf of the great people of Bihar and behalf of the people of my electoral constituency Siwan, the holy birthplace of Dr. Rajendra Prasad would express tonnes of thanks to the Union Government. We express our gratitude to Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and the hon. Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh for reestablishing the glorious past of Bihar by bringing this crucial Bill. Bihar definitely stands out as a global teacher, however, the education standard has unfortunately, deteriorated in the past few years. The degree from Bihar does not enjoy any recognition in other states. The reason could be attributed to the situation which cropped up that led to the deterioration in the standard of education notwithstanding its glorious past of having a University of the stature of Nalanda. The recent developments caused enough embarrassment to the people of Bihar. One of the reasons was that the Education Minister was sentenced to imprisonment for involvement in a degree scam. However, I welcome the important steps taken by the Union Government to restore the dignity and pride of Bihar across the world by bringing this Bill and extend my support to the Bill.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY (Kokrajhar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on Nalanda University Bill, 2010. First of all I would like to congratulate the Government of India for introducing this Bill. But alongwith this, want to present certain demands which the Government of india should fulfil the earliest. My First demand is that there should be a Central University in our Bodoland also. My second demand is that the policy of the Government is to set up at least 30 universities across the country. But the education which was being imparted in Bodo language in our Bodoland since 1963 is on the verge of extinction today. The Government of Assam has not been able to include 1000 Bodo medium primary schools, 500 upper primary schools and 500 high schools in provisicilisation system on the pretext of shortage of funds. Bodo language had been included in the 8th schedule by the Government of India in the year 2003. But Bodo medium education is the going to be discontinued, who will protect it? Who will rescue the moribund Bodo medium schools? Today 30 Central Universities are going to be set up in the country. Nalanda University is going to be revived

after several centuries. What you will do after that. Certainly Super Universities are also going to be set up. But what we will get from all this. Today the condition in Jammu and Kashmir is deteriorating. The problems the people of Bodoland are facing, the Government should also think about that. The Government will have to pay attention towards this. Therefore it is my demand that a campus on the lines of Nalanda Univeristy should also be set up in our Bodoland. Bodoland has become a state University and Government will have to accord it the status of Central University and Government should take concrete steps of revive all the Bodo Medium primary schools, Upper Primary Schools and High Schools, this is my demand with this I conclude.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the first instance, may I express my appreciation and gratitude to the hon. Members for supporting the Bill and their valuable suggestions made regarding the establishment of the Nalanda University?

I would first like to clarify that the Ministry of External Affairs has taken on the task of drafting the legislation to establish the Nalanda University as the University is to be international in character. It is being supported by 15 other countries at the East Asia Summit meetings, and the idea would be to establish it as an international centre for excellence to remind us of the glory of ancient Nalanda.

The Nalanda University shall be established as a non-State, non-profit, secular and self-governing international institution with continental focus. The Government of India, as the host country, shall make the land available. The Government of the State of Bihar, which has acquired 446 acres of land for the University, has agreed to transfer this land to the Nalanda University.

Private donations, international contributions from other foreign Governments and member countries of the East Asia Summit are expected on a voluntary basis. Positive indications have been received from some of the member countries of the East Asia Summit for this project.

In fact, the Foreign Minister of Singapore, in his recent visit, has given an offer of four to five million

dollars as private donations from there to set up a Library in the Nalanda University.

Regarding the various suggestions put forward by the hon. Members, I would like to submit that the Bill we will pass today gives only the framework and outline of the establishment of the University and its structure.

There are possibilities of incorporating these valuable suggestions made right from our opening speaker, Shri Shahnawaz Hussain to every other Member of Parliament here while drafting the statutes, Ordinances and Regulations following upon this legislation to be drawn by the governing body.

Dr. Girija Vyas ji said that besides reviving the ancient knowledge we should also project the present skills that are bringing our country into great prominence. So, when there are going to be six schools already in the existing draft, the Board of Governors has also envisaged another school which is for Information Technology to be set up. Schools can always be expanded, as we see the need to do so and as sufficient resources become available as there is an enabling clause to open any other school as decided.

I would especially like to thank Shri Satpathy ji for his rare support and appreciation that he has given for the step taken by the Government of India and the Ministry of External Affairs. He made a great reference to Pushpa Vihar University. I am sure that with the full support of all your people of Odisha and if your Government does put this step forward, you should be able to manage to set up again this ancient school of learning.

We do require as this was our international initiative to announce that we will be setting up the University at Nalanda at the earliest.

The early passage of this Bill by this august House will enable the Government to fulfil its international obligations and initiate action to set up the University.

With these words, I would request the House to pass this Bill. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

“That the Bill to implement the decisions arrived at the Second East Asia Summit held on the 15th

January, 2007, at Philippines and subsequently at the Fourth East Asia Summit held on the 25th October, 2009, at Thailand for the establishment of the Nalanda University in the State of Bihar as an international institution for pursuit of intellectual, philosophical, historical and spiritual studies and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

“That clauses 2 to 44 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 44 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula, the Preamble and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR: Sir, I beg to move:

“That the Bill be passed.”

MR. CHAIRMAN (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): The question is

“That the Bill be passed.”

The motion was adopted.

18.26 hrs.

EDUCATIONAL TRIBUNALS BILL, 2010

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House shall take up Item No. 19—Educational Tribunal Bill.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I beg to move:

“That the Bill to provide for the establishment of Educational Tribunals for effective and expeditious

adjudication of disputes involving teachers and other employees of higher educational institutions and other stakeholders (including students, universities, institutions and statutory regulatory authorities), and to adjudicate penalties for indulging in unfair practices in higher education and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.”

I was privileged to be present in this House today to listen to an enormously informative and enlightening debate on the revival of the Nalanda University; and it gave me great pleasure to witness the extent of unanimity that I was able to perceive in this House during the course of that debate. It is with this unanimity as we revived the past to make India a crucible of knowledge once again. That is required for us also to move forward.

I find that when we revive the past, we move forward with unanimity; and when we try to construct the future, unfortunately there is always dissention. I believe that the time has come, specially, in the field of education to change all that education impacts every child in this country, every young man and woman who are going to the university system, every family who try very hard to make sure that their children get a very high quality education. Every thinking member of society is impacted by the education that the State and the private sector provide in this country, it is now our new trust with destiny to be able to provide the kind of quality education that is demanded by our children, that is required for our children, that is crucial if you want to take our nation forward with thought. It is with that I want to introduce this bill today for your consideration.

The second thing that I want to state is that no law is perfect. When we enact a law, it is on the basis of our understanding of the past or understanding of the needs of the present and our understanding of what we have to combat in the future. But our understanding in the past may be imperfect. Our realisation of what is required in the present may also be imperfect. Our ability through the law to deal with the challenges of tomorrow may be equally imperfect.

So, I want to set forth right away that no law is perfect like no human being is perfect, like no State is perfect. Therefore, if we approach the issue with this intent that yes, what we are trying to do is to try to build the future for our people.

Let us move forward with a sense of unanimity that we showed in the House as we resurrected upon the energies of India of the past, the enlightenment of India of the past, the crucible of knowledge that India was in the past, and it should be our cherished dream that we bring forth in the future for our children the very same crucible of knowledge.

Sir, what is the future? Why are we trying to take this step forward? The future is of 546 million children who are less than 25 years of age. That is the future that we are looking at. When India became independent, our literacy level was 16 per cent. It was 16 per cent of 300 million people, which makes it less than 50 million in all. Today, our literacy level is 64 per cent of 1.2 billion people, which is over 750 million people.

The times have changed. What we needed to deal with the past is no longer relevant for the present and what we need to deal with the future is something that we together have to create for our own children. So, in a sense, this is the first historic step that this House is taking to move away from the past to create a future for our children. I do not say that this is a perfect step. I do not say that this is going to solve the problems of India. But what I say to you, Sir, it is time for us to stand united and show the same sense of unanimity that we showed just a couple of hours ago. Now, this is a string of four Bills that we are going to bring to this House, which have already been introduced in Parliament.

As we move forward in education, more and more of our young children are going to go into higher educational institutions. We are now served by about 504 universities. We are now served by 25,951 colleges. But I dare say by 2020 we will have to build another 800 universities in 10 years' time. By 2020 we will need another 35,000 colleges. There is no way in the world that the Central Government can build these colleges and set up these universities. So, the players and the stakeholders of the future are different, and our solutions for the future must also be different.

Now, in the process, you are going to get all kinds of disputes—disputes between universities and affiliating colleges, disputes between institutions like AICTE when they grant approval to institutions, disputes between the MCI when they grant approval to institutions, disputes between the UGC when they grant approval and recognition to institutions, inter-se university disputes,

inter-se college disputes, disputes between teachers and the university, disputes between students and the university. The nature and the extent of disputes are going to increase exponentially.

But we are not prepared for the future because we do not have an architecture of the future and this Bill is an attempt to create that architecture. This Bill is an attempt to set up a separate system of adjudication of disputes, away from the subject, away from the civil court, away from the appeal court, away from all the present systems of adjudication, which are dilatory, which are ineffectual. Teachers must be seen in the class, not in the court rooms. Teachers should not have to run from one sub-judge and then go to an appeal court. Teachers must know that there is a particular forum, a fixed forum, where they can go and get redressal of their grievances and this does not apply to teachers alone. It applies to students. It applies to private institutions. It applies to public institutions.

I dare say also that there is going to be an increase of private investment in the education set up. We see what is happening in the private sector. You have an advertisement which says one thing but on the ground what you get is something entirely different. Therefore, the next Bill that is going to come before you is a Bill on educational malpractices. Those educational malpractices will also be decided by the same Tribunal. You have advertisements which, in fact, hoodwink young students. You have people who charge capitation fee and there is no way to go to any particular forum for adjudication of those disputes.

So, the point that I wish to make is that the nature of the education scenario in the next 10-20-30 years is going to be entirely different from what has happened in the past. The aspirations of our young people are entirely different. What we have tried to do in the process is to build a two-tier system, a system of State Tribunals and three National Tribunals and through that process give succour to those who might have grievances against the system, against institutions, teachers against universities and so on. Through this two-tier system we have tried to make sure that all stakeholders have a remedy that they can actually seek out as they move forward. That is really the purpose of this Bill.

The third Bill, which has been introduced and which is going to come before you, is a Bill relating to accreditation, namely, no institution which imparts higher education must go without accreditation because that ensures quality. Those processes must be far removed from the Government. What we have tried to do in the three Bills is to move away from Government and allow the university system to mushroom on its own. Universities like Nalanda become centres of excellence, centres of learning and Government should have very little to do with them and allow them to mushroom on their own so that they can provide the kind of quality education that we need for our future. And make sure and regulate the system in such a way that the private sector does not exploit the poor people of our country. That is very very important. That is why the regulation.

Of course, in the context of all this we are also going to talk about foreign education providers. But all this will come up before the Standing Committee. It is before the Standing Committee. We will not move forward. I will give this as an assurance to this House that we will not move forward unless we have had a full dialogue with every Member sitting on the other side of the House. We want unanimity because this is important not for politics, it is important for the future of our children. Therefore, there should be no difference of opinion on this particular issue.

With these words, I commend that the Bill be taken into consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of Educational Tribunals for effective and expeditious adjudication of disputes involving teachers and other employees of higher educational institutions and other stake holders (including students, universities, institutions and statutory regulatory authorities), and to adjudicate penalties for indulging in unfair practices in higher education and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

[*Traslation*]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Varanasi): Sir, I heard the statements of Hon'ble Minister of Human Resources very attentively the way this House showed

ideological solidarity regarding the Bill on ancient education system of India and expressed love, knowledge and respect, I am grateful for all this. One thing hon'ble Minister told that whenever we look back at our past we show solidarity and whenever we look towards future contradictions arise. The past was a reality and all of us know what was it. The people across the world know about Nalanda University, what kind of education was imparted there and how it was imparted? That is why there is no question of any disagreement in this regard however it is difficult to say what lies in future. It is very difficult to predict if a disabled child would be born. Anything is possible. It could be a healthy or a disabled child concern, apprehension regarding this is natural. But it should be our all out effort that it comes out as a healthy one. A healthy vibrant and progressive bill should be born. They are acting as a midwife. Midwife of that Bill we wish that when the bill becomes an Act, it dispels all the apprehensions which arise in this House.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I am perhaps the midwife, but you have to assist in delivery. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: We will do that but we will do it with Indian procedure Nalanda procedure and remember we will not do cesarian. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH (Hamirpur): They are preparing for aborting. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: No, they have made this so unhealthy that it may get aborted on its own. ...*(Interruptions)* Since we are here, there is no need to worry. We shall try our best to ensure that it is a natural and normal delivery. All the deliveries during ancient period used to be...Barring a few in which cesarian was required...and foeticide was considered a sin at that time.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no doubt that many controversies are arising in educational institutions and such controversies will keep on cropping up. Why such controversies crop up? First of all let us see where is the origin of such controversies, why they are cropping up. Controversies crop up when any institution of university or regulatory institution body, violates rules.

I have seen that if a vice chancellor is appointed who knows nothing about the university, then what would happen? My colleague Sh. Shailendraji knows that what

is going on in Allahabad University. Because if the selection of Vice Chancellor and the governing body and council is appropriate and if is full of academic persons, then the university will run in an efficient way. The irregularities regarding appointments in universities take place when the vice-chancellor and the Executive Council have political interests to serve. The basic thing is that we had taken care of the fact that such appointments do not take place in the university as well as in executive council but if there is a majority of a political party in the executive council, then appointments will have political influence. I think that you know it. If there is discrimination with students on political grounds, then obviously the controversy will take place. This is the question. The basic point is that these appointments should be taken care of and it should be ensured that the rules and regulations made under the act are working properly and the universities are complying with them which will reduce the controversies. You will notice that in some universities there are less controversies whereas there are some where controversies spark off quite often. You have been managing this department for quite some time. You have also been a lecturer as you have said today that you have taught for forty years.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushmabi): Now a days, he is a lawyer.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Now a days, he is a minister. ...*(Interruptions)* He has told that he taught history.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I used to teach history in Hindu college in Delhi University.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Have you studied or taught there?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I used to teach.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: That is why, I said that you do have some knowledge about teaching environment problem there. Just now a law has been passed and as per the directions of your ministry, a new norm of admission for research has come up. All those getting PHD degree in the year 2008, have been debarred from getting the appointments. Recently, I was in Kashi Hindu Vishwavidyalaya. Some students came to me asking, what was their fault, if they got their PHD in the year 2008 and when they applied for interview in

the year 2009, they were told that their degree was useless.

Because only those would qualify, who come under the purview of these rules and regulations of 2009. How it can happen? The ones who got registered in the year 2008, did not know what was to come up in the year 2009? The university cancelled the application of all those. Who got their PHD in the year 2008. They went to the court. The court directed the university to call them. This controversy is not from the students side. This controversy is between UGC and department. UGC is saying that something wrong is taking place but your ministry is saying that no this is alright, do accordingly. You brought out a new way in admission for research that only a common entrance test will be conducted throughout the country and afterwards the admission in research will take place. I am the representative of Parliament in India Institute of science. How it happen there? Is it some IAS or PCS competitive examination? You said that one exam will be held in the whole country for entrance in BSC. This will give rise to controversy. If you issue such type of orders, then even this tribunal will not be able to redress this issue. You issue such type of orders. Such proposals originate on your part. Therefore, I am saying that if you make such type of laws on your own, which creates controversy, then thousands of students will fall victim and fight with you and will struggle. It will happen. Therefore, you make sure that such issues do not crop up. If you continue to act in this manner then even if you constitute then tribunals, the disputes will never be settled. In the first place, right rules and regulations should be framed. Secondly, these should be appropriately complied with and thirdly, these should be away from politics. If this happens, there would be less controversy, otherwise they will increase.

Sir, the Bill introduced by the Hon. Minister went to the Standing Committee. It considered each section of the Bill and presented a report. I went through this report. You have expressed your disapproval on each of their proposal. This report was presented in the parliament on 20th August. Today is 26th. During these 6 days, 21st and 22nd were holidays, 23rd and 24th were festivals, so the south Indian officers might not have come on onam and the North Indian Officers would not have come on Raksha Bandhan. You had seen the report so quickly? You termed each recommendation of the Committee as useless and unacceptable. How can

this Bill go to Cabinet? Because they have not considered it. Now the question is that this report has been prepared unanimously. Oscar Fernandes is its chairman. You did not pay serious attention to it. I will tell you that some of the recommendations made there in carry weightage which need to be considered seriously. You have said that no law is perfect in totality, it is not comprehensive and if you accept it, then you have also assured to make it comprehensive. I think that you will consider it and amend it at the earliest. It is important because it contains such provisions which will create problems in future from academicians point of view.

Sir, on the basis of report as well as the Bill, I can tell something to the Minister. First of all, according to this committee's viewpoint when this Bill was brought out, it was not advertised properly. We were told that the advertisement was proper and CAGE meeting took place. The committee are not satisfied with this reply and say that only a few persons supported this. The Ministry thinks that large number of people supported the same. If this thing comes up before committee, then obviously the representative of the Ministry were present there and they must have said so. Now, more than five hundred universities are there and I don't know as to how many universities sent their opinion because they have large number of stake holders. How many students unions, teachers' unions and employees' union tendered their opinion? All these are questions which can be seen on going through this report presented in the Parliament. If the hon. Minister, the Ministry and the Council of Ministers are satisfied, then I don't have anything to say because your satisfaction is supreme. But this report reflects its justification everywhere. Again you see that you have spoken something very amusing that in this, you will also take care of the students and bring forth their issues. But it shows no provision to bring forward the issues of students. What are their issues-admission, fees, course and degree and also the students' union elections. Everything is decided in the disciplinary committees and not many problems crop up there. But these questions arise, which have legal implications. Again, a new thing has come up. You said that PPP model has come. Regarding the procedures and laws of its management, you have said that a lot of malpractices are there. Persons having the knowledge of the same should be a part of this systems. PPP model laws are not universal and different states have made separate provisions under them. What kind of PPP model will be

adopted will it be form throughout the country? It is to be seen that every university has a different character and history. The universities existing for the last hundred-hundred twenty five years have their own traditions and structure and those only five -ten years old have their own issues and different controversies.

In my view provision to include three persons of the state is absolutely inappropriate and it cannot work. As per the provision, there will be three persons, one from the judiciary and two others, for which it is stated.

[English]

It states that:

“A person shall be qualified to be appointed as a Member of the State Educational Tribunal, if such person:

- (a) is not less than fifty-five years of age;
- (b) is of ability, integrity and standing and has adequate knowledge and experience of at least twenty years in dealing with matters relating to higher education, public affairs or administration in educational matters;
- (c) is, or has been, a Vice Chancellor or a person who is, or has been, of the and equivalence of a Chief Secretary of the State Government.”

[Translation]

You have included two persons, one from administrative background and other one from academic background,

[English]

Now is or has been, a Vice Chancellor.

[Translation]

There are number of vice chancellors in the country. if you appoint any Vice Chancellor, that will be of state university. There are various kind universities in state, now whether you appoint the Vice Chancellor from an affiliated university or a non-affiliated university. Both these universities have different problems. It will be hard to find such a Vice Chancellor who has been officiated both these universities. Then one of the members has

to be a woman, whether the judicial member or one of the other two members will be a woman. Then you say that the person will be of the rank and equivalent to the Chief Secretary of the State Government. Where will you find such a woman since there are very few women working as Chief Secretary of the state Government?. These questions arises. You have fixed minimum age as 55 years. There is no such age criterion in High Court or Supreme Court. There, if you ten years of experience in High Court, then you may qualify. You are eligible to be member of Rajya Sabha at the age of 35 years and quality for Legislative Assembly at the age of 21 years and elected to the Parliament at the age of 25 years, then, why you have made provision for 55 years. What is the logic behind this? It appears that in order to oblige bureaucrats or some Judges who are on the verge of retirement, you have decided to open 2000-2500 tribunals.

Appointments to the board creates lot of doubts as to how it would be practical. Similarly, selection committee of the board is also very interesting. It states:

[English]

“(1) 7 The Chairperson and Members of the State Educational Tribunal shall be appointed by the appropriate Government from a panel of names recommended by a Selection Committee, consisting of—

- (a) the Chief Justice of the High Court or his nominee....Chairperson;
- (b) the Chief Secretary of the State Government.....Member;
- (c) an officer of the State Government of the rank and equivalence of a Secretary to the Government of India with experience in dealing with educational matters....Member.”

[Translation]

If you have appointed any Education Secretary, he would be of the subordinate of the Chief Secretary and cannot be senior to them. His status will be between nominee of the Chief Justice and the Chief Secretary. Not a single bureaucrat have the courage to go against his Chief Secretary. Since his promotion and other things depends on him.

You are going to appoint a person who will fix disputes between educational institutions and what kind of disputes he will fix, whether it includes the dispute between regulators and educational institutions, disputes between the two universities, dispute between affiliated and non affiliated universities and disputes between colleges and universities. Not a single person is competent enough to select such persons. It is the informity of the Bill and you should rectify it. If you cannot rectify it now, then, you should bring amended Bill and then we will pass the same. But there are several loopholes. I am saying it on the basis of my experience that it will not work because it is not practical. Now, other members will express their views.

Similarly there is an interesting point regarding appointments to the central tribunal or national tribunal.

[English]

“23 (1) The chairperson and Members of the national Educational Tribunal shall be appointed by the Central Government from a panel of names recommended by a Selection Committee consisting of—

- (a) the Chief Justice of India or his nominee....Chairperson;
- (b) the Secretary in charge of higher education in the Ministry of Human Resource Development of the Government of India...Member;
- (c) the Secretary in the Ministry of Law and Justice of the Government of India....Member;
- (d) the Secretary in charge of medical education in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of the Government of India....Member;
- (e) the Secretary in charge of the Department of Personnel and Training of the Government of India...Member.

[Translation]

It is surprising that education of law and medical is out of the orbit of the Bill because Law Ministry is not ready to accept the same. The Law Ministry has submitted that we do not agree to it. Health Ministry has submitted, we do not agree to it. There is conflict between

the I.M.C. and the Government. You should adopt practical approach in this regard. It would be good if you correct the present situation. I have been told that concerned people have not been consulted in this regard. If you have consulted, then you should put forth facts here. It is the present situation. I am aware of the functioning of Ministries. None of the Ministry will hand over its jurisdiction. Even the Labour Ministry will not loose its control over technical education on the pretext that it is under its jurisdiction and now you must have been aware of the tussle between bureaucrats regarding their jurisdiction...(interruptions). This turf war will confine within Ministry level since outsiders would not have access to this and no one will understand significance of the said tribunal. Who is the competent enough among these resolve disputes between universities and who should be appointed?

19.00 hrs.

You think that all these bureaucrats and officers have expertise of every issue including each aspect of education. Education system would have been better had they possess expertise. It is because those people are engaged who do not understand the importance of education and not be able to realize reforms in education and unaware of the reforms as referred by you. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I would also like to mention another thing. You have just passed Nalanda University Bill. How will Nalanda University be covered thereunder? This is an international university. This will create interstate disputes. ...*(Interruptions)*. This is different. It requires the cooperation of a number of governments. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, in the Nalanda University Bill there is a separate provision for arbitration. It has nothing to do with this. There is a separate special provision for setting up a tribunal through an arbitration process. Therefore, please do not confuse Nalanda with this.

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Every university has the provision for arbitration. Which university does not have the provision for arbitration? There is no such

university. Sir, you are a teacher yourself. There is the provision of arbitration in your university. The University where I studied and where I have taught has the provision of arbitration. Vakil Saheb is sitting here. He has fought cases for universities. There is the provision for arbitration everywhere. ...*(Interruptions)* Every university has arbitration provision. But, who will arbitrate if Nalanda University gets into a dispute with some Indian University? More such Universities are going to be opened. This is just the beginning. A number of international universities should and will be opened in India. We will also go and open universities in other countries. I am waiting for the day when the Indian government will say that it proposes to initiate the setting-up of an international university in Taxila on lines of the university being opened here with the collaboration of Japan, China, Thailand and all these countries. You may think of setting-up a university in Sri Lanka tomorrow. Consider this ...*(Interruptions)* If there is dispute in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)* The future depends on this. You have said that disputes may increase. Now you are saying that there will be no disputes. ...*(Interruptions)* You are a very good lawyer. You have a reply to everything. No one doubts your ability to argue a case. ...*(Interruptions)* A very able lawyer. There is no doubt that he can argue both sides of a case. ...*(Interruptions)* So capable. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I am aware of the ability of lawyers to argue a point. Pandit Kanhaiya Lal Mishra was Advocate General. He was amongst the renowned lawyers in the country in his time. Once he came to the court complex and after arguing one case went straight away to another case where argument was already going on and started speaking straightaway. His client listened for a while and then asked him what he was saying. He was speaking in favour of the adversary. At this he said 'Is that so?'

[English]

Now My Lord, this is what all my adversary could say. Now I am speaking for myself.

[Translation]

Hence, I do not doubt the ability of lawyers. If such a situation is created with you in the opposition, you will present arguments against the case you have yourself made just now. I and the entire House admires this ability of yours. ...*(Interruptions)* I had once asked him to act as my advocate. It is another matter that he had refused ...*(Interruptions)* You do not remember but I will

remind you. ...*(Interruptions)* It is true that I could not pay your fees. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I have fought cases for many of your party members for free.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Undoubtedly.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Money has never been an issue amongst us.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: I am unaware about it, but you had refused to take up my case. ...*(Interruptions)* There is no doubt about his ability. The question is that ... *(Interruptions)* Sir, I am following your footsteps. Sir, I will take up much more time than you used to take after the ringing of the bell when you used to sit on this side. ...*(Interruptions)* I will follow the example set by you. Please excuse me ...*(Interruptions)* I am not speaking all that loudly.

SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ (Vidisha): Dr. Saheb, you are only saying what he himself wants to say. You have been a professor after all.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Attention has been drawn towards one more point regarding the tribunals made or being made in accordance with the directions of the Supreme Court which is that all such tribunals should have a higher number of judicial members than others ...*(Interruptions)* This creates a very strange situation. If there are three members out of which one is a judicial member and if he falls ill even then two members can continue to work. This is utterly unconstitutional because as per the Supreme Court ruling, presence of a judicial member is mandatory. Hence this provision needs to be amended. They said this may be a rare occurrence. I said even so the point needs to be considered. Such a situation may never occur but it is best to try and address all imperfections in a law ...*(Interruptions)* I have faith that you will be able to do so. If not today, then tomorrow. One way or the other it will have to be done ...*(Interruptions)* If the Supreme Court points out a flaw in the law then it will have to be amended. Better to do it sooner than later. This is the problem that is occurring. Out of nine members their number should be five or at least four. It would be better to keep that number at five. There should be three women members. The same problem will come up. If this issue is politicised then it would create a lot of problems. Hence, all this work should be done after understanding all the issues and practicalities.

Otherwise this would not be at all feasible. This is my fear.

Secondly, it would be better to tell the Universities first to effect improvements in their laws wherever required so that disputes could be minimised. Each state has made laws. Some laws were formulated twenty years earlier. Some were formulated in 1973 and are almost thirty years old. The situation of Universities is changing. New courses are being introduced. PPP model is being adopted, self-financing courses are being introduced. So these things needs to be taken into consideration so that the final mechanism should enable maximum number of disputes to be resolved at the University level.

I have also studied where such tribunals are situated in the world and what is the system under which they work. I found that there are few such tribunals in the world. [English] In USA, there are private and public universities where they have Internal Grievance Settlement Mechanism for students and staff. If not satisfied with this Internal Mechanism, both have the right of recourse to courts. In UK, the Higher Education Act, 2004 states that students' complaints may be reviewed by a Body Corporate to be designated by the Secretary of State, Britain and National Assembly for Wales. Each higher education institution - each higher education institution-has a formal procedure for addressing complaints of students. In case, the issue is not resolved, students can take the complaint to the office of the Independent Adjudicator or office of the Ombudsman.

In Australia, in case student has a complaint, he can use the internal students redressal procedure in the first instance. After that, student may contact the relevant Commonwealth State or Territory Ombudsman. The staff has the option to explore internal complaint procedure through Trade Unions and certain external mechanisms, before approaching the courts for redressal. Here too, Tribunal is not there.

In Sweden, Sweden's Higher Education Act, 1992, modified in 2006, states that a Joint Board shall decide on the expulsion of the student. Student and the institution may appeal to General Administrative Courts against the decisions of the Board. The Equal Treatment of Students of Universities Act, 2001, promotes equal rights of students and applicants in higher education institutions.

[Translation]

In my view, there is need to improve the laws there so that these tribunals are able to function effectively.

In the end, I want to say if adjudication is required then designated benches of the Supreme Court and

High court could be set up. Judges have to be appointed in both cases. Why incur double expenditure? Other such works have been undertaken. Commercial tribunals should be introduced as educational tribunals. Most of the Supreme Court decisions so far have followed the line of commercial tribunals. A case had come up in which it had given the ruling that educational tribunals should be constituted. It was set down in the policy of 1986 but you are aware even after that such tribunals have been constituted only in Gujarat, Orissa, Goa, Maharashtra etc. We do not have any data regarding their performance. This data is not available either in the House or the Committee. Hence this issue should be given in-depth and serious consideration because if there is any flaw in the bill it would not matter but if this creates a flaw in education and if all institutions get mired in disputes then it would cause a huge loss to the country and darken the future of 50 crore people of future generation. I thank you for presenting this Bill.

SHRI SANDEEP DIKSHIT (East Delhi): Mr. Chairman Sir, I extend my thanks to you. At the outset I would like to congratulate hon'ble Minister and welcome this Bill. As he said in his speech that he will bring a number of Bills. He will bring these Bills in three-four phases through which he is making efforts to bring revolutionary changes in higher education of the country. It is his first step in that direction. Hon'ble Joshi ji had told a story about lawyers.

Hon'ble Chairman Sir, if you allow me, I would like to tell a short story about teachers. I remember when 1977 election was conducted I was studying in St. Joseph School Bengaluru. That time our civics class was being conducted. It is a story of my own experience. I remember that there used to be two civics classes during morning session. Father David used to teach us civics in the morning. He told us about emergency and Indira ji. In the second session father David told us that what we have discussed about emergency and the leader, these are the reasons due to which sometimes Governments fall. When I came back, I came to know that Indira ji had lost the election and Government of Janata Party came to power in 1977. I would like to submit as he referred to the quality of the lawyers, sometimes such quality of argument apply on teachers also. ...*(Interruptions)*

Hon'ble Minister ji, I would like to putforth my suggestions in respect of the Bill presented by you. We are all Members of Parliament. Undergraduate students and teachers come to us. I have noticed that students run from pillar to post for years in case they seek justice from university. You must have noticed that students do not get justice from university in case of short attendance despite submitting their plea. Sometimes when a student gets into argument with his professor or head of the

department, then he does not get attendance certificate despite running from pillar to post. As a result two-three years of that student goes in waste.

Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, respected Joshi ji has submitted that there are internal grievance mechanism. We often seen in internal grievance mechanism the head of the department or professor are given importance and plea of students is not heard. We know that there is fixed quota for the SC's and the OBC students in our universities. In case these reserved seats are not filled, then the university dissolves such seats and merge the same with general category. Students and MP's always make efforts to get enrolled the SC and the OBC students, but if university turns down any proposal, then there is no way out. In case there is any hope, the process lasts upto September-October and by then last date of admission is over and the entire matter is closed. Sometimes when a student somehow manage to get admission ticket and reaches the examination centre to appear in the examination which is schedule to start at 11 AM, he is stopped at 10.30 and is told that he cannot appear in the examination due to certain reasons. I would like to narrate one more such incident before the House. A girl got admission in law, who got marks lower than 67 or 68 percent and was stopped from appearing in the exams by Delhi University. She moved the court and got the judgement from the court in her favour that she should be allowed to appear in examination. She was stopped from appearing in exams at 11 AM despite showing the judgement. She was not allowed. Then police came and she was allowed to appear in exam at 11.45 AM, but since then three years have passed, but her result has not been declared by that department. Where such students will go? One of the major reasons for constitution of such tribunal is that there are many people who cannot go to court, cannot understand complexity of courts, can putforth their problems in simple language only, who cannot run from pillar to post, when teachers have to deal with University system, this tribunal is for such people. As you have said, when new Universities are set up, these universities claim something but the reality is something different. These children, teachers and their parents would get an opportunity to raise their issues in this tribunal. We have seen setting up of a number of universities and colleges. You must have seen that picture of well-constructed building is published and various causes like B. Pharma etc. are mentioned just below the picture. But no one reads notice printed in small letters, 'that this building is

being built'. When the student goes there after seeking admission alongwith Rs. 1.50 lakh taken from his parents, then he finds a wooden door and behind that door four professors are sitting there. No one knows where from they have obtained their degrees. He is told that son, the university is being built, till then you study here. Now what is the future of that child? He cannot even move to another university or college.

Parents borrow from neighbours and pay rupees one and half lakh. When their child passes the 12 examination it appears to them that their life long struggle will bear fruits, the child will do B. Pharma and their life will also improve in the coming days. At that time the child runs here, there and everywhere. He finds himself in darkness and finally he, as a defeated person takes University degree with the help of the same professors. After three years when he goes to a good university he is told that they have not heard the name of the college from where he has passed out. He replies that ABCD college is affiliated to the University, then he is told that there is no University namely ABCD is the world, how he got the certificate. Where that child will go now? At that time when his future lies before him the time by which he will again go to any University, time for his children to get education will come, will he got justice. This is the reality of our legal system. Kapil Sibal Saheb is an able Minister, he has said that they have received the suggestions of the Standing Committee, as they will learn more and more, he will also make changes. Some of the points raised by Joshi Ji is valid, it is possible that they will have to give judge for this. Is the age of 55 is correct or there is a need of younger people we can see all these things, but tribunal is necessary. It totally differs from the courts in its approach. The same judge when he sits in a court he considers each case with a different angle and thinking, he has to keep before himself the majesty of law but the same persons when come in the tribunal humanity becomes more perceptible in them. Speedy justice becomes first priority for them. Before that when we passed the Green Tribunal Bill in this House, that bill was passed unanimously because we knew that in the coming days the number of environment related issue would gradually increase and through this negative impact on our life will also increase, therefore we needed a separate system so that we may got justice. If we have 25,000 colleges at present, as hon. Minister said that there number may increase up to thirty-fourty and fifty thousand colleges, may be their number increase

with new system and process and for them many such problems will come and our laws and judicial system might not contain all these things. Inter University transfer of those subjects is possible, you will introduce new rules and regulations to conduct research. Today even if Universities come from abroad they will bring their own system with themselves then it is possible that our lawyers and people do not have so much competency. But if we have a tribunal which will consist of a person of vice-chancellor level who would have a very good understanding of the difficulties of the teachers and the University and the system as a whole. There will be a Member from administration side well versed in administrative nuances.

There will be a judge who understands justice, who understands how we can present our point of view logically in a just manner then it is possible that justice will be done in controversies arising between those teachers and the University or between the University system and the colleges keeping the interest of the children above all these things and ensuring that the education of children and the teachers do not suffer and it can do justice. Why there is a need of speedy justice because there are several things where even delayed justice is done, it does not make much difference. If there is a discord between you and me or between me and any other person regarding our house, I am somewhere living in a house. It is a civil case, after some days I will get back my home. Similarly if there is any dispute regarding land, after two-four years, I will get justice, then it will not make much difference. It is right that speedy justice should be done. In criminal justice the guilty will serve the sentence, if not today tomorrow. But if a child loses his two years or if the child is to get mathematics and he is to become the best professor of Mathematics and he gets out then he will not get back his mathematics classes. That child does not get back his time. If the time gets wasted we don't get it back. Therefore in education, justice delayed is certainly justice denied. Therefore a tribunal is needed for that. In such circumstances such an active body is needed. Which will give immediate justice in view of the future of the child and the teachers.

Hon. Minister said one good thing and I welcome it. That we should have to take government gradually out of education system. The role of the government is to make policies, the role of the government is mainly to decide how our children, next generation will get

education. What type of values be inculcated in them, how the feelings of nationalism is inculcated in them. In what way should we bring forth our history, our ancestors, our scientists, our saints, our religion and our tourist places before them so as to inculcate the feeling of pride among them for our country. Up to this level, the role of government is extremely necessary. We should ensure that such laws are not made which can make a fool of the children. It is important to see that the parents do not compromise their children in whom they seek their future. But the Government should also run away from interfering in every affair. Let any Member of Parliament tell me who does not have any experience to share that every second day someone approaches him asking for his recommendation for history interview of his relative. If you recommend, then it will favour his or her in the interview. Sometimes, on the basis of my recommendation if someone passes the interview, then may be someone else better than him in teaching history will be there who may not have the resources to approach me but in place of him if someone else goes ahead in history faculty, then we will have a Substandard professor of history teaching children for 30 years. Just because, I had to appease my electorate, and I could not say no to him and the vice-chancellor could not say no due to my influence. So, we have to keep our education system away from all this. We know that at several places in various jobs, we exert our influence. When we notice that some poor person in our constituency is not getting the opportunity, we help him out because we want to help him so that he is able to get a job in Government or Private Sector, even if on daily basis. But when we compromise in education, we are compromising our children. Therefore, if the increasing influence of Government there is reduced, then it is a welcome step.

I would definitely like the Hon. Minister to consider this fact in this tribunal and other ensuing laws. We should also ensure that if our arbitrariness is diminishing, then someone else's arbitrariness should not creep in. At times, we witness this fear in private colleges or institutions. What kind of Professors are coming there, whether the procedure of selecting them is perfect in itself or not. Today if we bring this Bill and through it gradually open new universities, then in future the parents would willingly send their children to these universities with a lot of trust because they know that these have been recognised by the government of India. Because ultimately, every person trusts the Government

of india's seal. Buy when the Government of India recognises its universities and the affiliated colleges, it should also ensure that the private colleges coming in future either under PPP model or any other model do no compromise on quality.

Rather provide better education than our this university. Hon. Minster, Sir, I once again welcome you for bringing this Bill with such alacrity. Hon. Joshi Ji said a few things about 15-16 recommendations of the Standing Committee, I have also gone through them, these are not very substantive. But I would say that regarding two or three recommendations, you have commented that in the ensuring Act, you will take care of them and I would request you to surely do so. I would also urge you to consider our views in the coming three-four Bills likely to be brought by you. Last time, when you brought the Right to education Bill or other Bills, we got less time to present our views because we were struggling with other issues in the Parliament. Many Members of Parliament could not put across their view points but you raised our confidence by saying that you would like to discuss it at length. But my only request to you is that if you feel that we are not getting enough time to discuss it, then Call the Members of Parliament at some other forum to have our views so that we can express the views of those parents who have sent us to the Parliament. May be the suggestions emerging can make your laws and the system more better. With these words, I thank you.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I express my gratitude to you for giving me the opportunity to speak on Education Tribunal, 2010. Hon. Human Resource Development Minister has brought this Bill before us and I was attentively listening to the Hon. Joshi Ji who has been the Physics Professor in Allahabad University and our guru also and I agree with his many points. He is highly experienced also. Now the Allahabad University enjoys the Central Status and being experienced as the Head of Department he mentioned those points.

19.27 hrs.

[DR. M. THAMBIDURAI *in the Chair*]

The aim of this Bill is to ensure quick disposal of matters related to private institutions and particularly those related to education.

The bills relate to prohibition of unfair practices in Technical, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities compulsory recognition, National Accredital Authority and Educational Tribunals constituted for speedy disposal of the increasing number of court cases being fought between higher educational and institutions, students and teachers, staff and management. This would be a national level tribunal. As regards the points raised about the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee, I also feel that this Bill has been presented in haste and there are doubts about the extent to which it would prove to be effective. I pray to god that this tribunal succeeds. Indisputably, there is a huge overload of court cases and this bill has been brought to address the problem of the wastage of money in long running and long pending court cases. I would like a provision of time bound disposal of cases by the said tribunal to be included in the bill.

Students have also been included in the ambit of the said bill. The tribunal is empowered to deal with issues ranging from admission to examination process and the manner in which a student is enabled to cover missed semesters so that a year is not wasted. There is also the provision of appeal in High courts in case the tribunal is unable to reach a final decision in a case. I would like to draw your attention towards the Allahabad University which is a Central University. A number of our respected Members have raised the demand during the zero hour that elections to the Students Union be held. There are a number of disputes. As Dr. Joshi was saying that disputes occur when there is a majority of persons belonging to a single party and having the same ideology since they have monopoly. Some disputes have been caused by Vice Chancellors. In the post disputes were resolved by the Students Union in universities speedily. A number of university disputes have gone to court because Students Unions have not been elected. In particular, I would like to draw your attention towards the Yashpal Committee report which advocates that the said elections should be held and this would also fulfil the demand of the students. As far as University Grants Commission is concerned, I think that it has not been able to reach any agreement with the government. The report of the UGC says that 22.5 percent posts would be reserved for SCs and STs whether the post is for lecturer, professor or visiting faculty. A number of similar disputes are present in Allahabad University also. My friend had said a few days ago that reservation backlog still exists in Delhi University. As far as Allahabad

University is concerned 112 posts are vacant as on date. 71 posts of SC and 41 post of ST are vacant which have to be filled as per UGC guidelines. A two member UGC team had visited Allahabad and made recommendations which have not been implemented till date. The teachers and students of the university are very angry. I would like the hon. Minister to give serious consideration to this issue.

Secondly, UGC has talked of implementing the reservation policy in Section 6(a). If this backlog is filled up then I think the shortage of teachers in the universities would be made up. This Bill also says that charging capitation fee is a crime. There is provision of punishment for levying capitation fee including fifty lakhs as penalty and three years of imprisonment. It is true that students are being heavily exploited. They are being charged donation whichever discipline they belong to—medical, technical or some other. Joshiji has questioned the provision regarding the constitution of the committee viz. one chairman and eight members with twenty years of experience. I think this will create a big problem. As per the information provided there are five thousand universities and 25000 colleges. There is a requirement of 800 more colleges. This is a big problem keeping in mind the population of the country. You have to take care of this huge responsibility.

I had many points to take up. However I would only like to say that the Bill should keep the interests of the students in mind. The Universities and Colleges should maintain high standards. Special attention should be paid to the issue of exploitation of students in the guise donation. I conclude by supporting this Bill.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: May I request the hon. Members to cooperate with the chair as only half-an-hour time is left for the Bill to be disposed of and there are 15 more Members to speak on the Bill. If you take five minutes each and be brief, it will be useful for every one of us. Moreover, there is Zero Hour also and about 30 Members are there to speak in the Zero Hour also.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, please take your seat. What I am saying is that, the BAC has decided to allot two hours for this Bill. If you want to take more

time, then it is a different issue. Out of these two hours, each party has been allotted time. This is what I am informing the Members. Then, 'Zero Hour' is also to be taken.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH (Hamirpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all please allow me to speak from here. I was allowed a seat in the back row and our leader was also sitting by my side. But I am feeling more comfortable here. There is no doubt that in the year 1986 the National Education Policy provided for Setting up of tribunals to facilitate disposal of disputes at the earliest. But the education policy and educational tribunal failed in the year 1992. I do regret that even after 24 years it has not become a reality. Therefore, I would like to thank our qualified Minister of Human Resource Development Department for introducing this Bill to fill the vacuum since 1986. It is a national as well as international demand that there should be a tribunal and there should be speedy disposal of disputes. It is a justified demand. Without going into the objectives of the Bill in detail. I would like to come to Chapter-2 and Chapter-3 of this Bill containing state level and national level provisions respectively. The Bill provides.

[English]

"Each State Educational Tribunal shall consist of a chairperson and two other members of which not less than one shall be a woman to be appointed by the appropriate".

[Translation]

There will be three Members of state level out of which there will be one woman and two other persons. It is difficult to understand that at the State Educational Tribunal mention of a lady Member has been made but not so at the national level. You may see in Chapter-3 because a comparison of the two provisions is essential.

[English]

"The National Educational Tribunal shall consist of eight members. Two shall be Judicial members, three shall be Academic members, three shall be Administrative Members."

[Translation]

If a woman is competent at state level, why a woman is considered incompetent at national level? If it is a conscious omission then I do object to it. Now-a-days when everyday there is a discussion in the Parliament on 30 percent, 40 percent and 50 percent reservation for women in Panchayat, what is the reason for not providing for a woman Member at national level? It is a matter of disrespect towards the women. You must look into this provision otherwise it is going to cause a problem. At the same time I would like to mention another fact. Now, I take up sub-clause-2 of section 6. I would mention to very quickly it provides.

[English]

“A person shall be qualified to be appointed as a member is not less than fifty years of age.”

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: If the hon. Member looks at Clause 21 (3), it says that “not less than one-third of the total numbers appointed under sub-section (1) shall be women.”

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: It should be clear in the appointment section itself.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: It is there.

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: I have seen that Section. I will come to that.

[Translation]

Presently I want to speak about delay. It should be clear. It should not be directly and mandatory.

[English]

It is written very clearly in the Bill and I quote. “Each State Educational Tribunal shall consist of a Chairperson and two other members, of which not less one shall be a woman, to be appointed by the appropriate government.”

[Translation]

The same line should have been here also.

[English]

Eight will be there and out of eight, one should be the woman. I will come to that. I will place that Section 21. I am grateful to the hon. Minister, if it is so.
...(Interruptions)

Now, I come to the second point. The hon. Minister has mentioned, not less than fifty-five years of age.

[Translation]

Look at the aging system. For Members the age has been fixed as 55 years to accommodate High Court Judges, Additional Secretaries and Joint Secretaries of the Government of India. These people will get accommodated but the main aim of getting the work done quickly will not be fulfilled. I have seen as lawyer that when Central Administrative Tribunal was set up, the officers of Additional Secretary and Joint Secretary Level were appointed. The Secretary of Railway Board could not understand as to what is delegated legislation of adverse entry? He asked for written argument and even then made a mess of the case. The result is that the litigant public loses faith in these tribunals. I am giving you another option. It is a good thing that education is expanding. The government should set up a National Educational Service on the lines of India Administrative Service to select the best available talent. Younger persons can also be selected for this job. If a person aged 42 years could be appointed Prime Minister in Britain.

[English]

Who has just been blessed with a daughter.

[Translation]

Even in our country a person aged 39 or 40 years could be appointed Prime Minister, then if you fix the minimum age limit as 55 years to be a member of the tribunal, when he will be on the verge of retirement and his judgement will be blunted. I have seen that when you appoint a High Court judge for three years, he is only interested for his pension and comfort.

[English]

He is busy in getting the grand children's marriage, etc. finalized, not in the dispensation of justice.

[Translation]

I tell you that eight years have passed since the constitution of CAT in Allahabad, which deals with the matters of central services. Duration of pendency in eleven years there. Judgements are not being delivered as judges use to come to the court at eleven o'clock and the court is adjourned at two o'clock. People have

lost faith in the CAT. You know that the Supreme Court has passed two judgements due to which the situation has been streamlined through judicial review system. I want this tribunal to be a model one. I know Mr. Sibal for around 20-25 years and I don't have any doubt about his competency and his intentions are very clear. ...*(Interruptions)*. Lawyers know each other. In my opinion if an honest and competent person is appointed there, he would attain expertise at the age of 30 years. When a 65-year-old bureaucrat understand all this, he retires from service. Similarly, his judgement become blunted. He would be able to deal with the matter in respect of age relaxation, rustication cancellation but he won't be competent enough to deal with the dispute in university, inter-se seniority and disciplinary matters. Each case has to be put before the High Court and the Supreme Court. In this way a new forum came to force. Judicial review is always possible despite the ruling or judgement of the High Court. There is possibility of judicial review through SLP in state High Courts and the Supreme Court under article 226 of the constitution despite the final verdict. If such option is not available, then two things can't go together in NPR or CAT.

But I am saying that the said system has failed. I would like to tell you that only Income Tax Tribunal is functioning properly. But other tribunals be it MRTP or Sick Industrial Undertaking there are not functioning properly.

In the end I would like to submit an important point that there is major involvement of bureaucracy in Central Administrative Tribunal. As it is stated in Clause-21 in respect of National Educational Tribunals-

[English]

"Two shall be judicial members, two shall be academic members and three shall be administrative members."

[Translation]

If you appoint any Secretary or the Secretary in the Ministry of Finance as an administrative member, he has never dealt with the matters relating to the education sector. Such persons qualify for the IAS and hence become officers. But when these officers are appointed to the National Educational Tribunal, they are interested in their own comfort only. They will travel to places and plan for their future as to where they settle down after

retirement etc. Therefore, the Government should consider academic importance in the composition of the said tribunal. Otherwise, what is happening, 48 bureaucrats are being appointed to CAT after retirement. Recently, a senior Income Tax Commissioner has been appointed to CAT after retirement but he is unaware of the service laws.

In the end, I would like to submit that you are going to constitute said tribunal, which is a welcome step, but you have barred the civil court. I would like to submit that this sole tribunal would not be sufficient to cater to all requirements. There are around five thousand colleges in Uttar Pradesh and a single tribunal could not cope with it. Hence you should either increase the number of such tribunal or appoint District Judge with expertise to this tribunal and it would be mere beneficial if you induct district judges in place of administrative member.

With this I extend my thanks to you and wish you all the best.

[English]

He is trying to have a tightrope walking. I wish him all the best.

[Translation]

SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Bill is the need of the hour and I feel it is a well drafted too. It is alright that this Bill has been introduced after a long time in the light of Education policy of 1986. However, this is also true that the Constitutional amendment regarding Right to Education was brought in the year 1986, so far as I remember and since the present Bill could not be introduced, therefore, the constitutional amendment regarding making Right to Education a Fundamental Right could not come into effect. So this Bill is a revolutionary step. Prior to it, the Tandon Committee report on deemed universities was an eye opener. Tandon Committee examined the deficiencies of 44 deemed universities. It was a welcome step. I was listening to the hon. Minister. Education comes under Concurrent list. I would like to know two things from the hon. Minister when he introduces the Bill. He should throw light on these things, since education is in the Concurrent list. How many states he consulted and sought their opinion in regard to the proposed

constitution of bilateral tribunal at National and State level. He has not said anything about it. He has not accepted the recommendations of the Standing Committee.

Secondly, how many cases are pending at national level. When he said that there are 25,900 colleges and approximately five thousand universities, he would also be knowing that how many cases involving students, management, teachers and educational institutions in universities at national level are pending? He has cited the objects and reasons. It has further been stated that there are five components due to which cases and disputes arise.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister that during his reply he should throw light that how many States he consulted and what were their opinion and how many cases are pending so far? Shri Vijay Bahadur ji has rightly stated that the Committee is constituted to look into large number of cases arising at State level. I would like to apprise the august House that some colleges of fourth phase were recognized in Bihar in 1986 and that matter has not been resolved as on date. This case was first sent to the Supreme Court, which constituted a Special Bench. The Bench gave its decision in a sitting in Samrat Hotel. The case was sent back to the University. When the University after scrutiny did not agree adding several reasons the students moved the High Court. At times the teachers are absorbed and the non-teaching staff is jettisoned, at times non-teaching staff is absorbed and the teaching staff is shunted. Such cases are pending till date. There are a plethora of cases at the state level. Regarding representation of women it was stated that each state Educational Tribunal shall consist of a Chairman and two other Members, of which one would be woman and it should be in proportion to the composition. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that till now what had been the stance of the Government towards the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes and now why these three categories are not eligible? The minimum age limit to become member is 65 years and the maximum is 70 years. 15 years scholarship would be given by the Members one of whom shall be a retired IAS officer or retired Supreme Court or High Court judge. So, the composition would be of their own men. If there are no judges belonging to the scheduled castes or other backward classes then there are at least IAS officers. If there was no eligible

candidate from backward classes then there should have been some provision for the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes category. If the recommendations of the Mandal Commission have been accepted then there should have been some provision for OBC candidates, which has not been done. When you have accepted that in future there would be problems and as far as the proposal of constituting three state tribunals at state level, the membership will have to be increased in view of the number of cases. And although inclusion of a woman member is a welcome step, yet provision should have been made to include a Member belonging to the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes category if the Membership is proposed to be increased. I think very high of the hon'ble Minister that as Minister of Education he has taken a good measure. However, justice has not been dispensed to the weaker section of the society and they are deprived of justice. It is alright that the Bill does not cover agriculture, medical not even research institute. This is also right that you want to bring quality in higher education and this Bill is extremely necessary to bring quality. This Bill would resolve many a problem and as far as capitation fee is concerned, the double bench of the Supreme Court can reverse the decision of the single bench and the capitation fee continues. So, I would request you to bring the Agriculture and Medical departments within the ambit of this Bill.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, with these words I thank the hon'ble Minister for bringing this Bill, which is a revolutionary step since the tribunal would facilitate us to march forward. I support this Bill to do away with the litigation involved and the deterioration of quality in the education sector.

[English]

SHRIMATI J. HELEN DAVIDSON (Kanyakumari): Respected Chairman, Sir, I express my thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Educational Tribunals Bill, 2010. This is a very important Bill for discussion keeping in view the rapid increase of educational disputes in the country.

The National Policy on Education states that Educational Tribunals would be established at the national and State level. Taking into account the rapid growth in the higher education sector, which has resulted in increasing litigations involving students, teachers, employees, managements of higher educational

institutions, universities and others, there is an urgent need to set up Educational Tribunals. There is an urgent need to provide for mechanism for speedy resolution of their disputes to maintain and improve the quality and efficient functioning of institutes of higher education.

Sir, supporting the Bill, I would like to say that the goals of expansion in higher education, to effectively compete with other countries, can be achieved only if the regulatory regime and dispute-settlement process engender credibility assurance.

It is rightly proposed to establish a two-tier structure of Educational Tribunals at national and State levels to adjudicate on the entire gamut of disputes that arise in the higher education system through a fast track, speedy justice delivery.

Clause 16 empowers the appropriate Government to prescribe the manner, the form, the documents required and the fees to be paid in making an application before the State Educational Tribunal for adjudication of any grievance. I urge the Government that the procedure should be simple and should be operated from a single window as far as the processing part of the grievance is concerned.

Clause 17 of the Educational Tribunal Bill provides that the State Educational Tribunal shall not admit an application for adjudication in disputes under sub-clause (a) of Clause 15 relating to service matters of any teacher or any other employee of a higher educational institution unless it is satisfied that the applicant had availed of all the remedies available under the relevant service rules for redressal of grievances or settlement of disputes.

In Clause 18, in the sub-clause (2), there is a good point which provides that the State Educational Tribunal may admit an application after the specified period of six months if the applicant satisfies the Tribunal that he had sufficient cause for not making the application within this period.

With these words, I conclude, and I support the Bill.

SHRI P.K. BIJU (Alathur): Thank you Mr. Chairman, Sir. Education is a tool to measure the progress of a society. This is the reason why the Indian society encourages education. But, mushrooming of the new self-

financing education and the corporate education will curb educational progress in our country. But the Central Government is not ready to accept the situation and is not ready to take any serious measures to strengthen our own education.

Under such a situation, the Central Government has come up with a solution of setting up a tribunal to resolve the complaints revolving round the education sector especially to adjudicate disputes involving teachers, students and statutory regulatory authorities as well as the unfair practices of higher educational institutions. This we welcome. However, the clauses in the Bill have not rendered a solution to solve the disputes between students, teachers, management, educational institutions, and State and Central Government.

In clauses 5, 6, 21 and 22 of the Bill related to the composition of education tribunal, there is violation of the 2010 Supreme Court judgement which states that whenever any two-member or larger benches of tribunal are constituted, the number of technical members should not exceed the number of judicial members. Here in this Bill, the proposed National Tribunal shall consist of two judicial, three academic and three administrative members and the State Education Tribunal shall be chaired by a judicial member and shall have two members, one of whom is required to have the experience of a vice-chancellor and the other is required to be or have been a Chief Secretary in the State Government. How will the Ministry of Human Resource Development take this into account?

2.00 hrs.

In clause 12 (1) and (2), that is, at the State Tribunal level; in case the chairperson resigns or dies, the senior most member of the Tribunal shall act as the Chairperson till a new Chairperson is appointed and also if the Chairperson seat is vacant due to the absence or illness, there is a possibility to hearing a case with non-judicial member. How can this problem be resolved?

Clauses 6(2)(a), 22(2)(a) and 3(a) related to the minimum age requirement for tribunal members, requires members of the national and State Tribunals to be at least 55 years old. This is higher than the minimum age required for other higher officials. The 2010 Supreme Court judgment states that if the tribunals are to function

efficiently and effectively, they should be able to attract younger members who will have a reasonable period of service. This Bill does not mention any data with regard to the number of matters related to the higher educational sector pending in courts at various levels, the time spent in litigating the process and the cost involved in processing the litigation. Presently a number of complaints have accumulated in various courts.

Various countries have mechanisms to settle disputes among the stake holders in the higher education. In the USA, both private and public Universities have internal grievances settlement mechanisms for students and staff. In the UK, Higher Education Act, 2004 states that student complaints may be reviewed by a body corporate to be designated by the Secretary of State and the National Assembly for Wales. Each higher education institution has a formal procedure for addressing the complaints of students. In Australia, students can use the internal grievance redressal procedures in the first instance and after may contact the relevant commonwealth, State or territory ombudsman or the Government Accreditation Authority. In Sweden, the Higher Education Act was enacted in 1996 and modified in 2006. In all these countries, if there is a problem in the primary level adjudication, there is an alternative of approaching higher level. Does the Central Government have any mechanisms to solve any grievances in the Indian higher education sector?

The HRD Standing Committee submitted its 225th Report on the Educational Tribunal Bill 2010 on Aug 20, 2010. The Standing Committee pointed out that since the number of educational institutions varies from State to State, one Educational Tribunal per State cannot be made uniformly applicable. Gujarat and Odisha have followed a system of Education Tribunal. Has the Ministry of Human Resource Development looked into how the Tribunal in these States has worked so far, whether they were successful or not and how will the introduction of this bill affect the existing tribunal system there? Are there any measures taken to identify the lacunae in the existing tribunal systems in Gujarat and Odisha?

The Standing Committee also recommended that the term "unfair practice" be defined in the Bill. Has the Bill looked into this matter as students across the country face several injustices and this should have been elaborated in the Bill? The Standing Committee has

noted that the word 'student' be included in the main body. How has the Ministry of Human Resource Development looked into this matter? At the same time are there any separate mechanisms devised to ensure justice in case of public and private institutions? How has the Ministry of Human Resource Development responded to the suggestion of SC/ST representatives in the Tribunals?

Education is under the Concurrent List. Has the Ministry of Human Resource Development asked for the opinion of the State Governments/UT regarding introduction of the Tribunal System? The Committee observes that only the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Kerala and Himachal Pradesh, that is, a very few states have formally supported the Bill. Hence what will be impact of this Bill on the rest of the States?

The Bill suggests a two-tier system. In 2002, in the TMA Pai judgment, the Hon'ble Supreme Court suggested a three-tier education tribunal system. Why is the Bill restricted to two-tier system when a three tier system that also includes district level tribunal is also more efficient in tackling issues swiftly? Who will bear the expenses of the Tribunal? Is it the State or the Central Government?

Hence, I would suggest that the Ministry of the Human Resource Development should consider the observations and recommendations of the Standing Committee before the finalization of the Tribunal Bill.

20.04 hrs.

SHRI MOHAN JENA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to express my views on this Bill.

At the outset I would like to congratulate our hon. Minister for piloting this Bill in Parliament.

Sir, education plays a vital role in shaping a society and a nation. We cannot dream a modern democratic society without proper education. To quote a famous personality "a nation takes birth from the classroom". Thus, the management of education and the way it is imparted to the students and solving of disputes relating to education says a lot about a nation's achievement.

Times have changed. Gone are the days when education was only confined to the elites of the society, doors of classrooms were closed to the Ekalavyas and the commoners were kept away from education. Now-a-days education has become a birth right of everybody.

At this juncture we must not forget the tremendous sacrifices made by our youth in the pre-Independence era. At the clarion call of Deshabandhu Shri Chittaranjan Das that "Education can wait but Swarajya cannot". Many students of the then India joined the Freedom Movement to achieve the goal of education and to make education an instrument for nation-building. Now is the time from self-introspection. How far have we succeeded? Only recently we passed the 'Right to Education' Bill which means education is yet to reach every nook and corner of the country even after 64 years of Independence. We have failed miserably in fulfilling our constitutional obligation of making each child educated between the age group of six to 14. The Right to Education Act attempts to make each child educated in the eyes of the law. However, against this backdrop, the initiative taken by hon. Minister, Shri Kapil Sibal-ji is praiseworthy.

Our Minister is striving hard to bring the disorderly educational system into order. Due to this laudable efforts of our Minister, the four Bills, namely, 1) Prohibition of unfair practices in Technical, Medical Educational Institutions and Universities Bill; 2) Educational Tribunal Bill; 3) The National Accreditation Authority for Higher Educational Institutions Bill; and 4) The Foreign Educational Institutions (Regulation of Entry and Operation) Bill have come to the floor of the Parliament.

These four legislations will act as landmarks in the arena of education and tame the wild horses in the field. In this context, I would like to present my views with regard to the Education Tribunal Bill.

It is pertinent to mention here that the National Policy on Education 1986 inter-alia, states that 'Educational Tribunals would be established at the national and State level.' Further the programme of Action-1992 of the National Policy on Education also states that 'Educational Tribunals would be set up considering large volume of legal disputes generated in the education system.' Now we are going to fulfill that long pending requirements.

I would like to give my support to the very Objects and Reasons of the Bill but with some amendments and changes.

Sir, Clause 21 provides the composition of NET. There are some norms in sub-clause 2 a, b and c regarding who will be members of the NET. Apart from Chairperson, eight members of NET will be nominated from judicial, academic and administrative sector. But my point of difference is this. Is this sector free from social division? Is this so-called sector is cent per cent socially inclusive? So, we should provide the legal mechanism to accommodate the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, Backwards, Minority and women in apex body of the NET. Accordingly, Section 5 and 6 of this Bill which provide State Educational Tribunals should be amended.

Sir, Clause 21(6) provides another point to re-think. According to proposed Bill the headquarters of NET shall be in New Delhi. So, the apex committee of National Education Tribunal shall function from New Delhi. In this context, I would like to suggest and I think it will be better keeping in mind the federal structure of our country, that it will be better to provide four to five Regional Benches of NET in different parts of the country. For example, an aggrieved employee of Tamil Nadu or Jammu or Jalpaiguri of West Bengal or Koraput of Odisha have to take tremendous financial burden to come to New Delhi to appear or appeal before the apex body of NET.

MR. CHAIRMAN (DR. M. THAMBIDURAI): Please conclude now.

SHRI MOHAN JENA: Sir, I am concluding. Please give me some time. I am the only speaker from my party.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Each party has only one speaker.

SHRI MOHAN JENA (Jaipur): So keeping this aspects in view, it should be decentralized.

Clause 24, Sub-clause 8(1) provides that the Chairman and the members of National Educational Tribunal and State Educational Tribunal respectively shall not hold office as such after he has attained the age of 70 years. So, on behalf of our party I would like to suggest that the age limit in both State and National Tribunal should be 60 or 65.

Clause 15, (a) to (d) and Clause 31(1) from (a) to (e) narrate jurisdiction, powers and authority of State Educational Tribunal and National Educational Tribunal very clearly. Both the clauses are very, very important sections of this Bill.

Sir, I would like to draw the kind attention of the hon. Minister to Tandon Committee Report about the grey areas of deemed universities. Many deemed universities and private educational institution of our country have become business centres to extract money from students.

MR. CHAIRMAN (DR. M. THAMBIDURAI): Please wind up.

SHRI MOHAN JENA: They have reduced themselves from the citadel of learning to citadel of corruption. They are selling certificates, degrees and Ph.Ds like shops. The Tandon Committee constituted by the HRD Ministry to investigate the deemed university scam has found that out of the 130 deemed universities, 44 had abysmal academic and physical infrastructure and they mainly belong to family groups. On the recommendation of the Tandon Committee Report, the HRD Ministry derecognized 44 deemed universities. The case of the derecognized deemed universities having two lakh students on their rolls, is with the Supreme Court.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up. Next is Dr. Sanjeev Naik.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: If the hon. Member permits me, there is no derecognition of any university so far. We have not even issued them show cause notices.

SHRI MOHAN JENA: It has appeared in the newspaper.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: I am only informing you that there is no derecognition. The Report of the Tandon Committee has, in principle, been agreed to by us and we have placed that before the Supreme Court. We have not even issued any show cause notice. So, we will abide by the decision of the Supreme Court in that regard. So, factually I just want to point out that there is no derecognition.

SHRI MOHAN JENA: Thank you, Sir.

As per the newspaper report, the Medical Council of India has also a dubious record for granting approval. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, you cannot speak. That is over. Now, Dr. Sanjeev Naik.

SHRI MOHAN JENA: Sir, please give me one minute.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Sir, I am on a point of order. There is no quorum.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has said there is no quorum. We are ringing the bell. The bell is being rung.

Now, there is quorum. Dr. Sanjeev Naik to speak.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (Cuttack): Sir, you give Shri Mohan Jena one minute to complete his speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is over. I have already called the next speaker. He has already taken 10 minutes.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Let him complete his speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, you complete your speech.

SHRI MOHAN JENA: As per the newspaper report, the Medical Council of India has also a dubious record for granting approval to different medical colleges.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, do not bring that here. That is not connected.

SHRI MOHAN JENA: Sir, please allow me at least to lay my points.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, that is not connected. It is not connected.

SHRI MOHAN JENA: Sir, with these words, I conclude my speech and I extend my whole-hearted support to the Bill.

[Translation]

DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK (Thane): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me

time to speak. I would also like to thank the government and the -hon. Minister that the quorum is complete and I thank all of you for this otherwise I would not have got an opportunity to speak. After so many years, after our population reached the 120 crore mark, this Bill has been introduced. I will also thank you for this.

[*English*]

You will always be the pioneer.

[*Translation*]

You will always remain here, the names of all will remain here. When I was in school, college then I was sad due to this, but I would like to thank you that this Bill is being introduced after my becoming a Member of Parliament. This was not the case at that time.

I would like to tell two things to the hon'ble Minister. He has said in this clause that the age should at least be 55 years. We all are young at present, we should also get experience in this. All of us, our Members have requested for this. They should pay heed in this regard. We shall request to make a provision of reservation in this and take any one-two Member so that they could at least get experience. If they remain close to this, they will get experience as to how they are implementing this.

Secondly, what they have said about capitation fee that legal action will be taken against them, I think, this is not sufficient. It should be increased a little bit otherwise many more people will face difficulty. This will be incorporated in the next Bill. In my view, this is a very important thing. This will figure in the next Bill, but it is necessary to provide it in this.

The third thing is that they think that tribunals will be of benefit and they will, but after that if any incident takes place and it warrants amendment then it should be amended immediately and it should not take 15-20 years so that the matter is resolved at the earliest. They have done this keeping in view the future. I would like to thank this government and all the members who have supported this Bill. This Bill is necessary for our children and children's children.

*SHRI K. SUGUMAR (Pollachi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this august House has now taken up for consideration the Educational Tribunals Bill, 2010 and I am thankful

to the Chair for giving me an opportunity to speak on this Bill on behalf of All India Anna Dravdia Munnetra Kazhagam.

Sir, this move by the Government is a welcome one. This Bill has been conceived to attend to the urgent need for speedy resolution of disputes involving the academic community in the higher education sector.

The fast paced growth in the higher education sector has given rise to establishment of various higher academic institutions. The disputes resulting in litigation involving higher education institutions and universities and their managements with students, teachers and employees are sought to be resolved by the establishment of this Tribunal by this piece of legislation. A speedy disposal of cases and early delivery of justice is intended and hence, this Bill for creating Tribunals both at State and Central level is welcome.

In the recent times, whenever we go through the newspapers we invariably find several clashes and clash of interests in the academic world especially in higher educational institutions and universities.

Teachers outraging the modesty of female students, wage disputes between teachers and the managements, caste clashes within the academic campus involving students, political interference causing problems in the educational institutions, clashes between the police force and students in the educational institutions, increased fee resulting in problems between educational institutions and the parents, problems arising out of permissions granted by certain authorities for educational institutions that may not have adequate infrastructural facilities, students uprising against the managements of higher education institutions for not providing adequate infrastructural facilities are the various problems that take the parties concerned to seek justice in any of the judicial forums.

Apart from this, the mandatory recognition to be given to run educational institutions has also led to litigations. As such, we do not have the mechanism to render justice in a speedy manner. Hence, this Bill seeks to establish educational tribunals. So, I would like to welcome the move to pilot this Bill and the efforts of our HRD Minister.

It is stated that State Tribunals will have 3-Members, one from the Judiciary, the other from the academic world, and the third from the Government at the level of

*English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil.

Chief Secretary. I would like to suggest that there can be at least 2 Judicial officials; and it can be expanded to be a 4-Member body so that a Judicial official will always be available for rendering justice. At the national level, a retired Chief Justice will be heading an 8-Member body consisting of 2 Members from the Judiciary. I wish non-IAS officials with suitable qualifications also must be considered for appointment in the Tribunal. I would also like to urge upon the Government to reduce the requirement of 20 years of experience to 10 years. I would like to believe that this would pave way for bridging the gap and arriving at early resolution of problems and disputes in running smoothly higher educational institutions.

The pronouncements of the Tribunals must be implemented immediately extending punishments to those who have been found to have violated the laws. It must be ensured that there is no delay and political interference. If there is anything coming in the way of implementing the pronouncements, an Appellate Authority may be in place to render justice. Only then, the public would be able to get justice from these Tribunals. Streamlining the functioning of higher educational institutions and overcoming the hurdles that come in the way of smooth functioning and ensuring quality education are the objectives of this Bill and hence I welcome this Bill.

[English]

SHRI BIBHU PRASAD TARAI (Jagatsinghpur): Mr. Chairman, first of all I congratulate and thank our hon. Minister because at a time of turning point in our country, this Bill has been introduced. I say it is a turning point in our country because when our Government is encouraging the setting up of private educational institutions here, so many universities have been established, and in the PPP mode of investment so many educational institutions are going to be established, it is a turning point and this Bill is required.

Coming to the composition of the National and State Tribunals, in regard to State Tribunals it has been stated that three members will be there. But the Law Commission in 1988 had recommended that the number of members should be increased to five. I suggest that two judicial members should be there. In the case of the National Tribunal, there are eight members excluding the Chairperson. I suggest that the Scheduled Caste,

Scheduled Tribe and women should be duly represented in those bodies. In the case of State Tribunals, uniformity should not be maintained because there are various States with different kinds of population. It must depend upon the State Government to decide how those Tribunals should be constituted and how many members should be there in the Tribunal. In the Bench of the National Tribunal, the number of technical members should not exceed the number of judicial members. Otherwise, it will be bureaucratized. If there are no judges, people cannot get proper justice.

The term 'unfair practice' which has been mentioned, should be clearly defined. The Bill should make provisions for students so that they can seek justice. You say that the Selection Committee should consist of the Chief Justice and Secretaries of Higher Education, Law and Justice, Medical Education, Personnel and Training. But academicians have not been included. So, academicians should be included in the Selection Committee.

Another point is relating to the age of members of the Tribunal. When a person of 25 years of age can become a Lok Sabha Member and a 35 year old person can become a Rajya Sabha Member, why not a Judge of a High Court who has ten years of experience of practicing, who has expertise, who has efficiency can become a member of this Tribunal? So, age bar should not be there. Expert and efficient persons should be made members of the National and State Tribunals.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the House has passed the Nalanda University Bill. The University Bill was introduced by the Department of External Affairs and at that time the hon'ble Minister for Education was a listener like us. The Department of External Affairs is setting up the University, if justice in the education sector is quick it will improve the standard of education etc. The hon'ble Minister has introduced the Bill in this regard. He has claimed that there are four Bills. It has also been claimed that in the Education Policy of 1986 there was a provision of setting up of a two-tier tribunal. It was also contained in the programme of the year 1992. As many as 26 years have passed since 1984, and 18 years have also passed since 1992. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister, during this span of 26 and 18 years, hon'ble

Joshiji also went through that period, whether there were any ifs and buts or what the reason for delay up to of 26 and 18 years bringing the National Education Policy was? Was there no consensus in the Ministry of anywhere else?

This was delayed, however, the Committee has expressed concerns that wider consultation were not undertaken. The hon'ble Minister has claimed that the number of Universities has reached more than five hundred. All stakeholders have not been consulted. The required wider consultations were not undertaken.

We have gone through the clause that when all the consensus exhaust then one can submit application in the tribunal. Till now decisions remain pending for up to 6 months, one year, two years. If people do not come to you how will they get justice and how will education improve? Controversies will remain and conflicts will continue. They have banned that only after exhausting all the channels, one can apply here. One will not be able to come to this tribunal, as it will be very difficult to exhaust all the channels. This aspect needs to be clarified.

There is a college in Delhi University. People talk about women empowerment. Women are holding all the higher and respectable posts in the country. All the women teachers complained against the Principal there, but no action was taken. No action was taken by the Vice Chancellor, and by the college Managing Committee. The Principal is so powerful. He will not allow the decisions to be taken, inquiry to be conducted and when the case does not come to the Tribunal, how they will teach and the system improve. We want clarification regarding this point. There should be such an arrangement that if the matter is delayed unnecessarily then it should come in the tribunal. I have gone through the clauses of this law. There is nothing like time bound. Suppose if one files a petition in the Tribunal and no hearing takes place for two years then he will go to the court or will continue to wait because there is the Tribunal. It has one more clause under which the State Government will make its own laws and the Government of India will make a separate law. The power to make laws rests with the State Government. The State Government will make laws and when you

implement them here you will reformulate these laws and rules. No tribunal will come forward for addressing the dispute between the states and the Centre. Where is the provision in this regard? Shri Mangani Lal Mandalji was saying that the time period mentioned in it is also not right. There are a number of obstacles in its way, because, first he will have to exhaust all the resources and when he will not get justice anywhere, then he will seek the same here. It will not get exhausted soon and remain there for five to ten years, then how will the people get benefited? The powerful and Brahmin people have captured the education system from top to the bottom. It is very difficult for the dalit, backward and tribal people to make way into that system at present. You have not made any provision regarding them in this Bill. They are not going to get any justice, even if you set up a tribunal. No one has paid attention in this regard. There can be a woman in the tribunal, but where is the scheduled castes' representation? There is no room for the backward castes in it. Why have not you made a provision regarding increase in the number of seats. The country has committed that the downtrodden will be given special opportunity. The section 16 (4), 15 (4) of the constitution have a separate provision for the socially, educationally, backward and scheduled castes. There is a separate provision for the reservation of scheduled tribes. Who will be included in the tribunal? I have an apprehension that all the bureaucrats and close people will be included and when they say that they will provide justice and bring reforms in education, then what reforms are going to take place actually? Therefore, let us first consider all these aspects, then, pass the bill.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The next speaker is Dr. K. S. Rao. Please be very brief.

DR. K.S. RAO (Eluru): Sir, with your permission, I am speaking from this place.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, go ahead, but please be brief.

DR. K.S. RAO (Eluru): Sir, I congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing this Bill. I have gone through the objects of the Bill, which are excellent. He has

categorically said that rapid growth in higher education sector has resulted in increased litigation also. His goal is to have speedy resolution of these disputes, and to maintain and to improve the quality and efficiency of the institutions. It is very good.

The number does not make anything unless the quality is there. So, his stress is also on quality. I have been telling for the last 25 years that no nation can prosper unless every citizen in the country is educated, more particularly, with quality education. We can conclude from this that the portfolio that he is holding today decides the career of the nation. No matter what is done elsewhere does not make any difference unless he gives right education to the countrymen. So, I wholeheartedly congratulate him for concentrating all his knowledge of being a lawyer and putting it into the human resource development.

I felt so glad and happy when the name of the Ministry of Education was changed to the Ministry of Human Resource Development. It is the most important thing in this country. Education is the key, more particularly, for the poor man. For thousand of years, they have been working right from morning to evening, but there is no change in their lifestyle. But once one child in the family of the poor was to be educated with quality education, then the style and standard of living automatically gets changed. This is what is required. All our ambition, desire and goal is to achieve this only. He is doing immense service to the nation. In this context, I just wish to bring some of the points, which I have in my mind, to tell him since quite a long time.

I am also happy that the Government of India has realized the importance of education. He has been making good allocation to the Ministry and substantial increase in the allocation in the budget for the Ministry of Human Resource Development. He has brought wonderful legislations here, and not just a couple of them. He has brought the Right to Education by which everybody realized that education has to be compulsorily provided, and now he is bringing tribunal for quality education; increasing the efficiency; and making justice available and curbing the malpractices or wrong type of education or disputes.

I am happy with his announcement that he is bringing some more Bills also like giving accreditation to the institutions. That is more important because then

people will be with each other to improve the quality of the institution. Unless that is there, donkey and horse will remain the same. This is required in every walk of life for that matter.

Similarly, his proposal for PPP is required because the number is increasing substantially. I understand that he is also bringing another Bill dealing with foreign education providers which is required now. He is also bringing a Bill for curbing malpractices in education. I know he is a very stubborn man, but the only thing is that while implementing it, there should not be any consideration. If some institution were to commit a mistake, or resort to a false or wrong way, mercilessly, they must be jailed without any consideration for them. If some of them were to be jailed, then no other institution will come forward and indulge in malpractices. But such instances are not there till today. If he were to make a beginning in the Human Resource Development Ministry, the other Ministries will also take clue from him and implement those things in their respective Ministries.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, by all his actions, the number of people going to be educated sooner will be in millions and millions by which the rate of unemployment also will go up. My humble request to him is the type of education which we are going to give should be not only quality education, but also must be vocational/skill education for improvement of skills. Today there is a shortage of skilled manpower in the country in every walk of life. For getting any small thing done, you do not get the right person. I want him to concentrate on vocational education and I request him to consider whether he can start giving vocational education right from eighth class depending upon the aptitude.

I did not come to the provisions of the Bill at all. I will just make two or three points. I have gone through the Bill. I just wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to clause 6. Out of two members referred in sub-section (1), one member shall be chosen from amongst the persons who have been Vice-Chancellors. Necessarily, a person must have been a Vice-Chancellor. Coming to the second member, you say, "the other member shall be chosen from amongst persons who is or has been Chief Secretary or an equivalent", but clause 2(b) says, "a person who is to be qualified as a member must have the ability, integrity and standing and has

adequate knowledge and experience of at least 20 years in dealing with matters relating to higher education, public affairs or administration in educational matters.” There is some contradiction in this. Basically, he made it very clear that no Bill that is brought before the House can be foolproof. I appreciate what he has said. At least, next time, an amendment should be brought to see that no contradiction is there in that.

The other thing is in regard to the Bench. I am happy because he says, “to see that justice is delivered fast, he also wants Benches to be started”. I am very happy. He also made a provision of one-third reservation for women. I am very happy. But in regard to Bench, he did not mention anything. Tomorrow, if he were to start two Benches, there will not be any women members in that. The emphasis that is given to women to make it one-third is not there in the Bench. I request the hon. Minister to see that, that provision is also made in regard to the members of the Bench.

Sir, this country is lacking in research and development. Today if America, Germany and Japan are advanced, it is only because of research and development. They are charging abnormal rates for research, and all those people who are doing research there are all our people. If you were to give some emphasis on research and development also, then we will be more excellent than many of the Western countries.

The last point is that there is an acute shortage of faculty in this country. Unless the faculty is good, there is no point in increasing the number of universities. Training of teachers is very important.

Unless the number of those people is increased, unless those people are of quality, the education will not be of quality. I would request the hon. Minister to think of starting more and more of teacher training institutes and also make it mandatory for some of those institutes to train some teachers without any extra burden on the Government. I would request him to emphasise on vocational education, teachers training, research and development, and to see that all the citizens acquire skills and do not depend on the Government so that they can be self-employed.

*SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR: Hon. Chairman Sir, we are today discussing the Educational Tribunal Bill 2010 which has the objective of setting up tribunals to deal with increasing number of litigations that crop up in higher education among the students, teachers and non-teaching staffs. The litigations have an adverse impact on quality education which is deteriorating day by day. By trying to set up tribunals, the Government of India is accepting the fact that there are rampant irregularities in the field of education. However, I am not undermining the need of such tribunals, rather I welcome this step. But if education is privatized, irregularities and malpractices will increase. Private campuses in the country will add to the problem. More and more litigations will come up as a fall out of corporatization of education. Therefore we need to resolve the cases through tribunals by giving impartial verdicts.

The jurisdictions of the National and the State Tribunals are similar. So in future, there can be disputes between the two authorities. Which body is going to settle the cases? This answer is yet to be given, otherwise problems might crop up.

We are talking of inviting foreign universities to open their campuses in India. If this happens, then the number of disputes among the students, faculties and staffs will multiply. Then which tribunal is to announce the final verdict? This Bill is silent on such issue of jurisdiction of the National and State Tribunals. The Yashpal Committee has elaborately analysed the ‘use of affordability’ concept. But the private institutions are charging high fees from their students. They do not follow any norm. Prof. Yashpal Says, “Since the norms of fixation of fees are vague, the quantum of fees charged has no rational basis”—the Bill mentions nothing about this aspect. Prof. Yashpal further says that “The state cannot walk away from its responsibility of financing higher education”. But it is crystal clear that the Government is shying away from setting up new universities. Thus privatization of the education sector has become the order of the day. Times are changing and in near future, by 2012, more than 2 lakh students will enroll themselves for higher studies. Therefore measures must be taken to accommodate such huge number of students. Since education is in the concurrent list, the State Government should also be consulted with

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

and taken into confidence. I am a member of the Standing Committee of HRD. Many of us have certain reservations about the provisions of the Bill. Therefore on the floor of this House, I tried to put forth my views for the consideration of the Government.

With these words, I thank you and conclude my speech.

[Translation]

DR. TARUN MANDAL (Jaynagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, when I look at this Bill separately, I don't find any danger in it. The Minister has himself said that this Bill has been brought to bring educational reforms in the country, inculcate cultural values and make a progress and the Foreign University Bill and NCHER Bills should also be seen in connection with this Bill. If we look from this perspective, then this Bill seems to be fraught with several dangers. This Bill is going to give rise to privatization and commercialization of education. It seems that the Government will not make a provision of education for the common people, but will collaborate to ruin the education system. In my opinion, this tribunal bill is there for checking the corruption and bad policies rampant in private colleges and universities.

I would like to say that the bill brought by the hon. Minister should have the provision of no fees for these students because 12 % students coming for higher education are from the BPL category and economically backward sections and they have to take loan for education because of the higher costs involved and thus go far away from education. The students of such categories going to Tribunals should not be charged any fees.

Look at the clause-49, which mentions overriding effect of the act. When this act will be implemented, it will rule the roost but in case of minority institutions, their laws will have the authority. There is a conflict 799 arising in both of them. You have to resolve this problem also. You have to do something for it.

Thirdly, the exclusiveness of this Tribunal Act should not be there because we have seen in the case of tribunal that so much of delay takes place that if some case is to be taken up urgently, even then timely decision does not take place and gets delayed. If you are going to make it exclusive and stop the avenues for going to Courts even then it cannot take place. This

tribunal should also have the stay right just as can be given by the Courts. You are very eminent and honest lawyer of our country, you know about it better than I, so the tribunal should have the power to decide in this regard.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Thank you very much. At the outset, I wish to thank Joshi ji and all the distinguished hon. Members of this House who have participated in this debate and to have supported this very historic legislation that has been moved today.

We always get enriched by the collective wisdom of the House. The hon. Members of the House are experienced, and therefore, when they place their views before the hon. Presiding Officer, we are truly enriched. And, I therefore, thank all the distinguished Members who have enriched the debate today and added value to this very important Bill.

Some very important issues have been raised but first of all, let me just deal with the doubts of the hon. Members about consultations. This Bill in fact when it was drafted, a copy of the Bill was sent to all the State Governments, all the concerned Secretaries in the State Governments. We awaited comments from them. Thereafter, meeting of all the concerned Secretaries of the State Governments was held in Delhi. Each of them gave their views; and in fact, after they gave their views, some of the amendments were made in the draft that was proposed, after taking their views. For example, the original concept was that we should have a three tier Tribunal - one at the district level, one at the State level and one at the National level. State Government said and the Secretary said, well, this is not really possible because it will involve a lot of expenditure because how do they set up Tribunal in each district and therefore, this will be an enormous financial burden on State Governments. Therefore, we changed that. We decided to have only two tier Tribunal—one at the State level and one at the Central level. Some of the State Governments formally supported in writing but many State Governments did not write to us. Therefore, they did not extend their formal support. But each of them was present in all these meetings. In fact, we have not yet received a negative reaction to the Bill from any State Governments.

Thereafter, the CAGE Committee came up. In the CAGE Committee again, the issue of this Bill was discussed. There was unanimous resolution. 19 Ministers were present of which 6-7 were Ministers of Elementary Education and the rest were of Higher Education. Again there was no objection from them. Then, the Standing Committee sent a notice. Thereafter, representations had also come. Again, there was nothing negative in the Standing Committee. Therefore, to suggest that there has been no consultation is a bit unfair.

Remember this—this was not my idea. It is way back in 1986, under the Education Policy, that this need was then perceived. Then in the 1992 Plan of Action, it was reiterated. Then, the 123rd Law Commission also made the same suggestion. Then, the TMA Pai Foundation in the Supreme Court made the same suggestion. So, it is the collective wisdom coming from different quarters which ultimately has resulted in this legislation. So, to say therefore, that after 24 years having been passed, we have not consulted anybody, would be a bit unfair. This is the first point that I wanted to make.

The second point is this—some hon. Members asked, what had been the experience? The Standing Committee itself suggests what has been happening around. I will read from page 2 of the Standing Committee's Report. It says:

“As per the limited information shared by the Department, 305 cases pertaining to 11 Central Universities were pending in high courts alone in the year 2009 which meant on an average 28 cases pending per university. At this rate, about 15,000 cases could be reasonably estimated to be pending in only the High Courts of the country, besides cases pending in other courts and the Supreme Court.”

This is the situation today when we have only 504 universities and around 26,000 colleges. Can you imagine what will happen when we have another 800 universities and another 35,000 colleges? So, I agree with the suggestions of the hon. Members, that maybe, one tribunal per State is not enough. I do not dispute it. I think, as we move forward and gain experience, in this particular formulation and in this legislation, we may well say that let the States have more than one tribunal, because some States like Uttar Pradesh are very large and Madhya Pradesh is very large; and maybe, the number of cases may be very large that we will require

to have more than one tribunal; and we are not against that idea.

But we are starting with one tribunal each. As and when we gain experience, we will move forward.

There was another question that was raised—what is the experience of existing tribunals? That also is reflected in the Standing Committee's report. At page 3, it says:

“Data was also collected by the Ministry about the extent of litigation in Education Tribunals of Odisha and Gujarat and the State Education Tribunal in Odisha has been functioning since the year 1974 under Section 24 (a) of the Odisha Education Act, 1969. It has jurisdiction over the following matters.”

Then, they talk about the Gujarat University and then, they conclude:

“The above Tribunals cover only a very limited aspect of litigation as can be seen. The proposed legislation envisages bringing under the purview of the Tribunal, litigations relating to all conceivable aspects of it, including that are entered into by private institutions, student-employees, and the respective managements, the number is going to be many times more than what obtains now.”

This is the finding of the Standing Committee. Most of these Tribunals, especially in Odisha, it is limited because it deals only with grants-in-aid related disputes. It does not deal with other disputes. So, we have the experience of the Tribunals.

Some hon. Members asked about the experience. I wanted to just point that out. Some service matters are also with that Tribunal. So, the point is that the Tribunals in the States are limited. There is going to be huge expansion in the education sector. There are going to be new stakeholders, new players; there is going to be public-private partnerships; there are going to be foreign institutions coming in. All those institutions will be dealt with under the same law.

For example, the Malpractices Act is going to be the next Act that will come before the Lok Sabha. So, all disputes relating to malpractices will go to that Tribunal. Malpractices against students will go to that

Tribunal. Capitation fee issues will go to the Tribunal. All disputes will go before that Tribunal. Advertisements issued by private institutions which do not conform to the reality of imparting education—this is a ground for malpractice—this will go to the Tribunal.

In fact, the next Bill will tell you the expanse of the jurisdiction of these Tribunals, because these Tribunals will not define malpractice. It is that Act that would define malpractice. All malpractice disputes will come here.

Then these will be the foreign education providers. If foreign education providers indulge in a malpractice, their disputes also come here. They are not immune from the jurisdiction of these Tribunals. Disputes between foreign education providers and our institutions; and disputes between regulators and foreign education providers also will have to be dealt with by these Tribunals. Then the accreditation by the regulator authority to an institution and if a dispute arises, where does it go? It would go to the Tribunal. So, this is the main legislation which covers all the other sister legislations because it is the encompassing legislation which would deal with all the disputes under various legislations that are going to come to this House which is why it is important to get this Bill passed today. It is because this is the all encompassing Bill for resolution of disputes. I wanted to place this Bill before the hon. Members of this House first.

The other main issue that has been raised is the big problem about appointing people after 55. If the people themselves are tired or retired, how will we get effective justice is the point that the hon. Members have made. Now this is a very important issue. I want to share some thoughts and I would like you to comment on it on another point in time. How do you get a person at the age of 35 in a Tribunal where the term of the Tribunal is five years? If he is an advocate, he would not join as member of the Tribunal. Why will he leave his prosperous practice to join a Tribunal at the age of 35 and be there for five years? What will he do after that? Will he retire at 40? So people midstream their career are not going to join the Tribunal. You will not get people. A person who is a teacher is not going to join a Tribunal. If he is doing a research, will he join a Tribunal? He has no interest in adjudication. Therefore, it is very difficult to get young people midstream of their career to join a Tribunal which has a term of only five years. Then what happens? Then what you need to do

is move up the ladder and we say all right who is the person; who will have an interest in this and who will like to retain the job and you will realise that only people at 55 would do that. This is a very important debate because we do want young people but where do you get young people? How do you get young people? Is an engineer who knows about education going to join a Tribunal?

[Translation]

SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: You have said that if we keep the age limit of 35 years, then there will be five-year term after which he will retire at 40. But you have kept the minimum age at 65 years and 70 years as the maximum age. There is a gap of 15 years in it. Are you assuming that they should work up to 70 years?

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: No, I am not saying that. You have raised a very good issue. I am trying to tell you that it will have practical problems. I am not saying that what you are saying is wrong. Only experience tells as to what is right or wrong and the experience so far has told that if you expect any young person to come midcourse, it will not happen. The second good issue raised by you is that in the three-member Tribunal in the States – one is a judicial member, one is an administration member and one is an academic member. If the judicial member is not there, what happens? You are right and I think this is an issue which we have to deal with. But that is going to happen rarely. Somebody passes away suddenly, then that situation will arise. Of course, the doctrine of necessity is always there. Somebody suddenly falls very seriously ill. But if we expand the State Tribunals as we intend to do in a year's time, this problem also will not arise. We will deal with these problems because these are very important issue. I agree with the hon. Members of this House that these have to be dealt with.

As far as jurisdiction of Tribunals is concerned, those jurisdictions have already been defined in Clause 15 and Clause 31 of the Act and those jurisdictions are separate. There is no confusion in the jurisdiction. Jurisdiction under Clause 15 of the State Tribunals is different from jurisdiction under Clause 31 of the National Tribunal. Therefore, there is no possibility of any confusion.

[Translation]

Raghuvansh Prasad ji raised a good point as to why it has not happened from the year 1987 till now, Murli Manohar Joshi ji is sitting here. Only he can reply to it. ...*(interruptions)* I cannot reply to this point.

21.00 hrs.

Today, I can only say that everybody has understood that time has come to start a new era. We should get together to make this happen. If a controversy comes up in the context of education, then the loss is of the students. We should not put the students to-loss. We have to make their future, not ruin it. This is our resolve, so, we have made an effort to bring this Bill. I accept that it will undergo a change in the coming times. We would like it to happen because the circumstances will change and new players, people, and stakeholders will come. New situations will emerge before us and we will bring about a change. When the Constitution of India was formed, nobody had thought that 120-130 amendments will be made.

[English]

Any document, any legislation, any Constitution is a live document. It cannot be a dead document. If it is permanent, it is a dead document. Why? It is because it does not deal with changing circumstances. Law must change with circumstances. A static law can never be an effective law.

Let us move on. Let us start. Let us take this historic step and when it requires change we shall change with your consent and with your support.

MR. CHAIRMAN (DR. M. THAMBIDURI): The question is:

“That the Bill to provide for the establishment of Educational Tribunals for effective and expeditious adjudication of disputes involving teachers and other employees of higher educational institutions and other stakeholders (including students, universities, institutions and statutory regulatory authorities), and to adjudicate penalties for indulging in unfair practices in higher education and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 55

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

“Clauses 2 to 55 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 55 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I beg to move:

“That the Bill be passed.”

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

“That the Bill be passed.”

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI HARSH VARDHAN (Maharajganj, U.P): Mr. Chairman Sir, the concept of responsibility and accountability in public life is being eroded away as a result of which corruption has been growing rapidly in the country. Today the schemes ranging from to development sector to security are mired in corruption in the country. In fact the corruption has become a serious national problem. A very small number of cases relating to corruption prevailing in the society are investigated. After investigation the investigating agencies seek permission for prosecution. As per the information available with me more than 50 cases relating to the said permissions sought in the years 2007, 2008 and 2009 are still lying pending. As a result prosecution proceedings have not been initiated against at least more than 100 public servants. This situation is a very serious. In such a situation the corrupt persons are let of the hook for the time being. The Central Vigilance Commission has issued directives to ensure that the cases of seeking permission for prosecution are decided

within a period of three months. But it is not being implemented and the said cases have been lying pending for three years which is leading to rise in corruption. It is denting the Government's intention of providing transparent and good governance. In such, situation unjustified delay in the cases relating to permission for prosecution of public servants is affecting the transparency of good Governance of the Government. I appeal to the Government to decide urgently instead of delaying, all the cases of investigating agencies seeking permission for prosecution of the corrupt public servants so as to check corruption effectively.

SHRI K.D. DESHMUKH (Balaghat): Mr. Chairman Sir, chemical fertilizers are not being supplied as per demand in entire Madhya Pradesh at present due to which the farmers are very much agitated. Balaghat and Seoni districts in Madhya Pradesh are paddy-producing districts. Paddy is grown on large scale in these districts. Chemical fertilizers are very much required for growing paddy. The farmers are distressed on account of non-availability of sufficient quantity of fertilizers, Urea and DAP in these districts. The farmers are distressed because shortage of fertilizers is likely to affect the yield of paddy adversely. 5000 metric tones of Urea and 5000 metric tones of DAP are urgently required in both these districts at present.

Therefore, I would like to request the Government to address the problem of the farmers by supplying the chemical fertilizers in these two districts otherwise the farmers will be ruined. As a result of shortage of fertilizers spurious fertilizers have flooded the market and the farmers are being looted. So, the sale of substandard quality fertilizers should be checked.

[English]

SHRI A. SAMPATH (Attingal): Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to invite the attention of this august House regarding the sad plight of the Indian migrant workers in the Gulf countries of the Middle East.

More than five million people are working there out of which more than half are from my State, Kerala. Majority of the people working in the Gulf countries are doing very hard work and they are engaged in low paid jobs. They are living in labour camps which lack adequate sanitation facilities, drinking water, etc.

Now, the health problems there are increasing. They lack recreational facilities. Due to global recession, majority of the Indian migrant workers in the labour camps have not been paid their salary for the last many months. Those who have left their jobs are not paid their compensation. We are having the problem of getting back even their dead bodies which have to be transported back to their native places. It is becoming very difficult. Many countries in the world including China, Phillipines, Indonesia, etc. are now utilising the services of their Missions to constantly have a vigil checking up the labour camps and get in touch with the Labour Department of the various Gulf countries.

So, I would like to invite the attention of the Government of India through you, Sir, to utilize the good services of our Indian Embassies and Missions abroad to regularly check up the situation in the labour camps. We should also utilize the services of the Joint Parliamentary Committee to visit the various Gulf countries and enquire the details of the living conditions of the poor Indian migrant workers.

Even though we have come to the end of the day, I am saying this because as per the report of the Government of India itself, during the last year, the Indian migrant workers from these Gulf countries have made remittances for more than Rs. 30,000 crore. When it comes to the remittances of the Indian migrant workers, we are happy but when it comes to the remedy of the problems faced by them, we are not at all lending our ears and give a patient hearing to their problems.

So, my humble submission is that, we have eyes but we do not see and when we have ears, we do not hear. I request through you the Government of India to rectify these problems.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri P.K. Biju may be allowed to associate with Shri Sampath on this issue.

[Translation]

DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY (Shrawasti): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to raise this issue of urgent public importance during the Zero Hour. I would like to draw the attention of the House as well as the Government, through you, to that Article Constitution of India which especially provided for reservation for the persons

belonging to the dalit, weak and backward communities so as to facilitate their participation in formation of egalitarian society. Hon. Rajiv Gandhi Ji had had also provided for formation of egalitarian society so as to cover them under Bharat Nirman Yojana by implementing reservation for the women and the persons belonging to the dalit, backward, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes even in the three tier panchayat elections. However through you I would like to draw the attention of the august House to those nomadic tribes, homeless and landless tribes like Shikari, Chidimar, Banjara, Chamarmangta and Dandi tribes which are not Scheduled Tribe till date. They are not being represented due to negligence of the State Governments. It is a very important issue. These castes should be included in the list of Scheduled Castes so as to give them an opportunity of representation and form an egalitarian society in the entire country.

[English]

SHRI R. DHYUVANARAYANA (Chamrajanagar): Mr. Chairman, thank you. I would like to draw the attention of the Government and the House, through you, to a very important issue concerning beggars. There is a mysterious death of 120 beggars in Bengaluru city recently due to lack of proper facilities in the Beggars Rehabilitation Centre there. There is improper health facility, improper food facility; there is lack of cleanliness; and there is total failure of the State Government administration. So, due to this, many beggars had left the Rehabilitation Centre.

In this connection, I urge upon the Union Government, through you, to take steps to ensure proper living environment in the Beggars Rehabilitation Centre.

SHRI K.P. DHANAPALAN (Chalakudy): Sir, I would like to raise an important issue relating to water path. I wish to point out that in 1993, a water path from Kollam to Kottappuram in Kerala, the third biggest in India, has been named as National Water Path 3. An amount of Rs. 124 crore was allotted for developing the route which has not been fully utilised by the State Government. But even after a lapse of seventeen years, no visible progress has been made.

The Central Government must take some initiatives for early completion of this prestigious project as this is very useful for a large number of people in Kerala. This

project was actually commissioned on 20th November, 2007 and only one journey was performed and thereafter no progress has been made. Tourist circuit programme will also get a boost out of this project.

Taking into consideration the upcoming Vallarpadam Container Project, the above said developmental works are quite important. The Central Government should intervene and pressurise advise the State Government for taking much more interest in the said Project. If there is any scarcity of funds, that may also be sanctioned during this financial year itself.

MR. CHAIRMAN (DR. M. THAMBIDURAI): Shri Chandrakant Khaire to speak. Shri Khaire, your matter is *sub judice*. So, please be cautious while raising the matter.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad): Mr. Chairman Sir, through this august House, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to construction of Ram Mandir in Ram Janmbhumi Ayodhya. The history of India is incomplete without the temple of Lord Rama. Sentiments of crores of Hindus are attached with Lord Rama and Ram Janmbhumi and this fact is well accepted. On the one hand Lord Rama crushed the evil forces all around and on the other hand gave the holy message of equality by removing the differences in the society. In their devotion to Lord Rama lakhs of saints, religious heads are contributing for the welfare of the society by leaving their families and relatives. In such a situation, not constructing a wonderful and magnificent temple at Ram Janmabhumi would be like drifting away from our original culture.

Sir, for this, I would like to request the Government, through you. It is my request from hon'ble Prime Minister to pave the way for the construction of temple at this sacred place by enacting a law or empowering the Hindus in this regard. The time by which sacred work is delayed, the problems will increase and aggravate. Therefore this issue should be disposed at the earliest. ...(*Interruptions*) I, through you, would like to ask if the temple is not going to be constructed at Ram Janmabhumi, Ayodhya then where it will be constructed.(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN (DR. M. THAMBIDURAI): Nothing will go on record.

....(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR (Supaul): Sir, in zero hour I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards my Parliamentary Constituency. Supaul district is the headquarter of my Parliamentary Constituency and Kunauli Bazar is there. Since Independence not a single branch of commercial bank has been set up there. Many businessmen carryout their business there. Transaction to the tune of crores of rupees take place there. There is a camp of SSB, an office of Ministry of Home Affairs and a Customs Office are located there. It is located adjacent to Nepal and the territory of Nepal Starts at a distance of just 50 feet. Not even a branch of any commercial bank has been opened there yet, branches of commercial banks should be opened there. I demand from government to open a branch of public sector bank there so that the business of crores of rupees taking place there remain in fact. Just at a distance of 50 feet from where the territory of Nepal starts you can feel the presence of electricity, but in Kanauli Bazar electric polls have been erected and wring of poles has been done but there is no trace of electricity.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can raise only one matter and not two or three matters.

SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR: I, through you, request the government to provide facility of electricity there. Thank you.

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (Bikaner): Sir, I have been allowed to speak on a very important issue. I, through you, would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a notification of the government of India dated September, 1999. It has been issued by the Ministry of Forests and Environment. It pertains to banning of carry bag. Our government of Rajasthan has banned all types of plastic bags since August 1, 2010. We welcome this decision, but I wish that the design of the carry bag prescribed in the notification of the year 1999, should only be banned.

Sir the problem is that an exception has given in the notification. Packing of milk, blood and the nursery plants are mentioned as exceptions. The officers not telling the people about this. I hail from Bikaner Parliamentary Constituency. The biggest problem is that a lot of people consume Pakauri, Kachauri, Milk, Chaat, Rasogulla, Pulses. When they go in the morning asking for Kachauri, the vendor gives it in paper envelope but in which container will he give chaat. Chaat cannot be provided in paper envelope. If someone asks for Rasogulla, he will provide him with it but if someone asks for its chashani (liquid sugar) then in which container will he provide the same. I want to say that if someone give chaat wrapped in a string, than no action should be taken against him. The representatives of the Labourers in my area met me and said that they go at '9' O clock in the morning for doing manual work. When they ask for cooked pulses (Dal), they are told that they should take in away in packing.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You come to the point.

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Sir, I want to say that the Environment and Forest Minister of the Government of India should decide that while implementing this rule, the enforcement agency should be restricted to take action as per the notification only and he should check the corruption taking place. This is my demand from the Government of India.

SHRI MANOHAR TIRKEY (Alipurduar): Sir, I want to inform the House about the pitiable condition of lakhs of labourers engaged in tea gardens in the country. Through you, I would like the concerned Minister to interfere in this matter.

Sir, I am a tea labourer and got elected by the tea labourers. Tea industry provides the maximum employment. The Government also earns huge amount of foreign exchange from this industry. Besides this industry also helps in environment protection. The wages of tea garden labourers is very less. In West Bengal, it is Rs. 67, in Assam Rs. 68 in Tamil Nadu it is in the range of Rs. 84 to Rs. 94 and in Kerala it is Rs. 113, thus it is different at all the places and also very less. Therefore, we have demanded the setting up of a Wage Board. The lower wages being paid in Tea gardens

*Not recorded.

should be increased. Their lives have become difficult due to the lower wages in this period of high price rise. There should be provision of providing rice and wheat to the labourers at cheaper prices besides paying them higher wages. The wood was being supplied for cooking food which has been stopped. Due to restrictions on cutting of trees for the purpose of environment protection, the labourers have been provided with coal instead of wood. But the tea garden labourers are facing problems due to non-availability of coal. Tea garden labourers also do not get kerosene in sufficient quantity and electricity has also not reached there. Tea garden labourers live in inaccessible areas where no items is available so easily. Therefore, through you, I would like to demand from the Government to provide LPG connection to the Tea garden labourers of Assam and Bengal in particular at cheaper rates. This is my demand through your goodself.

[English]

SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU (Tirunelveli): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise a very important matter of urgent public importance relating to a problem faced by the farmers of our country.

Since Independence, India has borne the brunt of a large number of natural disasters like earthquake, flood, drought, tsunami and pest attacks. The Government provides compensation and other financial aid to farmers who are affected by such natural disasters. This is done to encourage them to continue to invest in agriculture and produce agricultural commodities. Still the farmers are facing nature's fury and they are not adequately compensated. This is applicable to the whole country.

In Tamil Nadu and particularly in Tirunelveli District, Kalakadu, Valliyur, Ambasamudram, Alangulam and Nanguneri areas are fully agriculture oriented. Huge numbers of people are engaged in farming and their main cultivation is paddy, sugarcane, banana plantation, vegetables etc. On many occasions, their crops, which are sufficiently grown and are in the yielding and harvesting stage, suddenly get damaged due to powerful whirlwinds as a result of which they incur heavy losses overnight and they are not able to recover even their sowing cost. As a result, the farmers are driven to debt trap.

Though the Government is providing compensation to crop loss due to flood, drought and tsunami, the authorities are refusing to grant financial relief to farmers whose crops are affected due to whirlwind. This is also a kind of natural calamity which is beyond the control of farmers. It is difficult to predict so they are entitled to compensation for such losses. Papers relating to losses of such kinds are pending with the District Collector of Tirunelveli since long. The authorities are reluctant to release compensation to farmers as there is no specific provision under the existing rules.

In view of these circumstances, I urge upon the Government to include losses incurred to the farmers due to whirlwind and also to provide adequate compensation to them under Natural Disasters and Crop Protection Scheme and do the needful.

[Translation]

SHRI DEORAJ SINGH PATEL (Rewa): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me the time to put forth my views in the interest of the farmer.

Sir, in my Lok Sabha Constituency area Rewa in Madhya Pradesh, 749 hectare of land of Sumeda Village and 51 hectare of land of Atrauli Village *i.e.* total area of 800 hectare or 2000 acres of agricultural land along the Sumeda and Atrauli minor canals originating from the Novasta distributor canal of the Eastern canal under the Bansagar multipurpose life giving mega project being constructed with the assistance of the Union Government and the three states of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar is being shown as mining lease area by the Government of Madhya Pradesh on the request of J.P Associates there by depriving several villages of irrigation facilities whereas the concerned department has already started the digging work of canal after inviting the tender after getting the proper survey done in this regard and fixing the alignment of canal and completing the land acquisition process for that process for that canal. J.P Associates conspired and got the alignment of the seven kilometer long Novasta Distributory Canal shifted by influencing the Department of Water Resources with money and pressurising the officers of Bansagar dam and getting the total area of the two villages declared lease area after raising the issue of 200 meter long canal coming in the way of lease area whereas only two hundred meter long land of JP Cement is getting affected by canal area. The State Government's decision

is intended to provide benefit to only the industrialist but it has not taken into consideration the benefit likely to accrue to the farmers and the agricultural production likely to take place in the Country in future, whereas the map of shifted alignment was produced by J.P. Cement. Through you, I would like to demand from the Union Government to expedite the construction work of sanctioned canal which is lying held up in view of the interests of the farmers. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJARAM PAL (Akbarpur): Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government and the House towards the farmers of this country. Today, the farmers throughout the country do not have the ownership right of land. At some places he is called—Bhumidhar, at other places he is called sildhar. Life is one at some place but it is two at other place. Whenever the State Government wants, it acquires the land at throwaway prices in the name of development, some project or the industrialists and this has led to anger among the farmers in the whole country be it Mathura, Aligarh, Bengal and now Madhya Pradesh as a Member colleague was pointing out. Injustice is being done to the farmers in the whole country. Similarly, in my Parliamentary Constituency Akbarpur, there is a village Sarsaur in Fatehpur Bharatpurva where almost the entire land of the village has been acquired in the name of Indo Tibetan Border Police training centre where earlier several crops used to be grown. Even after the passage of more than one year, they have not been told about the amount of compensation they are to be paid. Neither the State Government nor the Union Government has given information as to who acquired the land. Those at the centre say that it has been acquired by the State Government. Through you, I would like to say that their land has been grabbed and a fencing has been erected and a tower has been constructed. After denial cases have been filed against the farmers. The said land is located at Kanpur-Allahabad National Highway. The Land which costs Rupees 20 lakh per Bigha has been acquired at throwaway prices and the farmers have been forced to lead a life of penury. Through you, I would like to use the Government of India to direct the

G o v e r n m e n t
of Uttar Pradesh to acquire the infertile land.
...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record, except what Shri Majumdar says.

...*(Interruptions)**

*SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR (Balurghat): In Bengali Hon. Chairman Sir, the people of the districts of Dinajpur and Siliguri wholly depend upon bus transport. Government buses, private buses and mini buses ply on these routes in large numbers. A part of the road on which the vehicles ply is state highway and the other part is National Highway No. 31 with four lanes. Meanwhile the National Highway Authority of India has flashed a notification in the newspaper according to which it has started collecting toll tax w.e.f. 19.08.2010 for the use of that four lane highway. The rate at which toll is collected is also extremely high. On one hand, the prices of petrol, diesel and automobile parts have increased exponentially; cost of maintenance has also risen steeply and on the other hand, such high rate of toll tax has been imposed on the transport vehicles. This has become a big problem for everybody. The bus owners will shift the excess burden on the passengers. Thus through you I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Transport and urge upon him to immediately call a meeting of the district authority, National Highway Authority, bus owners' and the workers' unions. A tripartite agreement must be signed by all parties so that the toll tax can be brought down and the concerned persons get some respite. The tax should be slashed down by about fifty per cent to help the commuters and the ordinary people of the district. With these words, I thank you for allowing me to raise this urgent matter of public importance in this House and conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI P. L. PUNIA (Barabanki): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this important issue. I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the shortcomings of the Janani Suraksha Yojna in Uttar Pradesh. This Yojna was

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

launched specially to ensure the protection of mother-child and encourage the delivery of Children in hospitals. I would like to inform in this regard that the Janani Suraksha Yojna in Uttar Pradesh has been totally botched-up. The women are forced to deliver on the roads outside the delivery centers of Government hospitals. Such news is reported daily in news papers. This is the situation when the Chief Minister of the State herself is a woman. Only those people visit government hospitals who are poor. At the times of discharges they do not get the payment of the amount to the which they are entitled to under Janani Suraksha Yojana but their thumb impressions are taken and the amount is distributed among the doctors, nurses and other staff. The newborn children are not cleaned till money is, paid to them. That is why it is a very serious problem.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I, through you would like to say that pregnancy is not a disease, nevertheless thousands of women die every year during pregnancy, delivery and abortios. The most disturbing thing is that there is no counting of these women and nobody is bothered to care about their condition.

Mr. Chairman, I, through you, would like to request hon. Minister of Health that there is an urgent need to bring drastic changes in the monitoring system of this scheme. There is a need to ensure that beneficiaries get hundred percent benefit of the scheme Strict action should be taken against the doctors, nurses and other staff who are making a mockery of government programmes.

DR. BHOLA SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, "Nagar-Nagar badnam ho gaye mere Ansu, Aaj main unka ho gaya jinka koi pahredar na tha" The number of women earning their livelihood through prostitution runs into lakhs in the country. Now, cultural invasion has trampled upon the dignity of Indian culture and made prostitution a life style for earning their bread. The society has never felt their pain. At times they are subjected to various atrocities within the four walls of the house. At times they reach brothels while searching for their livelihood. Now girls of eight ten, twelve years of age are pushed into this profession. The birth of this tragic tale of selling one's body has its origin in the thinking of feudal society.

Lakhs of children do not know the name of their fathers and women from all over the world are going to

display their charm during the Common Wealth Games in Delhi. Not any magazines even the Vice Chancellor of a university has started disgracing this modesty of women litterateurs. Today concept of perverted sex is on the rise. The Social relations between brother-sister, son-daughter etc. are being disgraced and it is a matter of great concern that the so called intellectual people of society are demeaning the cultural values and social life style. It is objectionable that politicians have turned their back towards this issue. Society could survive environmental pollution but not social pollution. There will be no scope to preserve cultural diversity of the world if soul of India is ruined. Hence it is necessary to preserve cultural values of India in order to safeguard cultural diversity of the world.

While attracting the attention of the Government towards the issue I would like to submit that this toxic thought should be removed from society and women should be portrayed in a dignified manner.

[English]

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA (Udupi-Chikmagalur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise a very important issue pertaining to the States of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. This is also a very sensitive issue. If it is not carefully handled, certainly there will be a law and order problem in both the States of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

This year, the South-West monsoon in the river Cauvery basin has totally failed. The total inflows for the month of June in the reservoirs of Karnataka were only 41 of the normal, and for the month of July the total inflows were only 54 per cent of the normal. For the months of June, July and till 25th August, the total inflows were only about 56 per cent of the normal inflows.
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN (DR. M. THAMBIDURAI): You cannot give a lecture in 'Zero Hour'. You can briefly tell what you want from the Government in a few minutes.

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Sir, this is a very important matter. I will take only two minutes to mention a few points.

So far Karnataka has withdrawn about 22 tmc of water from its reservoirs. So far, the position of total storages in the Cauvery basin in both the States has

been 60 tmc in Karnataka and 61 tmc in Tamil Nadu.

Certain ground realities have to be taken into consideration. While looking into the facts, the basin States are expected to share the water equitably having regard to the 'ground realities' as it was done during the year 2002-03.

As per the Water Tribunal, in its final Order dated 5th February, 2007, the only obligation of Karnataka is to ensure 192 tmc of water in a normal year. Since the South-West monsoon appears to have been failed this year, the Karnataka Government could not release the share of water to Tamil Nadu. The Karnataka Government has already released 30 tmc of water this year from its reservoirs to Tamil Nadu. The weather forecast has predicted that there will be a good rainfall during the months of September and October.
...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You simply say what you want from the Government.

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: During the meeting of the Cauvery Monitoring Cell, under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Water Resources held on 24th of August, 2010, the Tamil Nadu Government officials urged the Central Government to direct the Karnataka Government to release more water from the Cauvery basin. But the present situation is not like that.

Due to the failure of the South-West monsoon and also due to shortage of water in the inflows of the reservoirs, the Karnataka Government finds it difficult to release more water to Tamil Nadu at this stage. Hence, I would urge upon the Union Water Resources Minister and the hon. Prime Minister to cooperate during this difficult time and necessary instructions may kindly be given to the Tamil Nadu Government to bear with Karnataka for the time being.

[Translation]

SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH (Hoshangabad): Mr. Chairman, I would like to draw your kind attention towards a major incident of Madhya Pradesh, which has converted into a problem. A number of people have died due to Malaria and Diarrhoea in Madhya Pradesh recently. In my Parliamentary Constituency Narsinghpur (Hoshangabad) 5-6 people have died. Sohagpur and

pipriya are the worst affected areas. The administration is playing safe while stating these deaths as normal. The Chief Minister is more interested in worship of God in spite of maintaining law and order situation in the state. He is only making speeches. Nothing is being done at ground level. People are dying due to disease. Incidents of theft worth crores of rupees are taking place in broad day light in Bhopal city and incidents of loot and murder are taking place in various cities but the administration is acting as a silent spectator.

Through you it is requested that the Government of Bhartiya Janata Party in Madhya Pradesh should be issued stern warning from the Union Government to safeguard the interest of the poor and farmers, provide security to industrialists, women and check the deaths of children due to starvation and consumption of contaminated water.

The Government of Madhya Pradesh is proving to be a failure. It is necessary to wake up the State Government before it is too late. All the newspapers are publishing such news. Magazines. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri C. Sivasami.

*SHRI C. SIVASAMI (Tiruppur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for this opportunity to raise a matter of urgent public importance pertaining to my constituency Tiruppur where people are finding it difficult to get cable connection of their choice.

Television channels and their programmes enable people to know of the happenings around the world with immediacy. Multi System Operators (MSO) downlink the signals of the TV channels and distribute it through cable locally. It is through them individual houses get cable connections and get to know of the latest news from the TV channel of their choice which is like a window of the world to them. MSO is like a control room and cable operation emanates from there. There are many MSOs in Tamil Nadu and among hundreds of such MSOs, Tiruppur Cable Vision is also one that operates in my Tiruppur constituency and I would like to point out that a large number of these MSOs are deprived from getting the signals of Star TV, Sony TV,

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

Sun TV and K TV. Even the Tamil Nadu Government run MSO is not getting these signals due to monopoly by certain operators. In order to increase their TRP rate, they give the permission and rights for MSOs like Sumangali Cable Vision that is part of the Sun TV Group. The pay channel rights are given exclusively to the chosen few depriving many of the MSOs though they are eligible under the laws of the land. In our country, there are many television channels, there are many political parties and view of various hues and newspapers. But in Tamil Nadu, there is a kind of situation that appears to promote and allow to retain only Sumangali Cable Vision as if it is a monopoly. This affects the legitimate rights and the livelihood of other MSOs who are not able to continue with their business remuneratively.

The District Collector of Coimbatore convened a meeting on 23.10.2003 which was attended by the representatives of Star TV, Sony TV, Sun TV and all the MSOs. After the deliberations, the District Collector issued an order that all the pay channels must be made available to all the MSOs. In all these years, these instructions have been violated. The Government of Tamil

Nadu's own MSO is also not getting these pay channels till date. Sun TV is functioning in a monopolistic manner in Tamil Nadu for it favours only Sumangali Cable Vision. This creates a kind of situation where people are denied of their democratic rights to watch a TV channel of their choice.

Hence I urge upon the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to take note of this and issue suitable instructions to pay channels like Star TV, Sony TV, Sun TV to make available their signals to all the MSOs in Tamil Nadu for wider distribution and better viewing enabling people to have their own choice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow, the 27th August, 2010 at 11 a.m.

21.43 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, August 27, 2010/Bhadrapada 5, 1932 (Saka).

ANNEXURE I

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