

# LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Second Session  
(Fifteenth Lok Sabha)



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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Thursday, July 9, 2009/ Asadha 18, 1931 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

(MADAM SPEAKER in the Chair)

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Q.No. 81, Shri Vilas Muttemwar

#### Appointment of Judges

\*81. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether suggestions have been received from various bodies including Law Commission in the matter of appointment of Judges to the higher courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to include this within the scope of the proposed judicial reforms; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The Law Commission has, inter alia, suggested in its 214th Report that the primacy of the Chief Justice of India and the power of the executive to make appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts should be restored. The Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee had also recommended restoration of pre-1993 position wherein the executive and the judiciary both were involved and the executive had primacy in the matter of appointment of Judges of the higher Courts. The Committee also suggested that appointment of Judges could also be entrusted to a wider body other than the Collegium with representation from both judiciary and the executive.

(c) and (d) The Government is in the process of preparing a road map for judicial reforms in the country. For this purpose, the Government has begun to hold wide consultations. A final view on this matter will be taken thereafter.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Madam Speaker, in reply to my Question, the Minister has mentioned that the Law

Commission has, inter alia, suggested in its 214th Report that the primacy of the Chief Justice of India and the power of the executive to make appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts should be restored.

From time to time, there have been pronouncements by the Supreme Court about the appointment of Judges. Article 124 of the Constitution vests the power of appointment of the Chief Justice of India and the Judges of Supreme Court in the President. The President shall make the appointment 'after consultation' and not in consultation.

Again, in a majority judgment the Court ruled that article 217 (1) of the Constitution places all the three constitutional functionaries on the same pedestal and no primacy was given to the Chief Justice of India. Even some of the former Chief Justices of India who believed in giving power exclusively to Judges, revised their opinion in favour of the National Judicial Council.

The Malimath Committee also recommended that a set of guidelines be evolved regarding the appointment of quality judges. In view of these, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has come to any final conclusion about the procedure to be adopted with regard to the appointment of Judges to the higher Judiciary.

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: There has been a lot of debate on this. In India, we have a system, which is totally different from the rest of the world. Insofar as USA, UK, France, Germany and many other countries are concerned, there is an objective method wherein the Executive Head, the Administrative Head and also the Judiciary are involved; sometimes, Judiciary was not involved at all, in the appointment of Judges.

In fact, prior to 1993, the position was very clear. Even it was reiterated in the case, S.P. Gupta versus the President of India, where the primacy of the appointment is with the Chief Justice of India or the Chief Justices of the respective High Courts; then the Executive have primacy since it is accountable to the people. This was the position before 1993. The recommendation for appointment can be initiated by the Union Government or the State Government as the case may be. A High Court Judge cannot be transferred a second time; and the second transfer made on the recommendation of the Chief Justice of India, is justifiable. Their strength was also referred to that.

But the position changed after the majority judgment of 1993, and it altered the meaning of expression 'consultation' for consent. The whole difficulty came because of this. In fact, even the Law Commission from time to time, in their reports said like this.

In its 15th Report, the Departmentally Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Justice called upon the Ministry to come forward with a concrete alternative. Again, in Chapter V of its 21st Report, the Departmentally Related Parliamentary Standing Committee - it is quite relevant to mention this - after hearing a few of the ex-Chief Justices of India namely Justice P.N. Bhagwati, Justice R.S. Pathak, Justice Ranganath Mishra and Justice Malimath, an eminent ex-Justice and an author of a Report on Reforms of Criminal Justice System, expressed that there was a consensus among Committee Members that the pre-1993 position should prevail.

Madam, 214th Report of the Law Commission again reiterated this position. They again said that pre-1993 position will have to be restored.

Now, Madam we are working on a road map for judicial reforms. We do not want to confront judiciary. At the same time, it can be done either by the judiciary or the Supreme Court reconsidering their present position; go back to pre-1993 or come out with their objective criteria for selection of judges both at the States and the Centre. Or else, the law will have to be made and that law needs to be passed by this House. Ultimately, the output of the judges who are going to administer justice, their quality should be utmost. If you see the judicial impact, there is also some study made that pre-1993 was considered to be better on merit than the post-1993. This is the position.

We have an open mind. We are working on that. We would like to take the Parliament, Opposition, Jurists, everyone into confidence. Ultimately, we are going to have a final national consultation on judicial reform which includes the subject in the Act, National Judicial Academy Bhopal.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Madam, of late there has been a lot of criticism about the fairness and lacuna in the existing procedure for the selection of judges. With a view to provide transparency in the appointment of judges to the higher judiciary, one of the suggestions made was the creation of an All India Judicial Service. The first Law Commission had suggested the constitution of an All India Judicial Service with a view to provide an opportunity to bright young Law Graduates to come successful in All India Competition Examination. They should constitute the cadre and after the prescribed training would be posted in different States to be eligible for appointment to the higher judiciary on the basis of their proven merit. I feel this was the one suggestion which could provide the best quality of judges not only in lower court but also in the higher judiciary. There is a suggestion that there should be reservation for the backward, minorities and other OBCs for the appointment of judges.

With your permission, Madam, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is considering this suggestion also.

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: Madam, there are two components in the question raised by the hon. Member. Insofar as the National Judicial Service is concerned, this proposal is under serious consideration of the Government. We do it after due consultation with all stake-holders.

Insofar as the reservation is concerned, reservation is available in the subordinate judiciary. It already prevails in all the States. Insofar as the higher judiciary at the High Court and also the Supreme Court is concerned, it is not before us. We have not discussed it. We have not applied our mind. This is a matter which the Member has raised today. I do not think our Government at any stage thought about it.

SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Madam Speaker, there are three recommendations. One is the Law Commission's recommendation. The other is the Parliamentary Standing Committee's recommendation. The third one is the expansion of the collegium for the appointment of judges. May I know from the hon. Minister, among the three which of them the Government will accept and how much time does it take? Will the Government takes the Parliament into confidence and submits how many days it will take otherwise, appointment of judges are coming in the way of disposal of cases in various High Courts as well as Supreme Court?

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: Madam Speaker, I will answer the latter question first.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please answer one question.

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: As far as judicial appointments are concerned, nothing will be held up for want of a decision on that. Finally, a view will be taken only after consulting the States, the stakeholders, Parliament, opposition leaders, jurists and everyone concerned.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to tell the hon. Law and Justice Minister, as Shri Vilasrao Muttemwar has rightly submitted that judges in the High Court and the Supreme Court should be appointed through the Indian Judicial Services examination and provision of reservation should also be made therein.

Secondly, whether intervention of Judiciary and Executive or a tug of war between them is affecting the appointments? If so, the questions put forth here by the hon. Members in respect of transparency being maintained in

the appointments of judges, are relevant as that is necessary for ensuring quality and transparency in our judicial system. Throughout the country we find very few female judges and we talk of women reservation. Would the hon. Minister propose to formulate any action plan to make up the shortcoming in this regard?

[English]

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: Madam Speaker, the social engineering, whatever is the field including the judiciary, needs to be addressed. But at the same time, we have not considered any reservation at the level of judiciary including the High Court and the Supreme Court levels. This matter is not before us but we can discuss about it. I do agree that more transparent component should be added while appointing the judges.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Madam Speaker, I would like to submit that unlike our country the practice of selecting judges by judiciary itself is not followed any where in the world. Discussion in this regard has been going on for the last five years. I welcome you as a new Minister. Even when we are at home, we are in politics. When I was a Member of Upper House, I tried to raise a matter concerning a former judge. What I mean to say is that only politicians are accountable in this country, otherwise, no other person being in media, bureaucracy or judiciary, has got any accountability which means that in a sense, rest of all are free. These people have all kinds of liberty, whether it is in regard to the release of films, telecasts in media or shows of Michael Jackson, only politicians do not enjoy such liberties. News in regard to judiciary come and I had raised the issue in the Upper House in respect of one of the former judges.

I would submit to the hon. Minister that this discussion has been going on for the last five years and the buzz is around that we are cheated, defeated even in the Parliament, then where to go, let us go to the Supreme Court or the High Court. I don't want to say anything, I respect all these institutions, I do not want to violate the decorum, but the poor state of affairs is evidently there. The condition is such for which there is no place for lodging complaints. This is a very strange thing, like the holy 'Kuran' and 'Geeta'. So Many committees have been constituted to find out a complete solution in this regard which is mentioned here frequently. No one knows whether this Parliament, this democracy will ever come out of the web of these committees? So, the Government should first of all declared earlier, adopt and implement the old process which was better, and then, reform could be undertaken. I would like to submit that this way we would be able to find some way out. The proceeding of the

Parliament is going on here, the Government should declare it now, we all are with them. Why do not they make announcement, why is the fuss? They themselves are selecting their colleagues.

MADAM SPEAKER: Sharadji, please ask your question.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Today, the question is in regard to selection, leaving aside the committees, the Government should give a reply categorically in this regard as to what immediate steps are proposed to be taken in this regard.

[English]

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: Madam, I do appreciate the tenor the question raised by a senior Member of Parliament. I would like to assure him, on behalf of the Government, that we need to come to a logical conclusion and that should be arrived at by a national consensus.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : How much time will it take?

SHRI M. VEERAPPAMOILY: It will not take much time. It will definitely take a couple of months, but not a couple of years. We have already spent a couple of years on this. After all, the letter and spirit of the provisions of the Constitutions would have to be upheld. The Parliament has paramount powers over all the other wings, whether it is the Judiciary, or the Executive or any other Administration.

So, I, on behalf of the Government, would like to assure the hon. Member that this decision is a long awaited decision. The waiting period has been agonizing; the waiting period has been too long and I think we need to come to a national consensus after taking everybody into confidence. At the same time I would like to reiterate that I do not think that there is a need to confront the Judiciary on an issue like this.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY BHADUR SINGH : Madam Speaker, I have practiced law for 40 years in Allahabad High Court. Whenever the matter of judicial reforms is raised, the Government gets bogged down by the talk of confrontation and argument of fear. Now, there is no scope for confrontation and fear. The country wants real judicial reforms. For example, some one practiced law for 25 years in Uttar Pradesh and he was public prosecutor for 25 years. The Government have many big institutions and universities. When the person assumes the responsibility of judge and the case of a university comes for judgement, what would be his reaction? There would be inherent bias, inherent fear will jeopardize the case. The mechanism of inhouse judges has failed. The issue is very serious. Every Government. ... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER : Please ask your question.

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH : I would like that the process should be made expeditious and a time frame should be fixed. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please ask your question.

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH : My point is whether the Minister of Law and Justice propose to take a decision in this regard in this session itself?

MADAM SPEAKER: These are the suggestions, you please ask question.

SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH: My question is that transfer is the first step in the judicial reforms. A person who belongs to Uttar Pradesh and has practiced at Allahabad should be transferred in the Hindi speaking States. If one does not want to be transferred, one can refuse the Post of judge.

MADAM SPEAKER : Your suggestions have been received.

*[English]*

Mr. Minister, would you like to respond to his suggestions? There is no question.

*[Translation]*

\*SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN: Thank you Madam Speaker, SC/ST people are being sidelined in higher judiciary. Whenever there is direct recruitment SC/ST candidates are ignored on the plea that they are not suitable. The country got independence 62 years ago whereas the 'Suitability' has not been defined so far in this country. According to my information in the higher judiciary in the state of Punjab, Delhi and Rajasthan there is only one judge each belonging to SC/ST category through direct recruitment. According to my information those belonging to SC/ST community are not in higher judiciary throughout the country. At the time of promotion from lower judiciary to higher judiciary, SC/ST judges can be appointed there against those posts.

*[English]*

MADAM SPEAKER: Ask your question.

*[Translation]*

\*SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN: Yes madam, I am asking a question. When the turn of SC/ST judges for promotion comes, their files are kept pending for years together and the same are cleared only when they have already retired. This is a stark reality. There are number of examples.

\*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Punjabi.

*[English]*

MADAM SPEAKER: Ask your question.

*[Translation]*

\*SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN: The Seventy percent of the cases pending in higher judiciary (High Court and Supreme Court) are pertaining to SC/ST community and justice is denied to them. So I would like to know from Hon. Minister of Law and Justice whether the reservation for SC/ST and weaker sections of society would be implemented in higher judiciary or not? Thank you.

*[English]*

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: Madam Speaker, after all, social engineering is not a charity. It is a right which has to be given to everyone. Till we take a proper decision on this, we requested the Chief Justices and also the Chief Justice of India to keep in view suggestions regarding SCs, STs, OBCs, women, minorities, etc. to be considered by recommending the names. We will ensure that happens and definitely, when it comes to a holistic approach for a reform, all these things will be effectively implemented.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Madam, Judiciary is one of the most important instruments of our democratic set-up. Independent functioning of the Judiciary and its sovereignty has to be upheld. At the same time, there are different views or valid views expressed by eminent personalities of the judicial circle itself to appoint a Judicial Commission to look after transfer, promotion and other amenities of the judicial set-up and to make the Judiciary more healthy and transparent. May I know, through you, whether the Government has decided to appoint a Judicial Commission in this connection?

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: Madam, the talk on Judicial Commission and Judicial Council are under the consideration of the Government. On what is appropriate in a situation like this, we will definitely apply our mind and take a decision.

#### **Airport Development Fee from Passengers**

+

\* 82. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:

SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Airport Authority of India is charging airport development fee from passengers at certain airports;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the International Air Transport Association has protested over levying airport development fee;

\*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Punjabi.

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has received complaints that airport development fee is charged for facilities that may come up only a few years later; and

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

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

#### Statement

(a) No, Sir. However, the Delhi and Mumbai Airport are charging Development Fee.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No such protest has been received from International Air Transport Association (IATA).

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Resources of Aviation Redressal Association (ROAR) have protested against levy of Development Fee. A Writ Petition in Delhi High Court has also been filed by the ROAR in this regard. Development Fee at Delhi and Mumbai airports has been levied to bridge the funding gap due to reduced expectation from refundable security deposits as a means of finance. The completion of modernisation of airports at Delhi and Mumbai in a time bound manner is of paramount importance.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this is a policy of leap before you look of his Ministry. Normally, we are used to toll gates being put up on highways or on roads that have been completed. When companies have taken up Mumbai and Delhi Airports for modernisation, a lot of hulla-gulla had happened at that time that privatisation was going on and a new era was being opened up. Everybody was excited about it. But what do we see today in the airports? Madam, you must have travelled from Delhi so many times. If you or the hon. Minister had to pick your own baggage, you may find that the conveyer belts are so close to each other that people do not know where to stand. The toilets are stinking. These cannot be called as modern airport amenities.

My question is, why are we defraying the cost of private companies who are supposed to modernise the airports at their cost? How many of the hon. Members, who are very conscious, highly educated people of this nation know that every time they fly in or out of Delhi, they are paying Rs. 200 as airport fee or if they go abroad, they pay something like Rs. 1000 from Delhi and Rs. 1300 from Mumbai. Even we do not know about it.

So, the average passenger is not made aware of the damages that are being incurred on his or her wallet. Why does the Ministry allow defraying of the cost for private companies which are supposed to do it, which are supposed to modernise the airports at their own cost?

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Madam Speaker, the spirit of the question is that why are we being made to pay for the development of the modern infrastructure. I think, to an extent we must all understand that our airport infrastructure has not kept up with the times. As a result of which, we have, in the last few years, embarked upon a major expansion drive. To say that airports of India are not changing for to say that infrastructure at airports has not changed in the last few years would not be fair. But to the extent that things can be better, I do concede that there is scope for improvement. Of course, there is always scope for improvement in whatever we choose to do. But at the same time, I would like to tell the hon. Member that the Delhi airport, the IGI Airport, is undergoing a major expansion drive. To say that even at the domestic terminal or at the international terminal, things have not changed also would not be a very fair statement. I do again concede that you may have areas for improvement which you have suggested and those can be certainly looked at.

I would like to add that if you look at the cost of modernisation of these airports, it is almost above Rs. 9,000 crore. In the IGI Airport, already more than five and half thousand crores of rupees have been spent. When you take off, you can notice on the left side, the major expansion. A new terminal is coming up which is almost going to be comparable to one of the finest terminals in the world. It is probably one of the biggest terminals and airport development programme which is taking place anywhere across the world.

You yourself has rightly pointed out that toll is paid when you go on the road. Toll is paid for many other services now. In the good old days, we never used to pay for water; and we never used to pay for going on the road. But these are now concepts where funding has to be done through public participation. I think, toll or a development fee, as in the case of these airports, is a process to which we may not have been used to in the past. But increasingly in the future we have to get used to it. Right now we are paying a development fee for the upgradation of Delhi and Mumbai airports, which are done by private people. Upgradation is being done in the case of Hyderabad and Bangalore airports also, which are new ones.

The Airports Authority of India has been undertaking the development of airports. It will be upgrading or rather already upgrading Chennai, Kolkata and various other



airports. I will go one step further and add that development fee should be levied even in the case of airports that are being upgraded by the Airports Authority of India. That is one of the suggestions which is also under consideration of our Ministry.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: I reiterate my question. I insisted and I very clearly mentioned that you pay toll tax only when the road is complete. You do not pay toll tax for a road when it is being built. So, when a private company has been given an airport to build it on a commercial basis, they will make money out of it. It is a commercial venture for them. They will make profits out of it. I do not wish to mention the name of the company. But the company that is building the Delhi airport is also building a huge power plant in my constituency, Dhenkanal, Orissa. So, I have no objections. What I am trying to say is that when they have the money to invest in other parts of the country and in different other projects, why are they charging the passengers? Why are they bleeding the passengers without letting the people know? Why do they not put a box, like the Red Cross one, so that when you wish, you can donate money? So, GMR can put a box like that so that whoever, whether it is the hon. Minister or the hon. Members can donate, say Rs. 200. We have no objections to that.

My point is that the whole air industry is going through a slump.

MADAM SPEAKER: Ask the question.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Madam Speaker, it is a question. It is part of the question. I am just coming to the question.

MADAM SPEAKER: You come to the question.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: It is called the "pre". I will come to the "post".

The industry is going through a slump and they are expected to go through a loss often billion dollars. I am sorry to mention "dollars." Everybody writes in "dollars" now-a-days. In the Asia Pacific region when the air industry is going through this kind of a slump, is it fair to burden the average poor passengers? Of course, the air fares have come down owing to hon. Minister's initiatives. But is it fair again to tax the air flier with a hidden agenda? Your Party always speaks about hidden agendas of others, but this is your hidden agenda.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will allow these private companies to make profits and have hidden agendas.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Madam, I have answered bulk of the questions in my earlier reply. But I can also add one

more thing for the satisfaction of the hon. Member whether things are being done fairly and transparently - Airport Economic Regulatory Authority has already been constituted which has been approved by both the Houses of Parliament. It has already started functioning and like other regulatory authorities which are at an arm's length from the decision-making process of the Government or the Executive, they will decide about the questions, which now you have raised here, whether they are relevant, whether they are fair and justified; whether the quantum being charged is appropriate to the kind of shortfall in revenues. All these issues, rather than we in the Government decide and you having any doubts about such issues, it would be now left to the Regulatory Authority which has been constituted by an Act of the Parliament. So, whatever issues which you have raised here will be resolved, if at all, the Regulatory Authority finds them improper.

MADAM SPEAKER: Shrimati Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi - not present.

DR. K.S. RAO: Madam, the hon. Minister is very intelligent in answering the questions with total confidence. The question is: whether the Airports Authority of India is charging airport development fee from passengers at certain airports. He said, 'No.' But at the same time, he was telling that at Delhi and Mumbai they are charging. It can be a technical answer which might be right also. But I wanted to know whether the development fee is being charged in Hyderabad Airport or not. I understand that as per the conditions of contract between the agency, they must stop charging this user fees, the moment the air traffic has gone to a level of two million or five million or something of that kind. So, I wish to know whether the hon. Minister will make it known to the public that there should not be any users charge if the air traffic has reached a stage where it should have been as per the contract.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Madam, first and foremost, I want to thank the hon. Member for the compliment 'back-handed or whichever handed it may be'. But the fact is that the user development fee is as per the contract which has been entered with the consortium which has taken up the upgradation or rather the construction in the case of Hyderabad of this new Airport. There is no question of its stopping at a certain level. It is depending on the concession period and it has been entered into as per the contract. It is not something that it stops at a certain number of passengers because an airport's upgradation will not stop at five million passengers. The moment it hits the next level, it has to go in for further capital investment. So, it is not a question of stopping at a particular level. In fact, when you achieve a level of traffic, you are expected to upgrade the airport to the

next level of traffic which has been projected. So, I do not think this is relevant. Again, as I said, all issues of now user development fee, which have been decided by the Ministry in the past, as a part of the contractual obligations, this responsibility now moves on from the Ministry to the Regulatory Authority which has started functioning.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Hon'ble Madam Speaker, hon'ble Minister has given a reply that development fee is being charged from Mumbai and Delhi Airports. I agree with Satpathyji in his contention that development fee should be charged only after the work is fully completed. I have been commuting between Ahmedabad, Mumbai and Delhi for the past 20 years but condition of Delhi and Mumbai has not changed.

Hon'ble Minister is my old friend, therefore, I call him Praful Bhai. Everyone might be aware of the present situation, earlier we roam over Delhi about 40 minutes which was called 'Delhi Darshan'.

[English]

I am coming to the question. It is very chaotic situation in the Delhi Airport which you will also realize.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Even the hon. Speaker is facing it.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Situation has worsened after charging development fee because earlier plane used to get the runway to land after 40 minutes.

[English]

Day before yesterday, when I went to Ahmedabad, it took me 45 minutes from the Boarding place to reach the runway.

[Translation]

I have been made to roam around in Taxi Way for 45 minutes. If one extra runway is constructed there, then it should take less time but situation is worsening. I would like to know when the situation will improve at Delhi Airport because it causes wastage of fuel and manpower as well. Flight got delayed for 4 hours and you have to roam around runway or over the city for 'Delhi Darshan'. When will the situation improve?

[English]

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Madam, as he has addressed me as Praful bhai. I call him as Harin bhai. Madam, I would

only like to state that the hon. Member has raised some issues about air congestion. Well, I think, he has said that but he actually meant that he was taxiing for 45 minutes on the ground.

In the Delhi Airport, the new run way which has been constructed on the other side, eventually you must appreciate that this is an ongoing construction activity. The new terminal which you are envisaging, which is coming up as we take off, when you sit usually on the left side is where eventually all the planes will be parked. So, it is not where we are right now at the domestic airport. Therefore, in future, the taxiing time between landing and to your bay will be definitely reduced and the new terminal is expected to be functional from April of 2010.

[Translation]

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH : Madam Speaker, hon'ble Minister has submitted just now that Government are taking up all such works through public-private partnership. I would like to know from hon'ble Minister whether he will develop Allahabad Airport through public-private partnership about which I have made a mention to you several times. He had started service from Allahabad which is presently running with hundred per cent occupancy and it is very hard to get reservation for the flight. Will he consider to start a 60 seater plane from Allahabad?

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Hon'ble Member is a very senior member and also my colleague. I would like to submit in regard to the air service which he was referring to, the airport belongs to Defence and there is one civil enclave. Hence, there is no question of developing it through public-private partnership. If State Government propose for the construction of new airport. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: It is in Iradatganj.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Madam, I cannot reply to this question immediately because that Airport belongs to State Government, If State Government sends a proposal in this regard, then we will definitely consider it. Air service was started from Allahabad on the request of Rewati Raman ji and Shailendra ji. I think they are happy that there is hundred per cent occupancy in the plane.

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Madam, on 2nd July, there was a Question-Answer time. It was not possible to have it due to the adjournment of the House. Very important Questions were tabled on that day for discussion.

My question is a little deviation from the main question raised by Mr. Satpathy. Now levies are being charged for upgradation of the airports. On the other hand, the conditions of the employees are not up to the mark and they are not getting their due salaries since last month. They have been issued a notice that whatever profit or loss may be there, it will depend on that and they are not even allowed to go the Press to raise their apprehensions. After this upgradation, I would like to know whether there is any proposal with the Government to send Air India for disinvestment including these airports. There are apprehensions and I want to be clarified whether the Government can send this for disinvestment after the upgradation process, which is moving very fast, is over.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: I could not get to know whether he is talking about Airports Authority or Air India. But I can only say one thing that there is no proposal for disinvestment of either Air India or Airports Authority.

#### Protection of investors

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\*83. SHRI BALIRAM JADHAV:  
SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of investigation of the affairs of Satyam Computer Services Ltd.;

(b) whether any irregularities have come to the notice of the Government in other companies after the Satyam scam;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is planning to introduce any new law in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check irregularities committed by such companies?

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 (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) The report of investigation into the affairs of Satyam ordered by the Central Government under section 235 of the Companies Act, 1956 has been received from the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO). The Central

Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has also conducted its investigation as to the criminal liability arising from the events relating to Satyam. Action under law is now being taken to prosecute those found involved on the basis of these investigations, alongwith appropriate action by various other regulatory bodies/agencies.

(b) and (c) Satyam scam is an aberration and the events are specific to the company in question. No other scam of this nature has come to notice since then.

(d) to (f) An elaborate regulatory framework is in place to deal with incidents of fraud. This framework provides for statutory disclosures about the affairs of companies intended to inform the stakeholders the truth about the state of affairs of companies under the Companies Act. To facilitate making of such disclosures by companies, and for stakeholders and regulatory agencies to easily access and view them, Government has set up an electronic registry with round the clock access through internet. The Government has powers of inspection of the books of accounts of companies and also to investigate their affairs, if need be, under the Companies Act, 1956. In addition, the Act provides for appointment of independent, statutory auditors to audit the accounts, and report to the shareholders. Such audited accounts are also displayed on the electronic registry for general viewing. While the reporting requirements are regulated under the Companies Act, 1956, the conduct of auditors is regulated under the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949. In addition, for listed companies, compliance with these statutory requirements is required to be certified by a company secretary in practice, who in turn is regulated under the Company Secretaries Act, 1980. Government has amended the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 and the Company Secretaries Act, 1980 in 2006 to provide for a more effective disciplinary mechanism to deal with cases of misconduct by Chartered Accountants and Company Secretaries respectively. In 2006, the Government has notified Accounting Standards to enable accounts of companies to be drawn up and disclosed on the basis of fair, transparent and internationally accepted principles. Government proposes to reintroduce the Companies Bill, 2008 as the Companies Bill, 2009 which seeks to make more stringent provisions in case of frauds by companies, their directors and auditors etc.

#### [Translation]

SHRI BALIRAM JADHAV : Speaker, I agree with the reply of Minister but I want that Government should bring a Bill immediately for making Chartered Accountant accountable so that frauds like Satyam case may not occur in future.

[English]

SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED: Madam Speaker, there are already provisions to look after responsibilities of Chartered Accountants under the Chartered Accountants Act. The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India make the relevant disciplinary inquiries. Further strengthening of these provisions will come when the new Company Law (Amendment) Bill will be introduced in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI BALIRAM JADHAV : Madam Speaker, it is submitted in written reply that the Government will reintroduce Company Bill, 2008 in modified form as Company Bill, 2009 to make it more stringent. I would like to know when will it be introduced.

[English]

SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED: The intention is to introduce the Bill in this Session. We already have the approval of the Cabinet on this.

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri K.C. Venugopal - Not present

[Translation]

SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL : Hon'ble Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to know from the Minister amount will be recovered from the guilty persons according to Company Law and when it will be recovered and if not, what are the reasons?

[English]

SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED: The provisions of the Company Law, as at present, do not permit us to recover the money, but there are other proceedings under which properties can be attached. The Income Tax authorities, the Enforcement Directorate and other agencies, which are looking into the matter, have certain provisions under which properties can be attached and money can be recovered.

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI: Madam, the Government, in reply to parts 'g' to 'f' of the question, have listed elaborate regulatory framework that is in place to deal with the incidents of fraud in the corporate sector. This mechanism of checks and accountability, on the face of it, is quite stupendous. As we by now know, Satyam scam was not in the nature of transitory fraud. It was well planned, had a wide time span and spread and involved a whole set of company executives and officials. My question to the hon. Minister is this. How could such a major corporate fraud occur and escape the eyes of plethora of regulatory mechanisms and what action has been taken to pin down those who have failed these regulatory mechanisms.

SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED: First of all, I would like the hon. Member to know that the concerned persons have all been arrested except one who has anticipatory bail. They are all under arrest and their bail applications have repeatedly been rejected. Prosecutions have begun, both the CBI and the Serious Frauds Investigation Office of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs are proceeding with prosecution procedure and we expect that these will proceed with due diligence and with sense of urgency.

As far as the longevity of this fraud is concerned, there were some very devious methods involved including forgery, manipulation of computer programmes, and indeed many of the provisions that are now in the Companies Bill anticipate such frauds and such irregularities. I can assure the House that when the Bill comes before the House, you will find that the provisions to strengthen all procedures that are relevant to such irregularities will be present.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Madam Speaker, Satyam Scam was exposed not by any agency of the Government but the owner and Chairman of Satyam, he himself made a statement that such a scam has been committed. While replying to the part 'B' and 'C' of the question, honourable Minister has stated that no other scam of similar nature has come to his notice. Madam, through you, I would like to know whether the Government are waiting for any other company to announce such a scam?

SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED : Madam Speaker, I would like to state that honourable Member must be knowing that if any burglary takes place anywhere, then the duty of the police is not to wait for another theft to take place but to take suo-moto action immediately. It is true that this scam to light first through the email of Satyam Chairman but before that there were some indications in this regard on the basis of which we had started investigation and during the investigation, comprehensive details about this scam came to light.

[English]

#### Capital Punishment

\*84. SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Law Commission has recommended for implementation of capital punishment in cases of dowry deaths;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY: Madam, dowry death or bride burning is a very serious crime in a civilized society. Of late such cases are increasing day by day in the country. I would like to know whether there is any proposal with the Government to hold national level consultations to evolve a consensus in the matter of awarding capital punishment in such cases.

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: Madam Speaker, the matter has been referred to the Law Commission of India and in its 202nd Report on the proposal to amend Section 304 B of Indian Penal Code, it said that there was no need at all. But at the same time, the award of death in rarest of rare cases, even under the provisions of this Act, is permissible when it amounts to murder which can be read with Section 302 IPC.

SHRI P.T. THOMAS: Madam, would the hon. Minister be kind enough to state whether Government is going to bring a Bill to prohibit capital punishment in our country? Is there any proposal with the Government considering the present controversy that is going on in relation to one of our natives, Sarabjeet Singh, who is in Pakistan Jail facing death sentence? What is the attitude of the Government towards such cases?

SMRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: Madam Speaker, this does not come under the purview of this question.

MADAM SPEAKER: Q.No. 85, Shri Radha Mohan Singh - Not present.

Q.No.86, Shri Rajaiah Siricilla.

#### Contribution to food processing sector to GDP

\*86. SHRI RAJIAH SIRICILLA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the contribution of Food Processing sector towards the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to promote food processing industries so as to enhance its share in GDP?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) The data on Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in respect of Food Processing sector in the country, is not centrally maintained. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of Agriculture based industry groups comprising meat, fish, fruits, vegetables and oils, dairy products, grain milling, other food products, beverage and their growth during last three years areas below:-

#### Gross Domestic Product at Current Prices

(Rs. in crores)

NIC Code & Description	2005-06	2006-07 (Provisional)	2007-08 (Quick)
Percentage contribution in GDP*	1.81	1.85	1.88

#### Gross Domestic Product at constant prices (Base year 1999-00)

(Rs. in crores)

NIC Code & Description	2005-06	2006-07 (Provisional)	2007-08 (Quick)
Percentage contribution in GDP*	1.88	1.87	1.85

\* GDP at factor cost

(b) For the development of the food processing sector, the Government has taken various initiatives to strengthen the Food Processing Infrastructure, Government has approved a scheme for Mega Food Parks, Cold Chain, Value Added Centres and Modernization of Abattoirs. The Infrastructure scheme envisages a well-defined agri/horticultural-processing zone containing state of the art processing facilities with support infrastructure and well established supply chain. It aims to provide a mechanism to bring together farmers, processors and retailers and link agricultural production to the market so as to ensure maximization of value addition, minimization of wastages and improving farmers' income. The primary objective of the scheme is to facilitate establishment of an integrated value chain, with processing at the core and supported by requisite forward and backward linkages.

Other strategic initiatives during 11th Plan include scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Preservation Infrastructure including Controlled Atmosphere/Modified

Atmosphere Storage, Value Added Centres, Packaging Centres and Irradiation facilities. Benefits of the Scheme will also be available to integrated projects of value addition/processing/preservation of horticulture, dairy, marine, and meat sector. Another infrastructure development scheme is for setting up / up-gradation of food testing laboratories which would benefit all stakeholders including domestic industry, exporters, entrepreneurs, small and medium enterprises, existing academic & research institutions, food standards setting bodies.

Modernization of Abattoirs is a scheme targeting infrastructure for the meat processing industry. It aims to upgrade qualitative and quantitative capacities of the abattoirs, which will be linked, with commercial processing of meat, both for domestic consumption and exports. The financial assistance (grant-in-aid) is being extended at 50% and 75% of the cost of plant & machineries and technical civil works in general and difficult areas respectively subject to a maximum of Rs. 15 crores for each project. The Ministry has approved 'in principle' to set up ten abattoirs in the country with a total cost of Rs. 127.00 crores. An amount of Rs.7.94 crores has been released.

Further, the Ministry has several other schemes for promotion of the food processing industry. 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 to include Milk, Fruit & Vegetables, Meat, Poultry, fishery, cereal, consumer items, oil seeds, rice milling, flour milling, pulse etc.

Similarly Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, R&D and Promotional Activities, is aimed at motivating the food processing industries for adoption of food safety and quality assurance mechanisms such as TQM including ISO 14000, ISO 22000, HACCP, GMP, GHP, and preparing them to face global competition in post WTO Regime. The scheme is also aimed at ensuring that end product /outcome /findings of R&D work should benefit Food Processing Industries in terms of product and process development, improved packaging, value addition and leading to innovative products and processes, with commercial value.

The Scheme for Human Resource Development focuses on developing technologists, managers, Entrepreneurs and manpower for quality management in Food Processing. The scheme also aims at development of rural entrepreneurship and transfer of technology for processing of food products by utilizing locally grown raw material and providing "Hands-on" experience at such production cum

training centres, while according priority to SC/ST/OBC and women minorities candidates.

The Scheme for Strengthening of Institutions is aimed at strengthening of existing institutes like Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology & establishing National Institute of Food Technology and Entrepreneurship Management (NIFTEM). The objective of NIFTEM is to promote cooperation and networking amongst existing institutions both within the country & international bodies, create a complete data base on domestic resources and bring in international best practices for improving the food processing sector. Besides above mentioned institutions, two Boards have been set up under the Ministry i.e Indian Grape Processing Board and National Meat and Poultry Processing Board under the scheme.

In addition to the above mentioned schemes, certain fiscal incentives have been given to the food processing industry. Some of these are exemption to fruits and vegetable processing units from paying income tax, reduction of excise duty on ready to eat packaged foods and instant food mixes from 16% to 8%. There is automatic approval for 100% foreign equity in food processing sector.

SHRI RAJAJIAH SIRICILLA: Madam Speaker, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. Madam, through you, I would like to say that the Answer given by the hon. Minister is very theoretical in nature. In reality, the food processing units or industries are very nominal in number and their production is also very-very less. As a result, there is a lot of fluctuation in the market prices of vegetables, meat, fish etc., thereby the farmers are put to loss.

Madam, through you, I would like to know whether there is any Action Plan with the Government to strengthen and modernize the food processing industries in the rural areas to sustain or to compete with the world market.

SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY: Madam Speaker, we are having a complete roadmap for reducing the wastage, enhancing the processing level as well as for value addition. I assure that we have worked out backward integration in the supply chain so that the farmers should get some better prices, farmers should get opportunities for market-driven farming, and farmers should get better technology. That is why we have put in place for backward and forward integration plan. We are setting up Mega Food Parks; we are setting up cold chain; we are setting up complete supply chain. These are the hurdles for these industries. We have worked out 100-days plan, and one-year plan. I can assure that the industries have shown remarkable progress in the last five years. Earlier the processing level was 6 per cent which has gone up to 10 per cent. Value addition has gone

up from 20 per cent to 26 per cent. Growth rate has gone up from 7 per cent to 13.14 per cent. We know that it is the largest employment oriented sector. So, our focus, the Government's focus, is very much there and we will fulfil that task. I assure you this.

SHRI RAJIAH SIRICILLA: If that is the case, why there is lot of fluctuation in the prices of vegetables like tomato and meat products etc. The availability of industries, the hon. Minister told, are either nominal or they are non-functional (sick). Further, is there any trade agreement with any foreign country? If so, which are those countries and what are the products that are exported?

SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY: APEDA is the organization which is only dedicated for processed food export trade activity. In this area, in the last 5 years, the exports of food items have grown from Rs. 33,000 crores to Rs. 50,000 crores. I can assure that we have discussed with the States and we are asking them to prepare a food processing industrial policy. It is because this is a perishable industry. So, anybody who wants to put money, needs something from the State as help. So we are working out as to how the States can attract investment in this sector because it is a rural sector, a perishable sector. So the hurdle what I exactly feel, as the hon. Member is saying, is that we are not having sufficient industrialization. But the visionary leader, Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi, created this Ministry and based on that vision we are going ahead. I hope that by 2015, we will achieve this processing level more than 20 per cent and this farmers' problem will be taken care of.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Madam Speaker, it is true that the food processing industries in the country have a great potential to help achieving growth in the Gross Domestic Product. But, at the same time, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that whatever incentives that have been declared by the Government, are not reaching the entrepreneurs or the industry in time who tried to help the Government to increase the Gross Domestic Product.

It is a fact that the incentives are not reaching the people in time. My question is this. Is it a fact? The incentives which have been prescribed are not reaching the people in time, and as a result the growth of industry has been hampered.

SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY: Madam Speaker, I think, the hon. Member is not aware of the concept. We have decentralized the entire subsidy distribution concept. It is linked with the bank now, and linked with e-portal. So, an entrepreneur applies for loan in the bank, and accordingly the bank recommends to the Ministry for the release of

subsidy portion which is then directly released to the bank by the Ministry. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: That is a cumbersome process. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY: Earlier there was no decentralization. Earlier everything used to be done from the Ministry but for the last more than two years we have decentralized it completely. We disburse directly to banks whatever money that we are having in our kitty, and only after our friend get exhausted that the entrepreneurs have to wait for the next allotment.

SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Madam Speaker, as on date, in the tribal dominated areas and regions across the country, food proceeding industry has not yet been set up. I would like to know from the concerned Minister, through you, Madam, whether the Government has mooted any pro-active and positive policy decision to set up some food processing industries in the tribal dominated areas with special mention to my Bodoland territory. My Bodoland territory is having three million people. This territory has been very much neglected and it is backward. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of India is having some kind of a serious thought and an idea to set up some food processing industries in my area.

SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY: Madam Speaker, the North-East is our focus area, and we have held many investors' meet in the North-East. Basically the Ministry does not set up anything. We give 25 per cent as capital grant for setting up of an industry in the plain area but in the north east, we give 33 per cent as capital grant for setting up of an industry. So, we help any entrepreneur who comes forward to avail this opportunity. In every State we have organised separate Investors' Meet, and things are taking shape now. I would love to help any entrepreneur who is interested to set up an industry in the constituency of the Hon. Member.

MADAM SPEAKER: Q. 87. Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey - not present.

Shri G.M. Siddeshwara - not present.

Q. 88 - Shri L. Rajagopal.

#### Navratna PSUs

\*88. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted to declare a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) as a Navratna Unit;

(b) the benefits that a Navratna company gets as compared to other companies;

(c) whether the benefits accrued to Navratna companies differ based on the sales turnover;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether conferment of the Navratna status has helped the PSUs generally in maintaining and improving their overall performance; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI VILASRAO DESHMUKH): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) The Government initiated the Navratna and Miniratna schemes in 1997 in order to identify public sector companies having comparative advantages, and to make them more efficient and competitive by granting them operational and functional autonomy. As of now, the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) fulfilling the following criteria are eligible to be considered for grant of Navratna status:

- (i) Having Schedule 'A' and Miniratna Category-I status
- (ii) Having at least three 'Excellent' or 'Very Good' Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) ratings during the last five years
- (iii) Having a composite score of 60 or above out of 100 marks based on its performance during the last 3 years on the following six identified efficiency parameters:

Performance Parameters	Maximum Marks
Net Profit to Net Worth	25
Manpower Cost to Cost of Production or services	15
Gross Margin to Capital Employed	15
Gross Profit to Turnover	15
Earnings per Share	10
Inter- Sectoral comparison based on Net Profit to Net Worth	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

(b) As compared to other CPSEs, the Boards of Navratna CPSEs have been delegated enhanced powers in the areas of (i) capital expenditure, (ii) equity investment

in joint ventures/subsidiaries in India or abroad, (iii) human resources development, (iv) organizational restructuring and (v) raising of debt from the domestic capital markets and borrowings from international markets.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Over a period of time, Navratna CPSEs have attained brand value as it facilitates them to expeditiously take investment decisions. The performance of Navratna CPSEs is regularly reviewed by the Inter-Ministerial Committee/Apex Committee. The performance of Navratna CPSEs, which have enjoyed Navratna status for the last few years, in terms of their aggregate turnover, net worth and net profit has improved as indicated in the following table.

	(Rs. Crore)		
Year	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
<b>Criteria</b>			
Turnover	4,88,259	5,92,554	6,65,199
Net worth	1,86,896	2,14,008	2,45,703
Net Profit	34,446	45,069	47,379

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Madam Speaker, at present we have 18 Navratnas and they are allowed to invest only up to 30 per cent of their net worth or Rs. 1,000 crore, whichever is less. They also cannot invest more than 15 per cent on a single project. But there are some Navratnas which have been outperforming in their spheres. The Navratnas like BHEL, HAL, HPCL, IOC, NMDC, Power Grid Corporation, SAIL are far ahead of other Navratnas. Due to restrictions in investment, etc. they are not able to expand their commercial activities. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please be brief if you want an answer.

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: It is because of this reason they are demanding for granting Maharatna status with freedom to make investment up to 50 per cent of their net worth or 25 per cent investment on a single project.

So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what constraints the Department of Public Enterprises is having in granting Maharatna status to other companies.

MADAM SPEAKER: Question Hour is over.



## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

**Delivery of Parcels**

\*85. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have set up any norms/ time limit for the delivery of the parcels booked through parcel godowns at Railway Stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these norms are not being complied with by the Railways;

(d) if so, the number of complaints received by each Railway Division for non-loading or delay in delivery of parcels; and

(e) the action taken by the Railways against delinquent officials ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) and (b) There are rules and procedures for dispatch and delivery of parcels and for dealing with delays to parcels in transit. Parcels are required to be dispatched as quickly as possible. Parcels of perishable nature, newspapers and cinematographic films get preference over other parcels.

If a consignment of parcel is not received within a reasonable time, the forwarding station and the junctions via which it is booked are to be intimated.

(c) These norms are being followed by the Railways.

(d) and (e) The number of recorded complaints received during April - June 2009 for non-loading or delay in delivery of parcels and action taken by the Railways against delinquent officials, are as under :-

Sr. No.	Railway	Division	Number of recorded complaints from April - June 2009		Action taken by Railway against delinquent officials
			For non-loading	For delay in delivery	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	East Central Rly	Danapur	0	2	Action taken under Discipline & Appeal Rules of the Railways against 2 delinquent officials.
		Dhanbad	0	4	They are inward consignments booked to stations in Dhanbad division. Under investigation.
		Sonpur	0	40	Action taken under Discipline & Appeal Rules of the Railways against 3 delinquent officials.
		Samastipur	2	3	Action taken under Discipline & Appeal Rules of the Railways against 2 delinquent officials.
2.	Northern Railway	Delhi	1	3	All the cases are under investigation and action will be taken under Discipline & Appeal Rules of the Railways against the delinquent officials found responsible.
3.	North Central Railway	Allahabad	1	1	In 2 complaints minor penalties against 2 staff have been issued. In
		Jhansi	0	2	complaints warning issued to 2 staff. 2 complaints were found not
		Agra	2	2	justified after enquiry and 2 complaints are under enquiry.

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	North Western Railway	Ajmer	1	0	Concerned staff has been warned.
		Jaipur	1	0	Action initiated under Discipline & Appeal Rules of the Railways against the delinquent official.
5.	West Central Rly.	Jabalpur	3	2	Action initiated under Discipline & Appeal Rules of the Railways against 5 delinquent officials.

**Late Running of Trains***[English]*

\*87. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:  
SHRI G.M.SIDDESHWARA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the revenue earned by the Railways by levying surcharge on the passengers of the superfast trains during the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether several superfast, mail and express trains are running late these days;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Railways for ensuring timely operation of these trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE) : (a) Revenue earned by levying Superfast Surcharge on Superfast Trains during the last three years and during the current year is indicated below:-

Year	Revenue ( In crores of Rs.)
2006-07	179.11
2007-08	216.34
2008-09	243.63
2009-10 (upto May 2009)	47.30

(b) and (c) No, Madam. However, trains do run late sometimes due to various reasons like alarm chain pulling, other miscreant activities, public agitations, natural calamities, bad weather, cattle run over, asset failure, etc.

(d) Various steps are being taken to improve punctuality of passenger carrying trains which include round the clock monitoring of running of trains at Divisional and Zonal level, improvement in time tabling, improvement in Standard of maintenance of assets to reduce equipment failures and up-gradation of technology of track, rolling stock and signaling and co-ordination with state governments to tackle the law and order problems and miscreant activities. Special intensified efforts for monitoring punctuality have now been taken up at Railway Board level.

**Royalty on crude oil and gas**

\*89. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the royalty on crude oil and gas is required to be paid to the State Governments based on the wellhead price of crude oil;

(b) if so, whether during the period April to December, 2008 ONGC paid royalty to the State Governments on post discount prices;

(c) whether the State Governments have represented to the Union Government for payment of royalty as per pre-discount prices; and

(d) if so, the follow-up action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (d) The royalty on mineral oil in respect of commercial production from on-land areas, is required to be paid to the State Governments based on a fixed rate decided by the Central Government as percentage of the sale price of the mineral oil at the oil fields or the oil well-head, as the case may be, under the provisions of Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Act (ORDA), 1948.

During the period April to December, 2008 Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) paid royalty to the State Governments on post-discount prices.

The State Government of Gujarat has represented to the Union Government for payment of royalty as per pre-discount prices.

On examination of the issues raised by Government of Gujarat, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has clarified to the Government of Gujarat that royalty payments made by ONGC is on the basis of crude oil price actually realized i.e. post-discount price.

### Model Railway Stations

\*90. SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR:  
SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the parameters laid down to select a railway station for developing it as a model railway station;

(b) whether the Railways have modified/upgraded some of the railway stations in the country as model stations;

(c) if so, the names of the railway stations which have been upgraded as model stations so far in the country, State-wise;

(d) whether any proposals for upgrading railway stations into model stations are pending with the Railways; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared by the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) to (e) For the purpose of providing upgraded passenger amenities, the existing criteria provides for selection of 'A-1', 'A' and 'B' category stations as model stations. Out of 594 stations identified for development as model stations, work of 373 stations has been completed. A state-wise list of Stations where the work has been completed is given in the enclosed statement. Work is in progress for the remaining identified stations and is planned for completion by March, 2010.

#### Statement

##### State-wise list of stations developed as 'Model Stations'

State	Names of stations
1	2
Assam (3)	Guwahati, Lumding and New Tinsukia.
Andhra Pradesh(51)	Anakapalli, Anantapur, Annavaram, Basar, Bhadrachalam Road, Bhimavaram, Chirala, Cuddapah, Dharmavaram Jn., Dornakal, Eluru, Godavari, Gooty, Gudivada, Gudur, Guntakal, Guntur, Hyderabad, Kacheguda, Kakinada Town, Kazipet, Khammam, Kurnool Town, Manchiryal, Mantralayam Road, Nadikudi, Nalgonda, Nandyal, Nellore, Nidadavolu, Nizamabad,

1	2
	Ongole, Palasa, Rajahmundry, Ramagundam, Renigunta, Samalkot, Secunderabad, Srikakulam, Srikalahasti, Tadepalligudem, Tandur, Tanuku, Tenali, Tirupati, Tuni, Vijayawada, Vikarabad, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Warangal.
Bihar (25)	Barauni, Bariarpur, Begu Sarai, Bhagalpur, Chhapra, Darbhanga, Hajipur Jn, Jamalpur Jn., Katihar, Khagaria, Madhubani, Motihari, Muzaffarpur, Nalanda, Nawadah, Patna Jn., Rajendra Nagar (T), Raxaul, Saharsa, Samastipur, Sheikhpura, Sitamarhi, Siwan Jn., Sonepur and Sultanganj.
Chhattisgarh (6)	Bilaspur, Champa, Durg, Raigarh, Raipur and Rajnandgaon.
Delhi (3)	Delhi, H.Nizamuddin and New Delhi.
Gujarat (8)	Ahmedabad, Anand Jn., Dwarka, Jamnagar, Nadiad, Rajkot, Surendranagar and Vadodara.
Goa (1)	Madgaon.
Haryana (4)	Bhiwani, Hissar, Rewari and Sirsa.
Jammu & Kashmir (2)	Jammu Tawi and Kathua.
Jharkhand (11)	Baidyanathdham, Barharwa, Bokaro Steel City, Chakradharpur, Dhanbad, Hatia, Jasidih, Madhupur, Ranchi, Sahibganj and Tatanagar.
Karnataka (22)	Bangalore Cantt., Bangalore City, Bangarpet jn, Belgaum, Bellary Jn., Bidar, Davangere, Dharwad, Gadag, Gulbarga, Hospet Jn., Hubli Jn., Kankanadi, Krishnarajapuram, Londa jn, Mangalore, Mysore, Raichur, Shimoga Town, Tumkur, Yadgir and Yesvanthpur jn.
Kerala (12)	Badagara, Chengannaur, Ernakulam Jn., Ernakulam Town, Kannur (Cannanore), Kottayam,

1	2
	Kozikkode (Calicut), Palakkad (Palghat Jn.), Shoranur, Tiruvalla, Tiruvananthapuram (Trivandrum Central) and Trichur.
Madhya Pradesh (15)	Bhopal, Bina, Burhanpur, Chhindwara, Guna, Habibganj, Hoshangabad, Itarsi, Jabalpur, Katni Jn., Khandwa, Morena, Sagour, Shahdol and Vidisha.
Maharashtra (37)	Ahmednagar, Akola Jn., Amrawati, Aurangabad, Badnera, Bhusaval, Chalisgaon, Chandrapur, CST Mumbai, Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Terminus (Kolhapur), Dadar, Daund, Devlali, Gondia, Házur Sahib Nanded, Jalgaon, Jalna, Kalyan, Karad, Kurla (Lokmanya Tilak Terminus), Lonavala, Malkapur, Manmad, Mudkhed, Nagarsol, Nagpur, Nasik Road, Parbhani, Parlivaijnath, Pune, Purna, Sangli, Satara, Shegaon, Solapur, Thane and Wardha.
Orissa (21)	Badakhandita, Balasore, Balugaon, Bhadrak, Bhubaneswar, Brahampur, Byree, Cuttack, Dhenkanal, Golantra, Jajpur-Keonjhar Road, Jharsuguda, Kapilas Road, Khurda Road, Puri, Rahama, Rayagada, Rourkela, Sambalpur, Surla Road and Titlagarh.
Puducherry (1)	Puducherry
Punjab (6)	Amritsar, Beas, Firozpur, Jullundur City, Ludhiana and Pathankot
Rajasthan (17)	Abu Road, Ajmer, Alwar, Beawar, Bikaner, Falna, Hanumangarh, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Kota, Nagaur, Pali Marwar, Rani, Sri Ganga nagar, Suratgarh and Udaipur.
Tamil Nadu (19)	Arakkonam jn, Chennai Beach, Chennai Central, Chennai Egmore, Coimbatore, Dindigul, Erode Jn., Hosur, Kanniyakumari, Katpadi, Madurai, Mambalam,

1	2
	Nagercoil, Salem Jn., Thanjavur, Tiruchchirappalli, Tirunelveli, Tiruppur and Tiruttani.
Uttar Pradesh (47)	Agra Cantt, Agra Fort, Aligarh, Allahabad, Allahabad City, Azamgarh, Badshah Nagar, Bahraich, Ballia, Bareilly, Barhani, Basti, Belthra Road, Bhatni jn, Deoria Sadar, Etawah, Farrukhabad, Garhmukteshwar, Ghazipur City, Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur, Hapur, Izzatnagar Jn, Kanpur Central, Kasganj, Katra, Khalilabad. Lakhimpur, Lucknow (NR), Lucknow City, Lucknow jn. (NER), Manduadih, Mathura Jn., Mau Jn., Mirzapur, Moradabad, Mughalsarai, Orai, Pilibhit, Raja Ki Mandi, Rawatpur, Salempur, Shahjahanpur, Sitapur, Tundla, Varanasi and Varanasi City.
Uttarakhand (5)	Dehradun, Haridwar, Kashipur, Kathgodam and Lalkuan.
West Bengal (57)	Adra, Andal Jn., Asansol, Bagnan, Bandel, Barasat, Bardhaman, Barrackpur, Baruipur Jn., Basirhat, Bidhannagar Road, Bishnupur, Bolpur, Bongaon, Budge Budge, Canning, Chandannagar, Contai Road, Dankuni, Dhakuria, Dum Dum, Durgapur, Garbeta, Garia, Ghutiari Sharif, Howrah, Jalpaiguri, Jhargram, Kharagpur, Kishanganj, Kolaghat, Krishnagar Road, Kulti, Labpur, Madhyamgram, Malda Town, Mecheda, Midnapore, Murshidabad, Nabadwip Dham, Naihati, New Farakka, Purulia, Rampurhat, Ranaghat Jn., Raniganj, Rishra, Sainthia, Santragachi Jn., Sealdah, Sheoraphulli, Sonarpur, Srirampur, Tamluk, Tarakeswar, Tollyganj and Ulubaria.

#### Sick NTC mills

\*91. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of National Textile Corporation (NTC) mills in the country, at present;

(b) the number of NTC mills reported to be sick and are incurring losses;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to revive these sick mills; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) National Textile Corporation (NTC) has taken over 119 textile mills under its control through 3 spells of Nationalization under the Sick Textile Undertakings (Nationalization) Act 1974; Swadeshi Cotton Mills Company Ltd. (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1986 and Textile Undertakings (Nationalization) Act, 1995. Out of these, two mills have been transferred to the Govt. of Puducherry and 76 unviable mills have been closed under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 after approval by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). One more mill has been identified for closure. NTC is therefore left with 40 mills presently. Further 2 mills are being relocated at the sites of originally closed mills and an additional piece of land has been procured in Special Economic Zone, Hassan (Karnataka) for setting up a new mill.

(b) Although all the 24 units which are under modernisation by NTC are presently running in operational losses, 3 units are able to meet the expenditure on salary and wages. Out of 16 units approved for revival through Joint Venture (JV) route, 5 units are earning profits through trading activities.

(c) and (d) BIFR has approved the revival plan for NTC at a total cost of Rs. 9102.72 crores, to be generated by sale of surplus land and assets of NTC. In pursuance of the revival plan approved by the Government/BIFR, 24 mills are under revival/modernization by NTC itself. Of these, modernisation of 17 mills has been completed. Revival of 16 mills through joint venture partnership has also been approved. One mill has been retained for setting up a Technical Textile Unit.

#### Setting up of E-Courts

\*92. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of courts required to address the increasing number of litigations in the country;

(b) the status of setting up of e-courts to help reduce bottlenecks in judicial system and making justice available to the masses in the country at a quicker pace;

(c) the action plan of the Government to speed up this project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) There is no data available on the estimated number of courts required to address the increasing number of litigations in the country. However, the Law Commission in its 120th Report, recommended that the strength of judges per one million population may be increased from 10.5 to 50.

With regard to subordinate judiciary, the Supreme Court, in its judgment of 21st March, 2002, in All India Judges' Association & Ors Vs. Union of India & ors, directed that an increase in the Judge strength from the existing 10.5 or 13 per 10 lakh people to 50 judges per 10 lakh people should be effected and implemented within a period of five years in a phased manner to be determined and directed by the Union Ministry of Law. The Central Government have filed an affidavit in the Supreme Court praying that the increase in judge strength in the Union Territories, for which Central Government is administratively responsible, be allowed based on workload and pendency of cases. The matter is sub-judice.

(b) Phase I of the E-courts project is presently under implementation. National Informatics Centre (NIC) is the implementing agency for this project. Under the project, 13,365 Judicial Officers have so far been provided with laptops, 56720 Judicial Officers and Court staff have been trained in the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools and 12599 laser printers have been supplied to the courts. Site preparation work in the court complexes identified by the High Courts is under process for setting up server rooms/service centres. Computer, hardware has been delivered at a total of 12 High Courts. Local Area Network (LAN) Survey has been completed for High Courts. Purchase order issuance is under process for LAN. For supply of technical manpower at District Court, 190 candidates have been trained and deployed across the district courts under 11 High Courts. 27 candidates have been trained and deployed across 11 High Courts. Internet connectivity has been provided through Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited at 486 District Courts and 1272 Taluka Court complexes. In addition, internet connections have also been provided at the home offices of 10744 Judicial Officers. For development of Software Application, the base version of the application has been decided and is now being tested in 8 locations. For site preparation, estimates have been received for approx. 2200 court complexes. An amount of Rs. 38.64 crore has been transferred to States for site

preparation. 499 District Courts complexes have so far reported site preparation work as completed across various High Courts. A grant of Rs.212.95 crore has been provided to NIC till 31.03.2009 for the implementation of the scheme.

(c) and (d) The government is formulating a revised proposal for the E-Courts Projects with revised cost estimates and redefined timelines for obtaining approval of the competent authority.

[Translation]

#### **Food Processing units set up by Foreign Investors**

\*93. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of food processing units sanctioned and those set up by foreign entrepreneurs in the country during the Eleventh Five Year Plan and the benefits accrued therefrom;

(b) whether the said investment is likely to have an adverse impact on the small food processing industries in the country; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect the interest of small food processing industries?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) The details of the food processing units sanctioned and set up by foreign entrepreneurs in the country during 11th Five Year Plan and details of the amount of FDI inflows are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) complements and supplements domestic investment. FDI brings in, apart from capital, state-of-art technology and best managerial practices, thereby providing better access to the domestic industry to foreign technology and integration into the global market. The extant policy permits FDI under the automatic route in most sectors/activities, including Food Processing Industries. No specific criteria have been laid down for FDI into sectors under the automatic route. However, proposals requiring prior Government approval are considered by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB), an inter-Ministerial recommendatory body, which takes into account the policy and sectoral guidelines for FDI. The FIPB also examines whether the proposal would jeopardize an existing joint venture or technology transfer/trade mark agreement if any, in the same field in India. There is no definitive indication about the adverse impact of FDI on the small food processing units and no data is available centrally regarding effect of FDI on the domestic industry.

#### **Statement**

##### *Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Inflows in India during 11th Five Year Plan in respect of Food Processing Industries*

Sl. No	Indian Company Name and Address	Foreign Collaborator Name	Amount of Foreign Direct Investment Inflows (in Rs)	Amount Foreign Direct Investment Inflows (In Us\$)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Unibic Biscuits India Pvt Ltd. Year : 2008 month 01 RBI's Region : Bangalore	Unibic International	13.50	0.34
			Sector: Food Products Item : Biscuits, Cakes and Pastries.	
2.	Style Solutions P. Ltd. Year: 2008month 05 RBI's Region New Delhi	Maramet Pty	2.67	0.06
			Sector: Others( Food Products) Item : Other Food Processing & Manufacturing Activities	
3	Style Solution P. Ltd. Year : 2008month 05 RBI's Region : New Delhi	Arnold Dean Schiller	0.11	0.00
			Sector : Others( Food Products) Item : Other Food Processing, & Manufacturing Activities	

1	2	3	4	5
4	Style Solutions P. Ltd. Year : 2008month 05 RBI's Region : New Delhi	Maramet P. Ltd.	0.95 Sector : Others( Food Products) Item : Other Food Processing, & Manufacturing Activities	0.02
5.	Style Solutions P. Ltd. Year: 2008month 05 RBI's Region: New Delhi	Arnold Dean Schiller	0.30 Sector: Others( Food Products) Item : Other Food Processing, & Manufacturing Activites	0.01
6.	Unibic Biscuits India Pvt. Ltd. Year: 2008month 01 RBI's Region Bangalore	Unibic International Pty Ltd.	0.00 Sector: Food Products Item : Cakes and Pastries	0.00
7.	Mahaan Proteins Ltd. Year: 2008month 01 RBI's Region : New Delhi	Schroder Credit Renaissance	Sector: Food Products Item : Dairy Products	172.50
8.	ADF Foods Pvt Ltd. Year: 2008month 02 RBI's Region : Ahmedabad	Schroder Credit Renaissance Fund Ltd.	Sector : (Other Food Products) Item : Fruit/Vegetable Juices And Their Concertrates, Squashes And Powders.	154.00
9.	ADF Foods Pvt Ltd. Year: 2008month 02 RBI's Region : Ahmedabad	Schroder Ltd Credit Renaissance fund LP	Sector : Others( Food Products) Item : Fruit/Vegetable Juices And Their concertrates, Squashes And Powders.	31.50
10	Prosoya Foods (I) P. Ltd. Year: 2007month 07 RBI's Region : Mumbai	Rajendra Gupta	Sector: Food Products Item : Manufacture Of Semi Processed Foods &Instant Foods Except Malted	0.20
11	Prosoya Foods (L) P. Ltd. Year: 2007month 07 RBI's Region : Mumbai	Rashmirekha Gupta	Sector: Food Products Item : Manufacture Of Semi Processed Foods &Instant Foods Except Malted Food	0.20
12	Karna Seaga Industries Ltd Year: 2007month 04 RBI's Region : New Delhi	Seaga International Ltd.	Sector : Food Products Item : Food Products	
13	Temptaion Foods Ltd Year: 2007month 09 RBI's Region : Mumbal	Acncas Evolution Portfolio	Sector: Food Products Item : Semi Processed Foods and Instant Food	21.88

1	2	3	4	5
14	Temptaion Foods Ltd Year: 2007month 09 RBI's	Acncas Evolution Portfolio Region : Mumbai	Sector: Food Products Item : Semi Processed Foods And Instant Food	50.00
15	Amalgamated Bean Coffee Trading Co. Ltd. Year: 2008month 04 RBI's	DMAF II Coffee Holdings Ltd. Region : Bangalore	Sector: Others( Food Products) Item : Manufacture of Beverages	0.00
16	Amalgamated Bean Coffee Trading Co. Ltd. Year : 2008month 04 RBI's	DMAF II Coffee Holdings Ltd. Region : Bangalore	Sector: Others( Food Products) Item : Manufacture of Beverages	446.16
17	Unibic Biscuits (L) P. Ltd. Year: 2007 month 10 RBI's	Qualaton Holdings Ltd. Region : Bangalore	Sector: Food Products Item : Manufacture of Biscuits, Cakes & Pastries	3.00
18	HT Seafood P Ltd. Year : 2007month 05 RBI's Mumbai	Heldo Trading Ltd. Region :	Sector: Food Products Item : Processing, Canning & Preservation of Fish, Crustacea&Similar Foods	1.78
19	HT Seafoods P. Ltd. Year : 2007 Month 05 RBI's Mumbai	Heldo Trading Ltd. Region	Sector : Food Products Item : Processing, Canning & Preservation of Fish, Crustacea & Similar Foods	2.19
20	Elbit India Dairy Ventures Gujarat P.Ltd Year : 2008 month12 RBI's Bangalore	Mirothenta Ltd. Region :	Sector : Food Products Item : Rearing of Ducks,Hens & Other birds Production of Eggs	7.99
21	Nilons Enterprises P. Ltd. Year': 2008 month 12 RBI's Mumbai	Trewailard Ltd. Region :	Sector: Food Products Item : Mfr. of Pickles, Chutneys And Murrabbas	496.98
22	Drums Food Integrated P. Ltd. Year: 2008month 12 RBI's	Agrolidas Investments Ltd. Region : Mumbai	Sector: Food Products; Item : Mfr. of Food Products	17.72
23	Amalgamated Bean Coffee Trading Co. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 04 RBI's Bangalore	DMAF II Coffee Holdings Ltd. Region :	Sector: Others( Food Products) Item : Manufacture of Beverages	567.83
24.	Unibic Biscuits India Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2007 month 08 RBI's Bangalore	Qualaton Holdings Ltd. Region:	Sector: Food Products" Bangalore Item : Biscuits, Cakes and Pastries.	63.64
25	Unibic Biscuits India Pvt Ltd Year : 2007 month 08 RBI Region : Bangalore	Qualaton Holdings Ltd Region : Bangalore	Sector :Food Products Item : Biscuits, Cakes And Pastries.	33.33



1	2	3	4	5
26	Scandinc Food India Pvt. Ltd. Year: 2008 month 08 Mumbai	Good Food Group A/S Region :	Sector: Food Products Item : Manufacture of Sauces, Jams, Jellies & Marmalades Etc	144.87
27	Scandinc Food India Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 08 Mumbai	Scandinc Food (A/S) Region : Mumbai	Sector: Food Products Item : Manufacture of Sauces, Jams, Jellies & Marmalades Etc	0.01
28	Microplus Konzentrate (I) P. Ltd. Year: 2008 month 02 Bangalore	Microplus Konzentrate Gmbh Region : Bangalore	Sector : Others( Food Products) Item : Manufacture of Other Animal & Bird Feed	0.28
29	Microplus Konzentrate (I) P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 02 Bangalore	Renate Thiene Region : Bangalore	Sector : Others( Food Products) Item : Manufacture Of Other Animal & Bird Feed	0.27
30	Italian Foodcrafts P. Ltd Year: 2008 month 07 Panaji	Alexander Bockmeyer Region : Panaji	Sector: Food Products Item: Dairy Products	0.07
31	Reimannsfine Foods P. Ltd. Year : 2007 month 04 Kochi	Steffen Jurgen Stiebling Region Kochi	Sector: Food Products Item : Manufacture of Food Proudcts	7.85
32	Baker Circle (L) P. Ltd. Year : 2007 month 07 New Delhi	Aryan Shamdas Lalwani Region :	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Biscuits, Cake & Pastries	3.75
33	Central India Polutry Breeders Year : 2008 month 07 Mumbai	PT Adityaguna Satwatama Region: Mumbai	Sector: Others( Food Products) Item : Poultry & Other Slaughtering Preparation	1.03
34	Forind Nutrients Pvt Ltd Year: 2007 month 11 Bangalore	David Patrick Foran Region: Bangalore	Sector: Others( Food Products) Item : Other Animal and Bird Feed.	0.23
35	Forind Nutrients Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2007 month 11 Bangalore	Sarah Louise Foran Region : Bangalore	Sector : Others( Food Products) Item : Other Animal And Bird Feed.	0.22
36	Forind Nutrients Pvt Ltd Year : 2007 month 11 Bangalore	Dr. Vijay Kumar Sharma Region : Bangalore	Sector : Others (Food Products) Item : Other Animal And Bird Feed.	0.20
37	Golfera Foods (I) P.Ltd. Year : 2007 month 11 New Delhi	Golefra in Larezzola Region : New Delhi	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Food Products	7.42

1	2	3	4	5
38	R&P Gelato P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 04	R.P. SRL RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Ice Cream and Kulfi Etc.	0.08
39	Golfera Foods (1) P. Ltd. Year : 2007 month 11	Dicurzio Elio Franco RBI's Region : New Delhi	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Food Products	2.28
40	Italian Foodcrafts P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 07	Federica Li Destri RBI's Region : Panaji	Sector : Food Products Item : Dairy Products	0.07
41	Taiyo Lucid Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month 10	Taiyo Kagaku Co. Ltd RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Others( Food Products) Item : Other Food Processing & Manufacturing Activities (Egg Powder, Sambar Powder, Etc Nec)	12.00
42	Taiyo Lucid Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month 10	Cbc Co Ltd RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Others( Food Products) Item : Other Food Processing & Manufacturing Activities (Egg Powder, Sambar Powder, Etc Nec)	6.00
43	Yakult Danome India Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month 01	Yakult Honsa Co Ltd RBI's Region : New Delhi	Sector : Food Products Item : of Dairy Products	675.00
44	Tropical Foods Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 06	Urban Invest S.A RBI's Region : Bangalore	Sector : Food Products Item : Fruit & Vegetable Preservation Nec	11.77
45	Tropicool Foods Pvt Ltd Year : 2009 month 03	Urban Invest S.A RBI's Region : Bangalore	Sector : Others (Food Products) Item : Fruit & Vegetable Preservation Nec	22.34
46	Tropicool Foods Pvt Ltd Year : 2009 month 03	Urban Invest S.A. RBI's Region : Bangalore	Sector : Others (Food Products) Item : Fruit & Vegetable Preservation Nec	8.10
47	Capital Foods Exports Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 07	India Vision India Partners RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Food Products	132.84
48	Usher Agro Ltd Year : 2008 month 11	Deutsche Intl Trust Corpn. RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Food Products Item : Mfr. of Food Products	13.51
49	Unibic Biscuits India Pvt Ltd Year : 2009 month 01	Unibic Mauritius Pty Ltd RBI's Region : Bangalore	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Biscuits, Cakes and Pastries	45.46
50	G A Foods (India) P Ltd Year : 2009 Month 02	Bengeet Ltd RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Food Products	7.50
51	Calypso Foods (P) Ltd Year : 2007 month 04	Horse Shoe Capital RBI's Region : Bangalore	Sector : Food Products Item : Fruit And Vegetable Preservation Nec	135.00

1	2	3	4	5
52	Desai Fruits and Vegetables Pvt. Limited. Year : 2008 month 06	Contract Farming Mauritius Pvt. Ltd. RBI's Region : Ahmedabad	Sector : Food Products Item : Fruit & Vegetable Preservation Nec.	45.45
53	Calypso Food Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month 01	Horse Shoe Capital RBI's Region : Bangalore	Sector : Food Products Item : Fruit And Vegetable Preservation Nec	90.00
54	The Nil Giri Farm Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month 01	Actis Nigins South Asia Investments Ltd RBI's Region : Bangalore	Sector : Food Products Item : Dairy Products.	23.00
55	Desai Cold Storage(I)P. Year : 2007 month 11	Contract Farming Ltd. Mauritius RBI's Region : Ahmedabad	Sector : Food Products Item : Fruit & Vegetable Preservation	26.52
56	Usher Agro Ltd Year : 2008 month 02	Credit Swiss Ltd First Bostan Ltd & Deutsch RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Food Products Item : Other Food Processing and Manufacturing Activities (Egg Powder, Sambar Powder Etc Nec)	31.97
57	Baker Circle (I) P. Ltd. Year : 2007 month 07	Gia (BCI) Holdings Ltd. RBI's Region : New Delhi	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Biscuits, Cake & Pastries	40.00
58.	The Nil Giri farm Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month 01	Actis Nigins India Investments Ltd RBI's Region : Bangalore	Sector : Food Products Item : Dairy Products.	92.00
59	Mhaimex Overseas Pvt. & Ltd Year : 2007 month 09	Hussain Abdulla & Bros. RBI's Region : Kolkata	Sector: Food Products Item : Processing And Preserving of Fish Crustacea & Simila	4.11
60	Mha Imex Overseas P Ltd Year : 2008 month 10	Hussain Abdulla RBI's Region : Kolkata	Sector : Marine Products Item : Processing & Preserving of Fish Crustacea & Similar Foods Nec	4.79
61	Prakash-Snacks Pvt.Ltd. Year : 2008 month 06	Mr.Saurabh Mehta RBI's Region : Bhopal	Sector: Food Products Item : Growing of Potatoes	0.24
62	Godrej Hershey Ltd. Year : 2009 month 03	Hershey Netherlands B.V. RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Food Products Item : Mfr. of Food Proudcts	112.00

1	2	3	4	5
63	ATC Beverages Pvt. Ltd Year : 2009 month 01	Brinler Trading RBI's Region : Bangalore	Sector: Food Products Item : Manufacture of Beverages Nec	9.92
64	Ht Seafoods Pvt Ltd Year : 2007 month 11	Keshav Bhagat RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector: Marine Products Item : Processing, Canning And Preservation of Fish, Crusta	9.78
65.	Ht Foods Pvt Year : 2008 month 09	Keshav Bhagat Ltd. RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector: Marine Products Item : Processing,Canning & Preservation of Fish, Crustacea & Similar Foods	28.87
66	Ht Foods Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month	Mr. Keshav Bhagat RBI's 02 Region : Mumbai	Sector : Food Products Item : Processing, Canning and Preservation of Fish, Crustacea And Similar Foods.	6.55
67	Ht Seafoods Pvt Ltd Year : 2007 month 08	Keshav Bhagat RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector: Marine Products Item : Processing, Canning and Preservation of Fish, Crustacea	15.00
68	Ht Seafoods Year : 2007 month 08	Keshav Bhagat Pvt Ltd RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Marine Products Item : Processing, Canning and Preservation of Fish, Crustacea	11.10
69	Yakult Danome India Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 01	Danone Probiotics Pte Ltd RBI's Region : New Delhi	Sector: Food Products Item : Of Dairy Products	675.00
70	Parrys Sugars Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 05	Cargill Asia Pacific Holdings Pte Ltd RBI's Region : Chennai	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Sugar Confectionery (Except Sweetmeats)	246.74
71	Parrys Sugars Pvt. Ltd Year : 2008 month 05	Cargill Asia Pacific Ltd. Holdings Pte Ltd RBI's Region : Chennai	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Sugar Confectionery (Except Sweetmeats)	203.28
72	MTR Foods Ltd. Year : 2008 month 05	Orkla Asia Pacific Pte Ltd RBI's Region : Bangalore	Sector : Food Products Item : Food Products	500.00
73.	Goderen Gold Coin Aquafeed Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 05	Gold Coin India PTE Ltd. RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Marine Products Item : Manufacture of Fish Meal	78.13

1	2	3	4	5
74	Al Gyas Rice Sortex Mills Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 05	Ashraf Jooma RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector: Food Products Item : Rice Milling by Power Machine.	1.04
75	Al Gyas Rice Sortex Mills Pvt.Ltd. Year : 2008 month 05	Ismail Jooma RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector: Food Products Item : Rice Milling by Power Machine.	1.04
76	Al Gyas Rice Sortex Mills Pvt.Ltd. Year : 2008 month 05	Jooma Essa RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector: Food Products Item : Rice Milling by Power Machine.	1.13
77	Al Gyas Rice Sortex Mills Pvt.Ltd. Year : 2008 month 05	Yunus Jooma RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector: Food Products Item : Rice Milling by Power Machine	1.04
78.	Saikrupa Fruit Processing P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 01	Balkrishna & Gadgil RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Others( Food Products) Item : Other Food Processing & Manufacturing Activities	0.95
79	Saikrupa Fruit Processing P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 01	Balkrishna B. Gadgil RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Others( Food Products) Item : Other Food Processing & Manufacturing Activities	0.45
80	Reitzel (L) P. Ltd. Year : 2007 month 12	Reitzel S.A. RBI's Region : Bangalore	Sector: Food Products Item : Canning & Preservation of Fruits & Vegetables	37.64
81	Reitzel India Pvt Ltd Year : 2007 month 05	Reitzel S.A. RBI's Region : Bangalore	Sector : Others( Food Products) Item : Canning And Presevation of Fruits and Vegetables.	49.31
82	Usheragro Ltd Year : 2008 month 11	Credut Suisse First Buston Ltd RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Food Products Item : Mfr. of Food Products	18.47
83	Manora Beverages & Food P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 04	5 Fns-Thailand RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Food Products	9.90
84	Mckintosh Natural Foods P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 05	Rudy Hertogs RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Food Products	0.62
85	Mckintosh Natural Foods P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 05	Jayant Ganwani RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Food Products	0.62

1	2	3	4	5
86	HT Foods Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month 02	Mr.R.G.Khuller RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Food Products Item : Processing, Canning and Preservation of Fish, Crustacea And Similar Foods.	8.10
87	Alkabbeer Foods Processing P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 01	Rahul Subberwal RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Food Products Item : Processing & Canning of Meat	4.32
88.	Farsan Food Pvt.Ltd. Year : 2008 month 02	Mahendrarao Manibhai Patel RBI's Region : Ahmedabad	Sector: Food Products Item : Food Products.	0.10
89	Saraf Foods Ltd. Year : 2008 month 12	Hortitech Ltd. RBI's Region : Ahmedabad	Sector: Food Products Item : Fruit & Vegetable Preservations Nec	18.00
90.	Bundia P Ltd Year : 2009 month 02	Bi Ltd RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector: Food Products Item : Manufacture of Food Products	1.95
91	B1 (L) P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 12	B1 Ltd. RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector: Food Products Item : Mfr. of Food Products	25.00
92	B1 (L) P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 12	B1 Ltd. RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector: Food Products Item : Mfr. of Food Products	3.35
93	B1 (I) P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 12	B1 Ltd. RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector: Food Products Item : Mfr. of Food Products	16.05
94	Unibic Biscuits India Pvt Ltd Year : 2009 month 01	William Sean Sovak RBI's Region : Bangalore	Sector: Food Products Item : Manufacture of Biscuits, Cakes And Pastries	1.99
95	Griffith Laboratories Laboratories Pvt Ltd Year : 2007 month 05	Griffith Laboratories Worldwide Inc RBI's Region : Bangalore	Sector: Food Products Item : Food Products.	13.24
96	Capital Foods Exports Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 07	Rakesh Patel RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector: Food Products Item : Manufacture of Food Products	0.43
97	Griffith Laboratories P. Ltd. Year : 2007 month 12	Griffith Laboratories Worldwide RBI's Region : Bangalore	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture Of Food Products	11.78
98	M/S Gourmet Fine Fare Pvt.Ltd. Year : 2008 month 05	Gourmet Fusion Foods Inc RBI's Region : Kochi	Sector : Marine Products Item : Fishing(Including Collection of Sea Products)	0.22

1	2	3	4	5
99	Innovative Cuisine Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 03	Deepak Arvind Amin Region : Ahmedabad	Sector : Others (Food Products) Item: Fruit and Vegetable Preservation Nec.	4.40
100	Innovative Cuisine Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 03	Milan Archit Amin Region : Ahmedabad	Sector : Others (Food Products) Item: Fruit and Vegetable Preservation Nec.	
101	Innovative Cuisine Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 03	Bhagwati Arvind Amin Region Ahmedabad	Sector : Others( Food Products) Item : Fruit and Vegetable Preservation Nec.	1.52
102	Innovative Cuisine Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 03	Devenarchit Amin Region : Ahmedabad	Sector : Others( Food Products) Item : Fruit and Vegetable Preservation Nec.	1.21
103	Innovative Cuisine Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 03	Kissan Deepak Amin Region : Ahmedabad	Sector : Others (Food Products) Item : Fruit and Vegetable Preservation Nec.	1.19
104	Innovative Cuisine Pvt. Year : 2008month 03	Nisheel Deepak Amin Region : Ahmedabad	Sector : Others( Food Products) Item : Fruit and Vegetable Preservation Nec.	1.19
105	Innovative Cuisine Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 03	Archit Arvind Amin Region : Ahmedabad	Sector : Others (Food Products) Item : Fruit and Vegetable Preservation	3.19
106	Innovative Cuisine Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 03	Vivek Archit Amin Region : Ahmedabad	Sector : Others (Food Products) Item : Fruit and Vegetable Preservation Nec.	1.21
107	Kis (I) P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 02	Kraft Foods Asia Pacific Holding LLC Region : New Delhi	Sector: Food Products Item : Manufacture of Food Products	45.33
108	Kis (I) P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 02	Kraft Food Intl Services Region : New Delhi	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Food Products	0.46
109	Griffith Laboratories P. Ltd Year : 2008 month 07	Griffith Laboratories Worldwideinc. Region : Bangalore	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Food Products	134.49
110	Saikrupa Fruit Processing P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 01	Nityanand T. Telang Region : Mumbai	Sector: Others (Food Products) Item : Other Food Processing & Manufacturing Activities	0.58

1	2	3	4	5
111	Saikrupa Fruit Processing P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 01	Verena Gadgil RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector: Others( Food Products) Item : Other Food Processing & Manufacturing Activities	0.13
112	Saikrupa Fruit Processing P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 01	Verena Gadgil RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector : Others (Food Products) Item : Other Food Processing & Manufacturing Activities	0.13
113	Mahaan Proteins Ltd Year : 2008 month 01	Schroder Credit Renaissance RBI's Region : New Delhi	Sector : Food Products Item : Dairy Products.	57.50
114	Dynamix Dairy Industries Ltd Year : 2007 month 08	Schreiber International RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector: Food Products Item : Dairy Products	9.55
115	Innovative Cuisine Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month 09	Bhagwati Amin RBI's Region : Ahmedabad	Sector: Food Products Item : Fruit And Vegetable Preservation Nec	1.55
116	Dynamix Dairy Industries Ltd Year : 2007 month 08	Eric Foods International RBI's Region : Mumbai	Sector: Food Products Item : Dairy Products	0.27
117	Innovative Cuisine Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month 09	Vivek A. Amin RBI's Region : Ahmedabad	Sector: Food Products Item : Fruit And Vegetable Preservation Nec	1.27
118	Innovative Cuisine Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month 09	Milan A. Amin RBI's Region : Ahmedabad	Sector: Food Products Item : Fruit And Vegetable Preservation Nec	1.27
119	Innovative Cuisine Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month 09	Deepak A. Amin RBI's Region : Ahmedabad	Sector: Food Products Item : Fruit And Vegetable Preservation Nec	4.46
120	Innovative Cuisine Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month 09	Deven A. Amin RBI's Region : Ahmedabad	Sector: Food Products Item : Fruit And Vegetable Preservation Nec	1.27
121	Innovative Cuisine Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month 09	Kisan D. Amin RBI's Region : Ahmedabad	Sector: Food Products Item : Fruit And Vegetable Preservation Nec	1.27
122	Innovative Cuisine Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month 09	Nisheel D. Amin RBI's Region : Ahmedabad	Sector : Food Products Item : Fruit And Vegetable Preservation Nec	1.27



1	2	3	4	5
123	Innovative Cuisine Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month 09 RBI's Region : Ahmedabad	Archit A. Amin	Sector : Food Products Item : Fruit and Vegetable Preservation Nec	3.27
124	Wrigley India Pvt.Ltd Year : 2008 month 08 RBI's Region : New Delhi	WM Wringley Tr. Company	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Food Products	198.70
125	Wrigley India Pvt. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 08 RBI's Region : New Delhi	W M Wrigley Tr. Company	Sector : Food Production Item : Manufacture of Food Products	122.82
126	ATC Beverages Pvt Ltd Year : 2009 month 01 RBI's Region : Bangalore	DON Trading Corpn	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Beverages Nec	41.23
127	Atc Corp Beverages Pvt Ltd Year : 2009 month 01 RBI's Region : Bangalore	DON Trading Corpn	Sector : Food Products Item : Manufacture of Beverages Nec	41.22
128	York Winery P. Ltd Year : 2008 month 04 RBI's Region : Mumbai	Lilaram C. Gurnani	Sector: Food Products Item : Other Food Processing & Manufacturing Activites	3.85
129	Export Bio Products Pvt Ltd Year : 2008 month 09 RBI's Region : Region Not Indicated	Thynside Holdings	Sector: Food Products Item : Manufacturer of Feed Additives	0.10
130	Planet Pickles P. Ltd. Year : 2007 month 08 RBI's Region : Not Indicated	Sterling Agro Products Processing P. Ltd	Sector: Food Products Item : Food Processing	5.40
131	Mahaan Proteins Ltd Year : 2007month 08 RBL'S Region : Region Not Indicated	Shroder Credit Renaissance	Sector: Food Products Item : Dairy Products	75.00
132	Mane (I) P. Ltd. Year : 2008 month 01 RBI's Region : Not Indicated	V Mane	Sector : Others (Food Products) Item : Mlanufacture and Slac of Flavour Products	0.35
133	Godrej Food Ltd. Year : 2008 month 01 RBI's Region : Region Not Indicated	Tyson India Holdings Ltd.	Sector: Others( Food Products) Item : Poultry and Other Slaughtering	718.17
134.	Optivite Animal Nutrition Pvt Ltd Year : 2009 month 01 RBI's Region : Region Not Indicated	Optivite International Ltd	Sector : Others (Food Products) Item : Manufacturing of Animal Feed Ingredien	0.10
135	Optivite Animal Nutrition Pvt Ltd Year : 2009 months 01 RBI's Region : Region Not Indicated	Maichael Corbett	Sector: Others (Food Products) Item : Manufacturing of Animal Feed Ingredien	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
136.	Pr Agri Foods Manufacturing (I) Pvt Ltd Year : 2009 Month 02 RBI's Region : Region Not Indicated	Riso Scotti S.P.A.	Sector: Food Products Item : The Principal Activity of the Company is Processing of Rice And Rice Based Products In India	0.05
137	Imsofer Manufacturing G India Pvt Ltd Year : 2007month 04 RBI's Region: Region Not Indicated	Ferrero International SA	Sector: Food Products Item : To Mfg. Buy, Sell, Import, Export, Wholesale, Distribute, Stock Deal in or with and Trade in All types of Confectionary Products, Raw Materials.	0.10
138	Sopeax India Food Promotion Agency P. Ltd Year : 2007 Month 12 RBI's Region : Region Not Indicated	Societet Pour Lexpansion Des	Sector: Food Products Item : Food Promotion.	0.10
139.	Gandour (I) Food Processing P. Ltd Year : 2008 March 01 RBI's Region : Region Not Indicated	GFBI Ltd.	Sector : Food Products Item Manufacture of Chocolate & Other Confectionary Products	0.00
140	Natural Water Philosphy Pvt. Ltd Year : 2007 Month 07 RBI's Region : Region Not Indicated	Antonios Holding Company	Sector: Others( Food Products) Item: Packaged Mineral Water, Soft Drinks	0.05
141	Snow Lion Foods Pvt Ltd Year : 2007 month 05 RBI's Region: Region Not Indicated	Taizoon F : Khorakiwal Oman	Sector: Food Products Item : Bread Making and Cake.	0.08

[English]

**Shortage of Trained Pilots**

\*94. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is an acute shortage of trained pilots in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which the expansion of the aviation sector is affected as a result thereof;
- (d) the estimated number of trained pilots required over the next three years; and
- (e) the steps being taken to meet the requirement during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) There is no shortage of pilots.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The requirement of trained pilots is a dynamic phenomenon depending on airline operations and type of aircraft used.

(e) In order to have desired quality pilots over a long period, the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) has been modernised through upgradation of infrastructure and providing funds for additional trainer aircraft to increase its annual capacity from forty to hundred cadets. A world-class flying training institute at Gondia in Maharashtra has been set up with capacity to train 110 candidates annually which include 10 candidates for Commercial Helicopter Pilot Licence training. Other flying clubs are also supported by

Government by providing trainer aircraft through Directorate General of Civil Aviation and Aero-Club of India. Further, Helicopter Licence holders have also been allowed to convert their helicopter licence to Commercial Pilot Licence (aeroplane) by doing 100 hours conversion flying.

[Translation]

#### Demand and Supply of LPG

\*95. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE :  
SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Government has made any State-wise assessment of the requirement and demand of LPG including Rajasthan and Haryana ;

(b) if so, the total requirement of LPG in the States;

(c) whether there is shortage of LPG in some States; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to meet the shortfall in the States?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) and (b) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have assessed the requirement/demand of LPG for the entire country including domestic LPG/commercial LPG/Industrial LPG/Auto LPG at 12536.563 Thousand Metric Tonne (TMT). This includes 530.521 TMT and 448.788 TMT for the States of Rajasthan and Haryana respectively for the year 2009-10. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) At present, there is no overall shortage of LPG in the country including in the States of Rajasthan and Haryana and LPG supplies to distributors are being made by the OMCs through indigenous production and imports in accordance with the genuine demand of customers registered with the LPG distributors.

#### Statement

##### LPG Demand for 2009-10

(Fig. in MT)

State/UT	Projected Demand for 2009-10			
	IOC	BPC	HPC	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Chandigarh	24069	5347	8016	37431
Delhi	428923	146735	103825	679484
Haryana	209897	150359	88532	448788

1	2	3	4	5
Himachal Pradesh	73458	8293	14543	96294
Jammu & Kashmir	34528	13111	77846	125485
Punjab	332972	140923	113739	587634
Rajasthan	231387	157635	141498	530521
Uttar Pradesh	809546	336740	174454	1320740
Uttarakhand	117357	24291	10680	152328
Sub Total North	2262138	983434	733133	3978704
Andaman & Nicobar	6020	14	0	6034
Arunachal Pradesh	11331	0	0	11331
Assam	177941	5922	2445	186308
Bihar	219412	38871	41436	299719
Jharkhand	84898	12104	18701	115702
Manipur	17037	0	0	17037
Meghalaya	13682	0	0	13682
Mizoram	17925	0	0	17925
Nagaland	14412	0	0	14412
Orissa	68770	29073	67193	165036
Sikkim	9333	0	0	9333
Tripura	20481	0	0	20481
West Bengal	417563	85273	134157	636993
Sub Total East	1078804	171258	263932	1513993
Chattisgarh	59154	20576	42105	121835
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	778	851	11610	13239
Daman & Diu		3495	4023	7518
Goa	1149	19429	36133	56710

1	2	3	4	5
Gujarat	373822	163585	144328	681735
Madhya Pradesh	252848	104529	133015	490392
Maharashtra	180164	881682	816812	1878658
Sub Total West	867916	1194146	1188026	3250088
Andhra Pradesh	374162	195209	468646	1038016
Karnataka	357676	214949	284285	856910
Kerala	284276	187129	84280	555685
Lakshadweep	197	0	0	197
Puducherry	14631	5861	10603	31095
Tamil Nadu	709823	324395	157658	1191875
Sub Total South	1740765	927542	1005471	3673778
All India	5949622	3276379	3190562	12416563
NOC (Nepal Oil Corp.)	120000	0	0	120000
Total Demand	6069622	3276379	3190562	12536563

#### Shortage of Fertilizers

\*96. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:  
SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the demand, production and supply of fertilizers in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether there is a shortage of fertilizers in the country and the farmers have faced hardships and suffered losses;

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

(d) the details of assistance provided to the farmers, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide the fertilizer as per demands of the State

Governments and to increase the production and availability of fertilizers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M.K. ALAGIRI) : (a) The State-wise demand (Requirement), supply (Availability) of major fertilizers namely Urea, DAP and MOP during the last three years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and also during the Kharif 2009 (upto June, 2009) of current year 2009-10 is given in the enclosed Statement-I to IV. Department of Fertilisers (DOF) started monitoring of complex fertilizers with effect from Kharif, 2008 for which information is furnished. State-wise production of urea, DAP & Complexes for last three years is given in the enclosed Statement-V, VI and VIII.

(b) to (d) State-wise, month-wise requirement, availability and sales of Urea, DAP, MOP and complex fertilizers during Kharif 2009 (April - June, 2009) is given in the enclosed Statement-IV. As can be seen, the availability of urea has been adequate enough to support its sales. There is no shortage of DAP and MOP in the country, however, there may be little tightness in availability of complex (NPK) fertilizers because of low level of indigenous production and also as these can not be imported as they are not covered under existing concession scheme.

(e) The steps taken for smooth distribution and increasing the production of fertilizers are as under:

- i) The movement of fertilizers will be monitored throughout the country by an on-line web based monitoring system ([www.urvarak.co.in](http://www.urvarak.co.in)) also called as Fertiliser Monitoring System (FMS);
- ii) The subsidy on fertilizer is being paid only when it reaches the district;
- iii) Department of Fertilizers operates Buffer Stock of Urea, DAP & MOP through State Institutional Agencies/ fertilizer companies in major fertilizer consuming States to the tune of 6.25 LMT, 3.50 LMT and 1,00 LMT respectively;
- iv) Department of Fertilizers has notified uniform freight subsidy scheme to transport fertilizers upto block level.
- v) The gap between requirement and indigenous availability of Urea is met through imports; and
- vi) New pricing policy for attracting investment in urea sector has been announced on 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2008. Further, fertilizer sector has been given highest priority in allocation of gas, for debottlenecking, expansion and revival projects in the country.

**Statement-I***State-wise Availability and Sales of Urea, DAP & MOP*

Name of State	Qty in (LMTs)								
	UREA			DAP			MOP		
	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales
Andhra Pradesh	27.00	24.52	22.13	6.69	6.15	5.97	5.21	3.90	3.72
Karnataka	11.20	11.55	10.92	5.00	5.25	4.88	3.90	3.14	2.76
Kerala	1.46	1.33	1.27	0.17	0.23	0.23	1.40	1.13	1.12
Tamil Nadu	10.00	9.59	9.18	3.85	3.98	3.84	4.85	3.48	3.48
Gujarat	15.00	15.22	15.03	5.75	5.79	4.56	1.65	1.46	1.42
Madhya Pradesh	12.10	13.89	13.16	6.20	5.76	4.96	0.50	0.75	0.67
Chhattisgarh	4.90	5.93	5.53	1.38	1.59	1.27	0.52	0.67	0.59
Maharashtra	19.00	20.70	19.87	6.25	7.06	6.49	3.00	2.48	2.34
Rajasthan	13.20	12.80	12.26	5.60	4.30	4.05	0.22	0.07	0.07
Haryana	17.50	18.04	17.33	5.60	5.04	4.46	0.40	0.32	0.23
Punjab	25.00	26.16	25.74	7.90	7.60	7.12	0.90	0.52	0.47
Jammu & Kashmir	1.42	1.15	1.05	0.71	0.55	0.51	0.21	0.10	0.10
Uttar Pradesh	50.00	53.50	51.83	14.50	14.42	12.94	2.30	1.34	1.22
Uttaranchal	1.65	2.17	2.10	0.32	0.24	0.23	0.12	0.06	0.04
Bihar	17.50	16.32	16.01	4.50	3.29	2.65	2.50	1.04	1.00
Jharkhand	1.74	1.63	1.60	1.10	0.71	0.68	0.07	0.01	0.01
Orissa	4.70	4.44	4.21	0.98	1.16	1.03	0.92	0.85	0.75
West Bengal	12.00	12.28	11.94	4.10	3.99	3.54	3.58	2.78	2.51
Assam & Other N.E	3.08	2.67	2.47	0.51	0.27	0.24	0.82	0.59	0.54
Other Total	1.10	0.90	0.90	0.20	0.17	0.12	0.20	0.13	0.13
All India	249.55	254.79	244.52	81.31	77.57	69.75	33.27	24.82	23.17

**Statement-II***Statewise Availability & Sale of Urea, DAP & MOP*

Name of State	Qty in (LMTs)								
	UREA			DAP			MOP		
	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	27.50	26.84	25.12	8.24	7.16	7.15	5.55	4.52	4.50
Karnataka	12.80	13.63	12.54	5.80	4.54	4.50	4.00	3.70	3.58

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Kerala	1.40	1.44	1.34	0.28	0.18	0.18	1.40	1.19	1.16
Tamil Nadu	9.85	9.68	9.16	4.25	3.35	3.35	4.90	4.85	4.77
Gujarat	17.25	18.37	17.93	5.80	6.76	6.47	1.70	1.82	1.79
Madhya Pradesh	13.75	14.76	14.31	7.50	6.82 *	6.34	1.10	0.76	0.74
Chhattisgarh	5.90	6.17	5.87	1.70	1.38	1.35	0.74	0.69	0.62
Maharashtra	21.20	23.05	21.39	7.05	6.45	6.29	3.05	3.46	3.23
Rajasthan	14.70	13.83	13.21	6.05	5.51 *	4.50	0.23	0.23	0.19
Haryana	18.75	19.30	18.47	5.85	6.80 *	5.36	0.50	0.34	0.29
Punjab	25.00	26.97	26.46	8.00	9.14 *	6.81	0.95	0.58	0.57
Uttar Pradesh	55.00	54.37	52.72	15.50	14.89 *	13.20	3.00	1.27	1.14
Uttaranchal	2.30	2.42	2.31	0.32	0.23	0.23	0.18	0.05	0.05
Jammu & Kashmir	1.40	1.19	1.15	0.84	0.33	0.33	0.28	0.07	0.07
Bihar	20.00	19.40	18.56	4.25	3.30	3.07	2.05	1.19	1.07
Jharkhand	2.10	1.67	1.58	0.90	0.75	0.74	0.13	0.08	0.08
Orissa	5.50	5.19	4.58	1.25	1.79	1.72	1.20	1.05	1.01
West Bengal	12.95	12.45	11.56	4.55	3.80	3.78	4.00	2.76	2.73
Assam	2.30	1.99	1.93	0.70	0.08	0.08	0.85	0.40	0.40
All India	271.70	274.26	261.71	89.21	83.40	75.55	36.13	29.28	28.28

\*Includes, the stock available with State Federations MP-0.35 LMT, Rajasthan - 0.77 LMT, Haryana-1.15 LMT, Punjab-1.96 LMT & UP - 1.21 LMT aggregating 5.44 LMT (Sales of which is not available)

### Statement-III

*Cumulative Availability of Fertilizers during the year 2008-09 (April' 08 to March' 09)*

2008-09

State	UREA			DAP			MOP			COMPLEX		
	Require-ment	Availa-bility	Sales	Require-ment	Availa-bility	Sales	Require-ment	Availa-bility	Sales	Require-ment	Availa-bility	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	27.50	27.84	27.33	8.50	9.98	9.97	5.85	6.27	6.04	20.50	16.50	16.30
Karnataka	13.50	12.88	12.82	6.05	8.12	8.07	4.55	5.14	5.05	11.17	8.44	8.39
Kerala	1.49	1.68	1.63	0.31	0.24	0.24	1.33	1.53	1.51	1.72	1.85	1.81
Tamil Nadu	10.37	11.28	11.28	4.31	3.85	3.85	4.84	5.95	5.84	3.62	3.55	3.51
Gujarat	18.65	18.69	18.48	7.10	8.24	8.19	1.90	2.26	2.22	4.39	4.92	4.70
Madhya Pradesh	15.75	13.83	13.59	8.25	8.31	8.14	1.20	1.17	0.88	4.35	2.20	2.15

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Chhattisgarh	5.40	5.23	5.06	1.75	2.31	2.28	0.77	0.95	0.92	1.31	1.23	1.22
Maharashtra	23.25	22.84	22.46	8.60	10.19	10.15	3.70	5.17	4.92	15.65	10.40	10.29
Rajasthan	15.10	13.21	12.97	5.60	5.90	5.77	0.33	0.32	0.24	1.42	0.67	0.66
Haryana	19.90	17.59	17.36	6.00	6.69	6.61	0.46	0.47	0.39	0.67	0.31	0.31
Punjab	25.50	26.28	25.77	8.10	8.82	8.82	0.95	0.98	0.81	1.01	0.59	0.57
Himachal Pradesh	0.65	0.66	0.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.44	0.40	0.40
Jammu & Kashmir	1.35	1.28	1.26	0.80	0.59	0.59	0.33	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.01	0.01
Uttar Pradesh	55.00	55.74	54.83	15.50	15.12	14.93	2.50	2.79	2.47	10.50	7.44	7.32
Uttaranchal	2.30	2.22	2.20	0.35	0.31	0.31	0.18	0.08	0.08	0.45	0.51	0.51
Bihar	21.25	18.33	17.96	4.25	4.12	4.11	1.90	2.28	2.13	3.60	2.59	2.59
Jharkhand	2.00	1.57	1.54	1.05	0.80	0.80	0.13	0.16	0.14	0.40	0.38	0.38
Orissa	5.50	4.74	4.61	2.00	1.89	1.89	1.35	1.53	1.34	2.88	2.66	2.55
West Bengal	13.00	11.94	11.67	4.86	4.03	4.03	4.15	4.80	4.62	7.49	7.29	7.23
Assam	2.40	2.30	2.30	1.03	0.14	0.14	1.06	1.08	0.95	0.30	0.06	0.06
All India	281.34	270.88	266.51	94.83	99.78	99.03	37.86	43.34	40.95	92.32	72.26	71.22

\$Exclusive 10.4 LMT of urea extra sold in March, 2008 (March' 08 requirement 10.36 LMT, the sales was 22.76 LMT)

Note : DOF started monitoring of complex fertiliser w.e.f. Kharif, 2008.

**Statement-IV**

06.07.09

(000' MTs)

State	April 2009			May 2009			June 2009		
	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	35.00	148.26	28.73	65.00	215.35	58.00	200.00	290.64	141.15
Karnataka	40.00	68.59	44.83	60.00	81.61	51.05	130.00	135.91	112.27
Kerala	10.50	13.63	8.69	10.25	13.16	9.48	20.00	21.16	16.92
Tamil Nadu	55.00	65.74	53.78	60.00	62.06	53.46	80.00	79.93	72.36
Gujarat	65.50	117.14	78.63	59.00	131.77	61.17	140.00	226.11	166.54
Madhya Pradesh	26.00	75.17	15.85	71.50	123.77	36.98	136.50	185.49	103.72
Chhattisgarh	97.00	79.37	39.30	97.00	88.26	25.26	144.50	125.96	84.56
Maharashtra	225.04	160.62	113.03	212.08	276.06	207.73	202.94	304.84	272.58
Rajasthan	34.00	84.87	35.34	55.00	107.38	38.95	90.00	148.94	87.10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Haryana	50.00	77.17	33.84	100.00	156.85	84.03	210.00	220.74	153.88
Punjab	100.00	161.03	90.95	300.00	258.72	177.58	250.00	305.23	237.98
Himachal Pradesh	5.00	3.09	0.03	10.00	8.97	5.21	15.00	12.37	7.57
Jammu & Kashmir	13.61	13.81	9.16	25.72	13.31	7.61	14.26	16.93	10.12
Uttar Pradesh	200.00	382.95	127.21	500.00	644.17	298.09	700.00	719.47	331.57
Uttaranchal	2.50	10.03	5.53	23.00	21.70	15.70	30.00	37.79	22.95
Bihar	75.00	94.01	33.67	75.00	158.63	75.09	150.00	184.59	94.17
Jharkhand	3.00	5.53	2.67	5.00	13.22	4.66	30.00	26.63	12.76
Orissa	10.00	26.69	6.02	20.00	46.87	9.10	40.00	58.49	20.83
West Bengal	30.10	81.48	33.57	42.40	103.07	53.25	81.20	110.45	53.87
Assam	10.80	22.83	20.06	15.60	23.46	21.25	25.20	28.41	25.66
All India	1095.10	1697.39	785.96	1816.59	2555.55	1303.61	2706.51	3250.62	2038.96

06.07.09

(000' MTs)

State	April 2009			May 2009			June 2009		
	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	25.00	35.55	19.79	60.00	126.15	84.50	80.00	193.74	107.46
Karnataka	30.00	61.83	60.92	75.00	144.07	135.73	123.30	164.33	127.68
Kerala	2.00	1.50	1.38	2.00	2.18	2.18	4.50	10.27	9.77
Tamil Nadu	22.00	29.32	26.76	23.00	34.03	26.18	30.00	55.65	53.17
Gujarat	33.80	58.47	52.47	97.80	161.31	70.87	100.00	201.07	111.33
Madhya Pradesh	31.50	67.15	44.78	139.50	147.06	64.26	112.50	212.57	144.16
Chhattisgarh	27.00	26.17	23.33	27.00	45.44	33.19	40.50	55.37	43.63
Maharashtra	30.23	268.86	251.92	124.86	326.65	311.81	126.85	149.93	146.05
Rajasthan	13.00	21.32	12.87	18.00	59.97	53.81	60.00	78.66	72.49
Haryana	10.00	24.36	14.78	40.00	106.28	98.72	85.00	87.75	74.42
Punjab	60.00	28.50	28.13	30.00	96.81	88.03	75.00	73.78	58.58
Jammu & Kashmir	6.79	0.00	0.00	14.37	10.53	10.52	9.26	7.91	7.51
Uttar Pradesh	50.00	57.17	36.75	50.00	205.56	149.28	100.00	245.33	163.97
Uttaranchal	2.00	3.07	3.05	2.00	4.64	4.63	2.20	7.88	5.06
Bihar	15.00	15.24	3.01	25.00	39.22	23.69	50.00	24.94	16.85
Jharkhand	2.50	1.39	1.39	5.00	7.02	4.41	20.00	16.42	11.33



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Orissa	2.00	7.34	7.33	5.00	10.37	4.74	24.00	58.17	33.93
West Bengal	11.90	22.94	19.49	15.50	36.73	31.20	32.90	53.47	34.22
Assam	1.35	0.00	0.00	1.95	0.00	0.00	3.15	4.45	4.37
All India	378.03	730.20	608.70	759.10	1565.01	1198.27	1084.70	1707.18	1231.42
06.07.09	(000' MTs)								

State	April 2009			May 2009			June 2009		
	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	20.00	28.33	6.43	20.00	34.31	14.08	35.00	66.76	51.13
Karnataka	30.00	37.74	26.91	27.00	37.82	31.98	51.00	76.23	70.27
Kerala	9.80	8.67	7.21	11.20	12.85	11.20	15.70	26.57	21.18
Tamil Nadu	45.00	28.09	18.80	30.00	34.01	21.75	53.00	51.36	34.14
Gujarat	13.10	27.34	20.99	14.50	22.87	18.11	20.70	25.49	23.17
Madhya Pradesh	3.50	28.24	1.56	30.10	26.67	6.23	20.30	28.19	17.45
Chhattisgarh	12.00	11.20	5.08	13.80	18.61	9.97	18.00	16.52	10.23
Maharashtra	28.70	74.81	49.63	25.06	73.02	56.37	58.14	63.62	57.86
Rajasthan	1.30	11.11	5.18	0.80	8.53	3.70	1.70	5.73	2.48
Haryana	5.00	18.91	9.95	5.00	8.96	3.32	5.00	5.64	5.64
Punjab	8.00	18.99	3.90	8.00	17.17	7.63	10.00	12.19	9.57
Jammu & Kashmir	2.93	0.00	0.00	2.86	0.27	0.27	2.30	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	15.00	43.42	10.88	15.00	39.26	5.75	20.00	33.51	26.63
Uttaranchal	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.50	0.02	0.02	1.00	0.00	0.00
Bihar	5.00	30.47	5.19	10.00	38.97	15.49	20.00	26.19	17.27
Jharkhand	0.00	2.96	0.38	0.50	2.84	0.34	1.50	5.08	3.55
Orissa	2.50	21.57	2.73	12.50	23.85	7.12	24.50	25.69	16.31
West Bengal	12.32	25.06	10.04	14.10	47.90	30.22	17.80	35.33	25.91
Assam	5.04	13.77	3.28	7.28	22.71	12.33	11.76	10.38	3.95
All India	220.67	431.66	188.81	249.81	472.08	257.27	390.43	518.64	399.19

**COMPLEX**

(000' MTs)

State	April 2009			May 2009			June 2009		
	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales	Requirement	Availability	Sales
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	120.00	122.45	66.63	100.00	179.96	117.49	150.00	201.26	152.28
Karnataka	50.00	86.24	76.55	76.90	107.45	93.65	109.50	94.51	84.20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Kerala	12.50	22.49	16.06	14.75	20.21	15.79	23.25	29.95	27.58
Tamil Nadu	28.50	41.89	36.53	34.50	56.56	52.84	26.50	50.19	44.72
Gujarat	20.50	52.82	28.97	38.80	67.91	47.23	38.50	35.73	16.95
Madhya Pradesh	11.85	20.12	7.30	54.35	30.79	22.76	84.55	13.13	6.01
Chhattisgarh	10.30	10.50	7.82	26.50	18.13	13.19	32.90	17.33	14.65
Maharashtra	80.75	96.89	78.90	105.94	102.48	80.87	141.42	121.91	103.46
Rajasthan	3.40	2.51	1.92	9.00	3.36	2.77	11.85	4.81	4.13
Haryana	1.00	3.44	2.67	6.00	1.76	0.93	5.00	1.65	1.21
Punjab	6.00	5.26	2.56	5.50	3.20	1.20	5.50	2.32	0.37
Himachal Pradesh	2.60	0.00	0.00	2.55	2.66	2.58	2.60	0.08	0.07
Uttar Pradesh	50.00	50.39	27.59	50.00	55.36	38.54	50.00	42.29	24.69
Uttaranchal	2.00	0.05	0.00	10.00	4.61	4.39	10.00	0.22	0.16
Bihar	15.00	15.71	10.10	25.00	33.82	25.43	42.50	26.63	18.93
Jharkhand	1.00	3.29	3.28	3.00	8.43	8.18	4.50	4.39	4.37
Orissa	6.70	14.16	3.55	17.60	33.33	17.13	35.30	49.59	22.39
West Bengal	21.05	76.47	65.33	22.60	56.00	47.40	32.00	46.23	41.43
Assam	0.50	2.57	0.00	0.72	0.00	0.00	1.16	0.00	0.00
All India	445.58	627.44	439.30	606.01	788.42	594.72	812.28	745.67	571.06

**Statement-V**

State-wise Production of Urea from 2006-07 to 2008-09 & Kharif 2009 (April to June 2009)

(000' MT)

Name of State/ Zone	Installed Capacity as on 1/4/2006	2006-07	Production 2007-08	2008-09	Kharif 2009 (April to June 09)
	QTY	QTY	QTY	QTY	QTY
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>South Zone</b>					
Andhra Pradesh	1194.6	1324.1	1354.4	1378.0	374.6
Kerala	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Karnataka	380.0	370.1	379.6	379.3	71.1
Tamil Nadu	1106.8	1118.8	440.5	405.7	62.3
Total (South Zone)	2681.4	2813.0	2174.5	2163.0	508.0
<b>West Zone</b>					
Goa	399.3	402.5	395.4	412.4	110.9
Madhya Pradesh	1729.2	1849.4	1766.5	1803.8	402.5

1	2	3	4	5	6
Maharashtra	1706.8	1861.0	1832.3	1903.3	424.7
Gujarat	3280.3	3154.2	3195.3	3131.6	748.0
Rajasthan	2108.2	2286.7	2380.8	2313.6	524.5
Total (West Zone)	9223.8	9553.8	9570.3	9564.7	2210.6
<b>East Zone</b>					
Jharkhand	—	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bihar	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Orissa	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
West Bengal	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Assam	555.0	307.4	329.3	189.2	79.0
Total (East Zone)	555.0	307.4	329.3	189.2	79.0
<b>North Zone</b>					
Haryana	511.5	508.7	511.6	488.3	94.5
Punjab	990.0	992.9	990.1	1052.0	237.6
Uttar Pradesh	5738.7	6133.0	6282.4	6464.9	1459.3
Total (North Zone)	7240.2	7634.6	7784.1	8005.2	1791.4
Grand Total	19700.4	20308.8	19858.2	19922.1	4589.0

**Statement-VI**

*Zone/state wise Installed capacity and Production of DAP from 2006-07 to 2008-09 & Kharif 2009 (April-June 2009)*

(000' MT)

Name of Zone/State	Installed Capacity QTY	2006-07 QTY	2007-08 QTY	2008-09 QTY	Kharif 2009 (April-June 09) QTY
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>South Zone</b>					
Andhra Pradesh	670.0	616.1	567.9	518.2	113.7
Kerala	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Karnataka	180.0	203.9	211.4	158.3	42.1
Tamil Nadu	475.0	286.4	71.5	0.0	0.0
Total (South Zone)	1325.0	1106.4	850.8	676.5	155.8
<b>West Zone</b>					
Goa	330.0	198.2	212.5	205.0	89.5
Gujarat	2749.0	1854.7	1438.0	1057.3	730.6
Total (West Zone)	3079.0	2052.9	1650.5	1262.3	820.1

1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>East Zone</b>					
Orissa	2220.0	1240.4	1473.0	906.7	346.0
West Bengal	675.0	452.1	237.6	147.8	31.6
Total (East Zone)	2895.0	1692.5	1710.6	1054.5	377.6
Grand Total	7299.0	4851.8	4211.9	2993.3	1553.5

**Statement-VII**

*Zone/State-wise Installed capacity and Production of Complex Fertilizers from 2006-07 to 2008-09 & Kharif 2009 (April-June 2009)*

Name of Zone/State	Installed Capacity QTY	(000' MT)			
		2006-07 QTY	2007-08 QTY	2008-09 QTY	Kharif 2009 (April-June 09) QTY
<b>South Zone</b>					
Andhra Pradesh	600.0	1477.7	1194.5	1313.1	489.2
Kerala	633.5	715.9	425.0	605.3	146.2
Karnataka	0.0	52.9	33.7	74.3	16.7
Tamil Nadu	1080.0	390.0	223.5	158.4	66.0
Total (South Zone)	2313.5	2636.5	1876.7	2151.1	718.1
<b>West Zone</b>					
Goa	240.0	537.8	477.1	373.2	78.2
Maharashtra	891.0	580.6	519.7	528.9	112.4
Gujarat	1357.9	2224.8	1908.0	1960.3	280.9
Total (West Zone)	2488.9	3343.2	2904.8	2862.4	471.5
<b>East Zone</b>					
Orissa	420.0	830.4	676.8	1421.5	314.9
West Bengal	0.0	654.4	392.3	413.4	117.2
Total (East Zone)	420.0	1484.8	1069.1	1834.9	432.1
Grand Total	5222.4	7464.5	5850.6	6848.4	1621.7

**Increase in Price of Iron Ore by NMDC**

\*97. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) has increased the prices of iron ore;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it has adversely affected the steel industries under the small scale sector;

(d) if so, whether any complaints have been received regarding non-supply of the iron ore required by the steel plants even after the price hike by NMDC;

(e) if so, the follow-up action taken in this regard; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for supply of iron ore to the iron ore based small scale plants in proportion to their requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. On the other hand NMDC

reduced long term prices of iron ore for its domestic long term customers by 25% w.e.f. 1.12.2008. The same price is being charged for 2009-10 also, on provisional basis, since the long-term prices for 2009-10 have not yet been finalized.

(c) to (e) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

(f) Iron ore is in decontrolled sector and the Government does not control either its prices or its allocation/supply to individual steel companies. Beside NMDC, there are a number of iron ore producers in the country, both in the public sector as well as in private sector. Supply of iron ore to various steel units is dependent upon their individual tie-up with NMDC and other iron ore producers.

[English]

### National Fibre Policy

\*98. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

SHRI K.S. RAO:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the tardy growth in fibre production for domestic consumption and exports;

(b) if so, whether the factors responsible for this have been identified and the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a National Fibre Policy;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the policy is likely to be formulated?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) and (b) The trend of fibre production in India is progressive and availability has been sufficiently adequate to meet the domestic demand during last three years. Total availability in the year 2008-09 for cotton fibre as estimated by the Cotton Advisory Board in its latest meeting was 340 lakh bales against the requirement of 230 lakh bales. Total availability for man-made fibre in the same year was 1147 million kgs against the requirement of 967 million kgs.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to formulate a National Fibre Policy. A Working Group is being constituted to formulate the Policy reflecting the interests of all stakeholders.

[Translation]

### Free Legal AID

\*99. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds allocated for providing free legal aid to the poor and under trial prisoners during each of the last three years;

(b) whether all the States have utilised the funds properly;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government proposes to revise the norms in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof, and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for providing adequate free legal aid to the poor and under trial prisoners?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) : (a) National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) allocates funds to State Legal Services Authorities etc. for implementation of legal aid schemes/programmes framed under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. There is no specific allotment of funds made for the poor and under trial prisoners. The allocation of funds is meant for the purpose of providing free legal aid to all categories of persons as specified under the provisions of Section 12 of the said Act, which includes amongst others under trials prisoners also. As regards other categories of persons, every person whose annual income does not exceed Rs.50,000/- is eligible for getting free legal services in cases before the Supreme Court, High Courts and subordinate Courts thereto.

The details of the funds allocated by NALSA to State Legal Services Authorities etc. during each of the last three financial years viz, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and also during the current financial year 2009-10 (upto June 2009) are as under:-

S.No.	Years	Amount
1.	2006-07	Rs. 74643600/-
2.	2007-08	Rs. 147011650/-
3.	2008-09	Rs. 136124000/-
4.	2009-10	Rs. 5120000/- (till June,2009)

(b) Yes, Madam.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The Department of Legal Affairs proposes to enlarge the beneficiaries by including categories (a) senior citizens (b) dependent of family Members of Armed Forces personnel and personnel of the Para-Military forces, who died in action (c) Victims of terrorists/extremist violence and riots, in Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. The matter is under process.

(f) As stated in the reply to part (a) above.

[English]

### Role of Independent Directors

\*100. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to scrutinise role of independent directors in the wake of the Satyam Scam;

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

(c) whether the Government is planning to bring some changes in the company regulations with regard to powers, responsibility and conflict of interests of independent directors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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 (d) The provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 do not define the term 'Independent Director'. The Act only defines the term 'Director', Managing Director/Whole Time Director'. However, as per Clause 49 of the Listing Agreement, SEBI has provided for induction of Independent Directors on the Board of the listed companies.

As per provisions of the Companies Bill, 2008 introduced in the Lok Sabha on 23rd October 2008, a provision has been made for appointment of independent directors on the Board of listed companies, having such amount of paid up share capital as may be prescribed. In order to have better corporate governance and management of companies, the duties and liabilities of the directors have been specified in the Companies Bill, 2008 and the term 'Independent Director' has also been defined.

The Companies Bill, 2008 lapsed in view of Article 107 (5) of the Constitution. The Government now proposes to re-introduce the Bill as the Companies Bill, 2009 in the Parliament. The role of independent directors may also come up, Inter-alia, for deliberations during the scrutiny of the Bill by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance.

### Investment by Public sector oil companies

716. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether public sector oil companies have prepared a mega plan to help refuel sputtering economy with an outlay of Rs.57,000 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether most of these investments will be made in domestic projects and their economic benefits will be reaped locally;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the main features of the plan and the extent to which it will be helpful to the economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Planning Commission has approved an Annual Plan Outlay of Rs.57475.74 crore for various public sector oil companies for the year 2009-10, as per the company-wise details given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) Except for OVL who invest in overseas projects, most of the investments of other public sector oil companies are in domestic projects. However, investments in both domestic as well as overseas projects ultimately benefit the country.

(d) The Annual Plan outlay of public sector oil companies during the year 2009-10 would include an investment of Rs.38731.98 crore for Exploration and Production projects; Rs.14285.79 crore for Refining and Marketing projects; Rs.4362.97 crore for Petrochemical projects; and Rs.95 crore for Engineering projects.

(e) The main feature of the plan is to enable the country attain energy security through accelerated exploration and production of oil and gas as also to ensure adequate availability of refined petroleum products, which are of critical importance for the growth of the economy.

### Statement

#### Company-wise Annual Plan outlay of public sector oil companies

Public sector oil company	(Rs. in crore)
	Plan outlay (2009-10)
1	2
ONGC	20867.58
OVL	9365.06
OIL	2276.31
GAIL	5558.00
IOC	11561.00
HPCL	1390.00

1	2
BPCL	3348.70
CPCL	716.09
MRPL	2048.00
NRL	250.00
BALMER LAWRIE	90.00
BIECCO LAWRIE	5.00
Total	57475.74

[Translation]

#### Train between Patan and Bhildi

717. SHRI JAGDISH THAKOR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- whether the Railways have any proposal to introduce a train between Patan and Bhildi in Gujarat;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) No, Madam.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Welfare of Bhopal Gas Victims

718. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- the latest position of the on-going schemes relating to the welfare of Bhopal Gas Victims of 1984;
- the number of persons who have received compensation from the Government so far;
- the details of the victims of Bhopal Gas Tragedy who have not yet received the compensation and the Government to help; and
- if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government to safeguard their interests ?

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

(a) Under the ongoing schemes for the welfare of Bhopal Gas Victims 7 hospitals, 5 civil dispensaries and 2 poly clinics and 3 dispensaries each of the Homeopathy, Unani and Indian Medical System are engaged in the medical rehabilitation and care. In addition, 3 more hospitals consisting one each of Ayurveda, Homeopathy and Unani System of medicines are also functioning, Under the

economic rehabilitation, training has been provided to the youth of gas affected wards, 42 work-sheds and 152 industrial sheds were constructed for providing employment opportunities in the Units set up in these sheds. Under the social rehabilitation plan 2468 houses have been constructed and allotted to the widows of the gas victims besides providing initial relief measures like pensions to about 1077 widows, distribution of milk to the lactating mothers and the children, etc. Under the environmental rehabilitation, construction of drains, plantation of trees and augmentation of safe drinking water supply has been taken up. In April, 2006, Government of India had sanctioned money for a project under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) and the Government of Madhya Pradesh had sanctioned Rs. 14.18 crore the Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC) for providing safe drinking water through pipelines from the Kolar Reservoir to the 14 localities around the UCIL plant site. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has stated that an amount of Rs. 512.10 Crore has been spent on all these schemes, upto 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2009.

(b) to (d) The compensation is being disbursed through the office of the Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal Gas Victims. The Welfare Commissioner's office has informed that as on 31.5.2009, out of 5,74,369 total awarded cases original compensation of Rs.1549.03 crore has been paid to 5,73,878 claimants. In addition Rs. 1509.40 crore has been paid to 5,62,488 claimants as pro-rata compensation on the directions of the Supreme Court. 491 claimants have not yet settled their claim for original compensation and 11,881 claimants have not yet settled the pro-rata compensation. The work of payment of compensation is in progress. A list of absentee claimants was notified in newspapers for attending the Court to receive the compensation. Besides this a list was also provided to the NGOs as per directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The claims would be settled as and when the absentee claimants turn up.

[English]

#### Setting up of steel processing units by SAIL

719. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- whether the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) has set up steel processing units in various parts of the country during the last few years;
- if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- whether there is a proposal to set up more such units in the near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) is presently setting up a Steel Processing Unit (SPU) at Bettiah, Bihar.

(c) and (d) The Steel Processing Units (SPUs) proposed to be set up are at Mahnar and Gaya in Bihar, Hoshangabad, Ujjain and Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh, Guwahati in Assam, Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir, Lakhimpur in Uttar Pradesh and Kangra in Himachal Pradesh.

#### **Bridges in Tamil Nadu**

720. SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of execution of Road Over Bridges (ROBs), Rail Under Bridges (RUBs) and Level Crossings taken up in various parts of Tamil Nadu during the last three years and the targeted dates fixed for their completion;

(b) the details of above pending proposals which are yet to be taken up and the reasons for delay, if any;

(c) the details of new proposals of the State which are under consideration of the Railways;

(d) whether the cost share ratio have been changed and made simple; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Works of Road Over/Under Bridges are not sanctioned State-wise. These are taken up Railway-zone-wise. However, Railways serving the State of Tamil Nadu have intimated that during 2006-07, 29 works, in 2007-08, 39 works and during 2008-09, 23 works of ROB/RUBs were sanctioned in the State. Similarly 49 Level Crossings were Manned in 2006-07, 21 in 2007-08 & 30 in 2008-09 by Rly. concerned. Completion of Road Over/Under Bridges depends upon completion of approaches done by State Government. Railways make all out efforts to complete their portion of work (bridge proper across tracks) before or simultaneously with the work of approaches. Hence, target dates cannot be fixed.

(b) At present all the works are at various stages of planning and execution. However, delay in execution depends on delay in acquisition of Land for approaches, approval of General Arrangement Drawings, delay in approval of Estimate for approaches, delay in making encroachment free site by State Government, provision of diversion for traffic, furnishing of undertaking for cost sharing & closure of Level Crossing etc.

(c) Four proposals from Tamil Nadu have been under consideration for sanction during 2009-10 vis.

(1) ROB in lieu of LC No. 18, km 27/500-600 at Tirunelveli yard

(2) ROB at Vyasarpadi in lieu of existing under bridge.

(3) ROB in lieu of Bridge No.328 near Thiruvanaikaval near Trichy.

(4) ROB in place of Bridge No.1136 near Tiruchirappalli yard.

(d) and (e) Cost pattern remains the same as earlier. It is borne in the ratio of 50:50 by Railways and State Government for Cost Sharing works sanctioned in lieu of busy Level Crossing having traffic density of 1 lakh or more TVUs (Traffic Vehicle Units).

[Translation]

#### **New Airport in Gujarat**

721. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any location for setting up a new airport in Gujarat has been identified;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether there is any proposai to upgrade and/or modernise any existing airport in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) State Government of Gujarat has identified three sites for development of new greenfield airports at Bharuch-Ankleshwar, Rajkot and Dholera in Gujarat, for which, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has conducted site feasibility study at these locations and submitted its report to the State Government for their necessary action.

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

[English]

#### **Benefit of Subsidy to Farmers**

722. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether only big farmers are getting the benefit of the present fertilizers grant and small farmers are comparatively deprived of its benefit;



(b) if so, whether basically the fertilizers manufacturers are getting the benefits of the existing system of grant for fertilizers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Twelfth Finance Commission has recommended for change in this procedure; and

(e) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(a) Fertilizer subsidy is the difference between the normated delivered cost of fertilizers and the notified Maximum Retail Price (MRP) at which they are required to be sold to the farmers. The Fertilizer subsidy is transferred to the farmers in the form of subsidized MPRs which are much lower than the delivered cost of subsidized fertilizers at farm-gate level. The fertilizer subsidy is administered through manufacturers/importers, which is released to them on receipt of subsidized fertilizers in the districts. Currently, all farmers irrespective of farm holding size are getting subsidized fertilizers notified under the subsidy regime.

(b) No, Madam.

(c) In view of (b) above question does not arise.

(d) and (e) The Twelfth Finance Commission has indicated a need to develop an alternative instrument for release of fertilizer subsidy. To ensure balanced application of fertilizers, the Government intends to move towards a nutrient based subsidy regime instead of the current product pricing regime. However, the modalities of same are yet to be finalized.

[Translation]

#### Railway Projects in Andhra Pradesh

723. SHRI ANJAN KUMAR M. YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) the details of on-going railway projects in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the details of the estimated cost of these projects and time schedule fixed for their completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H.MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The details of ongoing railway projects of New Line, Gauge Conversion, Doubling & Railway Electrification falling fully/partly in the State of Andhra Pradesh along with targets wherever fixed, is given as under:-

(Rupees in Crore)

S.No.	Plan Head	Name of the Project	Length in Km.	Latest Sanctioned Anticipated Cost	Expenditure upto March, 2009	Outlay 2009-10	Target where-ever fixed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	New Line	Gadwal-Raichur	60	156.60	97.68	25.00	
2	New Line	Jaggayapeta-Mallacheruvu	19.1	94.69	60.24	22.99	2009-10
3	New Line	Kakinada-Pithapuram	21.5	85.51	0.01	0.01	
4	New Line	Kotipalli-Narsapur	57.21	695.00	9.42	0.01	
5	New Line	Manoharabad-Kotapalli	148.9	497.47	0.43	2.00	
6	New Line	Munirabad-Mehbubnagar	246	497.47	47.44	5.00	
7	New Line	Nandyal-Yerraguntla	126	429.49	207.11	51.00	
8	New Line	Obulavaripalle-Krishnapatnam	113	732.81	95.00	50.00	2009-10
9	New Line	Peddapally-Karimnagar-Nizamabad	177.49	517.63	296.52	15.00	
10	New Line	Rayadurg-Tumkur	213	1027.89	0.00	13.48	
11	New Line	Vishnupuram-Janapahar	11	54.56	6.34	10.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	New line	Tindivanum-Nagari	179.20	582.83	9.04	25.00	
13	New Line	Attipattu-Puttur	88.3	446.87	96.2	45.00	
14	New Line	Cuddapah-Bangalore	255.4	1000.2	0.01	29.00	
15	New Line	Macherla-Nalgonda	92	243.17	0.27	0.10	
16	Gauge Conversion	Dharmavaram-Pakah	227	610.0	404.00	1.00	2009-10
17	Gauge Conversion	Guntur-Guntakal-Kalluru	554	587.00	584.00	1.00	
18	Gauge Conversion	Naupada-Gunupur	90	168.88	149.00	14.00	2009-10
19	Doubling	Gooty-Renigunta - Patch doubling	151	515.00	296.00	120.00	
20	Doubling	Kottavalasa-Simhachalam North 4th line	16.69	95.00	19.51	32.00	
21	Doubling	Raichur-Guntakal	81.1	221.93	137.00	55.00	2009-10
22	Doubling	Samalkot-Kakinada Port	15.6	114.50	85.00	9.70	
23	Doubling	Vizianagram-Kottavalasa 3rd line	34.7	194.89	9.24	35.00	
24	Doubling	Raghavapuram-Mandamari	24.47	92.29	0	10.00	
25	Railway Electrification	Renigunta-Guntakal	308.00	182.55	58.44	55.00	

#### Revival of Pharmaceutical Units

[English]

#### Shuttle train between Delhi and Meerut

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

(a) the approximate number of daily passengers who commute between Delhi-Meerut-Delhi daily;

(b) whether the Railways are aware of the inconvenience caused to the commuters due to inadequate shuttle trains; and

(c) the steps taken by the Railways to provide more shuttle train service between Delhi-Meerut?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Around 4150 passengers travel daily between Delhi-Meerut-Delhi.

(b) and (c) At present four pairs of trains are available between Delhi and Meerut in the morning and evening for daily commuters. The present arrangements are considered adequate to cater to current level of traffic.

725. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to revive the Public Sector Pharmaceutical units including Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (IDPL) and Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd. (HAL) so as to provide medicines and drugs to the consumer at cheaper prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these companies are likely to commence production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Government has approved rehabilitation schemes for revival of Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL) & Bengal Chemical & Pharmaceuticals Limited (BCPL). The rehabilitation scheme to revive Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL) is under consideration. However, efforts are being made to explore the possibility of revival of Bengal Immunity Limited (BIL), Kolkata.

(c) HAL, BCPL & IDPL are already engaged in production of medicines.

[Translation]

**Self-Employment to Minority Communities**

726. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN : Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides direct assistance to the unemployed youth belonging to the minority communities for their self-employment;

(b) if so, the details of the procedure being followed for the purpose; and

(c) the details of the assistance provided/proposed to be provided to the unemployed persons belonging to minority communities alongwith the number of beneficiaries during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN

KHURSHEED): (a) National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC), a Public Sector Enterprise under the administrative control of Ministry of Minority Affairs, provides loans to persons belonging to minority communities, living below double the poverty line, for undertaking income generating activities.

(b) NMDFC provides loans to individuals through State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) which are nominated by the respective State/UT Governments. Besides, it provides micro-credit through Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs). It also extends Educational Loan through SCAs for pursuing technical and professional courses.

(c) A Statement showing State/UT wise funds disbursed and beneficiaries assisted during the last three years and the current financial year (upto 30.6.2009) is enclosed. During the current financial year, as per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Ministry of Minority Affairs and NMDFC, a target of disbursement of Rs. 185.00 crore has been fixed for covering 79,860 beneficiaries by NMDFC.

**Statement**

*National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation*

*Funds Disbursed and Number of beneficiaries covered during the last three years and the current financial year (upto 30.6.2009)*

(Amount in Rs. Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10 (upto 30.06.2009)	
		Number of beneficiaries	Amount Disbursed	Number of beneficiaries	Amount Disbursed	Number of beneficiaries	Amount Disbursed	Number of beneficiaries	Amount Disbursed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5117	756.7	2601	888.7	637	47.25	349	22.5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	2180	100	654	134	0	0	80	5.67
4.	Bihar	700	304.5	893	204.51	3357	904.5	0	0
5.	Chandigarh	4	3	13	5	4	2	7	3
6.	Chhattisgarh	137	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Delhi	25	4.5	107	21.25	34	17	38	17
8.	Gujarat	925	295	474	200	1009	300	0	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	127	115	375	150	202	75	111	50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10.	Haryana	960	415	1073	450	777	359	0	0
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	740	370	1350	387.72	1641	420	0	0
12.	Jharkhand	126	6.75	218	54.44	447	110	0	0
13.	Kerala	8669	3275	10250	3150	14729	4229.5	2222	1000
14.	Karnataka	0	0	1234	525	1426	450	0	0
15.	Maharashtra	150	75	1933	800	1000	500	1111	500
16.	Manipur	0	0	80	1.8	20	1.8	0	0
17.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Meghalaya	0	0	62	3.6	0	0	0	0
19.	Mizoram	400	200	1000	400	910	300	0	0
20.	Nagaland	1136	500	1681	713	1836	500	0	0
21.	Orissa	140	4.5	0	0	382	27	0	0
22.	Pondicherry	25	10	57	23	303	100	0	0
23.	Punjab	1050	525	1875	750	1628	400	0	0
24.	Rajasthan	335	154.72	626	252.25	205	100	25	2.25
25.	Tamil Nadu	14582	952.45	8042	1516	8039	965.25	446	36.9
26.	Tripura	41	25	75	30	206	50	0	0
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	615	45	0	0	0	0
28.	Uttaranchal	292	265	0	0	0	0	0	0
29.	West Bengal	9922	2818	12415	3707.74	12406	3214.49	3373	1502.25
		47783	11275.12	47703	14413.01-	51198	13072.79	7762	3139.57

[English]

**Near-miss Incident at Mumbai Airport**

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

(a) whether there was Air India, Jet near-miss incident at Mumbai Airport on 31st May, 2009;

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

(c) whether any enquiry was ordered into the incident;

(d) if so, the details of the findings and whether any action has been taken against the defaulter including the two pilots of the Aircraft and the Air Traffic Controller (ATC);

(e) whether incidents like the present one had taken place in the past also; and

(f) if so, the guidelines issued for future compliance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. On 31.05.2009 an incident occurred between Jet Airways flight JAI 615 and Air India flight AIC 348 during cross runway operations.

(b) to (d) The incident was investigated by DGCA and it was found that the take off clearance issued to Jet Airways flight was misconstrued by Air India pilot as clearance for Air India flight and initiated take off roll, which led to this incident. The crew of Air India flight was grounded and advised not to exercise privilege of licence for a period of one month.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Guidelines for safety during cross-runway operations have been issued by Directorate General of Civil

Aviation. Instructions have also been issued to the concerned airlines for creating awareness about the incident, reviewing their training programmes and enhancement of surveillance activities.

#### **Suspension of operations by VISL**

728. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the operations in Kemmangundi iron ore mines at Karnataka allocated to Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Ltd. (VISL) has been suspended under the direction of Ministry of Environment and Forests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether VISL has sought permission from the Government for leasing of captive iron ore mine at Karnataka;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken to ensure availability of iron ore to this Public Sector Undertaking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The iron ore mine at Kemmangundi allotted to Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant (VISP) was in operation since its inception in 1923. This mine, located in the proximity of Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary, was closed in the year 2004 on the directions of the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. VISP had applied for the allotment of a mining lease (area 140 Ha) in NEB Range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary District on 24.1.2007. The Government of Karnataka had recommended to the Ministry of Mines, Government of India that the area be reserved for the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL). Against the recommendation of the State Government, some of the applicants filed revision applications with the Ministry of Mines, Government of India. The final decision is awaited. The issue has been taken up with the Ministry of Mines for an early decision.

[Transiation]

#### **Allocation of Kerosene/LPG**

729. SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV:

SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA:

SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI:

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

(a) the monthly requirement of kerosene/LPG in each State/Union territories including Bihar and Goa;

(b) the quantity of kerosene/LPG supplied to each State/Union territory during each of the last three years and current year;

(c) whether the Government is aware that there is acute shortage of kerosene/LPG in many States including Bihar and Goa;

(d) if so, whether the Government has received any request from various States for increasing the quotas of kerosene/LPG of their States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas makes quarterly allocation of PDS kerosene to States/Union Territories for further distribution under the PDS network. The quantity of PDS kerosene for distribution per card holder is decided by concerned State Govt/UT.

LPG supplies to distributors are being made by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) in accordance with the requirement of customers registered with the LPG distributors.

There is no State-wise quota fixed by the Government for the allocation of LPG.

(b) The quantity of PDS kerosene allocated to the States/UTs during the last three years and current year is given in the enclosed Statement-I. State-wise consumption of Domestic LPG for the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(c) and (d) There is no overall shortage of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and kerosene in the country including, in the State of Bihar and Goa. However, OMCs had reported occasional backlog in certain States/Union Territories due to road breaches, collapse of bridge, agitational activities/strikes by the employees, strike by transporters and contract labourers, hartals etc. To liquidate the backlog situation in the States/UTs the bottling plants were operated on holidays and by extending hours of working. As regards kerosene, no shortage has been reported by the State Governments/UTs.

(e) Requests have been received from various State Governments for increasing the SKO allocation, the Government of India commissioned a detailed study of Kerosene demand in the country, through the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in December 2004. NCAER submitted its report in October 2005. NCAER has inter alia recommended to restrict the

subsidy on kerosene to BPL families only. Also, Dr. Rangarajan Committee constituted by the Government to formulate a long-term pricing policy of petroleum products has also recommended to restrict PDS SKO subsidy to BPL families only. The Government has accepted the recommendations of Dr. Rangarajan Committee Report and has decided 'in principle' that subsidy on PDS Kerosene may be restricted to BPL families only. The proposal to work out the modalities to implement this decision and for rationalizing the allocation of PDS kerosene among States/UTs is under the consideration of the Government.

**Statement-I**

*Allocation of PDS Kerosene*

Name of States/UTs	Quantity in Metric Tonnes (MTs)			
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (April to July, 2009)
1	2	3	4	5
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	5816	5816	5816	1921
Andhra Pradesh	517158	517158	517158	172379
Arunachal Pradesh	9257	9257	9257	3075
Assam	258007	258007	258007	85989
Bihar	647430	647430	647430	215405
Chandigarh	13067	13067	9999	2427
Chhattisgarh	146938	146938	146938	48855
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2782	2782	2782	927
Daman and Diu	2118	2118	2118	701
Delhi	168484	168484	160935	45757
Goa	19212	19212	19212	6404
Gujarat	743759	743759	743759	247798
Haryana	145619	145619	145619	48452
Himachal Pradesh	50537	50537	49409	15280
Jammu and Kashmir	76044	76044	76044	19238
Jharkhand	211175	211175	211175	70367

1	2	3	4	5
Karnataka	461478	461478	461478	153811
Kerala	216308	216308	216308	72103
Lakshadweep	795	795	795	400
Madhya Pradesh	488609	488609	488609	162785
Maharashtra	1276876	1276876	1276876	425593
Manipur	19907	19907	19907	6617
Meghalaya	20401	20401	20401	6795
Mizoram	6217	6217	6217	2068
Nagaland	13312	13312	13312	4437
Orissa	314977	314977	314977	104883
Puducherry	12257	12257	12257	4084
Punjab	237192	237192	237192	78787
Rajasthan	398913	398913	398913	132917
Sikkim	5582	5582	5582	1858
Tamil Nadu	558929	558929	558929	186254
Tripura	30832	30832	30832	10267
Uttar Pradesh	1241772	1241772	1241772	413815
Uttarakhand	89849	89849	89849	29949
West Bengal	752103	752103	752103	250638
Total	9163712	9163712	9151967	3033036

**Statement-II**

*Consumption of Domestic LPG*

States	Quantity in Metric Tonnes (MTs)		
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	783.69	826.61	869.58
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	5.10	5.42	5.60
Arunachal Pradesh	10.10	10.88	11.02
Assam	166.31	174.18	175.84
Bihar	251.00	264.50	279.55

1	2	3	4
Chandigarh	30.51	32.20	32.44
Chhattisgarh	98.18	108.47	110.33
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3.03	3.28	3.68
Daman and Diu	4.13	4.21	4.42
Delhi	565.64	590.68	606.52
Goa	39.07	41.54	42.43
Gujarat	558.22	588.61	593.42
Haryana	370.00	383.41	393.01
Himachal Pradesh	79.08	84.18	86.73
Jammu and Kashmir	109.30	121.24	120.38
Jharkhand	91.41	98.50	103.81
Karnataka	586.32	622.63	646.57
Kerala	417.74	438.76	443.30
Lakshadweep	0.24	0.21	0.19
Madhya Pradesh	394.96	431.43	448.57
Maharashtra	1372.32	1449.84	1499.08
Manipur	15.09	17.46	16.69
Meghalaya	12.61	12.93	12.59
Mizoram	17.79	17.40	17.53
Nagaland	13.55	14.14	13.99
Orissa	130.44	138.01	139.47
Puducherry	25.34	26.50	25.91
Punjab	512.60	535.72	548.01
Rajasthan	422.18	447.45	464.34
Sikkim	8.11	8.06	8.43
Tamil Nadu	893.37	944.57	982.17
Tripura	18.94	20.00	20.03
Uttar Pradesh	1094.95	1160.45	1197.68
Uttarakhand	129.92	135.91	139.01
West Bengal	519.04	547.55	574.13
Total	9750.28	10306.93	10636.45

[English]

**Garib Rath**

730. SHRI MUKESH BHAIKAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are planning to start Garib Rath from Abu Road to Bandra daily;

(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) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Running of Garib Rath between Abu-Road and Bandra is not feasible at present due to terminal and resource constraints.

**Construction of Airport at Jalgaon**

731. SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has acquired the land for construction of airport at Jalgaon in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made so far and the time frame fixed for completion of the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government of Maharashtra has acquired additional 262 hectares of land required for the development of the airport at Jalgaon by Airports Authority of India (AAI). The development work of the airport is in its planning stage.

**Inter-city train between Shimoga and Bangalore**

732. SHRI B.Y. RAGHAVENDRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to introduce an inter-city day train between Shimoga and Bangalore keeping in view the heavy rush on this route;

(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) Introduction of Shimoga-Bangalore Intercity Express (daily) has been announced in the Railway Budget 2009-10.

(c) Does not arise.

### Mumbai Local Trains

733. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have conducted any survey about the number of passengers commuting daily in Mumbai local trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of facilities available to local passengers including the mechanism set up for redressal of grievances received from the passengers; and

(d) the modernisation plans, if any, contemplated by the Railways with regard to Mumbai local trains system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Analysis of passengers commuting in Mumbai local trains is done on regular basis. Around 66 lakhs passengers commute daily in Mumbai local trains.

(c) The facilities available to local passengers include booking windows, Coupon Validating Machines, Automatic Ticket Vending Machines (ATVMs), Train indicators, Public Address System, seating arrangement and other amenities as per norms etc.

Indian Railway has a 4 tier Public Grievances Redressal Machinery (PGRM) constituted as under:

Level	Headed by
Railway Board level	Executive Director Public Grievances
Zonal Railway level	Additional General Manager/Senior Deputy General Managers
Divisional Level	Additional Divisional Railway Managers
Station level	Station Managers

(d) Modernisation Plans include procurement of state of the art 3 phase Electrical Multiple Unit (EMU) rakes, completion of DC to AC conversion, Quadrupling of Borivali Virar Section, Virar - Dahanu Road, increase of Track Centre work for running of suburban trains, provision of 5th and 6th lines between Mumbai Central Borivali etc.

### Railway projects in Kerala

734. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are planning to start dedicated rail development projects in Kerala including introduction of new trains and construction of road over bridges; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time frame set for starting these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) 02 new lines, 01 gauge conversion, 11 doubling and 64 Road over bridge/road under bridge works are in various stages of progress. However, there is no proposal as dedicated rail development projects for Kerala.

In addition, 8 pairs of new trains have been announced in the Railway Budget 2009-10 to serve the State of Kerala.

### Doubling of Ernakulam-Changanassery rail line

735. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any plan for doubling the rail lines and construction of Road Over Bridge (ROB) from Ernakulam to Changanassery;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways have any proposal for the modernisation of Kottayam Railway Station; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Following doubling of rail line and construction of road over bridge works are sanctioned between Ernakulam and Changanassery:-

I. Doubling

i. Ernakulam-Mulanturutti (17.37 km)

ii. Mulanturutti-Kuruppantara (24 kms)

iii. Kuruppantara-Chingavanam (26.54 km)

iv. Chingavanam-Changanassery-Chengannur ( 26.50 kms)

Some Road over bridge works have also been taken up as part of above patch doublings.

II. Road over Bridge (ROB)

i. ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 2 at Punnuruni between Ernakulam and Tirutunnithura stations.

ii. ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 33 at Kumaranallur between Ettumannur and Kumaranallur (H) stations.

iii. ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 36 at Mooledam between Kottayam and Chingavanam stations.



(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. Following modernization works have been taken up for Kottayam railway station:-

- i. Improvements to goods approach road and lighting.
- ii. Emergency lights for all Platforms.
- iii. Provision of additional terminals.
- iv. Provision of modern signages.
- v. Provision of split/flap type trains arrival/departure boards.
- vi. Provision of Plasama based Arrival/Departure display boards (2 nos).
- vii. Provision of electronic reservation chart display.

*[Translation]*

#### **Jakhpura and Baspani Railway Line**

736. SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have any proposal for doubling of the railway line between Jakhpura and Baspani under the Chakradharpur Railway Divisional office;
- (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) Yes, Madam.

(b) Doubling of Banspani-Daitari-Tomka-Jakhpura section (180 km) on East Coast Railway has been sanctioned at a total project cost of Rs. 1142.60 crore in 2008-09.

(c) Does not arise.

*[English]*

#### **Gauge conversion between Dhasa-Junagadh**

737. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the gauge conversion between Dhasa-Khijadia and Khijadia-Junagadh rail lines were sanctioned in the last railway budget;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith budgetary allocation; and
- (c) the time by which the work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Integrated Security Scheme for Railway Stations**

738. SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have identified certain Railway Stations under the Integrated Security Scheme;
- (b) if so, the total number of Railway Stations identified in Rajasthan under the scheme;
- (c) the funds earmarked for this project; and
- (d) the time frame set for execution of the project?

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

(b) Four railway stations have been identified in Rajasthan under this Scheme.

(c) and (d) In Works programme 2009-10, it is proposed to implement this scheme at 195 sensitive stations of the Country at an estimated cost of Rs.344.31 Crore. Efforts will be made to complete it early subject to availability of resources.

#### **Railway Lines**

739. SHRI K.D. DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the new railway lines where work has not been started despite completion of survey work; and
- (b) the time by which work on the said lines is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) During the last 3 years, 97 surveys for new lines covering a length of 8410 Km have been completed where works have not been sanctioned.

(b) No time frame is feasible to be given as projects are not sanctioned.

*[English]*

#### **High Court Bench at Agra**

740. PROF. RAMSHANKAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any final decision for setting up of a High Court Bench at Agra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not taking decision on this long pending demand?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) Setting up of benches of High Courts away from their principal seats is considered by the Central Government on receipt of a complete proposal from the State Government which has the consent of the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. The Central Government has not received any such proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

[Translation]

### Flying Training Abroad

741. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a large number of students go abroad for training in flying courses;

(b) the reasons for which Indian students give preference to such courses in the foreign countries; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to open more institutes/colleges imparting training in flying courses, so as to check this unhealthy trend among the Indian students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Ministry of Civil Aviation does not maintain any such records.

(b) and (c) Training in India or abroad is a matter of individual choice and mandatory permission of DGCA is not required for ab initio flying training abroad. Government has taken various steps for augmenting training infrastructure in India by upgradation and modernisation of training infrastructure of Indira Gaiandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi (IGRUA) to enhance its training capacity, setting up of world class National Flying Training Institutes (NFTI) at Gondia, Maharashtra and assistance to flying clubs by allocating trainer aircraft through the Directorate General of Civil Aviation/Aero Club of India.

[English]

### Corporate disclosure by companies

742. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is taking steps to ensure corporate disclosures by the companies in wake of recent surge in the stock market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to nip in bud fraud cases?

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) An elaborate regulatory framework is already in place under the Companies Act, 1956 to deal with corporate disclosures by the companies registered under the Act. This framework provides for statutory disclosures to the Stakeholders about the true and fair view of the state of affairs of the companies. To facilitate corporate disclosures by the companies to the stakeholders and the Regulatory Agencies, the Government has set up an electronic registry with round the clock access, including inspection of documents, through internet. The Government is empowered to inspect the books of accounts of companies and also to investigate their affairs, if need be, under the Companies Act, 1956. The companies are also required to disclose their financial position in accordance with Schedule VI of the Companies Act, 1956 and the Companies (Accounting Standard) Rules, 2006. Further, section 628 of the Act provides that if any person makes a false statement in any return, report, certificate, balance sheet, prospectus, statement or other document required by or for the purpose of any of the provisions of the Act, he/she shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years and shall also be liable to fine.

(c) The Government introduced Companies Bill, 2008 in the Lok Sabha on 23.10.2008, to provide for a comprehensive revision of the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 which would enable more effective checks against irregularities/frauds by companies. The Companies Bill, 2008, has lapsed in view of Article 107 (5) of the Constitution. The Government now proposes to re-introduce the Bill as Companies Bill, 2009 in the Parliament.

### Road over-bridges

743. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of road over-bridges and road under-bridges which are under construction in different States as on date, project-wise;

(b) the details of proposal sent by the State Governments for construction of ROB/RUBs at level crossings;

(c) the steps taken by the Railways thereon; and

(d) the funds allocated for construction of such bridges during the last three years, project-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) As on date there are 710 works of Road Over Bridges (ROBs) and Under Bridges (RUBs) on Zonal Railways falling in the various States sanctioned on cost sharing basis as ROB/RUB Projects. These are as under:

State	No. of ROBs proposals
AP	91
Assam & NE Region	3
Bihar	62
Chhattisgarh	12
Delhi	19
Gujarat	15
Haryana	40
Jharkhand	20
Karnataka	38
Kerala	61
Maharashtra	25
MP	8
Orissa	9
Pondicherry	3
Punjab	32
Rajasthan	22
Tamil Nadu	125
UP	86
Uttarakhand	1
W.B	37
J&K	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>710</b>

(b) and (c) Proposals are received in large number but only those are considered for sanction which fulfil the criterion prescribed under extant rules, like level crossings should have traffic density of at least one lakh Train Vehicle Units, State Govts should have fulfilled pre-requisites like undertakings to bear share of cost, closure of Level Crossing on completion, advance action to acquire land for approaches and assign priority by keeping provision for them in their Annual Plan. Following this criterion, 710 firm proposals had been received which were sanctioned during various Works Programmes, and are at different stages of planning and execution.

(d) Funds allocated for these works during last three years by Zonal Railways are shown below Zone-wise.

(Rs. in Crores)			
Rly.	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
CR	12.04	11.85	15
ER	29.84	25.42	40
ECR	147.50	122.95	140
ECoR	23.00	33.55	31
NR	47.18	37.60	30
NCR	17.85	15.30	15
NER	13.07	11.50	10
NFR	5.94	8.48	42
NWR	13.04	17.32	35
SR	23.80	60.31	80
SCR	14.06	66.33	36
SER	9.67	15.20	25
SECR	16.29	37.37	82
SWR	29.20	49.10	60
WR	26.23	28.21	23
WCR	8.12	10.29	36

#### Allocation of natural gas

744. SHRI T.R. BAALU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that major portion of the natural gas discovered from Krishna-Godavari basin is taken to Western India leaving the southern States including Tamil Nadu high and dry;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government for equal distribution of the above gas among the needy southern States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) Natural gas from Krishna Godavari basin is presently being supplied to fertilizer plant of NFCL, Kakinada and power plants, viz. Kondapalli CCGT, Jegurupadu CCGT(GVK), Jeguurupadu CCGT (GVK) Ext, Samikot CCPP/Paddapuram, Vemagiri CCPP, Gautami CCPP and Kona-seema CCPP, all situated in Andhra Pradesh.

Further, authorizations have been issued for Vijaywada-Nellore-Chennai, Chennai-Tuticorin & Chennai-Bangalore-Mangalore trunk natural gas pipelines, which would transport natural gas from Krishna Godavari basin to other areas in southern States, including Tamil Nadu.

[Translation]

#### Peoples Representation Act

745. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to formulate any policy for carrying out comprehensive changes in the Peoples Representative Act keeping in view the rampant corruption and increasing criminalization of politics; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) : (a) and (b) The Chief Election Commissioner wrote to the Hon'ble Minister of Law & Justice on the 27th October, 2006 about the danger of persons becoming Members of the august Houses of Parliament and State Legislatures, suggesting amendments in the Representation of the People Act, 1951 to disqualify any person accused of an offence punishable by imprisonment for five years or more, from contesting elections even when trial is pending, provided charges have been framed against him by a competent court. The Hon'ble Minister of Law & Justice, on the direction of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, requested the Parliamentary Standing Committee to give its recommendations on the proposal of the Election Commission of India. The Committee in its Eighteenth Report on the subject inter alia disagreed with the aforesaid proposal as it is a major departure from the law of the land that a person is not guilty until he is convicted by the highest court of the land. Keeping in view the observations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee and its disagreements with the proposal of the Election Commission to disqualify citizen from contesting election on the mere framing of charges against them in a court of law for committing certain offences, the proposal may not be pursued further.

#### Social Responsibility of Public Sector Oil Companies

746. SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:  
SHRI MAHESH JOSHI:

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

(a) whether any directions/guidelines have been issued by the Government for Oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) to spend 20 per cent amount from their annual income on social responsibilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the social welfare works carried out by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd., Indian Oil Corporation and Bharat Petroleum Ltd. in various States including Rajasthan during the last three years and the current year; and

(d) the details of the amount allocated to each State for social activities during the said period, company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas vide its letter dated 11th February 2009 has asked Public Sector Oil Companies to spend at least 2% of the net profit of the previous year on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities.

(c) Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) have undertaken various activities for education, sports, drinking water, health care, relief material for the people affected by calamities across the country under CSR activities.

(d) Oil PSUs allot funds under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to undertake social activities on all India basis. They generally do not allot funds state-wise.

The funds allocated for CSR activities during the last three years and the current year in respect of IOC, HPCL and BPCL are as under:

	(Rs. In lakhs)			
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
IOC	3686	5625	5222	3769
HPCL	1500	1700	1700	1500
BPCL	145	902	790	1472

[English]

#### Introduction of oil recovery

747. SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures the Government is initiating for improved/enhanced oil recovery (IOR&EOR) from declining fields like Mumbai High and other such oil fields;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total gross under recoveries of down stream public sector oil companies during the financial years 2007-08 and 2008-09; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to restore the financial health of down stream oil PSU?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Oil Companies adopt various new technologies for increasing production of oil wells in matured fields like Mumbai High through Increased Oil Recovery/Enhanced Oil Recovery (IOR/EOR) Techniques. Public Sector Oil Companies are implementing proven new technologies for such wells through various well intervention techniques like drilling of horizontal and multilateral wells through side-track in old wells, workover, stimulation, hydro-fracturing acidisation, etc. to augment oil production, wherever feasible.

(c) and (d) The Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have incurred under-recoveries on the sale of sensitive petroleum products, namely, Petrol, Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG of Rs. 77,123 crore and Rs. 103,292 crore during the financial years 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively.

As passing on the entire impact of the increase in the oil prices to the consumers would result in sharp increase in the domestic prices and aggravate the inflationary conditions, the Government has been following the equitable Burden Sharing Mechanism to ensure that the burden of wider-recoveries is shared by all the stakeholders, namely the Government, the Public Sector Oil Companies and the consumers in the following manner:

- Government through Issue of Oil Bonds
- Upstream Public sector oil companies by offering price discounts to OMCs
- Public sector OMCs to bear a portion of the under-recoveries, and
- Consumers to bear minimal price increases.

During the year 2008-09, the OMCs were issued Oil Bonds for Rs. 71,292 crores and the upstream oil companies contributed Rs. 32,000 crores through price discounts. In addition, the upstream oil companies also contributed Rs. 943 crores towards import losses of OMCs.

#### **Operation of Private Airlines**

748. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken a decision for allowing private airlines to operate to other countries besides SAARC;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the time since when the proposal is with the Government for its consideration;

(d) the reasons for not taking any final decision in the matter till date;

(e) whether a large number of small airports in the country are not functioning for the last several years;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps being taken to make these airports functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) Eligible private airlines of India are entitled to operate on international routes as agreed to under respective bilateral air services arrangements with foreign countries subject to approval of the Government.

(e) to (g) Thirtythree airports in India are non-operational. These include four in West Bengal, three each in Tripura, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar and Andhra Pradesh, two each in Arunachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka and one each in Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Chhatisgarh, Gujarat, Orissa, Jharkhand and Tamil Nadu. Based on a feasibility study for operationalisation of non-operational airports, thirteen of these airports are being developed for operationalisation.

#### **Comprehensive Check of Airbus A330**

749. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has ordered for a compulsory comprehensive check of all Airbus A330s being used by various Indian carriers on their international routes;

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

(c) whether DGCA has received reports from various operators in this regard;

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

(e) the steps taken for safety of passengers travelling on long international routes in Indian aircrafts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) Based on preliminary information available with Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) regarding discrepancy in the speed of Airbus 330 aircraft, DGCA has advised all operators of

A330 aircraft in India to equip their aircraft with the modified Pitot (i.e. pickup of air-pressure for calculation of speed) and the same has been complied with by all operators. Further all operators have been advised to provide briefing to their crew regarding negotiating the weather, keeping readily available information in cockpit on power versus aircraft attitude (angle with horizontal) and test check the crew in manual flying during simulator trainings.

(e) All flights are conducted as per International Civil Aviation Organisation standard and recommended practices to ensure safety of passengers.

#### New railway lines in Assam

750. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISW-MUTHIARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any plan for laying new Railway Lines from Gelephu (Bhutan) to Salakati-Kokrajhar, Sandrupjungkha (Bhutan) to Rangia and Fakiragram to Jamduar connecting Bhutan within Bodoland Territory in Lower Assam;

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

(c) whether the Railways have any plan to convert the meter gauge line from Murkongselek to Rangia Railway Junction to broad gauge line; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Feasibility Studies for new lines on Indo-Bhutan border have been conducted at the following locations:-

(i) Rangia (Assam) to Samdurpjongkhar via Darranga (Bhutan) (60 Kms)

(ii) Pathsala (Assam) to Nanglam (Bhutan) (40 Kms)

(iii) Kokrajhar (Assam) - Gelephu (Bhutan) (70 Kms)

(iv) Banarhat (West Bengal) - Samtse (Bhutan) (16 Kms)

(v) Hasimara (West Bengal) - Phuentsholing (Bhutan) (18 Kms)

Out of the above five locations, rail link between Hasimara (West Bengal) and Phuentsholing (Bhutan) (18 Kms) has been prioritized for which Detailed Engineering Survey has been taken up.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The gauge conversion of Rangia to Murkongselek with linked lines (510.33 Km) has already been taken up at a cost of Rs. 1555.23 crore. The project is targeted for completion by March, 2013 subject to availability of resources.

[Translation]

#### Technology Upgradation Textile Industry

751. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS

LALAN SINGH:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:

SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for upgrading the technology used in textiles sector;

(b) if so, the funds released for the purpose during the last three years and the current year;

(c) the percentage share allocated for mill sector, powerloom and handloom sectors during the said period;

(d) the increase in production as a consequence of such a scheme, year-wise; and

(e) the number of textiles projects upgraded, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) The Government commissioned Technology Upgradation Fund (TUFS) for modernisation and technology upgradation of textile mills w.e.f. 01.4.1999.

(b) Funds released during the last three years and the current year is as follows: -

Year	Amount (Rupees in crores)
	Fund released
2006-07	823-92
2007-08	1143.37
2008-09	2632.00
2009-10	606.62

(c) TUFS is a demand driven scheme and the funds are not allocated sectorwise. The amount given to different sector i.e. composite (mill sector), spinning, weaving during last four years and current year on an average basis is as under:

Industry segment	Amount (Rupees in crores)			
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Composite	169.73	235.53	542.19	124.96
Spinning	279.56	387.95	893.04	205.83
Weaving	63.36	87.93	202.40	46.65
Others	311.27	431.96	994.37	229.18
Total	823.92	1143.37	2632.00	606.62

(d) There has been significant increase in production of raw materials and finished products in the textile industry. A statement-I showing the Production of fibres, yarn and fabrics is enclosed.

(e) Funds are released to the nodal agencies. The details of progress of TUFs state-wise are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

**Statement-I**

*Production of fibres*

As on						(In Mn. Kgs)
	Raw Cotton (Oct.-Sept.)	PSF	Synthetic ASF	PPSF	Cellulosic VSF	Total
1999-00	2652	551.49	79.31	2.14	202.04	834.98
2000-01	2380	566.42	99.43	2.26	236.17	904.28
2001-02	2686	551.42	94.84	2.38	185.28	833.92
2002-03	2312	582.13	105.27	2.46	224.61	914.47
2003-04	2907	612.58	117.00	2.74	221.01	953.33
2004-05	4131	644.16	127.61	2.88	247.95	1022.60
2005-06	4097	628.15	107.81	3.08	228.98	968.02
2006-07	4760	791.99	97.13	3.52	246.83	1139.47
2007-08	5355	879.61	81.23	3.43	279.90	1244.17
2008-09 (P)	4930	751.64	79.51	3.43	232.75	1067.33

*Production of Spun Yarn (SSI & Non-SSI)*

Year	Production of Yarn (In Mn. Kgs)			
	Cotton	Blended	100% N.C.	Total
1999-2000	2203.70	620.77	221.10	3045.57
2000-01	2266.87	645.80	247.55	3160.22
2001-02	2211.88	609.03	280.15	3101.06
2002-03	2177.16	584.61	319.61	3081.37
2003-04	2120.71	589.33	341.76	3051.80
2004-05	2272.26	584.97	366.29	3223.52
2005-06	2520.87	588.11	349.31	3458.29
2006-07	2823.59	635.10	354.60	3813.39
2007-08	2948.36	677.11	377.75	4003.22
2008-09	2897.82	655.05	359.12	3911.99

*Production of Fabric*

Mill Sector	Million Square Meter							
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (P)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Cotton	1036	1019	969	1072	1192	1305	1249	1259
Blended	296	263	253	243	252	330	422	426

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
100% Non Cotton	214	214	212	211	212	111	110	111
Total	1546	1496	1434	1526	1656	1746	1781	1796
<b>Handloom Sector</b>								
Cotton	6698	5098	4519	4792	5236	5717	6076	5840
Blended	95	118	117	146	145	98	123	118
100% Non Cotton	792	764	857	784	727	720	748	719
Total	7585	5980	5493	5722	6108	6535	6947	6677
<b>Decentralised Powerloom Sector</b>								
Cotton	6473	6761	6370	7361	8821	9647	9923	9621
Blended	5025	4695	4688	4526	4632	5025	4918	4764
100% Non Cotton	13694	14498	35889	16438	17173	18207	19884	19263
Total	25192	25954	26947	28325	30626	32879	34725	33648
<b>Decentralised Hosiery Sector</b>								
Cotton	5562	6422	6182	7430	8624	9569	9948	10178
Blended	871	800	1010	1117	1269	1428	1425	1458
100% Non Cotton	634	659	655	565	525	507	431	441
Total	7067	7881	7847	9112	10418	11504	11804	12077
<b>All Sectors</b>								
Cotton	19769	19300	18040	20655	23873	26238	27196	26898
Blended	6287	5876	6068	6032	6298	6882	6888	6766
100% Non Cotton	15334	16135	17613	17998	18637	19545	21173	20534
Total	41390	41311	41721	44685	48808	52665	55257	54198
Khadi, Wool & Silk	644	662	662	693	769	724	768	768
Grand Total	42034	41973	42383	45378	49577	53389	56025	54966

**Statement-II**

*Progress of TUFs (State-wise/Nodal Agency wise) (Provisional)  
(01.04.1999 to 31.03.2009)*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	State/U.T.	Sector	Sanctioned		Disbursed		
			No. of applications	Project Cost*	Amount	No. of applications	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	Non SSI	303	7796.10	3838.10	302	3183.83
		SSI	74	117.99	81.38	74	71.06
			377	7914.09	3919.49	376	3254.89
2	Chandigarh (UT)	Non SSI	21	307.55	152.46	21	148.02
		SSI	3	330.06	21.14	3	21.14
			24	637.61	173.60	24	169.16



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3	Dadra and Nagar Haveli (UT)	Non SSI	41	539.68	454.26	41	357.09
		SSI	11	15.87	6.35	11	6.35
			52	555.55	460.61	52	381.44
4	Daman and Diu (UT)	Non SSI	15	423.86	64.38	15	64.17
		SSI	4	12.15	11.48	4	5.44
			19	436.01	75.86	19	69.62
5	Delhi (UT)	Non SSI	203	3572.33	1517.83	202	1268.13
		SSI	216	241.39	131.27	216	117.31
			419	3813.72	1649.11	418	1385.45
6	Gujarat	Non SSI	902	13953.13	5398.42	901	4362.16
		SSI	10271	2687.90	1869.09	10271	1515.59
			11173	16641.04	7267.50	11172	5877.76
7	Haryana	Non SSI	218	2061.98	1208.31	207	1069.96
		SSI	404	484.74	237.92	364	172.37
			622	2546.72	1446.23	571	1242.33
8	Himachal Pradesh	Non SSI	27	824.95	377.26	27	365.95
		SSI	7	11.13	5.02	7	4.88
			34	836.08	382.28	34	370.83
9	Jammu-Kashmir	Non SSI	22	612.45	447.24	22	337.84
		SSI	0	0.00	0	0	0.00
			22	612.45	447.24	22	337.84
10	Jharkhand	Non SSI	3	48.50	29.80	3	18.00
		SSI	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00
			3	48.50	29.80	3	18.00
11	Karnataka	Non SSI	173	2213.23	1180.46	173	1049.20
		SSI	256	198.33	137.69	234	102.41
			429	2411.56	1381.14	407	1151.61
12	Kerala	Non SSI	47	1395.82	479.69	45	390.30
		SSI	19	17.07	10.52	19	7.80
			66	1412.89	490.21	64	398.11
13	Madhya Pradesh	Non SSI	59	1562.84	750.73	58	650.92
		SSI	14	6.20	8.46	14	8.05
			73	1569.04	759.19	72	658.96
14	Maharashtra	Non SSI	1096	36263.65	15708.56	1093	13733.69
		SSI	788	4105.66	544.75	781	443.92
			1884	40369.31	16253.31	1874	4177.61
15	Orissa	Non SSI	1	3.75	2.75	1	2.75
		SSI	1	2.09	1.34	1	0.92
			2	5.84	4.09	2	3.67

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
16	Pondicherry (UT)	Non SSI	2	45.57	33.65	2	30.28
		SSI	0	0.00	0.00	0	0.00
			2	45.57	33.65	2	30.28
17	Punjab	Non SSI	620	26990.18	11637.82	616	8147.34
		SSI	1857	1153.85	604.53	1853	497.79
			2477	28144.03	12242.34	2469	8645.13
18	Rajasthan	Non SSI	632	20805.40	4781.73	631	4265.14
		SSI	317	382.81	192.79	317	177.99
			949	21188.21	4974.52	948	4443.13
19	Tamil Nadu	Non SSI	2467	30066.55	16701.11	2463	14910.79
		SSI	3214	3036.48	2024.36	3206	1855.39
			5681	33103.03	18725.47	5669	16766.18
20	Uttar Pradesh	Non SSI	92	2988.14	1047.70	92	972.60
		SSI	89	106.43	53.99	86	45.28
			181	3089.56	1101.70	178	1017.88
21	Uttarakhand	Non SSI	4	269.65	119.03	4	74.97
		SSI	1	0.15	0.11	1	0.11
			5	269.79	119.14	5	75.08
22	West Bengal	Non SSI	78	1062.24	562.05	78	415.57
		SSI	113	125.87	82.97	113	64.69
			191	1188.11	645.02	191	480.25
Total		Non SSI	7026	153802.54	66493.32	6997	55836.71
		SSI	17659	13036.16	6025.17	17575	5118.50
			24685	166838.70	72518.49	24572	60955.21

**Note :**

- \*Project cost would include equity (non-loan amount), loan for non-TUF eligible investment.
- Govt. outflow under TUFs is around 5% of the disbursed amount.

**Amritsar International Airport**

752. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- whether International Airport at Amritsar is underutilised;
- if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- the steps being taken to utilise the airport to its full capacity?

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

Amritsar International Airport is used by many domestic & international scheduled airlines operators as per their commercial judgement. Presently Air India, Air India Express, Jet Airways, Kingfisher Airlines, Go Airways, Uzbekistan Airways, Turkmenistan Airways, Air Slovakia and Ariana Afghan Airlines are operating from Amritsar International Airport.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Railway Yard at Barhaj Bazar**

753. SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal to set up a railway yard at Barhaj Bazar in Purvanchal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Hirakhand Express Train**

754. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any requests from the public representatives for extension of Train No. 8447/8448 Hirakhand Express from Bhubaneswar to Koraput;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Railways thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) 8447/8448 Hirakhand Express is already running between Bhubaneswar and Koraput.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Survey for New Rail Line**

755. SHRI SAJJAN VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether survey for laying a new rail line from Ujjain to Agra, Suner, Soyam, Jhalawar and Ramgunj has already been completed;

(b) if so, whether the construction work on this line has been started;

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

(d) the time by which the work on this line is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) to (d) A survey for construction of a new broad gauge from Ujjain to Jhalawar-Ramganj Mandi via Agar, Suner was completed in 2000-01. As per the survey report, cost of construction of this 190 km long line was assessed as Rs. 860 crore with a negative rate of return. Due to unremunerative nature of the line and constraint of resources, the new line proposal could not be considered for sanction.

#### **Increase in Demand of Iron Ore**

756. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reserves of the high quality iron ore is inadequate in the country;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to meet the growing demand of such iron ore;

(c) the estimated quantity of the iron ore being exported every year;

(d) whether the Government proposes to impose a ban on the export of iron ore; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) The total resources of high (+65% Fe) and medium grade (+62% Fe to 65% Fe) iron ore in the country are as follows:

(Unit: Million tonnes)

Grade	Total Resources as on 1.4.2005
High Grade (+)65% Fe	1933
(+)62% to 65% Fe	6606

(Source: Ministry of Mines)

The present production of iron ore in the country is much more than the present requirement of domestic steel industry and iron ore is being exported in large quantity from the country. However, National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi in a paper (2006) has concluded that the useful life of High & Medium Grade iron ore at the average consumption level (average of current & projected consumption levels) is only 19 years.

(b) While considering National Mineral Policy, 2008, the Group of Ministers (GoM) had decided that conservation of iron ore resources of the country is of paramount importance, however, the same may not be achieved by banning or capping the export of iron ore but by taking recourse to appropriate fiscal measures. Accordingly, export duty at different rates was imposed on iron ore from time to time. At present, the rates of duty on iron ore exports is following:

- i) Iron ore fines (all sorts)- NIL
- ii) Iron ore other than fines (including Lumps & pellets)- 5% ad-valorem

The Government has also approved National Mineral Policy, 2008 which inter-alia provides for preference to value adders in the allocation of captive iron ore mines, which is expected to meet the demand of iron ore by domestic steel industries.

(c) The export of iron ore during last three years is given below:

(Figures in Million Tonnes:-MT)		
2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
93.79	104.27	105.86*

(\* Provisional revised)

(Source : MMTC)

(d) and (e) No Sir.

[English]

#### Production of Steel

757. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed and achievements made in the production of steel in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, company-wise;

#### Production of crude steel by Public Sector Undertakings (in million tonnes)

Producer	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09*		April-June* 2009-10	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
SAIL								
Source:	13.032	13.506	13.739	13.962	13.978	13.411	3.143	3.271
SAIL								
RINL								
Source:	03.567	03.606	03.620	03.322	03.450	03.145	0.795	0.796
RINL								

\*= Provisional

#### Production of crude steel by Private Producers

(in million tonnes)

2006-07	2007-08	2008-09*	April-June 2009-10*
33.81	36.77	38.15	09.90

Source: JPC; \* =provisional

All steel producers normally produce steel as per their installed capacities as well as their perception of the market demand. Minor shortfall in production, however, may happen due to various reasons such as the unavailability of raw

(b) whether any shortfall has been registered in the production of steel during the said period;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government proposes to set up new steel plants in the country particularly in Jharkhand;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the expenditure likely to be incurred on the setting up of these plants; and

(g) the time by which the steel plants are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (c) Steel is a de-regulated sector. Joint Plant Committee (JPC) under the Ministry of Steel maintains statistics regarding production, consumption, export and import of steel in the country. The data regarding production targets are available in respect of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), whereas private producers normally do not share their targets with the JPC.

The targets fixed and achievements made in the production of steel by PSUs namely Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL) and the data of crude steel production by private producers during the last three years and the first quarter of the current year are as under:-

material, infrastructural constraints, renovation/upgradation of plants and fluctuation in demand.

(d) to (g) At present, none of the Public Sector Undertakings has any plans to set up new steel plants in Jharkhand.

[Translation]

**Corruptions in Railways**

758. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are incurring huge losses of revenue on account of corruption in Railways during the last three years;

(b) if so, the corrective action taken by the Railway in this regard:

(c) the names of the firms black listed as a result thereof;

(d) the number of FIRs registered during the period; and

(e) the number of officers held responsible and the action taken against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) Vigilance Department in Railways is regularly carrying out preventive checks, resulting in detection of leakage of Railway revenue to the tune of Rs.321 crore during the last three years as detailed below :-

Year	Revenue Leakage detected (Rs in Cr.)
2006	105
2007	93
2008	123
Total	321

(b) During the course of regular checks and investigation of complaints, the delinquent officials have been taken up under the Railway Servants (Discipline & Appeal Rules) 1968, as applicable and those found guilty, have been suitably punished.

(c) A list containing names of firms, with which business dealings were suspended/banned during the years 2006, 2007 and 2008 is as enclosed Statement.

(d) Investigating agencies like CBI and State Police register FIRs, the details of which are not maintained by Railways.

(e) The number of officers held responsible and punished during last three years is furnished below :-

Year	Major Penalty	Minor Penalty	Total
2006	51	108	159
2007	36	130	166
2008	52	125	177
Total	139	363	502

**Statement**

S.No. Name of the firm banned during 2006

1	2
1	M/s Ganpati Industries, Kolkata.
2	M/s Engineering Corporation of India Ltd., Howrah.
3	M/s Power Trading Corporation, Gorakhpur
4	M/s Dharendra Kumar, Patna

S.No. Name of the firm banned during 2007

1	M/s Sukhdev Sing & Sons, Kapurthala.
2	M/s Balwant Singh & Sons, Kapurthala.
3	M/s Frontier Springs Limited, Kanpur.
4	M/s G.B.Springs(P) Limited, Dehradun.
5	M/s Gurjar Enterprises, Jodhpur.
6	M/s Blue Star Traders & Engineers, Jodhpur.
7	M/s Naveet Electricals, Jodhpur.
8	M/s Deepak Traders, Jodhpur
9	M/s Modi Traders, Jodhpur
10	M/s Swati Enterprises, Jodhpur.
11	M/s Marine Enterprises, Jodhpur.
12	M/s Unique Electricals, Jodhpur.
13	M/s Manish Electric & General Supplier, Jodhpur.
14	M/s Anand Enterprises, Jodhpur.
15	M/s Chand Traders, Jodhpur.
16	M/s Agarwal Enterprises, Jodhpur.
17	M/s Man Enterprises, Jodhpur.
18	M/s Minerals & Refractories Corporation, Mumbai.
19	M/s Heena Trading Company, Secunderabad.
20	M/s General Hardwaste C., Kolkata.
21	M/s Shiv Shanker Manufacturing Co-, Ludhiana.
22	M/s Champalal Maheswari & Brothers, Kolkata.
23	M/s Zahir Steel Trading Corporation, Madras.
24	M/s Rama Krishna Fabrics (P) Limited, West Bengal.
25	M/s Arvind & Co., Visakhapatnam.

1	2
26	M/s Sahney Kirkwood Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai.
27	M/s Sahney Commutators Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore.
28	M/s Gowthami Industries, Chennai.
29	Shri K.Venkata Reddy, Secunderabad
30	Shri Aditya Roy Construction Co., Burdwan
31	M/s Harpal Das Mandhyani, Katihar
32	M/s Ahuti Builders, Agra
33	M/s S.R.Goverdhandas Agencies, Chennai
34	M/s Shiv Kumar, Manpada, Agra
35	M/s Mass Constructions, Ranipet, Tamilnadu
36	Shri P.P.Sakthivel, Dharapuram, Periyar Distt.
37	M/s L.K.Sons, Bikaner
38	M/s S.R.Govardhandas Agencies, Chennai
39	M/s Advance Geotech & Constructions, Nav Mumbai
40	M/s Brij Enterprises, Jaipur
41	M/s K.S. & Co., Coimbatore
42	M/s Bijoy Kumar Enterprise, Kolkata
43	M/s Geeta Mechanical Works, Hajipur
44	M/s Shiv Shankar Construction Co., Palwal
45	Shri M.C.Baby, Contractor, Ernakulam
46	M/s Kapoor Bros., Model Town, Delhi
47	M/s Brij Traders, Sawai Madhopur
48	M/s Aadeshkar Singh, Patiala
49	M/s Deka Consultancy and Agency Services Guwahati
50	M/s N.K.Sharma & Co., New Delhi
51	Shri R.Venkataramiah, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh
52	M/s Viswada Majoor Sahkari Mandali Ltd. Porbandar
53	M/s M. K. Singh, Satna
54	M/s Santosh Kumar Pandey, Satna
55	M/s Saturn Projects Ltd., New Delhi
56	M/s Desh Pal Gupta & Co., Suratgarh
57	M/s Shiva Construction & Co., Jamshedpur

S.No.	Name of the firm banned during 2008
1	M/s Misra & Co., Kanpur.
2	M/s MESA Constructions, Kolkata
3	M/s Jay Bharat Constrution, Bokaro
4	M/s Satish Kumar & Co., Ambala
5	M/s Ramakrishna Constructions, Sambalpur Division
6	M/s Sajeev Mathew & Co., Govt. Contractor, Kerala
7	M/s Khaishgi Construction Corp., Mysore
8	Shri Pradip Konch, Contractor, Dibrugarh
9	M/s S.K.Gupta & Co., Ghaziabad
10	M/s Samrat Construction Co., Vikaspuri, New Delhi
11	M/s Pawan Construction, Samastipur
12	M/s Shiva Construction, Malda
13	M/s J.V.Enterprises, Jamshedpur

S.No.	Name of the firm suspended during 2008
1	M/s Pioneer Friction Ltd., Kolkata.
2	M/s Wabtec Corporation, USA

**Prices of Chemical Fertilizers**

759. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:  
SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of chemical fertilizers have fallen during the current year in comparison to last year;

(b) if so, the fall in percentage terms;

(c) whether the Indian farmers would also get chemical fertilizers at a cheaper rates as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the likely fall of prices in percentage terms for farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) :  
(a) to (d) The international prices of chemical fertilizers except MOP, have fallen substantially during the current year as compared to last year, as can be seen from the table below:

## Average International Prices USD (PMT)

Months	Urea (FOB)	DAP (C&F)	MOP (FOB)	Phos Acid (C&F)	Rock Phosphate (C&F)	Ammonia (C&F)	Sulphur (C&F)
April 08	453	1330	515	1985	425	529	697
May 08	628	1331	666	1985	433	533	744
June 08	678	1274	700	1985	460	490	831
July 08	811	1290	726	2427	389	558	849
August 08	815	1269	858	2255	363	720	769
September 08	777	1175	933	2200	348	834	566
October 08	459	1013	945	1920	347	756	334
November 08	255	654	918	1810	353	290	65
December 08	246	441	918	1560	353	181	59
January 09	268	373	918	980	250	168	57
February 09	302	405	918	760	250	196	54
March 09	306	414	768	705	250	261	57
April 09	278	377	718	630	134	296	64
May 09	264	346	717	630	154	292	61
% Increase in May 09 over April 08	-42%	-74%	39%	-68%	-64%	-45%	-91%

The farmers have been kept insulated from the volatilities of prices in the international market with a constant MRP since last more than six years. Thus, the change in international prices has not impacted the price of subsidized fertilizers for the farmers.

[English]

#### Landing Fees at Amritsar Airport

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

(a) whether landing fees at Amritsar Airport is more than other Airports in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The landing charges at Amritsar Airport are at par with the other airports in the country.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Linking of Ancient Places of Pilgrimage by Rail Service

761. SHRI SANJAY SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal to link places of pilgrimage by direct rail services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of new rail services and rail lines sanctioned during the last three years for the same;

(d) whether the Railways have proposed to start a direct train service between Delhi and Bijnore via Hastinapur; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) to (c) Train services are provided based on regular demand of passenger traffic to and from important stations taking into account the

availability of resources and operational feasibility. Likewise, no proposal has been sanctioned during the last three years specifically for the purpose of linking places of pilgrimage. However, such places may get linked/served through new lines projects whenever taken up in that area.

- (d) No, Madam.  
(e) Does not arise.

#### **Cold Storages Facilities**

762. SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP:  
SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of total food production of the country used in the food-processing sector;
- (b) the extent of loss incurred due to poor cold storage facilities in the country during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) the details of cold chain facilities available in the country as on date, State-wise; and
- (d) the total amount allocated and spent to improve the cold storage facilities during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) to (d) It is estimated that the processing level in the food processing sector has gone up from 6% to 10 % and value addition has gone up from 20% to 26% during last five years. The level of wastage of agricultural food items is estimated to be about Rs. 50.000/- crores occurring at various stages of handling after harvesting due to fragmented farming, lack of adequate post-harvest infrastructure such as lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage facilities etc.

However, there has been increase in substantial rate of growth of the food processing industry from 7% in 2003-04 to 13.14 % in 2006-07 & it has contributed to reduction of wastages and better value addition.

As per the information available with Directorate of Marketing & Inspection (DMI), Ministry of Agriculture, total number of cold storages in the country as on 31.12.2007 is 5316. State-wise and capacity-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

To encourage setting up of cold chain facilities and backward linkages in the country, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) has a Plan Scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure during the 11th Plan to provide financial assistance to project proposals received from public / private organizations for cold chain infrastructure development. The scheme envisages financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid @ 50% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas and 75% for North Eastern Region and difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs.10.00 crore. The initiatives are aimed at filling the gaps in the supply chain, strengthening of cold chain infrastructure, establishing value addition with infrastructural facilities like sorting, grading, packaging and processing for horticulture including organic produce, marine, dairy, poultry, etc. Other agencies of the Government like National Horticulture Board (NHB), Agricultural and Processing Food Products Development Authority (APEDA), National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) and State Government also provide assistance for cold storages under their respective schemes.

The scheme of MFPI is project oriented, not state specific. Revised Budget Estimates during last three years for MFPI Scheme for Infrastructure Development including cold storage/chain during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 was Rs. 13.60 crore, Rs. 15.00 crore and Rs. 48.50 crore and the expenditure during these years was Rs. 11.62 crores, Rs. 14.79 crores and Rs. 48.28 crores respectively.

#### **Statement**

##### *Sector-wise Distribution of Cold Storages as on 31/12/2007*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Private Sector		Cooperative Sector		Public Sector		Total No.	Total Capacity in MTS
		No.	Capacity	No.	Capacity	No.	Capacity		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands (UT)	01	170	00	00	01	40	02	210
2.	Andhra Pradesh	260	830762	11	11598	10	3451	281	845811
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	01	5000	00	00	00	00	01	5000



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.	Assam	20	88706	01	1000	04	1120	25	90826
5.	Bihar	234	1233266	18	77200	00	00	252	1310466
6.	Chandigarh (UT)	05	11216	01	1000	00	00	06	12216
7.	Chhattisgarh	58	278636	01	29	01	41	60	278706
8.	Delhi	75	103210	02	5201	16	17680	93	126091
9.	Gujarat	351	1075148	21	30669	05	6437	377	1112254
10.	Goa	28	7105	00	00	00	00	28	7105
11.	Haryana	233	377319	04	3403	06	11399	243	392121
12.	Himachal Pradesh	08	11413	02	767	07	6195	17	18375
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	15	40689	03	2134	01	46	19	42869
14.	Jharkhand	35	142733	08	27415	00	00	43	170148
15.	Kerala	168	54095	06	1080	10	1590	184	56765
16.	Karnataka	122	380751	18	6689	17	9594	157	397034
17.	Lakshadweep (UT)	00	00	00	00	01	15	01	15
18.	Maharashtra	361	488667	55	25346	32	13724	448	527737
19.	Madhya Pradesh	160	671374	20	101348	05	2434	185	775156
20.	Manipur	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
21.	Meghalaya	01	1200	00	00	02	2000	03	3200
22.	Mizoram	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
23.	Nagaland	01	5000	01	1150	00	00	02	6150
24.	Orissa	83	206840	11	17400	00	00	94	224240
25.	Pondicherry(UT)	02	35	01	50	00	00	03	85
26.	Punjab	402	1298425	18	39092	00	00	420	1337517
27.	Rajasthan	97	310901	09	3832	01	14	107	314747
28.	Sikkim	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
29.	Tamil Nadu	122	224129	13	7562	04	5162	139	236853
30.	Tripura	03	12750	01	5000	07	11700	11	29450
31.	U.P. & Uttaranchal	1498	8749567	87	281480	03	8000	1588	9039047
32.	West Bengal	476	5634500	51	339000	00	00	527	5973500
<b>Total</b>		<b>4820</b>	<b>22243607</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>989445</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>100642</b>	<b>5316</b>	<b>23333694</b>

Source : DMI, M/o Agriculture

**New Railway Line in Uttar Pradesh**

763. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have conducted any survey for laying new rail line from Sidhartha Nagar to Faizabad via Basti in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds earmarked for the above said rail line; and

(d) the time by which the work on the line is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d): Do not arise.

[English]

**Unmanned level crossing**

764. SHRI S. SEMMALAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to convert unmanned level crossings on Salem-Virudachalam section in manned level crossings; and

(b) if so, the time frame fixed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. On Salen-Vridhachalam section three unmanned level crossings No. 107(Km.107/8-9), 123(Km126/4-5) and 179(Km. 186/6-7) are proposed for manning by December 2010.

#### Modernisation of Court

765. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds have been allocated for modernisation and infrastructure development of Supreme Court, High Courts and Lower Courts during the last three years;

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

(c) whether the Government has received any requests to increase the said allocations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) The responsibility for modernisation and infrastructure development of the High Courts and Lower Courts lies with the respective State Governments. So far as the Supreme Court is concerned, the requisite information is being collected and would be laid on the table of the House.

However, the Government is implementing a scheme for upgradation of the Information and Communication Technology infrastructure of the Supreme Court and the High courts and for computerising the District and subordinate courts in the country at a cost of Rs 441.8 crore. This scheme was approved in February, 2007 and is being implemented by the National Informatics Centre (NIC). NIC has been given Rs 212.95 crore so far for implementation of this scheme. All district courts are being provided with uniform Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure and the existing ICT infrastructure of the High Courts is being similarly upgraded. The allocation under this scheme is not made court-wise.

For the development of infrastructure facility for the judiciary, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented since 1993-94 under which central assistance is provided to the States/UTs to augment their resources for the construction of court buildings (including construction

requirement for High Court buildings) and residential accommodation of Judges. Allocations under this scheme are not made court-wise. The budget provision for the scheme for 2009-10 (for all States and UTs) is Rs 125.50 crore. The amounts are released to the States/UTs based on utilisation reported by them to the satisfaction of the Central Government. Some State Governments have requested for additional funds under the scheme. As per available information, requests have been received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for construction of a new building for the Lucknow Bench of the Allahabad High Court, Government of Nagaland for construction of High Court Building at Kohima and Government of Kerala for the construction of five court complexes. These requests are under examination. The amount allocated under this scheme for 2006-07 was Rs 65.00 crore, for 2007-08 was Rs 117.96 crore and for 2008-09 was Rs 133 crore. The amount released to the State Governments and UTs during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 are given in the Statement enclosed.

#### Statement

*Details of funds released to States/UTs during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of infrastructure facilities for the Judiciary*

States	(In lakhs of Rs.)		
	Amount released during 2006-07	Amount released during 2007-08	Amount released during 2008-09
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	386.00	595.00	913.00
Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Assam	443.11	0.00	1047.00
Bihar	0.00	436.00	330.00
Chhattisgarh	114.00	233.58	722.00
Goa	0.00	162.00	33.00
Gujarat	190.00	1006.00	1035.00
Haryana	80.00	161.00	306.00
Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jammu & Kashmir	0.00	0.00	324.00
Jharkhand	70.00	0.00	756.00

1	2	3	4
Karnataka	200.00	516.00	423.00
Kerala	128.00	118.26	255.00
Madhya Pradesh	205.00	1000.00	53.00
Maharashtra	416.00	1330.00	1517.00
Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mizoram	0.00	53.70	51.00
Nagaland	550.00	635.60	502.00
Orissa	503.00	687.00	0.00
Punjab	105.00	1100.00	268.00
Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	1256.75
Sikkim	542.00	0.00	0.00
Tamil Nadu	245.00	924.00	170.00
Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00
Uttarakhand	0.00	0.00	275.00
Uttar Pradesh	642.00	1222.00	1290.00
West Bengal	0.00	0.00	728.05
A & N Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chandigarh	0.00	200.00	720.00
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00
Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00
Puducherry	0.00	0.00	272.52
<b>Total (States/UTs)</b>	<b>4819.11</b>	<b>10380.14</b>	<b>13247.32</b>

[Translation]

#### Prices of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

766. SHRI MAHESH JOSHI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to

(a) the wholesale and retail prices of important chemical fertilizers during each of the last three years; and

(b) the policy of the Government for monitoring the retail and whole sale prices of such fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : (a) and (b) The maximum retail Price of subsidized fertilizers in the country during the last three years has been as below:

#### Maximum Retail Prices of fertilizers - Product Wise

S. No.	Products	Existing MRPs till 17th June'08	New MRPs w.e.f. 18th June'08
Rs/MT			
1	Urea	4830	4830
2	DAP / MAP	9350	9350
3	MAP	9350	9350
3	MOP	4455	4455
4	SSP	3400	3400
Grades of Complex Fertilizers - N:P:K:S			
5	16:20:00:13	7100	5875
6	20:20:00:13	7280	6295
7	20:20:00:00	7280	5343
8	23:23:00:00	8000	6145
9	28:28:00:00	9080	7481
10	10:26:26:00	8360	7197
11	12:32:16:00	8480	7637
12	14:28:14:00	8300	7050
13	14:35:14:00	8660	8185
14	15:15:15:00	6980	5121
15	17:17:17:00	8100	5804
16	19:19:19:00	8300	6487

Note: The MRP of SSP before 1st May, 2008 was fixed by respective State Governments and used to vary from State to State.

Further, Ammonium Sulphate and Triple Super Phosphate were also brought under the Concession Scheme w.e.f. 1st July 2008 and 1st April, 2008 at an MRP of Rs. 10350 per MT and Rs. 7460 per MT respectively.

The Government notifies Maximum Retail Price (MRP) for urea and indicative MRPs for other subsidized fertilizers under the Concession Scheme. The fertilizer manufacturers/importers are required to ensure sale of these subsidized fertilizers at the MRPs/indicative MRPs as notified by Government in order to be eligible to receive subsidy under the subsidy regime administered by the Department of fertilizers. Further, under clause 21 of Fertilizer (Control) Order 1985 (FCO), it is mandatory to print the MRP on the bags of fertilizers and no person is permitted to sale material above the statutory/indicative prices. The State Governments are adequately empowered under the provisions of the Fertilizer (Control) Order 1985 to check such activities.

[English]

### High Court Benches in Gujarat

767. SHRI PRABHATSINH P. CHAUHAN:

SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has received proposal from the Government of Gujarat to set up a Bench of High Court at Rajkot and Vadodara;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) Setting up of benches of High Courts away from their principal seats is considered by the Central Government on receipt of a complete proposal from the State Government which has the consent of the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. The Central Government has not received any such proposal from the Government of Gujarat.

### Superfast train between Gandhi Dham and Howrah

768. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a superfast train from Gandhi Dham to Howrah which was announced in the last budget has not been started yet;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. Gandhidham- Howrah Superfast (Weekly) has been announced in the Railway Budget 2009-10. The train shall be introduced during the financial year 2009-2010.

### New Planes for Air India

769. SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plans to prune orders for new planes for Air India;

(b) if so, the present status of the process for procuring planes for Air India; and

(c) the likely impact thereof on financial position of Air India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) A comprehensive restructuring plan for Air India is under formulation. All such issues could be then decided.

### Handloom sector in Uttar Pradesh

770. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any special measures have been taken by the Government to promote the handloom sector in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the quantum of financial assistance provided to the weavers during each of the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The Government of India is implementing the following developmental and welfare schemes during the XI Five Year Plan to promote the Handloom Sector in all over the country including Uttar Pradesh state:-

(i) Integrated handlooms Development Scheme

(ii) Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme.

(iii) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme

(iv) Mill Gate Price Scheme.

(v) Diversified Handloom Development Scheme

(b) (i) Financial assistance provided to the Uttar Pradesh state for overall development and welfare of handloom weavers during the last three years and in the current year are as under:-

Sl.No.	Financial year	Financial assistance provided to the state of Uttar Pradesh. (Rs. in lakh)
1.	2006-07	974.00
2.	2007-08	371.00
3.	2008-09	1367.00
4.	2009-10 (up to 30.06.2009)	-

(ii) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme is being implemented by the Government of India with components of (i) Health Insurance Scheme and (ii) Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana which provide medical facilities and life insurance cover in case of natural/accidental death, total/partial disability due to accident for the weavers in the country including state of Uttar Pradesh. Weavers covered under the scheme during the last three years in the State of Uttar Pradesh are as under:-

Year	Weavers covered under Health Insurance Scheme	Weavers covered under Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana
2006-07	88372	17163
2007-08	431921	14350
2008-09	371617	21560

#### Introduction of a train between Vasco-Kerala

771. SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railways have received representations from the people of Goa to start a train from Vasco to Kerala via Mangalore; and

(b) if so, the time by which the train is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Introduction of Goa - Ernakulam Express via Mangalore has been announced in the Railway Budget for 2009-10.

#### Rail link

772. SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is long standing request from people's representative for linking Chatra District Headquarters in Jharkhand with Railways; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Railways thereon?

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

(b) The work of new line from Gaya to Chatra has been included in the Budget 2008-09. Preliminary work has been taken up.

[Translation]

#### Gauge Conversion work between Dholpur-Gangapur

773. SHRI KHILADI LAL BAIRWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have conducted any survey for Gauge conversion between Dholpur to Sar Mathura and Sar Mathura to Gangapur;

(b) if so, whether there is any inordinate delay in Gauge conversion of these rail lines;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the budgetary allocation and expenditure incurred thereon; and

(e) the time by which the said work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) to (c) : Yes, Sir. Survey for gauge conversion of Dholpur-Sirmuttra with extension to Gangapur City has been completed. As per the survey report, the cost of construction of this 144.6 km. long line has been assessed as Rs. 622.41 crore. The survey report is under examination.

(d) Does not arise as the work has not yet been sanctioned.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Diesel Multiple unit train

774. SHRI GUTHA SUKHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh to run Diesel Multiple Unit Train between Hyderabad, Secundrabad and Miryalaguda;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Railways thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) A proposal has been received for introduction of Diesel Multiple Unit services between Hyderabad/Secundrabad and Miryalaguda. The proposal has been examined but was not found feasible due to resource constraints.

[Translation]

#### Level Crossing at Dighi and Ekara

775. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction of an overbridge on the level crossings at Dighi and Ekara on the Hajipur-Muzzaffarpur railway line has been sanctioned;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) Three works of Road over bridges (ROB) were sanctioned during Works Programme of 2002-03 at Dighi & Ekara as detailed below:

i) ROB in lieu of LC No. 54-A at Dighi on Hajipur-Muzzaffarpur section sanctioned on cost sharing basis at the cost of Rs.11.72 crore, but dropped by State Govt.

ii) ROB in lieu of LC No.54-A at Dighi on Hajipur-Bidupur Section sanctioned on cost sharing basis at the cost of Rs. 11.58 crore. Work is now to be executed by National Highway Authority of India

iii) ROB in lieu of LC No.47 at Ekara on Hajipur-Muzzaffarpur section sanctioned on cost sharing basis at the cost of Rs.11.36 crore, is to be now executed by National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) along with highway work.

(c) Work at S.No.b(i) has been dropped by State Govt. and remaining two are being executed by NHAI. As such, completion thereof depends upon NHAI.

[English]

#### Equipments installed at Airports

776. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the Category-III equipments installed at Delhi and other airports to cope with foggy weather this year;

(b) if so, the results thereof;

(c) whether Category-III equipments were not of much help as passengers had cautioned to face flight cancellation and hardships of cold weather as before; and

(d) the corrective action proposed to be taken so as to minimise inconvenience to the passengers in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Instrument Landing System (ILS) CAT III-B was installed at Delhi Airport on runway 28 only. In year 2008, Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) had commissioned ILS CAT-III B on new runway 29/11 which has been in operation since 13 December 2008. With commissioning of system on additional runway, during the westerly winds, both the runways, i.e. runway 28 and 29 are being used simultaneously during low visibility conditions for CAT-III B operations at IGI Airport, New Delhi. This has increased the capacity of the Delhi Airport to handle aircraft in low visibility conditions.

(c) All airlines can not use the facility as it is not mandatory for domestic Scheduled Airlines to train their flight crew for CAT-II/III operations during low visibility conditions, which results in delay, diversion and cancellation of flights.

(d) Domestic airlines are persuaded from time to time to train their pilots to operate in low visibility conditions. Only such pilots, who are CAT II/III qualified, are being approved as Instructor/Examiner so as to ensure that more trained pilots are available for CAT-II/III operations to improve operational efficiency. Flight schedule of Domestic scheduled operation for fog bound airports are being approved on the basis of number of pilots trained by the operators for low visibility operations and the suitability of the planes for such operations.

#### Theft Cases at Airport

777. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the baggage/luggage of passengers have been stolen at Delhi and Mumbai Airports;

(b) if so, the complaints received in this regard during the last three years;

(c) whether any responsibility been fixed for such incidents;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that baggage/luggage are not misplaced/pilfered?

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

(b) Details of complaints received during last three years from Delhi and Mumbai Airports:

Year	Delhi	Mumbai
2006	119	34
2007	94	21
2008	32	23

(c) and (d) In respect of theft cases mentioned at (b) above, Delhi Police has arrested 37 persons and Mumbai Police has arrested 37 persons.

(e) Government has directed all scheduled domestic airlines to take the following steps:

(i) All scheduled airlines have been directed to depute 1 or more security personnel for Departure Hall Surveillance, 2 personnel for Baggage Make-up Area, 1 or more person(s) to escort security cleared cargo upto aircraft & 1 personnel for Baggage Break-up Area; (ii) Passenger are advised not to carry jewellery and cash in their checked-in baggage; (iii) In-house vigilance team of airlines at major

airports to check cases of theft/pilferage; (iv) Surprise frisking of loaders before and after the loading; (v) Loading/unloading of checked-in baggage under supervision of security/airport services staff; (vi) Utilisation of CCTVs available at airports; (vii) automated baggage reconciliation system at metros to reduce instances of such mishandlings; (viii) Extensive training is imparted to ramp staff (especially loaders) on baggage handling; (ix) Establishment of dedicated baggage handling units at metros; (x) Airlines also give compensation for baggage lost cases as per company policy, which has been displayed on their respective websites.

### Decline in steel export

778. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the steel exporters, who have largely withstood steep decline in US Steel imports from a peak level of 41 MT in 2006 to 31 MT in 2007 and further to 30 MT in 2008 and have finally lost steam with the advent of slow down;

(b) if so, whether India was the second major gainer with unit price earned on steel exports going up by 79.9% from \$816 per tonne in 2004 to \$ 1468 per tonne in 2008;

(c) if so, the reasons for showing decline in the export of steel; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to boost the export of Steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) Indian steel exports started stagnating from 2006-07 onwards as growth in domestic demand started to outstrip growth in domestic production. The global financial turmoil in October 2008 further affected steel exports from India. Steel exports stagnated and fell marginally from 5.242 million tonnes to 5.077 million tonnes between 2006-07 and 2007-08. In the following year i.e. 2008-09, however, exports fell by (-) 27.9% to 3.658 million tonnes.

### *Production, Consumption, Exports and Imports from 2005-06 to 2008-09*

(In million tonnes)

Year	Production	Consumption	Exports	Imports
1	2	3	4	5
2004-05	43.513	36.377	4.705	2.293
2005-06	46.566	41.433	4.801	4.305
2006-07	52.529	46.783	5.242	4.927

1	2	3	4	5
2007-08	56.075	52.125	5.077	7.029
2008-09	56.416	52.054	3.658	5.718
2009-10* (Apr- May)	9.240	9.282	0.426	0.978

Source: JPC \* Provisional figures

(b) There is no evidence that India was the second major gainer in terms of unit price of export as placed in the question. India is a marginal supplier to the international markets and accounts for only 1%-1.5% of the total volume of world trade in steel. Moreover, global steel prices were strong during April-August 2008 due to higher global demand. This also resulted in steep increase in the prices of raw materials which further led to the increase in the steel prices. During this period the domestic demand in India was also strong and supply of raw material from the global market was scarce.

(c) As stated earlier Indian exports started to decline as domestic demand grew at a faster pace compared to domestic production. However, the sharp decline after October 2008 can be attributed to the global financial meltdown. The widespread recession in the global economy and the subsequent crisis in the automobile, consumer durable and capital goods industries all over the world and especially in the destination markets for Indian exports of steel resulted in decline in steel exports.

(d) The following policy initiatives have been taken by the Government to boost the export of steel:

- (i) Export Duty on all steel items (except melting scrap) withdrawn w.e.f. 31.10.2008.
- (ii) DEPB on steel items restored w.e.f. 14.11.2008.

The following measures proposed in the Union Budget 2009-10 for restoring export growth would further help in boosting steel exports:

- (i) Adjustment assistance scheme to provide enhanced Export Credit and Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) cover at 95 per cent to badly hit sectors extended up to March 2010.
- (ii) Interest subvention of 2 per cent on pre-shipment credit for seven employment oriented export sectors extended beyond the current deadline of 30/09/2009 to 31/03/2010.
- (iii) Sun-set clauses for deduction in respect of export profits under sections 10A and 10B of the Income-tax Act being extended by one more year i.e. for the financial year 2010-11.

[Translation]

### Women Employees in Rail Services

779. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal to increase the participation of women employees in rail services;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of women employees engaged in rail services as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Various women-friendly policies are already in existence like Maternity Leave, Child Care leave, Rebates on Income Tax, Women Cells to resolve issues of sexual harassment at workplace, Creches near/at work place and Special leave for family planning operations alongwith additional increment. These women friendly policies and benefits are brought to the notice of prospective women candidates. These are being further brought to the notice of larger groups through wider publicity by means of the radio, print media and hoardings.

(c) There are 82712 women employees in rail services as on 31.3.2008.

[English]

### Opening of LPG agencies in West Bengal

780. SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has invited new tenders to open more LPG agencies in Cooch Behar, Balurghat and Purlia districts of West Bengal to meet the demand of the public;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the new agencies are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c): Notices inviting applications for selection for LPG distributorship have been issued in 2007-08 by Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) for establishing new LPG distributorships at four locations in Cooch Behar, two in Dakshin Dinajpur (one of them at Balurghat) and two in Purlia District of West Bengal and selection process is in progress as per policy.

However, at this stage it is not possible to indicate any time frame for setting up of LPG distributorships.

### Advertisement on Trains

781. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to mobilise additional revenue by allowing advertisers to display products on board trains in a big way;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of trains selected for the scheme and the estimated revenue likely to be generated through the scheme yearly;

(c) whether it is proposed to expend the scheme further; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) Policy guidelines already exist for commercial advertising on trains. There are various schemes of commercial advertising on interior and exterior of the trains like display of advertisement panels, vinyl wrapping of coaches, package of advertising rights on trains etc. Various new ideas/schemes for commercial advertising on trains are tried from time to time. However, the earnings therefrom is not feasible to be assessed at this stage.

### Ban on Medicines

782. SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of medicines which are banned for sale through pharmaceutical outlets in the country;

(b) whether many of the medicines which are banned in various countries due to health hazards are freely available in the country;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) Seventy eight categories of drug formulations, viz., Amidopyrine, Penicillin skin Ointment, Nialamide, Practolol, Methaqualone, Methapyrilene, Chloral Hydrate, Dovers Powder I.P., etc have been prohibited for manufacture, sale and distribution in the country by the Central Government which were considered irrational or harmful in the context of present knowledge.



(b) to (d) The decision to ban or withdraw a drug by the regulatory authorities, is normally based on the risk assessment process, which is influenced by a number of factors such as disease pattern in a country, indications and dosages of the drug permitted, varying reactions of certain ethnic groups in a given population, of the drug. It is well-known fact that administration of any drug is not absolutely free from side effects or adverse reactions in a statistically insignificant minority of the population.

Certain drugs or formulations withdrawn in one or some countries continued to be marketed in other countries including India. The rationale of such drugs had earlier been examined by various Expert Committee, set-up for the purpose, from time to time. Based on the current knowledge available about the drugs and the nature of use in the country, these drugs were permitted to be used in the Country and wherever considered necessary, restrictions were imposed on their use for certain indications only.

There is an adequate mechanism in India to review the status of the drug formulation as and when any serious adverse event is reported in the International journals, WHO Newsletters or when a drug formulation is reported to have been withdrawn in some countries. The use of the drug, so reported, is assessed in consultation with the experts, based on available technical information, benefit-risk ratio, local needs etc. The matter is further considered by the Drugs Technical Advisory Board (DTAB), a statutory body under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940. Seventy eight categories of drug formulations have so far been prohibited in the country by the Central Government, which were considered irrational or harmful in the context of present knowledge.

#### **Upgradation of Indian Railways**

783. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Chinese delegation visited India last year to discuss modernization and technology upgrade in Indian Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the outcome of discussions;

(c) whether a Sino-India Railways Cooperation Working Group has been set up; and

(d) if so, the work done by the Group so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Two multi-disciplinary Chinese Railway Delegations visited India in the months of March 2008 & July 2008 in pursuance of the

Memorandum of Understanding signed between Ministries of Railways of two countries in the year 2008. In the discussions held with the two delegations, it was agreed to strengthen cooperation in the areas of speed raising, running of heavy axle load operations and development of logistics parks. The Chinese delegation also visited Bhubaneswar and Baiyyappanahali (near Bangalore) to consider the possibility of providing design and consultancy support for development of Bhubaneswar and Baiyyappanahali Stations into World Class Stations.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Integrated Textiles Parks Scheme**

784. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sent a proposal to the Union Government for inclusion of any company in the Mandya District under the Scheme of Integrated Textiles Parks (SITP) to provide requisite financial support for the development of basic infrastructure in the Integrated Textile Park;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in giving clearance to this proposal; and

(d) the time by which such clearance is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

#### **Gauge Conversion in Andhra Pradesh**

785. SHRI ANJANKUMAR M. YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of meter gauge railway lines in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the Railways have taken any measures for gauge conversion of rail lines in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the gauge conversion work in Andhra Pradesh is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H.MUNIYAPPA) (a) to (d) All metre

gauge lines in Andhra Pradesh have been converted to broad gauge except Madanapalle to Dharmavaram which is likely to be completed during 2009-10.

[English]

#### **Setting up of Ancillary Production Unit**

786. SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the airbus consortium, Toulouse is considering to set up an ancillary production unit for their aircraft in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has come forward with a proposal of offering Lepakshi Knowledge Centre in Anantapur district bordering Bangalore for this purpose; and

(d) if so, whether any progress has been achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No such proposal has been received in this Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) This Ministry has not received any such proposal.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Mega merger of companies**

787. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate regulation for the mega mergers and corporate restructuring deals to be followed by the Competition Commission of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposed regulations will be applicable only to companies resorting to merger in future;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of the proposals pending with the Government for merger; and

(f) the decision 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 Competition Act, 2002 inter-

alia proposes to regulate combinations as per the provisions contained therein. However, the provisions of the Competition Act, 2002 relating to regulation of combinations, including mergers and amalgamations have not yet been notified.

(c) and (d) The Act is applicable only with prospective effect.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

#### **International Flights to Port Blair**

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce international flights to Port Blair;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the foreign tourists inflow to Islands is likely to increase with the introduction of International flights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) The designated airlines of ASEAN and SAARC (except Pakistan) countries have been granted unlimited access to 18 tourists destinations in India including Port Blair. However, actual operation by any airline is always guided by its own commercial judgement. Apart from this, tourists charter flights are operating on regular basis from the International destinations to Port Blair under the liberalized tourists charter guidelines of India to facilitate inflow of international tourists.

[Translation]

#### **Profit earned by Public Sector Oil Companies**

789. SHRI JAGDISH THAKOR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total profit earned by the public sector oil companies during each of the last three years and the current year, company-wise;

(b) whether the prices of all types of petroleum products have been increased during the period; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor along with the percentage of increased thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Net profit earned by the major public sector oil companies during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Oil & Natural Gas Corporation	15,643	16,702	16,126
Oil India Limited	1640	1789	2162
ONGC Videsh Ltd	1663	2397	2807
Indian Oil Corporation Limited	7499	6963	2950
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited	1571	1135	575
Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited	1805	1581	736
Gas Authority of India Limited	2387	2601	2804

The details of profit for the current financial year in respect of above-mentioned Public Sector Oil Companies are not available.

(b) and (c) The revision in the Retail Selling Prices (RSPs) of sensitive petroleum products, namely, Petrol, PDS Kerosene, Diesel and Domestic LPG, since 1st April 2006 along with the percentage increase/decrease is given in the enclosed Statement. The RSPs of petroleum products, other than the sensitive petroleum products are revised by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), from time to time, on the basis of market conditions.

The OMCs pay trade parity price when they purchase Petrol and Diesel from domestic refineries and pay import parity price for purchase of PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG. International prices of crude oil and petroleum products have remained highly volatile in the recent past.

However, as passing on the entire impact of the increase in the oil prices to the consumers would result in a sharp increase in the domestic prices and aggravate the inflationary conditions, the Government has been following the equitable Burden Sharing Mechanism to ensure that the burden of under-recoveries was shared by all the stakeholders; namely the Government, the Public Sector Oil Companies and the consumers in the following manner:

- Government through Issue of Oil Bonds
- Upstream public Sector Oil Companies by offering price discounts to OMCs
- Public Sector OMCs to bear a portion of the under-recoveries, and
- Consumers to bear minimal price increases.

#### **Statement**

##### *Major revisions in Retail Selling Price at Delhi since 1st April 2006*

	Petrol (Rs./litre)	PDS Kerosene (Rs./litre)	Diesel (Rs./litre)	Domestic LPG (Rs./Cylinder)
1	2	3	4	5
As on 01 .04.06	43.51	9.08	30.47	294.75
25.05.06		9.09		
06.06.06	47.51		32.47	
21.06.06	46.85		32.25	
30.11.2006	44.85		31.25	
16.02.2007	42.85		30.25	
06.06.07 @@	43.52		30.48	
08.02.08 (Pollution Cess)			30.76	
15.02.08	45.52		31.76	
24.05.08 (Dealer Commission revised)	45.56		31.80	

1	2	3	4	5
05.06.08	50.56		34.80	346.30 (effective 09.06.08 Rs. 304.70/cyl)#
18.07.08****	50.62		34.86	
12.09.08		9.22		
06.12.2008	45.62		32.86	
29.01.2009	40.62		30.86	279.70
02.07.2009	44.63		32.87	281.20## (effective 01.07.09)
Percentage increase/ (decrease) of current retail selling price over price as on 01.04.06	2.57%	1.54%	7.88%	(4.60%)

\*\*\*\* Due to increase in Siding & Shunting Charges in Petrol and Diesel @. Due to Tax Rebate in VAT on petrol and diesel.

@@ Tax Rebate on VAT for Petrol and Diesel withdrawn.

# After considering subsidy by Delhi State Govt. of Rs. 40/- per cylinder

## Due to revision in Distributors commission

Increase in price of PDS Kerosene has been mainly due to increase in dealer commission.

#### **Dilapidated Condition of Road Over Bridge at Red Fort in Delhi**

790. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

- whether the iron built road over bridge near Red Fort in Delhi has become dilapidated;
- if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Railways have any plan for renovation of the said road over bridge?
- if so, the details thereof; and
- if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) No, Madam.

- Does not arise.
- It has been decided to construct a new bridge on replacement account. Accordingly, a work of 'New Bridge (13x61 m) over Yamuna in lieu of Bridge No. 249 on Delhi-Delhi Shahadra' of Northern Railway was sanctioned in 1997-98.

(d) Estimated cost of new Bridge is approx. Rs. 80 cr and an expenditure of approx. Rs. 37.48 cr has been incurred upto March 09. 9 out of 14 piers of new bridge have been completed upto March 09. New Bridge is being constructed at a distance of 30 meters towards north of

existing Bridge. The track on west end approach of the new Bridge passes through the corner of the land of Swatantrata Sainani Smarak (Salimgarh Fort). However, it does not pass through Red Fort. The track is crossing Salimgarh Fort wall. As the new Bridge is being constructed 30 meters away from the existing Bridge, the track alignment on the approaches is also required to be diverted. This leads to change in the location where track is crossing the Fort wall (near top of the wall). About 1000 sqm. of the corner area of the land will be required for diverting the alignment. In a meeting held on 26th March, 2004, the Hon'ble Minister for Tourism & Culture, after considering the inescapability in public interest, had agreed for exchange of 1000 sqm. of ASI land as per the proposed alignment. However, Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in their letter dated 19.05.06 have raised objections, particularly, in view of a new opening to be made near the top of the Fort wall for passing the tracks. The issue has been taken up by Ministry of Railways with Ministry of Culture to find a solution in view of the importance of construction of the new Bridge. ASI have recently asked for cultural and heritage impact assessment.

- Does not arise.

#### **Recruitment of Physically Challenged Persons in CPSEs**

791. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether instructions for three per cent reservation in recruitment in respect of physically disabled persons are being followed in Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSE);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the corrective measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV) : (a) to (c) As per Section 33 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, all the administrative Ministries/ Departments have been advised to reserve 3% of vacancies for physically handicapped persons in Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) in all Groups of employment for making direct recruitment against identified posts. Of the 3%, 1% each shall be reserved for persons suffering from—

(i) blindness or low vision

(ii) hearing impairment

(iii) locomotor disability or cerebral palsy

in the identified posts for each disability. Implementation of these guidelines is vested with the respective Board of Directors of CPSEs and administrative Ministries/Departments concerned.

[English]

#### De-controlling prices of petroleum products

792. SHRI BALIRAM JADHAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to de-control the administered prices of petroleum products and encourage private sector to enter the retails business of these products at market driven prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering any alternative proposal for benefitting poor and middle income families against subsidy on petroleum products; 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) The Government abolished the Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) with effect from 1st April 2002, and decided that pricing of all petroleum products, except PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG, would be market-determined. In order to provide PDS Kerosene and Domestic

LPG at affordable prices, the Government formulated subsidy schemes, which are in operation since April 2002.

To protect the consumer and the economy from the volatility and uncertainty of the international oil prices, Government is, however, modulating the retail selling prices of the four sensitive petroleum products; namely Petrol, Diesel, Domestic LPG and PDS Kerosene. Private oil companies are free to take their pricing decisions on commercial considerations.

(c) and (d) At present, there is no further proposal under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

#### Harassment of Rail Passengers

793. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:  
SHRIMATI USHA VERMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of passengers thrown out of the moving trains by personnel of Railway Protection Force have come to the notice of the Railways recently; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Railways against the security personnel found guilty and the steps being taken to stop recurrence of such incidents in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) 02 incidents of passengers thrown out of the moving trains by personnel of Railway Protection Force have been reported during the year 2008.

(b) Both the cases have been registered by the concerned Government Railway Police under the provisions of Indian Penal Code. The details are as under :-

i) There was an allegation by the victim passenger namely Santosh Kushwaha S/o Indrajit Kushwaha of Gayghat PS Zamaniya, Distt. Ghazipur (UP) that escort party of train no. 2402 Dn. threw him out of the train on 24.01.2008 near Dildarnagar. On the basis of this complaint, Government Railway Police Station/MGS registered a case vide no. 15/08 dated 24.01.2008 U/s 326, 338 IPC & 3/7 PC Act and both the staff of RPSF 2Bn. D Coy/ GKP were sent to Jail and were placed under suspension.

(ii) The Civil Police Station/ Ghazipur registered a case in crime no. 0/08 under section 326 IPC dated 03.09.2008 against two unknown RPF staff and transferred the case to SRP/ GKP for further investigation. The case is under investigation. As the complainant has not mentioned the name of any Railway Protection Force staff, therefore action will be taken up after the identification of Railway Protection Staff during investigation of Government Railway Police.

The following steps have been taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents:-

1. RPF staff is sensitized regularly not to indulge in such incidents.
2. Surprise checks by officer and supervisor staff are being conducted.
3. Activities of RPF staff are monitored and analyzed by senior officers.
4. Public grievance cell is working at headquarter level to look into the complaints of the passengers.
5. Stringent action is taken against the defaulting/erring RPF personnel.

#### **Centralised Railway Enquiry System**

794. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received against the deficient services provided by the centralised railway enquiry system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective action being taken by the Railways in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Complaints have been received regarding advertisement jingles, non-availability of manual enquiry and improper information about the running position of trains.

(c) Instructions have been issued to air advertisement jingles only during call waiting time and enquiry processing time. Callers, who do not dial the requisite number for response through the Interactive Voice Response System, get automatically connected to the manual operator. Proper feeding of data in the National Train Enquiry System to ensure timely and accurate information to passengers is being monitored.

[English]

#### **Fast Track Courts Scheme**

795. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Scheme of the Fast Track courts were started as a 100% Centrally-sponsored Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this scheme was extended till 2010;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Central assistance has been reduced substantially under this scheme in the current financial year;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether the Government proposes to restore the assistance for the Scheme; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) The scheme of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) was started in the year 2000 for a period of five years on the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission. The central assistance to the States was provided at the rate of Rs.5.00 lakh per court for non recurring expenditure which included Rs.3.4 lakh for construction and Rs.1.6 lakh for computer and library. For recurring expenditure an amount of Rs.4.8 lakh per court per year was provided.

(c) and (d) The term of scheme of the Fast Track Courts which were recommended by the Eleventh Finance Commission ended on 31st March, 2005. The Supreme Court, which is monitoring the functioning of Fast Track Courts through the case of Brij Mohan Lai Vs UOI & Ors observed that the scheme of Fast Track Courts should not be disbanded all of a sudden and in its order dated 31st March, 2005, directed the Union of India to continue the Fast Track Courts. The Government accorded its approval for the continuation of 1562 Fast Track Courts that were operational as on 31.3.2005 for a further period of 5 years i.e. up to 31st March, 2010. For the extended period, the norm for assistance to the States provided for an additional amount of Rs.8.6 lakhs to be provided to the States in the first two years towards the cost of constructions for additional space in the court room and Rs.4.8 lakhs per court per year towards recurring expenditure.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) to (h) Do not arise.

#### **Satellite stations**

796. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any plan to convert certain railway stations in the suburbs of busy hubs like Kochi as satellite stations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Southern Railway is planning to develop Tambaram and Kochuveli stations as satellite terminals.

Tambaram station is being developed as a satellite coaching terminal for Chennai city with 2 pit lines of 26 coach length capacity, 1 stabling line of 26 coach length capacity, one shunting neck, and integrated maintenance facilities. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 25.49. crore.

Kochuveli station is being developed as a satellite coaching terminal for Trivandrum city. Phase-I of the work was completed with 1 Platform, 1 Pit and 1 stabling line each of 24 coach length capacity. Phase-II of the work is being taken up with 2 platform lines each with 24 coach length capacity, 2 pit lines each with 24 coach length capacity, 2 stabling lines each with 24 coach length capacity, Integrated sick line facilities, and Circulating area with passenger amenities. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 23.99 crores.

#### Construction of Helipads

797. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to build helipads on high-rise buildings in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether these helipads could also be used for commercial activities or for purposes other than security; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Proposals received for setting up of such helipads are cleared as per the Government policy. As on date, the proposals of M/s Taj Wellington Mews, Mumbai and M/s Essar Group, Mahalaxmi, Mumbai for construction of roof top helipad have been approved by the Government of India.

(c) and (d) The helipads could be used for the purposes for which the license is granted. The helipads of M/s. Taj Wellington Mews and M/s Essar Group has been approved under 'private category' for 'private use' only.

[Translation]

#### Old Rail Coaches

798. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the old rail coaches need to be upgraded; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Railways so far to upgrade the said coaches during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) and (b) Maintenance and upkeep of coaches is a continuing requirement and this is carried out periodically during laid down maintenance schedule in open line depots as well as periodic overhauls in the Workshops in Zonal Railways. Besides, the coaches are also given a 'Mid-life' rehabilitation after 12-15 years of usage to restore their conditions.

#### Modernisation of Railway Stations

799. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the Zone-wise funds allocated for the modernisation of railway stations particularly in backward and rural areas of the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the details of the expenditure incurred on these Projects so far; and
- (c) the target set for the modernisation work of railway stations where the work is already in progress?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) and (b) Modernisation of railway stations is done under Plan Head-Passenger Amenities. Zone wise details of allocation of funds and expenditure for the last 3 years i.e. 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 and proposed allocation for the current year i.e 2009-10 under plan head - Passenger Amenities are given in the enclosed Statement. The details are not maintained separately for backward and rural areas.

(c) Modernisation work at railway stations, wherever in progress, is planned for completion by March, 2010.

#### Statement

##### Final Allocation and Expenditure under Plan Head-(Passenger Amenities)

(Fig. in thousand of Rs.)

Year Railway	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10
	Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure (Approx)	Proposed allocation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Central	327529	346300	496885	510900	533400	683900	527876
Eastern	446048	379400	607950	600800	588800	682500	2558445

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Northern	375437	407700	766438	693300	790900	1033200	1776025
North Eastern	222606	233000	130670	265500	151500	199800	257805
North-east Frontier	322173	338300	519758	478000	333600	309100	666508
Southern	351808	444600	503898	761000	796700	873900	753640
South Central	347425	398800	939795	1167800	1479500	1707800	1185333
South Eastern	104395	99300	149700	136000	192300	212300	263561
Western	284854	287700	554952	434400	626500	754900	567482
East Central Railway	331549	223500	305376	275300	315600	227900	376335
East Coast	134395	114300	245721	194200	235400	287200	199357
North Central	130873	80400	228493	183400	279700	264200	424763
North Western	172281	213300	286879	231800	265800	218400	275414
South-east Central	193644	169800	200653	157200	150500	119500	363206
South Western	124016	192300	249594	406200	309000	426000	304866
West Central	129500	140500	121733	169200	225900	209100	295962
Metro	12500	9900	29121	19900	39600	21200	138422
Total	4011033	4079100	6337616	6684900	7314700	8230900	11025000

[English]

**Merging of Konkan railway and  
Railway zones for Kerala**

800. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL:

SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there exists any understanding or condition that the Konkan Railway will be merged with Indian Railways after ten years of its foundation;

(b) if so, the Railway zone to which Konkan Railway is to be attached;

(c) whether the Railways have received any representation for creation of a separate Railway Zone for trains plying through Kerala;

(d) if so, details thereof;

(e) whether there exist any norms/guidelines for creation of new or separate Railway Division/Zone; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Government have decided on 04.12.2008 that Konkan Railway will continue as Central Public Sector Undertaking even after discharge of its liabilities.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Representations have been received from various VIPs for setting up a zonal office in Kerala. The proposal has been examined and not found feasible in the light of the criteria fixed for the purpose by Railway Reforms Committee and Advisors' Committee.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) New Zones/New Divisions are set up keeping in view factors like size, workload, accessibility, traffic pattern and other operating/administrative requirements etc. consistent with the needs of economy and efficiency without any regional considerations.

**Promotion of food processing units**

801. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to create separate head for the Food Processing Sector to overcome problems of bank funding and to use the sector as a tool for increasing rural income and maximize returns to farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;



(c) the extent to which the level of value addition expected to rise by creating separate head; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to promote food processing industry and to raise rural income?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has no proposal for creation of separate head for the Food Processing Sector to overcome problems of bank funding etc. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has been implementing various plan schemes for promotion and development of food processing sector 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/Modernisation/Expansion of FPI, iii) Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards and R&D iv) Scheme for Human Resource Development, v) Scheme for Strengthening of Institution and vi) Scheme for Upgradation of Quality of Street Food.

To strengthen the Food Processing Infrastructure, Government has approved a scheme for Mega Food Parks, which envisages a well-defined agri/horticultural-processing zone containing state of the art processing facilities with support infrastructure and well established supply chain. The scheme aims to provide a mechanism to bring together farmers, processors and retailers and link agricultural production to the market so as to ensure maximization of value addition, minimization of wastages and improving farmers' income. The primary objective of the scheme is to facilitate establishment of an integrated value chain, with processing at the core and supported by requisite forward and backward linkages.

Other strategic initiatives during 11th Plan include scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Preservation Infrastructure including Controlled Atmosphere/Modified Atmosphere Storage, Value Added Centres, Packaging Centres and Irradiation facilities. Benefits of the Scheme will also be available to integrated projects of value addition/processing/preservation of horticulture, dairy, marine, and meat sector.

Modernization of Abattoirs is a scheme targeting infrastructure for the meat processing industry. It aims to upgrade qualitative and quantitative capacities of the abattoirs, which will be linked, with commercial processing of meat, both for domestic consumption and exports. The financial assistance (grant-in-aid) is being extended at 50% and 75% of the cost of plant & machineries and technical civil works in general and difficult areas respectively subject to a maximum of Rs. 15 crores for each project. The Ministry

has approved 'in principle' to set up ten abattoirs in the country with a total cost of Rs. 127.00 crores. An amount of Rs.7.94 crores has been released.

Another infrastructure development scheme is for setting up/up-gradation of food testing laboratories which would benefit all stakeholders including domestic industry, exporters, entrepreneurs, small and medium enterprises, existing academic & research institutions, food standards setting bodies.

Further, the Ministry has several other schemes for promotion of the food processing industry. 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 to include Milk, Fruit & Vegetables, Meat, Poultry, fishery, cereal, consumer items, oil seeds, rice milling, flour milling, pulse etc.

Similarly Scheme for Quality Assurance, Codex Standards, R&D and Promotional Activities, is aimed at motivating the food processing industries for adoption of food safety and quality assurance mechanisms such as TQM including ISO 14000, ISO 22000, HACCP, GMP, GHP, and preparing them to face global competition in post WTO Regime. The scheme is also aimed at ensuring that end-product/outcome/findings of R&D work should benefit Food Processing Industries in terms of product and process development, improved packaging, value addition and leading to innovative products and processes, with commercial value.

The Scheme for Human Resource Development focuses on developing technologists, managers, Entrepreneurs and manpower for quality management in Food Processing. The scheme also aims at development of rural entrepreneurship and transfer of technology for processing of food products by utilizing locally grown raw material and providing "Hands-on" experience at such production cum training centres, while according priority to SC/ST/OBC and women minorities candidates.

The Scheme for Strengthening of Institutions is aimed at strengthening of existing institutes like Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology & establishing National Institute of Food Technology and Entrepreneurship Management (NIFTEM). The objective of NIFTEM is to promote cooperation and networking amongst existing institutions both within the country & international bodies, create a complete data base on domestic resources and bring in international best practices for improving the food processing sector. Besides above mentioned institutions, two boards have been set up

under the Ministry i.e Indian Grape processing Board and National Meat and Poultry Processing Board under the scheme.

In addition to the above mentioned schemes, certain fiscal incentives have been given to the food processing industry. Some of these are exemption to fruits and vegetable processing units from paying income tax, reduction of excise duty on ready to eat packaged foods and instant food mixes from 16% to 8%. There is automatic approval for 100% foreign equity in food processing sector.

#### Setting up of CNG outlets in Rajasthan

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

(a) the total number of CNG filling stations in the country, State-wise, including Rajasthan;

(b) the total number of new CNG Stations to be set-up in each State including Rajasthan during the current financial year;

(c) whether these number of CNG stations will be sufficient to meet the growing demand of vehicles; and

(d) if not, the 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) According to information provided, the total number of CNG filling stations in the country, State-wise, as on 1.4.2009, is given in the Statement. The total number of new CNG Stations proposed to be set up by Joint Ventures of GAIL (India) Limited in 2009-10 are also mentioned in the Statement enclosed. Presently, City Gas Distribution has not been started in any city of Rajasthan.

(c) and (d) In order to promote investment from public as well as private sector for inter alia city/local natural gas distribution networks throughout the country, the Government of India has enacted 'The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) Act, 2006'. As regards Rajasthan, PNGRB has finalized the selection of entity for setting up City Gas Distribution (CGD) Project in Kota. Further, Expression of Interests (EoIs) have been submitted to PNGRB for Jodhpur and Udaipur.

As regards supply of natural gas to Rajasthan through trunk pipeline, GAIL has commissioned Vijaipur-Kota pipeline in January 2007. GAIL has also been issued authorization for Chhainsa-Gurgaon-Jajjhar-Hissar pipeline, passing close to Alwar in Rajasthan.

#### Statement

Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of CNG stations (As on 01.04.2009)	CNG stations proposed in 2009-10 by GAIL's JVs
1	Gujarat	107	1
2	Delhi	181	30
3	Maharashtra	143	25
4	Andhra Pradesh	10	0
5	U.P.	15	13
6	Tripura	1	4
7	M.P.	5	14
All India		462	87

#### Mahuva-Surat intercity train

803. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any request to run Mahuva-Surat train daily which is presently running once in a week; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Representations from various quarters including from Members of Parliament have been received for increase in the frequency of 9025/9026 Mahuva-Surat Express (weekly).

#### Inspection of companies accounts

804. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has ordered inspection of accounts of some companies after receiving complaints from certain quarters in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details of the companies inspected for the alleged irregularities; and

(c) 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 KHURSHEED): (a) Government orders inspection, under Sec. 209A of the Companies Act, 1956 of the books of

accounts of companies selected on account of complaints or other information relating to non-compliance with or violation of the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 or other irregularities.

(b) 149 Companies were inspected on the basis of complaints received against them from 01.04.06 till 31.03.09. The list of companies is enclosed as Statement.

(c) Suitable action under the law is taken in case any non-compliance/violation of the Companies Act, 1956 comes to notice with regard to any company on the basis of inspection reports.

**Statement**

*List of companies*

*Financial Year 2006-07*

S.No.	Name of the Company
1	2
1.	Manali Petrochemicals Ltd.
2.	Tamilnadu Viswakarma Mutual Benefit Fund Ltd.
3.	Saag RR Infra Ltd.
4.	Yeshaswi Ltd.
5.	Megacity (Bangalore) Developers and Builders Ltd.
6.	JR Foods Ltd.
7.	Imex Engineering Co. Ltd.
8.	Golden Carpets Ltd.
9.	Archana Software Ltd.
10.	North Madras Benefit Fund Ltd.
11.	Nuchem Ltd.
12.	Arya Hotels Ltd.
13.	Vasundhara Marin Products Ltd.
14.	KDT Hotels and Resorts Ltd.
15.	Pretto Leather India Ltd.
16.	Pratima Milk and Food Agro Ltd.
17.	Laxmi Sugar Oil Mills Ltd.
18.	KDT Agro Industries Ltd.
19.	Govind Nagar Sugar Mills Ltd.
20.	Benckiser (India) Limited
21.	Contract (India) Limited
22.	Motor Finance Ltd.

1	2
23.	Commercial Automobiles Ltd.
24.	Motors Pvt Ltd.
25.	Commercial Engg & Body Builders Pvt Ltd.
26.	Shivalik Global Limited
27.	Doshi Agents Private Limited
28.	Seth Mehta & Co. Private Limited
29.	MNR Exports Private Limited
30.	OCL India Limited
31.	Benlux Hotels India Pvt. Ltd.
32.	Gwalior Polypipes Ltd.

*Financial Year 2007-08*

33.	Kalabhavan Studios Ltd.
34.	Central Travancore Specialists Hospitals Ltd.
35.	SDF Industries Ltd.
36.	First Commodities Exchange of India Ltd.
37.	Somatheeram Ayurvedic Beach Resorts Ltd.
38.	Kumar Mutual Funds Ltd.
39.	SWP Madras Ltd.
40.	Iggi Resorts International Ltd.
41.	Oriental Hotels Ltd.
42.	Maxworth Country (I) Ltd.
43.	Leader Software P. Ltd.
44.	West Coast Paper Mills Ltd.
45.	Sujana Universal Industries Ltd.
46.	Model Finance Corporation Ltd.
47.	Palmour Agro Complex Ltd.
48.	CDR Health Care Ltd.
49.	Fourth Generation Systems Ltd.
50.	Terry Gold (India) Ltd.
51.	Leafin India Ltd.
52.	Suryajothi Spinning Mills Ltd.
53.	Saffire Global Medicare Ltd.
54.	Emed. Com. Technologies Ltd.
55.	Country Cluib (India) Ltd.
56.	Amit Oils Ltd.
57.	Amit vegetable Oils Ltd.

1	2
58.	Whirlpool India Limited
59.	Keshav Foods Ltd.
60.	Amrit Agro Industries Ltd.
61.	Bunkerpur Distilleries Ltd.
62.	Shristi Infrastructure Development Corpn. Ltd.
63.	KMG Milk Food Limited
64.	Lakshmi Energy & Foods Limited
65.	Shakun Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.
66.	Cross Trading Pvt. Ltd.
67.	Niketan Traders Pvt. Ltd.
68.	Petunia Financial Services Private Limited
69.	Bajaj Hindustan Limited
70.	Phenil Sugars Private Limited
71.	Zeta Investments Private Limited
72.	P.R. Shiva Finance Private Limited
73.	U.G. Hotels and Resorts Limited
74.	DCM Services Limited
75.	Vistar Financiers Private Limited
76.	Jagadishwar Pharmaceutical Works Limited
77.	Universal Paper Mills Limited
78.	Manna Glass-Tech. Industries Ltd.
79.	Lan Eseda Steel Ltd.
<i>Financial Year 2008-09</i>	
80.	Ittina Properties Private Ltd.
81.	iGate Global Solutions Ltd.
82.	Suphala Plantations (India) Ltd.
83.	Guruvision Private Ltd.
84.	Stylus Polystores Private Ltd.
85.	Appu's Travel and Tourism Private Ltd.
86.	Kiran Krishna Agro Tech Ltd.
87.	Mukunda Dairy Private Ltd.
88.	Kiran Krishna Real Estate & Constructions Ltd.
89.	GPR Housing Private Ltd.
90.	Sterling Tree Magnum (India) Ltd.
91.	Divyambika Associate Chits & Finance P. Ltd.
92.	Sri Ambica Housing Syndicate (India) Ltd.

1	2
93.	Navarathna Business Developers P. Ltd.
94.	Southern Wind Farms Ltd.
95.	Life Business Projects Pvt Ltd.
96.	Middle East Estate Builder Pvt. Ltd.
97.	JM Estate Developers Private Limited
98.	Triveni Infrastructure Development Company Limited
99.	Dolphin International Limited
100.	Hira Realtors Private Limited
101.	Luman Control (India) Private Limited
102.	CMI Limited
103.	Rollatainers Limited
104.	Eicher Motors Limited
105.	Vian Infrastructure Limited
106.	Bhushan Steel Limited
107.	Ansal Buildwell Limited
108.	DLF Limited
109.	M Tech Developers Limited
110.	Penguin Books India Private Ltd.
111.	Vigneshwara Developers Private Limited
112.	Krishna Continental Limited
113.	Saraswati Industrial Syndicate Limited
114.	Wheler Club Ltd.
115.	Vaish Flour And Ginning Mills Company Limited
116.	Sturdy Industries Limited
117.	Tirupati Aluminium Limited
118.	James Hotels Limited
119.	Partap Steel Rolling Mills Ltd.
120.	Roadco (India) Private Limited
121.	Raunaq Finance Limited
122.	PI Industries Limited
123.	Industrial Progressive India Ltd.
124.	R.K. Marble Private Limited
125.	Baid Ceasing And Finance Co. Ltd.
126.	Cross Country Hotels Limited
127.	Winsome Breweries Limited

1	2
128.	Inani Marbles and Industries Ltd.
129.	Educomp Solutions Ltd.
130.	Positive Television Private Ltd.
131.	Mayurath Films Private Ltd.
132.	Positive Radio Private Ltd.
133.	NE Television Networks Pvt Ltd.
134.	North East Multimedia Pvt Ltd.
135.	M3 Media Pvt Ltd.
136.	Joy Apartments Pvt. Ltd.
137.	Bajaj Hindusthan Ltd.
138.	Essar Steel Ltd.
139.	Madhu Refoils & Chemicals Ltd.
140.	Dynovox Industries Ltd.
141.	Tainwala Chemicals & Plastics (India) Ltd.
142.	Godrej Industries Ltd.
143.	Tapsuriah Steels Ltd.
144.	Vital Foods Ltd.
145.	Whirlpool of India Ltd.

1	2
146.	Nath Seeds Ltd.
147.	Saurashtra Kutch Stock Exchange Ltd.
148.	Detroit Industries Ltd.
149.	Choksi Tube Ltd.

[Translation]

#### Railway Projects in Rajasthan

805. SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway projects sanctioned for Rajasthan during the last three years;

(b) the details of projects for which funds have been sanctioned but work has not started as yet alongwith the amount allocated for each of the said projects; and

(c) the reasons for delay in this regard alongwith the steps taken to insulate these projects from cost escalation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) and (b) The details of projects sanctioned for Rajasthan during the last 3 years are as under:

S.No.	Year of Sanction	Name of the Projects	Outlay 2008-09 (Rs. in crore)	Status
1	2	3	4	5
1	2006-07	Dausa-Bandikui (29.04 km) doubling	30	Earthwork, bridgework, ballast supply in progress. Overall physical progress-30%.
2	2007-08	Alwar-Harsauli (34.86 km) doubling	40	Earthwork, bridgework, ballast supply and blanketing in progress. Overall physical progress-25%.
3	2007-08	Harsauli-Rewari (39.33 km) doubling	20	Earthwork, blanketing, bridge-work & ballast supply in progress. Overall physical progress-15%.
4	2007-08	Sadulpur-Bikaner (242.07 km) and Ratangarh-Degana (150.93 km) gauge conversion	249.98	Earthwork, bridgework & ballast supply in progress on Bikaner- Ratangarh. Overall physical progress-52%.
5	2008-09	Bangurgram-Ras (27.80 km) new line	1.0	Final Location Survey has been completed. Detailed estimate prepared. Further action is being taken.

1	2	3	4	5
6	2008-09	Himmatnagar-Udaipur (211.95 km) gauge conversion (Part of Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar-Udaipur gauge conversion project (299.2 km))	0.01	Final Location Survey completed. Further action is being taken.
7	2008-09	Suratpura-Hanumangarh-Sriganganagar (240.95 km) gauge conversion	0.01	Detailed estimate sanctioned. Further action is being taken.
8	2008-09	Jaipure-Ringus-Churu & Sikar-Loharu (320.04 km) gauge conversion.	0.01	Detailed estimate prepared. Further action is being taken.

(c) The cost escalation will be there depending upon time taken to complete the projects as per the availability of resources.

#### Performance of Fertilizers Units

806. SHRI K.D. DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of fertilizers produced by existing units every year;

(b) whether the performance of some fertilizer units in the country is not satisfactory ;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government to improve the condition of the said units ?

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

(a) The details of total quantum of fertilizers produced by the existing units for the last three years (i.e. from 2006-07 to 2008-09) are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) to (d) Performance of some of the fertilizer units in the country is below-par. Unit-wise details of installed capacity, production & percentage capacity utilization of major fertilizer manufacturing units are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

The main reason for low production in urea plants is the limitation of availability of natural gas. Department of Fertilizers is having constant interaction with Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, GAIL & other prospective suppliers of NG/LNG so that gas requirement of the fertilizers industry is met adequately. In case of Phosphatic fertilizer, the prices of inputs/raw material/Intermediates has declined in the international market. The companies are entering into contracts for procuring these inputs. Further, Department of Fertilizer has permitted SPIC-Tuticorin enter into production and marketing arrangement with MCF-Mangalore.

#### Statement-I

*Unit/Product-wise Annual Installed Capacity and Production of Fertilizers from 2006-07 to 2008-09*

(‘000 MTs)

Name of Unit/Plant	Product Name	Installed Capacity (as on 1/4/2006)	Production		
			2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Public Sector</b>					
NFL:Nangal –I	CAN	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NFL:Nangal–II	Urea	478.5	481.5	478.7	514.4
NFL:Bhatinda	Urea	511.5	511.4	511.4	537.4

1	2	3	4	5	6
NFL: Panipat	Urea	511.5	508.7	511.6	488.5
NFL: Vijaipur	Urea	864.6	874.5	899.9	865.7
NFL: Vijaipur Expn.	Urea	864.6	974.9	866.6	938.0
Total NFL:		3230.7	3351.0	3268.2	3344.0
BVFCL:Namrup-II	Urea	240.0	60.5	77.5	60.6
BVFCL:Namrup-III	Urea	315.0	246.9	251.7	128.5
Total (BVFCL)		555.0	307.4	329.2	189.1
FACT:Udyogamandal	A/S	225.0	183.5	30.5	128.8
	20:20	148.5	141.7	90.8	115.8
FACT: Coachin-II	20:20	485.0	574.2	334.3	489.5
Total (FACT:)		858.5	899.4	455.6	734.1
RCF:Trombay	15:15:15	300.0	482.9	468.4	471.0
	10:26:26	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
RCF:Trombay-IV	20.8:20.8	361.0	35.3	0.0	0.0
RCF:Trombay-V	Urea	330.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
RCF:Thal	Urea	1706.8	1861.0	1832.3	1903.4
Total (RCF)		2697.8	2379.2	2300.7	2374.4
MFL : Chennai	Urea	486.8	473.3	440.5	405.9
	17:17:17	840.0	57.1	35.1	0.0
	19:19:19	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	20:20	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	DAP	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total (MFL):		1326.8	530.4	475.6	405.9
SAIL:Rourkela	CAN	480.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
By-Product	A/S	182.9	90.0	90.0	90.0
HCL:Khetri	SSP	188.0			0.0
SSP Units	SSP	80.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Public Sector		9599.7	7557.4	6919.3	7137.5
<b>Coop. Sector</b>					
IFFCO:Kandala	10:26:26	515.4	572.0	841.2	1041.1
	12:32:16	700.0	1100.3	691.4	538.0
	DAP	1200.0	804.4	438.5	214.7
Total (IFFCO:Kandala)		2415.4	2476.7	1971.1	1793.8

1	2	3	4	5	6
IFFCO:Kalol	Urea	544.5	559.9	544.5	559.9
IFFCO:Phulpur	Urea	551.1	573.8	629.9	662.5
IFFCO:Phulpur Expn	Urea	864.6	882.8	924.3	840.6
IFFCO:Aonla	Urea	864.6	885.3	875.7	986.9
IFFCO:Aonla Expn	Urea	864.6	880.5	989.3	1018.3
Total (IFFCO)		6104.8	6259.0	5934.8	5862.0
IFFCO:Paradeep	DAP	1500.0	418.2	593.3	436.5
	20:20	100.0	332.2	272.2	869.5
	10:26:26	160.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	12:32:16	160.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total (IFFCO:Paradeep):		1920.0	750.4	865.5	1306.0
KRIBHCO : Hazira	Urea	1729.2	1714.5	1739.7	1743.1
Total Coop. Sector		9754.0	8723.9	8540.0	8911.1
(000 MTs)					

Name of Unit/Plant	Product Name	Installed Capacity (as on 1/4/2006)	Production		
			2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Private Sector</b>					
GSFC:Vadodara	Urea	370.6	253.6	240.8	236.4
	A/S	228.0	290.7	256.3	181.0
	DAP	165.0	14.2	87.8	43.5
	20:20	0.0	242.9	120.2	197.3
Total (GSFC)		763.6	801.4	705.1	658.2
CFL:Vizag	28:28	200.0	363.2	391.1	207.1
	14:35:14	200.0	173.8	0.0	67.2
	DAP	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	20:20	200.0	445.4	208.2	434.0
	16:20	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	10:26:26	0.0	23.6	98.7	31.4
Total (CFL):		600.0	1006.0	698.0	739.7
SPC:Kota	Urea	379.0	361.1	380.9	395.5
DIL:Kanpur	Urea	722.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
ZIL:Goa	Urea	399.3	402.5	395.5	412.4
	19:19:19	240.0	305.7	250.1	32.1
	28:28	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0



1	2	3	4	5	6
	DAP	330.0	198.2	212.1	205.0
	10:26:26	0.0	215.3	179.1	270.1
	14:35:14	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	17:17:17	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	20:20	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3
	12:32:16	0.0	16.8	48.4	67.7
Total (ZIL) :		969.3	1138.5	1085.2	990.6
SPIC:Tuticorin	Urea	620.0	645.5	0.0	0.0
	DAP	475.0	286.5	71.4	0.0
	17:17:17	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	20:20	0.0	38.3	1.0	0.0
Total (SPIC)		1095.0	970.3	72.4	0.0
MCF:Mangalore	Urea	380.0	370.1	379.6	379.3
	DAP	180.0	203.9	211.5	158.3
	20:20	0.0	52.9	33.7	74.3
	16:20	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total (MCF)		560.0	626.9	624.8	611.9
CLF:Ennore	16:20	170.0	183.8	148.7	158.4
	20:20	70.0	110.8	38.4	0.0
Total (CLF):		240.0	294.6	187.1	158.4
GNFC-Bharuch	Urea	636.0	626.2	670.4	592.3
	CAN	142.5	144.0	134.8	138.5
	23:23	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	20:20	142.5	198.9	193.1	134.0
Total (GNFC):		921.0	969.1	998.3	864.8
TAC:Tuticorin	A/C	64.0	64.8	0.0	0.0
TCL : Haldia	DAP	675.0	452.0	237.6	147.8
	28:28	0.0	4.9	0.0	0.0
	14:35:14	0.0	47.5	35.6	0.0
	12:32:16	0.0	244.7	120.4	104.9
	10:26:26	0.0	357.3	234.3	308.5
	SSP	165.0	181.6	95.5	127.8
	15:15:15	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total (TCL)		840.0	1288.0	723.4	689.0

('000 MTs)

Name of Unit/Plant	Product Name	Installed Capacity (as on 1/4/2006)	2006-07	Production 2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5	6
PNF:Nangal	A/C	64.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
GSFC:Sikka-I	DAP	588.0	425.5	396.1	233.4
	12:32:16	0.0	82.5	28.3	49.9
	10:26:26	0.0	0.0	16.4	0.0
Total (GSFC:Sikka-I)		588.0	508.0	440.8	283.3
GSFC:Sikka-II)	DAP	396.0	419.9	384.7	397.1
	12:32:16	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total (Sikka-I & II)		984.0	927.9	825.5	680.4
GFCL:Kakinada	DAP	670.0	616.1	567.8	518.2
	14:35:14	0.0	180.7	25.4	102.1
	20:20	0.0	21.4	0.0	48.9
	17:17:17	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	10:26:26	0.0	194.2	420.5	399.4
	12:32:16	0.0	75.4	50.6	23.0
Total (GFCL)		670.0	1087.8	1064.3	1091.6
IGCL:Jagdishpur	Urea	864.6	1028.0	880.3	1068.6
Hin. Indl Ltd., Dahej	DAP	400.0	190.9	131.2	168.6
	20:20	0.0	6.2	0.0	0.0
	10:26:26	0.0	4.2	10.1	0.0
	12:32:16	0.0	17.8	8.1	0.0
Total (Dahej)		400.0	219.1	149.4	168.6
DFPCL:Taloja	23:23	230.0	62.4	51.5	57.9
NFCL:Kakinada-I	Urea	597.3	726.7	757.2	768.9
NFCL:Kakinada-II	Urea	597.3	597.2	597.2	609.1
Total (NFCL):		1194.6	1323.9	1354.4	1378.0
CFCL:Gadepan-I	Urea	864.6	973.6	1004.4	909.8
CFCL:Gadepan-II	Urea	864.6	952.0	995.6	1008.3
Total (CFCL):		1729.2	1925.6	2000.0	1918.1
TCL:Babrala	Urea	864.6	1010.7	1069.8	1023.8
KSFL:Shajahanpur	Urea	864.6	872.1	913.2	864.2

1	2	3	4	5	6
PPL:Paradeep	DAP	720.0	822.3	879.9	470.2
	20:20	0.0	328.8	188.5	176.0
	14:35:14	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	28:28	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	12:32:16	0.0	59.5	42.6	98.5
	10:26:26	0.0	109.9	168.3	277.5
	16:20	0.0	0.0	4.8	0.0
Total (PPL)		720.0	1320.5	1284.1	1022.2
By-Product	A/S	35.7	14.8	18.0	18.0
SSP Units	SSP	6441.2	2625.0	2700.0	2700.0
Total Private Sector:		22216.4	19938.5	17785.7	17099.5
Total (Pub+Coop+Pvt):		41570.1	36219.8	33245.0	33148.1

*Product-wise summary of production of fertilizer from 2006-07 to 2008-09*

('000 MTs)

Product Name	Installed Capacity (as on 1/4/2006)	Production		
		2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Urea	20752.4	20308.8	19858.5	19922.3
A/S	671.6	579.0	394.8	417.8
CAN	622.5	144.0	134.8	138.5
A/C	128.0	64.8	0.0	0.0
DAP	7299.0	4852.1	4211.9	2993.3
SSP	6874.2	2806.6	2795.5	2827.8
20:20	1146.0	2493.7	1480.4	2542.6
15:15:15	300.0	482.9	468.4	471.0
ANP (20.8:20.8)	361.0	35.3	0.0	0.0
17:17:17	840.0	57.1	35.1	0.0
10:26:26	675.4	1476.5	1968.6	2328.0
12:32:16	860.0	1597.0	989.8	882.0
14:35:14	200.0	402.0	61.0	169.3
19:19:19	240.0	305.7	250.1	32.1
28:28	200.0	368.1	391.1	207.1
16:20	170.0	183.8	153.5	158.4
23:23	230.0	62.4	51.5	57.9
Total	41570.1	36219.8	33245.0	33148.1
Complexes:	5222.4	7464.5	5849.5	6848.4

*Sector-wise production of fertilizers from 2006-07 to 2008-09*

('000 MTs)

Sector	Installed Capacity (as on 1.04.2006) Quantity	Production		
		2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
		Quantity	Quantity	Quantity
Public	9599.7	7557.4	6919.3	7137.5
Cooperative	9754.0	8723.9	8540.0	8911.1
Private	22216.4	19938.5	17785.7	17099.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>41570.1</b>	<b>36219.8</b>	<b>33245.0</b>	<b>33148.1</b>

**Statement-II***Unit-wise Installed Capacity, Production and Capacity Utilization for the year 2007-08 & 2008-09***Nitrogen**

Name of Company/Plant	Name of Product	Annual Installed Capacity (As on 1.04.06) (in 000' MT)	Production ('000 MT)		Percentage capacity utilisation	
			2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09
			1	2	3	4
<b>Public Sector</b>						
NFL:Nangal-II	Urea	220.1	220.2	236.6	100.0	107.5
NFL:Bhatinda	Urea	235.3	235.2	247.2	100.0	105.1
NFL:Panipat	Urea	235.3	235.3	224.7	100.0	95.5
NFL:Vijaipur	Urea	397.7	414.0	398.2	104.1	100.1
NFL:Vijaipur Expn.	Urea	397.7	398.6	431.5	100.2	108.5
<b>Total NFL:</b>	<b>Urea</b>	<b>1486.1</b>	<b>1503.3</b>	<b>1538.2</b>	<b>101.2</b>	<b>103.5</b>
BVFCL:Namrup-II	Urea	110.4	35.7	27.9	32.3	25.3
BVFCL:Namrup-III		144.9	115.8	59.1	79.9	40.8
<b>Total (BVFCL)</b>		<b>255.3</b>	<b>151.5</b>	<b>87.0</b>	<b>59.3</b>	<b>34.1</b>
FACT:Udyogamandal	A/S 20:20	77.0	24.6	50.2	31.9	65.2
FACT: Coachin-II	20:20	97.0	66.9	97.9	69.0	100.9
<b>Total (FACT:)</b>		<b>174.0</b>	<b>91.5</b>	<b>148.1</b>	<b>52.6</b>	<b>85.1</b>
RCF:Trombay	15:15:15	45.0	70.3	70.7	156.2	157.1
RCF:Trombay-IV	20.8:20.8	75.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
RCF:Trombay-V	Urea	151.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
RCF:Thal	Urea	785.1	842.9	875.6	107.4	111.5
<b>Total (RCF)</b>		<b>1057.0</b>	<b>913.2</b>	<b>946.3</b>	<b>86.4</b>	<b>89.5</b>

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
MFL : Chennai	Urea/17:17:17	366.7	208.6	186.7	56.9	50.9
SAIL:Rourkela	CAN	120.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
By products	A/S	38.4	18.9	18.9	49.2	49.2
<b>Total (Public)</b>		<b>3497.5</b>	<b>2887.0</b>	<b>2925.2</b>	<b>82.5</b>	<b>83.6</b>
<b>Cooperative Sector</b>						
IFFCO:Kandla	10:26:26/ 12:32:16/DAP	351.5	246.0	207.3	70.0	59.0
IFFCO:Kalol	Urea	250.5	250.5	257.5	100.0	102.8
IFFCO:Phulpur-I	Urea	253.5	289.8	304.8	114.3	120.2
IFFCO:Phulpur-II	Urea	397.7	425.2	386.7	106.9	97.2
IFFCO:Aonla-I	Urea	397.7	402.8	454.0	101.3	114.2
IFFCO:Aonla-II	Urea	397.7	455.1	468.4	114.4	117.8
IFFCO:Paradeep	DAP/ 10:26:26/ 20:20/12:32:16	325.2	161.3	252.5	49.6	77.6
<b>Total (IFFCO)</b>		<b>2373.8</b>	<b>2230.7</b>	<b>2331.2</b>	<b>94.0</b>	<b>98.2</b>
KRIBHCO : Hazira	Urea	795.4	800.3	801.8	100.6	100.8
<b>Total Coop. Sector</b>		<b>3169.2</b>	<b>3031.0</b>	<b>3133.0</b>	<b>95.6</b>	<b>98.9</b>
<b>Total (Pub.+Coop.)</b>		<b>6666.7</b>	<b>5918.0</b>	<b>6058.2</b>	<b>88.8</b>	<b>90.9</b>
<b>Joint Venture</b>						
GSFC:Vadodara	Urea/DAP/ 20:20/A/S	248.1	204.4	194.0	82.4	78.2
GSFC:Sikkka-I	DAP/12:32:16	105.8	76.4	48.0	72.2	45.4
GSFC:Sikkka-II	DAP/12:32:16	71.3	69.2	71.5	97.1	100.3
<b>Total (GSFC-Sikkka)</b>		<b>177.1</b>	<b>145.6</b>	<b>119.5</b>	<b>82.2</b>	<b>67.5</b>
GNFC:Bharuch	Urea/CAN/20:20	356.7	380.9	339.9	106.7	93.6
KSFL:Shahjahanpur	Urea	397.7	420.1	397.5	105.6	99.9
<b>Private Sector</b>						
CFL:Vizag	28:28/14:35:14/ 20:20/ 16:20/ 10:26:26	124.0	161.0	157.3	129.8	126.9
SFC:Kota	Urea	174.3	175.2	181.9	100.5	104.4
DIL:Kanpur	Urea	332.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
ZIL:Goa	Urea/DAP 19:19:19 10:26:26/12:32:16	288.7	291.5	268.5	101.0	93.0
SPIC:Tuticorin	Urea/DAP/20:20/ 17:17:17	370.7	13.3	0.0	3.5	0.0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
MCF:Mangalore	Urea/DAP/20:20/ 16:20	207.2	219.4	217.8	105.9	105.1
CFL:Ennore	16:20/20:20	41.2	31.5	25.3	76.5	61.4
TAC:Tuticorin	A/C	16.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TCL:Haldia	DAP/10:26:26/ 12:32:16/14:35:14/ 15:15:15	121.5	85.6	70.0	70.5	57.6
PNF:Nangal	A/C	16.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
GFCL:Kakinada	DAP/10:26:26/ 20:20/14:35:14/ 12:32:16	120.6	153.9	160.1	127.6	132.8
IGCL-Jagdishpur	Urea	397.7	404.9	491.6	101.8	123.6
Hin.Ind.Ltd. Dahej	DAP/10:26:26/ 12:32:16	72.0	25.6	30.4	35.6	42.2
DFPCL:Taloja	23:23	52.9	11.8	13.3	22.3	25.1
NFCL:Kakinada-I	Urea	274.8	348.3	353.7	126.7	128.7
NFCL:Kakinada-II	Urea	274.8	274.7	280.2	100.0	102.0
Total (NFCL)		549.6	623.0	633.9	113.4	115.3
CFCL:Gadepan-I	Urea	397.7	462.0	418.5	116.2	105.2
CFCL:Gadepan-I-II	Urea	397.7	458.0	463.8	115.2	116.6
Total (CFCL)		795.4	920.0	882.3	115.7	110.9
Total Babrala	Urea	397.7	492.1	470.9	123.7	118.4
PPL-Paradeep	DAP/14:35:14/ 20:20/12:32:16/ 10:26:26/28:28	129.6	218.8	159.4	168.8	123.0
By Product	A/S	7.5	3.8	3.8	50.7	50.7
Total (Private Sector)		5394.3	4982.0	4811.4	1824.2	1729.6
Total (Pub+Coop+Pvt):		12061.0	10900.0	10869.6	90.4	90.1

**Phosphate**

Name of Company/Plant	Name of Product	Annual Installed Capacity (As on 1.04.06)	Production ('000 MT)		Percentage capacity utilisation	
			2007-08	2008-09	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>Private Sector</b>						
FACT:Udyogamandal	20:20	29.7	18.2	23.2	61.3	78.1
FACT: Coachin-I	20:20	97.0	66.9	97.9	69.0	100.9
Total (FACT:)		126.7	85.1	121.1	67.2	95.6

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
RCF:Trombay	15:15:15	45.0	70.3	70.7	156.2	157.1
RCF:Trombay-IV	20.8:20.8	75.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total (RCF)		120.1	70.3	70.7	58.5	58.9
MFL : Chennai	20:20/19:19:19/ 17:17:17	142.8	6.0	0.0	4.2	0.0
HCL:Khetri	SSP	30.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SSP Units	SSP	12.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total (Public):		432.5	161.4	191.8	37.3	44.3
<b>Cooperative Sector</b>						
IFFCO:Kandala	DAP/10:26:26/ 12:32:16	910.0	641.7	541.5	70.5	59.5
IFFCO:Paradeep	DAP/10:26:26/ 20:20/12:32:16	802.8	327.5	374.7	40.8	46.7
Total (Co.op)		1712.8	969.2	916.2	60.5	53.5
Total (Pub.+Coop.)		2145.3	1130.6	1108.0	52.7	51.6
<b>Joint Venture</b>						
GSFC:Vadodara	DAP/20:20	75.9	64.4	59.5	84.8	78.4
GSFC:Sikka-I	DAP	270.5	195.6	123.4	72.3	45.6
GSFC:Sikka-II	DAP	182.2	177.0	182.7	97.1	100.3
Total (GSFC:Sikka)		452.7	372.6	306.1	82.3	67.6
GSFC Branch	20:20	28.5	38.6	26.8	135.4	94.0
CFL:Vizag	14:35:14/28:28/ 10:26:26/20:20	166.0	176.8	176.5	106.5	106.3
CFL:Ennore	16:20/20:20	48.0	37.4	31.7	77.9	66.0
CFL:Kakinada	DAP/12:32:16/ 20:20/14:34:14/10:26:26	308.2	395.6	395.1	128.4	128.2
ZIL:Goa	DAP/19:19:19/ 10:26:26/12:32:16	197.4	207.2	193.0	105.0	97.8
SPIC:Tuticorin	DAP 17:17:17/ 20:20	218.5	33.0	0.0	15.1	0.0
MCF:Mangalore	20:20/16:20	82.8	104.4	87.7	126.1	105.9
TCL Haldia	DAP/10.26:26/12:32:16/ 14:35:14	336.9	236.5	202.2	70.2	60.0
Hin Ind.Ltd. (Dahej)	DAP/10:26:26/ 12:32:16	184.0	65.6	77.6	35.7	42.2
DFPCL:Taloja	23:23	52.9	11.8	13.3	22.3	25.1
PPL Paradeep	DAP/14:35:14/ 20:20/ 12:32:16/ 10:26:26/28:28	331.2	500.8	355.1	151.2	107.2
SSP Units	SSP	1030.6	432.0	432.0	41.9	41.9
Total (Public Sector) :		3513.6	2676.7	2356.6	76.2	67.1
Total (Pub+Coop.+Pvt)		5658.9	3807.3	3464.6	67.3	61.2

*[English]***Supply of PNG**

807. PROF. RAMSHANKAR : Will the Minister of PETRO-LEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has finalised the modalities for the supply of piped natural gas (PNG) in various cities in the country including Agra in U.P. and Banaskantha in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time schedule drawn up for this purpose; and

(d) the progress made in this regard State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) The Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) Act, 2006 provides the legal framework for the development of city or local gas distribution networks for inter alia supply of PNG.

The PNGRB Act provides that when PNGRB forms an opinion that it is necessary or expedient to lay, build, operate or expand a city or local natural gas distribution network in a specified geographic area, it may give wide publicity of its intention to do so and may invite applications from interested parties to lay, build, operate or expand city or local natural gas distribution network.

The implementation of PNG in various cities shall be taken up in a phased manner as and when the bids are called for by PNGRB. Currently seven cities, namely, Yanam, Shahdol, Rajahmundry, Ghaziabad, Chandigarh, Jhansi & Allahabad, are under bidding process by PNGRB in the second round of bidding. In the first round of bidding, which concluded in March 2009, bids were called for six cities, namely, Kota, Dewas, Sonapat, Meerut, Kakinada & Mathura.

Once the cities are awarded on the basis of bid, the City Gas Distribution projects will be executed by the Company authorized for the same.

As regards Agra, Green Gas Limited, a Joint Venture of GAIL (India) Limited, IOC, and State Govt of UP, has been authorized by Central Government for implementing PNG & Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) in the city.

*[Translation]***Cases Registered by Fraud Investigation Office**

808. CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD : Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered by the serious Fraud Investigation Office during the last three years;

(b) the number of people against whom action has been taken in these cases till date;

(c) the nature of the said cases and the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken to prevent the recurrence of such cases in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) In all, 37 cases were referred to the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) during the last three years i.e. during the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09.

(b) Out of 37 cases referred to the SFIO, during the last three years, investigations in respect of 9 cases have been completed. The number of people in respect of three cases against whom action has been initiated are as follows :

Name of the Company	No. of People
Morepan Laboratories Ltd	07
Shonk Technologies Ltd.	08
Shonk Technologies International Ltd.	10

Number of people in respect of other six companies will be known only after launching prosecutions.

(c) The nature/details of the nine cases referred to in para (b) above is given in the enclosed Statement. In respect of the remaining 28 cases, investigations are under progress.

(d) An elaborate regulatory framework is in place to deal with such incidents. This framework provides for statutory disclosures about the affairs of companies intended to inform the stakeholder the truth about the state of affairs of companies. To facilitate making of such disclosures by companies, and for stakeholders and regulatory agencies to easily access and view them, Government has set up an electronic registry with round the clock access through internet. The Government has powers of inspection of the books of accounts of companies and also to investigate their affairs, if need be, under the Companies Act, 1956. In addition, the Act provides for appointment of independent, statutory auditors to audit the accounts and report to the shareholders. Such audited accounts are also displayed on the electronic registry for general viewing. While the reporting requirements are regulated under the Companies Act, 1956,



the conduct of auditors is regulated under the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949. In addition, for listed companies, compliance with these statutory requirements is required to be certified by a company secretary in practice, who in turn is regulated under the Company Secretaries Act, 1980. Government has amended the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 and the Company Secretaries Act, 1980 in 2006 to provide for a more effective disciplinary mechanism to deal with cases of misconduct by Chartered Accountants,

Company Secretaries respectively. In 2006, the Government has notified Accounting Standards to enable accounts of companies to be drawn up and disclosed on the basis of fair, transparent and internationally accepted principles. Government proposes to re-introduce Companies Bili, 2008 as the Companies Bill, 2009 which seeks to make more stringent provisions in cases of frauds by companies, their directors and auditors, etc.

#### **Statement**

S. No.	Name of the companies	Nature of the case/details
1.	Morepen Laboratories Ltd. (MLL)	MLL created equity through fraudulently rotating funds siphoned out of the company. Money was siphoned from the company to promoters' personal accounts. Higher net worth of the company was shown through rotation of funds, fictitious investments and fictitious debtors. Company indulged in overvaluation of stocks to book higher profits and obtained more loan from banks by hypothecation of stocks.
2.	Shonkh Technologies Ltd	The promoters in this case were found to have caused wrongful loss to the company by allotting shares at arbitrary rates of premium to Directors and their relatives. They were also found guilty of falsification of accounts by creation of false equity through rotation of cheques and by showing fictitious sales to inflate revenue and profit.
3.	Shonkh Technologies International Ltd.	The Directors of the Company were found to have violated various provisions of Companies Act including preparation of Annual Reports in a manner not reflecting true and fair view of the operations of the Company.
4.	JVG Hotels Limited	These four companies are part of JVG Group of 13 companies referred to SFIO for investigation. The main promoter is Shri Vijay Kumar Sharma. There are allegations of siphoning off funds invested by the public in JVG Finance Limited, which was a non-banking finance company, and some of these companies were used for this purpose.
5.	JVG Publications Ltd.	
6.	JVG Techno India Ltd.	
7.	JVG Holdings Ltd	
8.	Leafin India Limited	The funds of the Company were siphoned off by creation of lease agreements in respect of non-existent assets and lease rentals were paid thereon. There was an attempt to defraud the exchequer.
9.	Stock Holding Corporation of India Limited (SHCIL)	There was fraudulent issue of shares of the company and books of accounts were falsified. The management was found guilty of the offence of criminal breach of trust in transferring tangible assets of the company. The officials of the company intentionally gave false evidence on oath during investigation.

[English]

#### **Production of Automobile**

809. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of automobiles has increased in May this year as compared to the same month last year;

(b) if so, the comparative increase and percentage thereto;

(c) whether the sale of commercial vehicles and utility vehicles has fallen down during the same period; and

(d) if so, the details and steps proposed to be taken to increase the sale of commercial and utility vehicles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the information received from the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), the total number of automobiles produced in May 2008 was 980067 which has gone up to 1044084 in May 2009, showing a 6.5% increase.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The total commercial vehicles sold during the month of May 2009 was 30,800 as compared to 36,141 in May 2008 showing a decrease of (-)15%. Similarly, the total utility vehicles sold during the month of May 2009 was 16,266 as compared to 22,958, in May 2008 showing a decrease of (-) 29%.

The Government of India, through three stimulus packages, has taken several measures for revival of Indian automobile sector. These include reduction of excise duty, increasing liquidity and credit flows in the market, etc. In addition, direct demand generation of Commercial Vehicles (CVs) through JNNURM Scheme for procurement of buses and also specific credit flow measures for this segment has been done. In addition, in order to create demand, accelerated depreciation @50% has also been offered for the CV segment.

[Translation]

#### Air Accidents

810. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of air crashes have taken place since 1st January, 2008 on account of human error;

(b) the number of incidents which the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has admitted to have taken place so far and the steps taken to prevent such incidents; and

(c) the details of training on stress management being imparted to the pilots and crew members by the DGCA, for the past two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL) : (a) There have been eight air accidents due to human error since 01.01.2008 till date.

(b) Nine incidents have been reported to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) since 01.01.2008 till date which have been treated as serious incidents. To prevent such incidents, DGCA has taken various measures which include complete monitoring of Flight Data Recorders, installation of Minimum Safe Altitude Warning System, Installation of Monopulse Secondary Surveillance Radars, installation Airborne Collision Avoidance System, installation of Transponders, installation of Ground Proximity Warning System, computerised monitoring of Flight Duty Time Limitation, Training, Medical & Licence validity of pilots, safety audit of operators, training of aviation personnel under Cooperative Development of Operational Safety and Continuing Airworthiness (South Asia) programmes.

(c) All the operators have been advised to include stress management module in the training programme to be imparted to their Pilots and Crew Members.

[English]

#### Gauge conversion between Coimbatore-Dindigul

811. SHRI T.R. BAALU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated for the gauge conversion project linking Coimbatore with Dindigul;

(b) whether the Railways have any proposal to increase the allocation of funds since the project provides the crucial link between the Western and Southern parts of Tamil Nadu; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) An outlay of Rs. 31 crore has been proposed for Dindigul-Pollachi-Palghat and Pollachi-Palghat gauge conversion project in the Railway Budget 2009-10.

(b) and (c) The conversion of this line will be progressed as per the availability of resources.

[Translation]

#### New Railway Line from Baddi to Ponta Sahib

812. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR :  
SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have conducted any survey regarding laying of Baddi, Barotiwala, Parvanu, Kala-amb and Ponta Sahib railway line;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith amount earmarked for the purpose during the current year; and

(c) the time by which the said railway line is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

### Representation of Minorities in Government Services

813. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:

SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether directions have been issued to various Central Ministries for the welfare of the minorities and their representation in Government services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the implementation of the Sachar Committee Report and Prime Minister's New Fifteen Point Programme is likely to improve the job status of minorities; and

(d) the number of persons belonging to minority community employed during each of the last three years under various Ministries and their organizations, community-wise?

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 Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities provides for giving special consideration to minorities in recruitment of police personnel, Central police forces, Railways, nationalized banks and public sector enterprises and for this purpose, the composition of selection committees should be representative.

In pursuance of this, the Department of Personnel & Training (DOPT) has issued Office Memorandum on 8th January, 2007. The salient features are as follows:-

(i) The composition of Selection Committees should be representative. It should be mandatory to have one member belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe and one member belonging to minority community in Selection Boards/Committees for making recruitment to 10 or more vacancies.

(ii) Where the number of vacancies against which selection is to be made is less than 10, efforts should be made to have the Scheduled Caste/Tribe officer and a Minority community officer included in such Committees/Boards.

(iii) Wide publicity should be given to all appointments in Government, public sector enterprises and public sector banks and financial institutions. Advertisements should be issued in the language(s) spoken by a large number of people of the State/UTs, apart from English and Hindi. Further, for Group C and D level posts, having only basic qualifying requirements, information about vacancies for recruitment should also be disseminated through schools and colleges in that area, in addition to normal channels.

(iv) Where there is concentration of minority community population in local areas, the vacancy circular in local language may be distributed in those areas by suitable arrangements.

The guidelines issued by DOPT include instructions for monitoring the progress in recruitment of minorities in all Ministries/Departments, public sector enterprises, public sector banks and financial institutions.

(c) and (d) As envisaged in the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities and also one of the decisions of the Government on the follow-up action on the recommendations of the Sachar Committee, three scholarship schemes and a coaching and allied scheme have been introduced exclusively for students from the minority communities. These schemes would enable students to pursue education starting from the primary level to higher education, including technical and professional courses, and provide coaching for employment in jobs in the Government and private sector enabling them to compete effectively.

The data is not collected minority community-wise by the DOPT, but for the five minority communities as a whole. The number of persons belonging to the minority communities recruited during the last three years in the various Ministries/departments and their organisations are given below:

2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Minorities recruited (in respect of 70 Ministries/Departments/ organizations)	Minorities recruited (in respect of 61 Ministries/Departments/ organizations)	Minorities recruited (in respect of 32 Ministries/ Departments/ organizations)
12,182	12,195	4,479

#### **Salary to Senior Managers of Air India**

814. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:  
SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:  
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India Management has urged top managerial staff to forego salaries and incentives for the month of July 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any assessment made to determine the cost saved as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An appeal has been made to all the Senior Executives (General Managers & above) to forego their salary & Productivity Linked Incentives for the month of July 2009 on a voluntary basis. The response was largely positive.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The approximate saving on this account will be Rs. 1.5 crores.

#### **Research and Development in Pharmaceutical sector**

815. DR. K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Research and Development (R&D) in the discovery and formulation of new drugs for marketing at reasonable price;

(b) the allocation of funds on R&D and action taken to streamline the research activities in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the Government proposes to create a fund to finance new drug discovery projects so as to make India, a leader country in new drug discovery;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government also proposes to offer incentives to domestic as well as multinational drug makers to encourage new drug discovery in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) Different Pharmaceuticals companies mainly under Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance are involved in drug discovery and formulation research alongwith Government Departments/Institutions like Department of Science and Technology, Department of Biotechnology, ICMR, AYUSH etc. The Government of India is running different schemes for drug discovery through different Departments along with newly formed Department of Pharmaceuticals. Drug discovery and development is a continuous and long drawn process involving 10-12 years of time aiming at manufacturing safe, potent and affordable drugs.

The Indian pharmaceutical Industry has geared up for research for development of new drugs. There are about 58 companies in Pharmaceuticals sector having R&D centres approved by DSIR u/s 35 (2AB) of the Income Tax Act. Out of these about 15 companies are carrying out research & development in new drugs and have built up impressive R&D infrastructure and expertise in chemical research, pharmaceutical research, fermentation research as well as new drug discovery research (NDDR) and research in novel drug delivery systems. The therapeutic areas in which these companies have developed lead molecules are malaria, urology, metabolic disorders, cardiovascular indications, cancer, diabetes, dyslipidemia, obesity, inflammation & pain, staphylococcal infections, respiratory infections, skin infections, anti-migraine, anti-TB and anti-psoriasis.

(b) Different Ministries have different plan outlay. The newly created Deptt. of Pharmaceuticals has allocated fund for research mainly to National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education & Research (NIPER). The budget outlay for each of the last three years and the current year on R&D by Department of Science & Technology (DST) and NIPER are given in enclosed Statement-I and II. The amount of NIPER includes the amount provided by the DST also.

(c) to (f) This Department is coordinating with other Departments like DST/Department of Biotechnology (DBT) etc. which are engaged in R&D activities to finalise the various tasks to be undertaken by the Department to obviate

duplicity. Presently Rs. 20 crores have been provided to Department for the new schemes. The Department has formulated various small R&D schemes which have been forwarded to the Planning Commission for 'in principle' approval.

The following incentives are available to industries for research & development in drugs and Pharmaceuticals:

(i) Weighted tax deduction of 150% on R&D expenditure approved under section 35(2AB) of the Income tax Act.

(ii) The R&D centres recognized by DSIR are also registered with DSIR for the purpose of availing customs duty and excise exemption as per notification No. 24/2007-Customs dated 1st March 2007 and 16/2007-Central Excise dated 1st March 2007.

### Statement-I

*Details of the year-wise expenditure incurred/  
allocation of funds under Drugs and Pharmaceuticals  
Research Programme of DST*

Year	Loans (Rupees in Crores)	Grants-in-aid (Rupees in Crores)	Total (Rupees in Crores)
2006-07	35.00	25.00	60.00
2007-08	60.00	58.00	118.00
2008-09	56.50	40.00	96.50
2009-10 (BE)	66.00	30.00	96.00

### Statement-II

*Financial details for the 3 years (in crores)*

#### (A) Continuing/ongoing schemes from 10th Plan

S.No.	Particulars	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
1	Diabities complications	0.95	2.00	0.80
2	Leads moleculars for TB, Malaria and leishmania	1.10	1.50	0.80
3	Chiral Drugs/bio- chemo enzymatic- transformation	0.36	0.35	0.36
4	Nanotechnology & Drug Delivery System	0.40	1.45	1.10
5	Impurity Profiling facility	0.17	0.19	0.21
Total (A)		2.98	5.49	3.27

#### (B) Infrastructure Development & New Schemes

1	Drug for most neglected diseases	0.31	2.20	4.06
Total (B)		0.31	2.20	4.06
Grand Total (A+B)		3.29	7.69	7.33

#### Shortage of wheelchairs at Railway Stations

816. SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway stations across the country particularly in South States have not been provided with sufficient number of wheelchairs as well as porters to man the wheelchairs;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and  
(c) if so, the steps taken by Railways to provide basic amenities to passengers at Railway Stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) By and large, adequate number of wheelchairs have been provided at stations, including stations in South. Licensed porters for rendering assistance on payment of charges are also available.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Minimum Essential Amenities (MEA) have already been provided as per norms at all stations including stations in South India. 373 stations have been developed as model stations having improved facilities.

#### **Kantabanji-Jeypore Railway Line**

817. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have conducted any survey for Kantabanji-Rajkhariar-Junagarh-Nawrangpur and Jeypore rail line;

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

(c) the details of expenditure incurred by the Railways thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir. However, survey for this new line has been sanctioned in January, 09.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No expenditure has been incurred so far on the survey.

#### **Ticketless travellers in trains**

818. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of ticketless travelling in the trains have increased during the last three years and current year;

(b) if so, number of ticketless passengers caught during the said period, the amount of penalty received from them, zone-wise;

(c) number of surprise checks conducted by Railway officials in running trains to apprehend ticketless passengers during the last three years; and

(d) steps taken/being taken by the Railways to curb this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir. Cases of ticketless travelling detected have gone up.

(b) A Statement is enclosed

(c) No separate figures are maintained for surprise checks in running trains,

(d) Steps taken include: regular and surprise checks in association with railway magistrates and police, conducting various special checks like Ambush, Fortress and Replacement checks, and establishment of Intensive Check Posts (ICPs) on unreserved segments, increase in minimum penalty for ticketless/irregular travel from Rs. 50/- to Rs. 250/- with effect from 01.07.2004, and educating travelling public through various media of the consequences of ticketless travel.

#### **Statement**

Railway	Number of ticketless passengers caught				Amount of railway dues realized			
	(in lakhs)				(Rupees in crores)			
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (upto May, 09)	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (upto May, 09)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Central	7.00	8.34	9.37	2.10	26.75	32.36	38.65	9.88
Eastern	3.94	4.28	4.33	0.79	10.30	11.96	12.19	2.25
East Central	2.94	3.39	3.87	0.74	9.70	11.15	12.96	2.53
East Coast	0.94	1.01	1.34	0.25	3.33	3.60	4.71	0.92
Northern	11.42	12.43	13.83	2.55	44.45	48.71	54.52	10.45
North Central	4.56	4.98	6.04	1.31	17.78	19.49	25.02	5.54
North Eastern	2.82	3.30	3.80	0.70	10.01	12.08	14.82	2.81
Northeast Frontier	1.37	1.61	1.93	0.38	5.76	6.61	8.53	1.71
North Western	2.54	2.81	3.03	0.72	8.57	9.44	10.54	2.65

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Southern	2.90	3.43	4.33	0.80	10.68	12.44	16.57	3.11
South Central	5.35	6.47	7.35	1.42	20.85	24.53	29.28	5.76
South Eastern	1.51	1.63	2.01	0.42	4.79	5.63	7.05	1.44
South East Central	1.06	1.22	1.53	0.31	3.47	4.09	5.37	1.16
South Western	1.13	1.51	1.84	0.39	4.23	5.67	6.97	1.57
Western	7.00	7.78	9.11	2.24	24.20	27.89	34.17	9.13
West Central	2.77	3.01	3.00	0.60	10.84	11.48	11.84	2.48
Total	59.25	67.20	76.71	15.72	215.71	247.13	293.19	63.39

**Fast Track Courts**

819. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state;

(a) the number of Fast Track Courts functioning in the country as on date;

(b) the number of cases disposed of by these courts during each of the last two years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up more Fast Track Courts in the country;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) As per the reports received from the State Governments/High Courts upto May 2009, 1237 Fast Track Courts are functional in the country.

(b) A Statement is enclosed.

(c) to (e) Fast Track Courts are set-up by the State Governments in consultation with the respective High Courts depending upon the need.

**Statement***The number of cases disposed of by Fast Track Courts*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	No. of cases Disposed of during 2007	No. of cases Disposed of during 2008	No. of cases Disposed of during 2009
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	24730	17605	6442 (upto 5/2009)
2	Arunachal Pradesh	164	212	113 (upto 5/2009)
3	Assam	4586	6524	2278 (upto 5/2009)
4	Bihar	Not available	Not available	Not available
5	Chhattisgarh	9349	7744	2680 (upto 4/2009)
6	Goa	1368	672	Not available
7	Gujarat	106802	57136	11989 (upto 3/2009)
8	Haryana			24239 (since insepction to March 2009)
9	Himachal Pradesh	4807	5251	2591 (upto 5/2009)
10	Jharkhand			74374 (since insepction to May 2009)

1	2	3	4	5
11	Karnataka	26378	24351	Not available
12	Kerala	11545	11090	4596 (upto 5/2009)
13	Madhya Pradesh	51307	54068	Not available
14	Maharashtra	61497	46747	14050 (upto 5/2009)
15	Manipur	209	282	71 (upto 5/2009)
16	Meghalaya	75	69	65 (upto 5/2009)
17	Mizoram	185	371	53 (upto 5/2009)
18	Nagaland	32	68	19 (upto 4/2009)
19	Orissa	-	-	43521 (since insepction to March 2009)
20	Punjab	-	-	31553 (since insepction to March 2009)
21	Rajasthan	14969	13555	3589 (upto 3/2009)
22	Tamil Nadu	59216	70070	Not available
23	Tripura	716	502	156 (upto 5/2009)
24	Utttar Pradesh	47397	52699	13309 (upto 3/2009)
25	Uttarakhand	4881	5006	395 (upto 1/2009)
26	West Bengal	18596	16719	4073 (upto 3/2009)

#### Road over bridge at Baba Bakala

820. DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received representations regarding early completion of road over bridge at Baba Bakala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Railways to expedite the completion of said road over bridge?

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

(b) Letter has been received from Officials of PWD (B&R), Amritsar for early completion.

(c) Work for the Railway portion has been awarded, and physical execution commenced from June '09.

[Translation]

#### Railway Line in Himachal Pradesh

821. SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target date to complete the construction work of ongoing project of laying Railway line from Una to Amb-indore-Nangal-Talwada Railway route in Himachal Pradesh has been fixed as June, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the construction work of the said Railway line has been completed in scheduled time;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the said work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The work is being progressed as per the availability of resources.

(e) The Nangal Dam-Chururu Takrala (33 km.) portion of the project has already been completed and commissioned. The portion from Chururu Takrala to Amb



Andaura is targeted for completion during 2009-10. The completion of project would depend upon availability of resources.

[English]

#### **Production at Kulti works of SAIL**

822. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether action has been initiated to re-start production at Kulti Works of Steel Authority of India Ltd.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the further action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Kulti Works has been renamed as 'SAIL Growth Works, Kulti'. Production at the Non-Ferrous Foundry and Machine Shop and the Pattern Shop have started from 15th April, 2008. Production at the Steel Foundry has started from 2nd September, 2008.

[Translation]

#### **Railway Projects in Uttar Pradesh**

823. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have conducted any survey for new railway projects in the country including Uttar Pradesh; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) and (b) During the last 3 years, 115 surveys for new lines covering length of 10,294 Km have been conducted. During the same period, 10 surveys for new lines falling fully or partly in Uttar Pradesh have been conducted covering length of 656 Km.

#### **Assistance to Silk Industries**

824. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

- (a) the names of schemes being implemented by the Government for the benefit to silk industries, State-wise;
- (b) whether the traders and the craftsmen of Maharashtra are facing hardships due to increase in cost of silk raw material in the recent years;
- (c) whether the Government has any plans to provide assistance to the silk sector in this regard; and

- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) For development of sericulture and silk industry in all sericulture practicing States of the country during XI Plan, the Central Silk Board in association with the State Government have been implementing various schemes/components under the Centrally Sponsored "Catalytic Development Programme" (CDP). The CDP is being implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme through project mode in the form of packages mainly under three sectors viz. Seed sector, Cocoon sector and Post-cocoon sector and supplemented by other components of Support Services, which benefit all categories of beneficiaries like farmers, reelers and weavers.

(b) No specific instance about the traders and the craftsmen of Maharashtra facing hardships due to increase in cost of silk raw material in the recent years has been brought to the notice of the Government.

(c) and (d) As per existing schemes to support sericulture, both the Central and the State Government are providing R&D, Seed, Extension and market support for the development of Sericulture in different States including Maharashtra. Apart from this, assistance is being provided through Centrally sponsored Catalytic Development Programme (CDP).

During the XI Plan period, a total provision of Rs.1476.24 crore has been made by the Government for CDP, out of which Central share is Rs.661.62 crore. The States have to bear Rs.311.73 crore, while the beneficiaries' contribution would be Rs.502.89 crore. Based on the proposals received from the States, during the first two years of the XI Plan, i.e, 2007-08 and 2008-09, the Government through CSB had released its share of Rs.80.82 crore and Rs.90.74 crore respectively towards implementation of various components under CDP scheme as against the total outlay of Rs.81.01 crores and Rs. 76.73 crore respectively. For the current financial year 2009-10, an outlay of Rs.75.58 crores has been kept under BE 2009-10.

[English]

#### **Growth of Air Traffic**

825. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage growth of air traffic during the last three years and estimated growth in the current year;
- (b) the estimated air traffic growth in the next three years as per estimate drawn by the Airports Authority of India (AAI); and

(c) the steps taken by the AAI to build infrastructure to meet the growing demand of air traffic in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The percentage growth of aircraft movements & passenger traffic ( both domestic international) during the last three years and the estimated growth in the current year (2009-10) are as under:

Year	Aircraft movements	Passengers
2006-07	28.6	31.4
2007-08	21.3	21.2
2008-09	-0.1	-6.8
2009-10	3.4 (estimated)	-2.1 (estimated)

(b) The percentage growth of aircraft movements & passenger traffic ( both domestic & international) in the next three years from 2008-09 as estimated by Airports Authority of India (AAI) are as under:

Year	Aircraft movements	Passengers
2009-10	3.4	-2.1
2010-11	4.8	4.5
2011-12	4.9	5.3

(c) AAI has undertaken upgradation & modernization of 35 non-metro airports in the country in a time bound manner. Development of airports in North East Region is also taken up by AAI on priority basis.

AAI has also undertaken the modernization and expansion of the international airports Chennai at a cost of Rs. 1808 crores and at Kolkata at a cost of Rs. 1942.51 crores.

#### Shifting of Western Railway Headquarters

826. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any request from the Government of Gujarat for shifting the Western Railway Headquarters from Mumbai to Vadodara;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Railways thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) No, Madam. However, demands have been received from various Very Important Persons for shifting the Headquarters of Western Railway from Mumbai in Maharashtra to Gujarat at various

different locations i.e. Ahmedabad; Gandhinagar; Gandhidham; and Vadodara.

(c) The location of a Zonal Railway headquarters is decided on the basis of operational and administrative requirements, without any regional considerations. Moreover, the shifting of a well established office shall also involve transfer of a large number of staff resulting in dislocation of their family set-up and other allied problems. The Western Railway headquarters at Mumbai is working satisfactorily. Any change in the present arrangement is not contemplated.

#### Airport at Kokrajhar

827. SHRI SANSUMAKHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Greenfield Airport at Kokrajhar, Assam;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The site identified by the Government of Assam was inspected by Airports Authority of India (AAI) but not found suitable for construction of airport. Thereafter, two alternate sites were proposed by the State Government for the airport at Kokrajhar, which are being evaluated by AAI.

#### Reserves of Methane Gas

828. SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Methane reserves have been found in Dhudha and Marpa Villages of Balumath block of Latehar District in the State of Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith estimated availability of gas;

(c) whether Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has been engaged for proper utilization of methane gas; 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) No, Sir. One Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Block which extends over two villages, has been awarded to Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC). Exploration activities in the Block are in progress but no Methane reserves have been found so far.

### Mineral Water

829. SHRI MUKESH BHAIKAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are planning to set up mineral water project at Palanpur and at other parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

### Commissioning of New Airport

830. SHRI GUTHA SUKHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposals for commissioning of new Airports in Telangana Region namely Ramagudam, Kothagudem and Adilabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, on the request of State Government of Andhra Pradesh, for development of Regional Greenfield Airports at strategic locations in the State, Airports Authority of India (AAI) has carried out a Feasibility Study of the sites earmarked by the Government of Andhra Pradesh in Ramagudem and Kothagudem and submitted its report to the State Government for taking further necessary action.

[Translation]

### Allotment of Gas Agencies in Bihar

831. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of block headquarters in Bihar where gas agencies have been allotted;

(b) the number of blocks in the State where they are still to be allotted;

(c) the time by which gas agencies are likely to be allotted in the remaining blocks; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to supply gas to the rural customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA):

(a) As on 01.07.2009, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are operating LPG distributorships in 167 Block Head Quarters in the State of Bihar out of 533 Block Head Quarters.

(b) and (c) OMCs have planned to set up new LPG distributorships in 61 more Block Head Quarters in the State of Bihar. The setting up of LPG distributorships is a continuous process and involves identifying of a suitable location, arranging land for setting up of godown and other statutory clearances. It is not possible to indicate any time frame for setting up of LPG distributorships.

(d) In order to increase rural penetration and to cover remote as well as low potential areas, a new scheme is proposed to be implemented. Details of the scheme will be notified shortly.

[English]

### Mumbai High North Redevelopment Plan

832. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

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

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation has decided to go for the second phase of the Mumbai High North Redevelopment Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) time by which the plan is likely to be completed; and

(d) the details including the quantity of the products that would be yielded from the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Yes, Madam. Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has approved the second phase of Mumbai High North Redevelopment Project at an investment of Rs. 7133.39 Crore.

(b) The project includes 6 new platforms, top side modifications of 10 existing well platforms, production facility at WI-4, 73 new wells, 38 side track wells, 26 additional injector wells, installation of 21 Electrical Submersible Pumps (ESP) and 141 km of sub-marine pipeline etc.

(c) The project is scheduled to be completed by September 2012.

(d) The project envisages an incremental oil and gas production of 17.354 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) and 2.987 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) respectively by the year 2030.

### Transportation Charges of Gas

833. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria/norms laid down for fixing transportation charges for transporting gas in different parts of the country;

(b) whether Gujarat State is facing injustice in energy costing by incurring higher transportation cost but paying the same transportation charges as hinterland State in case of gas;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government is considering any proposal of the Gujarat Government to mitigate this hardship;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (e) The gas from onshore/isolated fields in Gujarat is supplied through dedicated regional networks or spur lines to customers in the State. In these cases, transmission tariff is computed on the basis of investment in the respective regional networks or spur lines.

In case of trunk lines, viz., Hazira-Vijaipur-Jagdishpur (HVJ) pipeline and Dahej-Vijaipur pipeline (DVPL), a combined single tariff of Rs.831/mscm (thousand standard cubic metres), with escalation formula, is being followed w.e.f. 1-6-2006 for customers in the country irrespective of their location.

Further, after notification of Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Determination of Natural Gas Pipeline Tariff) Regulations, 2008 by Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) on 20.11.2008, the tariff for transportation of natural gas through pipelines would be determined by PNGRB in accordance with the Regulations.

### Increase in LPG Distribution Centre in Karnataka

834. SHRI G. M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the action proposed by the Government to arrest the crisis of LPG in Karnataka;

(b) whether there is any new proposal to increase the LPG distribution centre in the said State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA):

(a) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that at present, there is no overall shortage of LPG in the country including in the State of Karnataka and LPG supplies to distributors are being made by the OMCs through indigenous production and imports in accordance with the genuine demand of customers registered with the LPG distributors.

(b) and (c) As on 01.06.2009, OMCs are serving 61.61 lakh LPG customers through 485 LPG distributorships in the State of Karnataka, covering about 59.2% of the estimated population. OMCs have finalized a common industry marketing plan covering 62 locations in the State of Karnataka for setting up of new LPG distributorships, mainly in rural and urban-rural (semi-urban) locations. The advertisements for all the locations have been released and selection for the same is in progress as per policy.

### Demand of crude oil

835. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government approaching the Government of Turkey for importing of crude oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total quantity of crude oil will be imported from Turkey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA):

(a) to (c) The Foreign Minister of Turkey, during his visit to India in February 2008, had outlined a proposal for cooperation between Turkey, Israel and India for transportation of crude oil from the Caspian region through the Mediterranean and Red Sea and into India. Briefly, this project envisages transport of crude oil from Ceyhan port in Turkey to Ashkelon port in Israel in the Mediterranean Sea, initially through very large crude carriers (VLCCs) and eventually by laying a sub-sea pipeline. Thereafter, crude oil will be transported through the existing Ashkelon-Eilat pipeline in Israel to Eilat port on the Red Sea. From there, crude oil may be carried to India/other parts of Asia. The project is still in a conceptual stage and requires a detailed feasibility study to establish its techno-commercial viability. A tripartite meeting between Turkey-Israel-India was held in September 2008 at Ankara to discuss conceptual features of the project. Since the project is still at the conceptual stage, the total quantity of crude oil that will be imported from Turkey, cannot be determined at this juncture.

[Translation]

#### Introduction of Bullet Trains

836. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways have any proposal to start Bullet train in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Railways have identified any rail line route to start Bullet train; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir, At present, Ministry of Railways has decided only to conduct pre-feasibility studies for construction of identified high speed passenger corridors equipped with state of the art signaling and train control system. Action in this regard has been initiated.

(c) and (d) Identification of specific route to start high speed passenger trains can be done only after completion of pre-feasibility studies.

[English]

#### Allotment of LPG Dealership in West Bengal

837. SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of applications received by the Union Government from West Bengal for allotment of LPG dealership during each of the last three years;
- (b) the number of persons allotted LPG dealership during the said period;
- (c) the number of applications pending at present; and
- (d) the time by which the pending applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have released advertisement for 83 locations during the last three years in West Bengal. The details are as under:-

Year	Number of locations advertised.
2006-07	00
2007-08	83
2008-09	00

(b) to (d) Out of the 83 locations indicated above, 41 locations are pending for allotment. The selection of LPG distributorships is made by OMCs themselves, in terms of laid down guidelines. The setting up of LPG distributorships is a continuous process and involves identifying of a suitable location, arranging land for setting up of godown and other statutory clearances. It is not possible to indicate any time frame for setting up of LPG distributorships, but every effort is made to do so as quickly as possible.

#### New Delhi Railway Station

838. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have started work for making New Delhi Railway Station to world class standard;
- (b) if so, the progress made so far and the time to be taken to complete the said work;
- (c) the details of other stations where such work has been started;
- (d) whether any foreign companies have been engaged for this work;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether any Indian Companies have been assigned the work of developing some stations as world-class; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (g) For New Delhi Railway Station, various consultancies like architectural-cum technical consultancy, legal consultancy, financial consultancy etc. have been awarded to professional consultants. Some reports have been submitted by the consultant. Matter is under discussion with local authorities like DDA, Jal Board, DUAC, traffic police etc. to sort out related issues and to get their clearances.

For Patna and Mumbai CST Railway station also, architectural cum technical consultancy contracts have been awarded.

[Translation]

#### Loss of Railway Properties

839. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of cases of damage of railway lines/ railway stations/ railway properties by the terrorists/naxalities/anti-social elements brought to the notice of the Government during the last three years till date year-wise and railway zone-wise;

(b) whether each of these cases has been investigated;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the action taken by the Government as per the enquiry report; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Railways to check such incidents and protect the railway property from being damaged ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) The number of cases of damage done to the railway lines/railway stations/ railway properties by the terrorists/naxalites/anti-social elements reported over zonal Railways during the last three calendar years i.e. 2006, 2007, 2008 & current year i.e. 2009 (upto March) are as under :-

Year	Terrorists	Naxalites	Anti-Social
2006	18	28	24
2007	10	42	30
2008	07	27	51
2009 (upto March	02	08	15

Zone-wise Statement is attached.

(b) to (d) Yes, Madam. Since the maintenance of law and order is the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, all such cases are reported to, registered and investigated by the Government Railway Police, which functions under the control of State Government concerned. As such, Ministry of Railways has to depend largely on them for control of crimes over Railways.

(e) The following measures are being taken to improve security arrangements at important and vulnerable railway stations by the Ministry of Railways: -

(1) Installation of Close Circuit Televisions at vulnerable Railway Stations.

(2) Modern security gadgets like Hand Held Metal Detectors, Door Frame Metal Detectors, Entry Scans/X-Rays Machines etc. to strengthen access control at entry/exit points.

(3) Use of Dog Squads at various divisions and railway stations to conduct anti-sabotage checks.

(4) Upgradation of training centers to improve quality of training to Railway Protection Force personnel.

(5) Intensive publicity and public awareness campaigns alerting and educating all passengers/public to remain vigilant against any unidentified/unclaimed suspicious objects lying on platforms, other premises or coaches and to report to RPF/GRP/Railway officials available nearby.

(6) Frequent announcements at all stations alerting passengers to be vigilant about suspicious movement of co-passengers and not to touch any suspicious luggage/ bag especially in general compartments.

(7) Steps to prevent entry of unauthorized persons in trains and in empty coaching rakes at originating/ destination stations, before and after placement in maintenance sidings.

(8) Close co-ordination with GRP / State Police/ Central Intelligence agencies to prevent any untoward incident.

#### **Statement**

##### *Zone-wise Number of Cases*

Railway	2006			2007			2008			2009 (upto March)		
	Terrorists	Naxals	Anti Social	Terrorists	Naxals	Anti Social	Terrorists	Naxals	Anti Social	Terrorists	Naxals	Anti Social
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
CR	—	—	—	—	—	—	01	—	—	—	—	—
ER	—	02	07	—	05	06	—	05	07	—	01	02
ECR	—	10	11	—	09	03	—	04	17	—	02	01
ECoR	—	08	—	—	21	00	—	15	—	—	01	—
NR	01	—	—	01	—	03	—	—	07	—	—	—
NCR	—	—	—	—	—	06	—	—	05	—	—	01

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
NER	—	—	01	—	—	06	—	—	01	—	—	—
NFR	10	—	—	09	—	02	06	—	01	02	—	03
NWR	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
SR	—	—	—	—	—	02	—	—	04	—	—	—
SCR	—	02	03	—	—	02	—	—	05	—	—	07
SER	—	05	—	—	07	—	—	03	—	—	04	—
SECR	—	01	—	—	—	—	—	—	01	—	—	—
SWR	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
WR	07	—	02	—	—	—	—	—	02	—	—	01
WCR	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	01	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>15</b>

[English]

**Construction of Rail Over Bridges**

840. SHRI BALIRAM JADHAV:  
SHRI GANESHRAO NAGORAO DUDHGAONKAR:  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of road over-bridges and road under-bridges which are under construction in different States as on date, project-wise;

(b) the details of proposals sent by the State Governments for construction of ROB/RUBs at level crossings;

(c) the steps taken by the Railways thereon; and

(d) the funds allocated for construction of such bridges during the last three years, project-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) 710 Rail over/under bridges are sanctioned by Zonal Railways on cost sharing basis falling in various States.

(b) and (c) 102 new proposals as shown below, have been forwarded by Zonal Railways as sponsored by different States. These proposals have been included in the Railways Budget 2009-10. The details are as under:

Maharashtra	4	West Bengal	5	Orissa	11
UP	12	Punjab	11	Haryana	7
Tamil Nadu	3	Karnataka	23	Andhra Pradesh	9
Jharkhand	1	Chhattisgarh	3	Gujarat	8
Madhya Pradesh	4	Rajasthan	1		

(d) Funds are allocated Zone-wise. Funds allocated for ROB/RUB projects during last three years are as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Rly.	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
CR	12.04	11.85	15
ER	29.84	25.42	40
ECR	147.50	122.95	140
ECoR	23.00	33.55	31
NR	47.18	37.60	30
NCR	17.85	15.30	15
NER	13.07	11.50	10
NFR	5.94	8.48	42
NWR	13.04	17.32	35
SR	23.80	60.31	80
SCR	14.06	66.33	36
SER	9.67	15.20	25
SECR	16.29	37.37	82
SWR	29.20	49.10	60
WR	26.23	28.21	23
WCR	8.12	10.29	36

**Captive iron ore mines for VSP**

841. SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited does not have its own captive mines for iron ore for its Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP);

(b) whether in the absence of captive iron ore mines VSP is suffering heavy financial losses and is required to procure iron ore from other sources at exorbitant price;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL) has to procure its entire iron ore requirements from external sources at prevailing price due to which its per tonne cost of production of steel is higher as compared to other plants which have captive iron ore mines. Despite this higher cost of production, RINL has posted a profit of around Rs.1300 crore during 2008-09.

(d) RINL has been applying for iron ore mining leases with the State Governments owning these fields. Ministry of Steel has also been taking up with Ministry of Mines and respective State Governments for allotment of iron ore mines to RINL. But these efforts have not borne any fruit so far. The Government has arrived at an option to form strategic partnership of RINL with other companies possessing their own captive iron ore mines as an alternative solution.

[Translation]

#### Profit/Loss of SAIL

842. SHRI RAVINDER KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the profit/loss earned by the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and its subsidiaries particularly the Bokaro Steel Plant during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the quantum of steel produced by SAIL and its subsidiaries during the period; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to make them profit making units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP) (a) The profit earned by the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and all its subsidiaries particularly the Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) during the last three years is as under:-

	(Rs. in Crores)		
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
SAIL Profit before Tax	9422	11469	9403
Profit after Tax	6202	7537	6175
MEL*Profit before Tax	28	56	62
Profit after Tax	19	36	41
BSL Profit before Tax	2737	2830	1293

(\* Maharashtra Elektros melt Ltd. - Subsidiary of SAIL)

(b) Production of saleable steel by SAIL and its subsidiaries during last three years and the current year (April-June'09) is as follows:

(Unit : 000T)			
2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (April-June)
12581	13044	12503	3064

(MEL produces Ferro-alloys)

(c) During the last four years SAIL & MEL have been making profits.

[English]

#### Patan-Bhiladi missing link

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

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has sent a proposal to Union Government for construction of Patan-Bhiladi missing link;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Rail Vikas Nigam Limited propose to start the work on this project;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the construction of missing link between Patan-Bhiladi is a dedicated freight corridor between Pipavav, Surendarnagar, Virmagam, Mahesana, Patan, Bhiladi up to Bhatinda is feasible; and

(f) if so, the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Minister of Revenue, Disaster Management, Road & Building; Capital Project, Women and Child Welfare, Government of Gujarat had sent a letter in February, 2008



requesting for 10 new rail lines in Gujarat. Construction of new line between Patan-Bhildi was one of them. This work is part of sanctioned project from Bhildi to Viramgam.

(c) and (d) This work is not entrusted to Rail Vikas Nigam Limited. The work is being executed by Western Railway. The work of land acquisition and major bridges have been taken up.

(e) Patan-Bhildi is not a part of Dedicated Freight Corridor.

(f) Does not arise.

#### **Bio-diesel refinery in Orissa**

844. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a bio-diesel refinery in Orissa under private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which this unit would help to promote cultivation of Jatropha in this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETRO-LEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA):  
(a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal with the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Disposal of Court Cases**

845. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases disposed of by various Lower Courts, High Courts and the Supreme Court during each of the last three years till date; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government for speedy disposal of pending cases in courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) : (a) As per the information received, the number of cases disposed of by various courts are as follows

Court\Year	2006	2007	2008
Supreme Court	56540	61957	67464
High Courts	1440354	1497086	1458168
Subordinate Courts	15811027	16670572	16548251

(b) The Government has taken various measures to facilitate speedy disposal of cases in courts:

- (1) Government reviews the Judges strength in High Courts periodically and ensures prompt filling up of vacancies so that administration of Justice does not suffer from inadequate number of Judges. On the basis of these reviews, 163 posts of Judges have been created in various High Courts. The strength of Judges in the Supreme Court has been increased from 26 to 31.
- (2) Government introduced a scheme of 'Fast Track Courts' which has been extended upto 31.3.2010. As per the information received, 25.07 lakh cases have been disposed of by these courts out of 31.01 lakh cases transferred to them.
- (3) Some legislative measures have also been introduced for improvement in judicial procedure and for expediting disposal of civil and criminal cases in courts. The Civil Procedure Code and Criminal Procedure Code have been amended and the concept of 'Plea-Bargaining' has been introduced.
- (4) Alternative modes of disposal including mediation, negotiation and arbitration have been encouraged.
- (5) Other measures like grouping of cases involving common questions of law, constitution of specialized benches, setting up of special courts and organizing Lok Adalats at regular intervals have also been taken.
- (6) Steps have also been taken for modernization of the judicial infrastructure through computerization of courts. Government is implementing a scheme for computerization of District & Subordinate Courts and for upgradation of the Information and Communication Technology infrastructure of the Supreme Court and the High Courts.
- (7) Government has enacted the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 (Act 4 of 2009) which provides for establishment of nearly 5067 Gram Nyayalayas.

#### **Circulation of Fake Gas Cylinders**

846. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether complaints have been received by the Government about circulation of a large number of fake gas cylinders in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of such cases detected during the last three years and current year, year-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check circulation of fake cylinders in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have not reported instances of large scale circulation of fake LPG cylinders in the country. However, there have been some instances when spurious cylinders were detected by the OMCs at the distributors' premises. During the years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and April - May, 2009, OMCs have detected 156 number of spurious cylinders in the country. The year-wise and state-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) OMCs are procuring LPG cylinders from cylinder manufacturers who are approved by the Oil Industry Technical Committee (OITC) and have valid manufacturing licences from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and the Chief Controller of Explosives (CCOE). Strict control is exercised by BIS over the manufacturing process. LPG cylinders procured by OMCs meet the required quality standards.

LPG cylinders received from distributors/transporters at the bottling plants are mandatorily checked for quality and genuineness to avoid the entry of fake and outlived cylinders in circulation. On detection of sub-standard / spurious cylinders, these are confiscated and thereafter de-shaped/crushed to prevent their re-entry into circulation.

Apart from the legal action which could be taken against any supplier of spurious LPG equipment, in case any distributor is found in possession of spurious equipment or inducts such equipment in the distribution system, Marketing Discipline Guidelines provide, inter-alia, for confiscation of equipment, imposition of fine and recovery at penal rates for the first and second offences and termination of distributorship in the event of a third offence.

#### **Statement**

*State-wise number of Spurious LPG, Cylinders detected by OMCs during the years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and April-May, 2009*

State/UT	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	April-May, 2009
Andhra Pradesh	-	19	4	-
Gujarat	-	-	2	-
Madhya Pradesh	-	-	80	1
Maharashtra	6	-	-	-
Orissa	32	-	-	-
Rajasthan	-	2	2	-
Uttar Pradesh	-	6	2	-
Total	38	27	90	1

[English]

#### **Decline in Production of Fertilizers**

847. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sharp decline in the production of fertilizers during the first quarter of the current financial year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any target has been fixed to achieve higher production in the next five years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to achieve the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (e) No Sir. There is no decline in the production of fertilizers during the first quarter of the current year. Details of production of major fertilizers during the first quarter (April-June 09) as compared to corresponding period of previous year are given below:-

Product	(in LMT)	
	April-June 09	April-June 08
Urea	45.89	45.89
DAP	13.53	8.84
Complex	16.21	13.61

The targets fixed for Urea, DAP & Complexes for the year 2009-10 are 216.32 LMT, 36.62 LMT and 83.05 LMT respectively. Department of Fertilizers is having constant interaction with Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, GAIL & other prospective suppliers of NG/LNG so that gas requirement of the fertilizers industry is met adequately. In case of Phosphatic fertilizer, the prices of inputs/raw material/ Intermediates have declined in the international market. The companies are entering into contracts for procuring these inputs. Further, Department of Fertilizer has permitted SPIC-Tuticorin to enter into production and marketing arrangement with MCF-Mangalore.

[Translation]

#### **Processing of Fruits and Vegetables**

848. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a little quantity of fruits and vegetables is processed in the country;

(b) if so, the potential of each State including Maharashtra in the processing of the fruits and vegetables; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for promoting the food processing industry in the country?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) : (a) to (c) The level of processing of fruits & vegetables in the country is estimated at 2.20%. The installed capacity of fruits and vegetables processing units licensed under Fruit Products Order (FPO), 1955 in the country has increased from 26.80 lakhs tones as on 01.01.08 to 30.89 lakhs tones as on 01.01.09. Total number of fruit and vegetable processing units in the country registered with FPO, 1955 are 5166 and out of which 1048 fruit and vegetable processing units are in Maharashtra. As per Ministry of Small Scale Industries and Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, total number of food processing units in the country were 17.873 lakhs upto 2005-06, out of which 2.713 lakhs units were registered and 15.16 lakhs units were unregistered. A Statement indicating state-wise fruit and vegetable processing units licensed under FPO 1955 in the country is enclosed.

In order to increase level of processing and to promote food processing industries to exploit both the domestic and international market potential for processed food products, Vision 2015 Document has been finalized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI), which envisages tripling the size of the processed food sector by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20% value addition from 20% 35% and share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by 2015. An integrated strategy for promotion of agribusiness-Vision, Strategy and Action Plan for the Food Processing Sector has also been approved by the Government. There has been increase in substantial rate of growth of the food processing industry from 7% in 2003-04 to 13.14 % in 2006-07.

The Government, through its 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. Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) has been implementing various schemes for promotion and development of food processing industries in the country. Under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/ Modernization/ Establishment of Food Processing Industries, MFPI extends financial assistance to food processing units in the form of grant-in-aid @ 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works

subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 lakh in general area or 33.33% subject to maximum of Rs. 75.00 lakh in difficult areas such as Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and North Eastern States, A&N Islands, Lakshadweep and ITDP areas. In addition, under the Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern and Himalayan States, higher levels of assistance @ 50% upto Rs. 4.00 crore for setting up and Rs. 1.00 crore for Upgradation of fruit and vegetables processing is available. MFPI has also been implementing various other Plan schemes for promotion and development of food processing industries in the country. Under these schemes, financial assistance in the form of grant in aid is provided for development of infrastructure, human resource development, promotion of quality assurance and research & development and other promotional measures to encourage development of the food processing industries. Under the scheme of strengthening of institutions, the various development activities have been undertaken in the area of Human Resource Development including food processing sector such as grapes, meat and poultry processing, through setting up of National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM), Indian Grape Processing Board, National Meat and Poultry Processing Board and upgradation of Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology (IICPT).

In order to give boost to growth of FPI sector, the Government has allowed under Income Tax Act, a deduction of 100% of profit for five years and 25% of profits for the next five years in case of new agro processing industries set up to process, preserve and package fruits and vegetables. Fruit & vegetable products are already exempted from payment of excise duty. A National Horticulture Mission has been launched with an objective to boost the horticulture sector.

#### Statement

*Details indicating state-wise fruit and vegetable processing units (licensed under FPO 1955) as on 01.01.2009.*

S.No.	Name of State	No. of units
1	2	3
1.	Delhi	209
2.	Chandigarh	10
3.	Rajasthan	106
4.	Haryana	166
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	77
6.	Punjab	230
7.	Himachal Pradesh	116
8.	Uttar Pradesh	485

1	2	3
9.	Uttarakhand	129
10.	Maharashtra	1048
11.	Goa	42
12.	Madhya Pradesh	113
13.	Chhattisgarh	6
14.	Gujarat	305
15.	Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman Diu	7
16.	Andhra Pradesh	296
17.	Karnataka	328
18.	Kerala	445
19.	Tamil Nadu	544
20.	Pondicherry	9
21.	West Bengal	308
22.	Jharkhand	28
23.	Bihar	43
24.	Orissa	20
25.	Andaman and Nicobar	2
26.	Assam	46
27.	Meghalaya	10
28.	Sikkim	4
29.	Arunachal Pradesh	2
30.	Mizoram	3
31.	Tripura	7
32.	Manipur	16
33.	Nagaland	6
34.	Lakshadweep Islands	0
Total		5166

Source : Food Safety & Standards Authority of India

[English]

#### Flights from Amreli to Surat and Mumbai

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

(a) whether there is a proposal to start flights from Amreli to Surat and Mumbai; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) No such proposal is with the Government. The Amreli airport is a non-operational airport and belongs to State Government.

#### Construction of Level Crossings

[Translation]

850. SHRI LALCHAND KATARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposai received by the Railways from various State Governments including Rajasthan for construction of level crossing during the last three years;

(b) the details of the proposals approved by the Railways, so far State-wise; and

(c) the status of the approved projects as well as funds provided/likely to be provided for execution of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) Railway have received thirteen proposals for construction of level crossings from State Governments including one proposai from Steel Authority of India Limited. No proposai has been received from the State Government of Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) As per existing rules crossings are made in consultation with the State Government at the time of laying a new line or within 10 years from the date of its commissioning to traffic. Thereafter, any accommodation work such as level crossing can be provided at a technically suitable location on deposit terms, if such a proposai is sponsored by the State Government/Local bodies duly agreeing to bear the initial cost of construction of the level crossing and one time capitalized cost of recurring maintenance and operational charges.

Sl.No.	State	Proposal received	Status
1	2	3	4
01	Bihar	01	Completed at location between Bhagalpur and Nathnagar.
02	West Bengal	02	01- Work in Progress, between Baruipur and Kalyanpur. 01- Funds awaited from State Government.
03	Karnataka	01	Completed on Secunrabad-Wadi section at Chittapur.

1	2	3	4
04	Maharashtra	03	Funds awaited from State Government.
05	Orissa	01	Funds awaited from State Government.
06	Madhya Pradesh	01	Funds awaited from State Government.
07	SAIL/West Bengal	01	Funds awaited from Steel Authority of India Limited between Dankuni and Bhattanagar.
08	Punjab	02	01- Rs.09 lakhs has been deposited and balance amount is awaited for LDH-JHL section. 01- Construction work is awarded for LDH-FZR section.
09	Haryana	01	Funds awaited from State Government.

\*No proposal of level crossings has been received from other States.

### **Increase in Prices of Fertilizers**

851. SHRI K.D. DESHMUKH:  
SHRI KAMAL KISHOR 'COMMANDO':  
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of fertilizers are constantly increasing in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government is aware and has received complaints about adulteration and blackmarketing of fertilizers and sale of spurious pesticides in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of people arrested for being involved in such activities during the last three years; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check adulteration and black-marketing of fertilizers and sale of spurious pesticides and contain the fertilizer prices in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) :  
(a) and (b) The Maximum Retail Prices (MRPs) of subsidized fertilizers in the country has remained constant for the last more than six years. Rather, indicative MRPs of complex fertilizers subsidized under the Concession Scheme of Government of India have been reduced with effect from 18th June, 2008.

(c) to (e) Under Clause 21 of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 (FCO), it is mandatory to print the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) on the bags of fertilizer and no person is permitted to sell the material above the statutory/indicative

price. The State Governments are adequately empowered under the provisions of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 to check such activities. Any violation of the provisions of the FCO, 1985 attracts penal/administrative action under the Essential Commodities Act 1955/FCO, 1985. State Governments have been advised to prevent such malpractices and ensure that the farmers are provided with proper quality of fertilizers at statutory/indicative price.

[English]

### **Refining capacity of refineries in Tamil Nadu**

852. SHRI T.R. BAALU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to augment the refining capacity of existing refineries in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the total existing refining capacity in the State and the sources of supply of crude to these refineries;

(c) whether Indian Oil Corporation has proposal to set up a mega grass root refinery at Ennore in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA):  
(a) Yes, Sir. By the end of 11th Five Year Plan, the refining capacity of the existing refinery i.e. Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited in the State of Tamil Nadu is expected to increase from 10.5 million metric tones per annum (MMTPA) to 12.2 MMTPA.

(b) The total existing refining capacity of Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited (CPCL), a group company of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) in the State of Tamil Nadu is 10.5 MMTPA. The crude is being sourced from both indigenous as well as sources abroad.

(c) and (d) At present, there is no specific proposal for setting up mega grass root refinery at Ennore in Tamil Nadu by IOCL.

#### **Setting up of Petroleum and Natural Gas Appellate Tribunal**

853. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up or propose to set up a Petroleum and Natural Gas appellate tribunal to hear appeals against the orders and decisions of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board; 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) As per the provisions of Section 30 of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006, the Appellate Tribunal established under section 110 of the Electricity Act, 2003, is also the Appellate Tribunal for the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board. Section 30 also provides for appointment of one or more Technical Members (Petroleum and Natural Gas) to the Appellate Tribunal. A Technical Member (Petroleum and Natural Gas) was appointed on 25th June 2007.

#### **Expansion of SAIL and RINL**

854. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI B. MAHTAB:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to continue the expansion programme of Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL);

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years company-wise;

(c) whether the demand of steel is likely to be met by the expansion of Rourkela Steel Plant and other steel plants:

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has fixed any strategic priority for the newly set up overseas coal ventures; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Both the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and the Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) are in the process of implemen-

ting their expansion programmes. The production of hot metal in SAIL is proposed to be increased from the present level of 14.4 million tonnes per annum to 23.46 million tonnes per annum and the production of liquid steel in RINL is proposed to be increased from the present level of 3.0 million tonnes per annum to 6.3 million tonnes per annum. The cumulative expenditure incurred by SAIL and RINL during the last three years (2006-07 to 2008-09) are Rs.3799 crores and Rs. 4041 crores respectively.

(c) and (d) As part of the overall expansion of SAIL, the hot metal production of Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) will increase from a level of 2.12 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) to 4.5 million tonnes per annum (MTPA).

(e) and (f) A joint venture company viz. International Coal Ventures Private Limited (ICVL) has been set up with Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), Coal India Limited (CIL), Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) as the promoters for the purpose of securing metallurgical and thermal coal assets in the overseas territories with the following objectives:

- (i) To ensure supply of imported metallurgical coal, of at least 10% of the 2019-20 requirements of steel Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).
- (ii) To be an owner of about 500 million tonnes of metallurgical coal reserves by 2019-20; and
- (iii) To meet the requirements and to serve the organizational aspirations of other participating companies like GIL, NTPC and NMDC by providing a facility for enhancing and leveraging their domain knowledge and human capital for international mining business development and also for procuring high quality thermal coal for companies like NTPC.

For achieving long term security in supply of metallurgical and thermal coal, ICVL has identified Australia, New Zealand, Mozambique, Indonesia, USA and Canada as countries for possible sourcing of raw material.

#### **Oil and Gas Pilferage from pipelines**

855. DR. K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of oil and gas pilferage from pipelines came to the notice of the Government and the loss suffered due to this during the last three years;

(b) the action taken against offenders during the period;

(c) whether the Government proposes to amend the existing law to make it more stringent with provisions of deterrent punishment for offenders engaged in pilferage and sabotage of petroleum and gas pipelines operated at high pressure for transportation of oil and natural gas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA):

(a) The number of cases of oil and gas pilferage/attempted pilferage from pipelines is 311 and loss incurred during the last three years as reported by the Oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) is Rs.14.32 crore.

(b) It has been reported that for each case of attempted pilferage, FIRs have been lodged with the respective Police Stations. In some of the cases, the offenders have been apprehended at site and are kept in Police custody for further necessary action. The cases are pursued by the concerned PSUs with State Administration and Police Authorities at different levels.

(c) and (d) The Petroleum Federation of India, an organization set up to promote the interests of the Petroleum Industry has requested the Government for suitable amendment in the provisions of Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Act, 1962 to make it more stringent with provisions of deterrent punishment for offenders engaged in pilferage and sabotage of petroleum and gas pipelines.

#### Offloading of equity in BHEL

856. SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI:  
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to offload ten per cent of its equity stake in the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the BHEL has entered into an agreement with Indian Railways for supply of stainless steels EMU coaches on a long term basis besides a number of other agreements for setting up Power Generation Units;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the likely effect of the Government's cut in its stake in and fulfilling the commitments of the BHEL?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No, Madam. However, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has made a proposal to Indian Railways for entering into an agreement with them for supply of stainless steel-EMU coaches on a long term basis. The said proposal is presently with the Railway Board.

(e) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

#### New Railway line between Jeypore to Malkangiri

857. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal for laying new railway line between Jeypore to Malkangiri;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work on this line is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The survey for new line from Jeypore to Malkangiri was completed in 2004-05. The cost of 130 Km long line was assessed as Rs. 562 crore.

(c) Does not arise as project is not sanctioned.

#### Vacant Post of Judges in High Courts

858. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of vacant posts of judges at present in each of the High Courts in the country;

(b) the names of High Courts which are yet to initiate proposals for filling up the posts that fell vacant in 2007 so far; and

(c) the total number of proposal received in this regard and cleared during the last six months?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) A Statement containing the total number of vacant posts of judges as on 30.6.2009 in each of the High Courts in the country is enclosed.

(b) High Courts of Allahabad, Andhra Pradesh, Bombay, Calcutta, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala and Punjab & Haryana are yet to initiate proposals for filling up all the posts that were vacant in 2007.

(c) Receipt of proposals for filling up the vacant posts is a continuous process. During the period from 01.01.2009 to 30.06.2009 70 vacant posts of Judges/Additional Judges

were filled up through fresh appointments. At present, proposals for appointment of 42 Judges in various High Courts are under consideration of the Government.

**Statement**

*Approved strength, Working strength and vacancies of Judges in the High Courts as on 30.06.2009*

Sl.No.	Name of the Court	Approved Strength			Working Strength			Vacancies as per Approved Strength		
		Pmt.	Addl.	Total	Pmt.	Addl.	Total	Pmt.	Addl.	Total
<b>High Court</b>										
1	Allahabad	76	84	160	57	31	88	19	53	72
2	Andhra Pradesh	33	16	49	26	4	30	7	12	19
3	Bombay	48	27	75	47	19	66	1	8	9
4	Calcutta	45	13	58	41	0	41	4	13	17
5	Chhattisgarh	6	12	18	5	5	10	1	7	8
6	Delhi	29	19	48	29	15	44	-	4	4
7	Gauhati	17	7	24	16	5	21	1	2	3
8	Gujarat	29	13	42	27	-	27	2	13	15
9	Himachal Pradesh	7	4	11	8	2	10	-1	2	1
10	Jammu & Kashmir	9	5	14	7	4	11	2	1	3
11	Jharkhand	10	10	20	10	4	14	-	6	6
12	Karnataka	33	8	41	30	8	38	3	-	3
13	Kerala	27	11	38	21	12	33	6	-1	5
14	Madhya Pradesh	32	11	43	31	6	37	1	5	6
15	Madras	45	15	60	28	28	56	17	-13	4
16	Orissa	17	5	22	14	2	16	3	3	6
17	Patna	29	14	43	17	6	23	12	8	20
18	Punjab & Haryana	38	30	68	36	10	46	2	20	22
19	Rajasthan	32	8	40	27	3	30	5	5	10
20	Sikkim	3	0	3	3	0	3	-	0	-
21	Uttarakhand	9	0	9	8	0	8	1	0	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>234</b>

[Translation]

**AMB-Andaura to Daulatpur Railway Line**

859. SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction of rail line from Amb-Andaura to Daulatpur chowk section is being delayed due to the shortage of funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Railways to provide the funds for timely execution of the above project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) to (c) A sum of Rs.



25 crore has been provided for the project during 2009-10. Railways have huge throwforward of ongoing projects with limited availability of funds. The projects are being progressed as per available resources.

[English]

#### **Udhampur-Baramulla Rail Project**

860. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether execution work at Katra-Qazigund Section of Udhampur-Baramulla rail project has been stopped since July 2008;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Expert Committee constituted to find out engineering solution to solve the problem has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether railways have to acquire additional land in addition to land already acquired as per earlier survey; and

(f) if so, the details of expenditure made so far for land acquisition and additional financial expenditure to be borne by the railways due to change in alignment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Work from Km 30 to Km 144 of Katra-Qazigund section of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail project has been temporarily suspended since July 2008 due to certain technical issues.

(c) and (d) Yes, Madam. The Expert Committee has recently submitted its report and the report is under examination.

(e) and (f) A sum of Rs. 624.88 crore has been paid towards land acquisition for the project so far.

#### **World Class Railway Stations**

861. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal to develop railway stations of metros, mini metros and important tourist centres into a world class railway stations in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The Details are being worked out and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### **Gauge conversion from Gorakhpur to Gonda**

862. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal to convert meter gauge to broad gauge from Gorakhpur to Gonda in Uttar Pradesh;

(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) Yes, Madam. On Gonda-Gorakhpur, Anandnagar-Nautanwa gauge conversion project, most of the work on Gorakhpur-Anandnagar-Nautanwa (81.28 km) section has been completed. The converted route will be commissioned after completion of residual works and inspection of Commissioner of Railway Safety. On the balance portion of Anandnagar-Gonda section (178.89 km), earthwork, bridgework etc. have been taken up.

[English]

#### **Drilling/Exploration of crude oil and natural gas**

863. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any drilling/exploration operations for Crude and Natural Gas are taking place in Mahanadi basin and offshore of Mahanadi; and

(b) if so, the present status of such drilling/exploration projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In Mahanadi Basin, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Private/Joint Venture Companies have acquired 38,404 Kilometre of 2D seismic and 34,046 Square Kilometre of 3D seismic data (as on 1.4.2009). In addition, 22 exploratory wells were drilled by ONGC and Private/Joint Venture Companies in Mahanadi offshore, resulting in 11 hydrocarbon discoveries.

#### **New Air Cargo Terminal at Vadodara Airport**

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct new Air Cargo terminal at Vadodara Airport; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir. However, there are presently facilities available for Cargo handling which meet current requirements.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Anti-Adulterant in Kerosene**

865. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:  
SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA:

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

(a) whether anti-adulterant in kerosene poses cancer threat;

(b) if so, whether the families using kerosene would be exposed to cancer causing fumes from markers that will be laced with the fuel to check diversion;

(c) if so, whether the Government has conducted any study in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the corrective measures 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) With effect from 01 Jan, 2009 no marker is used in kerosene. The proposals received to select new marker system are under evaluation.

(c) and (d) Do not arise, in view of reply to parts (a) & (b) above.

(e) As a precautionary measure relating to possible health hazard and also from toxicological point of view with regard to usage of marker in kerosene a specific requirement is kept in the tenders which specifies that the Marker should be occupationally and toxicologically safe. Vendors must provide Material Safety Data Sheets. It has further been decided by the Oil Marketing Companies to get the expert opinion & toxicological study done on the technically qualified markers at the national institutes, namely ITRC, Lucknow or NIOH, Ahmedabad.

#### **Payment of Royalties**

866. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will be the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to introduce a new system for paying royalty on crude oil and gas to the Government by oil companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated revenue likely to be earned by the Government therefrom;

(d) whether the Government has received any representations from the State Governments in this regard, and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA):

(a) No. Sir.

(b) to (e) Doesn't arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Opening of Retail Petrol/Diesel Outlets**

867. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:  
SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU

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

(a) the total number of petrol/diesel outlets in the country, location-wise, company-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether the oil marketing companies including Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOC) have any proposal to set up more such outlets in the States including Maharashtra during the year 2009-2010 and modernize old retail outlets;

(c) If so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which these outlets are likely to be opened?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA):

(a) The total number of 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) in the country, company-wise and State-wise are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) OMCs propose to set up 2263 number of ROs throughout the country including 222 ROs in Maharashtra, during the year 2009-10. Modernization of retail outlets is an ongoing activity based on the requirement of the customers, sales potential of the locations, availability of adequate space and subject to receipt of all statutory approvals.

(d) OMCs have reported that it is difficult to indicate a definite time-frame for commissioning of RO dealerships/

LPG Distributorships as the process of setting up of retail outlet dealerships/LPG distributorships involves various steps such as release of advertisements, scrutiny of applications and documents, holding of interviews of the eligible candidates for selection of dealers/distributors,

release of merit panels, field investigation in respect of selected candidates, issue of Letter of Intent, obtaining of various approvals/No Objection Certificates from various statutory authorities, etc.

### Statement

*State-wise and company-wise number of petrol/diesel outlets as on 01.04.2009*

SNo.	State/UTs	IOC	BPC	HPC	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	1429	723	769	2921
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	46	1	0	47
3	Assam	447	22	61	530
4	Bihar	911	306	249	1466
5	Chhattisgarh	217	150	142	509
6	Delhi	200	105	96	401
7	Goa	21	39	32	92
8	Gujarat	928	439	411	1778
9	Haryana	911	257	363	1531
10	Himachal Pradesh	164	52	67	283
11	Jammu & Kashmir	184	91	103	378
12	Jharkhand	342	156	168	666
13	Karnataka	1172	532	556	2260
14	Kerala	769	388	481	1638
15	Madhya Pradesh	781	483	379	1643
16	Maharashtra	1241	1035	902	3178
17	Manipur	54	2	0	56
18	Meghalaya	98	6	18	122
19	Mizoram	20	0	2	22
20	Nagaland	42	3	2	47
21	Orissa	509	245	175	929
22	Punjab	1453	547	652	2652
23	Rajasthan	1126	551	666	2343
24	Sikkim	14	12	3	29
25	Tamil Nadu	1423	793	753	2969

1	2	3	4	5	6
26	Tripura	41	0	0	41
27	Uttar Pradesh	2386	929	947	4262
28	Uttarakhand	188	78	100	366
29	West Bengal	926	411	387	1724
30	Andaman & Nicobar	7	0	0	7
31	Chandigarh	22	10	11	43
32	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	8	1	3	12
33	Daman & DIU	10	3	5	18
34	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
35	Pondicherry	50	19	36	105
	Total	18140	8389	8539	35068

[English]

#### Gauge conversion between Mehsana to Taranga

868. SHRI MUKESH BHAIKAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- the present status of gauge conversion work between Mehsana to Taranga (Western Railways);
- whether the Railways have fixed any target date for the completion of the said work; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The gauge conversion of Mehsana -Taranga Hill is not sanctioned.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Resumption of Services at Warangal Airport

869. SHRI GUTHA SUKHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- whether the Government of India received any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding to expedite resumption of air services at Warangal Airport;
- if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Airport Authority of India has signed an MoU with the Government of Andhra Pradesh; and
- if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Airports Authority of India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP) on 30.03.2007 for the development of Warangal Airport in phases, initially for the operation of ATR-72 type of aircraft and subsequently for B-737-800/A-321 type of aircraft operation. A Master Plan has been sent to GoAP for acquiring and handing over 438 acres of land free of cost to AAI for taking up the development works at Warangal Airport.

#### Green Field Electric Locomotive Rail Factory

870. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- whether the Railways propose to set up green field electric locomotive rail factory in the country;
- if so, the location identified therefor;
- the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;
- the number of persons likely to be provided jobs in the said factory; and
- the time by which the said factory is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. A green field electric locomotive factory is proposed to be set

up at Madhepura, Bihar at an estimated cost of Rs. 1293.57 crores. Presently, it is not feasible to indicate the number of persons likely to be provided jobs in the factory or the date of completion of the project since land acquisition is still in progress.

#### **Surat-Hazira Railway Line**

871. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the development work of Surat-Hazira Railway line is under consideration by the Railways;

(b) if so, the status of the line;

(c) the financial contribution of different stake holders/companies for this project;

(d) whether the Railways allocate more funds to Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL); and

(e) if so, the details of the amount allocated to (RVNL) during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Surat-Hazira new line is a port connectivity project which was handed over to Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. (RVNL), a PSU under Ministry of Railways, for further development. On being approached by RVNL, Govt. of Gujarat vide resolution No. GID-102007-1213-G dated 10.06.2009 has frozen the alignment of Surat-Hazira rail line project. To review the progress of the implementation of this project and to facilitate fast implementation, Govt. of Gujarat has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, Govt. of Gujarat. RVNL is working out the cost of the frozen alignment and its bankability and will process the case for sanctioning of the project.

(c) Financial contribution among different stakeholders/companies will be decided on completion of the project development and establishment of its bankability. Presently Govt. of Gujarat, Essar Steel Ltd. and Hazira Port Pvt. Ltd. have shown interest in equity participation.

(d) and (e) An amount of Rs 1420.00 crore has been proposed for RVNL in Railway Budget 2009-10.

#### **Stoppage of passenger trains**

872. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received a large number of representations from the people of Davangere District in Karnataka providing a stoppage for Hubli-Bangalore Passenger Train at Huchhavvanahalli Village near Mayakonda railway station in Davangere district, Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken thereon; and

(c) the time by which the said stoppage is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) A representation has been received for stoppage of Bangalore-Hubli train at Huchhavvanahalli village near Mayakonda station on Harihar-Chikkajajur section by providing a new halt station. The request has been examined and not considered operationally justified.

#### **Hike in Prices of Drugs**

873. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has permitted drug companies to raise price of 285 brands of packaged drugs;

(b) if so, whether the prices of anti-bacterial doxycycline, insulin, multi-vitamin syrup and human insulin brands had gone up by 15 to 29%;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether these drugs come under the price ceiling of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority; and

(e) if so, the details of medicines whose prices have not been raised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (e) Under the provisions of the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1995 the prices of 74 bulk drugs, included in its schedule and the formulations containing any of these scheduled drugs, are controlled. NPPA/Government fixes or revises prices of scheduled drugs/formulations as per the provisions of the DPCO, 1995 which is a continuous process. Prices of 285 formulation packs were fixed/revised by the NPPA on 12.03.2009. The list of 285 formulation packs included 6 cases of formulations imported in finished form, 25 cases of new formulation packs, 28 cases of price revision and 226 cases of first time price fixation on suo-motto basis. Prices revision cases include both downward and upward revision.

Out of 28 cases of price revision, there were 12 cases of upward price revision of Insulin/Human Insulin formulations where the increase ranged from 14.56% to 17.08%, one case of Doxycycline formulation with an increase of 26.22% and one case of Multivitamin syrup with an increase

of 26.15%. The increase in prices were mainly due to change in Conversion Cost (CC), Packing Charges (PC) & Packing Material (PM) norms and bulk drug rates. The price in respect one pack of combination of Trimnethoprim + Sulphamethoxazole tablet was reduced. In addition, prices were also revised downward in two cases of imported formulations namely Multivitamin tablet and Methyl Prednisolone tablet. Insulin formulations fall under the category of non-ceiling price, whereas the other two cases, Doxycycline and Multivitamin syrup are covered under the category of ceiling price.

[Translation]

#### **Ballarshah-Alapalli-Surjagad Railway Line**

874. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have conducted any survey for laying Ballarshah-Alapalli-Surjagad railway line;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) to (c) The survey for construction of a new Broad Gauge line from Ballarshah to Surjagad (Etapalli) (130 km) has been taken up. The survey is expected to be completed during the year 2009-10.

[English]

#### **Security to Investors**

875. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the companies raising money through secured bonds/debentures very often do not comply with the requirement of submitting the required documents creating insecurity amongst the investors;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government for the effective enforcement of the rules 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) No Sir. The companies raising money through secured bonds/debentures are regulated by SEBI (Issue and Listing of Debt Securities) Regulations, 2008, SEBI (Debenture Trustee) Regulations, 1993 and SEBI (Disclosure and Investor Protection (DIP) Guidelines. Under these regulations, any company issuing debt securities to

the public has to be mandatorily listed and draft offer documents are to be filed with Stock Exchanges as well as Registrar of Companies. The permission to list on Stock Exchanges is granted only after all necessary documents pertaining to issue and listing of debt securities are furnished to the exchanges.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per the provisions of Section 128 of the Companies Act, 1956 and rules made thereunder, every company raising funds through secured debentures is statutorily required to attach a copy of the debenture trust deed while filing Form 10 with the Registrar of Companies. For listing of secured debt issues, issuers are required to appoint debenture trustee. The debenture trustee is required to submit a due diligence certificate to SEBI before opening of the issue ensuring that the company has made adequate provisions for the security for the debentures to be issued; the company has taken all necessary permissions for creating security on the said property and all necessary disclosures have been made by the company. The responsibility of ensuring that adequate security has been created and is being maintained on continuous basis in respect of the convertible debentures being issued is cast upon the merchant bankers and debenture trustee. The offer document for the public/rights issue is required to contain the disclosures in respect of the security being created and maintained. These disclosures contain information on the assets on which security shall be created, ranking of the charges, risks associated with subsequent charge in case of second or residual charge, security/asset cover to be maintained and basis of its computation, valuation methods etc.

In case of any violation, SEBI is empowered to take appropriate action against the concerned entities in terms of SEBI Act, Regulation and guidelines made thereunder.

#### **Valuation Report of Listed Companies**

876. SHRI BALIRAM JADHAV: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the legal and regulatory requirements in connection with preparing and submitting valuation report of listed companies for the purpose of acquisition;
- (b) whether the Government has set any code of conduct for valuers; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN

KHURSHEED): (a) The Companies Act, 1956 does not prescribe any legal and regulatory requirement in connection with preparing and submitting valuation report of listed companies for the purpose of acquisition.

- (b) No, Sir.  
(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Use of Hindi in Courts

877. SHRI RAVINDER KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any steps have been taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in order to promote the use of Hindi in hearings of court cases in various courts in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; State-wise;
- (c) the use of Hindi, English and other languages in the courts in each of the State, in terms of percentage;
- (d) whether a provision in Article 19A in the Constitution lays down that the lawyers and the clients are free to present their cases before the court in any language according to their convenience; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) : (a) to (c) Article 348(1) of the Constitution of India provides that all proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High Court shall be in English language until Parliament by law otherwise provides. Under Article 348(2) the Governor of the State may, with the previous consent of the President, authorize the use of the Hindi language or any other language used for any official purpose of the State, in the proceedings of the High Court having its principal seat in that State provided that decrees, judgements or orders passed by such High Courts shall be in English.

Under Section 7 of the Official Language Act, 1963, the use of Hindi or official language of a State in addition to the English language may be authorized, with the consent of the President of India, by the Governor of the State for the purpose of judgments etc. made by the High Court for that State. The matter regarding promotion of use of Hindi in hearing of court cases rests with the respective State Government in consultation with the High Court of the State.

So far the Governors of four States namely; Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have authorized the use of Hindi in addition to English language in the proceedings as well as the judgments, decrees etc. of

the High Courts in their States. Data regarding percentage of use of Hindi and English in the High Courts of these States is not maintained.

(d) and (e) Article 19A does not figure in the Constitution of India.

[English]

#### Dedicated Freight Corridor

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

- (a) whether the Railways have any plan to convert the route from Kandla to Palanpur as a part of dedicated freight corridor between Delhi-Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any plan for providing such double stack facility in any other parts of the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Container Corporation of India is running a special container train connecting ports in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of Ports and States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Kandla -Palanpur Section is one of the identified feeder routes of Western Dedicated Freight Corridor.

(c) and (d) Currently double stack container trains are running between Pipavav/Mundra and Kanakpura (Jaipur). It is planned to run double stack container trains on Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (Jawaharlal Nehru Port in Mumbai to Dadri/Tughlakabad in Delhi).

(e) and (f) Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR) is providing normal container train services from its hinterland Inland Container Depots (ICDs) to various ports including Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Mumbai (Maharashtra), Kolkata Port (West Bengal), Chennai Port, Tuticorin Port (Tamil Nadu), Cochin Port (Kerala), Vishakhapatnam Port (Andhra Pradesh), Kandla Port, Mundra Port and Pipavav Port (Gujarat). Train services to and from ports are planned depending upon the traffic volumes.

#### Supply of underweight cylinders

879. SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR:  
SHRI N. S. V. CHITTHAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints about supply of underweight LPG cylinders;

(b) if so, whether the oil companies have instructed LPG distributors to ensure that delivery men carry spring balances so as to check weight of LPG cylinders while supplying to the consumers;

(c) if so, whether these instructions are being complied with meticulously;

(d) if not, the reasons therefore;

(e) whether the Government proposes to provide complaint cards to the delivery man and take action on the complaints by the customers in a time bound manner;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the directives, if any, issued by the Government to the LPG distributors in the country to replace the underweight cylinders immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA):

(a) to (g) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have given instructions to their LPG distributors to ensure that their delivery men carry with them a spring balance and the weight of the cylinder is shown to the customer while supplying the LPG cylinder. The instructions given to the LPG distributors of OMCs are being followed. If during inspection any deviation is found, suitable action is taken against the LPG distributors in accordance with the provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG). In case any under-weight cylinder is received by the customer, such cylinders are replaced free of charge by the OMCs.

OMCs have reported that based on the established complaints of supply of underweight cylinders/pilfering product by LPG distributors action has been taken in 10 cases during the period April-May, 2009 as per provisions of MDG/Distributorship Agreements.

OMCs do not have any plan to provide complaint cards to the delivery man for registration of complaint by the customers. However, a complaint register is maintained at the distributorship showroom. Presently, various means for lodging complaints are available with the customers viz., complaint register kept at the distributorship, through website of OMCs, through mail, customer / zonal service cell as also through under mentioned toll free numbers to the complaint call centers of the OMCs.

IOC	18002333555
BPCL	1800222725
HPCL	18002333777

These complaints are monitored and appropriate remedial action are taken by the OMCs in a time bound manner.

[Translation]

#### Financial Incentives to Handloom Sector

880. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has provided financial assistance to State Handloom Finance Corporations for providing infrastructural facilities before and after setting up of handloom units during each of the last three years and the current year;

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

(c) the norms laid down for providing such assistance; and

(d) the number of people benefited through it, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) No, Madam.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### Air Cargo at Major Airports

881. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of air cargo handled by the major airports during the last three years till date;

(b) the projected increase in cargo handling by these airports in the next three years;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for expansion, modernization, introduction of automatic system and strengthening of infrastructure, to cope with the increasing air cargo traffic; and

(d) the estimated investment needed for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL) : (a) The quantum of cargo handled at the major airports i.e., Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata, Bangalore and Hyderabad (in '000 MT) during the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 was approximately 1329, 1457 and 1418 respectively.

(b) The growth rates in air cargo for the years (2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12) estimated for the following major airports are (Mumbai - 1%, 6.99% and 8%), (Delhi - 3.7%, 4% and 5%), (Chennai - 2%, 5% and 10%), (Kolkata - 3%, 6% and 8%), (Bangalore - 3.8%, 6% and 7%) and (Hyderabad - 6%, 8% and 9%) respectively.



(c) The steps taken to boost up air cargo include installation of modern colour x-ray machines, introduction of more automation and mechanization in the air cargo handling activities, implementation of Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Systems, introduction of bar-coding of consignments, provision of integrated cargo terminals etc.

(d) Estimated cost for infrastructure development at the major airports comes to Rs.830 crores approximately.

[English]

#### Promotion of oil processing mills

882. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote oil-based oil processing mills in the country;

(b) if so, the number of oil processing mills set up with Central assistance in different States;

(c) whether the Government is aware of the scope of promoting oil processing mills particularly in mustard and soyabean based mills in Rajasthan; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to increase the production of oil and food products based on the availability of mustard and soyabean?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) For the promotion of oil processing mills in the country, Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries provides financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid to all implementing agency @25% of the cost of Plant & 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. In order to ensure speedy disbursement of financial assistance, the Ministry has decentralized the disbursement procedure through banks under the Scheme of Setting up/Modernization/Expansion of Food Processing Industries w.e.f. 01.04.07. MFPI schemes are project oriented, not state specific. The proposals received from all states in the country including Rajasthan are considered for financial assistance as per guidelines. As per Directorate of Vanaspati, Vegetables Oil and Fats, 152006 vegetable oil units are present in the country. The details of the units are given in the enclosed Statement-I. During 10th Plan Period, MFPI has assisted 154 oil-processing units in the country out of which 16 units have been assisted in Rajasthan. Statement-II indicating state-wise details of oil processing units, which has been provided financial assistance under MFPI scheme is given in the enclosed.

Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India had launched Technology Mission on Oil Seeds and Pulses which aims at increasing production and productivity of the different oilseed crops through assured input supply and technology packages and develop location-specific technologies for each of the crops for maximizing production. The crops that receive priority are groundnut, rapeseed-mustard, soybean, sunflower, safflower, linseed, sesamum and niger.

#### Statement-I

##### Status of the Vegetable Oil Industry

(As on January 2009)

S. No.	Type of Vegetable Oil Industry	No. of Units
1.	Oilseed Crushing Units	1,50,000
2.	Solvent Extraction Units	795
3.	Vegetables Oil Refineries	943
4.	Vanaspati Units	268
Total		152006

Source: Directorate of Vanaspati, Vegetables Oil and Fats.

#### Statement-II

State-wise details of oil processing units, which has been provided financial assistance under MFPI scheme

S. No.	Name of State	No. of units	Amount
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	16	648.15
2	Assam	2	36.66
3	Bihar	1	21.69
4	Chhattisgarh	3	78.33
5	Delhi	1	35.00
6	Gujarat	12	439.76
7	Haryana	4	166.24
8	Jammu & Kashmir	1	8.43
9	Karnataka	6	188.61
10	Kerala	3	107.14
11	Maharashtra	40	1249.88
12	Orissa	2	50.00
13	Pondicherry	1	32.60

1	2	3	4
14	Punjab	27	876.29
15	Rajasthan	16	443.31
16	Tamil Nadu	5	157.38
17	Uttar Pradesh	6	143.08
18	West Bengal	8	365.88
Total		154	5048.43

[Translation]

### Revival of Hosiery Mills

883. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Hosiery mills in the country have been closed or are on the verge of closure;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) 70 (Seventy) textile mills including hosiery mills are reported closed as on 31.5.2009 due to various external and internal factors such as power problem, labour disputes, excess capacity, lack of modernisation, failure to diversify in emerging areas, poor management, difficulties in getting timely and adequate working capital finance, internal factors etc. The restructuring/revival proposals for such mills are considered by BIFR. However the Government provides for assistance to the workers of such closed mills under the provisions of Textiles Workers Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS), 102711 workers have been provided relief amounting to Rs. 26,199 Lakhs as on 31.5.2009.

[English]

### Indian Judicial Service

884. SHRI T.R. BAALU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all India Judicial Service as contemplated under Act 312 of the Constitution of India has not been created so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to create the service as required by the Constitution of India?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Since the creation of an All India Judicial Service would require cooperation of the State Governments and High Courts, views and comments of the State Governments and High Courts have been sought. So far, 15 State Governments/UTs and 12 High Courts have furnished their views. After receipt of the views from all State Governments/High Courts, the matter will be examined on merit.

### Disinvestment of Air India

885. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI MILIND DEORA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to disinvest Government stake in Air India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is also considering to bring out an Initial Public Offer (IPO) for national carrier Air India;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to ensure the accountability of the Government in this Organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (e) Presently, there is no such proposal.

### Production and Export of Cotton

886. DR. K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the demand and production of cotton during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(b) the impact of higher minimum support price of cotton over the export of textiles during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The balance sheet showing demands and production of last three years and the current years is given below:

(Lakh bales of 170 kgs each)				
Cotton Year (October - September)				
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Supply</b>				
Opening Stock	72.00	52.00	47.50	43.00
Production	241.00	280.00	315.00	290.00

1	2	3	4	5
Import	5.00	5.53	6.50	7.00
Total Supply	318.00	337.53	369.00	340.00
<b>Demand</b>				
Mill Consumption	180.00	194.89	203.00	195.00
Small Mill Consumption	19.00	21.26	23.00	20.00
Non Mill Consumption	20.00	15.88	15.00	15.00
Total Consumption	219.00	232.03	241.00	230.00
Export	47.00	58.00	85.00	50.00*
Total disappearance	266.00	290.00	326.00	280.00
Carry forward	52.00	47.50	43.00	60.00

Source: Cotton Advisory Board (\* estimated)

(b) Higher MSP has affected the cost structure of raw cotton being offered in international market. The disparity in domestic cotton as compared to International prices and reduction in cotton consumption by the major importing countries due to global economic slow down, has affected the cotton exports from the country.

#### **No Back - up Radar System at Chennai Airport**

887. SHRIMATI BOTCHAJHANSHI LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chennai Airport lacks back up radar system;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Chennai Airport handles more than 30 to 35 aircraft during peak hours;

(d) whether the present radar system at Chennai has been failing frequently for the past three years; and

(e) if so, the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The Chennai Airport is having Primary and Secondary. Radar system having dual channel. In case of failure of one channel, second channel takes over.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Only few interruptions have occurred in the last 3 years due to scheduled maintenance/unforeseen failures. Availability of Radar service was more than 99% in the last three years.

#### **Exim Policy of Kerosene**

888. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has changed the EXIM policy to import Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) by parallel markets;

(b) if so, whether the change of policy has affected the needy customers who are facing difficulty in getting free sale SKO while it is easily available in the open market; and

(c) if so, the remedial measures proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) Parallel Marketing System (PMS) for Kerosene had been introduced vide Notification dated 2.9.1993, allowing private agencies to import and market Kerosene at market price in the country. Subsequently, on the recommendation of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Department of Commerce vide their Notification dated 25.11.2003 allowed Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) to be imported by State Trading Enterprises. Such import is subject to stipulation in Para 2.11 of the Foreign Trade Policy and is allowed through State Trading Enterprises (STEs) i.e. Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL). The State Trading Corporation (STC) has also been nominated as a State Trading Enterprise (STE) for supplying it to Advance Licence holders. The SKO Control Order, 1993 has been amended on 06.07.2006; allowing parallel marketeers to source their requirements from indigenous sources also.

IOCL, BPCL & HPCL are marketing non-PDS Kerosene in the open market. As per the existing system of marketing of non-PDS Kerosene followed by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), the genuine industrial and non-domestic customers having requirement of more than 1 Tank Lorry load at a time are being supplied directly and the requirement of small customers having requirement of less than full Tank Lorry load is being met through the existing SKO-LDO Dealership network at the non-subsidized rate. Under the provisions of Kerosene (Restriction on Use and Fixation of Ceiling Price) Order 1993, Government has also permitted Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemical Limited (MRPL) and

Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) to market their indigenously produced Kerosene, after meeting the demand of PDS Kerosene in full, to non-PDS customers. These Companies can make free sale of Kerosene at market prices as per requirement.

There is no report of any bulk customer/customers facing difficulty in getting non-PDS SKO.

#### **Super speciality hospitals in railways**

889. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any plan to establish super speciality hospitals in various parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the centres identified for this propose including Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The centres which have been identified and sanctioned for providing super speciality facilities are: (i) Central Hospital for East Central Railway at Patna with super speciality wings in Cardiology and Nephrology, (ii) Cancer Cardiac Centre at Northern Railway Central Hospital, New Delhi, (iii) Cardiac Centre at Jagjivan Ram Hospital, Western Railway, Mumbai, and (iv) Creation of Cardiac Unit at B.R. Singh Hospital at Sealdah, Eastern Railway.

*[Translation]*

#### **Air-accidents**

890. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of air-accident reported during the last two years on account of dilapidated conditions of several runways at Airports;

(b) whether runways tend to be fatal for aircraft in the event of rainfalls and specially during monsoon period;

(c) whether the Government has taken action to repair such runways;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to curb recurrence of such accidents in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No accidents have occurred during the last two years due to dilapidated condition of runways at airports.

(b) No, Sir,

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

(e) Runway cleaning and runway friction testing is carried out regularly. Further recarpetting and reurfacing of runway is done as and when required.

*[English]*

#### **New railway line between Amravati to Narkher**

891. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of laying of new rail line between Amravati and Narkher is pending since long;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether work on Chandur Bazar-Narkher is going on at a very slow pace;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which these rail lines are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (e) The new line project was taken up in 1993-94. Amravati-Chandur Bazar (44 kms) has already been completed. Overall physical progress of the project is 67%. The project is being progressed as per availability of resources and entire line is likely to be completed by March, 2011.

#### **Minority representation in employment**

892. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sought details from industry over minority representation in employment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for seeking such information?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Railway Line from Manmad to Nandava in Maharashtra**

893. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have sanctioned Manmad-Malegoan-Dhule-Nandava rail line project in Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Railways have any plan to introduce (UTS) Unreserved Ticket System in Malegoan area of Nasik District;

(c) if so, whether Maharashtra Government has given its consent to provide financial assistance for the purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the work under the said project is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) No, Madam.

(b) Malegaon is non railhead location. Nearest railway station is Manmad, which is 30-35 km. away. Manmad has Unreserved Ticket System (UTS).

(c) and (d) Chief Minister, Maharashtra has recently requested for taking up following new line projects on 50:50 cost sharing basis:

1. Manmad-Indore
2. Wadsa-Desaiganj-Gadchiroli
3. Pune-Nasik

(e) Does not arise as new line works are not sanctioned.

[English]

#### **Passenger train from Mehsana to Abu Road**

894. SHRI MUKESH BHAIRAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are planning to introduce more diesel fast passenger trains between Mehsana and Abu Road; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Assistance to craftsmen and weavers**

895. SHRI GUTHA SUKHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the assistance extended to the craftsmen and weavers of various States including Telangana region of Andhra Pradesh for self employment during the last three years and the current year; and

(b) the number of craftsmen and weavers benefited during the said period, State-wise and scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The government does not have any scheme both in the Handicrafts and Handloom Sectors, for direct financial assistance to artisans & weavers for the self employment in the country including Telangana Region of Andhra Pradesh.

However, for the development of both these sectors, the Government has been implementing various schemes, which provide assistance to the artisans as well as to handloom weavers. In the handicraft sector, the schemes proposed for implementation during the 11th Five Year Plan include: Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana: Marketing Support and Services scheme; Design & Technology Upgradation Scheme; Handicrafts Artisans Welfare Scheme; Human Resource Development Scheme and Research & Development Scheme. In the Handloom Sector, concerted efforts are being made through the scheme and programmes to increase production, productivity, and the efficiency of weavers and enhance their income and socio-economic status by providing skill upgradation, infrastructure and input supports to them.

#### **Modernisation of NMDC**

896. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) is proposed to be modernized to increase its production and take up fresh exploration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the PSU also proposes to set up pellet plants; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. NMDC is undertaking exploration in its existing iron ore mines to establish additional resources. NMDC is also developing new mines (Bailadila deposit 11B in Chhattisgarh and Kumaraswamy iron ore mines in Karnataka) to increase its production. It is also procuring latest and higher capacity machines to increase its production. It has also applied for Prospecting Licence/Mining Lease for many new iron ore mines as well.

Besides, it is exploring for diamond in many areas of Andhra Pradesh. Recently, NMDC has also diversified into exploration of Coal, Platinum, Gold and Beach Sand etc.

NMDC is also conducting prospective work for Diamond in 8 areas around Kalyandurg, Andhra Pradesh covering a total area 123 Sq. km. NMDC has also been allocated two coal blocks viz. Shahpur East and Shahpur West in Madhya Pradesh, where NMDC has conducted detailed exploration through M/s. MECL

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. NMDC plans to set up a 2 million tonne per annum capacity pellet plant at Bacheli in Chhattisgarh and a 1.2 million tonne per annum capacity pellet plant at Donimalai in Karnataka.

#### **Introduction of passenger train**

897. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has submitted proposals regarding introduction of passenger train between Harihar and Birur in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways have taken any action thereon; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Tatkal Reservation**

898. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have reduced the number of Sleeper Class tickets and converted it into Tatkal reservation class;

(b) if so, the comparative percentage of general sleeper class and tatkal reservation class;

(c) the revenue collected by the Railways from tatkal reservation class tickets;

(d) whether Railways propose to increase number of tickets in view of difficulties being faced by the passengers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) and (b) The reservations under general quota as well as Tatkal quota can be availed by the passengers on a first-cum-first served

basis. There is only a comparative difference in the Advance Reservation Period and no reduction in the accommodation for the passengers. Out of the total reserved accommodation available in Sleeper class, about 12% has been earmarked for Tatkal passengers. If unused, this quota is released to general passengers.

(c) The amount of revenue earned by the Railways from sale of tickets in Tatkal quota during 2008-09 was Rs. 605 crores in all classes of travel in which Tatkal accommodation has been earmarked.

(d) and (e) Creation of additional accommodation to cater to increased demand is a continuous process. The Railways have introduced a large number of trains and have augmented existing trains to meet the increasing demand.

*[English]*

#### **Enforcement of Clauses of Contracts**

899. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the committee has been set up to examine the issue pertaining to enforcing contracts;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the recommendations made by the committee;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up commercial divisions in each High Court;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has received any proposal for introduction of case management system as a pilot project in High Courts; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (f) A Committee under the Chairmanship of Law Secretary, comprising representatives from Ministry/Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Banking and Corporate Affairs was set up to examine the issue pertaining to enforcing contracts and recommend correctives. The said Committee submitted its report to the Cabinet Secretary on 23rd July, 2008.

The Committee referred to the suggestion of the World Bank for establishment of separate Commercial Courts and has agreed to that proposal. Law Commission of India in its 188th Report on "Proposal for Constitution of High-Tech Fast Track Commercial Division in High Court" has also recommended for constitution of Commercial Division in each High Court. In view of this, the Committee in its Report has suggested to establish Commercial Division in each

High Court for dealing with commercial disputes of the value of Rs.1 crore and above and also to introduce the case management system in judiciary.

#### **Nagpur Airport**

900. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nagpur airport has since been transferred to the Maharashtra Airport Development Company with a view to upgrading it to a world class multi model, international passenger and cargo hub;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the status of upgradation work; and

(d) the estimated cost and the total investment made/ likely to be made on this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) An Agreement between Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Maharashtra Airport Development Company Limited (MADC) for formation of a Joint Venture Company (JVC) has been signed. The JVC has been registered in the name of MIHAN.

Airport transfer formalities are under progress and will be completed shortly. There is no policy or other pending issues between AAI and MADC relating to the transfer of Nagpur airport to the JVC.

(d) JVC would develop the airport in accordance with the Master Plan at an estimated cost of Rs. 3327.50 crores.

[Translation]

#### **Construction of Overbridges**

901. SHRI RAVINDER KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals have been received for construction of overbridges at the railway level crossings in the heavy traffic areas of each State;

(b) the status of the proposals; and

(c) the number of over bridges constructed at the manned and unmanned level crossings in Jharkhand and Bihar during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) Following firm proposals for construction of ROB/RUBs in lieu of LCs were received in the past duly sponsored by State Governments.

State	No. of ROB proposals	State	No. of ROB proposals
AP	91	Assam & NE Region	3
Bihar	62	Chhattsgarh	12
Delhi	19	Gujarat	15
Haryana	40	Jharkhand	20
Karnataka	38	Kerala	61
Maharashtra	25	MP	8
Orissa	9	Pondicherry	3
Punjab	32	Rajasthan	22
Tamil Nadu	125	UP	86
Uttrakhand	1	W.B	37
J&K	1	Total	710

(b) All the above firm proposals were sanctioned on cost sharing basis and the works are at different stages of planning and execution.

(c) Works of ROB/RUBs completed during last 3 years and during current year of 2008-09 in the States of Jharkhand and Bihar are as under:

States	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Bihar	0	2	0	1
Jharkhand	2	4	3	2

[English]

#### **LPG Bottling Plants**

902. SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of existing LPG bottling plants and their capacity of each plant;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up new LPG bottling plants in the country; and

(c) if so, the details alongwith locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) As on 01.04.2009, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) were operating 182 LPG bottling plants with a total bottling capacity of 8967 Thousand Metric Tonnes Per Annum (TMTPA). The State-wise list of existing bottling plants with capacity is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) LPG bottling plants are set up by OMCs on the basis of techno-economic feasibility after taking into consideration the demand potential of packed LPG.

Three bottling plants one each at Muzzafarpur (Bihar), Baroda (Gujarat) and Irumpanam (Kerala) are under construction.

OMCs have proposed to set up 14 more new LPG bottling plants in the country. The location-wise/State-wise details are as under:-

Location & Name of States	Number of Bottling Plants
Vizag (Andhra Pradesh)	1
Raipur (Chhattisgarh)	1
Mangalore (Karnataka)	1
Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh)	1
Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh)	1
Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh)	1
Kolhapur (Maharashtra)	1
Badnera (Maharashtra)	1
Akolner (Maharashtra)	1
Nagpur (Maharashtra)	1
Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh)	1
Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh)	1
Virudhachalam (Tamil Nadu)	1
Madurai (Tamil Nadu)	1

**Statement**

*Details of LPG Bottling Plants in the country as on 01.04.2009*

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Number of bottling plants	Capacity (in TMTPA)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12	706
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	5
3.	Assam	7	210
4.	Bihar	5	230
5.	Chhattisgarh	2	88
6.	Delhi	2	308
7.	Goa	2	66
8.	Gujarat	10	550
9.	Haryana	6	418

1	2	3	4
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2	44
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	91
12.	Jharkhand	4	142
13.	Karnataka	11	574
14.	Kerala	6	342
15.	Madhya Pradesh	7	352
16.	Maharashtra	19	1344
17.	Manipur	1	10
18.	Meghalaya	-	-
19.	Mizoram	1	5
20.	Nagaland	1	5
21.	Orissa	4	176
22.	Punjab	5	396
23.	Rajasthan	11	442
24.	Sikkim	1	5
25.	Tamil Nadu	17	800
26.	Tripura	1	11
27.	Uttar Pradesh	26	1048
28.	Uttarakhand	3	110
29.	West Bengal	9	462
30.	Andaman & Nicobar	1	5
31.	Chandigarh	-	-
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-
33.	Daman Diu	-	-
34.	Lakshadweep	-	-
35.	Puducherry	1	22
Total		182	8967

[Translation]

**Privatisation/Disinvestment of Undertakings**

903. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the undertakings under the Ministry privatised or where disinvestment has taken place till date;

(b) the undertaking wise amount of funds received by the Government through such move;



(c) whether any irregularity has taken place in the course of privatisation or disinvestment of these undertakings;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) Disinvestment has taken place in the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) and KIOCL Limited under the Ministry of Steel.

(b) The Government received Rs. 1036.33 crores and Rs. 11.40 crores from such disinvestments in SAIL and KIOCL Ltd. respectively.

(c) The Government is not aware of any irregularities in respect of these disinvestments.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

#### Family Courts

904. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:

SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

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

(a) the number of family courts located in the country;

(b) the number of cases handled by them during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether there is a proposal to construct more number of family courts in various States in the near future;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by which the new courts are likely to be set up; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government that cases filed before the family courts are not kept pending for too long?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) (a): As per the information received, 175 Family Courts are functioning in the country.

(b) A Statement indicating the number of cases disposed of by the Family Courts during the years 2006, 2007 and 2008, State-wise, is enclosed.

(c) to (e) It is for the State Government to set-up new Family Courts in consultation with the respective High Court. Central Government provides financial assistance for meeting expenditure on Family Courts as per the norms of the Scheme. All the State Governments/UT Administrations have been requested to set up at least one Family Court in each District.

(f) Government is facilitating expeditious disposal of cases in courts through providing financial assistance for development and modernization of infrastructural facilities for the judiciary including providing Information and Communication Technology (ICT) facilities in courts. However, the time taken in disposal of cases is within the domain of judiciary.

#### Statement

##### Disposal during the last three years in the Family Courts

Sl.No	State/UT	Disposal during the year		
		2006	2007	2008
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	4886	5163	2929
2	Assam	#		
3	Bihar	6701	8591	9031
4	Chhattisgarh	4204	5632	5652
5	Gujarat	4409	5487	5739
6	Jharkhand	2718	3154	3238
7	Karnataka	9779	7888	15156
8	Kerala	30347	37953	35659
9	Madhya Pradesh	7793	9414	9168
10	Maharashtra*			49293

1	2	3	4	5
11	Manipur	683	372	271
12	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil
13	Orissa	2113	1641	1313
14	Punjab	Nil	Nil	Nil
15	Rajasthan	7590	8882	457
16	Sikkim	108	97	#
17	Tamil Nadu	9157	9157	#
18	Tripura	718	763	949
19	Uttar Pradesh*			84139
20	Uttarakhand	3771	4674	3716
21	West Bengal	732	435	588
22	Puducherry	655	1081	1002
	Total	229796	110384	94868

\* Total disposal during the last three years

# Information not received.

[English]

#### Utilization of Coal Reserves

905. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWASI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to utilize its huge coal reserves for the purpose of making the country self-reliant in the matter of production of fertilizers and supply of feedstock as being done in other countries particularly China;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to make arrangements for the supply of gas to urea producers?

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

(a) and (b) The New Pricing Scheme Stage - III recommends the coal gas and coal based methane as fuel / feed stock for production of urea in the country. Further, out of 28 urea manufacturing units operational in the country, 6 urea units use coal as fuel for the purpose of generating steam/ electricity to be used as utilities. The Government is also looking into the feasibility of revival of closed urea units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) and Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) through setting up of new brownfield projects based on natural gas, coal gas, Coal Based Methane (CBM) etc.

(c) The Government has decided to accord highest priority in allocation of gas for existing urea units in the

country. It has also decided to accord the highest priority in gas allocation to fertilizer sector for debottlenecking, expansion and revival projects in the country. In pursuance of the above decisions, approximately 15 mmscmd of gas has been allocated from KG D6 Basin to existing gas based urea units in the country to meet the entire shortfall in availability of natural gas for urea production within the country.

#### Road overbridges in Gujarat

906. SHRI MUKESH BHAIRAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals of Road Over Bridges (ROBs) in Gujarat pending for sanction; and

(b) the time by which the said projects are likely to be sanctioned alongwith funds allocated for these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) There are 7 proposals given below:

- (1) Construction of ROB in lieu of LC No.87 at km. 181/18-20 on Virar Surat section near Udvada station of Mumbai Central Division.
- (2) Construction of ROB in lieu of LC No. 101 at km. 203/28-204/2 on Virar Surat section near Doongri station of Mumbai Central Division.
- (3) Providing ROB in lieu of LC No.274 at km.936/13-14 on Viramgam-Okha section near Kuranga station of Rajkot Division.

- (4) Providing ROB in lieu of LC No.73 at km.674/7-8 on Than-Chotila Road between Lakhamachi station of Rajkot Division.
- (5) Construction of 4 lanes ROB in lieu of LC No.202X at km.721/4-5 between Jagudan-Mehsana on ADI-PNU section of Ahemdabad division.
- (6) Construction of 4 lanes ROB in lieu of LC No.1B at km.1/7-8 situated on State Highway on Mehana-Patan section of Ahemdabad Division.
- (7) Construction of ROB in lieu of LC No.2 at km. 1/15-2/1 between station Vishwamitri and Pratapnagar station.

(b) On finding the proposals feasible based on fulfilment of all the preliminary pre-requisites and prescribed criterion, these will be included in the future Works Programme of Railways and allocation will be made after its sanction and in accordance to the availability of funds and throw forward with the Railway concerned.

12.00 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Steel for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 84/15/09]

- (2) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Steel for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 85/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI VILASRAO DESHMUKH): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under article 151(1) of the Constitution:-

- (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (Commercial) (No. CA 22 of 2009-10) Financial Reporting by Public Sector Undertakings.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 86/15/09]

- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (Commercial) (No. CA 23 of 2009-10) Information Technology Applications in Public Sector Undertakings.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 87/15/09]

- (iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (Commercial) (No. CA 24 of 2009-10) Compliance Audit Observations.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 88/15/09]

- (2) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 89/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Law and Justice for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 90/15/09]

- (2) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Law and Justice for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 91/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): Madam I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Handloom Development Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Textiles for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 92/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited and the Ministry of Civil Aviation for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 93/15/09]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 14A of the Aircraft Act, 1934:-

- (i) The Aircraft (2nd Amendment) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 68(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd February, 2009, together with an explanatory note.
- (ii) The Aircraft (3rd Amendment) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 94(E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th February, 2009, together with an explanatory note.
- (iii) The Aircraft (4th Amendment) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 101 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th February, 2009, together with an explanatory note.
- (iv) The Aircraft (5th Amendment) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 126(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th February, 2009, together with an explanatory note.
- (v) The Aircraft (6th Amendment) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 150(E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th March, 2009, together with an explanatory note.
- (vi) The Aircraft Seventh (Amendment) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 165(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th March, 2009, together with an explanatory note.
- (vii) The Aircraft (8th Amendment) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 167(E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th March, 2009, together with an explanatory note.
- (viii) The Aircraft (9th Amendment) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 168(E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th March, 2009, together with an explanatory note.
- (ix) The Aircraft (10th Amendment) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 254(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th April, 2009, together with an explanatory note.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (i) of (2) above.  
[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 94/15/09]
- (4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.  
[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 95/15/09]
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Commission of Railway Safety, Lucknow, for the year 2007-2008, under Section 10 of the Railways Act, 1989.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Commission of Railway Safety, Lucknow, for the year 2007-2008.  
[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 96/15/09]
- (7) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Civil Aviation for the year 2009-2010.  
[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 97/15/09]
- THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:-
- (1) A copy of the each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of Section 63 of the Competition Act, 2002:-
- (i) The Competition Commission of India (Salary, Allowances and other Terms and Conditions of Service of Chairperson and other Members) Amendment Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 136(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th February, 2009.
- (ii) The Competition Commission of India (Form of Annual Statement of Accounts) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 204(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th March, 2009.
- (iii) The Competition Appellate Tribunal (Salaries and Allowances and other terms and conditions of service of the Chairperson and

- other Members) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 137(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th February, 2009.
- (iv) The Competition Appellate Tribunal (Salaries and Allowances and other terms and conditions of service of the Chairperson and other Members) Amendment Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 339(E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th May, 2009.
- (v) The Competition Appellate Tribunal (Form and fee for filing an appeal and fee for filing compensation applications) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 387(E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th June, 2009.
- (vi) The Competition Appellate Tribunal (Term of the Selection Committee and the Manner of Selection of Panel of Names) Amendment Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 260(E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th April, 2009.
- (vii) The Competition Commission of India (Term of the Selection Committee and the Manner of Selection of Panel of Names) Amendment Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 156(E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th March, 2009.
- (viii) The Competition Commission of India (Term of the Selection Committee and the Manner of Selection of Panel of Names) Second Amendment Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 259(E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th April, 2009.
- (ix) The Competition of India (Engagement of Experts and Professionals) Regulations, 2009 published in Notification No. R-40007/6/Reg-Expert/Noti/04-CCI in Gazette of India dated the 15th May, 2009.
- (x) The Competition of India (General) Regulations, 2009 published in Notification No. R-40007/6/Reg-General/Noti/04-CCI in Gazette of India dated the 22nd May, 2009.
- (xi) The Competition Commission of India (Meeting for Transaction of Business) Regulations, 2009 published in Notification No. R-40007/6/Reg-Meeting/Noti./04-CCI in Gazette of India dated the 22nd May, 2009.
- [Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 98/15/09]
- (2) A copy of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (Group 'A' and Group 'B') Recruitment Amendment Rules, 2008 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 5 in Gazette of India dated the 24th January, 2009 under sub-section (3) of Section 67 of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969.
- [Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 99/15/09]
- (3) A copy of the Cost and Works Accountants (Amendment) Regulations, 2009 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. CWR(3) 2008 in Gazette of India dated the 8th April, 2009 under Section 40 of the Cost and Works Accountants Act, 1959.
- [Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 100/15/09]
- (4) A copy of the each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 30B of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949:-
- (i) G.S.R. 163(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th March, 2009 making certain amendments in the Notification No. G.S.R. 448(E) dated the 28th June, 2007.
- (ii) The Chartered Accountants Procedures of Meetings of Quality Review Board, and Terms and Conditions of Service and Allowances of the Chairperson and Members of the Board (Amendment) Rules, 2009 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 152(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th March, 2009.
- [Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 101/15/09]
- (5) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 789(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th March, 2009 establishing an Appellate Authority consisting of Chairman and eight Members, mentioned therein, under Section 30B of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 Section 40 of the Cost and Works Accountants Act, 1959 and Section 40 of the Company Secretaries Act, 1980.
- [Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 102/15/09]
- (6) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs for the year 2009-2010.
- [Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 103/15/09]

- (7) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Minority Affairs for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 104/15/09]

- (8) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Minority Affairs for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 105/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):-

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Karnataka Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Limited and the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 106/15/09]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited and the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 107/15/09]

- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited and the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 108/15/09]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

- (i) Review by the Government of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2007-2008.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2007-2008, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 109/15/09]

- (4) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 110/15/09]

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 Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Railways for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 111/15/09]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Railway Information Systems for the year 2007-2008 alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Railway Information Systems for the year 2007-2008.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 112/15/09]

- (4) A copy of the Railways (Extent of Monetary Liability and Prescription of Percentage Charge) Amendment Rules, 2009 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 219(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th March, 2009 under Section 199 of the Railways Act, 1989.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 113/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Textiles for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 114/15/09]

- (2) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Textiles for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. **See** No. L.T. 115/15/09]

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 the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 116/15/09]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): Madam, I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):-

(i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Steel Authority of India Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 117/15/09]

(ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Bharat Refractories Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 118/15/09]

(iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 119/15/09]

(iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the MSTC Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 120/15/09]

(v) Memorandum of Understanding between the KIOCL (formerly Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited) and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 121/15/09]

(vi) Memorandum of Understanding between the NMDC Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 122/15/09]

(vii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 123/15/09]

(viii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Manganese Ore (India) Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 124/15/09]

(ix) Memorandum of Understanding between the MECON Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2009-2010.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 125/15/09]

12.04 hrs.

### STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

(i) **Status of the implementation of recommendations contained in the twenty seventh report of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilisers, pertaining to the Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers\***

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): With your permission, Madam, I am laying the statement on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the twenty seventh Report (2008-09) of the Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers in terms of Direction 73-A of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha Bulletin Part II dated 1st September, 2004.

The Department of Fertilizers (DOF) comes under the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers. The main objective of the Department is to ensure adequate and timely availability of fertilizers for maximizing agricultural production in the country and for this purpose to promote and assist indigenous industries in the fertilizer sector and to plan and arrange import and distribution of fertilizers.

The main activities of DoF include planning; promotion and development of the fertilizer industry, programming and monitoring of production, pricing, import and supply of fertilizers and management of financial resources by way of subsidy / concession for indigenous and imported fertilizers. The Department also disburses payments to manufacturers/importers of decontrolled fertilizers under the concession scheme made available to the farmers at the indicative Maximum Retail Price (MRP).

In addition, the activities of DoF also include the administrative control of the following public sector undertaking and cooperatives in the fertilizers sector:

\*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library *See* No. LT 127/15/09

- (i) Fertilizers Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI) (Closed)
- (ii) Fertilizer and Chemicals Travancore (FACT)
- (iii) Madras Fertilizer Limited (MFL)
- (iv) National Fertilizer Limited (NFL)
- (v) Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers (RCF)
- (vi) Brahmaputra Velly Fertilizers Co. Ltd. (BVFCL)
- (vii) Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation (HFC) (Closed)
- (viii) Project & Development India Ltd. (PDIL)
- (ix) FCI Aravali Gypsum Minerals India Ltd.
- (x) Krishak Bharti Co-operative Ltd. (KRIBHCO)

The plants of FCIL and HFCL are currently closed. The Government is considering suitable options for revival of the units of these PSU's for which empowered Committee of Secretaries (COS) has been constituted.

The office of the Executive Director, Fertilizers Industry Coordination Committee (FICC) also works under the Department of Fertilizer. This office provides the secretariat support to FICC constituted to administer the Retention Price Scheme for Nitrogenous Fertilizers and various incentive schemes to augment indigenous production of fertilizers.

The Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers discussed with representatives of Deptt. of Fertilizers on the subject performance of fertilizers industry in public, private and co-operative sectors and presented 27th report to Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha on 21st October, 2008. The report contained 14 recommendations which are summarized below:-

- (I) The Committee desired that the New Investment Policy should be operationalised immediately in order to abridge the demand-supply gap in respect of urea through adequate indigenous production.
- (II) The Committee recommended that the new revised policy, framework should be finalized as early as possible so that the country becomes self sufficient in the production of Phosphatic fertilizers and its dependence on import of Phosphatic fertilizers is reduced to the minimum.
- (III) The Committee desired that adequate funds should be provided for the revival of all sick PSUs in the fertilizer sector within a definite time frame.
- (IV) The Committee recommended that in addition to the provision of adequate and regular gas supply, modernization of plants so as to ward off accidents,

the fertilizer industrial units especially PSUs should also explore the feasibility of skill development of unskilled workers.

- (V) The Committee recommended that the scheme to incentivise and expedite conversion of the FO/LSHS plants into gas-based plants should be finalized at the earliest.
- (VI) The Committee recommended that the Government should assist the fertilizer industry liberally in revamping their machinery/instruments so that energy conservation and optimum use of energy are achieved.
- (VII) The Committee felt that the need of the hour is to increase the indigenous production of urea and SSP, as there is vast difference in the indigenous price and the import price in respect of both the fertilizers.
- (VIII) The Committee desired that the Department should pursue with the Ministry of Finance for payment of maximum amount of subsidy in cash instead of bonds.
- (IX) The Committee expressed the view that Government should provide all the necessary assistance and incentives wherever needed, to the Private Sector Industries also for completing necessary formalities in setting up joint ventures with foreign companies.
- (X) The Committee suggested that the Government should earmark sufficient funds for the payment of subsidy bills.
- (XI) The Committee recommended that the Government should deal with such cases with a heavy hand to prevent the manufacturer of sub-standard products.
- (XII) The Committee recommended that the import of both of the fertilizers be increased as per the requirement. Simultaneously, efforts should be made to procure raw materials for DAP for increasing its indigenous production in order to bridge the demand and supply gap.
- (XIII) The Committee recommended that the Government should chalk out a monitoring mechanism in consultation with the State Governments to control artificial scarcity of fertilizers that adequate fertilizers could be reached to the districts and the blocks in time.
- (XIV) The Committee also recommended that irrigation facilities in the States should also be augmented simultaneously for the effective use of fertilizers. The desired results could be achieved if synergic efforts



are made by the Department of Fertilizers, Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Water Resources and the Irrigation and Agriculture Departments of State Governments.

All the recommendations of the Standing Committee contained in the 27th report of 2008-2009; have been received and considered in the Department of Fertilizers. The Action Taken Replies to these recommendations have been sent to the Committee.

12.04½ hrs.

### ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

#### Central Silk Board

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): Madam, I beg to move the following:

"That in pursuance of clause (c) of sub-section (3) of section 4 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the Central Silk Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

MADAM SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That in pursuance of clause (c) of sub-section (3) of section 4 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from amongst themselves to serve as members of the Central Silk Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

*The motion was adopted.*

12.05 hrs.

### BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### 2nd Report

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Madam, I beg to present the Second Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up urgent matters of public importance.

Dr. Ram Chandra Dome.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Bolpur): Madam Speaker, it is a matter of serious concern that even after a clearcut ruling by the hon. Supreme Court against capitation fees, it is alleged that some private medical and dental colleges in various parts of the country have sold all seats charging steep capitation fees from the students subverting merit by diverting the State quota seats into the Management quota. It is alleged by many parents and it has come in the Press this morning also that these colleges are even charging huge sums like Rs. 20 lakh per seat. This is happening despite the recent Supreme Court direction on May, 27 this year, particularly about the three medical and dental colleges of Madhya Pradesh.

The genuine candidates figuring in the Merit List of the State-conducted Common Entrance Test (GET) are refused admission. This sort of clear case of misappropriation of the State quota by the private management is highly condemnable. I urge upon the Government to take serious note of it and take serious step to check this type of rampant commercialisation and corruption in professional education by bringing in a stringent regulatory mechanism by the Government. Thank you, Madam.

[Translation]

SHRI UMASHANKAR SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Madam Speaker, I was first to give notice. Everybody was saying that my name is at the first place in the list but how did it come to third or fourth place? Please show me the list...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Madam, 'Kal-a-Zar' is turning into an epidemic in 40 districts of four states i.e. Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, West Bengal particularly among the poor people like Mushar, Dhanuk, Malhar, Nonia, Tatma, Dhunia driver etc. due to bite-of-sandfly as they sleep on ground. Malaria mosquito also bites these poor people. Nearly 50 thousand poor people are suffering from these diseases. Even the DDT has not been sprayed there as a preventive measure. It has been sprayed in some parts only. There is shortage of medicines like Pentamidine, Lomodine, Calcium bigluconite etc. given for treating the disease. How can the poor people afford to buy them. They are living at the mercy of God. Thousands of people have died but state Governments have done nothing. It is criminal negligence on the part of the Government.

Madam Speaker, swine flu has spread in our country through air travellers coming here. Sometimes dengue also turn into an epidemic. If a rich person falls ill then only the matter is highlighted. Nearly 100 persons have fallen ill. Swine flu and HINI are being heard everywhere. But poor people are dying of kala-a-zar. However, this has caused no ripples and nobody is taking note of it.

Madam, I have two requests first one is that Government of India should make a categorical statement mentioning number of the villages in which this disease has spread, the number of persons dying and affected from the disease, the places where D. D. T. has been sprayed, the funds given by the Government and its utilization by the State Governments and the action taken by the Government as preventive and curative measures. And my second request is that the issue of swine flu has not been debated comprehensively. Only two hon. members have participated in the debate.

I request you to have a debate on kala-a-zar alongwith the swine-flu but before that Government should make a statement. A debate on kala-a-zar disease should take place in the House otherwise poor people would continue to fall prey to this disease. No discussion in this regard takes place anywhere. If a rich person falls ill then it is highlighted everywhere. But nobody talks about poor people. What about the Government? ...*(Interruptions)* If the Government is unable to rid the localities of the mosquitoes causing Kala-a-zar and Malaria then what else can it do? ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Raghuvansh ji, please conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Madam Speaker, Government should give reply in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)* It should not become a silent spectator but responding well to the situation or it should clearly state its inability to do anything and that it wants to leave the people at the mercy of God...*(Interruptions)* National Rural Health Mission, WHO ...*(Interruptions)* Medical Council of India, all these are useless. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Nothing has been done for the poor people...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, this will not go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

\*Not recorded.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR (Dibrugarh): Thank you, Madam. I want to draw the attention of the Central Government, through you, about the prevailing devastating flood situation in Assam. In this flood, hundred thousand hectares of paddy land in the State are inundated. Several hundred hectares of land have been eroded. Many people have lost their houses and many people have lost their lives. Even more than 50 per cent of the Kaziranga National Park is inundated in this flood and many wild animals died.

Due to the flood, in the last decade Assam has lost more than several lakh hectares of the cultivable fertile land and many thousands of acres of tea garden land and roads and buildings were damaged and the damage runs into several thousand crores of rupees.

I request the Central Government to immediately send a team to study the devastating flood situation in Assam and immediately release a fund of Rs. 1,000 crore for providing immediate relief and rehabilitation and erosion control work in Assam.

With the limited resources with the State Government, it is very difficult to control the flood situation and erosion problem of the State. The Central Government must declare it as a national problem and they should immediately take steps so that the fertile land is not lost to the rivers. A special package should be announced to help the people who have lost their household, cultivable land and valuable property due to the flood.

I request the Central Government to immediately take all steps to formulate short and long term plan to control flood and erosion problem to give relief to the people of Assam.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to raise a very serious matter in the House that adulteration in food items is being done rampantly in the entire country. The human life has been put in peril. As Shri Raghuvansh Prasad ji has just stated in his speech. The serious cases of adulteration in food items have also been highlighted through print and electronic media. Such people are playing with the lives of people. You may see that all food items of daily use like ghee, oil, milk, curd, spices and vegetables are being adulterated openly. Recently, an incident of large scale adulteration of animal fat and bones tallow in food items by boiling them has been exposed in Agra. No license or permission has been given to undertake such activities. All the senior officers of the District are involved in this racket. A senior minister of Government of Uttar Pradesh is also involved in this racket. A magisterial enquiry has been

ordered to patch up the matter. The persons who, themselves are involved in this racket are conducting enquiry into this matter. I would like to draw your attention towards an incident in Nagpur in which synthetic curd was being sold in canisters.

MADAM SPEAKER: What do you want from Central Government, please state and conclude.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Madam, synthetic Ghee has been recovered from Shri Shakti General Store in Panipat. A factory, manufacturing synthetic Ghee has been detected in Jaipur also. Similarly, the complaints of adulteration in Ghee and jaggery are being received from Agra. Lakhs of litre of adulterated milk has been seized in Rewari and Kurukshetra, which was being supplied to Delhi and even to Mother Dairy also.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Madam Speaker, I am concluding. I demand a CBI enquiry in these cases keeping in view larger public interest. I also demand the Government to introduce a Bill in this regard making provisions of rigorous imprisonment of ten years and imposition of heavy penalty on those found involved in adulteration activities.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (Domariyaganj): Madam, with your permission I would like to draw your and August House's attention towards a matter of urgent public importance. There may be some political commitments, political disputes and differences in ideology in our social life but on the point of development there is no difference in our ideology either in this House or in our public life. I would like to state that this August House enacted an Act to establish Rajiv Gandhi Petroleum Institute to make the country self reliant in Petroleum sector. The said institute was supposed to provide B. Tech education to the students in the country. An amount of Rs. 435 crore had been sanctioned in this regard. The State Government was supposed to allot land for this purpose. The Government of Uttar Pradesh had sent a letter dated 6 June, 2007 to the District administration in this regard and the concerned department had started the process of land acquisition. But, the Government of Uttar Pradesh last week cancelled the allotment of land for the said Central Petroleum University, which was on par with IITs, and was supposed to be run by Ministry of Petroleum. I would like to state that such type of moral degradation and downfall should not happen in politics.

MADAM SPEAKER: Now please conclude.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: I have not completed my speech, please listen to what I have to say. Earlier also there was a similar instance of allotment of land for Rail Coach Factory and the entire country witnessed how in public life actions are being taken with a feeling of vengeance.  
...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, you please conclude.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Shailendra Kumar ji, you should not say anything in this way. Any point by you will not go into record.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Madam Speaker, give me protection. This House passed this Bill.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: The Session has commenced in it. The Session of that Institute has commenced in the building obtained on rent from Firoz Gandhi Polytechnic. Along with this, the process to acquire land is also in progress. Despite that, State Government has taken action with vengeance. I think it is not justified at all. Before it, land for Rail Coach Factory was also cancelled and in the matter of setting up a Sugar Mill, similar action was taken. Anti-development face of the Uttar Pradesh Government is being exposed by its actions. If today, High Court gives stay order for statues.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please state what do you want from the Union Government and conclude.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL : You know that ... (Interruptions)

12.17 hrs.

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\*\*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Item No. 16. Matters under Rule 377 listed for the day may be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

- (i) **Need to address the problem of shortage of drinking water in Bikaner Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan**

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (Bikaner): There is acute shortage of drinking water in villages situated at the last point of Indira Gandhi Canal Project in my Parliamentary Constituency, Bikaner. People of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are mostly affected due to this. The people of department relating to the water resources are helpless in this matter. Their argument is that the Bhakra Manage-

\*Not Recorded.

\*\*Treated as laid on the Table.

ment Board, Punjab is not releasing Rajasthan's due share of water from the Canal. The State Government has announced to provide water to lakhs of people residing at the last point of the canal through 200 tankers from 2 July, 2009 which is not sufficient. I would like to request through you that proper arrangement of drinking water should be made urgently for the villages situated at last point of Indira Gandhi Canal in Rajasthan.

**(ii) Need to provide better rail facilities in eastern Uttar Pradesh to boost tourism**

Dr. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY (Shrawasti) : The north-eastern region of Uttar Pradesh is a very backward area from the development point of view. Despite international importance of Budha Circuit and visited by lakhs of foreign tourists and receiving huge foreign exchange, this region is unable to make its presence felt. This region is not connected directly with major cities of the country through road and railway network. That's why the people of this area could not connect themselves with the main stream of the nation.

Now the time has come that the Centre will have to take initiative in this regard. So, I request the Government through this House that keeping in view the above facts, gauge conversion from Anandnagar of North-eastern railway to Gonda, laying new rail line from Bahraich to Tulsipur, introducing Budha-on-wheel special train at Budha Circuit should be undertaken at the earliest and for tourism, foreign exchange earned therefrom and to improve the living Standard of the people of this area, these railway projects should be sanctioned with immediate effect.

**(iii) Need to include the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi in the curriculum of schools and colleges in the country**

[English]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Nagpur): In the present scenario, the society is increasingly becoming bereft of basic fundamental human values. Too much violence, hatred, conflict, strife for one reason or the other is visible which is enough to fill us with a sense of despair. Realising this, the United Nations General Assembly declared to observe Gandhiji's birthday as an International Day of Non-violence. Quite a number of countries have honoured Gandhiji by one way or other and in fact have adopted his teachings as a curriculum in their educational institutions. New Jersey have also adopted the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi as one of the subject of studies. In the said context of rising non-violence in the society it would be practicable and beneficial to adopt the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi as one of the subjects in the curriculum of our schools and

colleges to imbibe the spirit of nationalism and non-violence in the lives of the coming generation.

**(iv) Need to form a separate Ministry for Fisheries Development**

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (Alappuzha): Formation of separate Ministry for Fisheries Development is a matter which requires urgent attention of the Government of India. At present Fisheries Department is a part of the Ministry of Agriculture. As a major Department, Agriculture ministry can not focus on fisheries sector and it is treated as a minor subject. If a separate Ministry of fisheries is formed, it would provide massive fillip to the economic development of the fishermen population of the country.

As all are aware India is endowed with vast fisheries resources in terms of a coastline of 8118 kms and 2.02 million sq. kms of Exclusive Economic Zone. These resources are one of the main sources of livelihood for the rural poor, particularly the fishermen community. An estimated 14 million people are engaged in fishing, aquaculture and ancillary activities in the country. The fishermen communities are mostly poor and their living conditions are not good. The estimated fisher folk continues are not good. The estimated fisher folk population of Kerala is 11 lakhs and Alappuzha district is in the first place with a fishermen population of 1.90 lakhs.

India is the third largest producer of fish in the world and the second largest producer of fresh water fish in the world, 20% of fish production in the country is from Kerala. The total value of marine products exported from the country during 2006-07 was Rs. 8363.53 crores.

As the fisheries sector provides livelihood to a sizeable number of people whose living conditions are poor, special and urgent attention of Government is warranted in implementing schemes for their welfare. In the above circumstances, I urge the Government to kindly take urgent action to form a separate ministry for Fisheries Development by bifurcating the Agriculture ministry.

**(v) Need for better train facilities for Bansgaon Parliamentary Constituency**

[Translation]

SHRI KAMLESH PASWAN (Bansgaon): I would like to draw the attention of the Railway Minister towards the problem of railway connectivity in my constituency, Bansgaon. Bansgaon constituency of Gorakhpur district has been a centre of power from ancient times. The region situated between Rapti and Saryu rivers has been in limelight for its religious, historical and cultural importance.

The region under which the places of Sant Kabir and Devarahwa Baba fall, is facing water logging problem due to rivers. The only road connecting Gorakhpur to Varanasi gets damaged by flood and it is the sole means of transportation. There are historical centres of Buddhist pilgrimage and thousands of pilgrims visit here from India and abroad. Broad gauge railway line has been laid from Gorakhpur to Nepal border. If railway line between Dohrighat and Gorakhpur is laid and gauge conversion is done to Mau via Bansgaon, the distance between Banaras to Kath-mandu will get reduced. At present, traveling between Gorakhpur to Banaras takes eight hours. If railway track is laid between Gorakhpur to Dohrighat, this distance will be covered in three hours only. So, Minister of Railways may kindly pay attention towards it.

**(vi) Need to take steps for renovation, protection and beautification of ancient historical ponds located in Tikamgarh Parliamentary Constituency and other parts of Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Tikamgarh): There were about 950 historical ponds of Chandel era under the Tikamgarh Constituency area of the Tikamgarh district in Madhya Pradesh out of which almost 400 ponds are still existing. Rest of the ponds have lost their existence due to encroachments and farming over them. Farmers not only use the existing ponds for irrigation at a large scale but also drinking water is supplied from them and they also increase the water level and provide employment to the people of the society. There is a pond almost in each and every village, but the covering area of these ponds is shrinking gradually thereby affecting the life of the people of this area.

Therefore, I request the Union Government to help in the dredging and beautification of all historical ponds located in Madhya Pradesh including those of the Tikamgarh District and also extend help in protecting their surrounding areas from encroachments.

**(vii) Need to give representation to Rajasthan in Bhakra Beas Management Board**

SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN (Churu): Under the clause 79(2) (A) of the Punjab Reorganization Act, 1966, the Union Government has to appoint two full time members in B.B.M.B. A consensus had emerged in a meeting held on 29, 30 July, 1992 and 6<sup>th</sup> August 1992 between the Minister of Water Resources, Government of India and Chief Minister of Punjab, Rajasthan and Haryana that the appointment to the post of Member Irrigation, B.B.M.B. will be made on rotational basis every two years w.e.f. 1.1.1992, however even after this decision, the officers from Haryana Government are continuously being appointed on the said post. Despite

having huge share in the water of Ravi-Vyas, the state of Rajasthan is being denied representation in BBMB which is unjustified. The Government of Rajasthan has made request (in this regard by raising this issue time and again and it has also been submitted in case it is not possible to offer the post of Member, Irrigation to Rajasthan and Haryana alternatively then third post in B.B.M.B. may be created so that Rajasthan could get its due share. A request to the Prime Minister in this regard by me and of the M.Ps. of Rajasthan in a personal meeting during the last Lok Sabha. I request the Government to take necessary action to provide representation to Rajasthan through the post of Member, Irrigation so that its interests could be protected.

**(viii) Need to open a CGHS dispensary in Indore, Madhya Pradesh**

[English]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): The Central Government Employees of Indore are in desperate need of CGHS dispensary. Indore being the financial capital of Madhya Pradesh is having more than 20000 Central Government Employees. Most of them are retired personnel getting merely Rs. 1000 for their medical facilities. Today a one-time visit to a doctor costs more than Rs. 1000 for a normal person with all the tests and medicines. Then we can simply imagine the financial burden of a retired person. Old age needs more of medical attention. The Central Government Employees Coordination Committee has also arranged four MIG quarters for housing the dispensary. In July 2003, Hon'ble Minister had announced about the opening of CGHS dispensary in Indore but it is yet to be implemented. Even the High Court of Madhya Pradesh has given direction to the Central Government for the opening of the dispensary which has not been complied so far. I would like to request you that this dispensary should be opened immediately.

**(ix) Need to give Clearance for Setting up Current plants in Chamba district of Himachal Pradesh**

[Translation]

DR. RAJAN SUSHANT (Kangra): Chamba district of Himachal Pradesh is not only backward due to adverse geographical conditions but there are also many areas in the district which witness extreme snow and cold resulting in comparatively shorter working days. This district has comparatively less agricultural land and thousands of people of 'Gaddi' community who rear sheep and goat, are facing problems as this means of livelihood is shrinking due to various problems rising in the jungles. Apart from this, poor people of this backward district have very limited options available for earning their livelihood and the ray of hope

lies mainly on the long discussed cement factory. Therefore, the Union Government is requested to remove all obstacles in setting up the cement factory in the Chamba district and get it started immediately by taking necessary action.

**(x) Need to ensure availability of drinking water in drought-hit Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL (Banda): The condition of the farmers have worsened in the country due to long severe drought. The Kharif crops could not be sown in the northern states particularly in Bundelkhand including Banda/Chitrakoot regions of Uttar Pradesh until now. The water in dams, pokhars, rivers, ponds, wells has dried up due to scarce rain, canals have no water as a result, serious crisis of drinking water has risen. Hand pumps have dried up. All kinds of loans of the farmers should be waived off and drinking water should be made available instantly and a team should be sent to assess situation.

**(xi) Need to develop Naimishrayana, a pilgrimage place in Misrikh Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh as a tourist place**

SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT (Misrikh): Naimishrayana is a very famous religious place in Misrikh Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh. There are many a religious places such as Dadhich Kund, Pandav Kila, Hanuman Garhi, Sudarshan Chakra, Maa Lalita Devi Mandir (Shaktipeeth) in this region. Devotees perform 84 kos religious walk around after pilgrimage of four dhams. The pilgrimage is considered complete then only. Devotees not only from within the country, but from many countries of the world visit here. The Puranas also have references of it. But basic amenities are scarce here for pilgrims.

I would like to request the Union Government through this House that appropriate steps should be taken to develop this region as a tourist place, to build an inter-state bus terminal, to link Naimishrayana and Misrikh with the capital Delhi with an Express train, to make road link through a national highway and to beautify the Misrikh railway station along with to provide necessary basic facilities.

**(xii) Need to take steps for dredging of Haldia Port, Kolkata**

[English]

SHRI SUVENDU ADHIKARI (Tamluk): Haldia Port is the only river line port of our country. This port is situated within my constituency. This port is a subsidiary unit of Kolkata Port. Now this Port is facing serious crisis due to deterioration of draft. Also huge amount of silt is being deposited in the channel every day. The dredgers are not

functioning properly. The Hon'ble Minister has already declared 100 days action plan. But it is a matter of regret to note that Haldia Port and the Kolkata Port are excluded from this Plan. I would like to request the Hon'ble Minister to kindly look into the matter and Haldia Port and the Kolkata Port should be included in this list.

**(xiii) Need to provide a special relief package for development of Kandhamal district of Orissa**

SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY (Kandhamal): I would like to draw the attention of the House towards pathetic condition of the people of Kandhamal district of Orissa. The area has suffered large scale violence in the recent past and is also vulnerable to Maoist's attacks. The Kandhamal district is worst-hit by floods almost every year. Kandhamal district is also placed at the lowest level for food security as reported in various World Bank and Government reports. I would request the Government to provide a special relief package for the development of Kandhamal district. I appreciate the schemes being launched by the Government for the development of Tribals. I would request the Government to include Kandhamal district under the KBK scheme of Government of India.

**(xiv) Need to give approval to the plan of Government of Maharashtra for modernization of police force in the State**

SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE (Baramati): The Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India vide their letter dated 22 December, 2008, asked the State Government of Maharashtra to send a plan for modernization of police force for the year 2009-10. Taking into consideration the attack on 26/11/2008 by extremists and considered total need of the police forces for equipment and weaponry for the next two years, a detailed plan of Rs. 585.4652 crore was prepared for 2009-10 and submitted to Government of India on 18 May, 2009. However, in the meeting of the High Powered Committee of the Government of India held on 11 June, 2009, it was decided that the plan submitted by the State Government is not acceptable. A revised plan prepared by the Government of Maharashtra was forwarded to the Government of India on 16 June, 2009. As the extremists threats are still continuing, it is necessary that the plan should be approved so that the police reforms, as prepared by the Maharashtra Government could be implemented.

I hope and trust that the Government will take immediate steps in this regard so that modernization of police force is implemented at the earliest.

12.20 hrs.

RAILWAY BUDGET, 2009-10 -  
GENERAL DISCUSSION - (Contd)*[English]*

MADAM SPEAKER: Item No. 17 — Hon. Minister for Railways, Kumari Mamata Banerjee is to reply.

...(Interruptions)

*[Translation]*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Rest of the business of the Zero Hour will be taken at the end of the day, not now, so sit down, please.

...(Interruptions)

*[English]*

MADAM SPEAKER: The Minister is to reply. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

*[Translation]*

MADAM SPEAKER: Only speech of Mamata ji will go on record .

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): Hon. Madam Speaker. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER : Only the speech of hon. Mamata ji will go on record.

...(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Hon. Madam Speaker, I would like to thank you that you have given me opportunity to reply on Rail Budget....(Interruptions)

SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL (Banda): The whole of Uttar Pradesh is in pain. We are the farmers and this is not concerned to me only, it is concerned to all the farmers of the country. Why the voice of the farmers is going unheard. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down. The matters of the 'Zero Hour' will be taken at the end of the day. Quiet please. This matter will also be taken up please. Sit Down.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: See, it has been decided that some notices of the 'Zero Hour' will be taken now and rest will be taken later. No notice will be left. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: See, it has been decided that twenty notices will be taken everyday in 'Zero Hour', Five, out of twenty, will be taken now and remaining 15 will be taken later. All the notices will be taken, please, let the Hon. Minister speak.

...(Interruptions)

12.23 hrs.

*(Shri R.K. Singh Patel and some other Hon'ble Members then left the House)*

*[English]*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Madam, I presented the Railway Budget on 3rd July 2009 under your leadership...(Interruptions)

*[Translation]*

Facing all the difficulties, the Chair allowed the House to continue its proceedings for a longer time. We got to know the feelings of the Hon'ble Members thereby. I think that 131 speakers participated in the discussion on Railway Budget which is quite a good number. I am thankful to all the Hon'ble Member's who have participated in this discussion. I am also thankful to those who wanted to but could not participate and only heard the speech of other members.

*[English]*

Further, I would like to thank the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and all of our Cabinet colleagues.

*[Translation]*

I am grateful to those who have faced the difficulty.

*[English]*

and the Lok Sabha staff also. Madam, I also want to really thank the chair because a splendid job has been extended for us.

*[Translation]*

Madam, Railways is visible.

[English]

Railways are the lifeline of the Nation and it is the lifeline of national integration also.

[Translation]

The facility of railway is tangible in villages and if it is unavailable it creates difficulty to the people. In my budget speech I had said that the railway network would be provided in all under developed areas, whether it is Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, North-Eastern area, Andaman or Himachal Pradesh. In Himachal Pradesh, Kalka and Kullu-Manali are beautiful places but proposals in respect of these areas will have to be undertaken.

[English]

If the House considers it proper, then we can call a meeting of all the political Parties on this.

[Translation]

As regards economic viability it has been said that it is not economically viable to provide railway network in underdeveloped areas. However, I would like to say that though railway lines are not economically viable but are needed and proposal in this regard is being considered positively and for this I am thankful to the Finance Minister and the Government.

[English]

We will pursue and take it up with the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry because the Prime Minister, and the Finance Minister have also said that the Government wants to create more infrastructure as well as employment generation. It is linked with that.

[Translation]

Due to globalization, our economic policy has improved during the last five, six or ten years since 2002-03, who says it is not so.

[English]

It is so not only in India, but all over the world. If the business is good, then money flows; if the business is not good, then there is a slowdown. All over the world, the economies flourished, but it is only since last year that there is a slowdown in the economy.

[Translation]

When there is no money, then there is a slowdown.

[English]

Everybody is suffering, and it is happening not only in India, but all over the world.

[Translation]

A lot is expected from a young man of 18 years and a person of 70 years is called an old man. The young respect the aged person by offering him the chair. This has been a tradition. After a bad time, good time always comes. We faced adverse situation also but it was not so disastrous as was witnessed all around the world. Even today, the unemployed youth are facing difficulty as they lost their job abroad. Despite this, I would like to say that as the Minister of Railways, all have performed well, whether they were from the ruling party or the opposition.

[English]

I respect all my predecessors.

[Translation]

We have problems of safety and security in railways.

[English]

During the NDA regime, I raised the issue of safety and security. Shri Digvijay Singh was my colleague then, and he is sitting there. We raised the issue of creation of a safety related fund, After the Gaisal train accident, we raised that issue. After that, the Government gave Rs.15,000 crore for the creation of a safety fund. Efforts had been made during the tenure of Nitish Kumarji and Laluji and money was spent on safety related system that too after the issue was raised. It is not that you take the initiative today and it will be done tomorrow. It takes time. On this, I agree with all Members that, development should reach the grass-root level in every corner, phase-wise. I have mentioned about its blueprint we stick to that. Secondly, the funds which we allocate in budget that money should be spent in a proper way. So far as monitoring is concerned, the Member (Engineering), who is in-charge of engineering activities, is accountable and he will take care of that. The Member (Traffic) has to take care of all passenger amenities, cleanliness and other things related to the passengers, be it tatkal to local, or global to local, the traffic system and so on. It is the Member (Traffic) who will take care of these things. All Divisional and Zonal Managers will also take care of these things. In regard to safety and security, I have entrusted this task to the Chairman, Railway Board, who will take care of it. Madam, you will appreciate the fact that the Railway Ministers do not run the engines.

They prepare the policy. We do not know about the operation. If you ask me to do, I cannot do it. I do not know whether the rakes are available, whether the coaches are available and whether it is permissible technically or not.



[Translation]

We have to consider this also.

[English]

I cannot do it.

[Translation]

Therefore the expectations are high. I respect Hon'ble Member's sentiments. I have no problem if everybody wants the demand to be fulfilled at the sametime. But, where from shall we get the coaches and rakes? There is a general complaint of un-hygienic condition of coaches, cockroaches and obsolete coaches. We cannot do without the trains.

Therefore, there is a need to augment the rolling stock. That is why, I said that we have to formulate both long term as well as short term policies in consonance with our requirements during next five years, ten years, twenty years and so on? I approve all the points raised here by the Hon'ble Member's.

[English]

Physically handicapped and senior persons cannot climb the staircase.

[Translation]

There are long staircases. How can they go into the railway stations? They have to walk half a km. or even 1 km. at times to catch a train. Keeping this in mind we have decided to install escalators in four major stations. But then the matter of coaches can be taken up in the next phase only. This has also to be kept in view.

There was a proposal for double-decker coaches. Some Members had their apprehensions about this, but why it cannot be implemented in trains while it is in vogue in the buses. An initiative was taken to this effect earlier but there were no airconditioners which created problems. Therefore, we shall endeavour to achieve it within a year and run two non-stop Duranto Express trains in a month.

[English]

Within a month, this Duranto will start in two places and others will also start.

[Translation]

We will attempt to do it phase by phase. However, the budget commitment shall be fulfilled in the budget year, itself.

[English]

This is our commitment.

[Translation]

We will do our best. It would not look nice if money is not spent as per budgetary provisions. Madam, you will appreciate that when I took charge of my office, the media also apprised me about it.

[English]

I am grateful to them.

[Translation]

Many people complaint that there is no food and water available at the stations, nothing but only burger is available. Madam, though I am not against the children's favourite food, burger but it is not good if a person spends Rs.200/- on a ticket and has to fish out Rs.60/- on a burger only.

[English]

I appreciate that it is a good food.

[Translation]

But poor person cannot afford to buy a burger of Rs.60/- after paying Rs.200/- as fare. Therefore, I have promised to provide 'Janta Khana' and have already issued instructions in this regard. We will definitely start this scheme, You cannot outsource each and everything. There are certain things that we have to do on our own like taking food. I may prefer to eat in company of somebody but I have to eat my own meal. We have decided to take over responsibility of catering service being provided in Rajdhani and Shatabdi Express. Hence, there is no need to outsource it. We have not done it. Passengers of Rajdhani and Shatabdi Express might complain about it. Therefore, department will provide catering services in these trains. We will re-constitute Catering Corporation and Tourism Corporation.

[English]

Let them do the tourism but not food.

[Translation]

This is what outsourcing means,

[English]

Drinking water is a fact. There is scarcity of drinking water on a daily basis.

[Translation]

There is scarcity of drinking water at Railway Stations. It is difficult to dig tubewell nowadays. Therefore, there is scarcity of drinking water. But we have to resolve this problem. It can not be done in just one day. I have said so but I need

time for this. I have given instructions to pay attention towards cleanliness. It is not like that we will ignore passengers amenities and cleanliness.

[English]

One important official will be instructed to look into it.

[Translation]

Railway employees have to undertake lot of work.

[English]

Operation is not that easy.

[Translation]

A lot of trains have to be run. How many commuters are there in Mumbai alone, you can see it yourself. Look at the number of Commuters travelling in suburban areas of Mumbai, Bangalore, Kolkata and Chennai. Operational work in important suburban areas is not easy.

[English]

They are also working day and night. They cannot do everything alone. For this purpose, one officer in each Division is entrusted with this task and he or she will only take care of passenger amenities. We have more than seven thousand stations.

[Translation]

It includes 'A', 'B', and 'C' grade stations. Therefore, I said that we will construct world class stations and include other stations phase-wise. Earlier Model Stations have been constructed but we want to construct world-class stations as per the international standards. MPs have been entrusted with this task. I was aware of this before presentation of budget and I directed.

[English]

You go for tender bids.

[Translation]

It would be global tender, therefore, you may start the process for this tender.

[English]

We can use railway funds for passenger amenities, for operation, for employee welfare but we cannot use railway funds to create world class systems.

[Translation]

Therefore, I said that it will be initiated through public-private partnership model (PPP). Some believe that projects have been initiated through PPP and land has been sold but it is not true. We are not authorized to sell the land.

[English]

Ministers may come and Ministers may go but the Department will go on forever and the Government will go on forever. So, I am not authorized to sell the property of the Railways.

[Translation]

We will give the land on lease for 99 years and we have to formulate business plan for the purpose.

[English]

That is why I said that experts from business houses, the technical people, CRB, MT will be there.

[Translation]

An expert committee will try to expedite the work regarding land bank, land map and construction of Dedicated Freight Corridor.

[English]

Dedicated Freight Corridor will go through all the States. If Western is completed, Eastern is started, then the South-Central and then the Southern.

[Translation]

There is need to try hard to remove all impediments in way of constructing the Dedicated Freight Corridor connecting places in all the four directions of the country.

[English]

Land is our main asset.

[Translation]

We cannot sell the land but the land has been encroached. This land is neither beneficial for Railways nor for the country. But poor people encroach upon such land. I am not in favour of evicting anybody from the land but at the same time, I will not allow to capture the vacant land. I have given instruction for converting vacant land into land bank.

[English]

Our Department is preparing the data for the land bank.

[Translation]

Madam will be happy to know that this will be completed within ten days. Lots of disputes take place in the country over land. Railways have more than three lakh acres of vacant land at its disposal.

[English]

It is an asset.

[Translation]

Lot of industries can be established here. Who says that industries cannot be established? We shall never corporatize the Railways. We are pro-employee.

[English]

Somebody was saying that I was going in for corporatisation. No, I am the last person to do it.

[Translation]

We will not do so but if we commercially exploit it for strengthening passenger amenities and to run more trains, then

[English]

What is the harm?

[Translation]

I am extremely grateful to Hon'ble Member Anant Kumarji, I have worked with him. Arunji expressed his views beautifully in Rajya Sabha. Anant Kumarji also spoke very well.

[English]

They said, why is the Railways running a parallel Government? What parallel Government?

[Translation]

16 Railway Hospitals have already been functioning since 90-100 years, these hospitals have not been constructed during my regime.

[English]

For the welfare of our 14 lakh employees, we have our schools, our colleges, clubs, development centre, etc. Everything we have is for the welfare of our employees.

[Translation]

These facilities are available in ports and several departments also.

[English]

This is nothing special with the Railways.

[Translation]

Today, you are mentioning all that. What is wrong if we have all the facilities and have axillary land of hospital which could be extended to establish a medical college.

We have 40 lakh employees but they do not get opportunity Sons and daughters of the employees will get 50 per cent. They will get the opportunity.

[Translation]

And 50 per cent will be for general students, the outsiders, who do not get advantage. That is why I stated that we would go for P.P.P.

[English]

They can give land and infrastructure.

[Translation]

But you will have to take care of that. Railways does not have sufficient funds to establish a Railway Medical College.

[English]

Railways will provide land, infrastructure and other facilities. We would go for Public Private Partnership so that people can come out - 50 per cent would be for the employees and 50 per cent maybe for the general students also and they would be happy.

[Translation]

We will open several medical colleges then

[English]

who will be benefited? Our new and younger generation would be benefited. If we will open nursing centers then - who will be benefited? The nurses would be benefited. I am proud that Chennai and Kerala have good number of nurses. They have some good hospitals. I know that. Now, we want to extend the facilities to other seven-eight areas also. Hence, let us recruit nurses also. Without nurses, doctors cannot undertake treatment. Doctors can only give the advice, only sisters apply the method and know how to administer oxygen, the saline water, and the medicine. It is with the sisters, not the doctors. Doctors cannot stay with the patients 24-hours. They visit and give advice and the sister is also needed. What is wrong?

I propose to set up even IITs also. Why not we set up IITs for our Railway employees if I go for PPP? Others will also get 50 per cent opportunity. You tell me as to how many MPs are from the Railway family. A very few. Railways have a strength of 14 lakh employees but the population of our country is more than 100 crore, which we have to remember also.

[Translation]

That is why I said that it will be for you.

[English]

The expectation is very high. My BJP brothers have mentioned about core and non-core sections.

[Translation]

Anantji you want to know about the core group, Advaniji, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj and Rajnathji you know that the train is not run by the minister.

[English]

It is the Railway employees, the Railway Board, the Railway Department-Division, Zonal and Local offices. But the steps we can take about core group- I am not a technical expert. If you ask me to run the train, I cannot. I am helpless. They have to run the train. I have said, go for strict monitoring in regard to punctuality, which I have done already. We have set up Monitoring Cell for Punctuality. Trains were delayed for 10 hours, 14 hours and sometimes even 30 hours or 40 hours. Sometimes, it may be due to agitations, accidents, and natural calamities. But we have to monitor. If not, 100 per cent, of course, 85 per cent to 90 per cent, we have to do it. We have to try for that. Nothing is impossible in our life. Let us hope for the betterment.

In regard to non-core sections, we have decided to have Experts Group. I think, we will involve the people from FICCI, CII, other experts from different States, who can have consultation with the Chambers of Commerce. I have no problem. I am happy to announce the name of Shri Amit Mitra - he is from industrial background and he is a 'Padmasri' awardee also. He will be Chairman of the Experts Group to go for a business plan and he will include the Members. From Railway Ministry, I want the Member (Traffic), the Member (Engineering), who would work with the Chairman so that they can interact and they can advise us as to how to go for business deals.

Madam, expectation is very high. I will then be happy to give everybody a train or a station or any project.

[Translation]

But we have shortage of coaches, rakes etc. we have done all that which we can do. Besides that I would give detailed reply of questions asked by other Hon'ble M.Ps ...*(Interruptions)* Everybody would start interrupting now. That is the problem. Madam, the problem is about R.R.B., exams

are conducted in several states but the problem started when the students of one state go to another state to take exams. There were regional clashes spread out in Maharashtra, Bengaluru, Assam and in North-East and at many other places.

[English]

I think, this is the time when the State and Regional expectations are also very high.

[Translation]

We cannot confront it.

[English]

It is a national organization. We have some constitutional guidelines from the Supreme Court and the Government of India also. We will review that; I do not know; I have to go into the details. But if you ask my opinion, I would tell you this.

[Translation]

Apart from English, Hindi Examination should also be conducted in regional languages for local students. Earlier South Indian language was not there but not it is identified in these language also

[English]

Because they do not understand the English language. For Sarthali, the languages is not Sarthali. In their language, it is called Alchiki...*(Interruptions)* Do you know that? Why are you shouting? I know better than you! In Manipur, pronunciatin is different. If you just see the word, it will just look like Bengali. Nothing else.

We are proud to say that we understand Punjabi language, we understand Marathi language, we understand Gujarati language, we understand North-Eastern language, because they are correlated. We understand Sanskrit also. Take any word, that word may be there in Bangla, Urdu, Hindi and everybody understands it. I am happy to say that we will review RRB. If you ask me, I am in favour of that.

[Translation]

50 per cent quota should be given to local people.

[English]

It is to give them a boost.

[Translation]

There is no need to fight for that. These are national languages. If railways will have the employees of other states then

[English]

Railways will be benefited because they can interact.

[Translation]

That is why local people are also required.

[English]

We want railways for all, not for a particular person or for any individual. It should be for all.

[Translation]

We give importance to local sentiments and for that

[English]

we will review and then we will announce a formula.  
..(Interruptions)

[Translation]

personally feel that it will be reviewed. I have said this in my speech.

[English]

The speeches made outside need not be taken. Shri Ananth Kumar referred regarding something. Whatever I lay on the Table of the House will be my speech.

[Translation]

As far as R.O.Bs and R.U.Bs are concerned, State Government and Central Government give 50-50 per cent share in R.U.B. The State Governments have completed few projects and left many others and that is the problem.

[English]

We have decided to talk to the Planning Commission. There are some States; I must appreciate them that they are willing.

[Translation]

Like Maharashtra has given that. Karnataka is also ready to give that. Chief Minister of Punjab is also interested in giving that. We support for what they have done ... (Interruptions) Please listen to me. It is good that some states are giving their share but some states do not give that and as a result those projects remain incompletd ... (Interruptions) I have told about that. We have made some preparations for that. I have told in the Budget that I will talk to the Planning Commission. We have to find out some way out to make some arrangements in this regard. If it will remain idle for 10-20 years then lots of problems would be there. There is no need to delay it for so long. It is a very important area. Sornetimes accidents also take place.

Therefore, it is necessary to pay attention towards that. I request the Government to call an all party meeting to disucss this problem of incompletd projects.

[English]

The rakes, coaches and everything is not available with us. So, we have to go for more rolling stocks. That is why, this time, instead of 11,000 wagons, we have given an order for 18,000. The wagon industry will be benefited including our production units and others - Chitaranjan Locomotives and others that are in other parts of the country.

[Translation]

I have told about the expenditure, Government have its earnings but have its expenditures also. It's not like that they have earnings only which they deposit in banks. All this happened in Lалуji's time. But we are not talking about any individual.

Madhavraj ji, George Fernandes, Nitish ji and Lалу ji all these were Minister of Railways at one time or the other.

[English]

We are just individuals. The Department or the Government is the main thing.

[Translation]

Government may come and go and have some good and bad works to their credit.

Madam, the 90 thousand which we were talking about,

[English]

that is the surplus money of five years.

[Translation]

Out of that we will have to spend some money also. We can earn something after this expenditure. When we get salary, we have to pay for food and traveling out of that or we deposit the entire amount in banks. Even if we deposit the entire salary in banks then also we have to spend some money lor one purpose or another. It is also individually but

[English]

the Department is different.

[Translation]

Madam, we have to pay salary to our 14 lakh employees and run the trains. After this expenditure our investible surplus will be Rs. 8631 crore.

[English]

That is the actual fact because we are not here only for the earnings. We have expenditure also.

[Translation]

...(Interruptions) I said it will be our surplus.

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saran) : Give the details of current year.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Just one month has passed of current year ...(Interruptions) the details will be prepared covering entire year. Lalu ji I have given the actual figures ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER : Please address to the Chair.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Madam, I am saying all this because the members have asked me about the details.

[Translation]

Last year we have paid Rs. 13,600 crore consequent upon implementation of the Sixth Pay Commission Report and we will have to give Rs. 14,600 crore during the current year also.

[English]

We are paying Rs. 28,200 Crore as burden of the Sixth Pay Commission. We are also paying full dividend to the Finance Ministry and after all that our investible surplus is only Rs. 8,631 crore. Is it clear?

[Translation]

...(Interruptions) We have worked out the expenditure for the term of five years...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER : Please let her reply.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT KUMAR (Bangalore South) : Madam, when are you bringing the white paper?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I am coming to that point. Sometimes Members of Parliament raise this point that Railways has done nothing except extending the rail lines by ten thousand kilometers. This is true, but this is also a fact that Britishers laid only the meter gauge lines

and those lines have been converted into broad gauge. We have increased the length of rail lines by 10 thousand kilometers. We have converted meter gauge lines into broad gauge lines; electrified and doubled the rail lines.

[English]

You calculate that also.

[Translation]

We have laid new lines of 12430 kilometers and finished doubling work of 14490 kilometers rail lines and have converted 18449 kilometers meter gauge rail lines into broad gauge lines.

[English]

Madam around 45,369 kms of railway tracks, in total have also been added. It is not that we have not done anything.

[Translation]

I have stated that we will bring a white paper and regarding this I would like to clarify something.

[English]

It is not something that I am saying against any individual,

[Translation]

White papers have been brought earlier also. Sometimes Government introduce white paper or status paper in the House. If I am not wrong, Shri George Fernandes and Nitish Kumar had also done this.

[English]

There have been other ministers from other Departments who have also done this.

[Translation]

As I have stated it serves the purpose of giving information on long term, short term policies and if we do not take into account the present, past and future policies, it will not give the true picture. Now-a-days, the first thing the parents of a new born child do is to fill the form to get education loan for him so that when he is grown up, he can get good education. Similarly, it is meant for our future so that we can do something in future...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi) : No one fills the form for education loan in childhood.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : You have no idea. Several people do so. If they do not do, how their wards will

get higher education? There are loans for pursuing higher education. I have given you just one example and it is up to you whether you accept it or not. I want to state only this much that we want to bring a white paper giving details of previous, present and future state of affairs right

[English]

from Financial background to new railway project background

[Translation]

along with the details of what we can do in short term and long term and how the railway can perform in a better way,

[English]

and we can see the Railways could reach to the people. We will take care of that. That is why, you will appreciate that we have built up our assets and have created infrastructure also from our own earnings. We are not here to build surplus balances but we are here to build and sustain our infrastructure.

[Translation]

We spend the funds. We spend whatever income we earn. Hence, our white paper is aimed at making the department better and public friendly.

[English]

from economic background to the operation background; from economic background to infrastructure background; and economic background to future background. It will be our future and it will be a healthy baby. That is why, we have decided to do this.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Mamataji, will you yield for a minute? Madam, I want to ask a straight question because in her Budget Speech, she has said two things. One is that she is going to bring a White Paper for the last five years' performance. Secondly, she has also said that she is going to bring a Vision Document for 2020 of the Railways. Therefore, these two are different documents though they are inter-related because without White Paper and its analysis, you cannot have the Vision Document. Therefore, my straight question to you is this. Will you please lay the White Paper on the first day of the Winter Session because it is of very great importance as whatever has happened in the last five years will come out before the entire country?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Ananthji, you were also there in the Government and you must be knowing that there are some procedures. I do not know internal audit or external

audit. People will take care of that. We have every set up with us and whenever the process will be actually over, I will bring a White Paper in this House as also the Vision Document which will be very colourful. It will not be black and white alone but it will be a colourful document. Therefore, please give us some time. Everything will be colourful. Now we are passing through a colourful world. So, it will be colourful...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

What did you ask?

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH (Munger) : Acharya ji will look after that or not?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: He will look after the matter if remains the Chairman of the Standing Committee.

[English]

Regarding optic fiber, Mr. Sam Pitroda will advise me on 33,000 kilometre optic fiber cable which we want to lay.

[Translation]

Arun ji has also said that what is the need for Railways to lay optical fibre cable? Railway also need it.

[English]

It will reach to the grass-roots also.

[Translation]

I had initiated this work when I was in NDA Government. You did not oppose me then, why are you against me now? I had initiated this work.

[English]

Please go through the budget.

[Translation]

I did not say anything against you.

[English]

You go through the budget and you will find that I talked about commercial utilization of land and air space as also about optic fiber cable. I took the initiative.

[Translation]

But it has not been completed so far. So, I had to carry out whole exercise again. If it had happened then I would not have had any problem. But I took the initiative when we were in NDA Government.

[English]

Please take care for that.

[Translation]

You can say to me what you want to say. You have freedom of speech. But I have mentioned the facts.

Madam, we have constituted Rail Development Corporation in Mumbai. Rs.1004 crore have been allocated for it and target for completion of some projects as soon as possible has been given. For suburban railway also 40 more have been added to it. After receiving rake it will be completed smoothly. The Coach we have provided will be delivered. Such Rail Development Corporation Limited in Orissa has been constituted for track implementation.

[English]

These include Haridaspur-Paradip, Angul-Sukinda, new lines and doublings of Cuttack-Barang, Khurda-Barang, Rajatgarh-Barang, Raipur-Titlagarh and Sambhalpur-Titlagarh. The necessary funds for these projects are being provided.

[Translation]

You may see it.

[English]

Then there are some problems in Andhra Pradesh.

13.00 hrs.

The hon. Members from the State of Andhra Pradesh has mentioned about certain problems and I will take care of them. The remaining meter gauge line in the State of Andhra Pradesh will be converted into broad gauge during the year. You should see it. The new line of Obulavaripalle - Krishnapatnam and doublings of Raichur - Guntkal and Gooty - Renigunta are being implement by RVNL on fast track basis.

Madam, likewise, in Karnataka, priority is being given to Kottur, Harihar, Hassan Bangalore new lines, gauge conversion of Shimoga - Talguppa and doubling of Ramanagram - Mysore. The progress of projects in Uttar Pradesh will also be expedited including Deoband - Roorkee, Guna - Etawah new lines, gauge conversion of Mathura - Achnera, Kasganj - Bareilly and doublings of Lucknow Mughalsarai and Gonda - Gorakhpur — Chappra routes.

[Translation]

Such things will happen in Mumbai...*(Interruptions)*  
Under MUTP..*(Interruptions)* but allow me to speak  
...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Madam, in Maharashtra, priority is being accorded to Amravati - Narkhed new line anff gauge conversion work of Pandharpur - Miraj. MUTP works are being implemented on priority. The doubling of Panvel - Pen - Roha and Udhana - Jalgaon will also be expedited and the Murnbai Railway Vikas Corporation has been set up for the other projects  
...*(Interruptions)* This is not the Budget. I cannot give  
...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please let the hon. Minister reply.

... *(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you may please address the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Let me finish.  
...*(Interruptions)*

The State of Andhra Pradesh has got five new trains, three extensions and two increase in frequencies, Orissa has got seven new trains, four extensions and two increase in frequency. Uttar Pradesh has got 21 new trains, 11 extensions and seven increase in frequency. Karnataka has got 12 new trains, four extensions, one increase in frequency. Maharashtra has got 19 new trains, five extensions and four increase in frequencies... *(Interruptions)* What else do you want? ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

What more can we do in one year? ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing, except what the hon. Railway Minister is saying, will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\*...*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I have not finished my reply. I want to add something here...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, if you want to lay your speech, you may do so.

...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I want to add something here...*(Interruptions)* If you do like this then I would not able to add anything more...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Let her speak.

\*Not recorded.



...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please take your seats. I have to say something.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: There are matters concerning hon. Members and their constituencies. They can meet the hon. Minister and discuss their problems and issues with her. Now let her complete her reply.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: In this way, we will not be able to solve any problem. Kindly meet her and whatever is the problem, to the best of her ability, she will solve it. Mr. Minister, please continue with your reply.

...(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Madam, I am not a magician to simply accept thousands of requests made to me....(Interruptions) Please allow me to give some concessions now. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*...

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I am happy to announce the concessions for the Indian Police Medal holders also. There will be now concession up to 60 per cent for women and 50 per cent for men in all trains except Rajdhani and Shatabdi Express, Janshabdi trains. As regards artistes, the painters, and the cultural troupes, earlier the concession was upto 50 per cent in the second class sleeper. We are, now, allowing the same concession in the Rajdhani and Shatabdi Express or Janshabdi trains to our artists, the musicians and dancers from the cultural field so that our art and culture in AC2, AC3 or AC Chair Cars can be developed and become popular throughout the world. ...(Interruptions)

Now I want to announce some more things. I have received some requests from hon. Members. I am accepting some of their requests....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

...(Interruptions) If something, is remaining now, we will announce it later....(Interruptions)

Madam, we have accommodated Goa as world class station.

\*Not recorded.

[English]

Goa is a tourist centre as also Calicut. I have taken note of the following requests for inclusion as Adarsh Stations. They are Ramagundam, Tamluk, Sasaram, Vizianagaram, Kasargod, Contai, Kakinada, Mahishadal, Chanchol, Nizamabad, Zahirabad, Bapatla, Nandyal, Kurnool, Anantapur, Nellore, Guntakal, Renigunta, Adilabad, Mecheda, Medak, Mehboobnagar, Thalassery, Badagra, Pattikkad, Thirur, Una, Rohtak, Bahadurgarh, Sonapat, Kosli, Kalanaur, Noagachia, Panipat, Ajni, Udampur, Meerut, Ballia, Thiruchirappalli, Jehanabad, Dhenkanal, Lalitpur, Bidar, Gulbarga, Wadi and Dadar, Mau, Azamgarh, Kottayam ...(Interruptions) I want to sanction multifunctional complexes in Calicut, Rajkot, Nanded, Kathgodam, Nainital, Hardwar, Trichur, Haldia, Kurukshetra, Ayodhya, Alleppey, Talcher, Guntur, Rajahmundry and Bardwan, Kannur, Chamrajnagar, Amudalavalsa...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Is Allahabad not in list of world class...(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Allahabad is in world class...(Interruptions)

[English]

I am sanctioning one Duroto Train for Andhra Pradesh, a non-stop train, from Delhi to Secunderabad and also one Duroto train from Mumbai and to Nagpur. I also want to give an extension to Bangalore but let me finalise it. ...(Interruptions) I will be giving one Duranto Train to Bangalore also.

Regarding Kerala, the hon. Members made a request. ...(Interruptions) The train upto Jaipur will be extended upto Ajmer also.

Madam Speaker, there are some other requests also. I will go into the details. I will give reply to the hon. Members.

With these words, I would request the House to pass the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2009-10. ...(Interruptions) I will go into the details. Please give me some time. I will go through the requests.

13.11 hrs.

MOTION RE: SUSPENSION OF RULE 331G

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): I beg to move:

"That the Rule 331G of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2009-10 be suspended."

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Rule 331G of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in its application to the discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2009-10 be suspended."

*The motion was adopted*

13.12 hrs.

#### OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, as you are aware, the House would now vote the Demands for Grants (Railways) for the year 2009-2010. Although Rule 331G of the Rules of Procedure has been suspended to enable the House to pass the Demands for Grants without the same being referred to the Departmentally Related Standing Committee, the Demands would, however, stand referred to

the Standing Committee on Railways, after it has been constituted, for examination and report to the House.

13.12½ hrs.

#### \*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAYS), 2009-10

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, it has been agreed to in the Business Advisory Committee meeting held on 8th July, 2009 that the Demands for Grants (Railways) for the year 2009-10 may be voted by the House without discussion. As sufficient time for moving cut motions is not available, I treat all the cut motions, which have been circulated, as moved.

Motion moved:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2010, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 16.

#### *Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2009-10 to be submitted to the Vote of the Lok Sabha*

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants on Account voted by the House on 19.2.2009 (Rs.)	Amount of Demand for Grants submitted to the Vote of the House (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1	Railway Board	75,99,49,000	113,98,98,000
2	Miscellaneous Expenditure (General)	233,25,49,000	346,50,99,000
3	General Superintendence and Services on Railways	1962,60,37,000	2443,20,73,000
4	Repairs and Maintenance of Permanent Way and Works	2983,97,92,000	3924,97,52,000
5	Repairs and Maintenance of Motive Power	1317,55,54,000	1989,11,09,000
6	Repairs and Maintenance of Carriages and Wagons	3044,48,49,000	4380,96,98,000
7	Repairs and Maintenance of Plant and Equipment	1741,93,40,000	2267,86,80,000
8	Operating Expenses-Rolling Stock and Equipment	2243,41,67,000	3019,17,54,000

\*Moved with recommendations of the President.

1	2	3	4
9	Operating Expenses - Traffic	5861,11,11,000	5320,54,61,000
10	Operating Expenses - Fuel	4977,06,17,000	9736,12,35,000
11	Staff Welfare and Amenities	1265,96,65,000	1914,36,27,000
12	Miscellaneous Working Expenses	1297,88,19,000	1859,76,39,000
13	Providend Fund, Pension and Other Retirement Benefits	6555,09,80,000	7710,19,61,000
14	Appropriation to Funds	8757,42,00,000	12659,84,00,000
15	Dividend to General Revenues,	8,56,23,000	5470,65,77,000
	Repayment of loans taken from General Revenues and Amortization of Over-Capitalisation		
16	Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement		
	Revenue	20,00,00,000	39,98,00,000
	<b>Other Expenditure</b>		
	Capital	14758,98,40,000	28443,77,80,000
	Railway Funds	6668,04,46,000	10315,09,54,000
	Railway Safety Fund	566,59,67,000	890,28,33,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>64339,95,05,000</b>	<b>102846,43,30,000</b>

## CUT MOTIONS

(Token)

SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA (Kendrapara): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100**

Need to grant Rs. 1520 crore in the current budget for development of railways in Orissa. (1)

Need to ensure that the Chennai-Kolkata rail corridor passes through the State of Orissa. (2)

Need to run Garib Raths on the East Coast Railway. (3)

Need for grant of an exclusive financial package to East Coast Railway for fast conversion, doubling, electrification and laying of new lines in Orissa. (4)

Need to extend the track from Paradip to Barauni. (5)

Need to run new trains on the East Coast Railway to improve connectivity with important towns and cities in the country. (6)

Need for setting up a Rail Production Unit in the State of Orissa. (7)

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH (Kaiserganj): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100**

Need to develop Gonda and Karnailganj railway stations. (8)

Need to run Rajdhani Express from New Delhi to Hajipur/Patna via Gonda. (9)

Need to free railway ticket reservation services from mafias. (10)

Need to provide free travel facilities to farmers for visiting pilgrimage centres by trains. (11)

Need to provide stoppage to Sapt Kranti Express at Gonda railway Station. (12)

SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA (Kendrapara): I beg to move:

That the demand under the Head Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100

Need for conversion of all unmanned rail crossings on the East Coast Railway into manned ones. (13)

Need for laying of new lines in the under-developed Koraput-Bolangir-Kalahandi (KBK) region of Orissa. (14)

Need for laying of new rail links, construction of elaborate rail terminals and bulk cargo handling points on the East Coast Railway. (15)

Need to develop better passenger amenities at all important stations on the East Coast Railway system. (16)

**(Disapproval of Policy)**

SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT (Misrikh): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced to Rs. 1.**

Failure to formulate and implement any scheme aimed at linking all tourist places in Uttar Pradesh with the railway network. (17)

Failure to provide adequate passenger facilities in Uttar Pradesh. (18)

Failure of the government to reduce freight charges in respect of salt and other essential commodities. (19)

Failure to introduce a train on the lines of "Palace on Wheels" in Uttar Pradesh. (20)

Failure of the government to reduce the charges of Monthly Season Tickets. (21)

Failure to replace old coaches. (22)

Failure to prevent late running of trains in the country. (23)

Failure to provide adequate train connectivity in Uttar Pradesh. (24)

Failure to make journey by railway affordable. (25)

Failure to complete long pending projects and track renewal works in the country in time. (26)

Failure to provide overtime allowance to railway employees on regular basis. (27)

Failure to construct overbridges/underbridges in Uttar Pradesh, on time. (28)

Failure to formulate a clear policy for use of vacant railway land. (29)

**(Token)**

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100**

Need to issue rail passes to persons holding President Medal and Government Employees. (30)

Need to increase quota of reservation in trains originating from Sitapur, Hardoi and Kanpur. (31)

Need to ensure recruitment of employees against vacancies arising out of retirements, particularly in Group 'C' and 'D'. (32)

Need to introduce a new superfast train between Lucknow and Delhi on priority basis. (33)

Need to appoint Gangmen in proportion to Railway tracks under various Railway Zones in the country. (34)

Need to provide for manning of unmanned railway crossings particularly in the night. (35)

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Expenditure (General) (Pages 02.01.1-02.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100**

Need to allocate funds for ongoing survey on various railway sections in Uttar Pradesh. (36)

**That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways (Pages 03.01.1-03.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to provide adequate safety and communication facility to the Gangmen on duty in rural areas, particularly at night. (37)

**That the demand under the Head Repairs and Maintenance of Plant and Equipment (Pages 07.01.1-07.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to set up spare parts manufacturing units at Sitapur, Hardoi and Kanpur. (38)

Need to modernise plants and equipments and Railway stations in all Railway Divisions falling under the territory of Uttar Pradesh. (39)

**(Disapproval of Policy)**

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Working Expenses (Pages 12.01.1-12.03.1) be reduced Re. 1.**

Failure to ensure safety of rail passengers. (40)

Failure to prevent rail accidents. (41)

**(Disapproval of Policy)**

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced to Re. 1.**

Failure to complete laying of new rail lines in Uttar Pradesh. (42)

Failure in timely completion of doubling works in Uttar Pradesh. (43)

**(Token)**

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to ensure cleanliness in trains and provision of better amenities to passengers. (44)

Need to construct more platforms at Sitapur, Hardoi and Kanpur railway stations. (45)

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to link famous religious place of Namisharanya in Misrikh Parliamentary constituency with Delhi through an Express train. (47)

Need to link Misrikh with Delhi through an Express train. (48)

Need to provide halts of express trains at all major railway stations in Uttar Pradesh. (49)

Need to reduce hike in freight charges of coal. (50)

Need to reduce freight charges of salt. (51)

Need to reduce second class passenger fare. (52)

Need to achieve target of purchase of wagons, during current financial year by the railways. (53)

Need to increase number of EMU coaches between various stations in Uttar Pradesh commensurate with their demand. (54)

Need to construct Tirthyatri Niwas at railway stations at major pilgrim centres and cities of Uttar Pradesh. (55)

Need to construct separate rest houses for pilgrims and tourists at major railway stations in Uttar Pradesh. (56)

Need to create new railway zone in Uttar Pradesh. (57)

Need to ensure proper maintenance of computers and post an additional enquiryman at major railway stations in Uttar Pradesh. (58)

Need to discourage extravagance in railway department. (59)

**That the demand under the Head Staff Welfare and Amenities (Pages 11.01.1-11.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to allot land for construction of school buildings for children of railway employees in Uttar Pradesh. (60)

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to undertake electrification of major railway sections in Uttar Pradesh. (61)

Need to construct railway overbridges at railway crossings having traffic congestion in Uttar Pradesh. (62)

Need to provide water coolers at railway stations in Uttar Pradesh. (63)

Need to provide sitting facilities at all railway stations in Uttar Pradesh. (64)

Need to strengthen announcement systems at major railway stations in Uttar Pradesh. (65)

Need to provide credit card facilities at major railway stations in Uttar Pradesh. (66)

Need to extend banking facilities at major railway stations in Uttar Pradesh. (67)

Need to provide wagons commensurate with demand for carriage of foodgrains in Uttar Pradesh. (68)

Need to ensure smooth functioning of PCOs installed at platforms in railway stations under various railway zones. (69)

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to check rampant corruption in Railways. (70)

Need to fill up posts vacant at various levels through Railway Recruitment Board on priority basis. (71)

Need to modernize railway workshops in the country. (72)

Need to ensure quick movement of perishable items at concessional freight charges. (73)

Need to curb increasing rail accidents in the country. (74)

Need to fill up backlog vacant posts reserved for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. (75)

Need to allot Catering and Book stalls to educated unemployed youth belonging to poor families on priority basis. (76)

Need to reduce non-planning expenditure in railways.(77)

Need to arrange for manning of all railway crossings coming under different railway zones of Uttar Pradesh. (78)

**That the demand under the Head Staff Welfare and Amenities (Pages 11.01.1-11.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to establish a railway hospital for special treatment of kidney transplantation, cardiac surgery and cancer in the State of Uttar Pradesh. (79)

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Working Expenses (Pages 12.01.1-12.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to strengthen security system to prevent theft in railways. (80)

Need to ensure adequate security for rail passengers.(81)

Need to improve catering services in railways. (82)

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to increase procurement of electric locomotives by Railways. (83)

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to deploy the doctors in long-distance express and mail trains. (84)

Need to issue concessional monthly tickets to the people living below poverty line. (85)

Need to develop railway stations of district headquarters of Uttar Pradesh State as model stations. (86)

Need to give railway land on lease to the poor people of the country. (87)

Need to reduce railway fares and freight charges of essential commodities. (88)

Need to prevent frequent traffic congestions on railway stations under different railway zones in the State of Uttar Pradesh due to erratic supply of electricity. (89)

Need to make available appropriate parking facilities at railway stations under different railway zones in the State of Uttar Pradesh in view of traffic congestion. (90)

Need to prevent undesirable delay in providing full rake loading facilities on stations under different railway zones of Uttar Pradesh. (91)

Need to renovate the access routes on stations without any delay under different railway zones of Uttar Pradesh State. (92)

Need to introduce additional passenger trains under different railway zones of Uttar Pradesh State. (93)

Need to open rail booking counters in nearest suburban areas of cities. (94)

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Expenditure (General) (Pages 02.01.1-02.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to conduct a comprehensive survey to lay rail lines between different places in Uttar Pradesh State. (95)

**That the demand under the Head Staff Welfare and Amenities (Pages 11.01.1-11.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100**

Need to improve and upgrade the buildings of Railway Stations at district headquarters of Uttar Pradesh State.(96)

**That the demand under the Head Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to beautify Misrikh railway station. (97)

Need to provide covered parking and other facilities at Railway Stations in District Headquarters of Uttar Pradesh State. (98)

Need to construct more retiring rooms of upper and second class at railway stations of Uttar Pradesh. (99)

Need to extend the shades at platforms at railway station under various railway zones in Uttar Pradesh State. (100)

Need to computerize reservation, signal and fare system at all important railway stations in Uttar Pradesh State. (101)

Need to deploy Chowkidars at all railway crossings in Uttar Pradesh State. (102)

Need to accelerate the laying of new rail lines in Uttar Pradesh State. (103)

Need for doubling the railway line in important railway sections of the State of Uttar Pradesh. (104)

Need to construct pucca road under rail bridges. (105)

Need to make proper arrangement for computerized reservation at railway stations of Uttar Pradesh State.(106)

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to open computerised reservation centres at all the Railway stations coming under Mishrikh Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh. (107)

Need to provide computerised reservation facilities at all the Railway stations in Uttar Pradesh. (108)

Need to make proper arrangement of drinking water and canteens at all the Railway stations of Uttar Pradesh and to keep them clean. (109)

Need to modernise all the Railway stations coming under Misrikh Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh. (110)

Need to provide repair and maintenance of Railway Stations falling under Misrikh Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh. (111)

Need to provide sheds on the platform of Railway Stations falling under Misrikh Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh. (112)

Need to provide adequate potable water facilities at Railway Stations falling under Misrikh Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh. (113)

Need to improve sanitation arrangements at all the railway stations falling under Misrikh Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh. (114)

**(Disapproval of Policy)**

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Expenditure (General) (Pages 02.01.1-02.02.1) be reduced Re. 1.**

Failure to complete pending survey works of rail lines in Uttar Pradesh. (115)

**(Token)**

**That the demand under the Head Repairs and Maintenance of Motive Power (Pages 05.01.1-05.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to establish a workshop in Uttar Pradesh for maintenance of rail engines. (116)

**That the demand under the Head Repairs and Maintenance of Carriages and Wagons (Pages 06.01.1-06.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to establish a workshop for repair of wagons in Misrikh Parliamentary Constituency in U.P. (117)

**(Disapproval of Policy)**

**That the demand under the Head Staff Welfare and Amenities (Pages 11.01.1-11.03.1) be reduced by Re. 1.**

Failure to repair and maintain the railway colonies of railway divisions falling in the state of Uttar Pradesh. (118)

**(Token)**

**That the demand under the Head Staff Welfare and Amenities (Pages 11.01.1-11.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to provide proper educational facilities for the children of staff of various railway zones of Uttar Pradesh. (119)

Need to provide houses to staff at railway stations of various railway zones of Uttar Pradesh. (120)

Need to provide emergency medical facilities to passengers at stations of various railway zones of Uttar Pradesh. (121)

Need to establish 50 bed railway hospital in Misrikh Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh for welfare of railway employees. (122)

Need to provide proper housing for railway employees especially Gangmen. (123)

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Working Expenses (Pages 12.01.1-12.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to deploy more railway protection force personnel for adequate security of railway assets. (124)

Need to improve catering and bedding related facilities in trains. (125)

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100**

Need to convert all narrow gauge lines in Uttar Pradesh into broad gauge lines. (126)

**(Disapproval of Policy)**

SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE (Shirdi):  
I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced Re. 1.**

Failure to formulate and implement a scheme to connect all the tourist places of Maharashtra through rail network. (127)

Failure to connect Sai Baba Shirdi Dham with Delhi through rail. (128)

Failure to start a train on the lines of 'Palace on Wheels' in Maharashtra. (129)

Failure to provide adequate number of trains in Maharashtra. (130)

Failure to construct rail over bridge/under bridge in Maharashtra on time. (131)

**(Token)****That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to provide halt for all the express trains including Sampark Kranti Express (2629), Pune-Gorakhpur Express (1037) and Yashwantpur-Banglore-Hazrat Nizamuddin Express at Kopergaon station. (132)

Need to give the status of Model Railway Station to Kopergaon Railway station being the nearest station to the world famous Shirdi Dham and to provide all the necessary basic amenities to the devotees coming there. (133)

Need to start a special express/super fast train from Delhi to Shirdi and Shirdi to Delhi. (134)

Need to give the status of Model Railway Station to Nagarsul station near world famous Sai Baba Shirdi Dham and to provide all the basic amenities to devotees coming there from Southern India. (135)

Need to increase quota of reservation in trains coming to Shirdi. (136)

Need to provide special tour package for important pilgrimage sites of the country especially world famous Sai Baba Shirdi Dham by Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation. (137)

Need to deploy gangmen in proportion to the length of railway track in various zones of railway under Maharashtra. (138)

Need to deploy railway employees, especially during night, at railway gates in various railway divisions coming under Maharashtra. (139)

Need to provide halt for express trains at all major stations in Maharashtra. (140)

Need to provide credit card facilities at important railway stations of Maharashtra. (141)

Need to provide banking facility at important stations of Maharashtra. (142)

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Expenditure (General) (Pages 02.01.1-02.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to allocate funds for ongoing survey on various railway lines in Maharashtra. (143)

**That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways (Pages 03.01.1-03.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to electrify important railway divisions in Maharashtra. (144)

Need to construct over-bridge over heavy traffic railway crossings in Maharashtra. (145)

**That the demand under the Head Repairs and Maintenance of Plant and Equipment (Pages 07.01.1-07.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to establish railway spare parts manufacturing unit in Shirdi. (146)

**(Disapproval of Policy)****That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Re. 1.**

Failure to complete the laying of new rail line in Maharashtra. (147)

Failure to complete the doubling of the rail lines in Maharashtra on time. (148)

**(Token)****That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to increase seats/berths for all classes in all super fast trains passing through Kopergaon/Manmad. (149)

Need to Modernize all plants and equipments and railway stations in all railway divisions coming under Maharashtra. (150)

Need to construct more platforms at Kopergaon station. (151)

Need to establish a rail coach factory in Maharashtra especially in Shirdi town. (152)

Need to provide water coolers at railway stations of Maharashtra. (153)

Need to provide sitting arrangements at all railway stations in Maharashtra. (154)

Need to strengthen public announcement system at important railway stations of Maharashtra. (155)

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to provide adequate wagons as per demand for transporting food grains in Maharashtra. (156)

Need to start more super fast trains in Maharashtra. (157)



Need to increase EMU coaches between various stations in Maharashtra as per demand. (158)

Need for the proper maintenance of computers at important railway stations and to appoint an additional enquiry clerk at railway stations in Maharashtra. (159)

Need to complete pending railway projects in Maharashtra in a time bound manner. (160)

Need for proper maintenance of all the railway stations of Maharashtra. (161)

Need to develop railway stations of district headquarters of Maharashtra as Model Stations. (162)

Need to run EMU trains on time in various railway zones of Maharashtra. (163)

Need to provide efficient system of computerised reservation in railway stations of Maharashtra. (164)

Need to provide more coaches and engines to various railway zones of Maharashtra for the smooth operations of trains (165)

Need to check delay in providing complete rake loading facility at railway stations in various railway zones of Maharashtra. (166)

Need to run additional passenger trains in various railway zones of Maharashtra. (167)

Need to appoint Chowkidars at all unmanned railway crossings falling in Shirdi Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra. (168)

Need to provide covered parking and other facilities at railway stations of district headquarters in Maharashtra. (169)

Need to renovate and upgrade station buildings of district headquarters of Maharashtra. (170)

**That the demand under the Head Staff Welfare and Amenities (Pages 11.01.1-11.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to allot land for the construction of school buildings for the children of railway employees in Maharashtra. (171)

Need to set up a well equipped railway hospital having the facilities for kidney transplantation, heart-surgery and treatment for Cancer in Maharashtra. (172)

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Working Expenses (Pages 12.01.1-12.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to provide proper security at railway crossings under various railway zones of Maharashtra. (173)

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to lay new railway line between Nasik and Pune. (174)

Need to lay new railway line between Manmad-Shahpur via Akola. (175)

Need to lay new railway line at Nevasa Parli Vaidyanath via Belapur. (176)

Need to increase passenger amenities in railway stations of Maharashtra. (177)

Need to decongest the heavy traffic due to lack of adequate supply of electricity at railway stations under various railway zones in Maharashtra. (178)

Need to provide adequate parking facilities at railway stations under various railway zones in Maharashtra keeping in view the traffic congestion. (179)

Need to carry out repair of approach roads of railway stations in Maharashtra without delay. (180)

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to improve the sanitation system at all the railway stations falling under Shirdi Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra State. (181)

Need to computerise the system of reservation, signal and fare at all important railway stations in Maharashtra. (182)

Need to deploy Chowkidars at all railway crossings in Maharashtra. (183)

Need to provide more passenger amenities at all the railway stations in the State of Maharashtra, especially in Shirdi Parliamentary Constituency. (184)

Need to bring about improvement in the catering and bedding facilities provided in trains. (185)

**(Disapproval of Policy)**

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Expenditure (General) (Pages 02.01.1-02.02.1) be reduced Rs. 1.**

Failure to complete pending survey work of railway lines in Maharashtra State. (186)

Failure to carry out survey for laying of new rail lines in backward areas of Maharashtra State. (187)

**That the demand under the Head Repairs and Maintenance of Permanent Way and Works (Pages 04.01.1-04.03.1) be reduced by Re. 1.**

Failure to carry out repair and maintenance of railway stations falling under Shirdi Parliamentary Constituency. (188)

**(Token)**

**That the demand under the Head Repairs and Maintenance of Permanent Way and Works (Pages 04.01.1-04.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to provide sheds over railway platforms of railway stations falling under Shirdi Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra State. (189)

Need for the extension of second class retiring rooms at the railway stations falling under Maharashtra State. (190)

**That the demand under the Head Repairs and Maintenance of Motive Power (Pages 05.01.1-05.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to set up a workshop at Shirdi town in Maharashtra State for the maintenance of rail engines. (191)

**(Disapproval of Policy)**

**That the demand under the Head Repairs and Maintenance of Carriages and Wagons (Pages 06.01.1-06.03.1) be reduced Re. 1.**

Failure to renovate and modernise old rail factories in Maharashtra State. (192)

**(Token)**

That the demand under the Head Repairs and Maintenance of Carriages and Wagons (Pages 06.01.1-06.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to set up a workshop for the repair of Wagons in Shirdi Parliamentary Constituency in Maharashtra State. (193)

**(Disapproval of Policy)**

**That the demand under the Head Staff Welfare and Amenities (Pages 11.01.1-11.03.1) be reduced to Re. 1.**

Failure to carry out repairs and maintenance of railway colonies falling under railway divisions of Maharashtra State. (194)

**(Token)**

**That the demand under the Head Staff Welfare and Amenities (Pages 11.01.1-11.03.1) be reduced by Re. 1.**

Need to provide proper educational facilities for the wards of the officials of various railway zones in Maharashtra. (195)

Need to provide accommodation facilities to the officials of various railway zones in Maharashtra at the railway stations. (196)

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Working Expenses (Pages 12.01.1-12.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to check irregularities in catering services at railway stations in various railway zones of Maharashtra. (197)

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to construct first and second class retiring rooms as per demands at railway stations in Maharashtra. (198)

Need for the extension of sheds on platforms at railway stations of various railway zones of Maharashtra. (199)

Need to undertake conversion of all narrow gauge lines into broad gauge lines in Maharashtra. (200)

Need to provide safe drinking water, refreshment rooms and to maintain cleanliness at all the railway stations in Maharashtra. (201)

Need to undertake modernisation of railway stations of Maharashtra particularly in Shirdi Parliamentary Constituency. (202)

Need to provide computerised railway reservation centre at the district headquarters under all railway divisions in Maharashtra. (203)

Need to maintain status quo in respect of wagon repair workshop at Kurdwadi in Shirdi Parliamentary Constituency. (204)

Need to provide adequate potable water facilities at railway stations falling in Shirdi Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra State. (205)

Need to provide emergency medical facilities to the passengers at stations of various railway zones in Maharashtra. (206)

SHRI BAIDYANATH PRASAD MAHATO (Balmikinar): I beg to move:

**(Disapproval of Policy)**

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced to Re. 1.**

Failure to include Patna, Betiah and Motihari stations for upgradation as word-class stations. (207)

Failure to include Betiah, Bagha stations in the list of Model stations. (208)

Failure to increase the frequency of Bihar Sampark Kranti Express from weekly to bi-weekly or tri-weekly. (209)

Failure to introduce any new train from New Delhi to Bagha via Gorakhpur. (210)

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to organize division level sports competition by the railways for the development of sports. (211)

Need to conduct raids in running trains by the vigilance team to check corruption in allocation of berths. (212)

Need to run Bullet trains between important cities of the country. (213)

Need to introduce a non stop-train between Nagpur and Mumbai. (214)

Need to connect all the tribal areas of the country by rail. (215)

Need to provide chair car facility to wait list passengers. (216)

Need to construct budget hotels for passengers at pilgrim and tourist centres of the country. (217)

Need to declare Vani and Mukutban railway stations of Nagpur division as model railway stations. (218)

**That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways (Pages 03.01.1-03.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to provide scholarship by the railways to eminent sports-persons for the development and encouragement of sports. (219)

Need to provide jobs to the sportsmen on priority basis so that they may get a livelihood on the basis of sports. (220)

Need to recruit sportsmen who have participated at State level games in railways. (221)

**(Disapproval of Policy)**

**That the demand under the Head Repairs and Maintenance of Permanent Way and Works (Pages 04.01.1-04.03.1) be reduced to Re. 1.**

Failure to take measures to check rail accidents. (222)

**(Token)**

**That the demand under the Head Repairs and Maintenance of Permanent Way and Works (Pages 04.01.1-04.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to provide safe drinking water and to construct new toilets for the convenience of the passengers at all railway stations of Chanda Fort-Gondia railway line. (223)

**That the demand under the Head Operating Expenses-Traffic (Pages 09.01.1-09.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to check the sale of Cigarettes and Gutkhas in trains and at platforms. (224)

**That the demand under the Head Staff Welfare and Amenities (Pages 11.01.1-11.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to provide concession in rail fare to the patients suffering from blood related Sickle Cell disease. (225)

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Working Expenses (Pages 12.01.1-12.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100**

Need to give wide publicity of the facilities provided by Indian Railway to the passengers. (226)

Need to take action against the beggars and eunuchs in trains and at platforms for peaceful and safe travel of passengers. (227)

Need to install close circuit cameras in trains. (228)

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100**

Need to introduce parcel facility at the important railway stations on the Chanda Fort-Gondia rail route. (229)

Need to increase the speed of express trains, which have been converted to super fast trains. (230)

Need to lay a-new railway Sine from Bailladila to Surjagarh for exploiting the iron-ore of Surjagarh. (231)

Need to provide additional racks for marketing of the paddy in Chandrapur district. (232)

Need to provide additional racks for timely transportation of fertilizers and seeds to the farmers. (233)

Need to construct platform sheds for the convenience of passengers at all stations of Chanda Fort-Gondia railway line. (234)

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to start a new train between Chennai and Amritsar via Ballarshah for the benefit of Sikh Community of Vidarbha. (235)

Need to provide stoppage of Tamilnadu, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala Express trains at Chandrapur railway station. (236)

Need to start a new train from Chandrapur railway station to Mumbai. (237)

Need to give prior notice to the encroachers of railway land before taking action against them. (238)

Need to provide Pit Line facility for the operation of new trains at Ballarshah railway station. (239)

Need to provide additional goods trains for supply of coal to the thermal power plant at Chandrapur. (240)

Need to run a passenger train for the facility of passengers of Ghuggus-Ballarshah-Chandrapur rail route. (241)

Need to run a new passenger train from Gadchandur Industrial complex to Chandrapur via Ballarshah. (242)

**That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways (Pages 03.01.1-03.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to launch special drive for recruitment of women in railways. (243)

Need to give priority to the unemployed people of Maharashtra in railway recruitment due to their low percentage in railways. (244)

Need to launch special drive for recruitment of handicapped in railways. (245)

Need to take necessary steps to ensure the recruitment of local people in various departments of railways. (246)

**That the demand under the Head Repairs and Maintenance of Permanent Way and Works (Pages 04.01.1-04.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to make the rest-house adjacent to platform No. 8 at Chandrapur railway station pollution free. (247)

Need to provide proper cleaning facilities at Chandrapur, Varora and Bhadravati railway stations in Nagpur circle. (248)

Need to immediately improve the conditions of old public conveniences at Chandrapur railway station. (249)

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Working Expenses (Pages 12.01.1-12.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to upgrade catering services in trains to provide rate list and menu to passengers. (250)

Need to accord priority to the local people in awarding contract of catering services and appointment of vendors. (251)

Need to set up food plazas at Chandrapur and Ballarshah Railway Stations. (252)

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to increase the number of AC and sleeper coaches in Sewagram Express. (253)

Need to lay double-line on Chanda Fort-Gondia rail route. (254)

Need to immediately construct rail-over-bridge at Rajaura level crossing on Ballarshah-Manikgarh rail line. (255)

Need to immediately start work of gauge conversion between Nagbhid-Nagpur. (256)

Need to provide jobs to unemployed engineers in construction and allied supply works of railways on priority basis. (257)

Need to provide computerized reservation facility at Bhadrak and Varora railway stations of Central Railway. (258)

Need to provide computerized reservation facility at Manikgarh railway station of South-Central Railway. (259)

Need to construct goods sheds at Chandafort, Chichpalli and Keljar railway station for agro-products and other goods. (260)

Need to immediately complete the electrification work on Ballarpur-Gondiya railway line. (261)

Need to set up a separate ticket counter for disabled persons and senior citizens at Chandrapur and Ballarshah railway stations. (262)

Need to stop the work pertaining to construction of a wall by the Railway Department at Chandrapur Station allegedly by encroaching the land. (263)

Need to construct a road over-bridge at Butibori Railway Gate on Nagpur-Ballarshah railway line. (264)

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to start an intercity train between Ballarshah-Chandrapur-Nagpur. (265)

Need to provide stoppages of all trains at District Headquarter Chandrapur Railway Station. (266)

Need to run Nandigram Express from Ballarshah Railway Station via Majari-Adilabad-Nanded-Mumbai. (267)

Need to run a new train on Ballarshah-New Delhi route for the convenience of passengers keeping in view the increasing traffic. (268)

Need to run a direct new train from Nagpur to the famous pilgrimage of Pandharpur, Maharashtra. (269)

Need to provide for rainwater harvesting facility at all the railway stations for conservation of rain water and to increase the ground water level. (270)

Need to construct shopping centres for commercial utilization of the railway land. (271)

Need to extend the Singareni Express 324 upto Chandafort railway station. (272)

Need to provide rack-points at Vani, Mul and Mukudban stations for distribution of fertilizers to the farmers. (273)

Need to provide stoppage of Nandigram Express at Mukudban railway station. (274)

Need to allocate funds for laying of Railway line in the inaccessible and tribal area of Badsa-Armori-Gadchiroli. for which survey has been completed. (275)

Need to immediately implement the announcement regarding the running of Link Express between Ballarshah-Dadar. (276)

**That the demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways (Pages 03.01.1-03.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to construct stadium and gym on the vacant unused Railway land for the development and encouragement of Indian sports. (277)

Need to construct Auditorium on the vacant unused railway land to maintain and encourage the cultural talent and heritage of the country. (278)

**That the demand under the Head Operating Expenses-Traffic (Pages 09.01.1-09.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to introduce a more rational and transparent system to provide berths to waiting list passengers in trains. (279)

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Working Expenses (Pages 12.01.1-12.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to immediately settle the cases regarding compensation provided to the deceased and injured people in Railway accidents. (280)

Need to appoint women security guards in trains keeping in view the increasing incidents of violence against women passengers in running trains. (281)

Need to provide work to the women Self Help Groups in railway catering services on priority basis. (282)

Need to take preventive measures to check increasing incidents of looting in trains. (283)

Need to check the increasing incidents of looting of passengers after giving them intoxicated food items. (284)

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to route the proposed Wardha-Yavatmal-Nanded new railway line project through Mahur. (285)

Need to identify new railway routes for laying new railway tracks for the development of underdeveloped Vidarbha region. (286)

Need to immediately construct road overbridge at Babupeth railway crossing No. 43 under Central Railway. (287)

Need to immediately expand the foot overbridge at Bhandak railway station under Central Railway. (288)

Need to shift the goods shed situated at Chandrapur station to any other place, which is causing pollution. (289)

Need to lay a third Railway line between Nagpur and Ballarshah keeping in view the increasing traffic. (290)

Need to reopen the Vivekanand Nagar Rail Over Bridge for public use. (291)

Need to restart the Parcel Service facility at Majari Junction, Central Railway. (292)

Need to double the reservation quota for all the trains at District Headquarter Chandrapur railway station. (293)

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to upgrade Cuttack railway station to international standard. (294)

Need to develop Barang station as satellite linked Model railway station. (295)

Need to upgrade the railway stations of East Coast Railway Zones. (296)

to provide halt of express trains at Raj-Athagarg Railway station. (297)

CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD (Muzaffarpur): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to introduce a superfast train from Raxaul to Guwahati via Muzaffarpur. (298)

Need to run Rajdhani Express between Muzaffarpur and Delhi. (299)

Need to extend the Bapudham Motihari – Hazarat Nizamuddin Garib Rath train upto Muzaffarpur. (300)

Need to extend 9269/9270 Bapudham Motihari-Porbander Express upto Muzaffarpur. (301)

Need to extend 9051/9052 Sonapur – Balsad Express upto Muzaffarpur. (302)

Need to extend Sonapur – Jammu Tawi Express upto Muzaffarpur. (303)

Need to extend 5159/5160 Chhapra-Durg Express upto Muzaffarpur. (304)

Need to extend Gorakhpur – Bangalore Express upto Muzaffarpur. (305)

Need to extend Gorakhpur – Secundrabad Express upto Muzaffarpur. (306)

Need to extend Chhapra – Gorakhpur Intercity Express upto Muzaffarpur. (307)

Need to run Delhi – Guwahati Rajdhani Express on daily basis via Hajipur, Muzaffarpur, Samastipur and Barauni. (308)

Need to introduce night bound superfast train from Muzaffarpur to Kolkata. (309)

Need to run Janshatabdi Express and Garib Rath between Muzaffarpur and Kolkata. (310)

Need to introduce a superfast train from Muzaffarpur to Mumbai. (311)

Need to introduce a superfast train from Muzaffarpur to Rajasthan. (312)

Need to introduce a direct superfast train from Muzaffarpur to Bangaluru. (313)

Need to provide confirm reservation tickets to the family members and guests on the recommendation of Members of Parliament in trains which originate from zonal offices located in or near the Parliamentary constituency of the member. (314)

SHRI P. LINGAM (Tenkasi): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to extend Madurai–Chennai Express upto Shencottah in Madurai Division. (315)

Need to extend Coimbatore-Shovanur Passenger upto Shencottah in Madurai Division. (316)

CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD (Muzaffarpur): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to undertake renovation and beautification work at Muzaffarpur railway station. (317)

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): I beg to move:

That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to lay rail track between Haridaspur and Paradeep. (318)

Need to lay new rail line between Talcher and Gopalpur Port via Narasinghpur– Khandapada. (319)

SHRI P. LINGAM (Tenkasi) : I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to include Srivilliputhur in Madurai Division in the list of new Passenger Reservation System (PRS) locations. (320)

Need to develop Tenkasi, Sankarankovil, Rajapalayam, Srivilliputhur stations as Model Stations. (321)

Need to construct cold storages for fruits, vegetables, milk and other perishable items at all railway stations. (322)

Need to extend the railway line from Madurai upto Shencottah via Vathraippu, Sethur, Sivagiri, Vasudevanallur, Puligundi. (323)

#### (Disapproval of Policy)

SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR (Supaul): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced Re. 1.**

Failure to provide any special facilities for senior citizens, ladies and physically handicapped persons. (324)

Failure to fill up the vacancies of handicapped, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe categories in Railways in a time-bound manner. (325)

Failure to include Supaul, Raghapur, Pratapganj and Lalitgram Railway stations in the list of stations proposed to be upgraded as model stations. (326)

**(Token)**

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur) : I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100**

Need to increase the number of passenger trains. (327)

Need to provide concessional tickets to Hindu Pilgrims to visit Hindu holy places. (328)

Need to be extend 7GW DMU Train from Gondia to Nagbhid. (329)

Need to run Bilaspur-Yashwantpur train daily via gauge converted Chanda Fort-Gondia Railway Station. (330)

Need to extend Gondia-Chandapur passenger-train upto Balarsaha. (331)

Need to introduce a new train between Howrah and Hyderabad via Chandapur-Gondia. (332)

Need to extend 2069/2070 Janshatabdi Express upto Chanda Fort. (333)

Need to extend 6511/6512 Yaswantpur-Bilaspur Train upto Howrah station. (334)

Need to run a new train between Chanda Fort railway station to Gondia via Nagbhid. (335)

SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR (Supaul): I beg to move:

**(Disapproval of Policy)**

**That the demand under the Head Repairs and Maintenance of Permanent Way and Works (Pages 04.01.1-04.03.1) be reduced to Re. 1.**

Failure to make adequate provisions for toilets and bathrooms in trains and platforms. (336)

Failure to make any time-bound programme to check Rail accidents. (337)

**That the demand under the Head Staff Welfare and Amenities (Pages 11.01.1-11.03.1) be reduced to Re. 1.**

Failure to make provisions for the widows and dependants of Railway employees. (338)

Failure to make provision to establish a Railway Nursing College on Railway land at Supaul. (339)

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Working Expenses (Pages 12.01.1-12.03.1) be reduced to Re. 1.**

Failure to make provisions to check the incidents of theft and robbery in trains. (340)

**(Disapproval of Policy)**

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by to 1.**

Failure to provide funds for construction of new railway line from Supaul to Galgalia via Araria. (341)

Failure to provide sufficient funds for the timely completion of Rail-Mahasetu on river Kosi at Supaul. (342)

Failure to include proposal for gauge-conversion of Saharasa-Farbisganj via Supaul Railway section. (343)

**(Token)**

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to open a computerized reservation centre at Nagbhid Railway Station. (344)

Need to appoint Chowkidars in all the unmanned railway crossings from Chanda Fort Railway Station to Gondia Railway Station. (345)

Need to construct a platform shed at Nagbhid Junction Railway Station for the comfort of passengers. (346)

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to construct new halt station at Bhalutala between Medinpur and Godapiyasole. (347)

Need to establish a new coach factory at Kharagpur. (348)

Need to introduce a new train "Technology Express" from Hijli to Howrah. (349)

Need to extend Asansole-Kharagpur Express up to Digha. (350)

Need to extend 2815 Neelachal Express (Puri to New Delhi) up to Amritsar. (351)

Need to incorporate Kharagpur Junction in the list of World Class Stations. (352)

Need to declare Belda, Dautan, Hijli, Bakhrabad, Narayan-garh, Nekurseni, Giri Maidan and Gokulpur as Model Stations. (353)

Need to start new EMU service from Kharagpur to Balasore. (354)

Need to formulate a suitable Rehabilitation Policy for those who have been staying on railway land for at least twenty-five years. (355)

Need to introduce free railway passes for contractual labourers working for Railways upto the work place. (356)

Need to introduce Rs. 25 monthly railway season ticket for hawkers in trains, particularly local trains. (357)

Need to develop and modernise indoor stadium situated on railway land at Kharagpur Junction. (358)

Need to provide cent percent financial assistance for construction of roads over bridges and under-passes. (359)

Need to upgrade and modernise outdoor stadium (SESRA) at Kharagpur. (360)

Need to regularise all licenced vendors and their helpers. (361)

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Expenditure (General) (Pages 02.01.1-02.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to take up the survey work for the construction of new line from Belda-Kantai under South-Eastern Railway.(362)

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Working Expenses (Pages 12.01.1-12.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to review the present Catering Policy with a view to provide catering contracts on priority basis to the unemployed youth, physically handicapped and SC/ST Categories. (363)

Need to give special consideration to the small and poor traders and cooperatives for catering purpose on the vacant railway land with nominal licence fee. (364)

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need for upgradation and modernisation of Inner Printing Press at Kharagpur. (365)

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to introduce new train on Hyderabad-Delhi route considering the increasing number of passengers on this route. (366)

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to introduce Dhanbad – Patna – Ganga Damodar Express from steel city of Bokaro. (367)

Need to introduce a new train from Barkakana to Patna. (368)

Need to introduce a new train in the morning time from Giridih to Patna. (369)

Need to introduce an EMU train between Barkakana and Dhanbad. (370)

Need to route the New Delhi – Ranchi Garib Rath via Bokaro. (371)

Need to provide stoppage of 3025/3026 Howrah – Bhopal Express at Chandrapura Railway Station. (372)

Need to provide stoppage of the 8103/8104 Amritsar – Jalianwala Bagh Express at Chandrapura. (373)

Need to provide stoppage of 2825/2826 Ranchi – New Delhi Express at Chandrapura. (374)

Need to provide stoppage of 5761/5762 Ranchi – Alipur Duar Express at Chandrapura. (375)

Need to extend Passenger train running via Kiul-Chitaranjan, Dhanbad to Patna up to Barakakana (376)

Need to extend the Hatia – Patna Express up to the Buxar station. (377)

**(Disapproval of policy)**

**That the demand under the Head Operating Expenses-Traffic (Pages 09.01.1-09.03.1) be reduced to Re. 1.**

Failure to depute train conductors in unreserved coaches. (378)

Failure to streamline the existing system in order to check rail accidents. (379)

Failure to ensure the time schedule of all trains. (380)



**That the demand under the Head Staff Welfare and Amenities (Pages 11.01.1-11.03.1) be reduced to Re. 1.**

Failure to deploy doctors particularly specialists in Railway Hospitals and also to provide medical equipments. (381)

Failure to provide grants-in-aid to railway schools in Giridih, Bokaro and Dhanbad districts of Jharkhand. (382)

Failure to improve the condition of railway colonies in Bokaro, Giridih and Dhanbad districts. (383)

Failure to upgrade and develop employees quarters in Giridih, Dhanbad and Bokaro districts. (384)

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Working Expenses (Pages 12.01.1-12.03.1) be reduced to Re. 1.**

Failure to attach pantry car in several trains, especially in Shakti Punj Express. (385)

Failure to provide quality catering services in trains. (386)

Failure to check criminal incidents in trains. (387)

Failure to check the increasing incidents of crimes in trains and railway premises due to shortage of security personnel. (388)

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced to Re. 1.**

Failure to provide adequate passenger amenities including lights in passenger trains. (389)

Failure to speed-up the Kodarma-Hazaribagh-Giridih rail project. (390)

Failure to connect by rail route the famous Jain pilgrimage Parasnath with Giridih. (391)

Failure to set up factories and production units in Giridih and Dhanbad districts. (392)

Failure to provide passenger amenities at railway stations in Giridih, Bokaro and Dhanbad districts. (393)

Failure to construct Kodarma-Hazaribagh-Giridih rail line. (394)

Failure to construct over bridge/under bridges in rail complexes of Giridih, Bokaro and Dhanbad districts. (395)

(Token)

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to attach three-tier air conditioned coaches to the Palamu Express. (396)

Need to construct the Yard and siding at Giridih station and its expansion. (397)

Need to construct an overbridge for pedestrains at Parasnath railway station in Eastern Central Railway. (398)

Need to set up a workshop for repair and maintenance of tracks and for construction works at Tundi in Jharkhand. (399)

Need to set up a workshop for repair and maintenance of coaches and wagons at Giridih. (400)

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to provide rack point at Tadali railway station with a view to make available the fertilizers and seeds to the farmers of Chandrapur district on time. (401)

Need to provide pure drinking water at all the stations on Ballarshah-Nagpur route. (402)

Need to provide pure drinking water at all the stations on gauge converted Chandafort-Gondia rail route. (403)

(Disapproval of Policy)

DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI (Bhubaneswar): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced Re. 1.**

Failure to complete the work of laying of new railway lines in time in Orissa. (404)

Failure to set up rail factories in KBK districts. (405)

(Token)

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR ROY (Jalpaiguri): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100**

Need to start a new train from Jalpaiguri to Sealdah via Haldibari through Bangladesh. (406)

Need to start a circular train between Jalpaiguri-Coochbehar and plains of Darjeeling. (407)

Need to start two local trains, one from Jalpaiguri to Siliguri and another from Jalpaiguri to Alipurwar. (408)

Need to provide stoppage of all express trains at Banarhaat station. (409)

Need to run Haldibari-Kolkata superfast on daily basis and extend it upto Sealdah. (410)

Need to run Kanchankanna and North Bengal express on daily basis. (411)

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE (Bardhman-Durgapur): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to provide for a halt station at Kondaipur for local passenger train between Asansol and Bardhman. (412)

Need to provide for stoppage of Sealdah Rajdhani at Bardhman. (413)

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Bolpur): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to stop the rampant privatisation of Railway services. (414)

Need to restore the suspended railway services on the Andal-Palasthali section of Eastern Railway. (415)

SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY (Kandhamal): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to allocate Rs. 200 crores for Khurda-Bolangir railway project. (416)

Need to have railway line between Kyendrapara and Barbil. (417)

Need to grant Rs. 1500 crore in the current budget for development of Railways in Orissa. (418)

Need to run Garib Rath of East Coast Railway. (419)

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Bolpur): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Miscellaneous Working Expenses (Pages 12.01.1-12.03.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to allocate adequate fund for safety and modernization of railway services. (420)

Need to fill up the vacant posts in Railways. (421)

Need to take urgent steps to give licenses to the Railway hawkers. (422)

DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI: I beg to move:

**(Disapproval of Policy)**

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced to Re. 1.**

Failure to complete the construction of the Sahibabad Passenger Reservation System in Ghaziabad on time. (423)

Failure to convert all unmanned railway crossings in Orissa to manned one. (424)

Failure to provide adequate passenger amenities in Orissa bound trains. (425)

Failure to complete doubling of lines in time in Orissa. (426)

Failure to provide proper passenger amenities at various stations of Orissa. (427)

**(Token)**

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR ROY: I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to allocate more funds for completion of New Mayanagri to Jogiphopa Railway line. (428)

Need to make Jalpaiguri Road station as a model station. (429)

Need to restart the renovation project of Jalpaiguri town station market. (430)

Need to add more luggage vans for carrying vegetables and other goods in express trains running from Dhuppuri via Phalakata and Mayanagri. (431)

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE : I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100**

Need to allocate funds for the upgradation of the railway line from narrow gauge to broad gauge between Bardhman and Katwa. (432)

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to allocate funds for proposed new lines from Suri to Prantik station in Eastern Railway. (433)

Need to convert the narrow gauge line from Ahmadpur to Katwa to broad gauge. (434)

SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY: I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to modernize the Paradeep railway station. (435)

Need to fix target date for completion of Dhurda-Bolangir railway project. (436)

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to extend rail line from Kendujhargarh to Barbil. (437)

DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI: I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to allocate Rs. 240 crores for Khurda-Boiangir Railway line and to complete the project by 2012. (438)

Need to run non-stop train from New Delhi to Puri. (439)

SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY: I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board (Pages 01.01.1-01.02.1) be reduced by Rs. 100.**

Need to open Nursing College to compliment the requirement of Railway Hospital in Bhubaneshwar. (440)

Need to open Passenger Reservation System (PRS) in Bhanjanagar. (441)

Need to ensure that Chennai-Kolkata rail corridor passes through the State of Orissa. (442)

**(Disapproval of Policy)**

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced to Re. 1.**

Need to convert all unmanned rail crossings on East Coast Railway in manned to manual one. (443)

Need to construct multi-utility complex at Puri to help international tourists. (444)

DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI: I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced to Re. 100.**

Need to set up Railway Coach factory in or around Bhubaneshwar. (445)

Need to ensure that all passenger trains have 'A' class passenger amenities at all important stations in East-Coast Railways. (446)

Need for laying new lines in the Koraput-Bolangir-Kalahandi region of Orissa. (447)

Need for modernization of signals on East-Coast Railways. (448)

SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI (Chatra): I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Assets - Acquisition, Construction and Replacement (Pages 16.01.1-16.02.3) be reduced to Re. 1.**

Failure to construct a rail link between district headquarter of Chatra in Jnarkhand, and Gaya Junction in Bihar. (449)

Failure to construct rail overbridge at Chandwa. (450)

Failure to construct rail link between Barwadih and Chirimiri. (451)

MADAM SPEAKER: I shall now put all the cut motions, which have been treated as moved, to the vote of the House.

*All the cut motions were put and negatived.*

MADAM SPEAKER: I shall now put the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2009-2010 to the vote of the House. The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2010, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 16.

*The motion was adopted*

13.13 hrs.

**APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) NO. 3 BILL\***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2009-10 for the purposes of Railways.

\*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part-II, Sector-2 dated 9.7.09.

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2009-10 for the purposes of Railways. "

*The motion was adopted.*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I introduce\*\* the Bill.

MADAM SPEAKER: The Minister to move the Bill for consideration.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I beg to move:

"That the Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2009-10 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorize payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2009-10 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MADAM SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.*

*The Schedule was added to the Bill.*

*Demands for Excess Grants (Excluding Railways) for 2006-2007 submitted to the Vote of the Lok Sabha*

No. and Title of Demand		Amount of Demand submitted to the Vote of the House	
1	2	3	
		Revenue	Capital
		Rs.	Rs.
16	Ministry of Company Affairs	...	40,000
22	Defence Services - Army	667,16,95,590	...
	Total	667,16,95,590	40,000

\*Moved with the Recommendation of the President.

\*\*Introduced with Recommendation of the President.

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Madam, I beg to move:\*

"That the Bill be passed."

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

**13.16 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

**14.17 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch Seventeen Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

GENERAL BUDGET, 2009-10 – GENERAL DISCUSSION

AND

\*DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS—(GENERAL) 2006-07  
[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Item Numbers 22 and 23 are to be taken up together.

Motion moved:

"That the respective excess sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to make good the excess on the respective grants during the year ended on the 31st day of March, 2007, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 16 and 22."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Dr. Murlī Manohar Joshi.

*[Translation]*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Varanasi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am grateful to you that you have called me and given opportunity to express my views about the first budget of this Government during its second term. Hon'ble Minister of Finance is sitting before me. He has set a few such targets in his budget speech, which, if met, will make the entire nation happy and I pray to God to enable him to get success in achieving these targets. I am afraid if he would be able to achieve the ambitious target he has set.

Sir, making announcements of targets in Budget speech looks flattering but achieving them by mobilizing resources and through will power, putting in place management therefor, mobilizing economic and financial resources is very difficult task. Under the present circumstances, any progress towards meeting the targets, has set will make the entire country happy. However, now when he has set these targets, he needs to pause and take a look if he had really set over ambitious targets. Though we are all prepared to provide our cooperation and help including the cooperation of our State Governments in bringing back economy on track, in improving economic condition of the poor and in improving the lot of agriculture and farmers to enable them to reach the status they used to enjoy earlier in our country.

He has said in his budget speech that new Government will formulate policies for the years 2009 and 2010 keeping in view special targets, which are 8-10 in number. One of them is

*[English]*

"Sustain a growth rate of at least 9 per cent per annum over an extended period of time."

*[Translation]*

Inter-alia the things you have mentioned, one important para I would like to mention.

*[English]*

"ensure that Indian agriculture continues to grow at an annual rate of 4 percent."

*[Translation]*

It is a very ambitious target and if you are able to meet this target of four percent through this budget then I think that you have made miracle in this country.

I have with me the report of RBI published in April, 2008. It has been mentioned in it.

*[English]*

The slow growth of agriculture has been explicitly noted as a matter of concern in the Approach Paper to the 11th Plan and accelerating the rate of growth of agricultural production is seen as central to a more-inclusive growth, if not growth per se"

Inclusive growth is the focal point of your budget. The report further says-

"Taking output growth first, we find that even close to four decades since the Green Revolution there is no permanent rise in the rate of growth. Together with the data for cereal, since 1991 we are able to see that it is the slowing of output growth in this decade that depresses the rate of growth from 1967 to 2003. To sum up then, there is an across the board slowing of output and yield growth since 1991 for the two main groups in Indian crop agriculture. For all crops there is slowing of growth in area, production and yield."

There is a slowing of growth in area, production and yield. This is very serious. It further says:

"The period since 1991, that is when the reforms began, now emerges as a kind of watershed in time when growth in Indian agriculture, resurgent from the middle 1960s, was arrested. Concerns of livelihood and food consumption arise naturally from the recent record of agricultural growth."

*[Translation]*

Employment depends on your agricultural growth. Whole economic development of the country depends on it since 70 per cent of our population is dependent on agriculture.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, one more frightening scenario is emerging before me. It is that with the increase in population of our country our foodgrain production had declined and area under cultivation for foodgrains has also been reduced. Besides, productivity of grain which means production per hectare has also been reduced. Sufficient cultivable land in our country is not available and it is shrinking further. I have the figures to support my view. We had 1,24,316 thousand hectares of cultivable land in 1971 and today it has been reduced to 1,23,710 thousand hectares. This reduction is with respect to the land used to grow foodgrains. Besides, the cultivable area, for crops other than foodgrain has also been reduced. In this way yield has been reduced and the foodgrains production which was earlier 202 kg. per capita per annum has once again reduced to 191 kg. per capita, per annum.

Here the most surprising fact is that production has decreased in all states except Haryana and Rajasthan. West Bengal is the only state, where production of foodgrains is stable but it has decreased in rest of the states. In Bihar, availability of foodgrain from 134 kg. per capita per annum has been reduced to 91 kg. Jharkhand is also included in this. Similarly, it was 254 kg. per capita per annum earlier in Uttar Pradesh and it has been reduced to 210 kg. Uttaranchal is also included in this. Production in Tamilnadu is only 104 kg. per capita per annum and availability in Kerala is 19 kg. per capita per annum. Available agricultural land and production is are reducing, which is a matter of concern. You say that you will increase it to four percent. How will you increase it? If I see your allocation, Rs.10,629 crore has been allocated for agriculture and allied activities, which is one percent of the total expenditure. You are spending one percent on agriculture out of 10 lakh some thousand crore rupees of total budget whereas your target is to register four percent growth. On the other hand, we find that farmer's income is decreasing drastically and their present plight is further aggravating. As per the data of NSSO for the year 2003-04, family income of farmers was Rs.2115 per month. Now a days, even a domestic help doesn't get less than three thousand rupees. In Delhi, they even get Rs. 4000-4500, but the family income of the farmers was Rs. 2115 per month. This income is not per capita but per family.

Mr. Kalyan Singh, in U.P. this income is Rs.1630 per family. In Jammu-Kashmir, this income is the highest Rs.5500. The income is higher there because of horticulture. It is three thousand in Punjab and thereafter Kerala comes. If this is the condition of farmers and agriculture labourers, then obviously people will migrate and your NSSO report of 2005 says that—

[English]

"About 41 per cent Indian farmers have expressed their willingness to opt out agriculture. In Punjab too, nearly 37 percent of farmers expressed their willingness to leave agriculture. About two lakh small and marginal farmers in Punjab have already been pushed away from farming during 1990-2001, according to a recent survey."

[Translation]

If you see this condition, it is in fact a big target to register 4 percent growth. If you achieve it, countrymen will appreciate you. We are ready to help you in all possible ways, but will you tell the ways to achieve the same? I have data in abundance which I do not want to read out. If you ask for it, I can make it available to you. Anyway, all the data is provided by your Government. Situation is worse, as a few days ago one of our hon. Members had told that four to five thousand farmers are applying to be permitted to die at their own will.

[English]

Janata Dal (United) legislator from Chhatrapur Shri Radhakrishan Kishore had said that failure of successive Government to address the issue of water scarcity in the area had been declared drought prone by Centre in 1974 was responsible for this.

[Translation]

What will you do to provide water? Scarcity of water is a big problem for agriculture. Here I have the speech of Shri P. Chidambaram, former Minister of Finance, who had presented the first General Budget of previous Government, wherein he says that one of the five objectives of national Common Minimum Programme is to accelerate the agricultural growth through diversification.

He further added:

"Now I want to discuss one of my big dreams. Water is the lifeline of a civilization. We have been warned that in 21st century world have to face one of the greatest challenges. i.e. scarcity of water. It is estimated that there are more than one million structures, out of which five lakh structures are being used for irrigation. Most of the structures are not used. So, it is my proposal that a comprehensive plan should be launched to repair, renovate and re-build all the water bodies linked to the Agriculture."

Five years have passed since the declaration of this plan. I do not know how many wells, ponds and lakes have been renovated. If the similar attitude would be maintained towards agriculture, I fear that its growth rate will be further reduced from 1.6 percent to one percent only. He had set a huge target.

Afterwards it was mentioned, that 'Anand Model' had been very successful for milk and milk products. Government proposed to start a horticulture mission. This matter is also related to agriculture, that is why I am saying that the target of this mission is to increase the present production of horticulture to double fold, which means it should be increased from 150 million tones to 300 million tonne by the year 2011-2012. We are at present in the year 2009-10. I do not know whether any Central Government plan related to agriculture, horticulture or dairy farming sector has made progress, sufficient enough to enhance our agriculture production by four percent. Similarly it was suggested to set up an organization to increase agro business but same is not mentioned anywhere.

I would like to say that one of the important things for agriculture is irrigation but you are not paying any attention towards it. Rivers are drying up, glaciers are shrinking, ground

[Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi]

water level has fallen to the extreme. I am not able to understand how he would save agriculture. Air only cannot save agriculture. Many a people's occupation is agriculture here. After land, water is another basic need, but nowhere it has been mentioned. Land is diminishing and water level is going down while they are talking about increasing agriculture growth rate. I am not able to understand this discrepancy.

Change of climate is another disastrous factor which is going to affect agriculture adversely. I would be more than happy if ever Hon'ble Finance Minister and his Government ever start a serious debate on this issue with the intention of knowing how it is going to influence agriculture, health system, industries and employment of this country. It is said that it is being discussed since long on international level that clean drinking water should be provided to all. I would also like to submit that drinking water is every person's fundamental right and he/she should be given the right to clean drinking water along with right to live. It would take longer time, but the recent report of Global Humanitarian Forum which was released by Shri Kofi Annan on 29th May, says:

[English]

"Climate Change is killing about 3,15,000 people a year through hunger, sickness and weather disaster, and the annual death toll is expected to rise to half-a-million by 2030."

[Translation]

If the production of foodgrains falls, the problem of starvation will rise. I submit with regret that out of a total of 100 crore starved persons, more than 25 crore live in this country. If agriculture production does not increase, how the people will be fed? How will the country progress if the issue of climate change is not considered seriously? How will this problem be solved? Whether India will be named as the nation of the most starved, the most homeless, the most malnourished and the most ill people? You can provide food to the people, to the children, to the mothers of the children only through agriculture. If the country would have healthy mothers, children would also be healthy, the production would increase and the economic activities of the country would increase. I submit with regret that stunted growth is seen in the existing statistics. The number of mentally retarded children is constantly increasing because they are malnourished. If the child is underweight and he and his mother did not get nutritious food, the child can not be a worthy citizen, he would rather be a burden. The population of the starved, unemployed and diseased is increasing at

the same time. I therefore, would like to submit that this issue needs more attention.

This is a matter of regret that in this Budget, due attention has not been paid to the areas of climate change whether it is agriculture or medicines or water. There is mention of this issue but seriousness of the Government is not reflected. They have proposed to achieve 4 per cent agriculture growth rate. So this needs to be paid more attention. Poverty in the country is on the rise. World Bank's Report for Global Economic Prospects 2009 has been released recently and it says that we are ahead of Sub-Saharan countries only, otherwise we are the most poor country in rest of the world. In India, Government have fixed a target to create 12 million new jobs which is one of the most important things to alleviate poverty in their programme. I would like to know what he proposes to do to alleviate poverty. What is definition of poverty? What is poverty line, whether definition set by the World Bank will be accepted or the definition set by NSS will be accepted. Even there has two definitions. Or the Planning Commission would be followed or definition laid by some of the State Governments will be considered or the basis of definition of poverty will be calorie intake or the expenditure incurred would be the basis. Will money spend on food or money spent on medicines, clothing and housing be included, whether your budget covers all these things? I am told that the data given by you shows that poverty has been alleviated to an extent. I submit it with regret that our neighbouring countries have succeeded in alleviating poverty rapidly. Bangladesh and Sri Lanka are ahead and China is much ahead. These statistics say that we have extreme poverty level of 51.3 per cent in 1990 which was reduced to 41.6 per cent in 2005. But, in China the level fell down from 60 per cent to 16 per cent in the same period. This is a matter of concern for us. These are the two neighbouring countries have same kind of problems, got freedom almost at the same period but one of them progresses while the other lags behind in the competition. Hon'ble Finance Minister, please forgive if all this continue we cannot form a strong army and have a good education system. If the numbers of poor persist like this, it would be a matter of concern for us. I know that this is a question which would give rise to internal social unrest in the country. It will infuse divisive tendencies in the country and it is going against the inclusive growth. If 50 percent people will sit idle like this, situation will be terrified. According to the report of Arjun Sen Gupta, situation is more explosive. The report contain significant data and as per the report, 77 percent people live on Rs. 20 a day. This condition is explosive. What provisions you would like to incorporate in this budget for the unorganised sector? You would say

that you are providing employment under Rural Employment Scheme and will generate various new employment opportunities through this scheme. I am disappointed to say that outcome of the scheme is not encouraging.

Hon'ble Minister had just stated that

[English]

NREGA is not working properly.

[Translation]

He admitted that 100 days employment could not be provided in any part of the country. Maximum 40 days, 42 days, 43 days employment is provided in most states. Huge amount has been wasted and monitoring of this scheme has not been done properly. Permanent employment could not be generated through this scheme. It is like an unemployment dole and it is not providing desired result. We are investing money in this scheme, I don't have any doubt on your intentions and you are also willing to provide atleast 100 days of employment to the people. You have amended one part of the scheme. Earlier each member of a family supposed to get employment, now per BPL family one person is getting employment. Question is this that if one person is getting employment for only 42-43 days, what will he do in remaining period? It is submitted in the report that by providing employment to people, you have created problems for some farmers because they are unable to give higher wages. It would be appreciable if you consider other aspects also. Can you provide employment subsidy to the employer who generate employment. Subsidy should be provided to employer to overcome deficit incurred for generating employment so that permanent employment could be provided. You may formulate rules for those who are engaged in economic activity but until permanent employment is generated it will not be fruitful. You should consider this aspect also. It is possible to divert certain funds of this scheme to provide permanent employment. In rural areas agro-industries could be extended and their employers could be entrusted with the task. There are various cottage industries in villages like brick manufacturing, carpentry, toy and pickle manufacturing. Agro industry has the scope to generate employment. If you consider this aspect also and divert certain funds of the scheme, then some people may get permanent employment and it will be convenient for them to work. But it's a matter of great concern that outcome of the scheme is not encouraging.

Developed countries make tall claims to alleviate poverty from the whole world but we are well aware of their intentions. I think that this will not happen in our country. I think that we really want to alleviate poverty. I can assure you that we are all ready to help you in poverty alleviation. I feel sad if somebody says that we are ahead of Sub-Sahara countries only.

Now question is this that prices of foodgrain are increasing constantly and people of India often asked us that Government on one hand is claiming that rate of inflation has come down but on the other hand prices of foodgrains and vegetables are increasing constantly. If there is price hike, then why there is difference between WPI and CPI? I know that Prime Minister and you are concerned about it. WPI and CPI should be re-modified and efforts should be made so that they reflect factual position in this regard. It is regrettable that nothing has been said in the budget in this regard. There is dire need to develop new system for proper calculation of CPI and WPI at the earliest.

If prices of foodgrains and other daily items will continue to increase like this, these schemes will prove to be failure and the amount invested here will not be utilized for the purpose. Instead it will be spent to fulfill the demand of food and daily items.

It is my suggestion that you should fix target to make India hunger free. "Bhook Mukht Hindustan, Karz mukht Kisan, yeh hai Sampan Bharat ki Pehchaan". (Hunger free India and debt free farmers is the real India) No one should starve in India. Farmers should not become prey to private banks nor money lenders. Farmers should not have any need to take loans. Farmers must earn handsome amount to invest in agriculture. We talk of zero tolerance for terrorism and zero tolerance for so many things such as corruption. Why do we not set target for zero hunger for the country? Then you will encourage people to increase growth rate to 4 percent. It is a mammoth task that no one starve in the country. It does not reflect well for any Government that everyday 25 crore people have to sleep hungry. You made a mention of Kautilya and I also said a little bit of Kautilya and he had said that it was the responsibility of the King to provide food to all his subject. With your leave, I would like to quote some lines-

[English]

"Salutation to God Prajapati Kasyapa. Let the crops flourish always. Let the Goddess reside in the seeds and the grains."

[Translation]

Food is the God. Let the crops flourish always. Let the Goddess reside in the seeds and the grains. We sing Vande Matram here. Hon. Finance Ministry you should make this country a place where Goddess reside in the seeds and grains. We will assist you. Perhaps, your setting such a target would inspire this country. Merely placing budgetary figures would not help. Balancing of the expenditure and revenue could be done even by a Chartered Accountant. The services



[Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi]

of Hon'ble Pranab Mukherjee are not to be wasted on it. Today what is required is strong willpower and clear-cut objective. If you are able to convert the country into a hunger free one then it would be a great achievement.

Sir, hon'ble Minister has fixed the target for social security and healthcare. It is a good thing. We should be a healthy nation. But how will it be possible? The situation of social security is that not even 0.25 per cent of the plan outlay is being allocated for it. For health and family welfare your plan outlay is Rs.18380 crore which is not even 0.25 per cent of the entire plan outlay. In such circumstances how can you provide healthcare to people of this country. A major portion of outlay for health and family welfare is being spent on the items of family planning only. I feel there is a need to make a gradual shift from this. Recently I have gone through a report which has got me concerned. The primary health of this country is worsening steadily. You have got the data of World Bank and WHO. I do not want to mention that as it does not look nice. What is the infant mortality rate in our country at present? It is shameful that the maternal mortality rate has not come down as yet. It is shameful to see that we have no prenatal and post natal care. We see that there is no proper arrangement for pregnant women in primary healthcare centers. It is a matter of concern that we have no proper medical facilities at the level of primary healthcare. There is shortage of vaccines. In December 2008...

[English]

"A team of Health Ministry officials toured 13 states to review the National Rural Health Mission, they found, among other things, hospitals in Bihar did not have vaccines for Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus."

[Translation]

Government of Bihar do not produce these vaccines. If they had been producing these vaccines then we would have held them responsible for that. These used to be produced the Government companies. It is said that now these companies have closed down and this work has been entrusted to private companies.

[English]

Today the result is that the review also reported shortages in Assam where measles vaccines was not available, in Chhattisgarh measles vaccine was in very short supply, in Kerala Diphtheria and Tetanus vaccines were in short supply in primary healthcare centers in Thiruvananthapuram and in Uttar Pradesh DPT and TT were not there.

[Translation]

The report mentions how many children have met untimely death due to shortage of these vaccines. Although a lot of publicity of polio drive has been going on in villages and a little bit has also been accomplished but such is the condition that the name of the Tetanus treatment center has come to be associated with childrens' death center because no vaccine is available there. They do not have vaccines of Diphtheria, DCG and what will happen if T.B. spreads there as they do not have proper facilities to cure it. On the one hand we are concerned about Malaria and Kala-azar but we do not pay attention towards their research. Malaria and Kala-azar diseases can create havoc and assume epidemic proportions in the country. And family health care should not be made synonym with the publicity of condoms only. It should provide primary healthcare to the people of this country. Sufficient quantity of vaccines should be made available. Children and pregnant mothers should get all the nutrition. They do not pay attention towards this and Minister of Health has accepted this in Parliament:-

[English]

Vaccine shortage had affected India's vaccination programme in 2008. Shri Ramadoss said that compared to 2007 availability of DPT doses between April and December fell by 3.5 million in Bihar, 6.2 million in Uttar Pradesh and 3.3 million in West Bengal.

[Translation]

These are not available. Various charges have been leveled against the private companies which have been entrusted to do this work. I do not know that to what extent it is true? It is a matter of concern if these are really true. These vaccines are not available even at much higher rates than the Government used to provide at. This is a very dangerous situation. No attention has been paid towards this in the Budget. It is alright that they have been investing money in NREGA or any other scheme providing money to thank the voters who have brought you in power. But it does not mean that they have got the right to weaken the very foundation of entire financial system of the country.

Now I would like to tell you that I have received a report just now and it is a matter of concern that this time sowing area has been reduced to a large extent. This is the report published in Hindustan Times, today you may see it. It seems quite improbable to achieve 4 percent growth rate. I am unable to understand what will be done to reduce unemployment? The hon. Minister has said in his budget speech that he would increase export.

[English]

Support Indian industry to meet the challenge of global competition and sustain the growth momentum in exports.

[Translation]

Look at the condition of global economy? I have a report which presents quite a gloomy picture about the global economy. It is the report of Bank of International Settlements.

[English]

Mr. Joaquin Almunia Mira, Commissioner of Economic and Monetary Affairs of European Union said - Germany's economic output will shrink by six per cent; UK's economic output will shrink by four per cent; French economy will decline by three per cent; Italian economy will decline by 3.5 per cent; Romania's economy will decline by four per cent; Latvia's economy will shrink by 13.1 per cent; Slovakia's economy will decline by 2.6 per cent. Of the 27 nations in EU, only Cyprus will grow. European Union expects its recession to last till 2011 and 8.5 million Europeans will lose jobs over this period. With unemployment hitting 10.9 per cent in EU and 11.5 per cent in rural areas in 2010, EU has revised its GDP estimates for 2010 predicting a 0.1 per cent drop.

[Translation]

If it is shrinking then there is no scope of exporting. The Government will have to make exports cheaper, and to do that the Government will have to provide sops to the industry and consider about duties. But what are the resources with the Government? This is a vicious circle, in which we are trapped. I do not believe that situation will improve in the year 2011. You may call me a pessimist, sceptic. I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister of Finance that I have been saying it for the last 20 years that the model of development which had we have adopted from west the would inevitably lead to this situation which we are facing in this way.

These consequences cannot be avoided and we cannot resolve our problems by keeping global economy in view. We are a part of the world so we cannot separate ourselves from it but we have to decide the extent and manner in which we want to be a part of it. Whole world is considering how to deal with the situation. Now eminent economists and advisers of World Bank are saying that globalization needs to be modified.

[English]

It is not working in the interest of poor. It is not working in the interest of all. It does not represent inclusive growth.

[Translation]

All these things are being said by Stickgalitz, Paul Krugmen and Wang Hu, the Korean economist who served the World Bank for a long period. This is the root cause of all this trouble. We should reconsider how far we need to go with globalization. Do we have to disturb our economy only to improve theirs? Forty countries of the World are not producing foodgrains but the countries which are producing foodgrains are facing the crisis. America has used most of its maize in making ethanol which has raised the prices of maize and wheat. The Government have to consider the extent to which we need to connect with global economy and the manner in which we ought to. Hon'ble Minister should realize that he is the Finance Minister of India, not of the International order. So he should focus on improving the economy of India. We should definitely seek foreign aid to the extent it is necessary. But it is not right to ruin the Indian economy to seek foreign aid. I am concerned about it. He comes from West Bengal and he is a friend of Basudebji. He may listen to him and to some extent to me also. The Government should come together and do something, then, perhaps economy of the nation can be brought back on track. But if he peeps thinking about America, European Union or these powers then I think it will not be of much help. He should focus first on India and then pay attention towards the world. We will support the Government in this regard and will not oppose it. I urge upon the Government to improve Indian economy, by putting in intellect, power and resources of India. We have no problem in providing help if needed.

Sir, he has talked about growth in the budget. I am observing the comments of the people about it. One question has been raised by Hindustan Times. I would request him to look at that report. The Newspaper says-

[English]

Has Budget 2009 put forward the right set of measures to achieve the projected nine percent growth target? 'No' say 86 percent. Has Budget 2009 fully met India incorporates expectation from the Government? 'Yes' is the reply of 64 percent.

[Translation]

There is an opinion about him that he has worked a lot about India Inc but the people who are concerned about growth and who think that the country will move ahead say-no. Then it was said-

[English]

Budget 2009 has truck with a GST roadmap deadline for 2010. Will it be met? 'No' say 75 percent.

[Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi]

15.00 hrs.

[Translation]

There are more nays with regard to the target you have fixed, while only those who are running big industries, are cheering you up with 'ayes' It is a matter to think about. If this is the case and the people are apprehensive that the Budget is not going to achieve 9 per cent growth rate then I think it will not be favourable to you.

Now, there is a point as to what you have said about the resources in the Budget. The fiscal deficit is 6-8 per cent. I am from the people who believe that for the sake of development, there is no harm in deficit financing, but it should be a productive investment, If it is non-productive and aimed at distributing largesse, and is for mobilizing funds by taking loan, then I am sorry to say that it will only raise inflation in the country. I have no idea about your road map. From where, you will raise the funds and the manner in which you will invest it, this is a debatable issue. Budget do not clarify these things. From where you will mobilize an amount of Rs. 6 lakh crores? Now, you must have noticed that the tax GDP ratio has come down and it is decreasing even further...*(Interruptions)* It is constantly coming down. Now there is a downward trend and it has come down at 11 per cent and as per the Budget estimates for the year 2009-10 it is at 10.9 per cent. It should have increased, but it did not. I can understand that you were not able to increase this in this budget. But, at least tell the House from where you will mobilize these resources. Will you monetize? Last year you had pumped around one lakh twenty five thousand crore rupees in the market. Are you again going to pump these extra four lakh crore rupees in the market? What will be the results? America is also concerned since it has pumped 700-800 billions dollars in Banks and their economy heated up. We may imagine what will be the situation in this country. Hence, we need to think about it deeply. Where the money will come from? Will the money come from abroad or there will be Foreign Institutional Investment? Where they will invest the money? Certainly, they will not invest in rural areas. They will not invest in our social priority sectors. What will be the results of their investment? There is a need of long term policy in this regard. There is a possibility that you may get some investment and after that you may say that we have done a miracle or you might have thought that it is your last budget and henceforth you will not be in this process. If this is the case then it is a different matter. You have accomplished your task. The sufferer will be one, who will occupy your seat. I do not want to go into details. But, if you pay attention at this matter you will come to know that it is the right time to deeply think about it. If you go for

disinvestment, what will be the amount. What will be the manner and how those funds, which you will generate by disinvestment, will be utilized? Whether you will go for disinvestment of the companies which are earning huge profits? It is not a great deal, you may repay your debt by selling or pledging your jewellery. I think you have forgotten Kautilya and are following Charwak Philosophy which says 'Yawat Jiwet Sukham Jiwet, Rinam kritwa ghritam pibet. Bhasmi bhutsya dehsya punragamanam kutah? Finance Minister, Sir, don't follow this principle. Mobilize the resources in the country. I may see that you have done a marvellous job in the field of income tax. You have reduced the surcharge and given us a 'lollypop' by raising the tax exemption limit up to ten thousand rupees. I have worked out the figures. If someone is earning one lakh rupees in a year, he does not need to pay any tax. Earlier we had to pay a tax of Rs. 5150 on the income of two lakh rupees, now the tax has come down to Rs. 4120. Now, we have been able to save 1030 rupees. After that the persons earning upto Rs. Ten lakhs have to pay the tax in the similar manner. I have no idea how many people have the annual income of Rs. Ten lakh. But, the people earning up to Rs. Ten lakhs will be able to save Rs. 1030. But, the people who are earning up to Rs. 15 lakhs will be benefited by Rs. 37,595.

The people with the annual income of Rs. 50 lakhs will be able to save 45 thousand and 745 rupees. This is the game of income tax which is to be observed. We were very happy that tax exemption limit has been raised by ten thousand rupees. Finance Minister might have thought that if the rich people will be able to save more money, they will circulate that money in the market. But the said money will not be used for the welfare of the common men. It will not be helpful in increasing the production of country. It will not remove unemployment from the country. That money will be spent on comfort and luxurious items. It will be utilized on foreign tours. It will be used to purchase luxury goods. I cannot understand in which direction the budget of Hon'ble Finance Minister is going to? On the one hand you are talking about agriculture, health and unemployment problems and on the other the budget is heading in opposite direction. I request you to think over it deeply. Keeping in view all these things, you must ensure that the country do not fall further in the trap of disaster through which it is passing presently.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am concerned that if due to the climate change the monsoon this year gets failed our food production will come down by 10-15-20 per cent, and we will have to import foodgrains at very high prices. I am drawing your attention towards all these factors. Hon'ble Finance Minister, Sir, Chanakya had stated that keeping in view the coming disaster, the king should make

arrangements of formidable forces in advance. I urge upon you that if you make such arrangements which are aimed at saving the country from calamity, we will give our support to you. But, if your Budget put the country in any difficult situation, I would humbly state that we will not support you.

[English]

DR. K.S. RAO (Eluru): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving this opportunity to speak on the General Budget, particularly after the speech delivered by the senior Member, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, who is a very popular, educated and a learned man. However, I wish to give my opinions on this based on my beliefs.

I am happy that hon. Member Murli Manohar Joshi has admired your Budget to begin with. He said that you have set a very good target and that he would be very happy if they are achieved. He was only skeptical as to whether you will be able to mobilize the resources that are required. He was saying that he was of the opinion that the economy was not on the right track. He dealt with several issues like agriculture, eradication of poverty, employment, water management and what not. I am happy today that the senior BJP Member has dealt with agriculture. To the best of my knowledge, in the several Budget Sessions that I had attended, only lip-service was shown for agriculture, poverty eradication, but no concrete suggestions have ever been made either as Opposition Members or as ruling party Members, when they were in power.

I would not have referred to the Budget of 2004-05 of the UPA Government, the first Budget of the UPA Government, but for the fact that hon. Joshi has referred to it. In 2004-05, as he said, seven clear objectives were spelt out by the then Finance Minister Shri P. Chidambaram to maintain a growth rate of 7-8 per cent. In spite of the fact that there was recession during last year, the UPA Government has achieved an average growth rate of 8.5 per cent in the last five years.

Another point is about the universal access to the basic quality education and health. They had levied two per cent cess on the tax-payers and, to begin with, collected Rs.5,000 crore. Now it has gone to Rs.13,100 crore exclusively for primary education. The allocation for education is essential for any poor man to survive or come up in life because the education is the only best instrument for any poor man or middle income man to come up in life. The allocation to education was given only by the UPA Government. A poor man felt like even stopping his boy of ten years from going to school. He felt that he may not fetch anything; he may not get employment and thereby sent him to earn a wage. In spite of that, the poor man has not come up so far in his life

or is not in a position to have a house of his own. That was realised by the UPA Government. It is not merely an eye wash or a lecture or just touching it tangential to issues. It is a question of going deep into the matter. It saw that the dropouts have come to a very bad level. If hundred boys are to be admitted in a primary school, by the time they reach the university, there are only nine per cent left. So, to attract the poorer sections particularly in villages, the hon. Finance Minister has allocated Rs.36,400 crore to education alone and out of which Rs.13,100 crore are for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Rs.8000 crore for mid-day meals programme. Not only that. The experience of every one of us is that funds are available in plenty in regard to constructing a building for a primary school or a facility for educational institutions. We are doing it in a very liberal way. All this is because of the big allocations made for the education by the Government of India apart from the allocations made by the State Governments.

One of the seven things which he mentioned was about generating gainful employment. It is not only for just making a statement or giving a promise in the Budget. The NREGA was immediately implemented. We have assured to those unfortunate people who will have only seasonal work in villages, that they would have now work for at least 100 days in the off season. The Government has assured by this Act, a right for 100 days work for one member in each family. Hon. Joshi may say that the work for only 43 days has been given and not 100 days. It may be true. I do not deny it. But the intention of the Government is to provide it wherever it is required. I am an eye witness to that. In an area where wetland is there, even if the Government is prepared to give work for 100 days, they are not coming forward because they are earning a wage of Rs. 150 to Rs.200. We have even increased wage remuneration to Rs.100. They may not come, they may go to some other place. If the numbers were to be less than 100 days, it is not the fault of the Government. He must appreciate that. It is not only the numbers but the Government has gone to the extent of telling that if in a village, if a worker asks for a work and if the Department or the President of the Village Panchayat do not find the work there, it is the responsibility of the Government to pay him even by keeping him idle. Does anyone think that this Act was a wrong Act? Is it not providing employment in our rural areas in large numbers? Contrary to that, it is not my intention to criticise but to express my opinion.

When hon. Shri Joshi was speaking about employment, he was telling that the way for increasing the employment in this country was to increase the exports and exports are to be cheaper. Does everyone think that, that was the only way to provide employment or to increase employment opportunities in this country?

[Dr. K.S. Rao]

How many millions of people can be employed in the exports sector? Even if all of us are to be ready to sell our products at much cheaper rate compared to the international rate, how many can be employed? On the contrary, hon. Minister has said that he wanted to bring 50 per cent of women folk into the fold of the Self-Help Groups; ready to provide both capital subsidy as well as interest subsidy and a loan of Rs.1 lakh. My own experience is, in my own constituency, in West Godavari district, which stands high in terms of Self-Help Groups, 58,000 Self-Help Groups are formed. All must see the glow in the faces of the women; the courage, the confidence, the smile and the pride by just taking Rs.1.50 lakh for the entire group - maybe Rs.15,000 by each member. By taking this Rs. 15,000, they could earn Rs.2,000 to Rs.3,000 per month. Apart from the income that is raised by her husband or father, maybe Rs.2,000 is a too small an amount for you and me. But if they were to be in need of Rs.100, for generations, they have been depending upon their parents, husbands and sons. Today, they have money with them.

By encouraging the Self-Help Groups all over the country, by putting a target of bringing 50 per cent of the women into this fold, the employment that you are creating is more than 50 million. The age group between 18 and 65 is 600 million in this country. Presuming 300 million are men, and 300 million are women, half of that is 150 million women can become members of SHGs. It may not be possible for us to bring all of them into the fold of Self-Help Groups today, in one year.

But the only problem is this. Hon. Finance Minister, Sir, there is a glow, there is a confidence, there is ability, and there is a will on the part of women to use this money. All that we have to do is, let us reduce the rate of interest on loan that is being given to them. Let it be three per cent. Let us also find a way to market their products. If we can do this, nobody can question us for generations to come as to whether we are providing employment or as to whether we are improving the economy. They would generate the wealth for you. It is not nine per cent. I know that. You fixed up the target in spite of the international and global meltdown. That shows your confidence on the economy in this country. That is where you understood the robustness of the Indian economy. To provide employment, that is the best way. Already we have provided employment through the NREGA. I am happy about it.

I was also telling and he also gave a good suggestion in this regard. Apart from the areas which you have provided for forming an asset, while providing employment to the villagers, we have to extend the scheme. Till the other day,

roads were not included. Now, we have included roads. That means, we are providing employment, we are utilising the assets, and we are creating the asset in the village. In this context, I would like to make one more small request that not all the works contain only human labour. There is also a percentage of material component. So, if you were to include that, do not need to put 50 per cent or 60 per cent, if it were to be, may be 30 per cent to 40 per cent material component, to be included, and accepted under the NREGA, we can really form assets in the village, which can be used for generations.

For example, water bodies. He mentioned about water bodies. Yes, we employ human labour in desilting. But if a structure is to be made to retain the water, you require a material component also. I have a humble request in this regard. Hon. Member was also telling that this must be extended to village industry and the cottage industry. I agree with him. If that were to be so, Rs.39,100 crore which has been allocated, would be an excellent asset to the nation.

The allocation of Rs.39,100 crore will create more than Rs.1 lakh crore of assets in this country. Here, I am talking only about the rural areas and about NREGA.

The hon. Member was telling that the tax-GDP ratio has come down. I do not know, where he has seen that. He might have seen in some papers. I have seen this in the book - the tax-GDP ratio has gone up. It was earlier 9.2 per cent and last year, it was 11.5 per cent. That is one of the best indications for this country where the tax ratio is going up. He was also sceptical about how we are going to get the resources which are shown in the Budget. But the Budget shows no increase in resources; it is only Rs.2000 crore. By the taxation measures, he has added only Rs.2000 crore. By increasing the slab, who are benefited? They are senior citizens, women and ordinary persons. Maybe, he has removed surcharge, but still he has withdrawn many exemptions, which were taking away the tax revenue.

We discussed many a times in the Standing Committee on Finance. We suggested that these exemptions are to be withdrawn because some people are taking advantage of all these exemptions, particularly the corporations and multi-nationals, and they are reducing their tax burden. So, we suggested that we should remove it. He has done it. We must appreciate that. He has also widened the tax base; he has widened the tax-payers' number. It was around Rs. 3 crore. He wanted to increase it. He said that if a person's turnover is Rs.40 lakh, he could voluntarily file a return, he will not be embarrassed and he will not be harassed by any officer from his side; he only has to declare eight per cent income; he need not have to maintain a book of accounts also.

So, what he has done is simplifying the procedure and making it simpler, not making it complicated. So, in that way, what he has done in this Budget is excellent.

My intention is not to criticize. I will tell what the hon. Minister has done in his Budget. Basically I always believe that the duty of the Parliament or the duty of the Government of India is to enact legislations which motivate a man to work, to sweat, and not to demotivate. It should motivate a person to work. It must create a congenial atmosphere; it must regulate. But the Government does not need to do everything. We are doing that now.

I have seen that it is there even in his proposal of disinvestment to a limited extent of only five companies, unlike what the NDA Government had done earlier. In the NDA regime, it was a policy of disinvestment everywhere. But the present Finance Minister did not do that.

It was late Pandit Nehru who believed in socialistic democracy and wanted to encourage the public sector undertakings particularly in core sectors, in those days when there were no investors in India, when our entrepreneurial talents have not gone to the large extent in comparison to others. So, the core industries were kept in the public sector and that was nourished. That is why today we are not short of core items. We are producing our own requirements - be it steel, be it cement. We are in surplus; we are in a position to export. That was the policy at that time.

Once again, I would say that I have never seen a BJP Government speaking in terms of deep commitment to farmers or poverty eradication. These are not my words. I will tell you what is in their Budget. What is there in the Budget of the year 2003-04? I will not go too far back; I will only speak about the 2003-04 Budget. I just want to remind the former Finance Minister what exactly he thought about, what was the thought process or what was his conviction then. Sir, 2003-04 Budget speech was made by the then Finance Minister, Shri Jaswant Singh. He talked about five priorities of the NDA Government:

1. Poverty eradication, which I would say is an excellent idea.
2. Health, which nobody can deny.
3. Housing, this is the basic requirement of a poor man.
4. Education, without which no common man can come up.
5. Employment, which is another important area.

But, what was his conviction in regard to these? I would like to quote. "My opinion always is, it is not coining the language and words, it is the intention, your thought process

or the commitment to what you say." What did he mean by saying that? He wanted to improve the education. What did he do in the Budget for improving education? He gave IT exemption of Rs. 12,000 per child and Rs.24,000 for two children. The then Government thought it can improve education by giving IT exemption. Who pays the income tax or who requires IT exemption?

Book authors are exempted from income tax for the royalty up to Rs.8 lakh. That is how they thought education can be improved!

I now speak of the health. What exactly they thought can promote health? To promote India as a global health destination, they wanted to increase the healthcare situation in the country. Incentives were given to private hospitals having more than 100 beds. Who construct such hospitals? Can a poor man at any time have excess to a corporate hospital? They gave 40 per cent depreciation on life saving equipment. By announcing reduction of customs duty on life saving equipment and drugs they wanted the healthcare to reach the common man!

I dare tell in my constituency, for generations even if wife, husband and child were to work from 6.00 in the morning to 6.00 in the evening, it is unfortunate that till today there are millions of people who cannot purchase even a house site or who cannot imagine to construct a permanent house of their own. Every one of us says that housing is very important, more particularly for the economically weaker sections. What was the view of the NDA Government with regard to housing? The view was, giving incentives for slum upgradation by giving a land to the real estate development. The second exemption they thought was to give exemption in interest up to Rs. 1,50,000 for salaried people for houses. What kind of houses they can build to get the exemption of Rs. 1,50,000. UPA Government was giving Rs.40,000 to every house. There are poor people who are not in a position to construct houses by investing Rs.1000 of their own. Will this exemption of Rs. 1,50,000 help the poor man in any manner?

What kind of thinking they had on employment. Hon. Murli Manohar Joshi ji has said just now that exports is the best way to improve employment or reducing the prices of Indian products in the international market is the best way to improve employment. What did Shri Jaswant Singh think about it? He thought that employment can be improved by increasing the standard deduction to 40 per cent of the salary or providing Leave Travel Concession to both salaried and retired employees so that they can live with dignity. These are his words and not mine. This is how he believed that the poor man's life can be improved in this country and the employment situation can be improved in this country.

[Dr. K.S. Rao]

The employment can be improved in this country and the housing for poorer sections can be achieved. What has the UPA Government done? I will tell you what the UPA Government has done. As regards education, I have already told you that they levied two per cent cess on the tax in the first year and collected Rs.5000 crore and spent it on primary education. Today, the hon. Minister has allocated Rs.39,000 crore and for Mid-Day Meal - Rs.8000 crore and exclusively for primary education from Government of India Rs.13,100 crore were given. Money has also been allocated for higher education, distance education and technical education.

I would like to mention one thing which is not the subject of the hon. Finance Minister but he is very much connected with this. The present system of education in India is irrelevant to Indian needs. Maybe, the system of education was made during Britishers time to prepare clerks without giving any sharpness to our brains or without preparing the Indians to do something productive work. Today, we have started AICTE. We have started technical education. Today, we are introducing vocational education even from eighth class. Today, we have allocated Rs.1500 crore for skill development. How will wealth be generated in our nation? We all know that we have got the largest technological manpower in the entire country. But it is a pity that in the IT sector where India is admired by one and all, software technologists are indented from countries like Germany, Japan, UK, and Europe. Today we find that the relevancy of the Indian software technology to the Indian industry is not in tune. You tell me in which profession can we get a skilled man. If you want a driver, there is no good driver. If you want a technician to repair your scooter or car, there is nobody. If you have a problem in your household things like repairing small light or radio or TV, there is nobody. You have to search and waste your time only to catch hold of one person. So, my humble request is that let the Government concentrate entirely on skill development. It is not higher education like MA or BA or Ph.D. which alone matters. I am an engineer but what did I learn during my engineering course. I only know A,B,C,D, etc. I came to know that when 'c', 'a', 't' are put together, it will become a cat which mans *billi* and that I came to know when I entered into my life and not in the college. So, we have to create skilled persons. We should have skilled persons and the Government should be serious about it. I calculated that if they were to allocate a few thousand crores of rupees every year, even people who are uneducated in the villages can be trained in some profession or the other. They can generate wealth for this country. If the hon. Member, Mr. Joshi were to be sceptical about the ambitious 9 per cent growth which you are confident of achieving, by improving skills in this country you can go to

13 per cent or 14 per cent. You can compete with China. Today, hon. Members on the other side are comparing our country's progress with China which they never did earlier. Today, they compare China with India. I agree that China has progressed and I am only happy to the extent that they are prepared to cooperate in this regard. If that thinking were to be there, that is enough. When it comes to the development of the nation, we are all one. We fight in the elections. Let us propagate what we believe and let us try to win through our Parties. But when it comes to taking a right decision, you can always criticise if it is a wrong decision. Nothing wrong in it.

Sir, my next point is on agriculture. What does a farmer require? A farmer requires adequate credit and crop insurance. For no fault of a farmer if he loses his crop in a cyclone, then who has to come to his rescue? If a trader or an industrialist were to lose Rs. 100 crore worth of property by way of a fire accident, then there are insurance companies who are prepared to pay for that loss. But what about a farmer? A farmer wants crop insurance and remunerative price for his produce. I am happy to say in this regard that for long five years the price of paddy was stagnant at Rs. 580 per quintal, but during the UPA regime the price was enhanced to Rs. 930 per quintal.

Sir, at one point of time an all Party meeting was held in my constituency where representatives from all Parties were present and I, in spite of being a Congressman, said in that meeting that Opposition parties will sit on roadside and criticise the Government saying that the Government is not giving remunerative prices to the farmers who are the backbone of this country and so the Government in power is incapable and hence needs to be brought down. But if the same Opposition party were to come to power they would forget about the interest of the farmers. What is the reason for this? The reason being that if the Government were to increase the remunerative price of the farm produce, then the prices of essential commodities will go up like anything and in that case again the same Opposition party will start *dharnas* about the prices of flour, ginger, black grain and all. They would say that yesterday the price of this commodity was Rs. 10/- and today it has shot up to Rs. 20/-; yesterday the price of edible oil was Rs. 30/- and today it has shot up to Rs. 60/-. So, this is an incapable Government and this Government should be brought down. Then I said that no matter whether we sit in power or not, even if we were to lose for one term it should not be a problem because unless the Government is bold enough to increase the remunerative prices for farm produce, no Government of any party will be doing justice to the farmers in this country. I am happy to an extent; I am proud to an extent that this UPA Government did increase the remunerative price of paddy from Rs. 580/- to

Rs. 930/- and that was the reason why we found an increase in the inflation rate during the last one year. When there is increase in prices of foodgrains, naturally one can imagine what kind of inflation could be there and consequently what kind of an uproar all around would be there. But this Government did it. I would like to appeal to the hon. Finance Minister that this Government has five more years to go and so my explanation is that if the remunerative prices of farm produces were to be increased and the farmers were to get remunerative prices, then what will happen is that the wealth will get shifted from the urban areas to the rural areas. Who would be affected by this? 65 per cent of our people live in the villages. We have the Public Distribution System in place. Now we are giving rice at Rs. 3/- per kg. So, whatever increase in prices would be there would not affect the poor man in the villages. Questions may be asked about the quantity being given. One may argue that their consumption need is 50 kg. but only 25 kg. is being provided. But the moment the prices are increased, the wages also will go up in the villages. So, a wage earner in a village will not be affected. Then, who is going to be affected? It is the middle class in the urban areas who will be affected. A rich man will not be affected. What percentage of his income does a rich man spent on foodgrains? He does not care. So, if the Government were to increase the remunerative prices of farm produces, then the objective that would be achieved is that it would shift the money from the urban areas to the rural areas. There will be real growth in the villages.

Sir, I was shocked to learn and everyone of us are aware that one day's increase in share price has increased the capital value of industrialists by Rs. 5,60,000/-.

Is it by sweating or hard work that they have got it? How can a share of an industry go from Rs. 10 to Rs. 2000? It is obvious that he is selling his product at an exorbitant price. And you tell us that which farmer could purchase one acre of land out of his income from 20 acres crop. Which farmer today is in a position to educate his child out of his produce? No farmer will be able to do it. If somebody were to purchase some land in a village, it must be his son or daughter who is employed elsewhere or has business elsewhere or a businessman from outside must come and purchase it and not a villager. You have done excellently well in this direction. We have increased the credit. Shri Rajiv Gandhi has brought the crop insurance scheme and we have seen it a lot of years. Now, it has to be shaped or corrected in a way that really goes to the rescue of the farmer. Earlier it was on mandal basis and today, we have made it on a village basis. But something more has to be done to see that they are helped.

As regards employment, you have already promised to encourage the Self Help Groups run by women. I have met Chairmen of several banks during our meetings. Everyone of them said that they will lend any amount to the Self-Help Groups because recovery is 97 per cent. What more do you require? Even in industries, recovery was not 97 per cent.

Regarding rural development, today, you have made a provision of Rs. 80,770 crore and particularly, in regard to the PMGSY, you have provided Rs. 12,000 crores. When you go to a village, every villager will ask for concrete roads or a road connecting his village and another village. Today, all of us have realised the importance of the infrastructure. Infrastructure does not mean only connecting Delhi and Mumbai. It also means connecting villages. So, you have a provision for it and we are happy about it but let it be ensured that State Governments also come forward to add their money in this regard. For highways, you have given Rs. 20,450 crore. I am very happy about it.

I am of the opinion that as far as economic Ministries are concerned, budgetary support need to be reduced year after year. We do not need to give it to the power sector, civil aviation and the railways. They must earn on their own. If the railways were to have assets worth lakhs of crores, should they not earn money from them? Should they look to the budgetary support every year? If you are to give a loan of Rs. 4 lakhs to a driver for purchase of a truck, you are charging interest, he has to repay that Rs. 4 lakhs and then you ask him to pay service tax, income tax but still he has to repay that amount. Why not the railways or the civil aviation? If the railways is short of money, let them raise bonds or as you have suggested let them go in for PPP. It is an excellent way for them. Whatever be others' thinking, in a changed atmosphere, we need to have a private investment. You cannot avoid it. While accepting a private investment, you have stringent terms where it becomes an asset of the country over a period. If a road is to be built under BOT or annuity, within ten years or four years or six years, it becomes a Government property and a road with quality or a railway line with quality. So, let us formulate a procedure or the terms by which we can encourage private investment and involve them in anything. They are ready for it. The only thing is that if we were to be liberal, somebody might exploit them. Others will look at it and they also want to do the same thing.

In regard to health care, I have been writing letters also. The hon. Minister has introduced Swasthiya Bhima Yojana. In the NDA Government also health insurance was there. But how many people were insured over the years? It was only 11,000. But the hon. Minister has said that he would



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extend this health insurance cover to all the BPL families in the entire country. I am very happy about it. It does not really cost the exchequer more if you see the benefits later on. What happens is that there will be confidence on the part of doctors also to go to the rural areas. It is because when the rural people are insured, the doctors are also assured of payment. The wife and husband will go and practice in a village, which they are not prepared to do now. If the hon. Minister were to extend it to all the BPL families, it can be for a specific amount. It need not be a lakh of rupees or two lakh of rupees. As the hon. Minister said, it can be for Rs. 30,000 or for Rs. 40,000 in a year.

In Andhra Pradesh, the Chief Minister has started Arogyasri scheme to cover the major diseases, like heart attacks, cancer, kidney, etc. We are very much popular. When we go to the villages, everybody speaks about that. It can be extended to other diseases through the insurance. Now, what is the position of a poor man? If he were to get a sudden heart attack or meets with an accident and if he goes to a Government hospital, nobody will care for him. They will say, "No bed." He will have to wait for hours together outside. Can he go to a corporate hospital? He cannot think of making the payment. Then, what is the course left for him? He has to leave it to God as to how many hours or days or years he would live. If the Hon. Minister extends it to the entire BPL families, the whole nation will be with the hon. Minister.

We have to generate wealth. But if we just generate wealth and if it does not reach the common man, then it is of no use. There will be only billionaires. So, the "inclusive growth" which the hon. Minister mentioned is the best course to adopt and it has to be totally implemented. For that, we do not need to give crores of rupees to an individual. No poor man in this country is asking for lakhs of rupees or a big building. He is only asking for basic needs, like a ration card, food at reasonable price, shelter, health card, school for education, etc. These are the minimum needs that he is asking. Later, if you develop the communication system, infrastructure, etc. in the villages, no villager will prefer to go to a city. Today, a daughter of a farmer who owns 20 acres of land, prefers to marry an Attendant in a bank rather than an owner of 10 acres of land in a village. How pathetic is the condition of the farmer! They are prepared to pull a rickshaw in a city rather than living in a village. Let us change this trend by such type of allocations and convictions.

Unless the villages become rich, unless the income of the villagers goes up, who will purchase those commodities or products which are manufactured by the industrialists? If an industrialist manufactures millions of cycles, who will purchase them if the people do not have the purchasing

power? Will he export it all the time to some other country? Basically, we have to see the needs of our own people. So, unless the purchaser is there, where will the manufacturer sell his goods?

Why is America interested in us? Why is America loves us and China? It is because of market for their products. They think that with even thirty to forty per cent of the middle class population - which comes to about 400 million - they will have enough market, while we do not look at the needs of our own people. The hon. Minister is transferring Rs. 71,000 crore to the rural areas by way of waiving the debt. It is not only helping the farmers, but it is helping the rural economy as well.

Now, I am happy that the hon. Minister has extended this date up to December. Only four days back when I went to my constituency, all the farmers came to me. They said, 'Sir, we do not have any money to pay back immediately as you know our situation. So, at least, extend it for one month.' They were asking only for one or two months. Now, the hon. Minister has extended it up to December. The entire farming community is grateful to you.

The hon. Minister has also said about the GDP growth and economic recovery. He believes in the coordinated efforts between the States and the Centre. This has to be impressed upon. He must impress upon the State Governments also. They cannot be irresponsible. Their actions are going to impact the Indian economy as a whole. As he was telling, now with globalisation coming in, it is not only the country, if one State were not to fair well or use money liberally, then it will have an impact on other areas also. As he has said earlier that he is calling a meeting of the Chief Ministers of various States, this point also must be brought to their mind and impressed upon.

The hon. Minister has increased the facility to the State Governments also by .5 per cent of the State GDP wherein they can raise loans to the extent of Rs. 21,000 crore. But let them be responsible to pay back that money. Let them not think that they can waste their money on some unproductive ways. Many of them are raising the debts and using them for unproductive purposes where they can not repay these loans. When a State Government or a Central Government raises a loan, they must think for what purpose they are using it. If it were to be for a welfare measure, it is part of your responsibility; if it were to be for any other thing, then there must be an asset created. Out of that asset, they must be able to pay back the loan. That must be the thinking on the part of not only the Government of India but also on the State Government as well.

Sir, the hon. Minister was questioning about the fiscal deficit of 6.37 per cent. He has said while reading the Budget Speech that he did it not on his own – he does not have pleasure in doing so – and he has done it only to stimulate this economy. At a time when the global recession was there and our banking industry and finance industry was not affected as much, he wanted to give life to it. He did it by which what we promised to the nation, reducing the fiscal deficit to three per cent. We did bring it to 2.7 per cent earlier or making it zero over a period. We brought it to 2.7 per cent in 2007-08 with a view to stimulate the economy. Definitely, we will bring it back once again over a period of time. So, unless we do this today, there will be further recession. So, that can never be misunderstood by any person in this regard of his spending about or making available Rs. 1,86,000 crore to the industry and to stimulate the economy.

The hon. Minister has said about infrastructure. He has created infrastructure finance company to refinance the bankers to an extent of 60 per cent of the loan for which he has provided a lakh crore of rupees. This will definitely help infrastructure in a big way which is languishing to an extent today.

The day the hon. Minister made his speech, there was a total confidence on the part of the people who were involved in the infrastructure. They will come with double vigour. They will make more investment which they were not sure whether they will get back their investment earlier, if they were to do so. Now, not only your one lakh crore of rupees, even private investments can come in a big way because of your assurance.

As far as export growth is concerned, my friends from the Opposition are more interested. I do not want to make a big explanation or a big description of it. But I am definitely of the opinion that the trade balance has to be maintained. We cannot always be minus exporters. So, we must also think in terms of maintaining the trade balance in that regard. I am not of the opinion that creates a terrible employment and all that. But keeping in view of the foreign exchange, we must improve our production and export.

It is enough if we do not import food grains. If we are to import two million tonnes of food grains, the day the world nations come to know that India - which is the biggest consumer of food grains in the world - is in need of food grains, the prices will double in the international market. Then, what about the money that we will lose? If we can prove that we do not need a kilogram of imported food grains for our nation, the price will fall like anything. So, I am sure of that.

In this regard, you have given enough incentives to the exporters also to once again motivate them and then instil confidence in them. I have been requesting the

Government - You have also said about it - to initiate medium term measures, to have stable balance of payments and moderate interest rates. I have made a study of it a couple of times. You are very much learned than me. The important point is that the interest rates are killing the people of the entire nation. I am of the opinion that if I have a million rupee with me, I will not work because my money earns money. I have no value. So, the human value or human rating or the capacity to earn or the importance of the human effort is coming down. If the money were not to earn so much, if the rate of interest is two per cent or three per cent like in the West, then, everybody will work; everybody has to work. People cannot depend on the treasure they have. So, money should not earn money; human being must earn money by sweat, hard work and using intelligence. Then only everybody will try to learn some skills; then only everybody will depend on himself rather than depending on his ancestral property or the treasure that is lying with him. So, I would request the hon. Minister to once again discuss with all the financial experts in the country including the Reserve Bank Governor and the bankers to reduce the rates of interest. I agree that some logic that is put forth is that we have the highest rate of savings in the world which is more than 38 per cent. But savings need not be the core thing for investment. Because of the reduced rates, people will not go elsewhere. Instead of putting in the bank, they will put it in the shares, invest in the shares and money will not go outside. Their savings will remain. Investment will change the route. So, I would request you to think seriously of reducing the rates of interest.

I am very happy that you have said a word in the Budget about the direct transfer of subsidy on fertilizers to the farmers. An impression is there in the country that the sick units like the Sindri Unit are having the oldest technology in producing fertilizers. I have seen the statistics. In the case of the Madras Fertilizers Factory, the rate for manufacturing a tonne of urea or something like that is Rs.500 whereas in some other factory, it is Rs.5,000/- There is so much of a variation. They are giving subsidies. So, nobody will make an effort. You said that you would bring in competition. Let them go to hell. Let them find the latest technology in the world. Let them work hard. Let them reduce the salary or do whatever they want but let them produce, in a competitive way, all the fertilizers. If we continue to give subsidy to the producer, there will not be any incentive for him to reduce the cost of production ....(Interruptions) So, your promise of transferring subsidy to the farmers is excellent.

Sir, you have said about food security. It is wonderful. If we were to really provide the basic requirement of rice or wheat at Rs.3 a kilogram, if we were to provide 25 kilograms for every family living below the poverty line, then, we have

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to do one thing. My hon. Colleague earlier told that the number of people living below the poverty line, as revealed by the statistics collected by the Government, is 28 per cent. But if we go to the villages, we can find more number of people. So, in regard to the provision of 25 kilogram of rice or wheat to be provided to the people living below the poverty line, I would request you to make some re-assessment of the BPL families in the whole country and then provide this accordingly.

Similarly, I want the Government to think, in association with the State Governments - though it is not your subject - of providing the basic requirements like edible oil, dhal, sugar, tamarind, kerosene, cooking gas, etc. at the specific subsidised prices to the poor people so that they can think of how to come up in life on par with the rich people.

**16.00 hrs.**

Otherwise they will change their life style in one decade or two decades instead of waiting for hundreds of years to change their life style.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude. There are more than 20 Members from your party who want to speak on the Budget. Please think about them also.

DR. K.S. RAO: Sir, the Finance Minister has introduced a pension scheme to the unorganized sector. He is providing pension to the people in the unorganized sector and also through Indira Gandhi National Pension Scheme. I wish that this pension must be paid to all those eligible people who are more than 60 or 65 years age and who are living like orphans in villages where their own children are not in a position to take care of them. So, I wish that they should also be taken care of.

Then, the hon. Finance Minister has brought the New Pension Scheme. Though the Members of the Communist Parties will come in the way, the Minister has to implement it immediately so that the gap will be covered and really they will be benefited over a period of time. It may not be known now because the actuarial calculation is not known to everybody.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

DR. K.S. RAO: Sir, I do not want to take more time of the House. But I am of the definite opinion that this Budget, which the hon. Finance Minister has presented, has been praised by one and all. The only thing that we wish is that if the basic requirements of the poorer sections of the society in the country as a whole are to be taken care of in 5 years, it is a revolution. China will stand nowhere. Indians are the

most intelligent people. They have proved themselves when they left the country and gone abroad. As long as they were in this country, their talents were not recognized. But the moment they went outside, they have become Nobel Prize winners. So, let us have faith on the capacity of the poor man in this country also. He can also generate wealth, given an opportunity, given the motivation and given the support from the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAIENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to take part in the discussion on General Budget. As far as the Budget is concerned, views have been expressed by the ruling side as well as the Opposition and since I stand here to speak on behalf of my party it does not mean that - would oppose the budget but on the contrary I would like to give some suggestions. This Budget does not seem to be a common man's budget - earlier times the people used to wait for the day on which budget was presented so that they should know on which articles, prices were going to be increased and on whose, prices were going to be decreased. But people lost interest when prices of petrol and diesel were increased suddenly at night. This budget is not for the common man but for the rich. An arrangement has been made to provide Rs. 20 thousand crores to benefit some Corporate Houses. I do not say that they should not be given this benefit. My point is that there are various corporate houses in the country who contribute to boost the economy of the country. Rs. 100 crore have been allocated for information technology experts in order to strengthen security of the citizens and to issue identity card to all of them.

**16.04 hrs.**

(SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA *in the Chair*)

Photo identity cards had been issued in the country and if we glance at the last 20 years, it can be said that this move has not been much successful. It had been stated very emphatically in the President's Address that revolutionary changes would be introduced to lead the country on the path of progress and all the problems would be solved within 100 days. On the other hand, there are five challenging issues before the Governments to deal with.

Sir, I would like to say regarding food security and health that even today, 20 crore people in the country are not able to get nutritional food and more than fifty percent of the children are still victims of malnutrition. The Government has made provisions to eradicate malnutrition but the problem is evident in the real form at rural level. Every year five lakh women die during delivery in the country. At rural level, eighty percent of the Indians are not getting proper health care.

Second point is regarding internal security. Provisions have been made in the budget but we find that the entire world is facing security concerns and India ranks 61 position in this regard. 4100 terrorist incidents have taken place here between 1970 to 2004. 14 states and 620 districts of the country are affected by Naxalism and because of this development has come to a standstill there.

In education sector, we find that 71 per cent children between age group of 15 to 19 years are not able to get secondary education. You will see the clear picture in rural areas. As far as employment security is concerned, International Labour Organization has stated that entire world would be in the grip of recession in 2009 resulting in loss of at least 21 crore jobs and India would not remain immune from it. Today the Government is to face the challenge of dealing with recession in IT and BPO sector and of creating new opportunities of employment. The Government has provided money under NREGA but it would not provide employment to everyone.

As far as energy and environment are concerned, we find that we have coal reserves which would last for only forty years. We have to run thermal plants and we have to overcome economic recession keeping the industries and infrastructure in view. If we take our oil reserves, we have enough to last just twenty years as per our survey. This is a serious problem. We will have to decide a course of action. We have talked about Rajeev Gandhi Rural Electrification Scheme and many Members have raised this issue but at present 57 percent Indians do not have access to electricity. Several Members have said that big villages have been covered and small ones are yet to be covered under the Scheme. This is a matter for consideration. Hon. Minister of Finance is not here. He had mentioned celebrated author Kautilya in his budget speech. I would like to remind him that Kautilya had said that tax levied on the public should be less than ten percent of their total income otherwise it will ignite animosity and crime. We will have to find out the reasons for increase in animosity and crimes at present. The more we impose the tax, the more inflation will be there. In my opinion, there is no provision in the budget about inflation. As regard farmers, we are from Samajwadi party. No provision has been made in the budget for farmers. Under one time loan waiver scheme, the Government says that if some one deposits 75 per cent, then 25 per cent will be waived off. Last time the Government talked about waiving off loans of marginal and small farmers, but it could not stop suicides. The farmers do not even recover the expenses incurred by them in production.

This is not likely to stop now. I have not brought the figures regarding Raebareilly, otherwise I would mention it as to how a farmer has committed suicide in the parliamentary constituency of the UPA's chairperson. He had taken loan for tractor, but he could not repay it, and as a result, committed suicide. This was reported in the newspapers as a headline. However, 70 to 75 per cent farmers are dependent on agriculture in India. Our 70 percent population resides in villages and India's economy depends on agriculture. Following Swaminathan's report, discussion on this issue has been held in the House many times. All the hon'ble Members have participated in this discussion. The report says that the loans should be given at the minimum rate of interest. Not only this, even the Standing Committee on Agriculture has recommended two times that the loans should be given at 4% interest rate, but these recommended could not be put in effect. Our hon'ble Members have said that the whole country, particularly North-India, is now facing drought. The report that has come today says only 38.14 lakh hectare land has been planted with paddy crops till now, which is 13.66 lakh hectare less in comparison to the previous year. This will create big problems. In the Budget, it is proposed to give wheat and rice upto 25 kg at the rate of Rs.3/- per kg. So far as oilseeds are concerned, less than half of the oilseed crops have been sown. If we talk about coarse grain, it has been sown in 26.6 lakh hectare land in comparison to 56.54 lakh hectare during the last year, which is less by 30 lakh hectare. You have rung the bell.  
...(Interruptions)

[English]

\* MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not mind to allow you but then other Members of your Party may not get time. Please keep it in mind.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Sir, I am just going to conclude. According to a survey report that has been released today, Uttar Pradesh, the heartland of India, has been hit hard by the drought. It is reported that 54 districts are facing drought. There is no rainfall in 13 districts. As far as the food processing is concerned, no special attention is paid towards it, notwithstanding vegetables, fruits or flowers; and as far as the production of foodgrains is concerned, it is decreasing by 3 to 4 percent on account of monsoon each year. Our land holding is also getting decreased. Population is increasing day by day. But, in the budget, no special attention has been paid towards population control. On the other hand, starvation deaths and water crisis are also reported here. As far as the agriculture research is concerned, no budgetary provision is made by providing adequate funds to the research centres, be it ADRF or ICAR

[Shri Shailendra Kumar]

for conducting research in the field of agriculture due to which they are unable to increase agriculture production. Today, there is no proper irrigation facility all over the country. There is more than half of land unirrigated for which we are not able to provide any irrigation facility. No special attention has been given to the cooperative sector which is directly associated with the farmers in particular. No sufficient provision has been made in the budget for the food processing as well as infrastructure which are not in proper condition. Fruits, Vegetables, meat or fish worth Rs. 50 thousand crore get rotten even today in our country. We have no proper facilities to preserve them.

Brazil or other small countries can preserve 60 to 80 percent. But our country lacks such a food processing facility till now. In my opinion India can preserve only 2-3 percent, the rest gets rotten. Today in the country poverty has gone up and the employment opportunity has gone down. This is not so that NREGA Scheme will provide employment to all. We will have to pay heed to it, especially to the situation regarding Uttar Pradesh, Bundelkhand, about which hon'ble Members have forcefully raised the matter and walked out of the House during Zero Hour. It is worth thinking that while paying special attention, discussion should be held to provide package to the areas facing drought in the country.

Sir, there is no clear-cut policy about preparation of the BPL list. How can we define it? Hon'ble Murli Manohar Joshi has also raised this point. You can visit and see any rural area where the people will gather around you saying that they are not getting ration, they are not getting this or that. It does not matter whether they are the local Government or the states' other Government machinery, they all have submitted their lists intending to provide benefits only to the BPL people. But now the situation prevailing in villages is worse than that of the BPLs. Today, there is need to define BPL. There is a need to increase the number of BPL people. All these things have been put through figures.

Sir, I want to say about 'Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana' for which the fund of Rs.100 crore has been allocated. I fail to understand the features of the scheme. In Uttar Pradesh, Ambedkar Gram Yojana has been launched. You can visit any village where the said scheme is being run. It is okay that some works relating to drains and roads have been undertaken under the Ambedkar Gram Yojana in the villages where 45-50 percent population of scheduled castes is residing but apart from these what about all these villages where 35-45 percent Scheduled Caste population is residing. It needs to be defined.

115 districts have been selected under agriculture revamping rural development scheme. But, at the same time,

it is not clear what provision have been made in the budget and what Government proposes to do? There is a mention of Rajiv Gandhi Urban Housing Development Scheme. Slums in the cities are in a very bad shape even today. There has been mentioned the name of Jawahar Lal Nehru Urban Development Scheme. It has been said that it would be implemented in Uttar Pradesh particularly in Allahabad but work has not been started yet. The person whose name the scheme bears belonged to the same city. I have seen in some places that Kashiram Urban Revamping Scheme is there. May be, the funds are same but the name of the scheme has been changed. This should also be checked. The poor people who do not have roofs over their heads should be provided with homes. An increase of Rs.5000/- has been made and now instead of Rs.25,000, Rs.30,000 would be provided. A poor man constructs a verandah and a room for himself which is not possible in Rs.25,000. Rs.50,000, at least, should be provided, then only building a room and a verandah is possible.

Sir, Hon. Minister has spoken about minority welfare scheme. Hon. Minister was sitting, now he has left. Even today, the condition of people belonging to schedule castes and minority communities is pitiable. Their social, educational or economic basis should be strengthened. It is all right that reservation is there, but there are many vacancies which are not being filled and candidates from general category are being appointed against them. Their Financial condition is very bad. So, it needs to be paid special attention. Recently, in my parliamentary constituency, BDO Pratapgarh collected money in 17 blocks in the name of Rajiv Gandhi Awas Yojana in 2008 only but nobody has got any house till date. The CDO and the DM were transferred when they made efforts to lodge FIR, in this regard. So, such a big scam has taken place and no provision has been made to check corruption. Corruption is rampant at higher levels, not on the lower rung. Stringent steps are required to prevent corruption. When corrupt persons would be nailed on top, its effect would be seen at all levels and deserving beneficiaries would get their due.

With these words, as time is short, I would like to submit that there are town areas in every MP's constituency which have about 30-40 or 45 thousand of urban population. The Government is providing Rs. 5 crore to a single town area under B.R. G.S. Scheme while the rest of the town areas are being neglected. Efforts should be made to make an equitable budget to cover all the areas. Then comes alleviation of poverty in BPL category. I think they will be benefited only when money is deposited in their accounts directly. The Government has made provision of Cheque

under NREGA. By the time, a person would encash his Cheque, his family would be starving. So, we should put in place a system where poor beneficiaries get direct benefit.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today honourable MPs are being neglected. The Minister replies that the vigilance committee has been constituted and the Members monitor through it. At present, the condition of hon. Members is such that they have no control over any one, whether it is an administrative officer or some government officer. The need of the hour is this that the provisions made in the budget should reach the targeted people and the responsibility of monitoring should be with the Members of Parliament, Members of Legislative Assembly, Chief of BDC, Block Pramukh and members of Zila Panchayat etc. The Government should ensure their accountability and give them rights. Only then, the projects will be meaningful and the people will be benefited. With these words, I support the budget and conclude my speech.

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN (Ghosi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for allowing me to participate in the Budget (General) discussion.

Through you I would like to submit that this may be first time that there is no curiosity among the people about the budget. I can say that during election time the UPA Government made alluring promises but after coming into power the masses of the country are disappointed with the budget presented by the Government. It's only a gimmick of data and contain no facts. Therefore, I can say that this Budget is very disappointing, because farmers, traders, weavers, unemployed youths, all have been ignored in this budget. Therefore, I can say that this budget has no vision and is anti-people. In this budget social sector has been ignored and no concrete provisions has been made for the development of poor, labourers, dalits, backwards, minorities and women.

Sir, I belong to Uttar Pradesh. In the Budget, though provision have been made to establish cluster for handloom weaver but no provision has been made for Uttar Pradesh. Our state has been neglected in this regard. Large number of weavers belonging to minorities and the S.C./S.T. community reside in Uttar Pradesh. Handloom sector has been ignored in the budget and efforts have been made to win the poor and to promote major industries by imposing 8 percent tax on cotton yarn.

I think that tax holiday facility on oil and natural gas production has been incorporated in the budget to provide benefits to certain manufacturers. Pranab Da is a well-known economist. Before presentation of Budget, people were confident that this budget will be in the interest of poor farmers, youth and backward society but after presentation

of budget it is cleared that this budget is anti-people and pro-industrialists. Congress had given slogan during election that "Congress Ka Haath, Garibon ke Saath". But I can say that Congress party is pro industrialists. Therefore, I can say that this budget is misleading the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the previous UPA Government had increased the diesel and petrol prices on 7 June, 2008. When election was due in 2009, Government again reduced petrol and diesel prices in January, 2009. It is not appropriate to measure poverty and richness of the country according to the sensex data. Petrol and diesel prices had been reduced to mislead innocent people of the country and they were caught in the trap. When UPA Government came to power, then the Government, which is in clutches of industrialists, raised the petrol and diesel prices just 11 hours before the commencement of parliament session without taking parliament into confidence hence, created multifold problems for the poor people. I would like to congratulate Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Mayawati ji for taking bold step to give relief to the people of Uttar Pradesh by not imposing tax on petrol and diesel. I welcome such initiative.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to comment on Pradhan Mantri Aadarsh Gram Yojana that this scheme has been formulated for the development of 44 thousand villages of the country where S.C. and S.T. people are more than 50 per cent of the village population but only 100 villages have been included in that and Rs.100 crores is proposed for the scheme. I would like to give example of Uttar Pradesh where huge amount has been spent for overall development of SC/ST dominated villages. I know that my colleagues were discussing that matter. Not only Ambedkar Villages -where SC/ST people are residing are to be developed, but villages where general or OBC people are residing are also being developed. Rs. 80 lakh to Rs.2.50 crore has been spent for the development of certain villages. I don't understand that how a village would be developed with meagre amount of Rs.10 lakh provided by the Central Government?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon'ble Finance Minister is talking about social and economic change in his budget speech but no provision has been made in the budget to formulate development programmes for the villages where socially and economically backward, SC/ST or OBC or General category people are residing.

The matter has been raised in the Parliament time and again that the quota for ST/ST and OBC's should be fulfilled but no provision has been made in the budget in this regard. There are more than 60-65 percent farmers in the country but no concrete steps have been taken for their welfare. No provision has been made in the budget to provide electricity, fertilizer, agricultural equipment to farmers at cheaper rates

[Shri Dara Singh Chauhan]

and to provide remunerative prices for their crops. Poor people suffering from incurable diseases and the helpless ones are still leading their lives helplessly in the country. The Government of this country has made no provision in its budget to save the lives of such people.

Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of hon'ble Minister that every year flood creates havoc in a large area of the country. There is no provision in this Budget to save the nation from the disaster of flood. The UPA Government is praising itself for NREGA and have held a lot of discussions on it. The Government says that we have increased 144 per cent budget for NREGA. I would like to state that it is only a gimmick as the budget of water resources, forest and 'Gramin Sadak' is included in it. All are praising themselves by stating that they have done the maximum work. Under NREGA, a provision has been made that Central Government is committed to provide 100 rupees to the labourers working under this Act. They think it is their big achievement. Two years ago, when Bahujan Samaj Party came to power in Uttar Pradesh, Mayawatiji announced to give 100 rupees to poor labourers of the State and it is being given also.

Sir, from Union Minister to bureaucrats everyone is praising himself/herself for NREGA. The Union Government has made arrangement to provide 6 to 8 cylinders yearly to one family in the country. This assurance is certainly impracticable. The Finance Minister and the Government of UPA are praising themselves for increasing custom duty on Gold and Silver. I would like to bring it to their notice that I belong to backward area and this rebate has been given on branded ornaments only. I know that the poor people living in metropolitan cities, villages and huts cannot go to big malls. They do not know anything about malls. Even several honourable Members sitting here would have not visited malls where branded ornaments are sold. Custom duty on Gold and Silver has been increased to benefit big industrialists. Poor man visits small jewellers only and buys ornaments worth rupees 2 to 10 thousand only. You have disappointed and cheated the poor man through this.

Sir, the list of BPL was prepared in the year 2002. I think that all the Members of Parliament sitting in this House are demanding the revision of this list. Wherever we go people tell us that they have no red card and their names are not enlisted in BPL list. The entire House is unanimously agreed on the issue of review of BPL list and want that more people should be included in it. There is no mention about it in this year's Budget.

Sir, This Budget has given many assurances to youths. But no meaningful effort has been made to give jobs to youths. I would like to draw the attention of the Finance Minister towards this issue.

The demand for women reservation has been raised several times. No meaningful and bold step has been taken for the education of girls in this budget. Parliament has discussed to check female foeticide several times but no concrete step has been taken to stop it. Mayawatiji has announced to give Rs. 25,000/- and a bicycle to every poor girl of different sections of society in Uttar Pradesh as incentive for their education. To check female foeticide in Uttar Pradesh, the Government has announced to deposit 20 thousand rupees on the birth of a girl child and when the girl will attain 18 years of her age, she will be given rupees one lakh. This scheme could have checked female foeticide but there is no provision for it in the Budget.

Besides that, I would like to talk about the urban labourers of the States. After independence, this is the first time that the Government of Uttar Pradesh has started a scheme to give 2 rooms set along with latrine-bath to poor people living in cities who used to get Rs. 20,000 in the name of any scheme as Indira Awas Yojana. They were being befooled in the name of such schemes, till now. Nobody used to think about poor people, but now Government of Uttar Pradesh has allotted houses to poor people of the State in the name of Kanshiram Sahib who gave a message to bring social-economic change in the country. With these words, I would like to state that the Budget presented in the House is a disappointing Budget. Still I support it and conclude.

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Kolkata Uttar): Sir, the name of our party's Member is at number four. I think, it should be our party's turn now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next will be the turn of your party's Member.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH (Munger): Mr. Chairman Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. After general elections to Lok Sabha when UPA Government came to power at the centre and Pranab Da was given the charge of Ministry of the Finance after due deliberation, there was a common belief among people that long working experience of Pranab Da in the Ministry of Finance as well as in the Central Government would prove to be beneficial for the country and the current Budget will provide relief to common man.

But after presentation of this Budget, though the Government does not realize now but it is being talked about everywhere that this Budget is going to give a set-back to the entire country. In the Budget of Rs. 10,20,838 crores presented by the Government, Rs. 6,14,497 crores are proposed to be earned by revenue and Rs. 4,06,341 crores will be raised through market borrowings. If we look at the Budget of 2008-09, it becomes clear that in place of debt of Rs. 1,40,724 crores, the actual amount of debt was Rs. 3,08,796 crores.

If this is the amount of their market borrowings, then the debt of Rs. 406341 crores for which provisions have been made in this Budget will actually touch Rs. 12 lakh crores which direction you are taking the country? You have made a wide publicity that you have brought a revolution in agriculture and rural areas but it is not reflecting in the Budget. In the plan outlay, only Rs. 10629 crore have been allocated to the agriculture sector. Out of a Budget of Rs. 1020838 crore only an amount of Rs. 10 thousand crores have been provided to agriculture sector. They are talking of bringing about revolution in agriculture sector by allocating merely one per cent of total budget to agriculture sector. Our entire economy is based on agriculture. Livelihood of 75-80 per cent population depends on agriculture sector. If you want to check the unemployment, you will have to concentrate on agriculture.

Sir, UPA Government have kept industrial production in the centre of the Budget of five years. As a result of such policies, the country is moving in wrong direction and I am unable to understand as to which direction you want to take the country. He has certainly mentioned about the gas sector in his Budget. Gas is such an important component which is required for industrial production, power generation and manufacturing of fertilizers. Gas is the cheapest medium to compete at international level. Hon'ble Minister has announced a policy in his Budget speech about the production of gas which he welcome. We hope that Finance Minister will urgently implement this policy. He will also make effort to make available the gas in eastern region also where there is no proper availability of gas.

Sir, now I specifically talk about my State only. You have stated that in the coming 15 years you will develop India as a developed country. Bihar has a population of ten crore. I am not able to understand that neglecting a State having ten crore people, how can you dream of making India a developed nation.

Sir, I would like you to observe the Budget speech of the year 2004 and 2005. Mr. Chidambaram was Finance Minister during that period. At that point of time, he had mentioned in his Budget speech that a special package will be provided to Bihar. While presenting his first Budget in

2004, he had mentioned this thing in this House. He had repeated the same in 2005 also. I would like to know where our special package has gone? What is the amount of special package given to us? Our State is dependent on agriculture. Our State suffers from flood and drought, in spite of this you are not providing us any grant. Our internal resources are limited. From where we should seek the assistance? Bengal was struck by cyclone 'Aaila', you provided a grant of rupees one thousand crore for this. I have no objection in this regard. I have no objection even if you provide further assistance of rupees five hundred crores. I have also no objection on the assistance you provided to Mumbai. The flood in Koshi river made lakhs of people homeless. Prime Minister Mr. Manmohan Singh visited the flood affected areas and declared the flood a national disaster. Where the declaration of national disaster has gone? You have not provided grant of a single penny. The flood affected land got filled with sand and mud. The State Government sent a proposal for rehabilitation and shelter of affected people. But you have not taken any action on that. You have not announced grant of even single penny in your Budget speech. What sort of Budget you want to present?

Sir, Government talk about welfare of minority communities. In your Budget speech you have proposed to open a branch of Aligarh Muslim University.

The State Government has proposed that the branch may be opened in Kishan Ganj and the State is ready to offer land in this regard. Why did not you come forward to open a branch of University there? You said that handloom and cottage industry will be promoted. At one point of time, Bhagalpur was famous for its silk in the entire world. Presently, the silk industry of Bhagalpur is on the verge of death. There are small time weavers and several handloom clusters. Why did not you mention anything about revival of silk industry there? Bihar is a backward State. Why are you neglecting it?

You are not giving special package to the State. You do not want to do anything. Your intentions are not good. We can understand what you have done during the last five years. In a democracy if people give power to any party, it uses the power in the interest of the people of the State. But, the said power has been used to ruin the State for the last five years. The power has been used to obstruct the development plans.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, people of Bihar have punished them. In a democracy, public decides the fate. It is a fact. Public observe everything and they have taught them a lesson. What happened to you now? Why are you not free from that pressure? Why do not you want to do justice with the people of Bihar? Why do not you want to give legitimate due to



[Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh Alias Lalan Singh]

people of Bihar? Our ethanol industry is not related to general Budget, but for the discussion. I would like to raise this issue here. Hon. Prime Minister has said that he has written letters to the Chief Ministers of all the States to promote the production of ethanol keeping the global petroleum scenario in view. The letter of hon. Prime Minister is received in the State on a day, but the very next day a notification is received there issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Consumer Affairs, food and Public Distribution stating that as long as sugar is not produced, ethanol cannot be produced. If an industrialist wants to set up sugar or ethanol industry, why do you want to disallow him? It proves that you want to disrupt the progress of the State of Bihar. You are disrupting the progress, you had been doing the same under pressure and we can understand that but at present there is no pressure on you. If you want to go to the people of Bihar, you will have to give their legitimate due and if you do not give the same to Bihar, the people of Bihar will not tolerate it. We hope and believe that while replying to the discussion on the Budget, you will clarify as to why you have neglected the State of Bihar.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in addition to this, I would like to discuss on two points in short. NREGA has been discussed here. NREGA is being implemented in entire country and some people are boasting off as if they have brought drastic change by NREGA. They have done nothing in NREGA. I challenge if it is reviewed by some independent agency or a survey is conducted throughout the country by the said agency, you will find that no scheme has been as flop as this one. This is the worst source of corruption. People are praising themselves by creating avenues of corruption. They want to prove themselves most efficient. They are free do it but factual position is this.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, BPL is discussed. This is an important issue. A decision had been taken during the regime of former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee to conduct door to door survey. Some numbers are fixed and on the basis of the said numbers, door to door survey was conducted. One crore thirty-five lakh families are living below poverty line in my State. As per the survey conducted by the Government of India, only 65 lakh families are living below poverty line but how will you bridge this gap? In this way, on the basis of data, Central Government want to prove that poverty has been eradicated. They want to prove it. This corroborate the fact. If you adopt this approach to eradicate poverty, you cannot do so in 100 years, not to speak of 10 years. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

DR. KAKOLI GHOSH DASTIDAR (Barasat): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I extend heartfelt gratitude on behalf of my

Party, my people and myself for allowing me, to express my opinion and draw the attention of the hon. Members of this citadel of democracy as I rise to support the General Budget of the year 2009-2010 presented by the hon. Finance Minister Shri Pranab Mukherjee.

Through yourself, respected Sir, I wish to felicitate the hon. Finance Minister's effort to facilitate domestic demand-driven growth, trying to create newer job opportunities and reach out to rural and urban poor. To do so, I feel, allocation of more funds to the Railways is necessary.

As far as food security is concerned, the National Food Security Act is being carried out in all earnest to provide grains to BPL families at Rs.3 per kilogram for 25 kilograms of grain per month. This will curb hunger no doubt, but will it maintain health, prevent kwashiorkor marasmus? At the United Nations Millennium Summit, 189 member States of United Nations General Assembly including our very own India committed to reduce poverty, improve health, promote peace, and promote human rights and environmental stability. The Millennium Development Goals drawn from the Millennium Declaration thereof thus signed and set out eight goals and quantifiable time-bound targets to reduce poverty, hunger, ill health, gender inequality, improve access to education, clean water and environment for all by the year 2015.

While subsequently our country has progressed no doubt on many development markers, chronic hunger related malnutrition and compromised chronic health related situations persist even today. Every one out of two children and every one out of three adult women suffer from malnutrition. Every three out of four children and one out of two women suffer from anaemia in the population, amongst pregnant women this is much higher. Malnutrition contributes to over fifty per cent child death. A child born of a mother of compromised health is more prone to disease and death and so is the mother. To reach the target of reducing maternal mortality, infant and child mortality, the supply of grain, as suggested at Rs.3 for 25 kilograms a month is not enough. The other nutritional requirements like vitamins, minerals and regulated amounts of proteins and fats will have to be ensured through the PDS and awareness towards this end initiated. I thus request the hon. Finance Minister to consider fortifying grains and supply such elements to effectively reach the said targets.

I would like to draw your attention to delivery of potable drinking water, that is, arsenic free. You must be aware in this august House that arsenic poisoning is like an epidemic in the State of West Bengal from where I come, particularly the district from where I come, the North 24 Parganas, causing cancer and hepatic mal-functions. Thousands of

people are dying. Arsenic free water supply projects must be undertaken immediately and funds sanctioned for the purpose.

I congratulate the hon. Finance Minister at his initiative towards skill development and putting vocational training at par with higher studies through exemption under section 80E on educational loans.

The initiative taken by the hon. Finance Minister towards reaching out to greater numbers through NREGS, SGSY, SHG, Rashtriya Mahila Kosh is laudable. But in many States, the employment guarantee has not reached its target like in West Bengal; they could not meet the target. I see no improvement in result output in my constituency and State since the actual poor and the poorest of the poor have not been included.

The work on drawing up of the BPL list in a just manner must be immediately completed and brought before the public to take benefit from the projects drawn up thereof.

I thank the hon. Finance Minister on behalf of the small and marginal taxpayers. Here, however, I would like to humbly place a request to look into the possibility of enhancing the upper limit of personal income-tax exemption of small and marginal taxpayer up to Rs.2.5 lakh per annum, and also request the interest on small savings which poorer and middle income-groups take advantage of.

Hon. Finance Minister has very kindly taken into consideration the health sector. It is definitely encouraging. However, a lot more is expected in the health sector. A nation to progress wisely and effectively has to be healthy because the productivity definitely reduces with an unhealthy nation. It is encouraging to note that nine specified life-saving drugs and devices have received his blessings - though it is not classified in detail. I would like to know whether these include Thrombolytic agents like Strepto Kinase or Alteplase, Gonadotropines and pacemakers, which have to pay a basic five per cent duty, four per cent surcharge, three per cent cess and four per cent Value Added Tax.

Hon. Finance Minister has followed a journey - 'Mrityu man mrito gamyo - an endeavour towards saving life. May I take this opportunity to request to initiate a journey towards light—

[Translation]

Tamso man jyotirgamaya

[English]

May I request him through you, Sir, to peer into the eyes of a childless woman, into the depth of darkness and

despair in her eyes. When the World Health Organisation has described correctly and completely this disease condition, women in our country are still ostracised, divorced and tortured for their illness. Will they find any justice? Will their human right to procreate be denied? Why are medical insurance facilities denied to them?

[Translation]

Infertility is a medical problem then when it is a stigma?

[English]

Facility being unavailable in most Government hospitals; two to three million such women suffer every year. Private facilities of world class result have to pay very heavy duties for life-creating devices. We have spoken about life-saving devices in the budget, I draw your attention to life creating ones.

Here I would bring to your attention, the life-creating devices like culture media, in which early human embryos thrive, is taxed at 28 per cent being treated as an ordinary chemicals like kerosene, etc. Carbon dioxide Incubators which are the wombs to such babies are taxed at 28.6 per cent - being treated as poultry ovens. Nowhere in the world, this happens! Other tissue grade plastics, catheters, needles are treated like ordinary plastics like a kerosene jar and charged 28.6 per cent also.

All these millions suffering from childlessness requiring Assisted Reproductive Technologies are looking up to you. The result, of the Indian Groups working in these subjects for more than 27 years now, comparable to any developed centre of the world look up, through you, to the Finance Minister for support along with all these millions of people to make this service available to all sections of society since it does not exist in the Government sector, except, as far as my knowledge knows, in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. All sections of the society would avail the facility at a much cheaper rate if this taxation could be taken care of. I voice the request of three million such sufferers to reconsider the duty pattern on these items so that they can also avail the facility that is available today in science throughout the world. The World Health Organisation have always extended support but here in our country, the little babies, the parents of tomorrow being born to childless mothers in the laboratories are treated like poultry chicken. I draw your attention to it.

17.00 hrs.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Karur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of my Party, AIADMK, I rise to participate in the discussion on the General Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee for the year 2009-10.

[Dr. M. Thambidurai]

We are very happy to note that some of the programmes like '100-day agenda', National Citizen Identity Cards', and other measures like 'abolition of Fringe Benefit Tax, more allocation for police modernization, more funds for Defence and for setting up of more IITs, etc.' which are mentioned in our AIADMK Party's Election Manifesto are included in his Budget Speech and getting implemented.

I expected that the present Finance Minister would come out with some solutions to the problems that the country is facing like agricultural crisis, price rise, joblessness and recession.

This Budget attempts to net some short-term gains by putting more money in tax-payers hands and allocating more funds to infrastructure and social welfare programmes. The absence of a long-term strategy for fiscal consolidation is conspicuous and it is disappointing.

The Budget provides for a total expenditure of Rs.10,20,838 crore consisting of Rs.6,95,689 crore towards Non-Plan and Rs.3,25,149 crore towards Plan Expenditure. The Budget figures show Gross Tax Receipts of Rs.6,41,079 crore, which was Rs.6,87,715 crore in the previous year.

The Non-Plan Expenditure is projected to rise by 37 per cent this year. Interest payment takes lion's share in this, with Rs. 2.25 lakh crore. Borrowing of the Central Govt. is likely to be around Rs. 4 lakh crore, which is an increase of three times over the past year.

The Finance Minister has admitted in his Budget speech that the fiscal deficit will increase to 6.8 per cent of GDP this year from 2.7 per cent in the previous year, which is a clear area of worry. According to the FRBM Act, the Government is duty-bound to reduce the fiscal deficit by 3 per cent of GDP every year. Even to bring down the gap from 6.8 per cent to 5.5 per cent of the GDP in 2010-11 and 4 per cent in the following fiscal, the deficit had to be cut down by Rs. 2.8 lakh crore through higher growth.

Is it achievable or just imagination based on the calculated highest risk, that our Finance Minister said? Nobody is sure whether this calculated risk will pay off in terms of higher growth in the near future. He blamed the global slowdown for this fiscal deficit, but this is not a convincing reason. This fiscal deficit is due to mismanagement of the economy in the past.

The revelation of higher-than-expected fiscal deficit added to the woes. The deficit-number is beyond the market target and Government has to borrow more from the market this year to fund its aam aadmi programmes. As the Government competes with the private sector for funds, the

Government tends to push up interest rates and crowd out the private sector. This rise in rates finally ends up hindering rather than helping growth. There would not be enough money to fund private investment. This may further delay the revival of the Indian economy.

At Para no. 5 of his speech, he narrated things like 'we need to sustain a growth rate of 9 per cent per annum, strengthen mechanisms for inclusive growth to create about 12 million new jobs per year, reduce the proportion of people living below poverty line, ensuring that agriculture grows at 4 per cent per annum, and we need to move towards providing energy security, etc.'

In the very next paragraph, he had shown pessimistic approach; he said that the Budget cannot solve all these problems. If the Finance Minister of the country is not able to solve these problems, who will solve those problems? He should find ways and means for correcting the financial misdeeds that his Govt. has done over the last few years.

Then, he mentions about three challenges, that is high GDP growth rate of 9 per cent per annum, inclusive development and re-energize Government and improve delivery mechanisms. But he did not mention anything about how he is going to address those challenges. He admits that there has been a dip in the growth of GDP from over 9 per cent to 6.7 per cent this year. It has affected job creation, investments and lowering of revenue. But he has not spelt out anything about how he is going to achieve the growth rate of 9 per cent.

The Government is saying that inflation has come down to record levels. What about inflation of food prices? The prices of essential commodities and consumables like sugar, dal, salt, seasonal vegetables and even matchboxes have increased sharply.

Why the Government did not do anything in the last five years to manage the price line? What happens to the middle class people and the common man? The Government may claim that there is negative inflation, but it is of least concern to the common man. This is a sorry state of affairs and the Government should think seriously about the price rise. The Government has to put a full-stop to the online trading in essential commodities like rice, wheat and pulses, which affects the middle class and aam admi.

Internationally, prices of crude and petrol have stabilized, but the Government has increased Indian diesel and petrol prices last week. This drastically increases the input costs of consumables. When the international oil price fell below 50 dollars, this Government did not bring down the Indian oil prices to that level, but when it increases, this Government immediately takes action to increase oil prices.

The Hon. Minister said that agriculture is likely to grow at 4 per cent. But there is inadequate allocation for it to grow at that rate. There is an agrarian crisis in the country. Farmers are committing suicides in huge numbers. In the last 12 years, 1,90,753 farmers have committed suicide in the country.

The renowned Agriculture Scientist, Dr. Swami-nathan has given a very clear recommendation that the interest rate on farm loans should be slashed to 4 per cent. But even today the nationalised banks are giving farm loans at the rate of 7 per cent. The Finance Minister has reduced it to 6 per cent, only for those loans ranging up to Rs.3 lakh and that too, only for those who pay on time.

The proposed Task Force, to look into the waiver of loan taken from private money lenders in Maharashtra region, should also look at other regions of the country where such problems exist.

Hence, on behalf of AIADMK, our Hon. Amma had suggested that all existing farm loans including those taken from the non-nationalized commercial banks should be waived off. There has to be subsidy for seeds and fertilizers.

I would like to suggest that there might be a Farmers' Commission, which could fix the remunerative procurement prices.

The Finance Minister may look into the possibility of converting NABARD into a direct financing institution for farmers, to monitor easy flow of funds to them.

The Hon. Finance Minister said in his Budget that the number of BPL families will be brought down to half-the-number and that he would take efforts to provide 25 Kgs. of rice or wheat every month at the rate of Rs.3 a kilo. Though it is a welcome measure, the fund allocation is inadequate.

All over the country, there is rising unemployment, due to economic slowdown. About a year ago, the Prime Minister and the then Finance Minister said that the Indian economy is insulated, that our fundamentals are strong, and that we need not worry. But what has happened? In the last six months, in every sector - be it garments, be it IT, be it construction works, textiles, manufacturing, automobiles - there have been shut downs and lay offs, and they are working with 10 to 20 per cent of their capacity. According to a moderate estimate, more than five million jobs have been lost in the last six months; and there is a possibility of two crore people losing their jobs.

Here, I would mention a word about my constituency. Karur is famous for its textile industries, but it was affected because of many factors, one of them being frequent power cuts. Many shifts in those industries are shut down, leading to widespread unemployment in Karur and adjoining areas.

The export of textiles was affected. In Karur, there was a circulation in this industry to the tune of Rs.3,000 crore per annum, which has come down to Rs. 1,200 crore. This attracts the immediate attention of the Central Government.

Though the Finance Minister has announced many welfare programmes like National Rural Employment Guarantee Act for uplifting the rural people, it is not reaching the intended-persons. State Governments, are not seriously implementing these programmes. The common men are not getting the benefits and the middlemen are exploiting them. I would request the Government to see that the money is properly disbursed to the common men. Unless this is done, the economic and other stimulus measures will not yield any results.

Hence, our Party General-Secretary, Puratchi Thalaivi hon. J Jayalalithaa emphasized the need to revamp the present National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and rename it as the National Rural Upliftment Scheme whereby 75 per cent of the disbursements can be given in kind and the remaining 25 per cent in cash. This will ensure family security and it will prevent Wasteful expenditure. The Government can ensure at least 150 days of employment.

On behalf of-my Party AIADMK, I feel that the salaried employees are the most sincere taxpayers. I would request that all the salaried employees - both in the Government, and Private - should be exempted from the shackles of income tax and the income tax exemption limit for all others should be increased to Rs. 5 lakh per annum.

Every now and then, the middle class people have some disputes and have to approach some advocates and courts. Now, this attracts 'Service Tax'. Thus, the common men and the people from middle class are affected badly.

I have the following few suggestions for consideration of the hon. Finance Minister.

- i) Instructions may be given to banks for giving education loans to the needy students in time.
- ii) More allocation may be made for modernising the police force, health sector, energy sector, education etc, which also needs the attention of the Government.
- iii) It is an admitted fact that there is 'Rs. 72 lakh crore of Indian money' illegally kept in International Tax Havens. The Finance Minister should make serious efforts to bring back that money at the earliest, as per the demand from our hon. Amma, Puratchi Thalaivi J. Jayalalithaa.
- iv) Counterfeit currencies, smuggled from neighbouring countries, are in circulation in our country. The

[Dr. M. Thambidurai]

Government must take immediate action to control it. Otherwise, our economy is under threat of collapse.

In the wake of the global economic meltdown, the Indian economy has been going through tough times. Tough times call for tough actions and decisions. At this critical juncture, what India needed is an effective, implementable action plan.

As my leader hon. Amma J. Jayalalithaa said:

"In fact, the Finance Minister appears to have not made any attempts to bring the country out of recession. No long-term reforms have been announced. No goals have been fixed. No deadlines have been set. No attempt has been made to control Government expenditure. The entire onus for 'operation resurgence' has been placed on industry with no helping hand from the Government."

The Budget is partially populist, unimaginative and sets no clear roadmap for a better India!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the hon. Minister for External Affairs will make a statement.

17.15 hrs.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS— (*Contd.*)

**(i) Significant Development in our Neighbourhood**

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): I rise to inform the House of significant developments in our relations with three important neighbours - Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal.

Hon'ble Members will recall the Prime Minister's remarks in this House on June 9, 2009. He had said then that it is in our vital interest to make peace with Pakistan. In our vision of a cooperative and harmonious sub-continent, the relationship between India and Pakistan can be a critical building block. The Prime Minister had also referred to our intention of meeting Pakistan more than half way, if its leaders have the courage, determination and statesmanship to take the high road to peace. These sentiments encapsulate our approach. We also recognize the importance and salience of a continued dialogue with Pakistan. However, dialogue addressing mutual concerns is premised on an atmosphere free of the threat of violence. It was with this explicit premise that the Composite Dialogue Process was restarted in 2004. Despite achievements, the dialogue and our very relationship with Pakistan have come under stress recurrently because of the license which terrorist groups have had in Pakistan to carry out attacks on India.

Hon'ble Members are aware of the Government of Pakistan's assurances to us at the very highest level that it would not let territories under its control to be used for attacks against India. Notwithstanding these assurances, we have been repeatedly and severely hit by a series of terrorist attacks emanating from Pakistan. It is the responsibility of the Government of Pakistan to take all such steps as are necessary to address this issue and expose and take action against the conspiracies and conspirators responsible for such attacks. Unfortunately, terrorists in Pakistan continue attacks against India.

When the Prime Minister met President Asif Ali Zardari of Pakistan at the margins of the SCO Summit in Russia last month, the President of Pakistan told us of Pakistan's efforts to deal with the menace of terrorism and the difficulties that they face. It was agreed that the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan will discuss what Pakistan is doing and can do to prevent terrorism from Pakistan against India and to bring to justice those responsible for these attacks, including the horrendous crime of the attacks in Mumbai. After the Foreign Secretaries report, we will be able to take stock of the situation at Sharm-el-Sheikh where, at the margins of the Non-Aligned Summit, Prime Minister will be meeting the Pakistani leadership.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, the Statement seems to be very long. You may lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Sir, I, with your permission, lay the rest of my statement on the Table of the House.

\* Permit me now to briefly apprise the House of recent developments in Sri Lanka. As Hon'ble Members are aware, after more than two decades of conflict involving the Sri Lankan Government and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), a terrorist organisation proscribed in India, the Sri Lankan Government in mid-May 2009 proclaimed the end of military operations after wresting back all the territory held by the LTTE. The death of several LTTE leaders was also announced, including that of Velupillai Prabhakaran, who is a proclaimed offender in India. This is a significant conclusion to the military conflict in Northern Sri Lanka.

The end of military operations in northern and eastern Sri Lanka is an opportunity to rebuild the country after the ravages of conflict. In the immediate post-conflict situation, the most pressing concern is to ensure the early resettlement and rehabilitation of the nearly three lakh Tamil civilians displaced by the conflict in the last year. The early return of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) to their homes is a crucial first step towards reclaiming their lives and restoring normally. We have been assured by the Sri Lankan

\*...\* This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

Government and President of their intention to proceed quickly with the task of resettlement. Mr. Basil Rajapaksa, Senior Adviser to the President of Sri Lanka, led a high-level delegation to India on June 24, 2009 when we studied the resettlement and rehabilitation issue in great detail. The Sri Lankan Government have committed themselves to resettling most IDPs in 180 days.

India will provide every possible assistance in the task of rehabilitation, resettlement and reconstruction. Hon'ble Members will recall that Prime Minister himself announced in this august House, India's firm commitment to engage with the process of relief and rehabilitation in Sri Lanka in keeping with our abiding interest in the well being of the Tamil people in that country. The Government has earmarked Rs. 500 crores for this purpose and we are willing to do more.

The immediate focus of the projects that will be taken up as part of this effort include deployment of four demining teams, which is a prerequisite for IDPs to return to their homes, reconstruction of houses and supply of shelter material, medical assistance, and provision and repair of civil infrastructure.

Since November 2008, India has shipped 1.7 lakh family relief packs from Tamil Nadu for IDPs and civilians affected by the conflict. The packs included essential items such as dry rations, personal hygiene items, clothes, utensils etc. and were distributed to the beneficiaries by the ICRC. Another consignment of family packs will be dispatched from Tamil Nadu shortly. India has also been operating a full-fledged 60-member field hospital in Sri Lanka since March 2009. Since moving to its new location near Vavuniya after the end of military operations, more than 14,000 patients have been treated by the facility which is equipped with modern equipment and amenities and they have done commendable work. Further, two consignments of medicines have also been gifted to Sri Lanka in view of the urgent requirement for civilians and IDPs.

The cessation of hostilities gives Sri Lanka an opportunity to make a new beginning and to build a better future for all her peoples and, therefore, for the region as a whole. We are convinced that a closure to the cycle of violence and terrorism that has plagued Sri Lanka requires an inclusive political process of dialogue and devolution. Such a process must address the legitimate aspirations of the minorities, including the Tamil community, within the democratic framework of a united Sri Lanka.

We have been assured by the Sri Lankan Government of their intention to pursue a political process that envisages a broader dialogue with all parties including the Tamil

parties, the full implementation of the 13th Amendment to the Sri Lankan Constitution and to go beyond, so as to achieve meaningful devolution of powers. We will remain engaged with them through this process.

I would also like to take this opportunity to mention that the Government continues to closely monitor incidents affecting the safety of our fishermen in the waters between India and Sri Lanka. We have reiterated to Sri Lanka the need to ensure strict compliance with the understanding on fishing arrangements reached between the two countries in October 2008.

As a close neighbour with whom our security and prosperity are inescapably intertwined, the Government attaches utmost importance to the future course of events in Sri Lanka and has an interest in ensuring that a lasting political settlement is reached.

Finally, I wish to inform the House of recent developments in Nepal. As Hon'ble Members are aware, the peace process in Nepal after the Constituent Assembly elections last year has gone through many ups and downs.

Due to the nature of our relations and the open border, developments in Nepal have a direct impact on us. We are therefore concerned at the lack of progress on peace process issues and fraying of the political consensus that was critical to the peace process. The task of constitution making has also not progressed as per agreed schedule, and it remains to be seen whether it can be completed by the stipulated timeframe of April 2010.

There are also significant differences between political parties as to the structure of governance, issues like federalism etc., which they need to resolve. The Army Integration Special Committee, with the mandate to supervise, integrate and rehabilitate the combatants of the Maoist Army, was constituted in January 2009 along with a Technical Committee. No tangible progress has been achieved by it on the issue, too. Over 19,600 combatants of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of the Maoists and over 4000 cadres disqualified by the UN Mission in Nepal (UNMIN), which include minors, continue to stay in cantonments with their upkeep paid for by the Government of Nepal and international donors.

Prime Minister Prachanda resigned on May 4, 2009, after a political crisis brought about by his insistence on removal of the Chief of Army Staff of Nepal Army in spite of opposition from major political parties, including the main coalition partner CPN-UML, and advice of the President.

Following his resignation, a new coalition Government has been formed under the leadership of Prime Minister

Madhav Kumar Nepal of CPN-UML. The coalition Government is supported by 22 political parties and enjoys a majority in the 601 member Constituent Assembly, which also acts as Legislature-Parliament. On her part, India has provided full support to the ongoing peace process in Nepal, including material assistance to strengthen the civil security forces and law enforcement machinery, and support for elections to the Constituent Assembly. We hope that the new government would be able to move expeditiously on the tasks of constitution making and conclusion of peace process on the basis of widest possible consensus. We have conveyed our commitment to assist the Government and people of Nepal in their endeavour of transition to multi-party democracy and conclusion of peace process, in any manner and to the extent Nepal would like us to.

The open border between India and Nepal offers opportunities, as well as challenges. Recently, there were allegations in the Nepalese media of encroachments on the border by Sashastra Seerna Bal (SSB), which were found to be false. Strip maps covering about ninety six percent of the India-Nepal boundary have been jointly finalized and initialed. We have also agreed to establish local level mechanisms across the border to address issues related to border management.

Closure of the breach in the embankment of the Kosi river that occurred in August 2008 in Nepal has been carried out. We are also carrying out additional anti-erosion and protection works.

Our relations with Nepal are unique, and will continue to be a matter of highest priority for India. We do not view our fraternal ties with Nepal through the prism of its relations with any other country. A peaceful democratic Nepal is in the interest of the people of Nepal, of India and of our region. India will continue to support Nepal in its democratic transition and economic development in any manner and to the extent it would like us to.\*

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 126/15/09]

17.19 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET 2009-10 -  
GENERAL DISCUSSION  
AND

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS -  
(GENERAL) 2006-07 – Contd.

(DR. M. THAMBIDURAI *in the Chair*)

[English]

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Sir, the hon. Finance Minister has presented the General Budget for the year 2009-10. I think, he has dealt with 137 items excluding

his concluding remarks in the Budget. He has tried to touch upon every section. But to analyse the Budget in greater details, it is better to refer to the Economic Survey to get some more data. It shows that the Revenue Deficit has risen to 4.8 per cent. Fiscal Deficit has risen from 2.5 per cent to 6.8 per cent and the growth rate has come down from 9.1 per cent to 6.1 per cent and growth rate on GDP has come down from 9 per cent to 6.7 per cent.

Sir, industrial growth also has shown a decline from 8.5 per cent to 6.7 per cent, electricity generation declined to 3.7 per cent and export growth also declined from 28.9 to 3.6 per cent. Agriculture is the main sector where we see that there is a decline of 4.9 per cent to 1.9 per cent. It is only mining and quarrying where we see some progress. It is really the reflection of global recession that our economy is facing nowadays. I do not blame the Government but it is the global recession also which has hit the Indian economy to a great extent.

As stated by other Members, there is a negative inflation that we are focussing on but I think no one can afford to get any essential goods in any market because the prices of almost all the goods are rising. It is on this basis that we have to think as to how we can tide over the situation that we are facing.

When we see the investment of the Government, it is only two per cent of the GDP in total. It is a very meagre amount. Agriculture is the backbone of the Indian economy. We have made an investment of Rs. 70,000 crore in the last year but we know that there is not much change in the production as far as agriculture is concerned. I do not find any fault with the Government but at the same time, the import policies which you are still continuing is really the result of the bad position of the farmers. The prices of coconut, the prices of arecanut and the prices of pepper are all showing a decline in my State. There is a joke that the price of a coconut is equal to the price of an egg. The price of arecanut was Rs. 160 per kilogram five years back and now, it is only Rs. 40. No one is ready to buy it. The price of other commodities also shows the same figure. In this connection, the Government should try and give more stimulus to agriculture.

Bank credit was Rs. 2,87,000 crores which rose to Rs. 3,25,000 crores. Of course, it is a good figure. But it is bank credit with seven per cent interest. And what about the report of the Swaminathan Committee? The Swaminathan Committee has made clear that the Government should give four per cent interest and also it has made clear that only three-fourth of the farmers are able to go to the banks. So, it does not give any stimulus to the agricultural field.

The other thing which you can do is more investment in irrigation. Of course, there is some increase but at the same time, it is not really adequate for the agricultural field. When we go into the social sector and the details of each sector, we may find crores of rupees of allocation. But we have to see whether it is adequate or not.

The provision to right to education is below Rs. 200 crore. This is true in the case of preliminary education. There is only slight increase of Rs. 200 crore for general education. The Government have announced some scholarships this year. But there is no increase in the number or volume. The Government has also announced the Mid-Day Meal Scheme. I think the then Finance Minister assured the House that the Government is going to extend it to the upper class also. But it is confined to the lower class alone. In many other States, it is extended to the upper classes and they are going ahead to the higher classes also.

This House has passed the Unorganised Workers Bill which is noble. It is really unfortunate to note that there is only Rs. 100 crore of allocation which is very meagre, according to me, for the benefits of the workers because lakhs and lakhs of workers are engaged in the organised sector.

I agree with the Food Security Act which is the need of the people but the budget proposal is disappointing. When many States give 35 kilos of rice at Rs. 2 per kilogram, the Government has taken a decision to give 25 kilos of rice at Rs. 3 per kilogram. It means the quantity has reduced and the price is high. How can you say that it really gives some relief to the common man? It is not the aam admi budget. It is because, what you have done is lesser in comparison to what some States have already done. The Budget has some schemes for minorities, Self-Help Groups, Bharat Nirman, which I really appreciate. But at the same time, there should be some changes in the NREG Scheme. It is really a noble Scheme. But as far as the villages are concerned, some changes should be made with regard to the implementation of the Scheme.

The second task before the Government is mobilising resources. That is the most important issue as far as the Government is concerned. It is true that there is no change in the corporate tax. It is a welcome step. The Government has abolished the Fringe Benefit Tax, Commodities Transaction Tax, and Gift Tax. I think the Government is not ready to touch the upper class people who have earned crores of rupees. In 2007, the number of millionaires in our country was 25. But in 2008 it has gone up to 52. So, you can tax them more because they have the capacity to pay.

As mentioned by other hon. Members, the percentage of malnourished women has gone up to 58 per cent; the percentage of less-weighted children has gone up to 40 or 48 per cent. So, you need money. You can tax the persons who can bear it. But the Government is not ready to do that. So, the resource mobilisation of the Government wholly depends on the PPP and disinvestment.

In the Budget proposals you have said that 51 per cent shares of the PSUs will be kept with the Government. I cannot understand as to what right you have to sell the rest 49 per cent to the private persons. You have said that it will be sold to the people. But no ordinary person is going to buy any share nor is he going to make any contribution. So, it means that the Government has decided to give the rest of it to the private persons. PSUs are the assets of the people and assets of the nation. You have earlier brought the Insurance Act, the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Act. Now, you are speaking about the Railways, Defence and Coal. So, most of these public shares are going to be given to the private people. It is a very dangerous move.

There is incentive that you give to the other section. That is also a form of tax exemption. Last year, Rs. 4.1 lakh crore were given to private sector. It is a form of tax exemption. Next year also you are going to give this exemption and incentive. It means that within two years, you are giving an exemption of Rs. 8.2 lakh crores. If you use this money, I think, the financial problems of the Government can be solved without much difficulty.

If we see the tax payment of the big companies, I think, only a few companies pay tax. All other companies - I do not want to name them - give very limited tax because of these exemptions in the form of incentives. In the last Lok Sabha we had seen the selling of the 2G spectrum which became a corruption controversy. Now, the Government has decided to sell 3G spectrum at the price of Rs. 35,000 crore. Selling the Government assets has become the day-to-day business of this Government. It is not really a good and healthy economic policy that we can follow. It shows the Government has decided to fill the fiscal deficit of 6.1 per cent by selling the Government assets. This is not a good economic policy. This is just like a farmer selling his land to repay the loans borrowed from the moneylenders. The net result and outcome would be the collapse of the family of that farmer. So, the Government is also going to face the same situation.

The proposal in this Budget to give tax exemption for the donations given to political parties is a dangerous move. It gives power to millionaires to influence the Government. When the millionaires give donations or contributions to a particular political party and when that party comes to power, these persons will have their own say. So, the Election



[Shri P. Karunakaran]

Commission and the Government also should come out with concrete proposals with regard to the funding of the political parties. The political campaign should be transparent. There should be accountability with regard to that.

With regard to subsidy on fertilizer to be given to the farmers, what the Government has said is not clear. The Government said that the subsidy should be given direct to the farmers. How can it be given? The farmers want fertilizer at a cheaper and affordable price. How can you give money to the farmers, who are the farmers and how will you identify them? So, there should be some clarification in this regard.

The policy of crude oil is also left to the Expert Committee. I strongly protest that when the Parliament was in Session, the Government has increased the prices of petrol and diesel. It was really bypassing the Parliament procedure. It was discussed in this House. So, I do not want to go into details.

Then, I am sorry to say that the State of Kerala is really neglected in this Budget. Though the State is first in education and literacy, the long pending demand of IIT is not sanctioned. In this House and also outside the House, the hon. Prime Minister himself had promised that if the Government takes any decision to give more IITs, of course, Kerala should be given priority. However, it has not materialised so far. I would request the Government to consider this demand.

Likewise, Cochin metro is also very important with regard to the industrial development. Cochin is the centre of industrial sector and it has very cross relation with Mumbai. But nothing has been mentioned about the Cochin metro and no money is sanctioned.

As you know, Kerala has traditional industries like coir, cashew, handloom, beedi etc. which are facing steep difficulties because of the global recession. A large number of people are dependent on this sector. But no special scheme or project is included in this regard.

Sir, every year the Government of India receives at least nine billion dollar from NRIs and 80 to 85 per cent of it is from Keralites because they are going to work there. But as a result of the global recession, a large number of people are losing their jobs and no project is included in this regard. As far as the Kerala Government is concerned, they have made a special packaged scheme for the rehabilitation of the NRIs who are losing their jobs. I think, the Government should take note of this and should make a rehabilitation

scheme because they are losing their jobs. They have given a lot of money to our country.

I welcome the Centrally sponsored schemes which really assist the State Governments for infrastructure development and also the social sectors. But considering the complexity of various States and various forms, the geographical features that we see, the growth rate either in the education or in other sectors vary. So, there should be some flexibility in the implementation of the schemes. It is true that the funds should be used for the schemes which are the Central Government projects. But, at the same time, this flexibility is essential.

Sir, we have a better medical system in Kerala. But, at the same time, new diseases like cancer, HIV, chikungunya are spreading. So, the Kerala Government has requested to give for more assistance with regard to the medical sector also.

Sir, the law and order is really a State subject. But we know, especially in the wake of Mumbai attack of the terrorists and also the terrorism which is spreading in many places, it is essential to modernize the police force. ...*(Interruptions)* So, the introduction of new equipment is most important.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up. There are some more Members from your Party who want to participate in the discussion.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, I will conclude with only one point.

Sir, the Government has given an answer in the House that our food production is better and there is buffer stock. Due to various reasons, the Central Government has reduced the food quota of many States and one among them drastically affected is Kerala. There was a reduction of 82 per cent as compared to 2007. So, I would request the Government to consider it and retain the earlier food quota with immediate affect.

Sir, with these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this chance to speak on the General Budget. I rise here to deliberate on the Budget 2009-10.

The Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister Shri Pranab Mukherjee is a bit of a surprise. There was talk in the Budget Speech of privatization of the State-owned assets, mentioned as "people's participation" in the public sector undertakings but there is no estimate of the likely

earnings incorporated in the projected receipts of the Government. On the other side, those looking for relief for the common people and fulfilment are also very much disappointed. The allocations provided for in this Budget for the social sector and flagship programmes are also so low as to suggest lack of seriousness on the part of the Government in meeting its own stated objectives.

It is often said that the Budget has to be assessed in terms of five Ms: one, the mind of the Finance Minister; two, the message that the Government wants to communicate; three, the method in which it seeks to implement it; four, the mechanism through which it will work its way and finally, the macro-economics that underlies the Budget estimates.

I would clearly state that there is a distinct sense of uncertainty in the mind of the Finance Minister about what is going to happen in the next three quarters. As such, it is a Budget for uncertain times, no doubt. Policy adventurism at this time could have been very dangerous. Therefore, the mindset is that of the 1970s: cautious and wary of the markets and the international environment. The message is clear of the 1990s: reforms are the only way forward.

In terms of the method, it is a Budget of uncertainty. There is no intent expressed on the banking and financial sector, especially insurance. Everything has been extended from the 2008-09 Budget. We have debt waiver, interest subvention to agriculture and to exports to 2010. Disinvestment has been deferred. The other method of the Budget is that it is an expenditure-oriented Budget with high incidence of revenue expenditure. In these times, the real issue is not the size of the fiscal deficit. In the current environment, the 6.2 per cent can perhaps be justified; it is the structure of the fiscal deficit that is the problem. The revenue deficit accounts for nearly 80 per cent of the fiscal deficit. Add to this the State's fiscal deficit of four per cent primarily incurred in revenue expenditure. This is the method of Budgetary management of the 1980s. So, 1970, 1990 and 1980 - that is the mindset of the Finance Minister today.

In terms of mechanics, the sectors identified are agriculture and infrastructure. But both have been binding constraints on growth. If India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited does work out modalities for refinancing 60 per cent of bank lending to Public-Private Partnership, infrastructure projects will definitely get a huge fillip. But doubt persists.

And lastly, the underlying macro-economics of the Budget is confusing. At one level, the current expenditure or consumption is seen as the driver of economic revival. But,

on the other hand, this has been distributed and structured in such a way that it is bound to have an adverse impact on the savings rate in the economy.

Dr. C. Rangarajan, the former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India has recently stated that the roadmap to cut deficit could have been announced by the Finance Minister himself. Instead, it is being said by someone else, outside. I do not know why it was not mentioned in the Budget Speech by the Finance Minister himself.

The Government has proposed a borrowing programme of Rs. 4,00,000 crore in the current year to bridge the ballooning fiscal deficit of 6.8 per cent. But where is the money? How are you going to raise it? A fiscal deficit of 6.8 per cent of the GDP, which is up from 5.5 per cent postulated in February's Interim Budget, means an additional stimulus of nearly Rs. 80,000 crore. No Government, already saddled with a public debt overhand, can undertake such spending unless it feels compelled by circumstances. The Finance Minister, who believed that the worst of the economic slowdown is over, could have moderated spending. To not do that and to provide for a significant step up in spending implies a lack of faith in the revival of private demand. Where are we leading to? Has not the Government committed a serious error of judgement?

Sir, Budget making is supposed to be a simple exercise. That tells you how the Government will collect a certain amount of money and how it will spend it in the coming year. Unfortunately, now it has become an exercise in political one-upmanship. It is used to shower favours to selected interest groups and deny them to others. The 2009-10 Budget is being used to allocate Rs. 500 crore for 5 lakh Tamil refugees, almost all Sri Lankan nationals, in Sri Lanka while lakhs and lakhs of people of Orissa, Bihar and Assam lost everything because of flood during 2008-09 and have got nothing. Just how cynically these things are viewed is apparent from the utterances before the results were declared can be compared. The people of Orissa and Bihar may have voted for political parties that are not constituents of the UPA, but they remain citizens of this country. Are not they? The Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and his Union Government are as responsible for them as they are for the victims of the cyclone Aila. Funds provided after flood havoc in 2008 to Orissa is not being accounted for and the Government of Orissa is asked to return that amount. Is this the way how the UPA Government should take it out on the flood ravaged people of Orissa because they did not vote for them? Nobody is asking for doles, nor are we in need of gratis. We want our due. This Government has paid no heed whatsoever to our oft-repeated demands to grant a Special Category Status to Orissa.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): There is no need to mention the assistance provided to Sri Lankan Tamils. Thousands of people have been killed and lakhs and lakhs of people are suffering there. You can put forth your demand and pressurize the Government. But is it necessary to mention the assistance provided to Sri Lankan Tamils?

SHRI B. MAHTAB : I have no quarrel with others. My only demand is, Orissa is a part of this country and we should be equally treated.

Recently I came across a statement of the Chief Minister of Karnataka. He is of the opinion that Iron ore should not be exported and it should be value added first. Orissa has been repeatedly saying this. The Chief Minister of Orissa Shri Naveen Patnaik has drawn the attention of the Prime Minister to this matter.

Especially, I would refer to the royalty structure which is in such a manner that the mineral rich States including Orissa are losing out substantially in resource generation for public investment. The mineral rich States do not get commensurate royalty for exploitation of several major minerals as the rates of royalty are not being raised in time.

The Central Statute on Minerals Development and Regulation provided for revision in royalty rates at an interval of three years which is supported by the recommendations of the Finance Commission. Besides, the Twelfth Finance Commission has also recommended that the rates of royalty should be revised on ad valorem basis. However, these provisions are not being followed. The delays in the revision of royalty on coal and other major minerals and inadequate revisions in royalties cause substantial loss of revenue to Orissa and other mineral rich States.

Why have we introduced a hybrid system since 1st August 2007? That does not compensate the mineral rich States in a fair manner. I would urge upon the Government to revisit the royalty structure on coal and other major minerals at an interval of every three years and determine the rate of royalty at the rate of 20 per cent ad valorem.

There is another interesting aspect. Further, tax levied by States on mineral bearing lands are also being adjusted against royalty. Such a practice unfairly constraints the constitutional powers of the State of levying tax on land including mineral bearing lands within its own jurisdiction.

Orissa has been broadly following a policy of encouraging value addition in the mineral sector. In order to ensure adequate supply of iron and other minerals to the mineral based industries that are investing in mineral rich States like Orissa, there is a need to cap exports of iron ore

and other minerals at current levels. The people of the mineral rich States rightfully deserve to benefit from the resource endowment.

The Finance Minister has profusely quoted Kautilya, but has led the country on the garden path of Charbak. The Government will rely heavily on borrowing in future to finance its various flagship schemes as the target for this has been increased to 34 paise of every rupee from 14 paise projected in the last Budget. It is said, "the borrowings is up by nearly 2.5 times." Now, Reserve Bank of India will auction Rs. 15,000 crore worth of bonds this week, tomorrow to be specific, almost double the amount it was originally slated to borrow from the market this week. This is a signal. The Finance Minister is gambling on growth through borrow and spend formula which squarely rests on the shoulders of Reserve Bank of India.

In the Interim Budget, Sir, the Finance Minister had projected Rs.3.62 trillion market borrowings by the Government in the fiscal 2010 through RBI. At the time the fiscal deficit was estimated to be 5.5 per cent of India's Rs. 54.3 trillion GDP. Now, it has gone up to 6.8 per cent and there is no other way but to borrow an extra Rs.89,000 crore taking its overall borrowing programme in the year to Rs.4.51 trillion, a level which India has had never seen before.

My apprehension is that the situation will change in the second half of fiscal 2009. When many corporations, which have invested in banks, will plan to make fresh investment what will the banks do? Indian public sector banks have sanctioned fresh loans worth Rs. 6.18 trillion. Banks will have no money to lend. So, interest rates will go up and money will become more expensive. Is the Finance Minister prepared to ride out from this situation? Through more spending and more borrowing as interest rate will rise, it will kill growth. Ultimately, what do you achieve Mr. Finance Minister?

I must say that this Budget does not have any major incentive or sweeping reforms but it indulges the UPA Government's core focus areas: productivity and food security. Funding for the new food scheme has not yet been accounted for in the Budget but it is likely to raise the food subsidy bill by Rs. 17,000 crore.

The Finance Minister has announced massive doles for agriculture. NREGA is up by 144 per cent, he said. But that is not agriculture; that is rural development. Allocation for NREGA is Rs. 39,000 crore. But for the critical Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme, it is just Rs 1,000 crore. This is where funds are spent to irrigate farm lands. Farm credit interest is lowered with a rider but farm allocation is very little compared to welfare schemes.

Earlier I had stated that this Government lacks seriousness in meeting its own stated objectives. I will cite three examples. Take for instance NREGA. Minimum wage is being increased from Rs. 80 to Rs. 100. A minimum of 100 days of employment to every rural household amounts to a greater amount. But the amount is Rs. 39,100 crore and this is an increase of only Rs. 2350 crore over the amount spent last year.

Similarly, on food security, food subsidy in the Budget is only Rs. 8862 crore, more than what was spent last year. Most of this already accounted for by the increase in Minimum Support Price for the Rabi harvest. Additional funds will clearly be necessary to make such a law effective.

On education the Budget allocations are truly surprising. The Right to Education Bill is there in this Parliament. This, when made into law, will require significant financial inputs from the Government. But the increase in spending on elementary education is less than Rs. 200 crore which suggests a complete lack of seriousness about implementation.

One thing is clear. If the Government really wants to do what it has promised to the people, it will have to spend more. But that is very difficult because it has tied its own hands.

Before concluding, I am eager to share a thought about NREGS. It is a colossal failure though it has been touted as a grand success by this Government. The Scheme was a golden opportunity for the Government to revive village economies, build rural infrastructure, and empower rural poor. But a few months ago, the Comptroller and Auditor General has noted the dismal performance of NREGS. The report states that barely 3.2 per cent of the registered households have benefited from the Scheme. The C&AG's rebuke has fallen on deaf ears. Without plugging the loopholes, why are you going ahead with this programme? It would be wrong to expect the Budget to provide instant answers to our inherent problems like poverty, deprivation and hunger. But the manner in which the Government has spelt out its programmes in this Budget, is not at all encouraging. To me, it is without focus and falls in between the socialist populism and capitalist jargons. Either you follow Chanakya or you follow Charbak. Both were great thinkers of this land. But quoting Chanakya and going along Charbak way will not help the people nor this Government.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Raigad) : Hon Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for allowing me to speak. Before the Budget 2009-10, when Lok Sabha

elections were held, much had been talked about common man by the UPA, especially the Congress in the country. An appeal was made by the Government for the security and interests of the common man and after election, this is the first Budget. I am sorry to say that the common man do not find any place in this Budget. On the contrary, it is a Budget against common man. So, the discussion is going on throughout the country and it is being said that this is a very disappointing Budget. All sections of society are disappointed with this Budget. Therefore, this Budget is anti-common man Budget, I would like to quote some points as an example. A package of Rs. 70 thousand crore was announced to deal with the problem of suicide by farmers but there is no provision for this in the Budget. Farmers are committing suicides even today. Yesterday, the Chief Minister of Maharashtra came to Delhi. Yesterday a meeting was held with the M.Ps of Delhi where discussion was held in the PHA on the issue of suicides by farmers. Shri Datta Meghe is present here. I think he will endorse my opinion. A loan waiver package of Rs. 70 thousand crore for farmers had been announced by the Government. The spate of suicides started from Maharashtra, and a number of farmers have committed suicides in the entire country. The maximum number of suicides incidents took place in Maharashtra especially in Vidharbha. When the spate of suicides was surging, we met the hon. Prime Minister. All the M.Ps of Shiv Sena and BJP from Maharashtra and I requested him to visit Vidarbha. He had accepted this. He visited Nagpur, Vidarbha and before his visit, he had announced a package for some of the districts of Vidarbha. Yesterday, when the matter was discussed, the Chief Minister of Maharashtra himself admitted that the package announced by the hon. Prime Minister for Vidarbha has not stopped suicides by farmers so far. Such incidents are still continuing. Some more funds are needed to be given in this package by the Government of India. While meeting of M.Ps yesterday, Chief Minister told that he himself would meet the hon. Prime Minister in this regard. Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is the condition of farmers who are committing suicides. You have announced the package. When there was a discussion on Supplementary Demands for Grants, the then Finance Minister, Shri P. Chidambaram had made a provision of Rs. 15 thousand crore in the Supplementary Budget which was passed by this House.

After that, provision of not even a single rupee has been made in the Budget. There is no provision for waiving off loan in this Budget. The Government claim that for farmers, our Government intend to..

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, please take your seat. Now, it is 6 p.m. I have a long list of speakers. Therefore, if the House agrees, we can extend the time of the House till 8 p.m. Is it all right?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, the time of the House is extended till 8 p.m.

Shri Anant Gangaram Geete, you can continue your speech now.

...(Interruptions)

18.00 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, please sit down. Shri Geete is on his legs.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GHANSHYAMANURAGI (Jalaun) : Sir, it was said in the afternoon that time would be given for 'Zero Hour'.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House would sit up to 8 o' clock today. You would definitely get a chance.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (Machhlishahr) : Sir, Please take up 'Zero Hour', first and then continue the discussion on Budget...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You will get your chance, do not worry. Please sit down, now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Geete, you may please continue.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GHANSHYAMANURAGI : Sir, we should be given the opportunity to present our points. We also want to raise farmers' issue...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time of the House has been extended up to 8 o' clock. Therefore, you would get a chance to raise your issue at 8.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, after end of the ongoing business, we would take up the other issue, that is, 'Zero Hour'.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen to me. In the morning, the hon. Speaker said that at the end of the debate today, we would take up the Zero Hour. First five Members in the list were given chance to speak under 'Zero Hour' at 12 o' clock today. The remaining Members in the list, would be given chance to raise their matters at the end of the debate today. At 8 o' clock, you would get chance to raise your matters.

Now, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are going to give the opportunity to all the Members in the list. At 8 o' clock, we are going to take up the Zero Hour.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Geete, you please continue.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saran) : Sir, you have extended the time upto 8 o'clock, this is good. But, whether discussion would not take place tomorrow? Whether the response would be given tomorrow? ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Laluji, you are an experienced man. You know the procedure. At the end of the business only we would take up the Zero Hour and not in the middle of the debate.

When the House has given consent to extend the time of the House up to 8 o' clock, there is no point in raising the issue that you would insist for taking up the Zero Hour at 6 o' clock.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Would the discussion end today or not?...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Sir, I would suggest a way out.

[Translation]

We should find a mid way. We would discuss budget till 7 o'clock and then, take up 'Zero Hour'.

[English]

But then, my request to the hon. Members would be that they should not insist for taking longer time for the discussion on the General Budget.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you accept it, we would have the discussion on the General Budget up to 7 o' clock and then after that, we would take up the Zero Hour.

So, instead of having a discussion up to 8 o'clock, the discussion would be over by 7 o' clock and then we would take up the Zero Hour.

Is it okay?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right.

Mr. Geete, please continue.

*[Translation]*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Sir, the Government always talk of farmers and the Finance Minister has also said that they have provided a lot of facilities to them. But the truth is that there is no provision in this budget for the farmers for whom waiving-off loan was declared. The Finance Minister has made another announcement for the farmers that the period of one-time-settlement has been increased from 30st June to 31st December 2009. I do not think that any farmers would accept the proposal of one-time settlement. Some farmers' loans have been waived off cent-percent, while for others, you say that you should give them 75 percent and we would waive-off 25 percent. Some farmers are not being provided any relief, the Finance Minister has made one more announcement for the farmers who are repaying loan regularly, they will be given a discount of one percent out of 7 percent they pay on loan.

18.05 hrs.

(SHRI P.C. CHACKO *in the Chair*)

This is out and out injustice and deceit with the innocent farmers to indiscriminate among the farmers, that too, by the Government dividing them into different segments whether he is a small, agricultural labourer or medium farmer who grows wheat or paddy, he would not be happy on discount of one percent only.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, farmers have no attraction in this budget. The prices are soaring day-by-day. Hon'ble Finance Minister did not mention price rise even once. He did not even admit that prices are rising and common man is in trouble. Rising prices have made survival of common man very tough, Hon. Finance Minister did not bother to mention it in his budget speech.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, my wife was telling me yesterday that Dal Arhar, which is called Dal Tur in Mumbai and Dal Arhar in North, is Rs.85/- per kg. today. A Member of Parliament bought Dal Arhar in Delhi, he was telling me that the rate of Dal in Delhi is Rs.85/- per kg. And rice is Rs.90/- per kg. and fine quality wheat is not less than Rs.30/- per kg. No pulse is less than Rs.60/- per kg. Oilseeds and oil are different issues. Prices of all the commodities are rising day-by-day, but this is mentioned nowhere in the budget. Hon. Finance Minister did not make any efforts to control the prices. Common man is getting sick of price rise and no effort has been made to control prices in this budget.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, NREGA is often discussed. Our former Rural Development Minister is sitting here and this topic keeps him quite happy. I have no apprehensions, no doubt that his intention, his resolution was absolutely fine, but one should accept the reality. NREGA has proved a flop scheme, throughout the country, and in Maharashtra and Karnataka, it is cent percent flop show and the Government praise itself on account of NREGA as if unemployment throughout the country has been wiped out. NREGA is totally a flop scheme. NREGA is not able to minimize unemployment. Recession has gripped the whole world, and our Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon. Finance Minister are repeatedly saying that recession has not affected our country at all. This economic meltdown did not affect our country, but our industries are certainly affected and this enhances unemployment.

Mr. Chairman, I will give an example here. We have the Ministry of Civil Aviation. At moment Shri Praful Patel is not present here. Last month the Minister of Civil Aviation had to take decision and the CMD had to announce that all the executives of the Departments of the Ministry of Civil Aviation would forgo their one-month salary.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we could understand as far it was concerned with the executive but the employees of Air India have not got their salaries till date. There is no chance that the employees of Air India will get their salaries by 15th and they are apprehensive about getting their last month or this month salaries even after 15th because of which they are distressed. There are lakhs of such employees of Air India whom the Ministry of Civil Aviation has failed to give their last month salaries till date. So, it is not correct to say that we are not affected by the recession.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today there are crores of educated unemployed all over the country. I do not have the figures of the whole country but in the state of Maharashtra where I come from, the number of educated unemployed is 42 lakhs. In Maharashtra alone, there are 42 lakh educated unemployed. Today our industries are facing closure due to

[Shri Anant Gangaram Geete]

recession day- by-day. It is also affecting the employment, but there is no mention about the unemployment in the budget anywhere. In this budget, no provision has been made to face the challenge of recession as well as to solve the problem of unemployment. Today it is none but the common man who is in trouble due to unemployment. However, there is no mention about giving employment to the common man in this budget at all.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, several hon'ble Members and the Minister while taking credit said that they had made a provision of Rs.500/- crore for Mumbai in the budget. For what purpose it has been done? The name of this project is BRIMSTAD project. I welcome the announcement they have made, but this project dates back to the year 2005 for which announcement has been made this time in this budget. Its announcement was made in Mumbai by the Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh in the year 2005.

When heavy rain was causing devastating floods in Mumbai, Dr. Manmohan Singh had announced Rs.1200 crores for this BRIMSTAD project in the year 2005. But now in the year 2009 you have made a provision of Rs.500 crores for this project.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, while presenting budget, the Minister of Finance said that it was for the first that he was introducing such a budget of more than Rs.10 lakh crore. So, he expressed happiness over it. I, too, think it to be good, but out of the total revenue collection to the tune of Rs.6 lakh crore, 28 percent revenue is generated from the state of Maharashtra alone.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): You should be proud of it. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Yes, of course. Shri Narayanasamy Ji. I am saying so because out of the revenue of Rs.6 lakh crore you are going to generate as per the figures you have shown, 28 per cent will be generated from Maharashtra alone and in Maharashtra maximum revenue will be generated from Mumbai. In this way, most of the revenue is earned from Mumbai itself.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Geete, now you can conclude. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Mr, Chairman, Sir, our colleague from Orissa Shri Mahato Ji today said here that his state has been completely neglected in the budget. Similarly, I would also like to say that Maharashtra and Mumbai too, have been neglected totally in this budget. I am sorry to say that even the state of Maharashtra from where about one third of the total revenue is being earned has been neglected in this budget and no attention has been paid to it.

Mr. Chairman, today the situation is that the whole country is facing drought. There has been good rainfall in some parts of Mumbai, Konkan and Maharashtra for the last many days, but the whole Maharashtra and the whole country is not registering such a rainfall due to which it appears that the country is facing drought.

Today the population of Mumbai is growing day-by-day. The Official figures of the Mumbai's population are 1.40 crores, but unofficially it is over two crores as on date. Today Mumbai is also facing water crisis. Today, Mumbai is facing 30 percent cut in water supply and the Mumbai Municipal Corporation is apprehensive that the people of Mumbai might have to drink water from well, borewell and sea if there is no rainfall in future. This is the situation of Mumbai today...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Anant Geete, thank you. No, it is okay. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: I am concluding. It is my last sentence. I am concluding.

Therefore, through you, I would like to make a demand that Government of India should provide Rs. 10 thousand crore to Mumbai to save Mumbai city, to resolve the water problem of Mumbai and for drinking water and sewerage water project.

One-third of the revenues collected by the Centre are contributed by Maharashtra. I am not asking 1/3 allocation but the Government should increase the allocation to Maharashtra. Since this Budget is anti-people, I cannot support the Budget.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Shri Geete.

Before I call upon the next speaker, please understand that you have to confine to the time allotted to you. Shri Anant Geete has taken eight minutes more. Shri Geete, since you were making good points, I did not want to interrupt you.

Now Shri Hukmadeo Narayan Yadav is to speak. Shri Yadav, how much time are you going to take? There are many speakers from your party.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we will sit late. Today we are sitting till 8 o'clock and tomorrow we will sit till 10 o'clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hukmadeo ji how much time will you take?

SHRI HUKMADEO NARAYAN YADAV (Madhubani): Sir, whenever you give instructions, I will conclude my speech and stop my train. Otherwise I speak non-stop like express train which does not have any brakes; but I will follow your instructions. Whether you allow me to speak for 10 minutes or 12 minutes ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your party's time is there. You can take time according to the number of speakers from your party.

18.18 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI HUKMADEO NARAYAN YADAV: Mr. Chairman, Sir, since I am a farmer and belong to the cow-keeper family (Gopalak vansh) before raising my point, I would like to salute "Dharti Mata" "Gau Mata" and "Ganga Mata".

I respect the Union Finance Minister, Shri Pranab Mukherjee who presented the Budget. He is learned, competent, experienced, active and intellect person. I respect him but I oppose each and every part of his Budget because this Budget has no vision and no determination. When Budget has no vision or determination, it cannot bear desired result. I oppose this Budget because I am a farmer and farmers have not got their due share in accordance with their population, in the Budget.

Funds should be allocated to farmers taking into account the population of farmers. But Government statistics are telling a different story. We do not allocate funds on the basis of population. Second, farmers continued to turn as labourers. In 1951, 49.9 per cent people were dependent upon agriculture whereas this percentage reduced to 35.2 in 1991. Where these farmers have migrated? They have become farm labourers. How could I support this Budget and this Government and this system which is pushing the farmers to become farm labourers and created circumstances to make them landless.

Farming in India is always depending upon cow-progeny. We have witnessed down fall in population of cow-

progeny. As per the data of Government of India, the population of cow-progeny was 430 per thousand people in 1951 and it reduced to 242 in 1992. It means there is constant decline in the population of cow-progeney. Earlier there were total 810 cattle per thousand in our country which reduced to 555 in the year 1991. Therefore, I can say that there is 31.5 per cent decline in cattle population. Whether it is justified to call this Budget fair when cattle population is decreasing and farmers are not getting their due share? This Budget is anti-farmers, anti-villagers and anti-cattle breeders, backwards, dalits, and forest dwellers who keep cow, hen, sheep, buffalo, donkey, mule, camel and depend upon them for their livelihood. Their livelihood is being ruined and hence this Budget is not acceptable.

Sir, I would like to request that there is constant decline in farm land. Today, agriculture share has reduced to 20 per cent which was 50 per cent in 1950-51. When agriculture sector was contributing hugely in national income, then why it is declining now? It is because our income and purchasing power is decreasing. My colleague says that uproar is created in the country when there is price rise in paddy, rice, wheat, pulses, sesame and mustard. Being a farmer I would like to say that why uproar is not created in the country when there is price rise in cement, iron, clothes, fertilizers and industrial products?

Sir, I produce foodgrains. On the one hand I am a seller and on the other hand I am also a buyer. I sell my agriculture products in the market and purchase industrial products. When I was first elected an MLA in 1967 price of urea was Rs. 45 per gunny bag but today urea price has gone up to Rs. 300. I would like to demand that base year should be declared, whether it is 1967, 1977, 1960 or 1970 and draw a base-line and then compare the prices of agriculture production, paddy, rice, pulses and industrial production. The prices of agricultural products increase with slow pace whereas the prices of industrial products increase very steeply. Our farmers are running losses and are compelled to commit suicide because they do not get appropriate price for their agricultural products.

Sir, my demand is to set up a National Price Determination Commission for Agricultural Products. It should fix the price by excluding the cost of agricultural products and industrial products. Till now the prices of foodgrains are fixed by the Commission for Farmers. The price of our products is fixed by the Government but it does not fix the prices of cement because during elections they get funds from industrialists and this is the reason that budget is made to favour them. How farmers can provide funds to them? They work hard. They have to work round the clock in all the



[Shri Anant Gangaram Geete]

seasons and even without clothes like Saint Dadhichi. They irrigate fields even in the night also. They are not afraid of snakes, scorpio and other animals. They produce grain for the nation with so much hard work but still they are neglected. Because they are backward, tribal and Dalits.

Sir, the Budget reflects the intention of the Government. You can see it for yourself that there is no representative of Yadav, Jaat, Gujjar, Kurmi, Kushwaha, Dalit or backward class in the Cabinet. What can you expect from the Government which has no representative of farmer, labourer and villager? Our country has large percentage of farmers still there is no farmer in the Cabinet. You see the first row of the House, whether the son of a farmer, labourer, backward or Dalit is sitting in the front row of the House? They are nowhere in the first row and even in the second row, then who will listen to them? Who prepares the Budget? If they are appointed as Minister, then they are given unimportant portfolio. They are appointed as Minister of State which means they are given some unimportant portfolio. Influential people are appointed as Cabinet Minister and the people belonging to backward, dalit and tribes are appointed as Minister of State to assist them. I wish that your Government may rule the country and you retain the power. However The Congress Party has a learned, brilliant, sound character, strong personality like Pranab Mukherjee, who represent the gallant land, West Bengal, but still he has never got number one position.

Babu Jagjivan Ram served thought out his life for the nation, but his dead body was taken back to his village for last rituals because if all these last rituals would have been conducted here in Delhi, then crores of Dalits had taken inspiration from him. Jagjivan Ram was not given due honour. A Dalit cannot expect respect from a party, which have not given respect to a person like Babu Jagjivan Ram. It is worthless to claim that they are appointing the daughter of a Dalit as Speaker. They are appointing her as a Speaker. It is highly condemnable. I condemn them when they announce that they are appointing daughter of a Dalit as Speaker, a tribal is being given a post, a backward is being given a post, because it hurts, it let down my self-respect. Am I a beggar? Whether a Dalit or a backward is a beggar? Who are you to give them anything? You are not obliging them. It is their right. If you would not give it, then they will fight for it and get it. Our future generation would take it. If they would not be able to do so then there will be a puproar in the country and nobody will survive. Great revolutionary leader Lenin had once said that if you want to build a good society then build the character of your party accordingly. What is the class, character of your party? Which section of

the society you want to serve? You préparé your Budget according to your class, character and interest and given us nothing...*(Interruptions)*

I would like to state that earlier we used to till a large area of land. In 1984, 13.11 crore hectare of land was ploughed. Now this land has shrinked to 12 crore hectare. What does it mean? Agricultural land is shrinking. Industries and factories are being set up there or roads are being constructed there. Why do not they use barren land? Why do not they set up factories in Chattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Jharkhand, which have barren land, waste land, uneven land. Why do not they level it? When you would set up factories there then basic infrastructure will come into existence there like roads will be constructed there, electricity, drinking water will reach there, houses will be constructed there, where officials will stay and market would emerge there. In these markets poor, backward, dalit, exploited people will open their shops. But your intentions are not good. You do not want that factories should be set up there as exploited, dalit, backward people will get employment and earn livelihood through petty shops like tea, vegetable, cloth etc. So, it is useless to have any expectation from you. I have a humble request that our land is an agricultural land. If they acquire land in Haryana or Punjab, they give Rs. 20 to 30 lakhs for it but if they acquire land in Bihar, they give only one to four lakh rupees as compensation. Our land is more fertile than the land of this area instead, we get less compensation. In Haryana rate of compensation is 30 lakh rupees while in Bihar it is 5 lakh rupees. Roads are constructed the NHAI. You do not fulfil even the conditions of notification issued by the Government of Bihar. I want to state that condition of Bihar is poor. If you go into the causes of this you will find that there are number of agricultural labourers are more. Most of the people are marginal farmers there. There are more small farmers in Bihar while in Haryana and Punjab alongwith marginal and small farmers farm labourers are also less in number. Hence, it is my humble request to you that this imbalance should be removed and a proper balance be restored.

Therefore, I have stated that your budget has neither any visions direction and any determination. What should be our vision - it should be aimed at building India a self-respectful, self reliant, rich and stronger nation. Our vision should be based on immediate and long term priorities. It should be our determination to achieve our targets in totality in a time bound manner. If we give top priority to agriculture sector and give second and third priority to rural industry and heavy industry respectively, we will be able to fulfil the vision of Mahatma Gandhi. After independence several farmer leaders joined the politics, Patel and Chaudhary Charan Singh were also the leaders of farmers but it is

misfortune of this country that no attention was given to their ideology. Dr. Lohia, a pioneer politician who was working for the welfare and awareness of the downtrodden was killed in a hospital by conducting an operation on him. Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay, the flag bearer of cultural Nationalism who tried to awaken the country, was killed... *(Interruptions)* and his body was thrown on railway track... *(Interruptions)*. Therefore, I would like to state that this Government or Congress party has followed just one principle that whosoever raises his head will be killed and who will follow them blindly will be rewarded... *(Interruptions)*. They never tolerate any opponent.... *(Interruptions)*. They give importance to the sycophants only...*(Interruptions)*. They enjoy the company of sycophants. Whosoever raised his voice... *(Interruptions)* could not protect himself... *(Interruptions)*. Hence, I urge upon you. ...*(Interruptions)*. I belong to Bihar. Lalu Prasadji was Cabinet Minister in the Centre. He is present in the House. He is still with us. It's my humble request as I also belong to Bihar? Why should you do injustice with Bihar? You have done injustice with Bihar and people of Bihar have retaliated in election. You should remember that if this injustice continues, a revolution will start from Bihar which will completely uproot the Congress party, but Bihar will never forgive you. ...*(Interruptions)*. Therefore, I request you to give Bihar its due share ...*(Interruptions)*. People of Bihar become victim of flood caused by the Kosi river. ...*(Interruptions)*. I am pointing towards Congress Party.... *(Interruptions)* I am not referring to any politician rather I am pointing towards Congress Party.... *(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hukmadeo Ji, do you want to speak something about budget?

.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI HUKMADEO NARAYAN YADAV: Hon'ble Chairman Sir, I am speaking on budget itself.... *(Interruptions)*. These things just show that the character and interests of a society will be same as we make it. According to Lenin if you want to build up an ideal society then you should show the same character first. Therefore, I make a humble request to you in this regard. Pranab Ji is the member of this House now. When I was member of Rajya Sabha he was leader of the House in Rajya Sabha. I give him due respect. He has also opposed us several times. But, I would like to know that if party cannot give due respect to a learned and experienced person like Pranab Ji who is a renowned economist, what respect that party will give to the common man? That party cannot give any respect to the farmers, downtrodden and Dalits.

Hence, lastly I would like to state that this budget... *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI SHAILENDER KUMAR : Should Pranab Ji have been Prime Minister? .... *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI HUKMADEO NARAYAN YADAV : Had Shri Pranab Ji been Prime Minister I would not have opposed his budget. He is Finance Minister and has presented the budget but the ideology and vision are not those of his. It is like a puppet dance in which the person who makes the puppets dance do not come in the front. We oppose that invisible power who has reflected his vision and ideology in the budget. I humbly request you to give recognition to our land and our samskaras, give respect to Indian farmers, labourers and livestock of the country. These things are our lives and conscience.

Lastly, I would like to conclude with these words that why there is no provision for special package to all of our backward states? Pranab Ji if the industries can be set up on fertile land, then why these industries cannot be set up at barren land? Since 1950 more than one crore hectares of fertile land has been shrunk. If the agriculture - land - will shrink, the production of foodgrains will come down and in such a situation this country cannot develop. It is a high level conspiracy to ruin the agriculture sector. If production in agriculture sector decreases, that will create food crisis if foodgrains are imported and sold at triple price, and wheat price for Indian farmers is fixed at Rs.1050 per quintal and imported wheat costs Rs.1600 per quintal, it will be injustice to the Indian farmers. Therefore, I earnestly request you to constitute a Pricing Commission. Pricing Commission will determine the costs of industrial and agriculture products.

Dr. Lohia had said in this very House: prices of foodgrains should be limited to 1.5 times and same should be ensured with industrial products. The price of a industrial product should not exceed 1.5 times its cost. For example, if a bag of cement costs Rs.100, it should be sold at a price not more than Rs.150 in the entire country. Similarly, medicine, which costs Rs.1, should not be sold at a price more than Rs. 1.5. You buy our grain Rs.1050 per quintal. After selling our grains for various domestic purposes such as for marriage of a daughter, 'Shradh' of father or for education of son and for various expenses, the prices of grains are increased in the market. Why will these people vote for you? Those who are responsible for inflation and earned huge profits, they have voted for you and are making merry. You got the votes of these people living nearby cities and they voted for you in majority as they have earned huge profits. Why will they not vote for you? The Government employees draw salary from Government exchequer. Their

[Shri Hukmadeo Narayan Yadav]

salaries are increased. You increase the salaries by constituting 5th and 6th Pay Commission. You compensate them by paying more than the price hike they are satisfied. Who are the sufferers? They are 60-65 percent farmers and 82 per cent people living in the villages. When 82 percent population is living in the villages, why do not you - allocate 82 percent of budget amount for them? When 60-65 percent people are engaged in agriculture, why do not you allocate 65 percent share of budget for them? We demand our due share. You will have to give our share. If you do not give, that will create agitation not only in society but also in the farmers of entire country. So, this is my humble request to you. I am concluding with a warning that this is a voice of villagers, farmers, downtrodden and rural India. Please listen to this voice, understand it and act accordingly otherwise a time will come when nobody will survive, 'Na raja rahega na rani vahegi, yah mati sabhi ki kahani kahegi'. It will be too late. So making this request to you, I conclude.

Pranabji, please give a new vision to this budget and villagers, farmers, labourers should be given their due share. Backward, downtrodden and forest dwellers should be given due respect. Have you ever seen their wives? They do hardwork and sweat a lot. Their bodies stink due to sweating. Bhagvanti Devi, a labourer who used to work for construction of roads, had become an MLA from the movement of Lohia and also elected for Parliament.

Can you save that kind of ladies through this Budget? Mahatma Gandhiji said, if you prepare budget, ensure the money reaches the targeted people, and that should be a touchstone for the budget. Deen Dayal Upadhaya said that you should keep in mind the last man standing in the queue. Lohia had urged to form an equitable society. concluding my point, I would like to say that power and majority should not go to one-head. Jesus Christ was ever crucified on the basis of decision taken by majority. The persons, who crucified him on majority decision, have lost their existence but the name of Jesus Christ is immortal. The persons who pelted stones on prophet Mohammad are no longer there in the history but the name of the Prophet is immortal. The person who assassinated Mahatma Gandhi, has lost his existence but history still remembers-Gandhiji. Therefore, I humbly request you to give due share and equal opportunities to all. Please save our animals, save our earth, our holy river Ganga and other rivers and our forests so that this country and society can be saved. Only then, you will survive.

With these words, I oppose this budget but I respect Hon. Minister of Finance.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, especially from major Parties, please use your discretion. Otherwise, your own colleagues would suffer. Shri Hukmadeo Narayan Yadav has taken 23 minutes.

SHRI MANISH TEWARI (Ludhiana): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Budget. As I was listening to the discussion around the House since 2.15 in the afternoon, I was struck by the criticism by certain sections of this House. It seems to suggest that we have got the Budget all wrong. It should not be forgotten that it is only two months back that this country voted in a General Election. In that General Election, a decisive mandate was given to the UPA. There is something right that we must have done in the last five years that the people of this country decided to repose their faith in the Congress-led-UPA and gave us another five years to govern this country.

While constructive criticism is welcome, but constructive criticism should not become a platform to rubbish something which expresses and articulates the will of the nation.

At the height of the great depression in the USA on the 2nd of July 1932, Governor Roosevelt as he was then known, while accepting the American Democratic Presidential nomination, articulated his concept of a new deal. He based that new deal on a very simple moral principle. With your permission, I quote:

"The welfare and soundness of a nation depends first upon what the great mass of people wish and need; and second, whether or not, they are getting it."

Seventy seven years later, in the midst of an unprecedented global meltdown, the Finance Minister seems to have incorporated that moral maxim at the heart of his Budget because a Budget is not merely an accounting statement. It is also a statement of the socio-economic reality of the country.

It is uncanny – the parallels are uncanny. In 1929, when the great depression took place, it was the bankers - Mr. Roosevelt called them 'money-changers', it was their greed which caused the banking system to go into a crisis and for the depression to come on. Again in 2008, it was the bankers and their exotic derivatives which caused this global economic meltdown.

In both those instances, while the bankers, the high-priests of the finance industry abdicated their responsibility, it is the wise-men who stepped in; it is the politicians and the statesmen who stepped in, in order to rescue the economy. It was Franklin Roosevelt<sup>4</sup> at that point of time and it is the collective G-20 now.

It is very important that this Budget which has been presented by the Finance Minister needs to be contextualized; it needs to be put in a global perspective. In May 2009, the IMF came out with a report which said that for the first time after the Second World War, the global economy in 2009 would contract by 1.3 per cent; it is unprecedented that for the first time in 60 years, it is happening.

In the last one year or to be precise, in the last six months, Japan's exports have gone down by 44 per cent; Chinese exports have gone down by 33 per cent. The collective economies of the ASEAN countries have taken a hit by over 13 per cent. The Asian Development Bank in its report says that in the year 2009 alone, more than 62 million people in Asia would slip into poverty.

Given this global context, I think the UPA Government – and I would like to refer to it as UPA-I – needs to be complimented for its economic management. India has been able to ride out this crisis to a very great extent because of the sound macro economic management of this country which was done between the years 2004-09. There was an illusion to growth rates. I do not want to get into a confrontationist mode against the more but let me point out that between 2004 and 2009 the economy of India grew by 8.85 per cent on an average, which is a record for the last two decades. I think nobody can take away that credit from the UPA Government. On the back, there is a very robust saving to GDP ratio, a very robust investment to GDP ratio, this country has been able to build very sound macro economic fundamentals.

[English]

I was hearing the lead speaker of the BJP, the very venerable Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi eluding to the farm sector. Again, without getting confrontationist let me point out that when the NDA was in Office, in the year 2002-03, the rate of agricultural growth was negative, minus 7.2 per cent if I am not mistaken and the average growth rate of agriculture between 2004 and 2008 has been 3.55 per cent and I think that is a splendid recovery which has been made by the UPA dispensation.

[Translation]

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih) : What are the rates of potatoes and onions today?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANISH TEWARI : I did not interrupt you, so please sit down and react only after my speech is concluded.

[English]

The current Budget can be summed up in three short words. It is a Budget which 'cares', it is a Budget which 'shares'

and it is a Budget which 'dares'. This Budget which has been presented by the Finance Minister is a very judicious mix of short-term stimulus, medium-term fiscal prudence and long-term institutional reforms. Since 2.15 p.m. in the afternoon there has been criticism from certain quarters. Let me reiterate some of the key provisions of this Budget in order to substantiate the averment that I have made earlier.

The short-term stimulus which the Finance Minister has outlined and which will go a long way in kick-starting the economy commences with the IIFCL as a route to finance infrastructure. As rightly pointed out, if the IIFCL model of private-public partnership funding works a Rs. 100,000 crore worth of investment in infrastructure can be created. Similarly, the focus on highways and railways, because both of them have an employment multiplier impact, the focus on urban infrastructure, focus on a task force in order to alleviate the problems of those farmers who are indebted to private money lenders and last but not least the incentives which have been provided to the export sector will go a long way in ensuring that India comes back to the trajectory of a 9 per cent growth rate.

Similarly, in the medium-term the decision of the Finance Minister to revisit the whole question of fertiliser subsidy, a political hot potato, is a bold decision. Notwithstanding that a very bold initiative taken in the Budget is that the fertiliser subsidy issue needs to be reviewed. A fresh look at the way we price our petrol and diesel, disinvestment back on the front burner of the Government and overhaul of the income tax code which, as I can tell you as a practising lawyer, is known more for its exemptions and exceptions rather than the rules that it incorporates or the law that it incorporates and encouraging the use of bio-diesel are all steps in the medium-term which will help India achieve its goal of becoming a great power and occupying its rightful place on the high table.

Similarly, if you look at this Budget from long term point of view, there has been a lot of criticism about the NREGA around this House and I would reply to that in only one sentence.

[Translation]

My brother, the grapes are sour. NREGA has not given political mileage to congress but the poor people living in rural areas, labourers are benefited by NREGA. You have seen it's reflection in elections. You should not foreget this fact.

[English]

Similarly, the decisions to have a unique Identification Authority for India, investments-linked tax exemptions, that

[Shri Manish Tewari]

if you invest you will be entitled to tax exemptions rather than the other way around on profitability, the move towards a dual mode GST and electoral trust, all these are initiatives which over the next five years are going to pave the way for the transformation of India as some of our friends in the Left would have understood by now. Change always has to be incremental and change always has to be calibrated in a manner whereby society is able to absorb it. If you try and thrust change down the throats of the people, then exactly the same thing happens to you what happened to Soviet Union and East Europe. You open up a Pandora's box which you are not able to then control.

Finally, I would like to conclude by saying two things. The Fringe Benefit Tax has been abolished in the Budget Speech of the Finance Minister. But if you read the Explanatory Memorandum, the incidence of taxation has been shifted from the employer to the employee. I would like to request the Finance Minister to kindly review the incidence of taxation on the employees and the reason I am saying that is because in recessionary economy, the entrepreneurial spirit which can kick start the new economy which is another dimension of kick starting the new economy may get very severely impaired if this incidence of taxation remains on the employee.

Last but not least, Mr. Finance Minister, may I thank you for Rs.50 crore grant which you have given to my alma mater, Punjab University, Chandigarh. I would like to request you to also talk to the University to see that the new campus of that University - if at all they decide to build it - they should build it in Ludhiana because the geographical spread of the Punjab University extends beyond Chandigarh.

[Translation]

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH (Kaiserganj) :  
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in discussion on Budget. Hon'ble Minister of Finance has presented General Budget for the year 2009-10 with an intention to expedite the pace of the economy which has all punctured wheels. After the presentation of the Budget, the Minister himself had stated that financial deficit is essential for fast growth rate. I would not make a lengthy speech as I know that we have constraint of time, but in the Budget this fact has been accepted that agriculture is the backbone of our economy. However, there is no mention about any other programme except expansion of loan facilities, loan relief and the irrigation programme.

One announcement has been made by the hon'ble Minister of Finance that loans would be provided to the

farmers at 6 per cent rate of interest instead of 7 per cent who make timely payment of loans. I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister of Finance as to how the farmers will be able to repay their loans when they do not get remunerative prices for their produce. They will not be in a position to repay their loans.

Secondly, Shri Hukmadeo Narayan Yadav was delivering speech on Budget. There is no mention about livestock. Today we are seeing how food adulteration is going on be it milk or ghee. How could the farmers prosper if milk is getting sold at Rs. 12 per litre, while water at Rs. 10 per litre? Today adulterated ghee and milk has reached in the country in such a large quantity that every time we suspect its purity while using milk, butler and ghee. I, therefore, would like to tell the Minister of Finance that he should be concerned about livestock. I would like to say something about centrally sponsored schemes, notwithstanding much hyped NREGA scheme. It is fine that the Congress feels that they have been benefited a lot from NREGA. They are free to feel like that. But they should also try to understand the factual position in regard to NREGA. Today, NREGA has become an albatross around the neck of elected Gram Pradhans. I come from Uttar Pradesh. Vinay Pandey ji hails from our Balrampur Parliamentary Constituency. He is sitting here. I want to draw the attention of the Government that in U.P., the State officials are not ready to prepare the village work plans of the Pradhans in those villages where the present Government have lost elections. Our Punia Saheb is sitting here, He, too, knows this fact. About NREGA scheme, all the Members from opposition have said that it is flop. I do not say that it is flop. I would say that if this scheme has flopped, it is all due to the officials sitting over there. I want to say that I have no doubt about your intention. The way irregularities have been committed in BPL Cards, merits attention of the House and many Members here have raised this issue. While drawing the attention of the Minister of Finance, I would say that not only in U.P. but all over the country also a total review should be made about the BPL Cards to ascertain whether or not the BPL Cards have been issued to the genuine people, only then the objectives of giving the benefits to the marginalized would be achieved otherwise this scheme would not be successful.

Today, the Public Distribution System has collapsed. Corruption is all pervasive in this system. Today this system has become a centre of corruption since the supply of rice, oil and sugar never reach the targeted group. Today it is the need of the hour that the Government should pay special attention towards the Public Distribution System.

19.00 hrs.

We get lesser opportunity in the House. Here the Government do not listen to us and there the officials do not listen to us. I want to know what is the role of the hon'ble Member of Parliament in this regard. MPs want their participation, their say as well as monitoring power in the centrally sponsored schemes. Concluding, I would like to make my last submission to the hon'ble Minister of Finance, that he would not remain under any illusion that the benefits of these schemes can be given to the marginalized section of the society while relying entirely on his confidant officials. To achieve the objective, you have to take into confidence the people sitting here irrespective of their party affiliation and only then your scheme will be successful. If you entirely rely on officials, then it is flop and will remain flop in future.

With these words, I conclude and support the Budget.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now it is 7 p.m. As decided earlier, we may now take up matters of urgent public importance. There are four submissions to be made under Zero Hour. Shri Tufani Saroj.

[Translation]

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (Machhlishahr): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to draw the kind attention of the Government towards a major problem of associated journalists and particularly free-lance journalists of Press Information Bureau at the head office of the Government of India. These journalists and their families were entitled to medical facilities under Central Government Health Services. It was withdrawn in 2007 and after making so many efforts it was revised but that too temporarily and for the journalist alone. Their wives and children have been deprived of it. The journalists are made to subscribe Rs. 1067/- yearly for this facility. The most affect journalists are free-lancers and low salaried ones. This step of the Government of India is gross injustice to the journalists who are called fourth column. I, therefore, submit to the Government that the health facilities under CGHS should be provided to the journalists associated with Head Office of Government of India and their families as was going on earlier so that they could do their jobs carefree.

SHRI RAMKISHUN (CHANDAULI): Hon. Chairman, Sir, the number of malnourished children is continuously increasing. We may appreciate a lot that we have made noticeable economic growth, but there is lack of nutritious food in the country. This is the reason that nutrition level of women and children is not improving in the country. There are many reasons behind it - firstly, poor women and dalit

families in tribal areas are not able to get nutritious food in the country. The Government want to benefit pregnant women through Anganwadis and other institutions but even those centres do not serve the purpose completely. As a result, malnutrition is increasing in other areas also.

I would like to submit to the Government, through you that it should be checked in those areas where it is in worst shape. Many hon. Members have expressed their views in the discussion on Budget in this regard. The number of malnourished children is highest in India as compared to the whole world. In the country, 22 crore people are malnourished in toto. This is a serious problem. Foodgrains and coarse cereals are getting protein reduced, and as a result nutritive values is also reducing. I submit to the Government that the families who live in backward and tribal areas and belong to weaker sections should get facilities from Anganwadi and other institutions like NGOs which are being provided funds by the Government. This is a ground reality whether it is Anganwadi or Swasthyakatri or Asha Organisation of World Health Organisation, the benefits/facilities poor families are entitled to get are not being given to them, as a result malnutrition is on the rise. When we are propagating in the world that we have emerged from economic melt down, we are no more facing recession and we are at first place in economic growth of the world, the time has come when we should think about malnutrition. The children of the country should be saved, and for that matter, some concrete programmes should be made to find out a solution and for the welfare of the poor. They should be provided free medical treatment. Such poor pregnant women should be extended facilities and such tribal areas should be identified.

Sir, more than 100 children in my district Chandauli fell victims of malnutrition and admitted into governmental hospitals. I request the Government to consider this issue seriously and préparé an action plan to save the country from malnutrition.

SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL (Banda) : Hon. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for the opportunity you have given to me to speak. Today the whole of North India is hit by drought. The farmer of the North India, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Vindhyaachal region could not sow a single seed in his farm due to scarce rains. The rainy season is knocking at the door and the farmer has not stepped out from his house to sow seeds in the farms till now. The water in the dams, rivers, reservoirs, ponds and lakes has dried due to scarce rains and the water table has gone so low that the drinking water system has thoroughly collapsed. Leave aside irrigation water, there is severe scarcity of drinking water in Bundelkhand.

Sir, I would like to submit to the Union Government through you that a team of experts or members should be sent there for examination. Shri Rahul Gandhi had paid a visit to the area, he had visited that tribal area. I would like to request him that he should visit the area now and see the condition himself. I would request that a special package should be announced for that area. A special package should also be given to the farmers of said area. Apart from this, there is crisis of drinking water. There is serious crisis of water in the rainy season. Drinking water is not available for animals, and humans as well. I feel that no tragedy can be worse than this one.

I, therefore, like to request to the Government through you, that the area should be provided a special package and all the loans of the farmers should be waived off and drinking water should be provided immediately.

The farmers of that area have been ruined by the droughts of several years. The farmers are completely helpless.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not repeat.

SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL : So I would like to request that keeping in view the condition of the farmers, all the loan dues of the farmers of that area should be waived and relief should be provided to them immediately by way of giving them a special package.

SHRI PASHUPATI NATH SINGH (Dhanbad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards Bhuli Shramik Colony, Dhanbad, Jharkhand. Bhuli which is the largest workers colony of Asia was set up by the then Minister of Labour, Babu Jagjivan Ram in Dhanbad. Since then the Colliery staffs and other workers are living there as per the established rules. They have been living there for the past fifty years. However, today they are being displaced from that place.

Through you, I would like to submit that on the basis of the rules that was applicable at the time of establishment of the colony, the Government should not displace those people and they should be allowed to live there.

SHRI DEORAJ SINGH PATEL (Rewa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while participating in the discussion on the Railway Budget, I would like to draw your attention towards my Lok Sabha Parliament Constituency of Rewa, Madhya Pradesh. ....(Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN : It has already been covered in the House and its reply has also been given.

SHRI DEORAJ SINGH PATEL: Sir, I am giving it to you in writing. Yesterday, I did not receive the reply. That is why I want to speak today. Rewa which was once the capital of central India is very backward in respect of railways. I would like to draw your attention towards the fact that train no.1472...(Interruptions).

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This has already been brought to the notice of the House. The hon. Minister of Railways has given reply also.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit to the hon'ble Member that the discussion on the Railway Budget is over and if he wants to say something in a couple of minutes, then he may do this in 'Zero Hour' provided you permit him otherwise, in regular course, he cannot speak.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please finish in one minute. Your notice is relating to rail services in Rewa district of Madhya Pradesh. You can speak only about Rewa and nothing else. That is your notice. Please finish in one minute.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEORAJ SINGH PATEL : May I lay on the table of the House a copy of my speech? A Garib Rath Train that comes from Mumbai remains stationed at Jabalpur. I want that Jabalpur...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not permitted. That is not your notice. Please take your seat. You have given a specific notice. You can speak on that and not on other subject. If you do not want to speak, please take your seat.

... (Interruptions)

GENERAL BUDGET, 2009-10 -  
GENERAL DISCUSSION

AND

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS  
(GENERAL), 2006-07 - Contd.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we further continue our discussion on the Budget (General).

Shri Lalu Prasad.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saran): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the

General Budget. I rise to support the Budget 2009-10 that has been presented by Pranab Da. I have extended my support to the present Government.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there was utter confusion at the time of Cabinet formation as to who was going to be appointed as the Minister of Finance because we had no primary source of information and 20 Ministers were to be appointed. Many people were in queue for this post, however, he has been considered as the best choice for this post. We were in the previous Government. The entire world was passing through a phase of economic slowdown and at that time with much efforts the Government had saved the farmers of entire India. Even today, the phase of economic slowdown is not over, however, today a very dangerous situation is going to emerge before the country. It is not a question of the Congress Party or any other party. It is the question of Indian economy which is based on agriculture. Today, even the industries depend on agriculture. The farmers and labourer communities reside in the villages of India. Today the population of this country has reached 110 crore mark. How much quantity of rice, wheat, vegetables, milk and curd are required for us?

Since the Budget is prepared by the need of the Ministry, so you might have paid attention in this direction. Our entire fate is dependent on agriculture. The present Budget has come at a time when the people of the country are facing a serious crisis of drought. I would not like to go into the detail of the prospective arrangement made in the budget but the entire system is going to collapse. It should be planned beforehand as to what concrete measures will be taken at the time of drought. It is going to prove even worse and one should not depend on the monsoon at all. The time period for plantation is already over and the crop has not been planted in the fields. A serious crisis is looming large. If a farmer has planted paddy crop by irrigating the fields, it is getting destroyed because of the heat and lack of water. This is the greatest natural calamity that has occurred. Yesterday, I told electronic media persons that I will meet hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Shri Sharad Pawar Ji and tell him that when economic condition was good we praised farmers and provided support price to them. Our farmers were delighted when we provided support price of paddy and wheat to them and we have sufficient stock of foodgrains. We used to import wheat at higher rates but people do not like the taste of such imported wheat. Here, people like to eat the wheat produced in our own country. We have sufficient stock of foodgrains. We imposed a ban on export when condition was bad and when situation is good we are again exporting rice, wheat and pulses. I am not criticizing it when people of my constituency came to

me, I asked them about the impact of price-rise. They said that people are not able to afford pulses and potato has also become costlier. In the present scenario, only those who are holding large farmland or highly paid employees are able to afford pulses in their meals i.e. rich people are able to afford pulses and rest of the people are not able to afford pulses. When I asked them as to what were they having as substitute of pulses, they told that they bring "Matari" or "Matar" which is called "Kirav" from Uttar Pradesh at the rate of Rs.22 per kg. and have it as a substitute of pulse.

Hukmadeo Yadav Ji has rightly said: Hukmadeo Ji is my relative. Earlier, he was in "Lok Dal" but later on he switched over to another party. He was not criticizing anybody. Agricultural inputs include fertilizers, water and other expenses incurred by the farmers but they are helpless before the nature. We neither provide remunerative price of crops nor loans on time to the farmers. We always talk about Kisan Credit Card. CPM has ruled Kolkata for long and is still in power. Lakhs of families are engaged in cultivation on crop sharing basis. Absentee landlords give their agricultural land to other people on lease for farming but they do not get loans against this land.

Pranab Ji, from where will you generate revenue? We have to develop egalitarian society and maintain a balance between two classes of society i. e. Haves and Have nots which exist in our country. Have nots on one hand are not able to afford pulses, meat, fish, egg in their meal and on the other hand, rich people are feeding their dogs. They pamper their dogs and take them for a walk which is necessary, but I want to know as to when will the concept of egalitarian society develop in the country? Due to absence of egalitarian society the menace of naxalism is growing and people are becoming naxalites. These naxalites are destroying the whole system. There is a need to initiate land reforms. The person who cultivates, ploughs the fields and produces foodgrains is not landowner. They are migrating from Bihar and working in the fields in Punjab. They are working as farm labourers in Punjab. They have migrated to Surat and Mumbai and then have moved to Bengaluru and got beaten there. It is appreciable that we have started NREGA and "Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana". It is good gesture that huge amount has been released for 'Bharat Nirman' and you are going to repeat it. Please continue it. You have also repeated Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. Since, I could not reach the House on time, but I was listening to your budget speech on Radio. There is a need to pay attention towards NREGA and to see whether guidelines have been laid down or not in this regard? When we are spending huge amount, then efforts should be made to get desired results, for example, canal meant to be digged to provide water. As far as construction of roads is concerned, people of Nonia caste are not being awarded work under NREGA whereas these people are



[Shri Lalu Prasad]

associated with such work for so long. Big contractors have been awarded the work who have machines and cupplors. Works related to social construction like digging and levelling of road are being done through machines. What are we doing for these labourers and poor people? We used to say that "Bhains ke maral bhainse mein. You have increased exemption limit of income tax, which is a good thing. While preparing budget you need to look at other aspects also, but I would like to see whether condition of labourers would ever improve? There are women labourers also who carry their children at the site of work and their children watch their parents working at the site. This is the situation before us. When will condition of these labourers be improved? What is the mechanism for that? Blacksmith, carpenter, goldsmith and other artisans have been deprived of their respective trades. Provision should be made for weavers, particularly for those who belong to Ansari community. We have implemented report of Sachar Committee. 90 Muslim dominated areas have been selected throughout the country and funds were released for them. Seven districts of Bihar have been selected under the scheme and funds have been released for providing immunization, sanitation, housing, health facilities, but not a single penny was spent for the purpose. This is the situation in Muslim dominated areas. Muslims live even in more backward areas than this. They are waiting for something to be done for them. They are not covered in it. Nothing has been done in the budget to cover them. But there is a need to rectify this mistake in future. This scheme should be implemented for entire minority community in the country. Now there is need for its expansion and timely implementation. NREGA means to provide food, employment and unemployment allowance. Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Ji, Ch. Charan Singh Ji, Kapoori Thakur Ji, Loknayaak Jai Prakash Ji all of them have taught us that we should give employment. Unemployed people of this country want employment. If you cannot provide them work then you should give them unemployment allowance.

Sir, the people who are semi-literate and live in villages do not get work regularly and are migrating to other states for work. The labourers of our state go to other States like punjab and the people of Punjab used to say that these people of Bihar would work for us and thereby increase our earnings. This is regarding illiterate labourers but there is a big class of literate people also. The families have given education to their children who are intelligent, and are eager to do something. What arrangements have been made for them? Nothing. During recession corporate houses whether they are in India or abroad are retrenching their employees. Even my son-in-law has lost his job who was working with a bank in Singapore. Retrenchment on a large scale is taking

place. If we will make no arrangement for our educated youths then definitely they will take out agitation on roads. If Hukmadeo Ji and if the people like us will go to meet them then they will definitely burst out anger.

Sir, Bihar is a land of Sufis and Saints. Bihar is not an ordinary State. I was against the division of Bihar. But everybody pressurized us to do so. At that time NDA Government was in power. They promised us that Bihar will not face any problem. They promised to give package and compensation to Bihar. We submitted a proposal for 1 lakh 86 thousand crore rupees but not a single paisa was given during NDA rule.

Sir, I am not against developed States. But what are we doing for Bihar, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh particularly Eastern U.P.? Raghuvansh Prasad Ji raised this matter at highest level and previous UPA Government gave 15-20 crore rupees to each district, the UPA Government has given sufficient funds to the States but the States declare centrally funded schemes as their own schemes during election to get votes. Someone is giving rice at cheaper rates or someone is giving some other things. Such things should be monitored strictly.

Sir, lots of efforts have been made to improve the financial condition of States. Pranab Babu, people have great expectations from you and we feel that you will do justice with everyone as you believe in justice and is a very kind-hearted man.

Sir, What is the condition of Bihar today? Unless no special care is given to neglected Bihar equality cannot prevail.

The Chief Minister of Bihar is now thanking people of Bihar. According to him the condition of Bihar cannot improve unless it is given special status. They have done what they can do. We want a special category package. Nobody wants to go to Bihar, no industrialists want to invest there. It is a flood prone state. The problem of water logging is there because of it's bowl like shape. Every year, international rivers hit badly and ruined the state. The Bagmati, Adhwara, Buri-Gandak rivers pass through North-Bihar. Hukmadeo Narayan Ji represents Madhubani and Darbhanga. Every year this area is flooded by river Kosi which destroy everything. We have done a good job. One thousand crore rupees and one thousand metric tonne rice and wheat were given in first installment by the country. No one showed discrimination. Wheat and Rice were distributed there. 45 crore employees of the Department of Railways gave their one day salary to them but still piles of sand lie in Kosi river. Farming, Schools and Colleges of that area have destroyed. I do not know whether the Government of Bihar has made any demand or not or whether they have submitted any

programme or not, But it was declared as a national calamity and all the facilities were provided there. Delhi should provide all the assistance required to emerge from the destruction by the Kosi river. It is not related to Nitish or Lalu Ji, those are your people, your public. We have to see everything. This area has always been under threat of flood. We should hold talks with Nepal and our former leader Kapoori Thakuri Ji used to state that unless we do not hold talks with Nepal, the problem of flood could not be solved. When flood hits that State water logging takes place there. We call North Bihar as the Garden of Bihar. The land of that area is very fertile and the density of the population of that area is not very high and still we are lagging far behind. Proper and permanent arrangements should be made for drainage of flood water and to resolve this problem of flood. Interlinking of rivers is being talked about. The matter is being considered. The people are unaware about geographical conditions. The southern rivers will be linked to northern rivers and northern rivers will be linked to other sareas rivers. The persons like Sundar Lal Bahuguna and Medha Patkar will oppose the work. But, water could be made available in a particular area if it is feasible. Big dams will have to be constructed. Some BJP members were speaking on this matter. Shri Anant Kumar Ji is working very hard on this particular matter. How can you divert the water in opposite direction, how will you flow the rivers in reverse direction and from where you will arrange the money for this project. All these matters are occasionally discussed. This matter needs a lot of attention. One should always raise the matter which is practically possible, never keep the people in dark. We claim that rivers will be linked. Hon'ble Prime Minister has done a great favour by declaring Ganga a national river. Before election, Ganga was declared a national river, Uttar Pradesh does not allow us to use the water of Ganga. Water gets distributed at the place from where it originates. We constructed a pump canal in Baxar, but there is no water. Water has not been distributed rationally till date. I request you to call all concerned parties and resolve the water dispute. Hon'ble Deve Gowda Ji was Prime Minister then, I am not criticizing anyone.

Sir, most of the water of Ganga river is stored in Farakka Barrage. Flood hits the state, but our rivers do not get water as the water is diverted towards Farakka barrage. Our fishermen are starving. We are purchasing fish from Andhra Pradesh. If we do not purchase fishes from Andhra Pradesh there will be no fish in Bihar. Fishes and eggs are being supplied from fish farms to Bihar in trucks from Andhra Pradesh. The Hilsa and some other species of fish which were found in Ganga river in abundance are no more in the river. The fish swims against the flow of river. Ganga river has dried up. There is no fish in Ganga. Earlier, there used

to be fishes in Ganga river in abundance. Hundreds of species of fishes were found in the river and because of diversion of river water often they make their way to the fields. The poor people used to feed on them. It is my humble request that efforts should be made to discuss this matter at External Affairs Minister of Prime Minister level to open the gates of Farakka dam. The Government of India should consider this matter. It is not an important matter. The Farakka dam should be opened. Our water is diverted to Farakka and gates of Farakka dam are closed. This year there has been no rains, hence, it seems that there will be no water left in the river. The river will dry up. You can even cross the river on foot. There is no water in river and fishermen are starving. These matters should be discussed and a solution should be arrived at. You are Ministers. A Committee of expert people should be constituted to deliberate these issues and to find out a proper solution in this regard. I can only give this unwanted suggestion. Though, you do not need our support. To subsidise the fever, the curry of old rice and Sindhi fish is used. Previously, we were also part of your alliance, therefore, I cannot criticize you. I will not criticize you. You are also in compelling situation. This is not the case that if now we are not in the Government, we should start criticizing you. Now I am relaxed. We work for the country....  
(Interruptions)

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): You people have become old, while they have got young brigade.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: No interruptions please.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: You are calling me an old man. I am Yadav. I am 60 years old and it is said that 'Satha so Patha'.

Hon'ble Chairman Sir, to counter the recession improve the condition of agriculture, fertilizers, seeds and irrigation system along with land reforms.

Sir, if Shri Pranab Mukherji take action to bring back the money deposited in foreign banks, it will be in the interest of the country. Otherwise, there will be Bofors like scandals again. On the issue of Bofors you lost several elections and we emerged as winners. During the Kargil war Bofors guns were used. If Bofors guns had not been used, it was difficult to drive them out. The BJP, my party as well as yours have the information about the funds deposited in the Swiss Banks, the names of the people and the resources of the

[Shri Lalu Prasad]

funds. The matter may be raised with the concerned countries to bring back the said funds. Though, I have no authentic information and I am not saying it with authority but whatever I have come to know on the basis of that I can say that a policy of go-slow has been adopted in this regard. It may take some time to convince those countries and bring back the money deposited in foreign banks. But in the mean time, you can atleast publish the list of the people who have withdrawn the money from foreign banks since the debate of bringing that money back has gained momentum. This work can be done easily. If the money has been withdrawn from bank then it can easily be ascertained who has withdrawn how much money. If you get this work done you will become very popular. You will gain popularity as Shri V.P. Singh became popular in Bofors gun scandal. You are in the Government. You have the Minister of External Affairs and he should raise the matter with the Government of concerned countries to bring the money back to our country.

Is it there or not and how much is it? All these things should be made clear but top priority should be given to eradicate poverty in India. We are engaged in unnecessary discussions, Delhi High Court has given a verdict in favour of homosexuals to amend IPC. This is the culture of western countries ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Lajuji, please conclude, You have already taken 28 minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: How long will I speak? The money deposited in the Swiss Banks by the persons and the organizations should be brought back to country and it should be made declared. The persons will explain that their money is white and that they did not have trust in Indian Banks so they deposited the money in the Swiss Banks. All these things should be clarified.

I have requested to grant special category status to Bihar which will facilitate the state in getting some rebate for industries, some grants and it will also enable it to come at par with other States. People of Bihar are very committed and sentimental and have taken part in the freedom struggle so this should be done for them. The Hon. Minister may kindly get information from Ministry of Home Affairs regarding the demands made by Bihar Government regarding Kosi. The Government is requested to release the said amount as this will directly benefit the farmers. The Hon. Minister is requested to do all this in order to check erosion and devastation caused by rivers in villages. The Hon. Minister

has said that this is the biggest Budget and I do admit that he has presented the biggest Budget but its benefits should positively reach the common man in the villages and we should try to bring them into the mainstream.

The educated youth having degrees in engineering, medical, computer and B.A. and M.A. are unemployed and employment should be generated for them. We have admitted that there is gross lack of education among Muslims particularly women. Special attention needs to be paid on the education of Muslim women. Report of the Ranganath Mishra Commission should be laid on the table in a bid to bring them into mainstream. The Government is requested to amend Article 341 of the Constitution to confer S.T. status to Pashmanda Muslims. This will convey the message to the people that our Government is working for minority. They have come forward to vote for you or for us everywhere so we have to bring them into mainstream and I hope, the Government will succeed in forming an egalitarian society.

As far as the issue of election expenses is concerned, we calculate each and every expense on the very day of starting our election campaign as we have to file returns. It is not the Government's business but the business of the Election Commission to ask for returns.

We all will support the first Budget of the new Government and criticize it too wherever necessary. This is the first year only, we will criticize if it is called for but it will be healthy criticism, there will be no bitterness.....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: The hon. Minister should pay attention towards this and make efforts for providing food, clothing and shelter to Indians. We should make arrangements for that. We should do our best. The Government should provide land to the farmers and fix ceiling regarding ownership of property under Fundamental Right. Today, the poor are becoming poorer and the rich are becoming richer on the pretext of Fundamental Right to have property.

With these words, I conclude. Potato is a common vegetable. Middle men have purchased potatoes at cheaper rates from the farmers.....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Thank you, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Lalu ji I am calling next speaker. Please take your seat.

*[Translation]*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Okay. You are in the Chair. I respect you and as per your order, I conclude and I support the Budget.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Thank you very much.

The next speaker is Mr. Suresh Angadi.

SHRI SURESH ANGADI (Belgaum): Sir, most of the hon. Members appreciated the hon. Finance Minister's leadership. The Finance Minister is smart and good but his Budget is not all that good. So, I am opposing the Budget.

This Budget is a neutral Budget. This Budget is not having any vision. The farmers and weavers are the two eyes of the country. There is no specific vision for the farmers or for the weavers. They have proposed to set up one handloom cluster both at Chennai and in West Bengal. Even Karnataka is also having most of the weavers. I do not know why Karnataka is neglected. The people of Karnataka are also part of India. Sir, I would request you to consider Karnataka also in this Budget. The whole India is one. It is because most of the leaders from this side and that side appreciated your leadership, I would request you to consider our State also.

I also thank you for extending the farmers' loan waiver scheme till, I think, 31st December. I bring this to your knowledge that during 2007-2008, hon. the then Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. B.S. Yeddyurappa in Karnataka waived the farmers' loan up to Rs.25,000 for each farmer in Karnataka. It accumulated to about Rs.1,718 crore. Many times, the Government of Karnataka requested the Central Government to reimburse this amount. After two to three months, the Central Budget was presented. Hon. Shri P. Chidambaram at that time waived the farmers' loan to the tune of Rs.60,000 crore for the farmers. We are part of India. We requested you to consider the loan waiver of Rs. 1,800 crore loan waived by hon. then Deputy Chief Minister, who was also the Finance Minister, and reimburse the amount to the Government of Karnataka so as to take up other projects for irrigation and other things. But till then, this was not considered by the hon. Finance Minister. I would request you to reimburse this amount of Rs. 1,800 crore to the Government of Karnataka as early as possible because we are also part and parcel of Government of India and please treat the citizens of Karnataka also as part and parcel of India. So, do not neglect us.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I want to say that this Budget has not considered any special project. The country is facing acute power shortage. There is no proper power supply in the country. There are no big projects. When power is not produced, the industrial production will go down. Farmers will face problem in their farming community and employment generation will not be there. But in this Budget, there are no big projects for power production and because of this, there will be financial problem, and it may create unemployment also. Hence, I oppose this Budget.

Power is more important today. As the human body requires blood, like that the country requires power. It is because of shortage of power, most of the industries and most of the youths are unable to start their industry, and we are seeing that farmers are also suffering throughout the country.

This morning, in Parliament itself, there was a power cut. In Delhi, all the Members of Parliament, when they go to their residences during night time, feel the heat. If the AC is not on, then only we understand the problem of power shortage. For that also nothing has been considered by this Government. I request you to take up this special project.

Many times, the former President of India Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam mentioned that this country should take up linkage of rivers. The then hon. Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji made up his mind to start the Ganga-Cauveri Yojana. It was a Rs. five lakh crore project. Just imagine one thing. If this Ganga-Cauveri Yojana has been completed and they are linked, how much water would have flown in the fields of the farmers and at what extent the economy of the country would have increased. Imagine the employment that you would have provided and many of the existing engineers could have been accommodated. Had it been taken up, the brains of our scientists, senior engineers and many officials could have been put in this project. The farmers could have been benefited and the animals would have been helped. The water level of the country is more important. That is also not taken up in this Budget.

Many times, Dr. Abdul Kalam and Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji have mentioned about this Ganga-Cauveri Yojana. You have not mentioned about this project. Had it been implemented, how much benefit we would have received. Twenty-five years ago, China has implemented this river-linking programme. But even after 62 years we did not have it. For long you have been in power. You are the seniormost leader in the Congress Party. I do not know why this project has not been taken up. I think you are just manipulating the figures but not taking up this project.

[Shri Suresh Angadi]

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji formulated the Golden Quadrilateral programme and because of that today most of the vehicles are moving very freely and the economy has increased tremendously because of the roads. Unfortunately, in the last five years and in this Budget also, you have not taken up this Ganga-Cauveri Yojana. I would request you to please reconsider this thing and take up Ganga-Cauveri Yojana by linking the rivers. The problems of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka will not be there in the future. My friend is there. We are always facing this problem because of the acute shortage of water. This is most important.

I bring to your kind notice one important thing. Karnataka has been neglected in most of the things. The IIT or the University has not been given. The NSG hub has not been given. Many times, the Government of Karnataka and the Chief Minister requested that NSG hub should be given to Karnataka because of the terrorist activities and other activities. This has been neglected.

My place Belgaum is an important place for the foundries. A foundry cluster should be given for Belgaum. That is more important because we are exporting most of the foundries. In my district the sugar industry should be revived. In this Budget there is no mention for the sugar industry. There is no mention about the farmers.

The Government of Karnataka has sent a list asking for Rs. 1,000 crore for flood relief. Many times, representations have been given to the hon. Finance Minister and even hon. Prime Minister. Even then the amount of Rs. 1,000 crore has not been reimbursed. At that time, hon. Minister Shri Sharad Pawar and the then Minister of Home Affairs Shri Shivraj Patil and hon. Prime Minister also visited Belgaum and seen the flood relief camps at that time. We have requested many times and many times the Government of Karnataka represented and the hon. Chief Minister met the hon. Prime Minister. Even then the reimbursement has not been done. I would request to make that payment to the Government of Karnataka for taking up the new projects. At least in this year the farmers can avail that facility if given.

This is most important for the country's youth. Those who are in Australia are facing problems. There is unemployment problem in the country. Because of the recession there are no jobs. They are quite intelligent. But we are not using their brains, their skills. For that also nothing has been mentioned in this Budget. I would request that for most of the intelligent engineers and youth who are in different countries you may make a scheme and utilise their services for the country. When they are working sincerely in other countries, if you bring them to this country they can

work in a still better way and we can produce more and we can make the country very rich.

Apart from this, the farmers and the weavers are the two eyes of this country. I would request you to take up proper measures for these groups. These are the two major categories - one gives food for survival and the other gives clothes for our smartness. These two categories are important. For this you please take up necessary steps.

I thank you for allowing me to speak in this discussion. Since you have not mentioned all these points, I raised them. I like you, Sir. But I do not like your Budget.

[Translation]

SHRI SANDEEP DIKSHIT (East Delhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for the opportunity given to me to speak in support of the Budget presented by Pranab Babu. Pranab Babu has been a source of inspiration for them who are in politics for quite some time. I would like to say that Pranab Babu is like English film hero 007 James Bond. Whenever we are in trouble, he is sent as an agent by the Government on its behalf. I have seen when Mumbai was attacked, he played the role of 007 very actively to defend the Government. Even when we were in trouble internationally due to this problem, he very well defended us.

Pranab Babu, I would certainly like to say that your thoughts are quite high like Agent 007. We have a kind of faith in you that you are our charioteer. and under your guidance the chariot of country's development and growth will reach its destination.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will divide my speech into three segments. First of all, I would like to comment on the Budget. Secondly, Lalu ji and some of my other friends expressed their opinions with full of suppressed anger and sentiments. And, I would like to say something on the neglected agriculture and rural sectors of ours.

Lastly, I would like to say something on what Pranab Babu had said in three-pronged strategy about the administrative reforms. First of all, I would definitely like to mention that the world is facing economic melt down for the last 6-8 months. All the parties have admitted in the last few years that as far as our economy is concerned, earlier in our economy we were used to keep detached ourselves from the world and did not get mingled, but now there is a kind of opinion that we should become more open to the world. There has been considerable development after 40 years of independence. Now, we have grown strong, and we can compete the world on equal footing. We can establish relationship with them, shake hands with them. Our daughter is grown up now. She can go outside the house. When we

discussed it, there was a different kind of opinion, particularly since 5-7 years when the Government of Dr. Man Mohan Singh ji came into power, as a part of it, first Chidambaramji and then, Pranab Babu drove the economy forward like a charioteer. The steps the present Congress Government had taken in the year 1991-92, it made people of the country to trust the Government. Earlier, the comment was made that to focus on the growth, the development is nothing, it is just rubbish. The Governments who only talk of growth, they are misleading the country. They are dividing the country. Today, the scene has changed. There are people of different ideologies who are not only belong to BJP, but also to other parties also are in the House. They sit between BJP and us. They used to believe in it. Now, the parties believing in social ideologies have started admitting that growth is must. This 8%, 9% and 10% growth is essential because the needs, the financial requirements of the country, requirements of expenditure to be incurred, changing ambitions of the country, desires of the people for themselves and for their living Standard development is an important factor everywhere in these areas. I would like to thank Congress Party, UPA Government for the way it has handled the situation for the last 4-5 years. I would like to give the credit to the UPA Government, I would like to thank them.

Last year, we faced a critical situation. Manish Tiwari who delivered his speech before me, has categorically explained it that how the whole world faced economic depression in 1920-21, then some of the activities of the banking sector drove the world in a situation, similarly today we found ourself in a critical situation.

**20.00 hrs.**

But, despite keeping pace with the world economy, taking advantage of the growing world economy, our Government and I would like to appreciate NDA Government and previous Congress Governments in this regard, did not completely follow the world economy, in some ways kept ourselves aloof from it and the outcome is when major countries are finding themselves amidst crisis, completely shaken in economic melt down of the day, we have achieved a growth rate of 6.7 per cent ..... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sandeep, you can continue your speech tomorrow.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SANDEEP DIKSHIT : Sir, I will conclude after one sentence that the country seems to me today like that street where all the houses have fallen after an earthquake, but a single house is standing erect. It was the same house the foundation of which was laid by Dr. Man Mohan Singh ji in the year 1992 and the house is getting repaired and maintained by Dr. Man Mohan Singh and Pranab Dada. I sit after presenting picture and urge upon you to give the opportunity to continue tomorrow.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Thank you, Mr. Sandeep. The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 10th July 2009 at 11 a.m..

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, July 10, 2009 /Asadha 19, 1931 (Saka).*

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