

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## (English Version)

**Fourth Session**  
**(Fifteenth Lok Sabha)**



सत्यमेव जयते

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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

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## LOK SABHA

Thursday, March 4, 2010/Phalgun 13, 1931 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question hour, please raise it during the zero hour.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please raise it during the zero hour.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let the question hour continue.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let the question hour continue. You please raise it during the zero hour.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Whatever is the issue please raise it during the zero hour. Let the question hour continue.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let the question hour continue. Please raise this issue during the zero hour.

...(*Interruptions*)

\*Not recorded.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please raise this issue during the zero hour.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

11.02 hrs.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question No. 101—Shri Arjun Munda—not present.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question No. 102—Shri Vishwa Mohan Kumar.

### Ongoing Rail Line Projects

\*102. <sup>+</sup>SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR:  
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Railway projects are languishing for want of adequate resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the ongoing rail line projects in various States, State-wise;

(d) the funds allocated for these projects during each of the last three years;

(e) the progress made so far on these projects; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by the Railways for the completion of these projects expeditiously?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

\*Not recorded.



**Statement**

(a) to (c) As on 1.4.09, Railways had 306 works in progress under New Line, Gauge Conversion, Doublings and Railway Electrification plan head requiring about Rs. 81,000 cr for completion. The state wise details of these ongoing projects are given in enclosed Annexure. Due to limited availability of resources, projects take long time for completion.

(d) Amounts totaling Rs. 5853.93 cr., Rs. 8088.7 cr. and Rs. 9140.55 cr. were provided for the year 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively for New Line, Gauge Conversion, doubling and Railway Electrification projects.

(e) These projects are in various stages of progress depending upon the availability of resources. 763 km. of

new line, 3194 km. of gauge conversion, 1175 km. of doublings and 1660 route km. of Railway Electrification were completed during the last three years.

(f) To expedite completion of projects, a number of initiatives have been taken to generate additional resources through non-budgetary routes like Public-Private Partnership (PPP), funding by State Governments and other beneficiaries. As regards the PPP model, meaningful dialogue has already been held with the Indian Industry who have been requested to come forward for participation and investing in Railway projects. Besides, to reduce delays on account of land availability, security issues and forestry clearances, etc. Meeting with State Officials are being held from time to time. Contract conditions have been modified to bring in more efficiency in contract management and field units have been empowered further.

**Annexure**

*State-wise details of the on going new line, gauge conversion, doubling and Rly. Electrification projects is given below*

State	New Line	Gauge Conversion	Doubling	Rly. Electrification
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	14	2	6	1
Assam and NE States	10	5	1	1
Bihar	33	5	12	2
Chhattisgarh	1	-	9	-
Delhi	-	-	4	2
Gujarat	2	9	4	-
Haryana	2	1	6	4
Himachal Pradesh	3	-	1	-
Jammu and Kashmir	1	-	1	1
Jharkhand	7	1	6	-
Karnataka	10	4	9	2
Kerala	2	2	8	1
Madhya Pradesh	5	3	4	2

1	2	3	4	5
Maharashtra	4	3	4	-
Orissa	5	1	12	-
Punjab	5	-	2	1
Rajasthan	4	8	3	1
Tamil Nadu	7	8	7	3
Uttar Pradesh	8	7	17	7
Uttarakhand	2	2	-	-
West Bengal	6	4	20	1

N.B. Projects falling in more than one State have been shown against each State.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR: Sir, I would like to submit, through you, that a number of schemes in Bengal and Uttar Pradesh have been implemented as per the detail given in the reply here. I hail from the North-Eastern region of Supaul parliamentary Constituency in Bihar where the foundation stone for rail overbridge over Kosi River had been laid by the then Prime Minister in the NDA Government, hon. Atal Behari Vajpayee but it has not been built till date. It was targeted to be completed in the year 2010. ...*(Interruptions)* and gauge conversion of the line passing through Supaul was to be done. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You ask the question.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR: Sir, I want to know by when the railway overbridge is likely to be built and the time by which the work of gauge conversion from Supaul to Forbisganj is likely to be completed? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMED): There are a number of ongoing projects about which I have already in my written reply. 306 projects are under various stages of implementation including the gauge conversion. Of

course, we will definitely be taking all the steps to complete them at the earliest. But the most important constraint that the Railways is facing is the resource. ...*(Interruptions)*

11.03 hrs.

*At this stage Shri Sailendera Kumar and some other hon. Members come and stood on the floor near the table.*

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR: Sir, the Minister has not given a relevant reply. I was asking specially about the rail overbridge on the Kosi River but the Minister diverted the question and was not able to give the required information. I would like to ask the Minister the time by which the rail overbridge is likely to be completed and made operational? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please raise this during the zero hour.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, please continue your reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED: Most of the projects are being completed. If the hon. Member wants to know the details of a particular project, he may ask for it in writing and I will give him reply. As I have already said, all the projects are under various stages of implementation depending on the availability of resources. Resource is the only constraint. However, the projects that have been allocated the resources, will be completed. If there is any particular project that he would like to know, let him write to me, I will give him reply.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, from the statement furnished by the hon. Minister of Railways it is noted that 306 works are in progress and the Ministry needs Rs.81,000 crore for the completion of such works. At the same time, for the year 2008-2009, a meager sum of Rs. 9,140.55 crore was provided. Sir, south Tamil Nadu where there is no perennial river- is economically backward for years together and is body in need of railway infrastructure. ...*(Interruptions)* From the days of Britishers, there is only one railway link between Chennai and Tuticorin and Chennai and Tirunelveli and hence doubling is most needed. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, to get more funds for our projects, will the government take steps to lease out the vacant lands belonging to the Railways all over the country to private people as well as PSUs and get sufficient funds to complete the remaining projects? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI E. AHMED: Sir, I have already mentioned that many of these projects are at various stages of implementation. ...*(Interruptions)* In Tamil Nadu also we have taken some of the projects for implementation. I have already mentioned that due to lack of availability of resources we could not proceed further. But Railways are taking various steps to implement all these projects and regarding new projects we are trying to have in the PPP mode. We are trying to have a joint venture. We are also trying to mobilize funds through market borrowing. ...*(Interruptions)* On the projects mentioned by the hon. Member, we will certainly look into them and we will do what is needed to be done. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please sit down. Let the question hour continue. Raise this matter during the

zero hour. We will listen to you during the zero hours.

...*(Interruptions)*

11.08 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Shailendra Kumar and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Thank you Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me an opportunity. ...*(Interruptions)* I have brought this matter for the 'n'th time that Pilibhit railway line has been sanctioned for so many years; each time I am told that there are no funds and deadlines are given. ...*(Interruptions)* When will the line be converted from 'choti' line? Every year your announce 500 new projects. But the old projects never get done. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please sit down. Please sit down. Let the house run. Say whatever you want to during the zero hour.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: This assurance was given in Parliament. Why are these assurances not fulfilled?

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, there are number of such issues in the Railways. Hon. Member is very much concerned naturally about her area. I will assure you that Railways will look into all such things and if she has any more suggestion, that may also be forwarded to me and I will look into it. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please raise this issue during zero hour. Let the question hour continue.

[English]

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Sir, from the answer given by the hon. Minister it is seen that two lines are included in the list of Kerala. I congratulate the Government. At the same time, there are number of lines where the surveys are over. I would like to point out one among them that the hon. Minister of Railways herself has given the reply that for the Kanignad-Panathur railway line the survey is completed and the report is submitted to the Railway Board. In the reply it is stated that the total cost come to about Rs. 332 crore and the length is 41 kilometres and the report is positive; that is 2.02 In her reply it is stated that it may be considered when the Budget comes. It is really unfortunate that even though the report is positive and rate of return is also positive that is not included for further studies.

May I know, through you, from the hon. Minister whether this line would be included at the time of reply of the Government because it is positive as for as the Railway Board's report itself is concerned?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, I appreciate the concern of the Minister, but at the same time, I will appeal to this House.

SHRI E. AHAMED: He is a Member.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I am sorry, it is 'the Member'. The Members are sometimes Ministers also. ...*(Interruptions)* At some point of time, they will also be the Ministers. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I appreciate the concern of the hon. Member. We are interested that projects should be completed at an early date and we are also interested for the socially desirable projects. But please appreciate our throw-forwarding these projects. The pending projects are pending and the amount of about Rs. 80,000 crore is required. Whatever the Railways are doing this time, it is only within the gross budgetary support, and all the projects which are socially desirable projects are pending for long. After the survey is over, some projects are found to be viable and some projects are found to be non-viable. But some projects are being rejected by the Planning commission also. That is why, this time we picked up about 114 railway projects which are socially desirable projects. We have decided and announced in the Budget Speech that let these projects go for updating surveys. After that, we will send them to the Planning

commission. So, let me decide about these 114 projects which will have updated surveys. Then, they will be sent to the Planning Commission for their recommendations.

There are some systems. I only want to apprise the hon. Member of it. First, the project is cleared by the Railway Expanded Board where the representatives of Finance Ministry and Planning commission are also members. Then, it goes to the Cabinet. The Cabinet clears the project. There are some systems. We will follow it up whenever the opportunity comes.

I will request that we need special support for that. The Finance Minister is also here. rupees 6,000 crore of Service Tax has been levied on the Railways. so, it is very difficult to do all these things, but I think, he will withdraw it. Last time also, he had withdrawn the Service Tax and this time also, he will withdraw it. Otherwise, it will be very difficult to go for new lines.

This time we have decided to go for 1,000 route kilometers to be completed. This is the first time that it has happened. Please trust it. We will take up the projects one by one and decide the things.

[Translation]

#### Closure of Handloom Units

+  
\*103. SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN:  
SHRI P.T. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of handloom units are on the verge of closure in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government has assessed the negative impact of recession in handloom sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

#### Statement

(a) and (b) No Madam. There are 25.24 lakh handloom units as per the statistics available in our

country. As per reports received from State Government, most of the units are functional except few units in States like Orissa and Kerala, 68 number of handloom co-operative societies are non functional in Kerala, and 733 co-operative societies are non functional in the State of Orissa.

(c) and (d) Textiles exports including handlooms declined by 5.45% during 2008-09 on account of global recession. However, from last quarter, report of resurgence in textile exports, is reported on month to month basis.

SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is a very important question reply to which should have been given in detail.

Sir, today weavers are another community, which is in the worst condition after farmers. Bapu brought a drastic change through handloom. Though a number of schemes are being implemented for weavers in the country, today, the condition of the weavers is the worst. The Government has taken step in the direction of waiving loans of farmers but a large number of weavers' have been committing suicide over the years. When I was Minister during the NDA Government, we had launched the Artisan credit card on the lines of Kisan credit card. Even then, weavers are not being provided loans. I myself belong to silk city of Bhagalpur.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the silk you are wearing is Bhagalpuri silk. The leader of opposition is also weaving Bhagalpur silk saree.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Silk is produced in our area, cotton and fabric are manufactured in your area.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: I hail from that area and I myself have felt their pain. Nath Nagar, Champa Nagar and Mirzafari are such areas where there are weavers in large number...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please ask the question.

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, I am coming to the point since it is important to understand this issue. He said in his reply that these units are getting closed. The number of units has been reduced by 5.45 per cent due to recession. Nothing has been done in this budget for the weavers. Through you, Sir, would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any

scheme has been formulated for the weavers who are facing problems due to closure of handloom industries.

*[English]*

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: Sir, I agree with the hon. Member that the handloom sector is very dear and near to this Government, and we have taken all steps to ensure that the handloom weavers are protected. But most of our schemes are being implemented through the State Government. We have various schemes like the Integrated Handloom Development Scheme where we try to give margin money of nearly Rs. 6,000 per handloom weaver so that they are able to rotate that money and develop the business.

As reported in my answer, certain States have not been able to do well, and we are working continuously with the States. It is quite sad to state that only five or six State Cooperatives have become very profitable at this moment. Basically, the Central Government is dependent on the State Governments Because the State Government has to give the proposals to the Central Government, and the Central Government has been providing assistance to them whenever they demand it. It is very very difficult for the central Government to provide any assistance in case where the State Governments do not request the Central Government. But there are various schemes, and we will try to make sure that no stone is left unturned to ensure that the weavers are protected.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister himself has admitted, that's why this issue is being considered as serious.

Through you, sir, my other supplementary question is whether any scheme for waiving loans of the weavers is proposed when you and the Government have admitted that the weaver community is facing economic crisis. I would like to add that the farmers at least have lands, but weavers have nothing except handloom, not even clothes to cover themselves. He weaves cloth for the world, but he does not have cloth to cover himself. He does not have even land to raise loan by mortgaging it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Government whether the Government proposes to

waive the loan of the weavers and whether the Government proposes to implement health insurances scheme meant for the weavers.

*[English]*

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: Sir, as the hon. Member has asked, already there is a proposal from my Ministry to the Ministry of Finance requesting for the waiver of loans. It is in the active consideration of the Ministry of Finance. I am sure that this time they will definitely take a positive call on this issue. As I have said that I am sure that the Government is very considerate to the problems of the weavers and the cooperative societies, and I am sure that a good response will come. We are waiting for it.

As far as the insurance scheme is concerned, it is one of the most popular schemes in the handloom sector. Last year, 17 lakh weavers were benefited from the insurance schemes, and this year, more than 18 lakh weavers are benefited from the insurance scheme. We are observing that the number of weavers who are benefited through this are continuously increasing from year to year.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Please implement it immediately.

*[English]*

SHRI P.T. THOMAS: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. The handloom industry is one of the major sectors in India providing employment opportunities among people, particularly, the weaker sections in rural India. Kerala is famous for its handloom goods. The glory of handloom goods of Balaramapuram in trivandrum, Chittor, Thathamangolam and Chennamangalam in Ernakulam, kannur and kasargod is very famous. Today, the industry is facing a very difficult situation. The glorious period of this industry from ancient days is gradually coming down to dust.

On 16 May 2006, our hon. Prime Minister had given an assurance at the time of Handloom EXPO held in Delhi that the Government will consider a financial package for the betterment of the handloom industry.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please ask your Question.

SHRI P.T. THOMAS: The Government has entrusted the NABARD officials to sort out the entire problem for this purpose and come out with a package. Is the Government considering giving a financial package to help the handloom industry, especially, in Kerala and all over India?

Secondly, will the Government give a financial package like the Tirupur package that has been announced recently in the Budget? This is my simple question to the hon. Minister.

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: Sir, as I said earlier and I would like to once again repeat it, that Government is taking all steps to ensure that the handloom sector and the weavers are protected. In fact, it is this Government, which, for the first time celebrated 'Handloom Week' from December 21-27 last year and had handloom sales, through marketing efforts, throughout the country. In fact, in that one week, we were able to realize that marketing efforts do help the handloom sector. We were able to have a sales turnover of more than Rs. 25 crores.

As I said earlier, the State Governments have to do their part. I am sure the hon. Member is anxious to see that his State gets the benefits from the Central Government schemes. Under the Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana (DDHPY), which was implemented under the Tenth Five-Year Plan, only five States came forward to benefit from the scheme. Those States which came forward have to follow a rigorous method according to which, the Central Government said, than they have to thin down and make sure that the cooperatives were profitable and close shop which are not functioning. Under this, APCO of Andhra Pradesh, U.P. Handloom Corporation, Co-optex of Tamil Nadu; Karnataka Handloom Development Corporation; and Orissa State Apex (Boyanika) are the five State Agencies which came forward.

I fell sad to say that Kerala from where the hon. Member comes has not come forward to take the benefit under the scheme. Until and unless his State comes forward, we are not in a position to help them. I am sure the hon. Member will insist upon his State Government to take active interest, so far as the handloom weavers are concerned.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: What about the issue of special package which we are raising before the hon. Prime Minister for the past two years?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: Can I answer that?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is no need to do that.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think that weaving gives employment to the largest part of population after farming in the country. It was on this ground that the Indian freedom struggle was fought. I would like to ask the hon. Minister what happened to the subsidy which had been given on thread.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: It has been discontinued.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: This is what I am asking from the hon. Minister, he should reply.

The second thing is that the export of the country depends on weaving occupation. All other products of our country have been copied abroad and hence these products do not sell. Everything, be it vehicles, cars have been manufactured with borrowed technology. Our people could not even repair Fiat and Ambassador. Everything is brought here from the outside world, but the only thing that sells is the skill and handwork of the artisans of India. Fabric is the commodity that is exported most from the country.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please be brief.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am asking a brief question only. This is brief. If you say, I will sit. I am talking to you only. If you say, I will sit.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, No, I am not asking you to sit, I am just asking you to be brief.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am asking a straightway question. Now, the issue of child labour is in air. I was textile Minister. I know the carpets manufactured in India are not being brought in the world market because some people have spread

misconception that these are made by children. The Indian art of handloom can be learnt at young age only, it cannot be learnt at a later age, it is a manual skill. It is an art which is learnt at young age, when one is grown up once, he cannot learn. It is like music, which is learnt at a young age. One can be perfect at this manual skill only, if one learns it at a young age. Similarly, the work of weaving cloth, if not learnt at young age, cannot be done. The art of weaving carpets is also taught at young age. The art of pottery and carpentry are also taught at young age.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please ask the question.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that the child labour involved in export should be seen from a different angle and you have to categorise child labour and also make it clear as to what really constitutes child labour. The child, who is working in a hotel or at a wrong place, should be treated as child labour. These two parameters are before you. You can very well understand how much this factor has affected handloom export and the carpet industry world over. I want to ask you what is the status of the subsidy, which was being provided by you earlier and whether it is proposed to provide the subsidy again.

*[English]*

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: Sir, the hon. Member has asked a question relating to Labour Ministry. I will definitely forward the question to the Labour Ministry. There was also a complaint on child labour in certain garment units. But they have been dropped. I am sure, India is very clear on that. We do not promote or advocate child labour. The Government of India has ensured that the child labour is banned. But, if the hon. Member has something to say, I am sure the Labour Minister will answer it. It is legal for him ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Please tell us about subsidy. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

Shri Dayanidhi Maran: Let me complete it. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Sir, give me one minute, please. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let him reply.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have submitted that many people are active here and they are getting funded from abroad so far as child labour is concerned. They are destroying the country as ours is a country of artisans. You will have to categorise child labour in two ways. You have conferred Bharat Ratna on Bismillah Khan and Sitar maestro Ravi Shankar. Both acquired their respective skills at the very early age of 3 to 5 years. Similarly, it is a manual skill work. ...(*Interruptions*) Whether your Government proposed to categorise this kind of child labour? ...(*Interruptions*) Jay Prakash ji, please keep quite. This is not your concern only whether the Government will categorise it or not, this categorisation would take place or not? Whether they would categorise child labour or not? What step would be taken in the interest of the artisans? ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: Sir, As far as handloom is concerned, we have a scheme called Mill Gate Price Scheme where the hank yarn is delivered at the mill gate prices to the cooperative societies so that the handloom weavers can benefit. I, once again, will have to request the hon. Member to have abundant caution because child labour is very tricky issue. I am not the Minister to handle it. You have good sentiments, but please be careful in advocating this. We have to act and behave in a matured and more responsible manner.

Moreover, the handloom sector is under a lot of threat because basically most of these people are feeling this way and they are trying to go to other jobs. Yes, I agree with the hon. Member that this art and craft comes from the early stages and this craft is very important in the nimble hands. But, as the society is improving, as education is coming to the society, our country is growing. There is a transition of people migrating from traditional sectors to more modern sectors. This is a part of any developing society of any developing

country. As such, there are enough schemes in the handloom sector to give more incentives to the handloom sector.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What about the subsidy?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What about the subsidy?

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: Yes, Sir. We have a scheme called the Mill Gate Price Scheme where the yarn is given to the cooperative societies at the mill gate price.

[*Translation*]

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ; Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you for the opportunity you have given to me to ask a question on such an important issue. Hon. Members have raised questions regarding handloom industry on a number of occasions. A concern was expressed on the pathetic condition of this industry, but instead of any improvement, subsidy on imported silk was discontinued. The facility of providing silk on controlled price was also discontinued. Lakhs of people in Varanasi, Mau, Bhadohi and Azamgarh districts of Uttar Pradesh are associated with handloom industry, as there are no industries and factories in Purvanchal. So a large number of people are engaged in this industry. The economic condition of weavers as well this industry is so poor that they are not able to earn their bread and butter nor are they able to pay their electricity bills, as a result, their electricity connections have been cut.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the manner in which loans of the farmers have been waived, similarly payment of the electricity bills of weavers would also be waived and subsidy on imported silk would be provided.

[*English*]

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: Sir, silk industry is a growing component in our handloom sector. Mostly, silk is now being produced in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and the North Eastern region. We have a shortfall of silk. We have allowed import of silk but we are giving adequate protection to ensure that our domestic silk industry is not destroyed by the other exporting countries. The Government is actively considering a proposal



whereby the Ministry of Textiles can be a canalizing agency to import silk and sell it to the silk weavers. It is under process.

*[Translation]*

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Their electricity bills should be waived as they cannot afford food in present situation. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: Sir, that is a very good idea and I would request the hon. Member to ask his State Government. I am sure the State Government will be able to implement it much faster than the Central Government.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as far as handloom industries are concerned, I think, hon. Minister knows that handloom industry is a traditional industry and these are major industries after agriculture which is labour intensive. Handloom is also a labour intensive industry. But today, it is in a very pitiable condition and hon. Minister is aware of it. Apart from several states, the places Ghaziabad Parliamentary constituency which I represent as a MP and Varanasi where I was born, I know, 40-50 percent of handloom industries are closed. I would like to know whether hon. Minister is aware of the fact that the designs conceived and produced by those small industries and weavers and designs are copied by large textile industries. Whether there is any provision to protect these handloom designs? I would also like to know whether handloom industry is given any tax exemption or subsidy by the Government?. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Everything has been connected into powerloom, handloom is no longer there. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: You do not know. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please, keep quiet.

SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: Whether it is yarn or dye, if anybody, proposed to buy small handloom industry, he does not get even a single pie as subsidy. As far as

yarn is concerned, Chinese yarn is being imported. Our handloom industry have badly affected due to import of Chinese yarn. Whether the Government proposed to take or taking any step to stop the import?

*[English]*

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: Sir, I once again say that this sector needs our constant attention and the Government of India is aware of it. In fact, Varanasi is a very important area for handloom sector especially for silk weavers. There are lot of issues there. In fact, we are developing a mega cluster in Varanasi to ensure that weavers' interests are protected. These mega clusters also include common dyeing facilities and also common infrastructure societies which will be built and which can be shared by the weavers.

As I said earlier, yarn is an important issue there, especially of silk yarn. The Government is actively considering importing up to 9,000 MT of silk yarn for canalizing for the use of domestic industry. At this moment we are having a problem with the Chinese silk. It is being sold in the black market. To curb the black market and also to ensure that our weavers are able to complete internationally we are taking all necessary steps. For handloom products we have the handloom mark. It is a part of the responsibilities of the Ministry of Textiles to ensure differentiation of handloom textiles from power loom textiles. The Ministry of Textiles on behalf of the Government of India has been giving five per cent marketing incentive on sale of handloom fabrics.

This is in addition to five per cent given by the State Government. As I said, the best initiative that we can take now is the marketing initiative and that is what we have been doing because more and more marketing initiatives we take, more products would be sold and ultimately the weaver will be benefitted. We have taken up the GI registrations for most of our traditional textiles, including Varanasi brocade. I can send the details to the hon. Member.

As such, patenting is not yet come into this sector, and if anyone comes with the patents, we will be happy to assist. Moreover, we are also encouraging the handloom sector by allowing to give free designs in the website of the Ministry of Textiles and also designs by the prize-winning students of NIFT are kept now on the Internet. A lot of details about designs and other things

concerning the handloom sector are given in the website. Whoever wants them, they can freely download and use for product development.

In regard to the marketing initiatives, in these Clusters – hon. Members might ask as to what are the advantages of these Clusters – we have private marketing people and also private designers who came into this sector. We realise that small changes are able to bring good export benefits for this sector. We see that in most of these sarees that are exported, they cut off the *pallu* because foreign buyers do not want the *pallu*. Small change is brought in by increasing the check patterns in the sarees which have become good tablemats and curtains in the European countries. There is a huge market. There are good designers who are working closely with the Clusters. I am sure that the hon. Member's interest on Varanasi is taken care of and we ensure that we will do all the best for the Varanasi weavers.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH; Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask a question. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please sit down. We have discussed it for long.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No word of any Member will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Q. 104—Shri Om Prakash Yadav—not present.

Shri Jai Prakash Agarwal

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only what Shri Jai Prakash Agarwal says will go on record.

....(Interruptions)\*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Agarwal ji, please ask your question.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you may not hear me. ...(Interruptions) First, you ask them to sit down. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You all please keep quiet and sit down. A very long discussion has already been held on this question.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first, you restore peace in the House. ...(Interruptions) I cannot speak in such a situation. ...(Interruptions) What is this?. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You all let the question hour go on.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question hour was going on very well. You people please speak later on.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You all please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: A lot of discussion has been held on this subject and the hon'ble Minister too has given a very good suggestion in this regard.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You all please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please go to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, these people are not going to sit down. ...(Interruptions) this is not fair. ...(Interruptions) I cannot ask my question in this situation. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, please allow a half-an-hour discussion on this. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will allow half-an-hour discussion on this if you give me written notice in this regard.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You all please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have promised half-an-hour discussion on this. The same will be held if you give me written notice in this regard.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have told about it, and therefore, you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You may take part in half-an-hour discussion on this.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: This is a very important issue. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN JENA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to put forth my point about handloom. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing of what he says will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

#### Demand and Supply of LPG

\*104. <sup>+</sup> SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:  
SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV:

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

(a) the total annual production of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) in the country;

(b) whether the Government has made any assessment of the annual consumption of LPG in the country;

(c) if so, the estimated requirement of cooking gas for commercial and domestic use in the country during the current year;

(d) whether the quantum of cooking gas produced from indigenous sources is insufficient meet the requirement and the shortfall is met through imports;

(e) if so, the quantum of cooking gas supplied from the indigenous sources and through imports separately during the last three years and the current year; and

(f) the amount of subsidy given per cylinder by the Government on both imported and indigenous gas?

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

#### Statement

(a) to (e) The total LPG production in the country was 9,335 Thousand Metric Tonne (TMT) in 2008-09. As per the revised estimates prepared in consultation with the Industry, demand for LPG is expected to be around 12,984 TMT for the year 2009-10. Out of this, the share of domestic LPG is 87.4% and non-domestic 12.6%. Since the domestic production of LPG is inadequate to meet the demand, shortfall in availability from domestic sources is met through imports. The figures of LPG production, consumption and imports during the last three years and for April-December 2009 for the current year are as under:

(Quantity in '000 MT)

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (April-December) (Provisional)
Production	8454	8868	9335	7607
Consumption	10849	12165	12344	9576
Imports	2278	2833	2360	1807

\*Not recorded.

(f) Consumer has to pay the applicable price on Domestic LPG per cylinder irrespective of whether the LPG is imported or indigenously produced. The Government is providing a fiscal subsidy of Rs.22.58 per Domestic LPG cylinder under the 'PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG Subsidy Scheme, 2002'. Besides, during the period April-December 2009, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies have incurred an average wider-recovery of Rs.144.33 per cylinder of Domestic LPG, which too gets partially compensated under the Burden Sharing Mechanism.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Sir, the production & supply of the LPG-both are important issues that are concerned with the general public and this is not a work that could be completed with a day's policy. From the reply just given by the hon'ble Minister, we may observe that every year the growth in production is very less and the demand thereof is growing day-by-day. Almost one thing of the total LPG production is imported and there is no decrease in demand thereof. Therefore, I would like to know it from the hon'ble Minister whether he has any long-term policy by which the demand thereof could be met at the earliest.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): Sir, the hon'ble Member has said that no growth has been registered in the LPG sector. It is totally wrong. It is not true at all. There were 3.8 crore LPG connections in the year 1999 and in the year 2010, this number has increased to almost 11.50 crore. Besides, care has been taken to meet the shortage wherever it exists and the efforts are on to increase the indigenous production. There would be more growth in the LPG sector with the coming up of the refineries at Bina, Paradip and Bathinda. Moreover, efforts are also on to provide almost 80 per cent LPG connections in the urban areas. Schemes have also been launched and implemented in rural areas also and very soon, such schemes would be implemented from 14th March in your constituencies. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Sir, people are not getting LPG. *...(Interruptions)* This Government is not providing LPG to the people. *...(Interruptions)*

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Sir, people are not getting LPG. Presently, the entire country is suffering. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yogi ji, you please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAIPRAKASH AGARWAL: Sir, whatever the hon'ble Minister has just said is true, but, as per your own figures, I would like to tell that its production has not increased to desired level. The hon'ble Minister has made a mention of the urban areas. I would like to know as to what the alternative for the LPG is in big cities and what policy you have devised especially for the poor dominated areas in big cities such as my parliamentary constituency-North East Delhi. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You people, please keep quit.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI JITIN PRASADA: Sir, the hon'ble Member has raised a very good question. LPG is available in less quantity. Also, it has to be imported and it is our desire that LPG should be made available in rural areas and therefore, we have made efforts to provide piped natural gas i.e. CNG & PNG, in the cities. Piped natural gas is being provided in Delhi and Mumbai and certain cities of Gujarat. As per my assessment, piped natural has is being provided in almost 1.50 lac households in Delhi. *...(Interruptions)*

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, during the regime of the " NDA Government, LPG connections were provided free of cost. Every consumer was getting LPG very easily. After the NDA regime, there is huge shortage of LPG across the country. During the festive seasons, people keep standing in queues for days to get LPG. They are not getting LPG. This Government has created this artificial scarcity. Through this, Government is encouraging the black marketers and hoarders. I would like to know it from the hon'ble Minister as to what steps the Government is taking to remove this artificial scarcity. What steps are being taken by the Government to ensure smooth availability of LPG to the consumers?

SHRI JITIN PRASADA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so far as the regimes of the NDA & UPA Government are concerns, during the tenure of NDA Government from the year 1998 to 2004 at the centre, LPG prices recorded an increase of nearly 80 per cent.. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let the Minister give the reply first.

YOGI ADITIYA NATH: This was not my question. I had asked about the shortage of the LPG. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon'ble Minister is giving reply. You first listen to the reply carefully.

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH: What type of reply is he giving and what should we listen to?

SHRI JITIN PRASADA: During the previous regime of UP A Government, the prices of crude oil had gone up to 100 to 150 dollars per barrel. That time also, it was the intention of the UPA government to save the Aam Admi from sufferings and stabilize the prices of petroleum products. We are making efforts to ensure supply of LPG in such areas facing its deficiency by importing it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is not going on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

[English]

SHRI KALIKESH NARAYAN SINGH DEO: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government has stated in its answer that it is giving a subsidy of Rs. 22.58 per Domestic LPG cylinder as well as there has been a loss to the oil companies of Rs. 144.33 per cylinder. However, in reality these subsidies have no meaning in 'C' and 'D' tier cities because people pay a black premium of almost Rs. 400 and Rs. 500 per cylinder. The hon. Minister has stated in his answer that he is trying to increase the production of LPG in the country. Can he please specify as to which refineries are coming up and they are at what stage and how much the production will increase when these refineries come up? Can he also tell us as to why the imports of LPG are going down? In reality there should be an increase in the imports of LPG to substantiate the shortage. Why that is not happening? There is a reduction in imports from 2008 to 2009.

SHRI JITIN PRASADA: As far as the hon. Member's query is concerned, imports are going down but at the

same time indigenous production is being increased. So, that is compensating for the decline in imports. On the other hand three refineries are under construction; Bhatinda, Bina and Paradip. As far as the status of these refineries goes, the Bina refinery will be up for commissioning between July and September this year and the other two would take some time. Next year one other refinery will come up for commissioning and that will ease the situation as far as production of LPG and catering to the demands of the LPG consumers is concerned.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Kolkata Uttar): already there has been a rise in prices of petrol and diesel. Each political party has given its observation with regard to this price rise and accordingly the Government will ultimately announce its final opinion on the floor of the House. There is a proposal to increase price so far as LPG connections are concerned. I would like to know whether there has been any recommendation to increase the price of LPG Cylinder by Rs. 100 per cylinder. Is the Government going to take any such decision which may cause tremendous difficulties to the poorest of the poor and the farmers of the country?

SHRI JITIN PRASADA: Whatever recommendations the hon. Member is referring to, I would like to say that various committees have been formed and they have recommended various price hicks in various products of petroleum. At the moment I would like to inform the House that per cylinder the Government bears under-recovery and has subsidized the product to the extent of Rs. 280 per cylinder. It is the endeavour of this Government not to burden the common man and trying to cushion the prices and absorb as much as possible through the Government funding, through the upstream companies and through the oil marketing companies. Various proposals have come but no decision has been taken for the hike in LPG production as of now.

#### Jan Aushadhi Outlets

\*105 †  
SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:  
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:

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

(a) the number of Jan Aushadhi outlets opened in the country so far, state-wise;

(b) the criteria laid down for setting up of such outlets;

(c) whether the expensive medicines including cancer curing medicines is proposed to be sold through these outlets;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any annual target has been envisaged for opening of new Jan Aushadhi outlets in the county; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

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

(a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) At present, 39 Jan Aushadhi Outlets have been opened in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and Rajasthan as follows:

State	No.
Punjab	20
Haryana	4
NCT of Delhi	3
Rajasthan	8
Uttarakhand	2
Chandigarh	1
Andhra Pradesh	1
Total	39

(b) Jan Aushadhi Outlets have been opened by Pharma Central Public Sector Undertakings with the co-operation of State Governments in District Hospitals identified by the States. These Outlets are managed by State Government or Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) nominated by State Governments.

(c) and (d) Efforts are on to increase the basket of medicines being supplied to Jan Aushadhi Outlets. However, expensive cancer curing medicines are not supplied to Jan Aushadhi stores.

(e) and (f) The opening of Jan Aushadhi Outlet depends on the facilities that may be offered by the States in district Hospitals etc.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through my question, I had expected it from the hon'ble Minister that he would tell me as to how many outlets have been set up to ensure availability of low-priced medicines for the poor and ordinary patients in the district hospitals of various states across the country. The hon'ble Minister has made it clear in his reply that 39 outlets have so far been set up in seven states. Through you, I would like to know the state-wise number of proposals received by him from the states like Uttar Pradesh or from those other than Punjab, Haryana, NCT of Delhi, Rajasthan, Uttaranchal, Chandigarh, Andhra Pradesh that have been mentioned by him, in connection with providing genuine medicines at cheaper rates in the district hospitals of respective districts. Since spurious medicines of drugs are also being sold at large in the market today due to which poor people are facing a lot of difficulties. Also, what decision has his Ministry taken on these proposals?

SHRI SRIKANT JENA: Sir, the Jan Aushadhi store he is talking of is a brand name, but generic medicines are available there the price of which is half the price of branded medicines. We are selling it at fifty per cent of the actual price and at some places it is being sold at one third of the actual prices. As regards setting up of such stores across the country, it depends upon the concerned state Government. We set up these stores at the site, which the concerned State Government allots us at the district headquarters. Punjab and Rajasthan are among such states. Haryana and Delhi had also allowed to set up such outlets in the premises of their government hospitals under which Punjab stands at No. 1 position. Thereafter, we propose to set up 26 such outlets in Rajasthan. There is a provision of prescription of generic medicines in it. Unless the doctor prescribes generic medicines, the patient would not be able to purchase that. The Government doctors of Rajasthan and Punjab have been issued directions that.

[English]

you have to prescribe only generic medicines so that the poor patients can get access to the generic medicines

through these Jan Aushadi Outlets. I would request the hon. Member if he could convince the Uttar Pradesh Government to fall in line with the Rajasthan Government and Punjab Government, we would be very glad to open outlets in every district headquarter government hospitals as soon as possible.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Hon. Minister has said that if I could personally convince the State Government, then he is ready to open so many outlets in Uttar Pradesh. But I would like to say that if the Government of India is not able to convince the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, how can I convince them?

[Translation]

The hon'ble Minister has said that generic medicines are being sold at half or one-third of the prices of same medicines available in the market. For this, I would like to express my thanks to him. I had asked whether certain proposals pertaining to these types of low-priced medicines have been received from some state governments.

You said that the Jan Aushadi outlets would only be set up with the co-operation of the state governments. Is the Union Government likely to formulate any action plan by which the Jan Aushadi outlets could be set up district wise through the NGOs or other means, in case the state governments are not co-operating the Union Government in setting up of such outlets?

[English]

SHRI SRIKANT JENA: Sir, the hon. Member is very keen about opening of new stores in the State of Uttar Pradesh. We have already written letters, one to the Chief secretary and the other to the Health Minister of Uttar Pradesh. We are yet to get a response. We are trying our best and our officers also are visiting different States. In the State of Assam, very soon, we are opening four to five stores. In the State of Orissa also we would be opening another ten stores. But the point is that for each store the Government of India provides a sum of Rs. 2.5 lakh as a grant to run the store immediately and subsequently. There is also profitability and it is not just a gift to the patients. I will just cite one example which will convince the hon. Member. Analgesic Paracetamol syrup 500 mg, whose Janauadhi price is Rs. 2.12, it is available in the market at Rs. 14/-. It has

the same salt and same composition but just because of the brand name the price is double or treble. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Members that they should try their best in their respective constituencies to find some space within the Government hospitals where such stores can be opened. At the initial stage we are opening the stores mostly in the district Government hospitals. Wherever the State Governments are coming forward we are opening the stores and our target is to cover all the 626 districts in the country. We are planning to open 626 stores immediately provided the State Governments give us the co-operation and also the space inside the district hospital premises.

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI : Sir, general study shows that below poverty line people are getting into a debt trap due to their medical expenses. It is a great initiative by the government of India to start these *Janasoudhi* stores across the country. I would like to compliment the government of India for this.

Sir, the Telangana region, particularly the districts from where I come, namely Nizamabad and Karimnagar, there are over five lakh women who are working as *bidi* workers and they are suffering from diseases like TB and cancer. I would like to know from hon. Minister if he would consider having life saving drugs for diseases like TB and cancer supplied through these stores. Has the WTO comprised the ability of India to produce generic drugs?

Sir, the hon. Minister has explained that it is the endeavour of the Government of open such outlets across the country. The government has an excellent medical intensive programme, namely *Rajiv Arogyashri* but many of these medicines are not covered under this programme and so the poor people are compelled to buy such drugs from outside. The district authorities in the State can assure of some space within Government hospital and in that case would the government consider opening such outlets in the districts of Karimnagar and Nizamabad.

SHRI SRIKANT JENA: We have opened two stores in the State of Andhra Pradesh. We are planning to open in every district. If the State Governments are giving us space inside the district Government hospitals, then we will surely try and open the stores as soon as possible.

Secondly, about making available the drugs for diseases like cancer and TB I would like to submit that we are in touch with those companies who are manufacturing these drugs if they could supply us the drugs to be given through these stores at reasonable and concessional prices. We are in discussion with them. If that is possible, then we can also supply these generic medicines through these *Janasoudhi* stores.

In every backward region there is an insurance scheme for Rs. 30,000. But the medicine cost is nearly 80 per cent of the total patients. If these generic medicines are made available, then they will be getting an insurance benefit amounting to Rs. 60,000. I would like to emphasise on this point and this has been done by the governments of Rajasthan and Punjab. They have categorically asked their doctors to prescribe only generic medicines. If that is possible, then the patients will be motivated and they will go for generic drugs. The efficacy and the content of the drug is the same but only because of the brand name the cost is 300 times more than the medicine cost.

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## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

### Export of Processed Food Items

\*101. SHRI ARJUN MUNDA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of food processing units functioning in the country, State-wise including Jharkhand;

(b) whether any assistance is provided to the food processing units so that they are able to compete in the international market;

(c) if so, the details of the financial assistance provided and utilized by them during the last three years; and

(d) the quantum of export of processed food undertaken by the processing units alongwith the foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Food Processing Industries are set up both in organized and unorganized sectors and as such data on the number of food processing units in the country is not centrally maintained by the Ministry. However, as per competitiveness report on "Enhancing Competitiveness of Indian Manufacturing Industry, March 2009" published by National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council, Government of India, the total number of registered food processing units in the country is 25367. A statement showing State-wise number of registered food processing units in the country, including Jharkhand is enclosed.

(b) and (c) In order to improve the competitiveness of the Indian food processing industries, nationally as well as internationally, the Government has formulated and is implementing several Plan Schemes to provide financial assistance for the Establishment and Modernization of Food Processing Units, Development of Infrastructure, establishing Food Testing Labs, Implementation of Quality Systems such as Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP), Promotion of Research and Development, Capacity Building and Human Resources Development. The Government has taken several fiscal incentive measures such as tax reduction, waiver/reduction of excise duty, reduction of custom duty on specific food items with a view to encourage the growth of Food Processing Industries and make them more competitive. The Ministry has also taken steps to focus on putting in place new institutions and strengthening up of existing institutional mechanisms for human resources development in the food processing sector as well as towards undertaking developmental activities in areas such as grapes, meat and poultry processing. The initiatives of the Ministry includes Establishment of a National Institute of Food Technology, Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM), Setting up of Indian Grape Processing Board, Setting up of National Meat and Poultry Processing Board, Strengthening of Indian Institute of Crop Processing Technology (IICPT) and Strengthening of State Nodal Agencies (SNA).

Besides, the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is also implementing various schemes for promotion of export of agricultural and processed food products with a view to maximize foreign exchange earning through increased export of agro products, to provide better income to the farmers and to create employment opportunities in rural



areas by encouraging value added export of farm produce.

Details of financial assistance provided under the schemes of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries during last three years is given as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Year-wise Financial Assistance Released			
		2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (till date)
1.	Scheme for Infrastructure Development	13.21	14.79	48.28	56.65
2.	Technology Upgradation/Establishment/Modernization of Food Processing Industries	82.19	119.36	96.87	74.69
3.	Quality Assurance, Codex Standards and Research & Development and Promotional Activities	13.99	15.12	17.37	16.40
4.	Human Resource Development	5.96	4.21	5.96	8.75
5.	Strengthening of Institutions	30.05	26.51	52.71	80.67
Total		145.40	179.99	221.19	237.16

(d) As per the information maintained by Agricultural & Processed Food Products Exports Development Authority (APEDA), statement of quantity of processed food exported and foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last three years and current year are as under:

Sl. No.	Year	Quantity (in MT)	Value (in Rs. lakhs)
1.	2006-07	10856706	2103166
2.	2007-08	17404725	3138834
3.	2008-09	14101966	3580562
4.	2009-10 (April-Sept.)	5686372	1630971

**Statement**

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Number of registered Food Processing Units
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6,402
2.	Tamil Nadu	3,736

1	2	3
3.	Maharashtra	2,238
4.	Uttar Pradesh	1,719
5.	Punjab	1,628
6.	Karnataka	1,390
7.	Gujarat	1,307
8.	West Bengal	1,147
9.	Kerala	1,059
10.	Assam	897
11.	Haryana	564
12.	Chhattisgarh	561
13.	Orissa	535
14.	Madhya Pradesh	517
15.	Rajasthan	506
16.	Uttanchal	274

1	2	3
17.	Bihar	191
18.	Jharkhand	108
19.	Delhi	103
20.	Himachal Pradesh	97
21.	Jammu & Kashmir	93
22.	Goa	80
23.	Puducherry	55
24.	Tripura	50
25.	Daman & Diu	28
26.	Chandigarh	27
27.	Nagaland	16
28.	Meghalaya	13
29.	Manipur	12
30.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	10
31.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	4
Total		25,367

[English]

### **Cargo Loading by Railways**

\*106. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed by the Railways for cargo loading alongwith the achievements during the last three years;

(b) whether the demand for bulk cargo transportation like coal and iron ore has increased during the above period; and

(c) if so, the projection for the future in terms of demand, capacity and viability?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) The details of the freight loading targets and loading achieved by Indian Railways during the last three years is as follows:

Year	Freight loading target in million tonnes	Freight loading achieved in million tonnes
2006-07	726	727.75
2007-08	785	793.89
2008-09	848.64	833.39

(b) Yes, Sir. Demand for bulk cargo movement has been consistently increasing during above period. In the period 2006-07 to 2008-09, all commodities showed an increased loading except for Foodgrains and Raw Materials to Steel Plants. This excludes Iron ore. Loading of Iron ore and loading of commodities in the group "Balance Other Goods" showed a decline only in the period Oct 2008-January, 2009 due to effects of economic slowdown.

(c) Projected freight loading for bulk cargo by the end of the Eleventh Plan is 1020 million tonnes (MT). By the year 2020, total originating freight traffic on Indian Railways is expected to be at a level of 1850MT to 2165MT, depending on the economic growth. It is expected that loading of coal would be at a level of 700MT and Iron ore would be at a level of 225 MT by the year 2020. Development of capacity i.e. appropriate infrastructure to meet projected traffic demand is an ongoing process. Works in key growths areas have been sanctioned and are going on. Freight services would be taken to a higher trajectory by segregation of freight and passenger corridors with the construction of Dedicated Freight Corridors bolstered with increased production/acquisition of better designed and higher capacity rolling stock thus meeting future requirements.

### **Special Courts for Protection of Investors**

\*107 SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:  
SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up special courts for taking up the class-action suit cases for the protection of the interests of the investors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of cases which fall in this category; and

(d) the manner in which it is expected to help the interests of the investors?

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. There is no proposal for setting up special courts for taking up the class-action suits.

(b) to (d) Do not arise

#### **Cash Subsidy to Oil PSUs.**

\*108 SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:  
SHRI SHARAD YADAV:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide cash subsidy to the oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) to compensate their losses for selling fuel at below market prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the projected losses of these oil PSUs are likely to offset by the proposed cash subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (c) During the year 2009-10 (April-December 2009), the public sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) namely IOCL, BPCL and HPCL have incurred under-recoveries of Rs. 29,353 crore on the sale of Petrol, Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG. The product-wise details are as follows:

#### *Under-recoveries on Sensitive Products*

(Rs. crore)	
Product	April-December 2009
1	2
Petrol	3,299
Desel	5,065

1	2
Total	8,364
PDS Kerosene	12,560
Domestic LPG	8,429
Total	20,989
Grand Total	29,353

The under-recoveries on Petrol and Diesel have been met by the upstream oil PSUs namely ONGC, OIL and GAIL. These upstream PSUs have contributed Rs. 8,364 crore through price discounts on crude oil and products to the OMCs.

For the under-recoveries on PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas had approached the Ministry of Finance for assistance of Rs. 20,989 crore. The Ministry of Finance has confirmed a cash assistance of Rs. 12,000 crore as the share of the Government towards the under-recoveries.

The total under-recovery burden for the year 2009-10 is projected to be Rs. 45,401 crore. While the under-recoveries of Petrol and Diesel will be compensated by the upstream oil PSUs, for the full compensation of under-recoveries on PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas is in constant touch with the Ministry of Finance.

[Translation]

#### **Welfare of Minorities**

\*109. SHRI PAKAURI LAL: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes/programmes under implementation for the upliftment of minorities;

(b) the amount released for the purpose during the current financial year, scheme-wise

(c) whether adequate publicity and awareness campaign has been launched for these schemes; 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) The Ministry of Minority Affairs implements the following schemes for the upliftment of minorities:

- (i) Pre-matric scholarship scheme.
  - (ii) Post-matric scholarship scheme.
  - (iii) Free coaching and allied scheme.
  - (iv) Merit-cum-means scholarship scheme.
  - (v) Multi-sectoral Development Programme.
  - (vi) Equity contribution to National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC)
  - (vii) Release of corpus fund to Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF)
  - (viii) Maulana Azad National Fellowship for minority students,
  - (ix) Scheme for leadership development of minority women,
  - (x) Computerization of records of state Wakf Boards.
- (b) The scheme-wise amount released during 2009-10, up to 31.12.2009, is given below:
- (i) Pre-matric scholarship scheme-Rs. 128.94 crore
  - (ii) Post-matric scholarship scheme-Rs. 99.42 crore
  - (iii) Free coaching and allied scheme-Rs. 7.17 crore
  - (iv) Merit-cum-means scholarship scheme-Rs.84.65 crore
  - (v) Multi-sectoral Development Programme- Rs. 513.36 crore
  - (vi) Equity Contribution to National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation-Rs.125 crore
  - (vii) Release of corpus fund to Maulana Azad Education Foundation - Rs. 115 crore

Following three new schemes were launched during 2009-10:

- (i) Maulana Azad National Fellowship for minority students Rs. 15 crore outlay in 2009-10.
  - (ii) Scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women Rs. 8 crore outlay in 2009-10.
  - (iii) Computerization of Records of State Wakf Boards-Rs. 10 crore outlay in 2009-10.
- (c) Yes, Madam.

(d) The Government has placed the details of the schemes, including progress o implementation, on the web-site of the Ministry of Minority Affair ([www.minorityaffairs.gov.in](http://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in)) for information. Schemes are also advertised periodically throug advertisements in newspapers, television and radio. During financial year 2009-10, upt 31.12.2009, print advertisements were published all over the country in 147 English, 447 Hindi 261 Urdu and 303 vernacular languages newspapers. Audio-visual campaign is carried out throug Ail India Radio and Doordarshan (Prasar Bharti). The schemes of this Ministry are also advertise throug pamphlets and brochures.

[English]

#### **Augmentation of Capacity of Oil Refineries**

\*110. SHRI SONAWANE PRATAP NARAYAN  
RAO:  
SHRI PRADEEP MANJHI:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to expand the capacity of various refineries particularly Holdia and Panipat refineries;

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

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred on such expansion work, refinery-wise;

(d) whether the Government has fixed any targets for completion of such expansion; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to expedite the completion of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (c) During the XIth Five Year Plan, the Public Sector oil companies (including

their joint ventures) have proposed to expand their refining capacity from the existing 109.586 MMTPA to 153.832 MMTPA as per details given in the enclosed statement. This includes the Haldia and Panipat refineries of Indian Oil Corporation Limited. The details regarding Haldia and Panipat refineries are as under:

Sl.No.	Refinery	Existing capacity (MMTPA)* planned	Expansion in capacity (MMTPA)*	Approximate anticipated expenditure (Rs. in Crore)
1.	Haldia	6.00	1.50	2869
2.	Panipat	12.00	3.00	1008

\*Million Metric Tonne Per Annum

(d) and (e) The concerned Public Sector oil companies have fixed the target dates for completion of the expansion projects which are March, 2010 for Haldia Refinery expansion and August, 2010 for Panipat

Refinery expansion. The Government has been reviewing the progress of the projects periodically with appropriate intervention, whenever necessary, to expedite the projects.

### **Statement**

#### *Refinery-wise Capacity Addition in XIth Plan*

Sl.No.	Name of the Company	Capacity as on 1.3.10 (MMTPA)	Expansion in XIth Plan (MMTPA)	Total Capacity After expansion (MMTPA)	Anticipated expenditure on expansion (Rs. in Crore)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Public Sector (including their Joint Ventures)					
1.	Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Noonamati, Guwahati	1.00	-	1.00	-
2.	Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Begusarai, Barauni	6.00	-	6.00	-
3.	Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Koyali, Vadodara	13.70	-	13.70	-
4.	Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Haldia	6.00	1.50	7.50	2869.00
5.	Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Mathura	8.00	-	8.00	-
6.	Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Digboi	0.65	-	0.65	-
7.	Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Panipat	12.00	3.00	15.00	1008.00
8.	Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Bangaigaon	2.35	-	2.35	-
9.	Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Paradeep	-	15.00	15.00	29,777.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Chembur, Mumbai	5.50	2.40	7.90	295.46
11.	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Visakhapatnam	7.50	2.50	10.00	280.00
12.	HPCL-Mittal Energy Ltd., Bathinad- (a joint venture)		9.00	9.00	18919.00
13.	Bharat Petroleum corporation Limited, Chembur, Mumbai	12.00	-	12.00	-
14.	Bharat Petroleum corporation Limited, Ernakulam, Kochi	9.50	-	9.50	-
15.	Bharat Oman Refineries Limited, Bina (a joint venture)	-	6.00	6.00	11,397.00
16.	Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited, Manali, Chennai	9.50	1.60	11.10	500.41
17.	Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited, Nagapattinam	1.00	-	1.00	-
18.	Namaligarh Refinery Limited, Numaligarh	3.00	-	3.00	-
19.	Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd., Mangalore	11.82	3.18	15.00	12,412.00
20.	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited, Tatipaka	0.066	0.066	0.132	43.85
<b>Total</b>		<b>109.586</b>	<b>44.246</b>	<b>153.832</b>	<b>77501.72</b>

### Declaration of Assets and Liabilities by Judges

\*111. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:  
CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH:

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

(a) whether all the High Courts are following the May, 1997 resolution of the Supreme Court on the voluntary declaration of assets and liabilities by the Judges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) The following Resolution was adopted in the Full Court Meeting of the Supreme Court of India on May 7, 1997:

“RESOLVED FURTHER THAT every Judge should make a declaration of all his/her assets in the form of real estate or investments (held by him/her own name or in the name of his/her spouse or any person dependent him/her) within a reasonable time of assuming office and in the case of sitting Judges within a reasonable time of adoption of this Resolution and thereafter whenever any acquisition of a substantial nature is made, it shall be disclosed within a reasonable time. The declaration so made should be to the Chief Justice of the

Court. The Chief Justice should make a similar declaration for the purpose of the record. The declaration made by the Judges or the Chief Justice, as the case may be, shall be confidential.”

Since the Judges are expected, as per the above Resolution, to declare their assets to the respective Chief Justices, the relevant information is also to be maintained by the Chief Justices. The Government has no role to play in this “in-house” mechanism of the judiciary.

The Government is considering to give statutory cover to the above “in-house” mechanism of the higher judiciary.

[Translation]

#### **Monitoring Committee for Vanishing Companies**

\*112. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH:  
SHRI BAIDYANATH PRASAD MAHATO:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central Coordination and Monitoring Committee has been constituted to investigate the issues relating to the vanishing companies and their promoters and to monitor the progress of action taken against them;

(b) if so, the number of such companies and their promoters against whom the action has been taken so far; and

(c) the amount recovered from them till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) A Coordination and Monitoring Committee (CMC), co- chaired by Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Chairman, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has been set up to look into issues relating to companies that had come out with public issues and vanished and to monitor the progress of action taken against such vanishing companies and their promoters. Specific criteria have been adopted by CMC for identification of such vanishing companies.

(b) and (c) Out of the companies that came out with Initial Public Offer (IPO) during 1992 to 2005, a total of 238 companies were identified as vanishing companies. With the continuous efforts of the Ministry/CMC, 117 companies have been traced back, resulting in the number of vanishing companies being reduced to 121. Prosecutions have been filed against 112 vanishing companies and their promoters/directors under various provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 and First Information Reports (FIRs) have also been filed against Promoters/ Directors of 112 vanishing companies under Indian Penal Code (IPC). 35 directors were arrested and later released on bail. The field offices are pursuing the prosecution cases in the respective courts.

#### **Fire at IOC Fuel Depot at Jaipur**

\*113. SHRI JAYWANT GANGARAM AWALE:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

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

(a) whether the seven member panel set up by the Union Government to investigate the blaze at Indian Oil Corporation fuel storage depot at Jaipur has submitted its report to the Government;

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

(c) the follow up action taken/being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (c) The inquiry committee set up by this Ministry under the chairmanship of Shri MB. Lal, Technical Member (Petroleum and Natural Gas), Appellate Tribunal for Electricity and Ex-Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) to probe the incident of fire at IOC oil depot in Jaipur has submitted its report on 29.1.2010. The report has been put in the public domain and is available on the website of Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) “<http://oisd.nic.in>”. The Committee, in its report, has determined the causes and critical factors responsible for this incident and has recommended short term as well as long term measures for preventing such incidents. The report of the Committee is under consideration of the Government.

*[English]***Multi Sectoral Development Programme**

\*114 SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:  
SHRI MOHAMMED E.T. BASHEER:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals received, approved and pending under the Multi Sectoral Development Programme for the minorities in the current year, State-wise;

(b) the details of the funds sanctioned for the programmed in the current year, State-wise;

(c) the time by which the pending proposals will be processed;

(d) whether the Government has conducted any review of implementation of the Programme so far; and

(e) if so, 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) to (c) The details of proposals under Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) for minority concentration districts received from the State Governments/UT administration and approved by the Central Government, funds sanctioned and released in 2008-09 and 2009-10 State-wise, are given in the enclosed statement. The proposals received from the State Governments/UT administration are processed expeditiously and no proposal is pending.

(d) and (e) The scheme of MsDP has a monitoring mechanism for regular review at different levels in district, State/UT and Centre. The programme is reviewed and monitored periodically by an Oversight Committee at the Centre along with representatives of the State Governments/UT administration and this has improved the pace of implementation of the programme.

**Statement**

*State/UT wise details of proposals/district plans approved, projects approved with number of units, funds sanctioned and released under Multi sectoral Development Programme*

Sl.No.	State/UT	No. of proposals/ District plans received and approved	Approved projects with number of units in brackets	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakh)			Amount released in (Rs. in lakh)		
				2008-09	2009-10	Total	2008-09	2009-10	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1.	Uttar Pradesh	21	IAY houses (74307), AWC (8191), Health sector (852), Drinking Water (2346), ACRs (331), School buildings (7) and ITI buildings (3)	36117.075	15546.675	51663.75	12442.11	22293.03	34735.14
2.	West Bengal	12	IAY Houses (20735), AWC (4440), Health sector (309), Drinking Water (4008), ACRs (2291), School buildings (25), Teaching aids (40), Laboratory equipment (15) and Solar lanterns (5000)	8655.17	19210.82	27865.99	4327.59	13502.31	17829.90
3.	Haryana	2	IAY houses (2000), AWC (71), Health sector (6), ACRs(128) and School buildings (7)	3613.57	243	3856.57	1401.23	450.45	1851.68



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
4.	Assam	11	IAY houses (65310), AWC (1305), Health sector (79), Drinking Water (4579), ACRs (1402) and Solar lanterns/lights (9905)	9298.82	21291.63	30590.33	4226.65	15173.75	19400.4
5.	Manipur	6	IAY houses (5940), AWC (75), Health sector (152), Drinking Water (670), School buildings (362), ITI Building (1) and Integrated water shed development programme (6000 hectare)	7186.53	4769.1	11955.63	3011.78	5717.38	8729.16
6.	Bihar	7	IAY houses (12256), AWC (4014), Health sector (145), Drinking Water (1044), ACRs(641), School buildings (134), Laboratory equipment (19), Solar lanterns (385) and Toilet and drinking water supply scheme (279)	10304.66	10902.33	21206.99	1675.21	8928.27	10603.48
7.	Meghalaya	1	IAY houses (5000), Drinking Water (1301) and ACRs(50)	2157.67	0.00	2157.67	0.00	1078.84	1078.84
8.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	AWC (35) and ITI buiding (1)	229.95	995.38	1225.33	0.00	109.14	109.14
9.	Jharkhand	3	IAY houses (9215), AWC (1205) and Health sector (122)	4587.78	4163.96	8751.74	0	4375.88	4375.88
10.	Orissa	1	IAY houses (5740), AWC (151), Health sector (15) and ACRs (11)	563.18	1506.75	2069.93	0.00	1034.98	1034.98
11.	Kerala	1	Health sector (10)	0.00	153.00	153.00	0.00	76.50	76.50
12.	Kranataka	2	IAY houses (1667), AWC (150), Helath sector (15) and ACRs (50)	0.00	1124.14	1124.14	0.00	0.00	580.18
13.	Maharastra	4	IAY house (10157) and AWC (596)	0	4454.21	4454.21	0	2227.11	2227.11
14.	Mizoram	2	IAY houses (890), AWC (55), Health sector (22), ACRs (23) and School buildings (4)	0	821.13	821.13	0	397.4	397.4

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15. Jammu and Kashmir	1	AWC (40), Drinking Water (82) and ACRs (34)		0.00	1186.79	1186.79	0.00	593.37	593.37
16. Uttarakhand	2	AWC (412)		0.00	1236.00	1236.00	0.00	625.85	625.85
Grand Total				82714.41	87604.80	170319.20	27084.57	77164.44	104249.01

Note: AWC - Angnwadi centre  
IAY - Indira Awas Yojana  
ACRs - Additional Class Rooms  
ITI - Industrial Training Institute

### Public Interest Litigation

\*115. PROF. RANJAN PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of public Interest Litigations (PILs) filed in the country during the last year, High Court-wise;

(b) whether the Government is aware that there is gross abuse of this instrument in the recent past;

(c) If so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) The data regarding the number of Public Interest Litigations filed in the Courts is not maintained by the Department of Justice as the higher judiciary. No incident of gross abuse of the instrument has come to the notice of the Government.

The Jurisdiction as to Public Interest Litegations has ben exercised by the Courts within their jurisdiction which has been conferred by the Constitution. The Courts have been exercissing their jurisdiction and discretion in selecting cases which should be heard by them in detail. The Courts have also laid ceratin parameters to siever worthy PILs from Publicity/Private/Pise/Political Interest Litigations. In Dr. B.K. Subbarao Vs K. Parasaran 1996 (7) JT 265, the Court cautioned "No litigant has a right to unlimited drought on the Court time and public money in order to get his affairs settled in the manner *as he*

*wishes*. Easy access to justice should not be misused as a licence to file misconceived and frivolous petitions".

### Purchase of Aircraft

\*116 SHRI M.B.RAJESH:  
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Aviation Company of India Limited (NACIL) has purchased a large number of aircraft in 2006 at a time when it was running at a loss and the civil aviation industry was going through a period of global recession;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) The erstwhile Air India Limited and Air India Charters Limited had placed purchase orders with Boeing Airplane Company for 50 aircraft and 18 aircraft respectively in 2005. The erstwhile Indian Airlines Limited has placed purchase order with airbus Industrie for 43 aircraft in 2006. The deliveries of these aircraft commenced from October, 2006 and till date 73 aircraft have been delivered. The erstwhile Air India and erstwhile Indian Airlines had posted profit of Rs.12.43 crores and Rs.63.00 crores respectively during 2005-07. The purchase of aircraft was based on market conditions and the growth rate prevailing at that time. Recession started impacting the airline industry from 2008 onwards.

[Translation]

### Fast Track and Village Courts

\*117. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases settled by the fast track courts and village courts during the last three years and the number of cases pending as on date;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up more courts and appoint additional Judges in the existing courts in order to expedite settlement of the pending cases;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to clear the pending cases in a time-bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) As per the information received from the State Governments/Registries of the High Courts, 12,41,793 cases have been disposed off by the Fast Track Courts during the last three years. As per the latest reports received, 6,64,081 cases were pending in the Fast Track Courts.

The Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 has been notified and brought into force on 02nd October, 2009 to provide for the establishment of the Gram Nyayalayas at the grass root level for the purpose of providing speedy and inexpensive access to justice to the citizens at their door steps. More than 5,000 Gram Nyayalayas are expected to be set-up across the country. As the States are in the process of setting up the Gram Nyayalayas, reports on disposal and pendency of cases in Gram Nyayalayas have not been received.

(d) The following steps have been taken to facilitate speedy disposal of cases in courts:

- (1) The strength of Judges in Supreme Court and the High Courts has been increased.
- (2) Introduction of some legislative measures for improvement in judicial procedure and for expediting disposal of civil and criminal cases in courts. The Criminal Procedure

Code has been amended and the concept of 'Plea-Bargaining' has been introduced.

- (3) Alternative modes of disposal including mediation, conciliation and arbitration have been encouraged.
- (4) 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.
- (5) Steps have also been taken for modernization of the judicial infrastructure through computerization of courts.
- (6) Capacity building of judges has been given a priority through the National Judicial Academy.
- (7) Several reform measures for speeding up the disposal of cases such as operations of shift courts have been recommended by the 13th Finance Commission.

[English]

### Closed Textile Mills

\*118 SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY:  
SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the closed textile mills including NTC mills in country, State-wise/UT-wise;
- (b) the reasons for the closure of these mills;
- (c) the details of the assets and liabilities of each of these closed mills;
- (d) whether any proposal is pending with the government regarding the sale and commercial use of these mills;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the time by which these proposals are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) The State-wise list of 408 Textiles units (non Small scale Industries) in private sector, closed as on 31.12.2009 is given in the enclosed statement-I. In addition, the names of 77 mills of National Textile Corporation (NTC) which have also been closed are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(b) The reasons for closure of private textile mills are financial problem, labour problem and lock-out as indicated in the enclosed statement-I. 77 unviable NTC mills have been closed under Industrial Disputes (I.D.) Act in accordance with the Revival Scheme approved by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR).

(c) Details of assets and liabilities of only closed NTC mills are available with this Ministry and are given in the enclosed statement - II.

(d) to (f) Do not arise in respect of closed private textile mills. As regards NTC mills, sale of surplus land is the main source of funding for the revival of viable mills as per revival scheme approved by the BIFR. Sale of such surplus land, depending upon requirement of funds for revival plan, is done through transparent open tender procedure and the sales proceeds are used for modernization of mills and for giving benefits under Modified Voluntary Retirement Scheme to the surplus employees.

**Statement I**

Sl.No.	Name of mills and State	Reason for closure
1	2	3

**ANDHRA PRADESH**

1.	The Andhra Co-op. Spg. Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
2.	The Chirla Co-operative Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
3.	Karimnagar Coop. Spg. Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
4.	Sathavahana Cotton Growers Coop. Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
5.	The Nandyal Co-op. Spg. Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
6.	The Hemalatha Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
7.	The Rayalaseema Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
8.	Shree Ramchandra Spg. Mills	Financial Problem
9.	Sri Veera Venkatalakshmi Textiles (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
10.	G.N. Products (P) Ltd. (Adoni Spg. and Wvg. Co.) Kotharia Ind Corpn.	Financial Problem
11.	Andhra Cotton Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
12.	Saicharan Cottons (P) Ltd. (Anusuya Spinners Ltd.)	Financial Problem
13.	Shri Murlai Spinning Mills Ltd. (Venkatachalapathi Mills Ltd.)	Labour Problem
14.	Sarvaraya Textiles Ltd.	Labour Problem
15.	Penguin Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
16.	VSM Spinning Mills Pvt. Ltd. (Venkataraya Spg. Mills Pvt. Ltd.)	Financial Problem

1	2	3
17.	Leena Textiles Ltd.	Labour Problem
18.	Omkareshwara Spinning Mills (P) Ltd. (Quality Spg. and Weav. Pvt. Ltd.)	Financial Problem
19.	Navya Spinning Mills Ltd. (EOU)	Financial Problem
20.	Sri Nagaratnamma Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
21.	Kumars Cotex Ltd (EOU)	Financial Problem
22.	Srinivasa Spg. Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
23.	Shree Srinivasa Spg. Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
24.	Sudha Sewing Threads Ltd.	Financial Problem
25.	Sree Kalyana Shrinivasa Tex. Ltd.	Financial Problem
26.	Samrat Spinners Ltd. EUO (Sree Satyam Spg. and Wvg. Mills Ltd. )	Financial Problem
27.	Shri Maruthi Textiles Ltd.	Labour Problem
28.	Parkings Textiles (P) Ltd.	Labour Problem
29.	Feno Fiber Ltd.	Financial Problem
30.	S.L.S. Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
31.	Sirilaxmi Fibres Ltd.	Financial Problem
32.	Dewan Bahadur Ramgopal Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
<b>ASSAM</b>		
1.	Assam Co-operative Spinning Mills	Financial Problem
2.	Assam Cotton Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
3.	Assam Polytex	Financial Problem
4.	Sahid Kusal Kanwar Sutakal Ltd.	Financial Problem
5.	Assam Syntex Ltd. - No 2	Financial Problem
6.	Assam Polyester Co-operative Society Ltd.	Financial Problem
7.	Assam State Textile Corporation Ltd.	
<b>BIHAR</b>		
1.	Bhagalpur Co-op. Spg. Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
2.	Pandaul Co-op. Spg. Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem

1	2	3
3.	Siwan Co-op. Spg Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
4.	Dumaraon Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
<b>GUJARAT</b>		
1.	Shreenath Spinners Ltd.	Financial Problem
2.	Star of Gujarat Textiles Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
3.	Hathising Mfg. Co. Ltd.	Financial Problem
4.	Neptune Spin. Fab. Ltd.	Financial Problem
5.	The Ahmedabad Kaiser-I-Hind Mills. Co. Ltd.	Financial Problem
6.	Ahmedabad Mfg. Calico Ptg. Co. Ltd.	Financial Problem
7.	Nav-Jyoti Investment and Dealers Ltd.	Financial Problem
8.	Maheshwari Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
9.	Continental Textiles Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
10.	The Raipur Manufacturing Comany Ltd.	Financial Problem
11.	Shri Ambica Mills Ltd. No. 1	Financial Problem
12.	Manjushri Textiles	Financial Problem
13.	Manechchowak and Ahmedabad Mfg. Co. Ltd.	Financial Problem
14.	Monogram Mills Co. Ltd.	Financial Problem
15.	Ahmedabad Cotton Mills	Financial Problem
16.	New Swadeshi Mills	Financial Problem
17.	Sarangpur Cotton Manufacturing Co.	Financial Problem
18.	Silver Cotton Mills	Financial Problem
19.	Sahayog Textiles	Financial Problem
20.	Jagruti Synthetics Ltd.	Financial Problem
21.	Kamadgiri Synti. Ltd.	Financial Problem
22.	The Mahendra Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
23.	Aryaman Spinners (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
24.	Arunoday Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem

1	2	3
25.	Asarwa Mills (Unit of Bengal Tea and Fabrics Ltd.)	Lock Out
26.	Broach Textiles Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
27.	Madhu Textiles Ahmedabad Ltd.	Labour Problem
28.	Niranjan Mills (A Divn. of Piramal Spg. and Wvg. Mills Ltd.)	Financial Problem
29.	Standard Industries Ltd. (Surat Cotton Unit)	Financial Problem
30.	Navsari Cotton and Silk Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
31.	Priyalaxmi Mills (Unit of G.S.T.C. Ltd.)	Financial Problem
32.	Kanti Cotton Mills (A Unit of G.S.T.C. Ltd.)	Financial Problem
33.	New Jehangir Vakil Mills (Unit of G.S.T.C. Ltd.)	Financial Problem
34.	Shree Shubhlaxmi Mills	Financial Problem
<b>HARYANA</b>		
1.	B.R.D. Textiles Ltd. (Shri Baba Rupadas Spt. Mills (P) Ltd.)	Financial Problem
2.	Jai Laxmi Spinning Mills	Financial Problem
3.	K.K. Spinners Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
4.	Matta Yarn	Financial Problem
5.	S.K. Cotex Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
6.	Sheetal Spinning Mills (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
7.	Moudgil Fibres Ltd.	Financial Problem
8.	Aggarsain spinners Ltd.	Financial Problem
9.	Radhik Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
10.	Jind Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
11.	Mittal Cot-Fab (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
12.	A.V. Cottex Ltd.	Financial Problem
13.	Setia Spinning Mills	Financial Problem
14.	Garg Psinning Mills	Financial Problem
15.	Sunheri Cotton Spinners (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
16.	Padam Cotton Yarns Ltd.	Financial Problem

1	2	3
17.	Popular Spinners (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
18.	Shri Ganesh Spinners	Financial Problem
19.	Sahil Industries (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
20.	S.R. Cottex (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
21.	Celeste International Unit No. 2	Financial Problem
22.	Mahalakshmi Cotspin Ltd. (Parshva Exports Ltd.)	Financial Problem
23.	Radhika Fibres India Ltd.	Financial Problem
24.	Laxmi Fibre (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
25.	Shree Jagdamba Cotex Ltd.	Financial Problem
26.	K.C. Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
27.	Rama Fibres Ltd.	Financial Problem
28.	East India Syntex Ltd.	Financial Problem
29.	Gee Kay Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
30.	Varsha Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
31.	Mahalakshmi Spinners Ltd.	Financial Problem
32.	Raj Fibres (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
33.	Shree Shyam Cotspin Ltd. (Shree Shyam Textile Ltd.)	Financial Problem
34.	Celeste International Ltd. (Former Orde Textiles Ltd.) (EOU)	Financial Problem

**JAMMU AND KASHMIR**

1.	Hindustan electro Graphite Ltd. (Textile Div.)	Financial Problem
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**KARNATAKA**

1.	Sri Venkatesh Co-op Textile Mill	Financial Problem
2.	The Bagalkot Coop. Spinning Mill Ltd.	Labour Problem
3.	The Co-operative Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
4.	The Belgaum Co-operative Cotton Spinning Ltd.	Financial Problem
5.	Malaprabha Co-operative Cotton Spinning Mill Limited	Financial Problem
6.	Tungabhadra Farmers Co-op. spg. Mill Ltd.	Labour Problem



1	2	3
7.	Rayots Textiles and Oils (P) Ltd.	Lock Out
8.	Sai Lakshmi Ind. Pvt. Ltd (EOU)	Financial Problem
9.	Lalji Manekji Ind. Ltd.	Financial Problem
10.	Chandra Spg. and Wvg. Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
11.	Nandi Hasbi Textile Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
12.	Sree Siddheswara Textile Mills (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
13.	Sree Jayalakshmi Textiles	Financial Problem
14.	Davangere Cotton Mills	Labour Problem
15.	Chigateri Mills	Financial Problem
16.	Beclay Spg. and Wvg. Co. Ltd.	Financial Problem
17.	Dodballapur Spinning Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
18.	Shankar Textile Mill	Financial Problem
19.	Sridevi Textiles Pvt. Ltd.	Labour Problem
20.	Maladinni Yarn (P) Ltd.	Lock Out
21.	Mahadev Textile Mills	Financial Problem
22.	Binny Ltd. (Bangalore Woollen Cotton and Silk Mills)	Financial Problem
23.	T.R. Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
24.	Ramkumar Mills Pvt. Ltd. (Ramkumar Mills)	Financial Problem
25.	Gogte Textiles Ltd. EOU	Financial Problem

**KERALA**

1.	Balaji Modern Spinners Pvt. Ltd.	Labour Problem
2.	Bhanikudam Bhagawati Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
3.	Sreela Spinners Ltd.	Financial Problem
4.	Sri Asoka Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
5.	Vanajaa Textiles Ltd.	Labour Problem
6.	Madras Spinners Ltd.	Labour Problem
7.	Trivandrum Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
8.	Thiruvepathi Mills (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem

1	2	3
9.	Kerala Spinners Limited	Labour Problem
10.	Thi Western India Cottons Ltd.	Financial Problem
11.	Chakolas Spg. and Wev. Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
<b>MADHYA PRADESH</b>		
1.	Kowa Spinning Ltd.	Financial Problem
2.	Dhar Spinners (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
3.	Maya Spinners Ltd. Unit No. IIK (EOU)	Financial Problem
4.	Nimar Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
5.	Bharat Commerce and Industries Ltd.	Financial Problem
6.	Hope Textiles	Financial Problem
7.	Hope Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
8.	Hind Syntex Ltd.	Financial Problem
9.	Binod Mills Co. Ltd.	Financial Problem
10.	Bimal Mills	Financial Problem
11.	Gangwal Udyog	Financial Problem
12.	Hukumchand Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
13.	Shree Sajjan Mills Ltd. (M.P. State Textile Corp. Ltd.)	Financial Problem
<b>MAHARASHTRA</b>		
1.	The Modern Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
2.	The Dawn Mills Co. Ltd.	Financial Problem
3.	The Bombay Dyeing and Mfg. Co. Ltd. (Spring Mills)	Financial Problem
4.	Shreeniwas Cotton Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
5.	The Simplex Mills	Financial Problem
6.	Western India Spg. and Mfg. Mills (UAP)	Financial Problem
7.	Agashiv Shetkari Vinkari Sahkari Soot Girni Ltd.	Financial Problem
8.	Baramati Co-operative Spinning Mill Ltd.	Financial Problem
9.	Jawahar Shetkari Sahakari Roto Soot Girni Ltd.	Financial Problem
10.	Shri Markandey Hatmag Vinkar Sah Soot Girani Niyamit	Financial Problem

1	2	3
11.	The Nagpur Vinkar Sahakari Sut Girni Maryadit	Financial Problem
12.	Solapur Vinkar Sahakari Soot Girani Niyamit	Financial Problem
13.	Vishwa Bharati Spg and Wvg. Coop. socy. Ltd.	Financial Problem
14.	The Maharashtra Co-operative Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
15.	The Nanded Sahakari Soot Girminary Adit	Financial Problem
16.	Shrirampur Taluka Kapus Utpadak Sahsoot Girni Maryadit	Financial Problem
17.	Jawahar Sahakari Kapus Utpadak Soot Girni Maryadit	Financial Problem
18.	Jalgaon Kapas Utpadak Sah Soot Girni Ltd.	Labour Problem
19.	Yeshwant Sahakari Soot Girani Niyamit	Financial Problem
20.	Yeshwant Sahakari Soot Girani Niyamkit	Labour Problem
21.	Prabhawati Sah Soot Girni Marayadit	Financial Problem
22.	Sanjay Gandhi Kapus Utpadak	Financial Problem
23.	Rajarambapu Co-op Spinning Mills Ltd. (EOU)	Financial Problem
24.	Ratnagiri Co-op Spinning Mills Ltd. (EOU)	Financial Problem
25.	Ambient Spintex Ltd.	Financial Problem
26.	Vijay Mills (Unit of M.S.T.C.)	Financial Problem
27.	Shree Balaji Spinning and Weaving Mills	Financial Problem
28.	Narsinggirji Mills	Financial Problem
29.	The Pratap Spg. Wvg. and Mfg. Co. Ltd.	Financial Problem
30.	Empress Mills (central India Spg. and Wvg. and Mfg. Co. Ltd.)	Financial Problem
31.	Pulgaon Cotton Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
32.	Devagiri Textile Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem

**ORISSA**

1.	Gopinath Weavers Co-op Spg. Mills	Financial Problem
2.	The Orissa Weavers Co-operative Spg. Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
3.	Kalinga Weavers Co-operative Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
4.	Utkal Weavers Coop Spg. Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem

1	2	3
5.	Jaganath Weavers Coop Spg. Mills	Financial Problem
6.	Shree Sarala Weavers Co-op Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
7.	Akhandalmani Spinners and Exporters Ltd.	Financial Problem
8.	Baikuntha Cotton Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Lock Out
9.	Orissa Spinning Mills Ltd.	Labour Problem
10.	Baripada Spinning Mills	Financial Problem
11.	Lingnraj Textiles Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
12.	Bhaskar Textile Mills	Financial Problem
13.	Sonepur Spinning Mill	Financial Problem
14.	Orissa Textile Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem

**PUNJAB**

1.	The Abohar Co-operative Cotton Mktg. and Spg. Mills Ltd.	
2.	The Mansa Co-operative Spinning Mills Ltd.	Labour Problem
3.	The Goindwal Co-operative Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
4.	Ganpati Cotspin Ltd.	Financial Problem
5.	Arihant Cotsyn Ltd.	Financial Problem
6.	Treveny Spinning Mills (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
7.	Accord Cotsyn Ltd.	Financial Problem
8.	Bharat Commerce and Industries Ltd.	Financial Problem
9.	Punjab Spinning and Weaving Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
10.	Arihant Cotsyn Ltd. EOU	Financial Problem
11.	A.P. Enzymes (India) Ltd.	Financial Problem

**RAJASTHAN**

1.	Simra Industries (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
2.	Bhaval Synthetics (I) Ltd.	Financial Problem
3.	M. V. Cotspin Ltd.	Financial Problem
4.	Reflex Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
5.	Shree Sakaria Spinners Ltd.	Financial Problem

1	2	3
6.	The Krishna Mills Ltd.	Labour Problem
7.	Jaipur Spg. and Wvg. Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
8.	Podar Spg. Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
9.	Bhilwara Spg. Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
10.	Derby Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
11.	Modern Threads (India) Ltd.	Financial Problem
12.	Jaipur Syntex Ltd.	Lock Out
13.	Sagar Spg. Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
14.	Aditya Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
15.	Shree Shiva Spinners Ltd.	Financial Problem
16.	Modern Syntex (India) Ltd.	Financial Problem
17.	Shruti Synthetics Ltd.	Labour Problem
18.	Super Syncotex (India) Ltd.	Financial Problem
19.	Modern Polyester Yarn (EOU) (Unit of Modern Threads (I) Ltd.)	Financial Problem
20.	Saraf Synthetics (Raj) Ltd.	Financial Problem
21.	JCT Ltd.	Labour Problem
22.	The Mewar Textile Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem

**TAMIL NADU**

1.	The Erode District Co-op. Spg. Mills Ltd. (Periyar Dist.)	Financial Problem
2.	Chandra Textiles Ltd. (Udamalpet Unit)	Financial Problem
3.	Sri Muthukumaran Cotton Mills (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
4.	Amutha Mills (P) Ltd.	Labour Problem
5.	Enviro Clean Systems Ltd. (Fibre Division)	Financial Problem
6.	Coimbatore Popular Spinning Mills Ltd. Unit-II	Financial Problem
7.	Gnanambikai Mills Ltd B-Unit	Financial Problem
8.	Sree Niveditha Textiles (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
9.	Vidhya Lakshmi Mills (Unit of Sri Sharda Parameshwari Tex)	Financial Problem
10.	K.V.S. Spinners (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem

1	2	3
11.	Rajam Textile Mills Ltd. (Vangothai Textile Mills Ltd.)	Financial Problem
12.	UMV Industries Ltd. (Textiles Division)	Financial Problem
13.	Ganesh Spinners	Financial Problem
14.	Sri Vigneswara Textiles (Formerly B.P.L. Spinners)	Financial Problem
15.	Nangallar Textiles Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
16.	The Coimbatore Pioneer Mills Ltd. (Unit A)	Financial Problem
17.	The Kasthuri Mills Ltd.	Labour Problem
18.	Rajanarayan Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
19.	Kwality Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
20.	The Coimbatore Pioneer Mills Ltd. B-Unit	Financial Problem
21.	Prashanth Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
22.	Sarguna Textiles (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
23.	Coimbatore Popular Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
24.	Swarnambigai Textiles	Financial Problem
25.	The Krishna Mills (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
26.	K. Sivasubramaniam Spinners Pvt. Ltd.	Labour Problem
27.	Suryasree Spinning Mills (P) Ltd. (Surya Spg. Mills (P) Ltd.)	Lock Out
28.	Naina Mohamed Spinning Mills (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
29.	Vishnu Lakshmi Mills	Financial Problem
30.	Coimbatore Sri Deepa Textile Mills (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
31.	Palani Andavar Cotton and Synthetic Spinners Ltd. Unit-2	Financial Problem
32.	Tamarai Mills Ltd. (The CBE Kamala Mills)	Financial Problem
33.	The Suguna Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Labour Problem
34.	The Dhanalakshmi Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
35.	The Ramanathapuram District Co-op. Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
36.	The South India Co-Operative Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
37.	The srivilliputhur Co-op. Spg. Mills	Financial Problem

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1	2	3
38.	The Tiruchendur Co-op. Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
39.	The Slem Co-operative Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
40.	The Tiruchirapalli District co-op. Spg. Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
41.	The South Arcot District Co-op. Spg. Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
42.	The Madurai District Co-op. Spinning Mills Ltd.	Labour Problem
43.	The Kancheepuram Kamakshiamman Co-op. Spg. Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
44.	The Misereor Co-Operative Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
45.	Sri Vigneswara Cotton Mills Ltd.	Labour Problem
46.	Shri Skandha Spinners	Financial Problem
47.	Namakkal Cotton Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
48.	Anar Textiles	Financial Problem
49.	Sri Vinayagaa Textiles (Unit of Balaji Modern)	Labour Problem
50.	Sundaram Textile Ltd. (O.E. Units)	Financial Problem
51.	EM Yem Textile (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
52.	Sree Alagammai Textile Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Labour Problem
53.	Sree Paravathavarthini Mills (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
54.	Sree Narayan Textiles Pvt. Ltd.	Lock Out
55.	Janaki Textiles (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
56.	Kamalkumar Spinning Mills (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
57.	Sree Kumar Textiles (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
58.	Sri Veerakumar Spinning Mill (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
59.	Neo Intex Mills Ltd. (Unit-1)	Financial Problem
60.	Sri Mappillai Vinayagar Spinning Mills	Financial Problem
61.	Sri Rathinagiri Spinning (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
62.	Sri Manicka Vinayagar Spinning Mills	Financial Problem
63.	Thanjavur Textiles Ltd. B-Unit	Financial Problem
64.	Ragas Spinners (P) Ltd. (Ragas Exports Pvt. Ltd.)	Financial Problem

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1	2	3
65.	Vetri Spinning Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
66.	Kasthuri Rengar Ramanujam Cotton Mills (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
67.	V.K. Spinning Mill (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
68.	Thaila Spinners (P) Ltd. (Cauvery Spg. and Wvg. Mills Ltd.)	Financial Problem
69.	The Jawahar Mills Ltd.	Labour Problem
70.	Shri Chakkra Rarns (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
71.	Vijayshree Spg. Mills Ltd. (Vijayshree and Co.) unit No. III	Financial Problem
72.	Rukmini Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
73.	Kalyana Chakravarthi Textiles Pvt. Ltd.	Labour Problem
74.	Easterna Rayons Limited (L/O. Azhagappa Spg. Mills (P) Ltd.)	Financial Problem
75.	Sree Sabari Mills (Div. of the Amalgamated Coalfields Ltd.)	Financial Problem
76.	Suraksha Bharthi Mill Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
77.	Sterling Spinners Ltd.	Financial Problem
78.	Priyadarshini Fabss Ltd.	Financial Problem
79.	Sivagurunathan Textiles Ltd.	Labour Problem
80.	Swamiji Mills Ltd.	Labour Problem
81.	Sri Nadiambal Textile Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
82.	Veeraraghava Textiles (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
83.	Marson's Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
84.	Jayabharath Textiles (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
85.	Neo Intex Mills Ltd. Unit II	Lock Out
86.	Kumaraguruparar Textiles (Sree Lakshmi Cotton Mills)	Financial Problem
87.	S. Sannkaralingam Chettiar Waste Cotton Mills	Financial Problem
88.	Archana Spinners Ltd.	Financial Problem
89.	Sri Ramvilas Spg. And Wvg. Mills (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
90.	Shri Laxmi Spinners Ltd.	Financial Problem
91.	Aruna Textiles and Exports Ltd.	Financial Problem



1	2	3
92.	Sankar Spinning Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
93.	Kongarar Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
94.	Kathirvel Textiles Pvt. Ltd.	Labour Problem
95.	Tiruchendur Muruhan Spg. Mills (P) Ltd. (Nanjappa Textiles)	Financial Problem
96.	Araving Spinnings (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
97.	K. Parthasarathy Spinning Mills	Financial Problem
98.	Geetha Ramkrishna Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
99.	Nagappan Spinning Mills (The Annamalar Textiles Mills)	Financial Problem
100.	Krishna Cotton and Synthetic Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
101.	Sri Rathnavel Textiles (P) Ltd. (DHM sakthi Mills)	Labour Problem
102.	Sree Umayambigai Textiles Mills (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
103.	Usha Textiles (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
104.	Annamalaiar Textiles (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
105.	Jagajothi Spg. Mills	Financial Problem
106.	Asccard Spinners (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
107.	Devi Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
108.	Sree Visalakshmi Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
109.	Sree Akilandeswari Mills Pvt. Ltd. (Rajendra Mills Ltd. - A)	Financial Problem
110.	Minar Textile Industries Ltd.	Financial Problem
111.	Susi Textiles Mills	Financial Problem
112.	Gowri Sankar Spinning Mills (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
113.	S.K.G. Mills (P) Ltd.	Financial Problem
114.	Somasundaram Super Spinning Mills Ltd. (Unit B)	Financial Problem
115.	Veena Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
116.	Binny Ltd. (Buckingham and Carnatic Mills)	Labour Problem
<b>UTTAR PRADESH</b>		
1.	J.K. Cotton Spg. and Wvg. Co. Ltd.	Labour Problem
2.	U.P. Co-operative Spinning Mills Ltd.	Labour Problem

1	2	3
3.	The Co-op Textiles Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
4.	Santkabir Sahakari Mills Ltd.	Lock Out
5.	Nagina Saskari Katai Mills Ltd.	Lock Out
6.	Sitapur Saskari Katai Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
7.	U.P. Sahkari Katai Mills Ltd.	Labour Problem
8.	U.P. Sahkari Katai Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
9.	Shamken Spinners Ltd. (EOU)	Financial Problem
10.	DCM Clusone Spinning Mills	Financial Problem
11.	Tirupati Spinners	Financial Problem
12.	Soami Textiles Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
13.	Estern Spinning and Textile Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Financial Problem
14.	Moradabad Syntex Ltd.	Financial Problem
15.	Madan Industries Ltd.	Financial Problem
16.	Ajanta Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
17.	Amausi Textiles Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
18.	Singhal Spintex (P) Ltd. (L/O. Modi Threads Ltd.)	Financial Problem
19.	Modern Spinners Ltd. (Modi Yarn Mills B Unit)	Labour Problem
20.	Modern Industries	Financial Problem
21.	Vasant spinners	Labour Problem
22.	Vishal Syntex Ltd. (Modi Syntex Ltd.)	Labour Problem
23.	U.P. State Textile Co. Spg. Mills	Financial Problem
24.	U.P. State Spg. Mills co. Ltd.	Financial Problem
25.	U.P. State Spg. Co. Ltd.	Financial Problem
26.	U.P. State Textile Co. Ltd.	Financial Problem
27.	Uttar Pradesh State Textile Coropration Ltd.	Financial Problem
28.	U.P. State Yarn Co. Ltd.	Financial Problem
29.	U.P. State Yarn Co. Ltd.	Financial Problem

1	2	3
30.	U.P. State Yarn Company Ltd.	Financial Problem
31.	Amethi Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
32.	Modi Spg. and Wvg. Mills Co. Ltd. Unit-A	Financial Problem
33.	Raza Textiles Ltd.	Labour Problem
34.	Hindon River Mills	Financial Problem
<b>BEST BENGAL</b>		
1.	Vikram Spinners (Unit of Eastern Spg. Mills and Inds Ltd.)	Lock Out
2.	Shineup Fibres Ltd.	Labour Problem
3.	Anantpur Textiles Ltd.	Financial Problem
4.	Eastern Spg. Mills and Ind. Ltd.	Financial Problem
5.	Shaktigarh Textile & Industries Ltd.	Labour Problem
6.	Poddar Projects Ltd.	Lock Out
7.	India Jute and Industries Ltd. (Cotton Division)	Financial Problem
8.	Swan Mills	Lock Out
9.	Bowreah Cotton Mills Co. Ltd.	Financial Problem
10.	Dunbary Mills Ltd. No. 1 to 5	Lock Out
11.	Kesoram Textile Mills Ltd. (Kesoram Industries Ltd.) Textile	Financial Problem
12.	Sridurga Cotton Spg. and Wvg. Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
13.	The Bangodaya Cotton Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
<b>PUDUCHERRY</b>		
1.	Ennaram Spinners	Labour Problem
<b>MANIPUR</b>		
1.	Manipur Spg. Mills Corp. Ltd. (MJanipur Spg. Pvt. Ltd.)	Financial Problem
<b>CHHATTISGARH</b>		
1.	Bilaspur Spg. Mills and Inds Ltd.	Financial Problem
<b>UTTARANCHAL</b>		
1.	Amitabh Textile Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem
2.	Belwal Spinning Mills Ltd.	Financial Problem

**Statement II**

Sl.No.	Name of Closed Mills	Location	State	Assets (Rs. in Lakhs)	Liabilities (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Dayalbagh Spg. and Wvg. Mills	Amritsar	Punjab	8880.72	880.72
2.	Kharar Textile Mills	Kharar	Punjab	9348.70	9348.70
3.	Panipat Woolen Mills	Kharar	Punjab	11179.94	11179.94
4.	Suraj Textile Mills	Malout	Punjab	8846.06	8846.06
5.	Edward Textiles Mills	Beawar	Rajasthan	6218.44	6218.44
6.	Shree Bijai Cotton Mills	Bijai Nagar	Rajasthan	8228.40	8228.40
7.	Ayodhya Textile Mills	Delhi	Delhi	4195.90	4195.90
8.	Indore Malwa United Mills	Indore	Madhya Pradesh	11199.32	11199.32
9.	Swadeshi Textile Mills	Indore	Madhya Pradesh	1220.45	1220.45
10.	Kalyanmal Tapti Mills	Indore	Madhya Pradesh	17663.82	17663.82
11.	Bangal Nagpur Cotton Mills	Rajanandgaon	Madhya Pradesh	17545.17	175845.17
12.	Hira Mills	Ujjain	Madhya Pradesh	13513.88	13513.88
13.	Muir Mills	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh	20472.30	20472.30
14.	New Victoria Mills	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh	24451.47	24451.47
15.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh	21660.10	21660.10
16.	Luxmi Rattan Cotton Mills	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh	13528.15	13528.15
17.	Atherton West Mills	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh	10899.93	10899.93
18.	Shree Vikram Cotton Mills	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	6906.79	6906.79
19.	Lord Krishna Textile Mills	Saharanpur	Uttar Pradesh	10729.79	10729.79
20.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills	Naini	Uttar Pradesh	17782.39	17782.39
21.	Raebareli Textile Mills	Raebareli	Uttar Pradesh	3477.96	3477.96
22.	Bijli Cotton Mills	Hathras	Uttar Pradesh	35691.61	3561.61
23.	Bharat Textile Mills	Mumbai	Maharashtra	21549.70	21549.70
24.	Digvijay Textile Mills	Mumbai	Maharashtra	29516.61	295165.91
25.	Elphinstone Spg. and Wvg. Mills	Mumbai	Maharashtra	33252.16	33252.16
26.	Jupiter Textile Mills	Mumbai	Maharashtra	7066.11	7066.11

1	2	3	4	5	6
27.	Madhusudan Mills	Mumbai	Maharashtra	12603.57	12603.57
28.	Mumbai Textile Mills	Mumbai	Maharashtra	58475.66	58475.66
29.	New Hind Textile Mills	Mumbai	Maharashtra	24995.86	24995.86
30.	Podar Processors	Mumbai	Maharashtra	12397.66	12397.66
31.	India United Mills No. 2	Mumbai	Maharashtra	23675.55	23675.55
32.	India United Mills No. 3	Mumbai	Maharashtra	36531.97	36531.97
33.	India United Mills No. 4				
34.	India United Mills No. 5	Mumbai	Maharashtra	16995.80	16995.80
35.	India United No 6 (Dye Works)				
36.	Jam Manufacturing Mills	Mumbai	Maharashtra	14873.30	14873.30
37.	Kohinoor Mills No. 1	Mumbai	Maharashtra	26991.08	26991.08
38.	Kohinoor Mills No. 2				
39.	Kohinoor Mills No. 3				
40.	Shri Sitram Mills	Mumbai	Maharashtra	11209.25	11209.25
41.	Vidarbha Mills	Achalpur	Maharashtra	10411.26	10441.26
42.	RSRG Mohta Spg. Wvg. Mills	Akola	Maharashtra	10583.22	10583.22
43.	Model Mills	Nagpur	Maharashtra	11999.75	11999.75
44.	Ahmedabad Jupiter Textile Mills	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	*	*
45.	Ahmedabad New Textile Mills	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	*	*
46.	Himadri Textile Mills	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	*	*
47.	Jehangir Textile Mills	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	*	*
48.	New Manekchowk Textile Mills	Ahmedabad	Gujarat	*	*
49.	Mahalaxmi Textiles Mills	Bhavanagar	Gujarat	*	*
50.	Petlad Textiles Mills	Petlad	Gujarat	*	*
51.	Rajkot Textiles Mills	Rajkot	Gujarat	*	*
52.	Virangam Textile Mills	Virangam	Gujarat	*	*
53.	Adonio Cotton Mills	Adoni	Andhra Pradesh	3005.01	3005.01

1	2	3	4	5	6
54.	Ananthapur Cotton Mills	Tadaprti	Andhra Pradesh	6684.59	6658.59
55.	Azam Jahi Mills	Warrangal	Andhra Pradesh	4500.01	4500.01
56.	Nataraj Spg. and Wvg. Mills	Adilabad	Andhra Pradesh	3759.27	3759.27
57.	Netha Spinning Mills	Secunderabad	Andhra Pradesh	3341.55	3341.55
58.	MSK Mills	Gulbarga	Karnataka	18708.22	18708.22
59.	Sree Yallmma Cotton Mills	Devangere	Karnataka	6729.27	3759.27
60.	Kishnaveni Textile Mills	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	*	*
61.	Om Paraskthi Mills	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	*	*
62.	Somasundram Mills	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	4559.42	4559.42
63.	Balaramverma Textile Mills	Shencottah	Tamil Nadu	*	*
64.	Kaleeswarar Mills "A" Unit	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	9771.46	9771.46
65.	Kothandaram Spinners	Madurai	Tamil Nadu	*	*
66.	Associated Industries	Chandrapura	Assam	6841.99	6841.99
67.	Bihar Co-op Weavers Spg. Mills	Mokameh	Bihar	6953.93	6953.93
68.	Bangasri Cotton Mills	Sonepore	Bihar	*	*
69.	Bengal Fine Spg. and Wvg. Mills No.1	Konnagar	West Bengal	*	*
70.	Bengal Fine Spg. and Wvg. Mills No.2	Katagunj	West Bengal	*	*
71.	Bengal Laxmi Cotton Mills	Serampore	West Bengal	*	*
72.	Central Cotton Mills	Serampore	West Bengal	*	*
73.	Joyti Weaving Factory	Patipukur	West Bengal	*	*
74.	Manindra B.T. Mills	Cossimbazar	West Bengal	*	*
75.	Rampooria Cotton Mills	Rishra	West Bengal	*	*
76.	Shree Mahalaxmi Cotton	Palta	West Bengal	*	*
77.	Gaya Cotton and Jute Mill	Gaya	Bihar	*	*

Note: \*(i) The Assets and Liabilities transferred to respective Sub offices on the date of closure.

(ii) The Assets and Liabilities of the Mills include accumulate losses and Head Office liabilities. The figures are as per audited accounts as on 31.03.2009

**Crude Oil**

\*119 SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:  
SHRI IJYARAJ SINGH:

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

(a) whether a larger chunk of crude oil requirement is met through imports;

(b) if so, the quantum of crude oil/natural gas imported during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the production of crude oil, of late, has stagnated in the country;

(d) if so, the details of production of crude oil during the last three years; and

(e) the steps being taken to accelerate the oil exploration activities and production of crude oil in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of quantum of crude oil/natural gas imported during the last three years are as under:

Year	Crude Oil (MMT*)	Natural Gas (MMT)
2008-09	132.8	7.958
2007-08	121.7	8.249
2006-07	111.5	6.811

\*MMT-Million Metric Tonne

(c) and (d) The details of domestic production of crude oil during the last three years are as under:

Year	Crude Oil (MMT)
2008-09	33.504
2007-08	34.125
2006-07	33.988

(e) Several measures have been taken to accelerate the oil exploration activities and the production of crude oil in the country. Some of these measures are as under:

- (i) Carving out more areas for exploration for offer under various rounds of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP)/Coal Bed Methane (CBM).
- (ii) Quicker development of discovered reserves for enabling commencement of production.
- (iii) Use of stimulation techniques for increasing production from existing fields.
- (iv) Application of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)/ Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) techniques for increasing recovery factor from existing fields.
- (v) Arresting decline from ageing fields.

**Oil Exploration by ONGC**

\*120. SHRI S. ALAGIRI:  
SHRI K.P. DHANAPALAN:

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

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has made efforts for oil exploration in the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal since 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount spent on these projects till date, and

(d) the details of total oil production achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (d) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has been pursuing its exploratory efforts in the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal for oil gas exploration. During the period 2006-10 (upto December, 2009), the exploratory efforts have resulted in 17 discoveries each in Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Since 2006-07, ONGC has undertaken 16,683 Line Kilometer of 2D seismic, 21,687 square kilometer of 3D seismic data acquisition and drilling of 64 exploratory wells, in the Arabian Sea.

In Bay of Bengal 89,987 Line Kilometer of 2D and 44,307 square kilometer of 3D seismic data have been acquired and 40 exploratory wells drilled.

During the period of 2006-07 to 2008-09, total amount spent in Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengla for the exploration activities is Rs. 12,023.15 crores.

Oil and gas production from GS-15 field in KG basin in Bay of Bengal started from July, 2006. From 2006-07 to 2009-10 (upto December, 2009), ONGC's cumulative crude oil production in the blocks operated by them, situated in Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal is 66.794 Million Metric Tonne and 0.3345 Million Metric Tonne respectively.

[*Translation*]

**'Employees of Closed down PSUs'**

1119. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give relief to the employees of closed down public sector undertakings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of such PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) As a measure for providing a safety net for the separated employees of

Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs), the scheme of Counselling, Retraining & Redeployment (CRR) for the separated employees of CPSEs is being implemented by Department of Public Enterprises from 2001-02. Under the Scheme, separated employees of CPSEs are imparted short duration training to equip them with skill/expertise which, in turn, would enable them to take up mainly, self-employment activities. There is no closed down CPSE recommended by Board of Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) where some specific relief has been given.

**Performance of NMDC**

1120. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ:  
SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased state:

(a) whether the performance of National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) is deteriorating and the net sales and profit have also been declining;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the profit earned by the NMDC during 2008-09 and 2009-10; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the performance of NMDC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (c) The physical and financial performance of NMDC Ltd, during last five years {2005-2009 and 2009-10 (upto December, 2009)} is given below:

Particulars	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (Upto Dec.' 09)
<b>Physical Performance (Lakh Tonne)</b>					
Production of iron ore	229.2	262.25	298.16	285.15	169.02
Sales of iron ore	248.5	255.89	281.84	264.72	172.06
<b>Financial Performance (Rs. in crore)</b>					
Sales <sup>§</sup>	3707.38	4182.86	5709.16	7559.19	4247.69
Profit after tax	1827.80	2320.21	3250.98	4372.38	2381.67

<sup>§</sup>Sales represent sale of iron ore, diamonds and silica sand.



It is stated that the physical as well as financial performance of NMDC Ltd. has improved during the last five years. However, during 2009-10 (upto December, 2009), the sales as well as profit of NMDC have declined primarily due to the following reasons:

(i) Logistic constraints, which are of temporary nature:

- Loss of Sales of 24.5 lakh tonnes of iron ore fines to M/s Essar Steel Ltd. due to breakdown of slurry pipeline of M/s Essar Steel by Maoists, from May, 2009 to January, 2010 compared to corresponding period of last year.
- Frequent stoppage of night movement of rakes by Railways, due to increased Maoists activities in Bailadila sector. The night movement of rakes has been stopped for a total of 75 days during the year 2009-10 (upto January, 2010). This has resulted in substantial loss of sales of iron ore for NMDC.

(ii) Substantial decline in the price of iron ore in the global iron ore market, due to effect of global recession in the second half of the year 2008-09 and first half of the year 2009-10. As a result, the export prices of iron ore with Japanese Steel Mills (JSMs) and POSCO, South Korea saw a decline of 44.47 % for iron ore lumps and 32.95% for iron ore fines, as compared to price during 2008-09. From the present scenario of global iron ore market, the prices this year (2010-11) are expected to go up from the present level, which may lead to improvement in the performance of NMDC.

(d) In order to improve sales, matter has been taken up with Railways for increased supply of rakes, as a result of which rake supply by Railways has increased to some extent. NMDC is also taking steps to construct a slurry pipeline along the Highway, to avoid Maoist attacks. Techno Economic Feasibility Report (TEFR) for the slurry pipeline is being prepared.

*[English]*

#### **MoUs with Steel Companies**

1121. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of steel companies have signed Memoranda of Understandings (MoUs) with State Governments for the exploration of minerals;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of Lok Sabha.

#### **Blasts in Trains**

1122. SHRI NILESH NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of blasts in trains and railway premises took place in Maharashtra during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) the number of deaths that took place due to such blasts during each of the last three years and the current year along with the number of people becoming full disabled;

(c) whether the Railways are taking concrete steps to prevent such incidents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No case of bomb blast in trains and Railway premises reported in Maharashtra State during 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 (upto 31st January).

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Policing on Railways is the duty of the State Police which they discharge through Government Railway Police. However, the RPF Act, 1957 and the Railways Act 1989 have been amended in the year 2003 to enable the Railways, through the Railway Protection Force, to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways.

The following measures have been taken for security of passengers:-

1. Integrated Security Scheme consisting of CCTV surveillance system, access control system, personal and baggage screening system and

bomb and disposal system has been finalized and the same is under implementation at 202 sensitive stations over Indian Railways.

2. Frequent announcements through public address system at stations are made to educate the passengers not to touch any suspected articles in trains and railway premises.
3. Dog Squads in Divisions and Zones are being augmented and sniffer dogs are utilized to detect any explosives in trains and stations.
4. Commando Training is being imparted to selected RPF personnel.
5. Steps are being taken to enhance the quality and content of the training of RPF.
6. Under modernization scheme, security gadgets are being procured and the weaponry is being upgraded for enhancing the striking capability of RPF.
7. Concerned State Governments have been requested to take effective steps to prevent incidents of attack on Railway system by anti-social elements.
8. Regular co-ordination meeting are held with Government railway Police and State Police at all levels.
9. Anti-sabotage checks with the help of Government Railway Police are conducted at important stations.
10. Train escort parties are being briefed to keep surveillance on movement of suspicious persons.

#### **Amendment in Advocates Act**

1123. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to amend advocates act, 1961; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Delay of NACIL Flights**

1124. SHRI ANJANKUMAR M. YADAV:  
DR. SANJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the flights of National Aviation Company of India Limited generally get much delayed as compared to those of private airlines;

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

(c) whether the Government has ascertained any reasons for the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation; and

(e) the success achieved by the Government with the steps taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The On-time performance of NACIL's domestic flights is lower than the other private scheduled airlines. NACIL has been directed to improve upon the same from time to time.

(c) to (e) Delays are mainly of two types - One within the control of the airline such as technical snags, shortage of crew/aircraft etc. and the other outside the control of the airline like weather, airport congestion, ATC delays. The delays include consequential delays, which are as a result of primary delay at the originating station having a cascading effect at other en-route stations.

Some of the measures taken by the Airline to bring about improvement in on-time performance are (i) Prune and consolidate flights, with a view to sustaining undisrupted and punctual operations; (ii) Continuous review of aircraft routing, delays, crew allocations etc. by senior executives with a view to achieving optimum utilisation of crew and substantial savings.

[English]

### Manufacturing of Locomotives

1125. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received orders for manufacturing of locomotives from some foreign countries;

(b) If so, the details there of; and

(c) the present installed capacity of locomotives units in the country?

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

(b) Since 2005-06, 27 Diesel Locomotives have been exported to foreign countries from Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi, as per the Following details:-

Year	No. of Locomotives exported	Country
2005-06	3	Sudan
	11	Myanmar
2006-07	3	Angola
	5	Sudan
2007-08	1	Senegal
	3	Mali
2008-09	1	Mozambique
Total	27	

(c) The present installed capacity of Chittaranjan Locomotive Works is 150 Electric Locomotives per year and the of Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi is 150 Diesel Locomotives per year.

### Handlooms and Handicrafts Promotion in Gujarat

1126. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up an Integrated Marketing Project for the development and promotion of handicrafts and handlooms in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of this project *inter-alia* indicating the time frame within which it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

### Unused Railway Land

1127. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received proposals from various State Governments to provide them its unused land to initiate new schemes and develop it;

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

(c) the reaction of the Railways thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. Details of proposals received from State Governments in the recent past are as under:

State	Area (in hectares)
Maharashtra	39
Chhattisgarh	8
Andhra Pradesh	0.17
Karnataka	1.26
West Bengal	68.6
Assam	0.89
Mizoram	0.53

Keeping in view Railways' own future needs, such proposals are considered In terms of extant codal provisions and policy guidelines, which *inter alia* include equitable exchange of land, long term lease, etc.

### ROB on Kurwar Railway Crossing

1128. DR. SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware that no rail over bridge has so far been built on Gate No.33 B of Kurwar railway crossing on Sultanpur-Kurwar railway line near Sultanpur city (Uttar Pradesh);

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

(c) the steps taken by the Railways to construct the said ROB?

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

(b) The proposal for construction of ROB (Road Over Bridge) in lieu of Level Crossing No.33B at Railway Km.57/11-12 on Lucknow-Sultanpur section in Sultanpur Yard was received from State Government on cost sharing basis and has been included in the Railway's Works Programme of 2010-11.

(c) Action will be jointly taken by Railways and the State Govt. to construct Bridge proper and approaches respectively.

[*English*]

#### **Court Proceeding in Malayalam**

1129. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government has sent a proposal for the computerization of the Official Language (Legislation) Commission, Kerala to the Union Government in the year 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the major benefits cited by the Kerala Government for such move;

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto along with the reasons for such delay; and

(d) the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

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

(b) It was mentioned in the proposal that the prime objective of the Commission is to make available the Malayalam translation of the Central Acts to the ordinary

litigant public and to the Courts for easy interpretation. The Government of Kerala had sought financial assistance to the tune of Rs. Seventeen Lakhs for computerization of the Commission.

(c) This Department has no such scheme to provide financial assistance for computerisation to State Governments. The Government of Kerala had been informed accordingly on 27th October 2006.

(d) Does not arise for reasons mentioned in (c) above.

[*Translation*]

#### **Model Railway Stations in Bihar**

1130. SHRI ARJUN ROY:

SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of model railway stations in Bihar;

(b) whether even after declaring Sitamarhi as a model station, facilities of model station have not yet been provided to it;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Railways have any proposal for expansion and modernization of major railway stations in Bihar including Kahalgaon, Bhagalpur and Sitamarhi;

(e) If so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The names of railway stations which were identified for development under Model Station scheme in Bihar State are as under: Akshayawat Rai Nagar, Ara, Araria Court, Barauni, Begu Sarai, Bettiah, Bhagalpur, Buxar, Chhapra, Dehri-on-Sone, Danapur, Darbhanga, Gaya, Hajipur Jn, Jamalpur Jn., Janakpur Road, Katihar, Khagaria, Kishanganj, Mokama, Motihari, Muzaffarpur, Nalanda, Nayagaon, Narkatiaganj jn, Nawadah, Patna Jn., Purnea jn.y Sagauli jn., Sasaram, Samastipur, Sheikhpura, Sitamarhi, Siwan Jn., Sonapur, Sultanganj, Patna Sahib, Bakhtiyarpur, Biharsharif, Jamui, Jhajha, Kiul, Lakheesarai, Rajendra Nagar (T), Rajgir, Anugrah Narayan Road, Raxaul,

Saharsa, Madhubani, Barh, Bhabua Road, Dalsinghsarai, Phulwarisarif, Bariarpur and Mananpur.

(b) Sitamarhi has already been developed as a Model Station and all requisite passenger amenities have been provided.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) 46 stations of Bihar including Kahalgaon, Bhagalpur and Sitairarhi have already been selected as modern station for the purpose of modernization and giving a face-lift.

(f) Work of modernization and giving a face lift has already commenced at identified railway stations in the State of Bihar and planned for completion by March 2010.

[English]

#### **Levy of User Charges**

1131. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has given freedom to developers to levy user charges at Bangalore and Hyderabad airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government had stipulated this clause in the initial contract with the developers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for not informing the general public about the levy of user charges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (e) As per Clause 10.2 and Schedule 6 of Concession Agreement entered into by the respective JVCs (i.e. Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) for Bangalore International Airport at Devanahalli and Hyderabad International Airport Limited (HIAL) for Rajiv Gandhi International Airport at Shamshabad) with the Government of India (Gol), the JVCs are allowed to charge User Development Fee (UDF) to meet the revenue gap, if any, with prior approval of the Gol.

For the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport at Shamshabad near Hyderabad belonging to HIAL, Gol have approved, on an adhoc basis, levy of a UDF @ Rs. 1000/- (inclusive all taxes) on international embarking passengers and @ Rs. 375 (inclusive all taxes) on domestic embarking passengers. For Bangalore International Airport at Devenahalli near Bangalore belonging to BIAL, Gol have approved, on an adhoc basis, levy of UDF @ Rs. 1070/- (inclusive all taxes) on international embarking passenger and @ Rs. 260/- (inclusive all taxes) on domestic embarking passengers. However, these levying shall be reviewed by Airport Economic Regulatory Authority on detailed basis.

#### **Shifting of Goods Shed**

1132. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the time by which the said work is likely to be done?

(c) the time by which the said work is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir. No proposal has been received for shifting of Goods shed from Kottayam Railway Station.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Berhampur-Phulabani Rail Line**

1133. SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of new railway line between Berhampur to Phulabani in Orissa;

(b) whether any time frame have been fixed for completion of said rail line; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) A survey for construction of a new broad gauge railway line between berhampur and phulbani was completed in 2002-03. The project was, however, not taken up. Updating

Survey for Berhampur to Phulbani has been proposed in Budget 2010-11.

[*Translation*]

#### Fire in BSP

1134. SHRI GANESH SINGH:  
CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) has suffered huge losses due to fire in the plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the causes of the fire; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) to (c) The losses on account of the fire incident at Bhilai Steel Plant as provisionally computed works out to Rs. 10.49 crores. The fire occurred in the cable gallery which resulted in tripping of boilers & turbo-blowers leading to temporary stoppage of blast furnaces. An enquiry has been ordered to identify the cause of the incident and also to suggest measures to prevent such incidents in future.

[*English*]

#### Stoppage at Uthukuli Railway Station

1135. SHRI C. SIVASAMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware that only one train *i.e.* Palghat to Trichy Fast Passenger Train No. 888 is passing through Uthukuli (Kerala);

(b) if so, whether the Railways are taking necessary steps to have a regular stop at Uthukuli Railway Station; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Uthukkuli station is presently served by 3 Express and 5 Passenger trains. Stoppage of additional trains at this

station has been found commercially justified.

#### Taxes in Textile Industry

1136. SHRIMATI J. SHANTHA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the average annual turnover of the textile industry, segment-wise; and

(b) the details of various staxes/cess being imposed on it alongwith the rate at which those taxes/cess are being imposed presently at various levels of textile industry, segment-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The estimated average annual turnover for the different sectors for the last 3 years is as under:

#### Segment wise estimated turnover

Segment	(Rs. Crore)		
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Powerloom	39524	41254	39977
Textile Mills	53131	55064	51871
Ready Made Garments	100514	105477	103483

(b) The details of present rate of excise duty for textile industry is as under:

#### Excise Duty Structure for Major Items of Textile Industry (% Advl.)

Items	Basic Excise Duty#
1	2
<b>Natural Fibre</b>	
Cotton	Nil
Wool	Nil
Flax	Nil
<b>Raw Material for Man-Made Fibre/Yarn</b>	
DMT, PTA	10
MEG	10

1	2
Acrylonitril	10
Caprolactum	10
Paraxylene	10
Wood Pulp	Nil
<b>Yarn</b>	
Cotton Yarn	*4
Spun Yarn	*10
Blended Yarn	*10
Woolen Yarn	*10
<b>Fibre/Filament</b>	
Polyester Staple Fibre	10
Acrylic Staple Fiber	10
Viscose Staple Fiber	10
Polyester Filament Yarn	10
Viscose Filament Yarn	10
Nylon Filament Yarn	10
<b>Fabric</b>	
Cotton Fabrics	*4
Other Fabrics	*10
<b>Garments</b>	
Cotton Fabrics	*4
Other Madeups	*10
<b>Madeups</b>	
Cotton Madeups	*4
Other Madeups	*10

Note: \*Zero duty without CENVAT Credit facility optional duty  
#In addition 3% edicatopm Cess on basic excise duty is also applicable

The details of state and local level taxes are not available.

### **Bengaluru International Airport**

1137. SHRI ADAGOORU H. VISHWANATH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of aircraft take of from the Bengaluru International Airport at Devenahalli each day;

(b) whether daily take off and landing at this airport is steadily increasing;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) 150 aircraft (approx.) take off from the Bengaluru International Airport, Devenahalli each day.

(b) and (c) There has been an increasing trend in the aircraft movements at Bengaluru International Airport, Devenahalli. The details of the aircraft movements per month for the last one year are given in bracket: Feb-09 (7545), March-09 (8201), April-09 (8680), May-09 (8635), June-09 (8336), July-09 (8860), August-09 (8812), Sept-09 (8120), Oct-09 (8743), Nov-09 (8881), Dec-09 (9181), Jan-10 (9107), and Feb-10 (8363).

(d) and (e) Bangalore Intrnational Airport Limited (BIAL) has planned to expand the Passenger Terminal Building T1 and construction of new Terminal T2 to meet the increasing demand of traffic.

### **New Textile Policy**

1138. SHRI S. PAKKIRAPPA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate New Textile Policy to bring significant changes in this sector with the objective of creating additional employment opportunities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of concessions being provided at present to textile industry; and

(d) the status of setting of textile parks in the country particularly of the State of Karnatka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Presently the National Textile policy 2000 is in force. However, Government is in the process of formulating a National Fiber Policy.

(c) The Government is implementing various schemes viz. 'Scheme for Integrated Textiles Parks (SITP)' 'Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), for infrastructure development and technology upgradation in the textiles sector and to provide a conducive environment to enable the Indian textile industry to realise its full potential.

To strengthen the textile industry and make it more competitive, Government has initiated various schemes/ measures and also provided level playing field to all the segments of the textile industry, by making CENVAT optional. The mandatory duty is levied only on manmade fibers and filament yarns.

(d) So far forty (40) textiles park projects have been sanctioned under the SITP with an estimated project cost of Rs. 4,141.39 crores, of which Government of India assistance would be Rs. 1,422.43 crores. So far, Rs. 752.49 crores has been released for implementation of these projects. These projects are at various stages of implementation. After completion, these parks would facilitate additional investment of Rs. 19,459 crores, textiles production worth Rs. 33,587 crores per annum and direct and indirect employment generation for more than 8 lakh persons.

In Karnataka, one project has been sanctioned under the SITP at Dodballapur near Bangalore. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 84.92 crores; admissible assistance under the scheme is Rs. 33.96 crores, of which Rs. 30.56 crores have already been released. The project is at an advanced stage of implementation and is expected to be completed in 2010-11.

#### **Review of functioning of RRB**

1139. SHRI E. G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal to review the functioning of Railway Recruitment Board (RRB);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a proposal to give preference to locals in employment and also to set question papers in Regional languages; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Instructions for streamlining the working of Railway Recruitment Boards have already been issued in order to make the system of recruitment more transparent and fair,

(c) and (d) To encourage the local candidates to appear in the examination conducted by Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs), it has been decided that the question papers for RRB examinations shall be set in local language (s) listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India falling within the jurisdiction of that RRB, in addition to Hindi, Urdu and English and examination for any one category will be held by all the RRBs on the same day.

#### **Exploration of Oil/Natural Gas in Africa**

1140. SHRI AMARNATH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the African country which has been identified by ONGC (Videsh) for exploration of oil, natural gas and Refinery Projects;

(b) the total investment made for the current financial year;

(c) whether there is any collaboration with other companies for the same; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASAD): (a) and (b) The countries in Africa where ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL) is focusing its interest for future acquisitions of oil and gas projects are Sudan, Congo, Nigeria, Libya, Ghana, Angola, Egypt, Uganda etc. The estimated total investment in Africa for the current financial year 2009-10 to January 2010 is Rs. 715 crore.

(c) and (d) The details of current projects of OVL in Africa along with other participating companies is given in the enclosed statement.



**Statement**

Sl.No.	Name of the Block/Project and Country	Participating Companies and their Shares
1.	GNOP Block 1, 2&4 Sudan	OVL-25% CNPC-40% Petronas-30% Sudapet-5% (Joint Operatorship)
2.	Block 5A, Sudan	OVL-24.125% Petronas-67.875% Sudapet-8% (Operator - Petronas and Sudapet Joint Operator)
3.	Khartoum-Port Sudan Pipeline Project, Sudan	OVL-90% OIL-10%
4.	OPL 279, Nigeria	OMEL-45.5% EMO-40% Total-14.5% (Operatorship-OMEL)
5.	OPL 285, Nigeria	OMEL-64.33% EMO-10% Total-25.67%
6.	Block-2, JDN Nigeria Sao Tome Principe	OVL 13.5%, M/s Sinopec 28.67/Addax Petroleum 14.33%/ERHC Energy Inc. Consortium 22% PI, Equator Exploration Ltd. 9% PI, A & Hatman 2.5% PI, Foby Engineering 5% PI and Momo Deepwater JDZ 5% PI.
7.	Block NC-189, Libya	OVL-49% TPOC-51% (Operator-TPOC)
8.	Block 81-1, Libya	OVL-100%
9.	Block 43, Libya	OVL-100%
10.	Block 6, Egypt	OVL-70% IPR-30% (Operator-IPR)
11.	Block NEMED in Offshore, Egypt	OVL-33% Shell-51% with Operatorship Petronas-16%

**Near Miss Incidents at Airports**

1141. SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the near-miss incidents reported from various airports in the country in recent past;

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

(c) whether any probe has been conducted on those incidents;

(d) if so, the details of findings thereof;

(e) whether any steps have been taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) In the last three years 27,28 and 15 near-miss incidents respectively were reported.

(c) and (d) All airprox incidents have been investigated. The reasons for such incidents usually are human error, co-ordination failures, mechanical error, stress and fatigue due to heavy traffic and non adherence of laid down procedures.

(e) and (f) Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued Civil Aviation Requirements making it mandatory to install Airborne Collision Avoidance System (ACAS) on aeroplanes. Mono-pulse Secondary Surveillance radars have been installed at major airports in the country to provide altitude information to the Air Traffic Controllers. Minimum Safe Altitude Warning (MSAW) system has also been provided. Air Traffic Management service are modernised to include air traffic congestion in the airspace has been implemented. Regular proficiency checks for Air Traffic Controllers and pilots are carried out and corrective training is given wherever necessary. Specific co-ordination procedures for transfer of traffic from one unit to the other, have been established and are reviewed periodically.

(g) Does not arise.

**Tie up between Indian Firms and Japanese Steel Gaints**

1142. SHRI RAMESH RATHOD:  
SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian firms have tied up with the Japanese Steel Giants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of Memoranda of Understandings (MoUs) signed between them so far; and

(d) the benefits are likely to be accrued there from?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATAP): (a) to (d) The information is being collected from the major steel players and will be laid on the table of the House.

**Cotton Sales Depot**

1143. SHRI P. LINGAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has plans to open cotton sales depots in areas where clusters of textile mills are located; and

(b) if so, the details of such depots being opened in Tamil Nadu and other States of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has opened cotton sales depots at Coimbatore and Rajapalayam from 8th February 2010 in the State of Tamil Nadu. CCI also plans to open cotton sales depots at Baddi (Himachal Pradesh) and Ludhiana (Punjab).

**Bhiwani-Haridwar Train Service**

1144. SHRIMATI SHRUTI CHOUDHRY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bhiwani-Haridwar train service was announced in the previous Rail budgets 2007-08;

(b) if so, the reasons for non-introduction of this train service till date; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

#### **ROB in Aligarh City**

1145. SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction of an rail over bridge the rail line near the Daudkhan railway station near Aligarh and over bridge/under bridge on railway crossing near Jail in Aligarh city (Uttar Pradesh) is under consideration of the Railways;

(b) if so, the time by which work is likely to be commenced thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Level Crossing (LC) No.105 at Km. 1320/3-5 is situated on Mughalsarai-Ghaziabad section near Daudkhan station links GT Road. This Level Crossing has Train Vehicle Units of 440485 as per traffic census of 2008. No proposal for construction of Road Over Bridge (ROB) at LC No.105 has yet been received from the State Government.

However, the proposal for construction of ROB in lieu of the LC No.111 A at Km. 1327/33-35 on Tundla-Ghaziabad section on Jail road in Aligarh has been proposed in the Railway Works Programme 2010-11.

(b) As soon as proposal for construction of Road Over Bridge in lieu of Level Crossing No.105 is received from State Government, the same will " be processed.

The target date for completion of Road Over Bridge can be fixed in consultation with State Govt.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **National Institute of Petroleum Technology**

1146. SHRI MUKESH BHAIKAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has any proposal for setting up of more national institutes of petroleum technology in near future in the country; 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) The Government is setting up the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology (RGIPT) at Jais, Rae Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh as an 'Institute of National Importance' under the RGIPT Act, 2007. A centre of the Institute is being set up at Sibasagar, Assam. Presently, there is no proposal for setting up of more national institutes of petroleum technology.

#### **Loss Suffered by AAI**

1147. SHRI R. DHURVANARAYANA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India has sought compensation from the Government for the revenue loss suffered due to closure of its operations at Hyderabad and Bangalore airports;

(b) if so, whether the Government had earlier declined to issue Rs. 5000 crore worth of bonds (tax-free) to help AAI to meet its shortfall in revenue;

(c) whether the private operators at Delhi and Mumbai share a substantial portion of their revenue with AAI;

(d) if so, the quantum thereof; and

(e) the number of airports owned and managed by AAI and the number of them operating profitably?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Ministry of Finance has been requested to consider the proposal of Airports Authority of India

(AAI) to issue Capital Gains Bonds of Rs.1500 crores under Section 54 EC of the Income Tax (IT) Act and tax free Bonds of Rs.4000 crores under Section 10 of the It Act.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. During 2008-09, the share of revenue from Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) and Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL) were Rs. 445.63 crores and Rs. 374.62 crores respectively.

(e) There are 139 airports owned and managed by AAI. During the Financial Year 2008-09, 9 airports made profit [excluding 4 Joint Venture Companies (JVC) airports, namely DIAL, MIAL, Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) and Hyderabad International Airport Limited (HIAL)].

[*Translation*]

#### **Railway Station, West Bengal**

1148. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have made any assessment regarding requirement of funds for modernisation and expansion programmes in the country particularly in West Bengal during the current Five year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the State-wise details of the proposed main projects/schemes to be executed during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The requirement of funds for modernisation and expansion of Railways in the country is assessed Plan head-wise. No State-wise assessment is made. The requirement of funds for the 11th Five Year Plan is as under:

Plan Head	Allocation (Rs. in Crores)
1	2
New Lines	21188
Gauge Conversion	17300
Doubling	16000
Traffic Facilities	6630

1	2
Computerisation	3940
Railway Research	425
Rolling Stock	58500
Road Safety Works-Level Crossing	700
Road Safety Works-Road Over Bridges	3540
Track Renewals	21405
Bridge Works	3400
Signaling & Telecommunication Works	9900
Electrification Projects	3000
Other Electrical Works	2160
Machinery & Plant	2000
Workshops—including Production Units	8700
Staff Quarters	788
Staff Amenities	1455
Passenger Amenities	7208
Investment in Public Undertakings	37500
Other Specified Works	900
Inventories	2200
Metropolitan Transport Projects	4450
Grand Total	233289

[*English*]

#### **CPSUs in Orissa**

1149. SHRI JAYARAM PANGI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Central Public Sector Undertakings in Orissa alongwith the present financial performance of each of them; and

(b) the steps proposed to taken by the Union Government for the upgradation and modernization of these CPSEs in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) As per the registered offices, as on 31.3.2009, there were 4 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) functioning in the state of Orissa. The financial performance of these CPSEs for the year 2008-09 is given below;

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Name of the CPSEs.	Net Profit/(-)Loss
1.	Mahanadi Colfields Ltd.	1718.03
2.	National Aluminium Company Ltd.	1272.27
3.	Orissa Drugs and Chemicals Ltd.	(-) 0.61
4.	Utkal Ashok Hotel Corporation Ltd.	(-) 1.39

(b) The Government has been taking steps, for the upgradation and modernization of CPSEs on a case to case basis. The Government has constituted the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) to advise the Government on the proposals submitted by the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments for strengthening, Modernization, revival and restructuring of CPSEs.

#### **Duties at the Airports**

1150. SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received representations from various quarters the all airports in the country be given a specific manual pertaining to duties of airports;

(b) is so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has not taken any action on such representations; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(d) Suggestions have recently been received from Forum on Social and Human Rights for specifying the duties of airports. The respective airport operators have already been assigned certain duties to perform to meet the performance standards at the airport.

[Translation]

#### **Railway Hospital, Jabalpur**

1151. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have closed the TB ward in Railway Hospital, Jabalpur under Western Central Railway zone;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether the Railways propose to re-open the said ward?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) (b) Yes, Sir. Over the years, the treatment of TB has undergone a significant change. Earlier, patients were treated indoors. Now preferred mode of treatment is outpatient i.e. Directly Observed Treatment (DOT) in accordance with the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP). The same is being followed over West Central Railway also. However, if any TB patient/s with complication needs admission and treatment, provision has been made to admit and treat him.

(c) No, Madam.

[English]

#### **Merger of Companies**

1152. SHRI P. BALARAM: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the merger of sponge iron India Limited and NMDC is taking place;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status 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) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Applications/Petitions had been filed for the Scheme of Amalgamation by M/s. Sponge Iron India Limited (SIIL) and M/s. National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC) before the Central Government, Ministry of Corporate Affairs under Sections 391-394 of the Companies Act, 1956. The Central Government (Ministry of Corporate Affairs) by virtue of notification GSR No. 238 date 02.02.1978 considered the said Scheme under Sections 391-394 of the Companies Act, 1956. The order in respect of proposed Scheme of Amalgamation has been issued on 18th January, 2010.

[*Translation*]

#### **ROB in Surat Region**

1153. SHRIMATI DARSHANA JARDOSH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received for repairing works of rail over bridge coming under extension of Surat city (Gujarat); and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) There

are proposal to replace the existing steel girder with RCC slab on the three Road Under Bridges (RUBs) of Br.No. 445, 447, 449 in Surat city, which are owned by Surat Municipal Corporation. Railway has already undertaken work at two RUBs Nos. 447 & 449.

The drawing for the work of third RUB at Br.No.445 has not been finalized as it involves lowering of the existing road level under which the services such as water pipe line and drainage are passing. The matter was under consideration with Surat Municipal Corporation.

#### **Financial Package to SAIL**

1154. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial package has been given to Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL), recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of employees/officers of Steel Authority of India Ltd. and its ancillary companies have taken voluntary retirement or resigned from their posts during each of the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The status of resignations by employees in the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and its subsidiary, Maharashtra Electrosmeelt Ltd. (MEL) for the last three years and the current year upto January, 2010 is as under:

Year	No. of employees resigning from		Total
	SAIL	MEL	
2006-07	160	1	161
2007-08	241	2	243
2008-09	188	1	189
2009-10 (Up to January, 2010)	162	—	162

The status of employees covered under Voluntary Retirement Scheme introduced in last three years and the current year upto January, 2010 is as under:

Year	Period of VRS	Nos. in SAIL	Nos. in MEL	Total
1	2	3	4	5
2006-07	01.02.2006 to 30.04.2006	382	-	382
	22.1 1.2006 to 22.12.2006	455	-	455

1	2	3	4	5
2007-08	-	No VRS	-	-
2008-09	20.12.2008 to 10.04.2009	1283	15*	1298
2009-10 (upto January, 2010)	-	No VRS	-	No VRS

\*Scheme was extended at MEL upto 15th March, 2009

[English]

**Grant in Aid to NGOs for Food Parks**

1155. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:  
SHRI RAMKISHUN:

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

(a) the funds provided under grant-in-aids to NGOs in Tenth Five Year Plan for food parks; and

(b) the details of grants sanctioned for the purpose during the last three financial years, i.e., 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 for food parks?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI): (a) Under Infrastructure Development Scheme of the Xth Plan, financial assistance in the form of grant-in aid was provided to Implementing Agencies of 15 Food Parks which comprised of State Government Undertakings, Private Companies and Joint Venture Companies consisting of State Governments and Private Companies. None of the Implementing Agencies was NGO.

(b) No fresh grants were sanctioned under Food Park Scheme during the last 3 financial years. However, details of grants released for the sanctioned projects during the last three financial years are as under:

**2007-08**

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name	2007-08
1	2	3
1.	Malda Food Park, West Bengal	193.95
2.	Sankhrail, Food Park, West Bengal	27.00
3.	KINFRA, Mazhuvanur, Kerala	100.00
4.	Gorakhapur Food Park, UP	80.77
5.	Akshay Food Park, Karnataka	100.00
6.	Innova Bio Food Park, Karnataka	100.00
7.	Alwar Food Park, Rajasthan	87.99
8.	Gwalior Food Park, Madhya Pradesh	100.00
9.	Lakshmi Nimral Pratishtan, Maharashtra	100.00

1	2	3
10.	Adoor Food Park, Kerala	97.00
11.	Sultanpur Food Park, West Bengal	100.28
12.	Shankarpur Food Park, West Bengal	42.03
	Total	1128.57
<b>2008-09</b>		
1.	Hirriyur Food Park, Karnataka	100.00
2.	Nilakuthi Food Park, Manipur	40.00
3.	Kushal International, Uttar Pradesh	100.00
4.	Adoor Food Park, Kerala	97.00
	Total	337.00

**2009-10**

No financial assistance has been released during 2009-10.

**Silk Production**

1156. SHRI VARUN GANDHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken steps to increase the production thereby improving the quality of silk through the transfer of technology and modernizing various sections of the silk industry;

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

(c) whether the Government has proposed a focussed cluster based programme on bi-voltine sericulture development; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government, through the Central Silk Board, has taken various steps to increase the production of silk and to improve the quality of silk yarn through Research & Development efforts, which, inter alia, include the following:

1. Strengthening the R&D systems to improve the levels of cocoon production and productivity.
2. R&D institutes of Central Silk Board have evolved new Bivoltine Breeds with assistance from the Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA). Commercial Exploitation of these breeds has resulted in the production of International Standard Import Substitute grade of mulberry raw silk in the country.
3. Through R&D efforts, the Central Silk Board has made a break through in tropicalising the BV Silkworm and Development of few varieties of mulberry (Viz VI, S36, AR11, AR12, S12 and S34). Plants with higher yields resulting in significant improvement in silk productivity.
4. The Central Silk Technological Research Institute (CSTI) under the Central Silk Board has developed improved devices, New Machines and equipments which have helped improvement in Silk quality and productivity.
5. The Catalytic Development Programme (CDP) is being implemented by the Central Silk Board



in collaboration with the State Governments to popularize the improved technologies evolved by the Research Institutes to improve the production, productivity and quality.

6. CSB is making necessary efforts to import and popularize the Automatic Silk reeling Machines and multi-end reeling machines in selected clusters to meet the demand of domestic powerlooms and to raise the quality of yarn at International level.
7. Government of India has encouraged production of value added mulberry and Vanya Silk products with internationally acceptable design input with the help of well known designers.
8. The Central Silk Board has established Silk Conditioning and Testing Houses to undertake Testing of Raw Silk for its quality.
9. The CSB has taken-up a separate Project approved by the Govt. of India, viz. "Quality Certification System for Silk" for implementation in the country. The objectives of the Project is to ensure quality maintenance at different levels of production process (silkworm seed, cocoon and raw silk production) which ultimately results in the production of quality silks of international standard so as to compete in the Global Markets.
10. CSB has launched "Silk Mark" scheme which is a "Hall-Mark" for the products made from

pure natural Silk and it guarantees the purity of silk products. The Silk Mark will also play an important role in brand promotion of Indian Silk in domestic and Export markets.

11. Eri Spun Silk Mills have been established in Assam and Andhra Pradesh to provide forward linkages to the eri cocoons produced by the farmers.

As a result of the above interventions, the silk production in the country has increased from 17,351 M.tonnes during 2001-02 to 18,370 M.tonnes during 2008-09. The silk productivity in terms of raw silk production per hectare has also increased from 68.73 Kgs/Ha. during 2001-02 to 87.73 Kgs/Ha. during 2008-09.

(c) and (d) The Government, through the Central Silk Board, is implementing Cluster Development Projects in 51 selected clusters, involving 250-300 stakeholders per cluster. These projects are being implemented utilizing the provisions and facilities available under the Catalytic Development Programme (CDP) of the Govt. of India for the development of Sericulture including bi-voltine sericulture in India for the development of Sericulture including bi-voltine sericulture in India. These clusters cover 16 states, viz, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, AP, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal, Orissa, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh. State-wise details showing the number of Clusters developed, its location etc. during the last two years (2008-09 and 2009-10) are furnished below:

Sl.No.	State	2008-09			2009-10	
		No. of Clusters	Location of the Clusters/Sector		No. of Clusters	Location of the Clusters
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Karnataka	5	Harohally Ithandahally Y.N. Hoskote Bidarkote Shapur	Mulberry Sector Post Cocoon	3	Gajanur G.R. Kere Molakalmur
2.	Tamil Nadu	4	Udumalpet Palani Gobi Berigai	Mulberry Sector  Post Cocoon	3	Sanarpatty Uttangarai  Arni

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Andhra Pradesh	4	Makakasira V. Kota Hindupur  Palamner	Mulberry Sector  Post Cocoon	3	Kalyanadurga Bhimadole  Hindupur
4.	Assam	4	Darang Golaghat  Lakhimpur Udalguri	Mulberry Muga Muga Eri Post Cocoon	1	-  Nalbari
5.	Meghalaya	1	Tura	Muga	-	-
6.	Mizoram	1	Serchhip	Mulberry	-	-
7.	Nagaland			Eri	1	Dimapur Dist.
8.	Manipur			Oak Tasar	2	Senapathy Churchandapur
9.	West Bengal	3	Nabagram Kaliachak  Cooch Behar	Mulberry Muga Post Cocoon	- 1	-  Shanthipur
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	Nowshera Tral	Mulberry	2	Tikri Bandipora
11.	Uttarakhand	2	Begeshwar  Kalsi & Vikashnagar	Oak Tasar Mulberry	-	-
12.	Himachal Pradesh	1	Kangra, Mandi & Kullu	Oak Tasar	-	-
13.	Maharashtra	2	Osmanbad Beed	Mulberry Post Cocoon	2	Buldana Yeola
14.	Uttar Pradesh	1	Fatehpur	Eri	-	-
15.	Orissa	1	Mayurbhanj	Tasar	1	Pallahara
16.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	Tasar	1	Bastar Dist.
Total		31			20	

**Passenger Facilities in Chennai Local Trains**

1157. SHRI C. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have conducted any survey on the number of passengers commuting daily in

Chennai local trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of facilities available to local passengers including mechanism for redressal of their grievances; and

(d) the further steps contemplated for redressal of grievances of passengers in this regard?

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

(b) During the survey conducted on a working day i.e. 21.07,2008 and a holiday i.e. 20.07.2008, the percentage occupancy on different sections during peak hours and lean hours was found as under:

Section	(Period 21.7.08) Working day % occupancy		Period 20.7.08) Holiday % occupancy	
	Peak	Lean	Peak	Lean
Chennai Beach/Central-Gummidipundi	214	67	154	57
Gummidipundi-Chennai Central/Beach	389	40	248	48
Arakkonam-Chennai Central/Beach	310	210	172	122
Chennai Central/Beach-Arakkonam	274	115	167	110
Chennai Beach-Chingalpattu	331	209	177	104
Chingalpattu-Chennai Beach	335	169	197	123
Velacherry-Chennai Beach	198	44	110	25
Chennai Beach-Velacherry	180	30	120	20

(c) and (d) Facilities like Computerized Booking offices, high level platforms, platform shelters, drinking water, water coolers, seating arrangements, toilets, lighting arrangements, Foot over bridges, public address system, catering stalls, pay and use toilets, etc. have been provided at suburban stations.

Regarding redressal of grievances, station supervisory officials attend to grievances. Further complaint books are available at the station for recording passenger complaint. Passengers can also E-mail their complaints on the Railway Website. These are being attended to and reply sent to public regarding action taken. This is a continuous process.

[Translation]

#### **Railway Projects in Madhya Pradesh**

1158. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:  
SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ongoing railway projects viz. laying of new railway lines, doubling of rail lines, gauge conversion and electrification of railway tracks in Madhya Pradesh alongwith the target fixed for this completion;

(b) the amount allocated and spent thereon till date, project-wise;

(c) the details of proposals received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for conversion of railway line; and

(d) the action taken by the Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) A statement is attached.

(c) No proposal has been received from Government of Madhya Pradesh for gauge conversion.

(d) Does not arise.

**Statement**

The details of ongoing railway projects alongwith present status and targets wherever fixed in Madhya Pradesh are as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl.No.	Name of the project	Expenditure upto March, 2009	Outlay during 2009-10	Present status and target, wherever fixed
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Chhotaudepur-Dhar, New Line	3.74	20.22	Final Location Survey taken up. Land acquisition taken up.
2.	Dahod-Indore via Sardarpur, Jhabua & Dhar, New Line	42.2	40	Earthwork and bridge work taken up in Dahod-Katwara and Sagar-Indore.
3.	Guna-Etawah, New Line	405.27	50	Guna-Bhind (308 Km) completed. The progress of Bhind-Etawah section is 72%.
4.	Lalitpur-Satna, Rewa-Sangrauli & Mahoba-Khajuraho, New Line	303.67	58.26	Mahoba-Khajuraho (65 Km) completed. In Lalitpur-Mawai Khas, major bridges completed. Earthwork, minor bridges etc. taken up. Lalitpur-Udaipur is likely to complete in 2010-11.
5.	Ramganjmandi-Bhopal, New Line	91.45	20	Final location survey completed. Earthwork, bridge work taken up on Ramganjmandi-Jhalawar.
6.	Chhindwara-Nagpur Gauge Conversion	85.38	50	Final location survey completed. Land acquisition, earthwork and bridge work taken up.
7.	Jabalpur-Gondia including Balaghat-Katangji, Gauge Conversion	552.74	70	Gondia-Balaghat completed. Balaghat-Katangji nearing completion. Earthwork, bridge works etc. taken up in Balaghat-Nainpur.
8.	Ratlam-Mhow-Khandwa-Akola, Gauge Conversion	0	40	Preliminary work of detailed survey and estimate taken up.

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Akodia-Shujalpur Patch Doubling	32.71	1.5	Earthwork and bridge are in advanced stage. Work is likely to complete in 2010-11.
10.	Bhopal-Bina 3rd line	50	35	Final location survey completed and detailed estimate sanctioned.
11.	Kalapipal-Phanda/Maksi-Bhopal, Doubling	119.99	4.99	Five out of six block sections commissioned. Remaining block section Parbati-Baktal (6 km) is targeted for completion during 2010-11.
12.	Guna-Ruthiyai doubling	0.00	2	Preliminary works taken up.
13.	Bina-Kota Electrification	89.82	78.34	192 Km out of 309 Km energized. The work on balance 117 Km. targeted for completion by March, 2010.
14.	Ujjain-Indore & Dewas-Maksi-Electrification	32.25	20.58	74 Km out of 115 Km energized. The work on balance 41 Km. targeted for completion by March, 2011.

#### **Ticket Booking Through Mobile Phone**

1159. SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for ticket booking through mobile phone is under consideration of the Railways; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The proposal to introduce ticket booking through mobile phone is presently under consideration and a pilot project for the same is under finalization.

#### **Superfast Train for Rajasthan**

1160. SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to introduce a new superfast train from Jaisalmer to Kandla port;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the others steps taken to improve the rail services in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to introduce a train between Jaisalmer and Kandla Port.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The trains are not introduced state-wise, but on pattern of traffic demand, operational feasibility and availability of resources. However, 11 pairs of new trains, extension of 6 pairs of trains and increase in the frequency of 2 pairs of trains serving Rajasthan were announced during the Railway Budget 2009-2010.

Further, introduction of 14 pairs of trains and increase in the frequency of 3 pairs of trains serving different parts of Rajasthan have been announced in Railway Budget 2010-2011.

**Extension of Surya Nagar Express Train**

1161. SHRI HARISH CHAUDHARY:  
SHRI VITTHALBHAI HANSRAJBHAI  
RADADIYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to extend Surya Nagari Express train service from Bandra to Jaisalmer or Barmer;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and initiatives taken by the Railways thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No; Sir. At present there is no proposal to extend 2479/2480 Bandra (T)-Jodhpur Suryanagari Express upto Jaisalmer/Barmer.

(b) and (c) Extension of 2479/2480 Bandra (T)-Jodhpur Suryanagari Express upto Jaisalmer/Barmer has been examined, but has not been found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

**Doubling of Barabanki-Jaunpur Railway Line**

1162. DR. NIRMAL KHATRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to conduct a survey for doubling of rail line between Barabanki and Jaunpur (Northern Railway); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Gas Reserves in Gujarat**

1163. SHRI MANSUKH BHAI D. VASAVA:  
SHRI VITTHALBHAI HANSRAJBHAI RADADIYA:

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

(a) whether gas reserves have been found in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which this gas is planned to be utilized in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Under the PSC regime, two gas discoveries have been made in the block CB-ONN-2000/2 operated by (NIKO) falling in the State of Gujarat and awarded under NELP II round. Both discoveries were developed and put on production in the year 2004. The present rate of gas production from these two discoveries is @ 0.22 Million Standard Cubic Meters Per Day (MMSCMD).

In the nomination blocks, ONGC has made a number of hydrocarbon discoveries including gas discovery in the State of Gujarat. The details of gas discovered by ONGC, since inception, are given below:

[In Metric Million Standard Cubic Meter (MMm<sup>3</sup>)]

Inplace Gas	Ultimate Gas	Reseres Gas
216081.1	134987.0	68621.6

(c) The gas produced from PSC regime is being sold to Gujarat Gas Corporation Limited (GGCL) and is mainly used for City Gas Distribution. The gas produced by ONGC from nomination blocks are used for APM gas.

**Rail Projects in Andhra Pradesh**

1164. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:  
SHRI RAJIAH SIRICILLA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the rail projects for Andhra Pradesh sanctioned during the last three years;

(b) the details of fund allocated and spent thereon so far. project-wise;

(c) whether there is an inordinate delay in implementation/completion of these projects;

(d) if so, whether an expert committee has been set upto find out the reasons for the delay in the implementation of these projects, and

(e) If so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The details of rail projects falling fully/partly in Andhra Pradesh included in Budget during the last three years are as under:

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Latest Anticipated Cost (Rs. in crore)	Expenditure expected upto expected 31.3.2010 (Rs. in crore)
<b>2006-07</b>			
1.	Jaggayyapet-Mellacheruvu New line	115.53	107.24
2.	Manoharabad-Kotapalli New line	670.03	2.43
3.	Obulavaripally-Krishnapattnam New line	788.81	156.57
4.	Vishnupuram-Janapahr New line	60.72	34.85
5.	Tindivanam-Nagari New line	582.83	34.04
6.	Kottavalasa-Simhachalam North 4th line	94.73	51.51
7.	Vizianagram-Kottavalasa 3rd line	194.99	44.24
8.	Guntur-Krishna Canal Doubling	119.74	117.74
<b>2007-08</b>			
9.	Rayadurg-Tumkur New line	1027.89	25.48
10.	Samalkot-Kakinada Port Doubling	123.02	100.65
11.	Cuddapah-Bangalore New line	1040.23	13.41
12.	Attipattu-Puttur New line	446.87	45.30
13.	Raghavapuram-Mandamari patch tripling	136.23	17.46

(c) Out of above Guntur-Krishna Canal and Samalkot-Kakinada doubling works have already been completed. The works are being progressed as per availability of resources.

(d) and (e) Objectives of Expert Committee set up by Ministry of Railways includes reviewing progress of ongoing activities undertaken by the Railways. The Committee has held a number of meetings and a review of the progress of ongoing projects has been taken up.

[Translation]

#### **Closure of Railway Stations**

1165. SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP:  
SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain stations in Himachal Pradesh on the Kalka-Shimla narrow gauge rail line have been closed down;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Railways to restart these stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Two halt stations viz. Solan Brewery and Jabli have been closed due to poor patronage.

(c) The proposal for reopening of these stations is presently not commercially justified.

**Opening of LPG/CNG Agencies**

1166. SHRI SAJJAN VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has invited fresh tenders for opening more LPG and CNG agencies in Indore, Devas, Shajapur districts of Madhya Pradesh to meet the demand of the people;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which new agencies are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) Notice inviting applications for selection of LPG distributors have been issued on 19.10.2009 by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) for establishing 97 new LPG distributors in the State of Madhya Pradesh under the scheme Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitrak Yojana (RGGLVY).

The selection of LPG distributorships is made by OMCs themselves, in terms of laid down guidelines. Commissioning/opening of distributors involves Field Verification of Credentials of the selected candidate, construction of godown/ showroom and obtaining statutory clearances. It is therefore, not possible to indicate any time frame for commissioning/ opening of LPG distributors, but every effort is made to do so as quickly as possible.

As regards CNG agencies, at present, there are five CNG stations in Indore and one CNG station in Ujjain. There are no other CNG stations operating in Madhya Pradesh. Aavantika Gas Limited (AGL) would be undertaking further expansion of CNG infrastructure in Indore and Ujjain, as also in Gwalior. Further, Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) has selected GAIL Gas Ltd. For development of City Gas Distribution network in Geographical Area of Dewas.

Providing of CNG facilities in a particular city/town area depends inter-alia upon proximity to trunk natural gas pipelines, availability of gas, setting up of necessary infrastructure and economic viability.

*[English]***Introduction of Dedicated Pharma Zone**

1167. SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce dedicated Pharma Zones at major ports in the country for preserving the quality and life of drugs:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) The subject matter of quality of drugs falls under the domain of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. There is no proposal at present before the Department of Pharmaceuticals to introduce dedicated Pharma Zones at major ports in the country for preserving the Quality and life of drugs.

*[Translation]***Private Participation in Container Operation**

1168. SHRI MAHESH JOSHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have approved private participation in container and freight operations;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the private companies in this regard;

(c) whether this policy is likely to affect the employment avenue for those working in the railways; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the railways to protect the interest of these railway workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Railways have permitted private participation for movement of container trains only.

(b) The rules for permission to move container trains on Indian Railways was notified vide the Gazette of India No.458 dated 26.9.2006. Any person individual or a joint



venture or a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 with specified field experience and financial capabilities shall be eligible to obtain the permission to move container trains. For Licence purpose, Indian Railway network has been grouped in four categories. For movement of containers, the operators shall arrange rolling stock and containers. Train operation including locomotive, crew and track will be provided by Railways.

Already 16 (sixteen) players have taken licence to operate trains.

- (c) No.
- (d) Does not arise.

#### **High Prices of Patented Medicines**

1169. SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA:  
SHRI BAIDYANATH PRASAD MAHATO:

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

- (a) the average annual turnover of patented medicines and generic medicines in the country at present;
- (b) whether the prices of patented medicines are higher than that of generic medicines;
- (c) if so, the average difference in prices of the medicines of these two categories;
- (d) whether medical treatment will become cheap by promoting the use of generic medicines in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA):  
(a) to (e) The data regarding turnover and difference in prices in respect of patented medicines and generic medicines is not centrally maintained. However, the prices of patented medicines are generally higher as compared to generic medicines and, hence, the treatment of ailments/diseases by use of generic medicines will cost lesser as compared to treatment by use of patented medicines wherever possible.

#### **Attari Railway Station**

1170. DR. BHOLA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways propose to modernize Attari Railway Station at Indo-Pak border;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Railways in this regard?

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

(b) and (c) Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Home Affairs have jointly taken up the work of improvement of infrastructure/ passenger amenities at Attari Station, on cost-sharing basis, at a cost of Rs. 17.7 crore comprising air conditioned immigration/custom facilities and waiting halls with allied passenger facilities. Phase-I of the work has already been completed.

Works of provision of additional immigration/custom halls as well as waiting hall with allied passenger amenities are planned to be taken up in Phase-II.

[English]

#### **Hike in Prices of Petroleum Products**

1171. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA:  
SHRIMATI BHAVANA PATIL GAWALI:  
SHRI JAYARAM PANGI:  
DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ:  
SHRI JOSE K. MANI:  
SHRI P. BALRAM:  
SHRI RAMESH RATHOD:  
SHRI MADHU GODU YASKHI:  
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:  
SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:  
SHRI S. PAKKIRAPPA:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI HARIN PATHAK:  
SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL:  
SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN:  
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase the prices of petroleum products in the country;

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

(c) the number of times prices of petroleum products have been increased during the last three years, till date;

(d) whether the Government has assessed its impact on the prices of essential commodities and common man;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to keep the prices of petroleum products stable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) In the Budget 2010-11, Finance Minister has restored the Customs Duty on Crude Oil from Nil to 5%, from 2.5%, to 7.5% on Petrol and Diesel, and from 5% to has also been increased by re. 1 per litre. As a consequence of this, the retail selling prices of Petrol and Diesel have been increased by Rs. 2.71 per litre and Rs. 2.55 per litre respectively (at Delhi) with effect from 27.2.2010 with corresponding increases in the rest of the country. The retail selling prices of PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG have not been increased.

(c) The details of major revisions in the retail selling price of sensitive petroleum products during the last three years (at Delhi) are given below:

(Rs. per litre/cylinder)				
Revision	Petrol	Diesel	PDS Kerosene	Domestic LPG
1	2	3	4	5
01.04.07	42.85	30.25	9.09	294.75
06.06.07	43.52	30.48	-	-
15.02.08	45.52	31.76	-	-
05.06.08	50.56	34.40	-	346.30
09.06.08	-	-	-	304.70*
06.12.08	45.62	32.86	-	-
29.01.09	40.62	30.86	-	279.70*

1	2	3	4	5
02.07.09	44.63	32.87	-	-
27.02.10	47.43	35.47	-	-
Current Price	47.43	35.47	9.23	281.20*

\*State Government of Delhi has provided subsidy of Rs. 40. per cylinder w.e.f. 09.06.08.

(d) to (f) While increase in the retail prices of Petrol and Diesel will impact the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) to some extent, any increase in the rate of inflation will depend on the trend of prices of other commodities considered in the WPI basket.

There has been an unprecedented rise in the international oil prices since 2004. The Government has not passed on the full burden of the increased international oil prices to the common man. As passing on the entire impact of the increase in the oil prices to the consumers would result in a steep increase in the domestic prices and aggravate inflationary conditions, the government has been following an equitable Burden Sharing Mechanism, to ensure that the burden of under-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/ Cash Subsidy
- Domestic upstream oil companies through pricediscounts to OMCs
- OMCs to bear a portion of the under recoveries and
- Consumers to bear minimal price increases.

[*Translation*]

#### **Railway Crossing on Ahmedabad-Udaipur Line**

1172. SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have issued any guidelines for proper operation of railway crossings gates;

(b) if so, whether the Railways are aware of the irregularities in operation of railway crossing No. 193 located on Ahmedabad-Udaipur rail line;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against found guilty in this regard;

(d) the number of manned and unmanned railway crossings in Gujarat, location-wise; and

(e) the status of functioning of these railway crossings?

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

(b) No irregularities found on the unmanned level crossing No. 193.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(e) All level crossings are functional.

[English]

#### **Under Trial Prisoners**

1173. DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:  
SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH:  
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVE RAO:  
SHRI PURNMASI RAM:  
SHRIMATI BHAVANA PATIL GAWALI:  
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:  
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:  
SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN:  
SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS:  
SHRI P.R. NATARAJAN:  
DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY:  
SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU:

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

(a) whether in the conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices held in August 2009, the Chief Justice of India instructed its Judges to ascertain the number of under trials booked for petty offences and rendered more number of years than the punishment prescribed for the crime;

(b) if so, the number of under trials ascertained as also the punishment undergone by them; and

(c) the number of cases that are pending in the courts as a scourge and the steps taken to liquidate the arrears?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) As per the Minuter of the Conference of Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of High Courts held on 16th August 2009, no such instructions were issued by the Chief Justice of India.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 55791 cases were pending in the Supreme Court as on 31.12.2009. As per the latest available reports received from the High Courts, 4047718 cases were pending in the High Courts and 26701033 case were pending in the Subordinate Courts.

The following steps have been taken to facilitate speedy disposal of cases in courts:

- (1) Increasing the strength of Judges in Supreme Court and the High Courts.
- (2) Fast Track Courts were set up to expedite disposal of long pending Sessions cases and the cases of undertrials prisoners.
- (3) The Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 has been operationalised w.e.f. 2nd October 2009. More than 5000 Gram Nyayalayas are expected to be set up to enhance access to justice at the grass root level.
- (4) Alternative modes of disposal including mediation and conciliation 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.
- (7) Several reform measures for speeding up the disposal of cases such as operations of shift

courts have been accepted in the recommendations of the 13th Finance Commission to be implemented by the States.

[*Translation*]

### **ROB on Ganga River**

1174. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are two over bridges which are under construction over the river Ganga, one at near Patna and other at Munger in Bihar and another over bridge on Koshi river near Nirmali;

(b) if so, whether there is any report regarding slow pace of construction of these bridges;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Railways for expeditious completion of these bridges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) The work of bridges over river Ganga near Patna, Munger and over river Kosi are in various stages of progress. The planning of bridge near Patna was changed at an immediate stage from rail bridge to rail cum road bridge on the request of State Government which required redesigning the bridge. On Munger rail cum road bridge, 4 additional spans have been added due to change of course of the river. There has been delay in availability of land from the State Government. The work of Kosi Bridge is targeted for completion by March, 2012 and the other two rail cum road bridges during 2012-13. Necessary steps have been taken to speed up the progress of these projects and to follow up issues with the State Government.

[*English*]

### **Decline in Refund of State-Run Oil Marketing Companies**

1175. SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:  
SHRI P.C. GADDIGODAR:  
SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:  
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

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

(a) whether the Ministry of Finance had declined to refunding State-run oil marketing companies for selling cooking fuels below market rate; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) during the year 2009-10 (April-December 2009), the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), viz., Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited have incurred the following under-recoveries on the sale of PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG:

	(Rs. crore)
	April-December 2009
PDS Kerosene	12,560
Domestic LPG	8,429
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,989</b>

The Government has been following a Burden Sharing Mechanism, to ensure that the burden of under-recoveries is equitably 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/Cash Subsidy
- Domestic upstream oil companies through price discounts to OMCs
- OMCs to bear a portion of the under recoveries and
- Consumers to bear minimal price increases.

Under the abovesaid mechanism, Ministry of Finance have confirmed a budgetary support of Rs. 12,000 crore as the share of the Government towards meeting the under-recoveries for the entire year 2009-10.

Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas is in constant touch with the Ministry of Finance for the grant of subsidy assistance for the OMCs under-recoveries on PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG.

*[Translation]***Railway Line from Toti to Shivpur**

1176. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of laying railway line from Toti to Shivpur in Jharkhand;

(b) the details of amount earmarked and spent so far on the said project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) (a) to (c) The work of new line Hazaribagh-Shivpur-Toti (93.28 KM.) is being done with cost being borne by Central Coalfields Limited. Issues of land availability and forestry clearance has been taken up. Latest anticipated cost for the project is Rs.600.50 crore. Expenditure of Rs. 25.91 crore has been incurred upto 31.3.2009. Outlay of Rs. 50 crore is provided in the budget 2009-10. The project shall be completed based on land availability and resources in coming years.

*[English]***Financial Assistance From World Bank**

1177. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government sought for financial assistance from the World Bank for infrastructure development in the field of food processing industries of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the response of the World Bank in this regard; and

(d) The extent to which this would benefit the food processing sector of the country?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Independent Directors**

1178. SHRI HANSRAJ G AHIR: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to limit the maximum number of independent Directors on the Board of Directors of the companies; and

(b) 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) and (b) The Companies Bill, 2009 has not proposed any upper cap on the number of independent directors, but, sub-clause (3) of clause 132 of the Companies Bill, 2009 provides that at least one-third of total directors shall be independent Directors to be appointed in every listed company having certain amount of paid up capital to be prescribed by the Central Government. This clause further provides that the Central Government may also prescribe the minimum number of independent Directors in case of other public companies and subsidiary(s) of a public company.

**Employees Welfare**

1179. SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a family member of an employees who died in harness is provided job on compassionate ground;

(b) if so, the details of the employees/officers died in harness during the last three years;

(c) the details of family members of such employees who have been provided with a job out of the above and the number of applications lying pending with the Government as on date;

(d) whether the Government has fixed any time frame to provide job to the said family members;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) As per the existing instructions, compassionate appointment to a dependent family member of a Government servant dying in harness, thereby leaving his family in penury and without any means of livelihood to relieve the family of the Government servant concerned from financial

destitution, is made in Group C or Group D posts against a maximum of 5% of direct recruitment quota vacancies released by the Screening Committee, if the applicant is eligible and suitable for the post in all respects under relevant recruitment rules.

(b) Details of employees/officers died in harness during the last three years are as given below:

Sl.No.	Name of the deceased Govt. servant, designation and office of posting	Name of the applicant & relation	Date of Demise of Govt. servant
1.	Shri A. Krishna, Peon Non-CSS, Regi Controller of Air Safety, Hyderabad	Smt. Nirmala, wife	11.6.2007
2.	Shri Munshi Ram, Daftry Non-CSS Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)	Dinesh Kumar, Son,	23.6.2007
3.	Shri Janak Dev Prasad, Peon Non-CSS Ministry	Smt. Pushp Kumari, Wife	2.7.2007
4.	Shri Ram Bahadur Bearer Non-CSS, DGCA	Amit Khatri, Son	6.12.2007
5.	Shri Satish Chandra, Assistant, CSS, DGCA	Smt. Madhu Chandra, Wife	15.1.2008
6.	Shri S.C. Dey, Store man Non-CSS, DGCA	Smt. Shikha Dey, Wife	1.5.2008
7.	Shri Prakash, Bearer, Non-CSS, DGCA	Shri Nitin, Son	16.10.2008
8.	Shri Rajesh Kumar, Staff Car Driver, Non-CSS, DGCA	Smt. Rita, Wife	4.4.2009

(c) No family member of the above employees has yet been appointed on compassionate grounds.

(d) to (f) As per existing instructions, the maximum time a persons name can be kept under consideration for offering Compassionate appointment is 3 years, subject to the condition that the prescribed Committee has reviewed and certified the penurious condition of the applicant at the end of the first and the second year. After 3 years, if compassionate appointment is not possible to be offered to the applicant, his case will be finally closed, and will not be considered again.

[English]

#### High Prices of Steel

1180. SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA: Will

the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita production and consumption of steel in the country;

(b) whether the price of steel is higher in the country as compared to other major steel producing countries;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) During 2008-09, the per capita production for sale of total finished steel was 49 kg. while the per capita consumption was 45 kg.

(b) and (c) Steel is a deregulated sector in India and the price of steel in the country is determined by the market forces based upon a multitude of complex factors such as cost of raw materials, process, technology, quality of output and the demand-supply gap. Ministry of Steel monitors the indicative retail market prices and the landed cost of import in respect of representative category of steel items. Moreover, it is difficult to make comparison of steel prices in India with other major steel producing countries due to the following reasons:

- (i) Economic policy regime including taxation, export and import duties and subsidies provided in various countries are different.
- (ii) Exchange rate of currencies may not reflect the real value of money.
- (iii) Quality and grades may not be comparable.
- (iv) Market price in each country is greatly affected by the prevailing supply-demand conditions of the country concerned.

However, a comparison of domestic steel retail price in respect of a representative category of steel items vis-a-vis the landed cost of import, as in delhi market is given below:

(In Rs./tonne)

Item	Domestic market price Delhi region, January 2010	Landed cost January 2010
Wire rods	33,500	33,863
TMT	33,970	33,863
H R coils	35,590	33,021

Source: JPC

(d) Since steel industry is a de-regulated industry, Government does not determine the prices in the country. However, in order to provide a level playing field to the steel producers and consumers as well as to boost the steel industry in the country, the following are the existing fiscal measures:

- (i) Export Duty on steel items (except melting scrap) withdrawn with effect from 31.10.2008;

- (ii) Duty Entitled Pass Book (DEPB) on steel items restored with effect from 14.11.2008;
- (iii) Import Duty on iron and non-alloy steel items re-imposed at 5% with effect from 18.11.2008;
- (iv) Countervailing duty (CVD) on Thermo Mechanically Treated (TMT) bars and structurals were reintroduced with effect from 02.01.2009;
- (v) Export Duty on iron ore has been revised w.e.f. 24.12.2009 to 10% on lumps and pellets and 5% on iron ore items.

#### Supply of Equipments to Power Projects

1181. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any delay from M/s. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) to supply equipments/materials from main plant of Parli TPS Unit 7, Paras TPS Unit 4, Khaperkheda TPS Unit 5 and Bhusawal TPS Unit 4 & 5 in the State of Maharashtra;

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

(c) whether the Ministry has made any efforts to expedite the supply of these equipments to these projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) The scope of work of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) for Parli TPS Unit 7, Pstsd TPS Unit 4, Khaperkheda TPS Unit 4 & 5 is limited to design, engineering, manufacture, supply, erection and commissioning of Boiler, Turbine Generator (BTG) and Balance of Plants (BoPs) like Coal Handling Plant, Ash Handling Plant, DM Plant, Switchyard etc. are under the scope of the project developer which is MAHAGENCO.

While there are some delays in execution of these power projects, the delays are not solely attributable to BHEL. Main causes of delay have been availability of inputs and civil foundation by MAHAGENCO and BoP vendors to BHEL. The supplies by BHEL have been made to match the site requirements and its readiness.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Heavy Industry and Public Enterprises closely monitors the progress in implementation of projects by BHEL, including those referred to in the State of Maharashtra, to ensure that in spite of delays due to various factors beyond the control of BHEL, BHEL puts in adequate extra efforts to minimize the slippages in commissioning of the projects.

[*Translation*]

**Rail Overbridge at Chowkhunti Road in Bikaner**

1182. SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Rail Overbridge at Chowkhunti Road in Bikaner (Rajasthan) is under the consideration of the Railways;

(b) if so, the details and the current status thereof;

(c) whether the Railways is delaying the tendering process of this project;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures initiated by the Railways for timely execution of said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. General Arrangement Drawing (GAD) for construction of Road Over Bridge (ROB) In lieu of Level Crossing (LC) No-139 has been approved. However, execution of work can be taken in hand after work of construction of ROB on adjoining LC No. 138 is completed, as traffic from LC No. 138 is presently diverted through LC No. 139.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Progress of this case is being monitored regularly for timely execution.

[*English*]

**Infrastructure Development in Textile Sector**

1183. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to restructure its textile policy for infrastructure development to achieve a growth target of 12 per cent in next five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the efforts made by the Government in the regard;

(c) whether the working group to formulate National Five Policy has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the detailed recommendations made by the group;

(e) whether the Government is giving more importance to man-made fibre rather than cotton to boost textile sector; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which a new textile policy is likely to be announced by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The National Textile Policy 2000 and various schemes of Government are designed to accelerate the growth of textiles sector. The Government is committed to provide a conducive environment to enable the Indian textile industry to realise its full potential to achieve better growth. Presently Government is in process of formulating National Fiber Policy.

(c) and (d) National Fiber Policy is still under formulation.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**Losses due to Import of Old Textiles**

1184. SHRI GHANSHYAM ANURAGI:  
SHRI JAYWANT GANGARAM AWALE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether domestic textile industry are facing heavy losses due to import of old/inferior textiles from abroad;

(b) if so, whether it has resulted in heavy losses of foreign exchange also;



(c) whether the Government proposes to ban the import of old textiles; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The import of worn clothing/used garments is not in such quantity or value to pose any threat to the domestic textiles industry. The imports of worn clothing in January-September, 2009 was of the order of US\$ 44 million, which is a decline of 2.51% over the corresponding period of the preceding year.

(c) and (d) The Government has already imposed restrictions on the import of used garments keeping in view the sanitary and phyto-sanitary issues involved by bringing such imports under the 'Restricted list of Imports' vide Notification No. 7/2004-09 dated the 27th October, 2004.

#### **Robbery in Mussorie Express**

1185. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) whether some unidentified robbers looted traders and passengers travelling through Mussorie-Delhi Express on 15th January, 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the arrests made in the said case;

(c) whether such types of incidents are increasing on the said route; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the measures being adopted to provide security to the railway passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, there is marginal Increase In the incidents of loot in the year 2009 in comparison to the previous year.

(d) Maintenance of law and order is a State subject and powers to investigate in IPC crimes are vested with Police. Prevention and detection of crime is the constitutional responsibility of the State Governments.

Concerned Government Railway Police (GRP) has registered the cases for Investigation.

However, to provide better security to the traveling passengers in trains and passenger areas, Railway is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways by deploying Railway Protection Force staff to escort important trains in addition to trains escorted by Government Railway Police (GRP).

Integrated Security Scheme consisting of CCTV surveillance system, access control system, personal and baggage screening system and bomb detection & disposal system has been finalized and the same is under implementation at 202 sensitive stations over Indian Railways at a cost of Rs. 355 crores approximately.

Regular coordination with Government Railway Police and State Police is maintained at various levels to control crime in Railways.

*[English]*

#### **Availability of Green Fuel**

1186. SHRI RAJIAH SIRICILLA:  
SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

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

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to supply Euro-IV (green fuel) petrol and diesel in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the Euro-IV compliant motor fuels shall be made available in rest of the country; and

(d) the guidelines issued to auto industry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per the road map Given in the Auto Fuel Policy, Euro-IV equivalent MS/HSD is to be supplied in 13 major cities namely NCR/Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore, w.e.f. 1.4.2010. Euro-III equivalent MS/HSD would be supplied in the rest of the country in a phased manner between April to October, 2010 starting from Goa w.e.f. 1.4.2010.

(d) Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways, Department of Road Transport and Highways have already issued guidelines vide Gazette Notification (G.S.R. 84-E) dated 9th February, 2009 for introduction of Euro-III/IV vehicular emission norms for new vehicles.

#### **International Financial Reporting Standards**

1187. SHRI ANATH KUMAR: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to adopt International Financial Reporting Standards in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be applicable to various legal entites in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALAMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) The Government has adopted the approach of convergence of Accounting Standards issued under the Companies act, 1956 with the International financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), keeping in view the requirements relevant to Indian conditions and to enable Indian companies and concerned regulatory bodies to transform to the new standrds smoothly. The converged Indian Accounting Standards are proposed to be made applicable to companies registered under the Act in a phased manner with effect from 1st April, 2010.

#### **Transportation of Salt**

1188. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various salt associations have submitted representations regarding classification of all salt types under item 'B' category instead under item 'D' category;

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

(c) the reasons for placing salt under category 'D' from category 'B'; and

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

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

(b) to (d) No change in category for carriage of salt has been made in Preferential Traffic Order since 1st April, 2006. Higher priority 'C' is accorded to iodised edible salt when its programme is submitted by Salt Commissioner of his Zonal Office and is approved by Railways. All other types of salt traffic moves under priority 'D'.

[*Translation*]

#### **Retail Prices of Fertilizers**

1189. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to decontrol the retail prices of fertilizers in the country;

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

(c) whether any objection from any section of the society against the said process has come to the notice of the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The Government has decided to introduce Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy w.e.f. 1.4.2010, for decontrolled P & K fertilizers, whereby subsidy shall be based on the nutrients i.e. Nitrogen (N), Phosphate (P), Potash (K) and Sulphur (S) contained in the decontrolled fertilizers i.e. DAP, MOP, Complex Fertilizers, SSP, Triple Super Phosphate and Ammonium Sulphate (AS). The market price of the above said subsidized decontrolled fertilizers will be determined based on the demand supply forces. However, the Government has decided that under the Nutrient Based Subsidy for 2010-11 on the nutrients 'N1, 'P1, 'K' & 'S' will be fixed in such a manner that the farm gate prices of non-urea fertilizers are as far as possible, near the current prices, so that the farmers are not adversely affected. The per nutrient subsidy shall be decided annually by Department of Fertilizers based on the recommendations of the Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC).

(c) and (d) Department of Fertilizers has not received any objection from any section of the society so far against the above said decision of the Government.

**Functioning of TUFS**

1190. SHRI RAJU SHETTI:  
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state;

(a) whether the amount of grant permissible under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) is sufficient for modernization in current scenario;

(b) if not, any scope of enlarging this limit in future;

(c) whether the Government has assessed the performance of TUFS keeping in view the overall textile sector;

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

(e) whether the Government is contemplating to extend the period of TUFS beyond the current date; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) is an open ended and need based scheme. There is no ceiling either on the investment or on 5% interest subsidy/10% capital subsidy. However, there is capital ceiling on investment of Rs. 200 lakh and ceiling of Rs. 15 lakh on 15% margin money subsidy for SSI textile sector. Further a capital ceiling of Rs. 200 lakh and ceiling of Rs. 20 lakh on 20% margin money subsidy for powerloom sector.

(c) and ((d) In order to assess the impact of TUFS on the textile industry in India. two studies on the evaluation of the TUFS have been done. One through the Mumbai University's Institute of Chemical Technology (MUICT) in the year 2003 and second by M/s. KSA Technopak (India) Pvt. Ltd. in the year 2006. The Government has considered the recommendations of the Studies and accordingly the Scheme was modified w.e.f. 2007. The Consultancy Evaluation Committee (CEC) has selectee M/s. CRISIL Ltd. Mumbai, for undertaking third study on the evaluation of TUFS.

(e) and (f) There is no such proposal.

[English]

**Indo-Iran Gas Pipeline Project**

1191. SHRI HASSAN KHAN:  
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:  
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

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

(a) the status of Indo-Iran gas pipeline project;

(b) whether there is any delay in implementation of the project; and

(c) if so the steps taken by the Government of resolve the hurdles in implementation of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) India is pursuing the import of natural gas from Iran through Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) Gas Pipeline Project. Various important issues, viz., pricing of gas, delivery point of gas, project structure, security of supplies, payment of transportation tariff and transit fees for passage of natural gas through Pakistan, etc., are under discussion amongst the participating countries.

Such multilateral projects involve protracted discussions, as all the aspects have to be carefully examined and deliberated upon to the satisfaction of the participating countries to protect each country's interests and to avoid any problems in the future in the successful operation of the project.

**Freight Terminal and Logistic Park**

1192. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal to set-up Freight terminals and multi-modal logistic parks across the country including Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said proposals are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir. Setting up of freight terminals by the railways is an ongoing process depending on traffic requirements. discussions have been held with concerned State Governments for development of multi modal logistic parks along side the dedicated freight corridor and at strategic locations under Public Private Partnership mode. There is no Proposal for setting up freight terminals and multi-modal logistic parks in Kerals, at present.

(b) and (c) Dedicited Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL) has been mandated to develop multi-modal logistics parks at four locations, namely Rewari, ahmedabad, Kanpur and Navi Mumbai subject to viability. container Corporation of India (CONCOR), a public sector undertaking under Ministry of Railways has plans to establish multi modal logistics park at several locations depending on Business requirements. No definite time-frame can be indicated at this stage.

#### **Assistance to Handicrafts Ogranisations**

1193. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Handicrafts Development Corporation of several States have sought assistance for the implementation of various schemes relating to promotion of handicrafts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of such proposals received from the State Governments/State Corporations/Apex Societies and voluntary organizations and the amount allocated and utilised each of the last three years and current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Handicrafts Development Corporations from the State of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalays, Sikkim, Maharashtra, Jammu and Kashmir, Nagaland, Orissa, Bihar and Rajasthan have sought assistance for implementation of various schmes namely Design and Technology Upgradation Scheme; Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (AHVY); Research and Development; Marketing and Support; Human Resource Development relating to promotion and development of hadicrafts during the current financial year.

(c) The schemes of the Government for promotion and development of handicrafts in the country do not envisage any direct assistance to the State Government and accordingly State-wise funds are not allocated. However, the number of proposals sanctioned and funds released to various Implementing Agencies like State Handicrafts Development Corporations, Apex Societies and voluntary orgtanizations etc. and utilized for promotion and development of handicrafts in the country during each of the last three years and current year, state-wise, is a per statement enclosed.

#### **Statement**

*State-wise number of proposals sanctioned and funds released/utilized during 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 & 2009-10 (upto 26 February, 2010)*

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
		Number of Proposal Sanctioned	Amount of Released/ Utilized Rs. in Lakhs	Number of Proposal Sanctioned	Amount of Released/ Utilized Rs. in Lakhs	Number of Proposal Sanctioned	Amount of Released/ Utilized Rs. in Lakhs	Number of Proposal Sanctioned	Amount of Released/ Utilized Rs. in Lakhs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	33	303.02	56	475.42	76	862.53	50	386.45
2.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0.00	0	1.20	0	0.00	0	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	39.38	2	11.46	1	86.43	3	47.46
4.	Assam	36	468.35	140	560.90	39	784.42	65	606.16
5.	Bihar	11	30.99	22	41.12	22	88.70	20	130.78
6.	Chandigarh	1	35.00	1	0.50	1	0.75	0	0.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	7	65.16	10	35.07	14	63.07	8	49.43
8.	Daman and Diu	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	0.62	0	0.00
9.	Delhi	103	1154.26	106	938.45	135	1444.15	71	1556.66
10.	Goa	2	1.84	8	12.30	3	14.54	6	71.77
11.	Gujarat	20	298.26	64	525.87	44	599.45	23	502.50
12.	Haryana	13	82.29	14	51.92	8	76.02	8	142.00
13.	Himachal Pradesh	13	113.03	15	102.42	9	64.91	21	99.00
14.	Jharkhand	7	46.79	19	59.46	10	63.65	9	125.72
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	14	100.14	34	191.75	9	357.57	24	246.47
16.	Karnataka	20	104.02	26	115.45	27	322.90	20	111.11
17.	Kerala	7	74.64	11	121.24	12	226.85	6	83.00
18.	Madhya Pradesh	12	103.32	37	139.08	32	373.33	41	346.99
19.	Maharashtra	10	79.01	22	105.70	10	377.30	17	100.73
20.	Manipur	12	204.96	59	321.60	26	287.47	47	396.60
21.	Meghalaya	2	6.72	4	20.00	3	10.87	3	32.20
22.	Mizoram	1	15.31	3	30.29	2	124.37	3	153.85
23.	Nagaland	6	26.34	11	52.66	13	131.46	8	26.80
24.	Orissa	47	231.94	29	355.73	36	152.16	41	301.04
25.	Punjab	7	62.17	10	46.62	7	71.03	7	112.00
26.	Puducherry	1	15.26	6	23.19	7	37.90	2	15.00
27.	Rajasthan	20	217.85	28	127.20	22	307.84	29	264.00
28.	Sikkim	1	0.85	0	0.00	6	1.28	7	33.34
29.	Tamil Nddu	31	135.16	23	124.88	45	332.99	37	235.00
30.	Tripura	2	50.15	13	79.61	13	81.22	20	361.84
31.	Uttar Pradesh	119	950.49	190	1471.27	79	1808.67	118	1378.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
32.	Uttarakhand	10	95.38	13	94.89	8	30.92	22	169.00
33.	West Bengal	22	119.25	127	349.90	22	344.39	19	304.00
TOTAL		596	5231.33	1103	6578.15	742	9485.80	755	8388.90

### Allotment of Retail Fuel Outlets

1194. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:  
SHRI S.D. SHARIQ:

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposal for opening more LPG dealerships and diesel and petrol outlets in the country including Jammu and Kashmir and tribal dominated areas of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of such dealerships given and outlets opened in Jammu and Kashmir and Tamil Nadu during the last one year and the current year;

(d) the details of such dealerships and outlets proposed to be opened during the current financial year and the next year; and

(e) the steps being taken to ensure adequate supply of gas, petrol and diesel in rural and tribal areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have freedom to set up LPG distributors/RO dealerships as per their commercial consideration based on feasibility and economic viability of the locations as per their own guidelines, which are available on the websites of the concerned OMCs as well as at their Regional/State Offices.

During the year 2008-09 and between April and January 2010, OMCs have commissioned 3 and 40 LPG distributors and 24 and 173 ROs in the States of Jammu and Kashmir and Tamil Nadu respectively.

OMCs have proposed to open 7 and 53 LPG distributors and 16 and 210 ROs in the States of Jammu and Kashmir and Tamil Nadu respectively during the current financial year (2009-10).

OMCs have reported that they have planned to set up 8 and 20 LPG distributors (except BPCL) and 4 and 105 ROs (except HPCL) in the States of Jammu and Kashmir and Tamil Nadu respectively during the year 2010-11.

(e) As per the "Vision 2015" adopted for LPG sector, a target has been given to the OMCs to raise the overall LPG population coverage to 75% in the country by releasing 5.5 crore new LPG connections by 2015 especially in rural areas and uncovered areas and also examine the possibility of providing more Retail Outlet/Kisan Seva Kendra (KSK).

In order to increase rural penetration and to cover remote as well as low potential areas, a new scheme namely, "Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitrak Yojana" (RGGLVY) for establishing small size LPG distribution agencies for locations having potential of 600 or more refill sales per month has been formulated.

The scheme has been launched on 16.10.2009 and subsequently advertisement inviting applications for distributors under the scheme have been released by OMCs in 8 States where the reach of LPG is very low namely, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal covering 1266 locations.

The scheme has so far not been implemented in other States/UTs including Jammu and Kashmir and Tamil Nadu. The setting up of LPG distributors under this scheme will now be a continuous process till all parts of the country deficient in LPG including in the States of Jammu and Kashmir and Tamil Nadu were covered by LPG network.

[Translation]

### Handloom Industry in Maharashtra

1195. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PATIL GAWALI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken any proper steps for the development of handloom industry in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details of the central assistance given to the weavers during the last three years, district-wise;

(c) whether the State Government is fully utilizing the said funds;

(d) if not, the extent to which the said funds have been utilized;

(e) whether any incidence regarding misuse of the said fund by the State Government has come to notice;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Union Government has taken any action to check the misuse of the said funds given to the States; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The Government of India, during the XI Plan, has been implementing Integrated Handlooms Development Scheme, Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme, Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme, Mill Gate Price Scheme., Diversified Handloom Development Scheme for the development of the handloom sector and welfare of the weavers of all over the country including the State of Maharashtra.

(b) Government of India is not maintaining data of district-wise release. However, Rs. 3.25 crore, Rs. 1.32 crore and Rs. 2.05 crore has been released during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively for the benefit of the weavers of the Government of Maharashtra.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. Duration of the project (s) sanctioned is one to three years and funds are released in instalments. Subsequent release of funds is considered only on submission of utilization of funds released earlier.

(e) and (f) No reports of misutilization of funds by the State Governments including Government of Maharashtra, has been received.

(g) and (h) Most of the schemes are implemented through State Governments. Implementation, monitoring, evaluation etc. of these schemes in the States is done through the State Level Project Committee (SLPC) which consists of experts from the handloom sector. The Committee is responsible for scrutinizing the project proposals, monitoring, evaluation etc. and recommends the project proposals. In addition, the Government of India at its level ensures that the activities taken up under the above schemes are in consonance with the stated objectives of the scheme and are implemented for the overall interest of the growth and development of the handloom sector by obtaining periodical reports from the State Governments.

[English]

### Essential/Life Saving Drugs under Price Control

1196. SHRI PURNMASI RAM: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court in its order dated 10 March, 2003 had directed the Government to consider and formulate appropriate criteria for ensuring that essential and life saving drugs do not remain out of price control;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon by the Government;

(c) whether the Government has not defined/specified life saving drugs in the DPCO, 1995;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to monitor the availability of the saving drugs and to control their process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) The Supreme Court vide its order dated 10.03.2003 directed the Government, to consider and formulate appropriate criteria for ensuring essential and life saving drugs not to fall out of the price control and further directed to review drugs, which are essential and life saving in nature till 2nd May, 2003. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has brought out the National List of Essential Medicines, 2003 after the review of the National Essential Drugs List, 1996. The Draft Pharmaceutical

Policy 2006 which is under consideration of the Government, proposes to include essential drugs as contained in the in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) 2003 under price control.

(c) and (d) Each drug has its own utility keeping in mind the requirement of the patient taking the drug. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have a National List of Essential Medicines. As per the Drug Policy 1994 the bulk drugs have been kept under price control on the basis of the following criteria as laid down in its para 22.7.2 span of control as stated below:

- (i) The criterion of including drugs under price control would be the minimum annual turnover of Rs. 400 lacs.
- (ii) Drugs of popular use in which there is a monopoly situation be kept under price control. For this purpose for any bulk drug, having an annual turnover of Rs. 100 lakhs or more there is a single formulator having 90% or more market share in the Retail Trade (as per ORG) a monopoly situation would be considered as existing.
- (iii) Drugs in which there is sufficient market competition viz., at least 5 bulk drug producers and at least 10 formulators and none having more than the 40% market share in the Retail Trade (as per ORG) may be kept outside the price control. However a strict watch would be kept on the movement of prices as it is expected that their prices would be kept in check by the forces of market competition. The Government may determine the ceiling levels beyond which increase in prices would not be permissible.

Based on the above criteria at present 74 bulk drugs and formulations based thereon are under price control for which prices are fixed by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order 1995.

(e) Price Control on Drugs is done under the Drugs (Prices Control) Orders issued by this Department from time to time. Presently, the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 is in force. The 74 bulk drugs specified in the

First Schedule of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) and the formulations based thereon are under price control and their prices are fixed/revised by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) in accordance with the provisions of the DPCO, 1995.

Prices of non-Scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view the various factors like cost of production, marketing/selling expenses, R&D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. The Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected.

Whenever any shortage is reported of any drug from any part of the country, Government takes measures to see that these shortages are met urgently.

#### **Synthetic and Rayon Textile Export Promotion Council**

1197. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Synthetic and Rayon Textile Export Promotion Council has set up a target to more than double the export of man-made textile from the country;

(b) if so, whether the target is to increase the market share upto 4 percent by 2011-12; and

(c) if so, the concrete plans prepared by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No Sir. The Synthetic and Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) has not fixed any target to more than double the export of man-made textiles from the country.

(b) and (c) The overall target is to achieve 7% share in the global market for textiles and clothing by 2011-12. The Government has been pursuing various short term, medium term and long term measures by way of export incentives under the Foreign Trade Policy, reduction of transaction costs and input costs, enhanced banking and monetary support etc. for the textiles sector in this regard.



*[Translation]***Plan Expenditure by Railways**

1198. SHRI JAGDANAND SINGH:  
SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM  
WAKCHAURE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether plan expenditure for the development of railways has kept increasing during 2001-2002 to 2006-2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof inter-alia indicating the

(b)

Year	Budgetary Assistance	Internal Sources	Total
2001-02	5517	2485	8002
2002-03	5778	3113	8891
2003-04	7081	3476	10557
2004-05	8669	3712	12381
2005-06	8073	7034	15107
2006-07	7914	12233	20147

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

**Indo-Bangladesh Gas Pipeline**

1199. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE:  
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any dialogue is going on between Indian and Bangladesh to lay down gas pipeline between both the countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the agreement is likely to be made in this regard?

contribution from the internal sources as well as from budgetary assistance received during the said period;

(c) whether a sharp decline has been witnessed in the allocation of funds for the construction of new rail lines during the current plan period;

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

(e) the steps being contemplated by the Railways to ensure the allotment of sufficient resources for the said purpose?

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

(Rs. in crore)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) No Sir.

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

*[English]***Centralizing of Awarding of Certificates**

1200. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:  
SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:

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

(a) whether the pharmaceutical industry has expressed concern over centralizing the process of awarding Certificates of Good manufacturing Practices for Pharmaceutical Products;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to resolve the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have informed that Major industry associations like Indian Drugs Manufacturers Association (IDMA) has welcomed the centralization of issuance of Certificate of Pharmaceutical Products (COPP). However certain industry associations have filed writ petitions in the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Madras. The courts have granted interim stay in the matter and the matter is subjudice.

#### **Setting up of Steel Plants**

1201. SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received proposals from some foreign companies for setting up of steel plants in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATAP): (a) and (b) As per Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Policy of Government of India 100% FDI is allowed in steel through automatic route.

However, as per the information available in the Ministry of Steel, there are two major Foreign Direct investment in the steel sector for setting up integrated steel projects in the country. These are, Arcelor Mittal India Limited and Posco India Limited. They have signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with the State Governments of Orissa and Jharkhand to set up new steel units in the country as per the following:

Sl. No.	Name of the Company and Location	Location and State	Date of signing of MoU	Proposed Capacity in MTPA	Estimated Investment Rs. in crore
1.	M/s POSCO India Project (P) Ltd.,	Jagatsinghpur, Orissa	22.06.05	12.00	51,000
2.	M/s. Arcelor Mittal Limited	Keonjhar, Orissa	08.10.05	Integrated Steel Plant-12.00	40,000
3.	M/s. Arcelor Mittal India Limited	Jharkhand	08.10.05 Extended upto-07.10.10	Integrated Steel Plant-12.00	40,000

(c) Since the extent policy allows 100% foreign direct investment in steel sector through automatic route, the role of the Government remains that of a facilitator.

#### **Development of CNG Based Engines**

1202. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some companies are working on their engines for better performance with CNG; and

(b) is so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) As informed by the Society of Indian automobile Manufactures (SIAM), the auto industry is continuously working on improving the performance of their vehicles for meeting the emission and safety regulations. All manufactures have upgraded their engines running on petrol, diesel, CNG & LPG for meeting BS IV norms being implemented from 1st April 2010.

[Translation]

**Commercial Flights from Aerodromes**

1203. SHRI GORAKH PRASAD JAISWAL:  
SHRI YASHBANT LAGURI

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to start commercial flights from aerodromes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) Commercial flights are already being operated from following 83 aerodromes/airports in the country:

Agartala, Agatti, Agra, Ahmedabad, Aizwal, Allahabad, Amritsar, Aurangabad, Bagdogra, Bangalore, Bhavnagar, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Bhuj, Calicut, Chandigarh, Chennai, Cochin, Coimbatore, Dehradun, Delhi, Dharmashala, Dibrugarh, Dimapur, Diu, Goa, Gorakhpur, Guwahati, Gwalior, Hubli, Hyderabad, Imphal, Indore, Jabatpur, Jaipur, Jammu, Jamnagar, Jamshedpur, Jodhpur, Jorhat, Kandla, Kanpur, Khajuraho, Kolhapur, Kolkata, Kullu, Latur, Leh, Lilabari, Lucknow, Madurai, Mangalore, Mumbai, Nagpur, Nanded, Nasik, Pathankot, Patna, Porbandar, Port Blair, Pune, Raipur, Rajamundry, Rajkot, Ranchi, Salem, Shillong, Shimla, Sholapur, Silchar, Srinagar, Surat, Tezpur, Thoise, Tirupati, Trichi, Trivandrum, Tuticorin, Udaipur, Vadodra, Varanasi, Vijayawada and Vizag.

[English]

**Report on Helicopter Crash**

1204. SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI:  
DR. G. VIVEKANAND:  
SHRI P. BALRAM:  
SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the Bell-430 crash of the helicopter flying Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy has been received by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action so far taken on such report by the Government and precautionary measures being taken to avoid such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The investigation report of the Bell-430 helicopter accident flying the then Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy has been received by the Government. The report concludes that the accident occurred due to loss of control resulting in uncontrolled descent due to entry into severe downdraught. Loss of situational awareness by the crew after noticing a sang and non-adherence to laid down procedures were the contributory factors. The report has been accepted by the Government. Copies of the report have also been placed in the Parliament Library.

(c) Based on the recommendations made in the report all the Civil Registered Aircraft have been identified wherein Emergency Locator Transmitters does not have 406 MHz frequency. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has given the time upto 31.03.2010 for compliance. Other recommendations are under examination for implementation.

[Translation]

**Ban on Cotton Exports**

1205. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:  
SHRI VARUN GANDHI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has refused to impose any kind of ban on export of cotton;

(b) if so, whether it is being demanded in some sectors to import cotton made items instead of direct import of cotton which would be beneficial for both the industry and the farmers;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure maximum production of cotton in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) There is sufficient stock of cotton in the country to meet the demand of the mills as well as export. No proposal is under consideration for banning the cotton export at this stage.

(c) Question does not arise in view of above.

(d) With the intervention of Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) Scheme and commercial release of *Bacillus Thuringiensis* (Bt) cotton, the cotton production in the country has increased substantially from 158 lakli bales from the year 2001-02 to 295 lakh bales in the current cotton season 2009-10 (Oct.-Sept.).

[*English*]

#### **Judges of Higher Judiciary**

1206. SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the sanctioned strength of the judges of the Supreme Court of India and the various High Courts in the country;

(b) the number of vacancies of judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts at present, court-wise;

(c) the number of permanent judges and additional judges in each High Courts as on date;

(d) whether the Government proposes to regularize the appointment of additional judges in the High Courts;

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

(f) the average time taken to appoint a Supreme Court and High Courts judge from commencement of the process to the issuance of warrant of appointment; and

(g) the details of processes involved at various stages of said appointment?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) A statement showing the sanctioned strength of the Judges of the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts, number of Judges in position and the vacancies of Judges is given in enclosed statement.

(d) and (e) Additional Judges are considered for appointment as Permanent Judges, subject to the availability of vacancies of Permanent Judges and as per the prescribed procedure.

(f) and (g) Pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgment of October 6, 1993 in the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record and Anr. Vs. Union of India, read with the Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998, the process of initiation of proposal for appointment of Judge of the Supreme Court/High Courts lies with the Chief Justice of India and the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court respectively.

As per the Memorandum of Procedure for the appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court of India, the recommendation of the Supreme Court Collegium consisting of the Chief Justice of India and 4 seniormost Judges, is submitted for consideration and approval of the Prime Minister and the President.

As per the Memorandum of Procedure for the appointment of Judges in the High Courts, the proposals for filling up of vacancies in the High Courts are referred by the Chief Justice in consultation with the Collengium of the concerned High Court to the State Constitutional authorities who, along with their comments, send the proposal to the Union Government. The Union Government refers the proposal to the Chief Justice of India for advice. The advice tendered by the Chief Justice of India is submitted for consideration and approval of the Prime Minister and the President.

The average time taken for appointment of a Judge is approximately one month and six months in the case of Supreme Court and the High Courts respectively.

**Statement**

(As on 01.03.2010)

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Sanctioned Strength			Number of Judges in position			Vacancies as per Sanctioned Strength		
		Pmt.	Addl.	Total	Pmt.	Addl.	Total	Pmt.	Addl.	Total
A.	Supreme Court of India	31			27			4		
B.	High Courts	Pmt.	Addl.	Total	Pmt.	Addl.	Total	Pmt.	Addl.	Total
1.	Allahabad	76	84	160	46	31	77	30	53	83
2.	Andhra Pradesh	33	16	49	28	4	32	5	12	17
3.	Bombay	48	27	75	44	19	63	4	8	12
4.	Calcutta	45	13	58	37	0	37	8	13	21
5.	Chhattisgarh	6	12	18	5	6	11	1	6	7
6.	Delhi	29	19	48	28	13	41	1	6	7
7.	Gauhati	17	7	24	17	4	21	-	3	3
8.	Gujarati	29	13	42	24	-	24	5	13	18
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7	4	11	8	3	11	-1	1	-
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	9	5	14	8	1	9	1	4	5
11.	Jharkhand	11	9	20	11	3	14	-	6	5
12.	Karnataka	33	17	50	33	4	37	-	13	13
13.	Kerala	27	11	38	19	11	30	8	-	8
14.	Madhya Pradesh	32	11	43	30	3	33	2	8	10
15.	Madras	45	15	60	38	17	55	7	-2	5
16.	Orissa	17	5	22	13	3	16	4	2	6
17.	Patna	29	14	43	21	5	26	8	9	17
18.	Punjab and Haryana	38	30	68	37	10	47	1	20	21
19.	Rajasthan	32	8	40	23	4	27	9	4	13
20.	Sikkim	3	0	3	2	0	2	1	-	1
21.	Uttarakhand	9	0	9	9	0	9	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>575</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>895</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>273</b>

[*Translation*]

### **Bihar Special Court Act**

1207. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Bihar has sent Bihar Special Court Bill, 2008 for the approval of the Union Government; and

(b) if so the details thereof and the status of the said Bill?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) Yes, the Bihar Special Courts Bill, 2009 was received for assent of the president. The Bill has been assented to by the Hon'ble President on 21.01.2010.

[*English*]

### **New Coaches in Kanyakumari Trains**

1208. SHRIMATI J. HELEN DAVIDSON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any plane to introduce new coaches in all the trains which start from Kanyakumari to various destinations;

(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) Coaches are attached in trains starting from all locations including Kanniyakumari only if they are in fit running condition. Introduction of new coaches is a continuous process depending on age profile of old coaches and availability of newly built coaches.

### **Extension of Train**

1209. SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any proposal to extend Train No. 0121/0122 from Mumbai to Karwar (three days in a week) upto Mangalore via Kundapur, Udupi;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is any proposal to run this train from tri weekly to daily; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (e) Train No. 0121/0122 Mumbai-Karwar Holiday Special (Tri-Weekly) was running as holiday special to clear passenger rush. Now regular train service 2133/2134 Mumbai-Karwar-Mumbai Express (Tri-Weekly) has been introduced w.e.f. 21.11.2009. It is proposed to extend the train upto Mangalore, via Kundapur, Udupi. However, there is no proposal at present to run the train daily.

### **Setting up of New Refineries**

1210. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has plans to set up new refineries in the country; 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) Consequent on de-licensing of refinery sector since June, 1998, a refinery can be set up anywhere in India by a Private or Public Sector Enterprise depending on its commercial viability. The details of 'New Refineries' being set up by the Public Sector themselves or in Joint Venture with Private Sector are as under:

Name of the Refinery	Set up by	Capacity (MMTPA)	Anticipated date of commissioning	Anticipated Project cost (Rs. Crore)
Bina Refinery, Madhya Pradesh	BPCL	6	September, 2010	11,397
Paradip Refinery, Orissa	IOCL	15	November, 2012	29,777
Bathinda Refinery, Punjab	HPCL & Mittal Energy Investments Pte Ltd. (JV)	9	May 2011	18,919

[Translation]

**ROB at Bijwasan Railway Crossing**

1211. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to build a rail overbridge at Bijwasan railway crossing in New Delhi to remove the difficulties being faced by the passengers; and

(b) if so, the time by which construction work of rail overbridge is likely to be started and completed?

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

(b) The work has been sanctioned in year 2008-09 for construction of ROB at Level Crossing No.21 and this work also includes provision of RUB. Contract was awarded in February 2009. However, the work could not be started due to non-diversion of road traffic and shifting of utilities by MCD (Municipal Corporation of Delhi). The road traffic has now been diverted on 23.2.2010, and work in Railway portion has commenced and expected to be completed by June 2011.

[English]

**Allocation of New Areas for Exploration Under NELP**

1212. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has carved out new areas for exploration on offer under various rounds of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) and Coal Bed Methane Policy (CBM);

(b) if so, the total number of those areas which have resulted in oil and gas discoveries and the time-frame within which they are expected to commence production; and

(c) the total quantity of expected production of crude oil from these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of India has

awarded 203 exploration blocks covering an area of about 1.39 Million Sq. Km. under seven rounds of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) held so far. Further, under the eighth bid round of NELP (NELP-VIII), 70 blocks covering an area of about 0.16 Million Sq.Km. were offered for bidding. 76 bids have been received for 36 blocks.

Similarly, under three rounds of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Policy held so far, 23 CBM blocks covering an area of 12,955 sq. Km. were awarded. In the fourth bid round of CBM (CBM-IV), 10 blocks covering an area of 4965 Sq. Km. were offered out of which 27 bids were received for 8 blocks.

(b) So far, 77 discoveries (22 oil and 55 gas) have been made in 23 blocks awarded under NELP. Commercial production of oil/gas has commenced from 6 such discoveries. Remaining discoveries are under various stages of evaluation/appraisal and development. The oil and gas production from these discoveries will depend on their Commerciality and subsequent Development Plan.

(c) As per the approved Field Development Plan, the estimated oil production from two oil discoveries under NELP which have already been put on production is to the tune of 55 Million barrels.

**Setting up of Fertilizer Development Fund**

1213. SHRI NAMA NAGESHWARA RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Rs. 1000 crore Fertilizer Development Fund to provide loss-making Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCIL) a new lease of life;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the corpus amount is likely to be made available to FCIL;

(c) whether this fund will be used not only for the revival but also for modernization of FCIL; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) No. Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**Social Activities by Oil Companies**

1214. SHRI SURESH ANGADI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil companies spend some percentage of their annually earned profit on social activities under corporate social responsibility;

(b) if so, the funds spent by each oil company under this head during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government has prepared any roadmap for social reform activities to be undertaken by such public sector oil companies; 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) Yes Sir. The Government has issued a directive to all oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) that they would spend at least 2% of their net profit of the previous year on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities and the allocation so made will not be less than the allocation on CSR activities for the previous year. The funds spent during the last three years by major oil PSUs on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

*Expenditure on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities by major oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) during the last three years*

(Rupees in lakh)

Oil PSUs	Expenditure		
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL)	3253.00	6427.00	1931.00
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL)	903.61	673.43	745.25
Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)	612.00	736.00	1293.00
Gas Authority of India Limited	1131.64	1666.07	3073.69
Oil and Natural Gas Corporation	11605.00	16954.00	16904.00
Oil India Limited (OIL)	1713.002	1844.56	2233.30

[*Translation*]

**Compensation to Bhopal Gas Victims**

1215. SHRI BHOOPENDRA SINGH:

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR:

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

(a) whether the compensation has already been provided to all the victims of Bhopal gas tragedy;

(b) if so, the number of wards to which the compensation has been provided;

(c) the number of wards which have yet to be given the compensation; and

(d) the time by which the remaining wards are likely to be compensated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (d) As on 31.1.2010 compensation amounting to Rs.1549.08 crores has been disbursed to 5,73,896 claimants of 56 wards in Bhopal city, after due adjudication. Based on orders of the Supreme Court, additional pro-rata compensation of over Rs. 1509.72 crore has been disbursed to 5,62,593 gas victims, as on 31.1.2010. The number of pending cases of absentee



claimants for pro-rata compensation as on 31.1.2010 is 11,781. The Welfare Commissioner has moved the Supreme Court to permit it to treat these long pending cases of absentee claimants as closed.

[English]

#### **E-Governance**

1216. SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to create a Special Purpose Vehicle for the next generation MCA 21 e-governance programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) At present, there is no proposal under active consideration for creating a Special Purpose Vehicale specifically for the next generation MCA 21 e-governance programme.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Late Running of Jan-Shatabdi Express**

1217. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware of the late

running of New Delhi Dehradun Janshabdi Express;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the month of January 2010, train number 2055 New Delhi-Dehradun Jan-Shatabdi Express arrived Dehradun right time on 10 occasions. Bad weather, due to fog, was the main reason for late running of the train, during the remaining days of January 2010.

(c) Punctuality drive is launched from time to time to closely monitor the trains by deputing officers on foot plate and remedial action is taken for the factors responsible for loss of punctuality of trains.

#### **Profit of Steel Plants**

1218. KUMARI SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of steel plants of Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) running into profit alongwith the profit earned by each plant during the last three years; and

(b) the percentage profit spent on the concerned plant or on the development of nearby areas of the plant during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) There are five integrated steel plants and three special steel plants under SAIL. The Profit before Tax (PBT), plant-wise and for Steel Authority of India Ltd.(SAIL), as a whole for the last three years is given as under:

(Rs./crore)

Plant	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4
<b>(A) Profit/Loss(-) Before Tax</b>			
Bhilai Steel Plant	4272	5366	4965
Durgapur Steel Plant	624	1009	754
Rourkela Steel Plant	1336	1401	1011

1	2	3	4
Bokaro Steel Plant	2737	2830	1293
IISCO Steel Plant	-250	-285	-182
Alloy Steel Plant	14	3	-110
Salem Steel Plant	118	103	3
Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant	-41	-59	-149
<b>(B) Profit Before Tax (SAIL)</b>	<b>9423</b>	<b>11469</b>	<b>9403</b>
<b>(C) Profit after Tax (SAIL)</b>	<b>6202</b>	<b>7537</b>	<b>6175</b>

(b) The percentage of SAIL's profit after tax spent on SAIL plants or on the development of nearby areas of the plants is as under:

(Rs./crore)

Year	Expenditure on SAIL Plants or on development of nearby areas	Percentage of PAT
2006-07	801	13
2007-08	1174	16
2008-09	1279	21

#### **Doubling of Railway Line**

1219. SHRI RAKESH SACHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for doubling of railway lines by the Railways during the last three years;

(b) the estimated cost for the said purpose;

(c) the percentage of work completed during the said period; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Railways to achieve the target within stipulated time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) 1175 Kms of Doubling/multiple lines were completed against

target of 2135 Km during the last three years i.e. 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09. An amount of about Rs. 4707 Cr. was allocated for doubling works done during this period

(d) To expedite completion of Railway projects, a number of initiatives have been taken to generate additional resources through non-budgetary measures like Public-Private Partnership, funding by State Governments and other beneficiaries. Besides, to reduce delays on account of land availability, security issues and forestry clearances, etc meetings with State Officials are held from time to time. Contract conditions have been modified to bring in efficiency in contract management, and field units have been further empowered.

[English]

#### **Catering Services in Railways**

1220. SHRI GUTHA SUKHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have chalked out any strategy to meet the problems existing in catering services in Railways;

(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) Regular surveys, food audits and inspections etc. are carried out to identify and resolve the problems existing in catering services on Indian Railways.

Further, to address the various issues involved, catering policy is being reviewed.

#### **New Train from Bhusaval to Mumbai**

1221. SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any request to start new train Janshatabadi Express from Bhusaval to Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways propose to provide extra coaches from Bhusawal for the daily operating superfast train between Amravati-Mumbai to compensate the demand of new train from Bhusaval to Mumbai;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Representations, including from Shri Haribhau Jawale, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, have been received for introduction of a train between Bhusaval and Mumbai.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. Introduction of through/slip coaches between Bhusaval and Mumbai CST in 2111/ 2112 Amravati-Mumbai CST Express has been examined but has not been found operationally feasible. Besides, as a matter of policy, Railways are not in favour of introduction of through/slip coaches keeping in view the safety of the passengers and punctuality of trains.

#### **Enhancement of AC III Tier**

1222. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the annual increase of passengers travelled in AC III tier during the last three years;

(b) whether the Railways have any proposal to increase the number of AC III tier coaches in various trains;

(c) if so, the details of such trains alongwith the coaches to be added in each train; and

(d) the percentage of growth in passengers opting to travel in AC III tier as compared to 1st class and sleeper class during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) The number of passengers carried in 3AC class and percentage growth in passengers opting to travel in 3AC, First Class and Sleeper Class during the last three financial years are as under:

Class	Financial Year	No. of carried (in hundreds) passengers	%growth over previous year
3AC	2006-07	265063	25.39
	2007-08	313072	18.11
	2008-09	386087	23.32
First Class	2006-07	2159962	06.82
	2007-08	2320966	07.45
	2008-09	2401564	03.47
Sleeper Class	2006-07	2145773	17.28
	2007-08	2223885	03.64
	2008-09	2409961	08.37

Attachment of coaches including three tier AC coaches in trains is a continuous process subject to operational feasibility, commercial viability and availability of resources. During the current year approximately 82 three tier AC coaches have been added in different trains on regular basis.

#### **Taxation on Processed Food**

1223. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to bring down taxation on processed food to the four per cent tax bracket;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) Representations were received from Trade and Industry Associations to exempt cakes, pastries chocolates, sugar confectionery, biscuits, ice-cream, and juices from excise duty.

(c) A large number of food items such as fruit pulp or fruit juice, biscuits of retail sale price less than Rs. 100 per kg and ice cream and non-alcoholic beverage, prepared and dispensed by vending machine is already fully exempt from excise duty. Sugar confectionery (excluding white chocolate and bubble gum), biscuits of retail sale price more than Rs. 100 per kg, pastries and cakes, wafer biscuits already attract 4% excise duty. As regards other items, the same were examined as part of Budget 2010-11 and after taking into account all relevant factors it was not found feasible to accede to the requests.

#### Old Rail Bridges

1224. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of works undertaken to repair old rail bridges in the XI Five Year Plan, zone-wise;

(b) the funds allocated and spent so far, zone-wise;

(c) whether the preference being given to rural and backward areas like Telangana regions in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the details of Public-Private Partnership models adopted in repair of such old bridges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Rehabilitation/rebuilding/strengthening of bridges is an ongoing process on Indian Railways. Railways undertake rehabilitation/rebidding/strengthening of bridges on the basis of their physical condition as ascertained during regular inspections carried out in the field.

Zone wise no. of bridges rebuilt/rehabilitated/strengthened in the XI Five Year Plan till Jan'10 i.e., from 01.04.07 to 31.01.10 are as follows:

Railway	No. of bridges rebuilt/rehabilitated/ Strengthened	Allocation (bridge works) (Rs. Cr.)	Expenditure (Rs. Cr.)
CR	180	71.48	61.10
ER	455	301.05	202.71
ECR	108	213.39	141.96
ECoR	134	43.66	36.18
NR	498	111.40	73.54
NCR	164	37.84	28.86
NER	26	38.26	23.82
NFR	247	60.99	41.02
NWR	187	64.03	22.50
SR	253	87.93	50.44
SCR	213	120.67	101.88
SECR	153	29.67	21.43
SWR	133	22.23	19.98
WR	276	171.65	153.05
WCR	299	65.54	69.09
<b>Total</b>	<b>3555</b>	<b>1509.50</b>	<b>1108.42</b>

(c) Each bridge requiring rebuilding/rehabilitation/strengthening is given equal importance and attention, being safety works.

(d) Public Private Partnership model has not been adopted for rebuilding/rehabilitation/strengthening of bridges till now.

#### **Safety Related Posts**

1225. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:  
SHRI SUBHASH BAPURAO WANKHEDE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of safety related personnel post lying vacant in Railways, zone-wise, during each of the last three years;

(b) whether as a result of acute shortage of safety personnel, the number of rail accidents is likely to increase;

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether Government is going to fill up these vacant posts immediately;

(d) whether any timeframe has been chalked out to fill up the posts; and

(e) if so, the detail thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### **Railway Recruitment Exams**

1226. SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Recruitment Examinations of the Railway Recruitment Boards of Chennai and Kolkata were held in Port Blair earlier;

(b) whether the practice been stopped now;

(c) if so, the reason therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Railways to resume for holding recruitment examination from Chennai and Kolkata Boards?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Agra-Etawah Railway Line**

1227. PROF. RAMSHANKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Agra-Etawah railway line alongwith percentage of increase in expenditure on this project on account of slow pace of the work; and

(b) the time by which the said railway line is likely to become operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The work is progressing as per the availability of resources. An expenditure of Rs. 119.43 crore was incurred till 01.04.2009 against the sanctioned cost of Rs. 214.90 crore. The section Agra-Fatehabad-Bah is targeted for completion during 2010-11.

*[English]*

#### **Sachar Committee**

1228. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL:  
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the status of implementation of Sachar Committee recommendations;

(b) whether some State Governments are not keen in implementing the recommendations of the Committee; 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 (SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) The decisions taken by the

Government on the follow up action on the recommendations of the Prime Minister's High Level Committee on Social, Economic and Educational Status of the Muslim Community of India (Sachar Committee) are implemented by the concerned Ministries/ Departments of the Central Government and the progress of implementation is monitored periodically. The status of implementation, as reported by various Ministries/ Departments concerned, is given in enclosed statement and is also available on the website on Ministry of Minority Affairs, i.e., [www.minorityaffairs.gov.in](http://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in).

### **Statement**

The Government took decisions on the recommendations of High Level Committee on Social, Economic and Educational status of the Muslim Community of India, pertaining to various Ministries/ Departments. The decisions of the Government on the follow-up action on the major recommendations of the Sachar Committee and the Ministry/Department wise status of implementation are as under:

- (i) All public sector banks have been directed to open more branches in districts having a substantial minority population. In 2007-08, 523 branches were opened in such districts. In 2008-09, 537 new branches were opened. The target for 2009-10 is 500 and up to the end of third quarter, 502 new branches have been opened (Department of Financial Services).
- (ii) RBI revised its Master Circular on 5th July, 2007 on priority sector lending for improving credit facilities to minority communities. Over Rs. 82000 crore were provided to minorities under priority sector lending during 2008-09 (Department of Financial Services).
- (iii) District Consultative Committees (DCCs) of lead banks have been directed to regularly monitor disposal and rejection of loan applications for minorities (Department of Financial Services).
- (iv) A multi-pronged strategy to address the educational backwardness of the Muslim community, as brought out by the Sachar Committee, has been adopted, as given below (Ministry of Human Resource Development):
  - (a) The Madarsa Modernization Programme has been revised to make it more attractive by providing better salary to teachers, increased assistance for books, teaching aids and computers, and introduction of vocational subjects, etc. This is now known as Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madarsas and has been launched with allocation of Rs. 325 crore during the Eleventh Five-Year Plan.
  - (b) A new centrally sponsored scheme of financial assistance for Infrastructure Development of Privately Managed Elementary/Secondary/ Senior Secondary schools set up for minorities has been launched with allocation of Rs. 125 crores for the Eleventh Five-Year Plan.
  - (c) National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has prepared text books for all classes in the light of the National curriculum Framework-2005.
  - (d) Thirty five universities have started centers for studying social exclusion and inclusive policy for minorities and scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.
  - (e) Under the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) scheme, criteria of educationally backward blocks has been revised with effect from 1st April 2008 to cover blocks with less than 30% rural female literacy (53.67%: Census 2001). Under the scheme, out of 2573 KGBVs, 427 have been sanctioned in blocks with Muslim concentration population.
  - (f) Universalization of access to quality education at secondary stage called Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RSMA) has been approved with focus on educationally backward minorities.
  - (g) Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSSs) are envisaged in the revised schemes. At present, JSSs are imparting vocational training in 33 out of the 88 Muslim dominated districts in the country.
  - (h) Provision of more girls' hostels in colleges and universities in minority concentration districts/ blocks is proposed under the existing University Grants Commission scheme.

- (v) An expert group, constituted to study and recommend the structure and functions of an Equal Opportunity Commission, submitted its report on 13th March, 2008. This has been processed, along with the report of the expert group on diversity index (Ministry of Minority Affairs).
- (vi) A National Data Bank, to compile data on the various socio-economic and basic amenities parameters for socio-religions communities, has been set up in the Ministry of (Statistics and Programme Implementation).
- (vii) An autonomous Assessment and Monitoring Authority (AMA), to analyses data collected for taking appropriate and corrective policy decision, has been set up in the Planning Commission.
- (viii) A training module has been developed by the Indian Institute of Public Administration, for sensitization of Government officials. The module has been sent to the Central/State Training Institutes for implementation. Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) has prepared a module for sensitization of organized civil services and it has been incorporated in their training programme (Department of Personnel and Training).
- (ix) Under Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small and Medium Towns (UIDSSMT), additional central assistance of Rs. 1602.20 crore has been sanctioned for 69 towns having substantial minority population, out of which Rs. 659.37 crore was released in 2008-09 (Ministry of Urban Development).
- (x) A Bill has been passed by the Parliament for providing social security to workers in the un-organized sector, which, inter- alia, includes home based workers (Ministry of Labour and Employment).
- (xi) A High Level Committee, set up to review the Delimitation Act, has considered the concerns expressed in the Sachar Committee report and submitted its report. (Ministry of Home Affairs)
- (xii) Guidelines on Communal Harmony have been issued (Ministry of Home Affairs).
- (xiii) Dissemination of information regarding health and family welfare schemes is being undertaken in regional languages in minority concentration areas (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare).
- (xiv) State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have been advised by Department of Personnel and Training for posting of Muslim police personnel in thanas and Muslim health personnel and teachers in Muslim concentration areas.
- (xv) State Governments have been advised by Ministry of Panchayati Raj and Ministry of Urban Development to improve representation of minorities in local bodies.
- (xvi) The recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on Wakfs have been received. These have been processed as per approved modalities (Ministry of Minority Affairs).
- (xvii) The Government has accorded in-principle approval for restructuring of National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (Ministry of Minority Affairs).
- (xviii) An Inter-ministerial Task Force constituted to devise an appropriate strategy and action plan for developing 338 identified towns, having substantial minority population, rapidly in a holistic manner submitted its report on 8th November, 2007. The concerned Ministries/Departments have been advised to give priority in the implementation of their schemes in 338 towns (Ministry of Minority Affairs).
- (xix) Three scholarship schemes for minority communities viz., Pre-matric, Post-matric and Merit-cum-means scholarship schemes were launched and 6.89 lakh scholarships were awarded to students belonging to minority communities in 2008-09 and 15.13 lakh scholarships upto 31st December, 2009 in 2009-10 (Minority Affairs).
- (xx) The corpus of Maulana Azad Education Foundation, which stood at Rs. 100 crores, was doubled to Rs. 200 crores in December, 2006.

The corpus was increased by Rs. 50 crores in 2007-08 and by Rs. 60 crore in 2008-09. It has been further increased by Rs. 115 crore during 2009-10 and now stands at Rs. 425.00 crore (Ministry of Minority Affairs).

(xxi) A revised Coaching and Allied scheme was launched and 4657 candidates belonging to minority communities were provided assistance upto 31st December, 2009 in 2009-10 (Ministry of Minority Affairs).

(xxii) A multi-sectorial Development Programme (MsDP) was launched in 90 identified minority concentration districts in 2008-09. Plans of 76 minority concentration districts in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Assam, Manipur, Bihar, Meghalaya, Jharkhand, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Orissa, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Uttarakhand, Mizoram and Jammu and Kashmir have been approved and Rs. 784 crore released upto 31st December, 2009 since inception (Ministry of Minority Affairs).

#### **Goods Train between Tiruchirapalli and Chennai Egmore**

1229. SHRI P.R. NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware of the fact that even after running goods train between Tiruchirapalli and Chennai Egmore via main line, the passenger trains and express trains are still not running;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Opening of a section for passenger train services requires sanction of Commissioner of Railway Safety, while Railways can authorize opening of a section for goods trains.

Thanjavur-Mayiladuthurai-Villupuram gauge conversion project has been completed in 2009-10. A decision was taken to run goods trains between

Mayiladuthurai and Villupuram to utilize the assets created, till Commissioner of Railway Safety sanctions the section for passenger services. Accordingly goods services on Tiruchirappalli-Chennai Egmore section (via main line) has been commissioned with effect from 31.12.2009.

The application for sanction for opening of the section for passengers services has been submitted to Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS), Southern Circle by CAO/Con., Southern Railway. The passenger trains can start after the Commissioner of Railway Safety accords his sanction for running Passenger/Express trains between Mayiladuthurai and Villupuram.

#### **Handloom Clusters**

1230. SHRI MANOHAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether handloom clusters have been developed in West Bengal and Sikkim under the Integrated Handloom Development Scheme;

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

(c) the total number of weavers covered by these clusters in the said States;

(d) whether the Government proposes to increase the number of such clusters in the said States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes Sir. Handloom Clusters have been developed in west Bengal only under Integrated Handloom development scheme. No cluster has been sanctioned to Government of Sikkim.

(b) and (c) Details of district-wise handloom clusters sanctioned to Government of West Bengal and number of beneficiaries under each cluster is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) and (e) The increase in number of clusters is subject to viable proposals received from the State Government.



**Statement**

Sl.No.	Name of Cluster	Name of district	Beneficiaries covered
1	2	3	4
1.	Begampur (wsc)	Weavers Service Centre Kolkata	321
2.	Bishnupur	Bankura	500
3.	Jangipura	Hooghly	477
4.	Kurchi-Harali	Howrah	350
5.	Dandirhat	24-Parganas (North)	314
6.	Gangarampur	Dakshin Dinajpur	252
7.	Radhamani	Purba Medinipur	500
8.	Tufanganj	Coochbehar	500
9.	Mirzapur	Murshidabad	470
10.	Ragunathpur	Purulia	310
11.	Balagrh	Hooghly	368
12.	Shamsunderpur	Paschim Medinipur	438
13.	Chakborali	24-Parganas (North)	483
14.	Kashipur	Purulia	310
15.	Charkasthasli	Nadia	535
16.	Debipur	Burdwan	380
17.	Chandarpur	Purba Medinipur	538
18.	Tentulia	Birbhum	426
19.	Sonamukhi	Bankura	310
20.	Malgon	Uttar Dinajpur	531
21.	Dinhata Block I	Coochbehar	360
22.	Bordangi	Dakshin Dinajpur	589
23.	Chak Islampur	Murshidabad	480
24.	Kumar Gram	Jalpaiguri	500
25.	Sattari	Malda	490
26.	Alipurduar-I Cluster	Jalpaiguri	350

1	2	3	4
27.	Krishnapurchak	Nadia	457
28.	Charmajdia-Charbrahma Nagar	Nadia	585
29.	Thanga-Para Handloom Cluster	Dinajpur	438
30.	Abadanga Handloom Cluster	Birbhum	320
31.	Fuliapara (NIFT), Cluster,	Nadia	585
32.	Rudrapara Handloom Cluster,	Nadia	511
33.	Kenjakura Hanloom Cluster,	Bankura	600
34.	Indpur Handloom Cluster,	Bankura	460
Total			14966

[*Translation*]

#### **Guna-Etawah Rail Line**

1231. SHRIMATI YASHODHARA RAJE SCINDIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cost incurred for laying of Guna-Etawah rail line in North-Central Railway;

(b) the status of laying of railway line from Bhind to Etawah; and

(c) 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) An expenditure of Rs. 416 crore has been incurred upto 31.03.2009 out of the total estimated cost of Rs. 540.96 crore.

(b) 69% progress has been achieved for Bhind-Etawah new rail line. There have been problems in availability of forest and Wild Life Sanctuary land for this portion in the states of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Working permission now exists in Uttar Pradesh and issue of transfer of land in Madhya Pradesh has been taken up.

(c) The completion of the project is expected to be

by March, 2012 depending upon early transfer of land and availability of resources.

[*English*]

#### **Resurgence in Demand of Steel**

1232. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:

SHRI P. BALRAM:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is resurgence in a demand of steel in the European Union (EU) region and developing countries:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action plan prepared by the Government to exploit the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) and (b) While there has been an overall recovery in steel demand and production towards the later half of 2009 and into the first month of 2010, the production worldwide for the year 2009 fell by 8.27% as compared to the previous year. The production in the Duropean Union (EU) fell by nearly 30% in the same period. Except for the Middle East and Asia, all the major geographical regions of the world recorded drop in steel production, as can be seen from the table below:.

*World Crude Steel Production (Region-wise)*

Region	Year			
	2007	2008	2009	2009 over 2008 (% change)
EU-27	209,732	198,550	139,143	-29.9
Other Europe	30,608	30,887	28,814	-6.7
C.I.S (6)	124,169	113,986	97,358	-14.6
North America	132,618	125,365	82,251	-34.4
South America	48,232	47,586	37,819	-20.5
Africa	18,755	17,009	14,843	-12.7
Middle East	16,452	16,036	16,591	3.5
Asia	761,940	749,496	776,330	3.6
Oceania	8,783	8,424	6,014	-28.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,351,289</b>	<b>1,329, 719</b>	<b>1,219,715</b>	<b>-8.3</b>

Source: World Steel Association

However, steel production globally increased sharply by 18.2 percent in the month of January 2010 over the same month of the previous year. The figures for the EU remained high.

(c) In a deregulated sector, the Government acts as a facilitator and continuously monitors the developments and prescribes policy measures depending on the outcome of its assessment of market trends-be it home market or export market.

The Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) under the chairmanship of Secretary (Steel) to monitor and coordinate implementation issues concerning major steel investments in the country. The IMG will review and co-ordinate measures for early completion of the major steel projects and address various problems concerning:

- Infrastructure constraints related to ports, rail, road network.
- Availability of iron ore and coal.
- Speedy environmental clearance for project sites as well as for iron ore and coal mining activities.

- Availability of land, water resources and issues concerning rehabilitation.

For the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) units, the Government has reduced import duty on scrap and other raw materials to zero in order to make available quality inputs at competitive prices through the import route. It is also in dialogue with different States regarding quality and tariff of electrical energy to these secondary units.

[Translation]

#### **Export Orders for BHEL**

1233. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited has got export orders from international markets;

(b) if so, the details of such orders during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by the Government to improve the functioning and efficiency of BHEL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has booked orders from international markets worth Rs. 1,903 crore, Rs. 2,312 crore and Rs. 3,265 crore respectively, in the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09, which include export orders for projects, products, spares and services. Details of major physical export orders secured

by BHEL during these three years are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Continuous review and monitoring of the functioning and performance of BHEL is undertaken by the Department of Heavy Industry with a view to make further improvements. The company is equipping itself by way of technology augmentation, facilities & processes, forming joint ventures & strategic alliances and inducting manpower to meet the country's power forecast for the 11th Plan and beyond. It has already enhanced its manufacturing capacity to 10,000 MW per annum. Plans are also a foot to hike it further to 20,000 MW by 2011-12.

### **Statement**

#### *Major physical export orders secured by BHEL during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09*

Sl.No.	Project/Product Details	Country
1	2	3
<b>2006-07</b>		
1.	220/110/20 KV Substation, Kabul	Afghanistan
2.	230 KV Substations at Baghabari and Ishurdi	Bangladesh
3.	2 × 120 MW Gas Based Siddhirganj Power Project	Bangladesh
4.	23 nos. 125 MVA, 220 KV Transformers	Egypt
5.	Compressor package	France
6.	117 nos. Voltage Transformers & 133 nos. Current Transformers	Greece
7.	4 × Frame 9E Gas Turbine & Generator based Power Project, Sulaymaniyah, Kurdistan	Iraq
8.	Rehabilitation of 3 × 5 MW Devighat Hydro-Electric Power Plant	Nepal
9.	Renovation, modernisation and uprating of 2 × 3.67 MW Hydro Electric Power Plant	Tajikistan
<b>2007-08</b>		
1.	2 × 12 MW Steam Turbine & Generator (STG) Package for Finchaa Sugar Factory	Ethiopia
2.	2 × 20 MW Steam Turbine & Generator (STG) Package for Phase 1 and 2 × 40 MW STG Package for Phase 2 of Tendaho Sugar Factory	Ethiopia
3.	2 × 126 TPH CFBC Boilers for Mine Mouth Power Plant	Indonesia
4.	1 × 15 MW Steam Turbine & Generator (STG), 1 × 120 TPH CFBC Boiler package for PT Indo Bharat Rayon	Indonesia

1	2	3
5.	2 x 156 MW Western Mountain Gas based Thermal Power Plant Extension	Libya
6.	2 x 442 TPH CFBC Boiler & Auxiliaries for Koniombo Nickel	Caledonia
7.	2 units of Frame 6B Gas Turbines for RAK Power Plant	United Arab Emirates
8.	2 x 100 MW Nam Chien Hydro Power Plant	Vietnam
<b>2008-09</b>		
1.	5 nos. 100 MVA Transformers	Greece
2.	3 x 18 MW Boiler-Turbine-Generator Island for PT Kaltima Prima Coal (KPC)	Indonesia
3.	16 nos. Transformers of various capacities	Myanmar
4.	2 x 14 MW Hydro Power Plant, Ministry of Infrastructure	Rawanda
5.	1 x 125 MW Power Island Package	Senegal
6.	2 x 200 MW Tishreen Thermal Power Plant	Syria
7.	1 x 7 MW Generator for Pamir Energy	Tajikistan
8.	4 units of Frame 68 Gas Turbine & Generator (GTG) for International Energy Resources	United Arab Emirates

[English]

#### **Outstanding Dues Against Airlines**

1234. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount of dues for aviation fuel of the various airlines payable to Public Sector Oil Marketing companies for the last four quarters ending 31 December 2009, PSU-wise and airline-wise;

(b) whether any notice was given to these airlines to clear their dues;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the amount recovered from them, airline-wise; and

(d) the action being contemplated against erring airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN

PRASADA): (a) to (c) The details of the amount of dues for aviation fuel of the major airlines payable to Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) and payments received from them during the last four quarters ending 31.12.2009, PSU-wise and airline-wise are given in the enclosed statement.

The issue of outstanding dues has been taken up several times with defaulting airlines by the OMCs to clear their outstanding dues. Even notices to put them on Cash and Carry were also sent. continuous efforts are being made by OMCs to collect the outstanding payments from the Airlines.

(d) Due to repeated default, M/s Kingfisher Airlines was put on Cash and Carry effective 29.01.2009 and bank guarantee was en-cashed by Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC). Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPC) has also put Kingfisher Airlines on Cash and Carry effective 06.02.2009 and invoked Arbitration/legal proceedings to recover the dues as per fuel supply

agreement. BPC has now reported that M/s Kingfisher Airlines have consented to settlement in Mumbai High

Court to a schedule of payment along with interest on the principal amount.

### **Statement**

*1st Quarter (January to March' 99)*

(Rs. in Crore)

Name of OMCs	NACIL		JET AIRWAYS		KINGFISHER AIRLINES	
	Outstanding dues	Payment Received	Outstanding dues	Payment Received	Outstanding dues	Payment Received
IOC	389.35	907.18	580.37	866.42	169.07	77.23
BPC	139.9	219.58	110.33	169.39	314.32	108.41
HPC	104.16	179.99	4.03	5.14	574.71	173.24

*2nd Quarter (April to June'99)*

(Rs. in Crore)

Name of OMCs	NACIL		JET AIRWAYS		KINGFISHER AIRLINES	
	Outstanding dues	Payment Received	Outstanding dues	Payment Received	Outstanding dues	Payment Received
IOC	290.78	579.37	650.15	351.15	40.71	130.48
BPC	77.82	217.86	100.61	95.12	314.32	0.00
HPC	59.96	150.93	3.7	5.64	536.68	333.76

*3rd Quarter (July to September' 99)*

(Rs. in Crore)

Name of OMCs	NACIL		JET AIRWAYS		KINGFISHER AIRLINES	
	Outstanding dues	Payment Received	Outstanding dues	Payment Received	Outstanding dues	Payment Received
IOC	773.28	112	759.28	367	15.51	62.36
BPC	220.82	32.78	149	51.4	314.32	0.00
HPC	173.49	20.95	4.34	6.24	622.91	299.68

*4th Quarter (October to December' 99)*

(Rs. in Crore)

Name of OMCs	NACIL		JET AIRWAYS		KINGFISHER AIRLINES	
	Outstanding dues	Payment Received	Outstanding dues	Payment Received	Outstanding dues	Payment Received
IOC	1199.64	237.63	826.00	526.18	15.03	29.88
BPC	337.73	74.23	172.71	86.59	290.37	50.00
HPC	260.49	65.52	0.09	4.39	576.24	393.33

Note: Payment received is toward dues outstanding as well as for current supplies of ATF during the respective quarter.

### Setting up of New Airports in Karnataka

1235. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new airports proposed to be set up in Karnataka;

(b) the details of airports proposed to be upgraded in Karnataka;

(c) the time-frame fixed for completion of new airports and upgradation of existing airports; and

(d) the total amount allotted and released for new airports and for upgradation of other airports in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) Government of India has accorded 'in principle' approval for setting up of new Greenfield airports at Bijapur, Gulbarga, Hassan and Shimoga in Karnataka for development by the State Government of Karnataka.

Airports Authority of India (AAI) has provided an outlay of Rs. 251.30 crores for development works at Mangalore, Belgaum, Hubli and Mysore airport. Till January, 2010, Rs. 172.16 crores has been incurred. Work on the construction of new Terminal building and new apron has been completed at Mangalore airport. For the Upgradation/Development of other airports, the requirement of land has been projected to the Government of Karnataka.

### Hike in Project Cost of Reliance Industry Krishna Godavari Gas Fields

1236. SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY:  
SHRI MANOHAR TRKEY:

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

(a) whether the Government has approved the hike in project cost of Reliance Industry Krishna Godavari Gas fields;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the amount approved previously as the project cost;

(c) the criteria adopted for assessing the project cost; and

(d) the impact of this increase on retail power tariffs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The Field Development Plan of D1 & D3 gas discoveries in the block KG-D6 (RILNIKO) was approved by the Management Committee as required by the Production Sharing Contract (PSC). The investment is estimated to increase from US \$ 2.5 billion approved in the Initial Development Plan to US\$ 8.8 billion as per the Revised Development Plan. The increase is on account of increase in production volume, corresponding increases in production facilities and number of wells, and increase in global price level for E&P services.

(c) The estimated investment proposed by the Contractor was assessed based on the type and size of the production facilities, pipelines and number of wells to be drilled and completed etc.

(d) Under New Exploration Licencing Policy PSCs, pricing of gas is not linked to the cost of production of gas and therefore, change in project cost has no direct relationship to price of gas.

### Express Train

1237. SHRI C. SIVASAMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have excluded (VPU) and (SLR) type coaches from the MS Mangalore Express train (No. 6107-6108);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Railway to reinduct these coaches in the said train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir. 6107/6108 Chennai Central-Mangalore Express is running with scheduled load of 22 coaches including two SLRs. There is no VPU in the scheduled composition of the train.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

### Committee for Textile Sector

1238. SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a committee to look into problems faced by handloom, textile units and spinning mills in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to announce any special package for upgrading and modernization of textile industry in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No Sir. Presently, the Government is implementing schemes like the 'Scheme for Integrated Textiles Parks (SITP)' and the 'Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS)', for infrastructure development and technology upgradation in the textiles sector and to provide a conducive environment to enable the Indian textile industry to realise its full potential. The scheme is applicable all over India including Andhra Pradesh.

### Outsourcing for Ground Handling Operations

1239. SHRI S. PAKKIRAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to outsource many functions of ground handling at various domestic and international airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details of services that are being privatized;

(c) the details of the companies being considered for the job;

(d) whether the Government has considered the national security angle in outsourcing the services; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) As per the ground handling policy approved by the Government, the following entities are eligible to carry out ground handling services at metropolitan airports, that is the airports located at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bangalore and Hyderabad:

1. (i) Airports Authority of India/the airport operator itself or its Joint Venture Company;
  - (ii) Subsidiary companies of the national carrier, that is, National Aviation Company of India Limited or its joint ventures specialized in ground handling services on the basis of revenue sharing with airport operator subject to satisfactory observance of performance standards.
  - (iii) Any other ground handling service provider selected through competitive bidding on revenue sharing basis, subject to security clearance by the Central Government and observance of performance standards.
2. At all other airports, in addition to entities specified above self handling may be permitted to the airlines, excluding foreign airlines.

Further, the Government has also approved the following:

- (i) All private airlines, including foreign airlines, may undertake self handling in respect of "passenger and baggage handling activities at the airport terminals" and "traffic service including the passenger check-in", which require passenger interface, at all airports.
- (ii) All cargo airlines, which have their own cargo aircrafts, may undertake self handling in their hub airports.
- (iii) The time limit for exit of non-entitled entities be extended beyond 31.12.2009 up to 31.12.2010; and
- (iv) Foreign airlines and private independent ground handling service providers not to be permitted self ground handling/ground handling at joint user Defence airfields.



(d) and (e) All entities engaged in ground handling would need to have security clearance by the Central Government and would be subject to instructions/restrictions of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS).

#### **Modernisation of Railway Station in Tamil Nadu**

1240. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal for expansion and modernization of major railway stations in Tamil Nadu including Hosur and Jolarpettai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work on the said project is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Expansion and modernization of railway stations is a continuous process. Accordingly 26 (Twenty Six) major stations including Hosur and Jolarpettai stations were identified for modernization in the State of Tamil Nadu. Hosur station was identified under Model station scheme and Jolarpettai was identified under Model and Modern station schemes.

(c) The work on the project has already started.

#### **Development of Airports**

1241. SHRI AMARNATH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Airports Authority of India (AAI) has planned to raise money from any national and international funding agency for the development of airports;

(b) if so, the airports identified for the same; and

(c) the total amount allocated for the current financial year for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. Airports Authority of India has planned to raise funds through money market for short term loans and private placement of bonds through capital market for long term loans.

(b) and (c) The details of funds allocated (Rs. in crores) by Airports Authority of India for developments of airports during 2009-10 are as under:

Chennai-467, Kolkata-386, Trivandrum-95, Ranchi-20, Raipur-25, Chandigarh-20, Lucknow-30, Ahmedabad-55,

Bhopal-26, Indore-22, Madurai-22 and Aeronautical communication-32. Total amount is Rs. 1200 Crores.

#### **Aircraft in Possession of NACIL**

1242. SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of aircraft in possession and in operation of Air India, type-wise;

(b) whether Air India has any proposal to operate more A-380 aircraft to augment passenger capacity in the wake of forthcoming Commonwealth Games in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether major airports in the country are likely to be equipped with the operation of A-380 aircraft;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Air India has 177 aircraft (owned and leased). Out of 177 aircraft, 149 aircraft are in operation. The type-wise number of aircraft with Air India are 8-B777-200LR, 9-B777-3000ER, 6-B747-400, 3-B777-200ER, 1-B777-200A, 10-A310-300, 2-A330-200, 25-B737-800, 44-A320, 24-A319, 19-A321, 4-CRJ-700, 7-ATR42, 1-Beach1900D, 11-B737-200, 1-B747-300 Combi and 2-DO228.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (f) Yes, Sir. The airports at Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Mumbai are likely to be equipped with the operation of A-380 aircraft.

#### **Take Over of ONGC'S Assets by Oil**

1243. SHRI RAMESH RATHOD:  
SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:  
SHRI P. BALRAM:

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

(a) whether Oil India Ltd. plans to take over Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)'s assets; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) No Sir.

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

#### **Sale of LPG/CNG Based Cars and Trucks**

1244. SHRI MUKESH BHAIKAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the total production and sale of compressed natural gas/liquefied petroleum gas (CNG/LPG) based cars and trucks during the last four years in the country and category-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether the percentage of production of CNG/

LPG based cars and trucks has increased during the four years;

(c) whether Government is planning to double the production of cars and trucks within two years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) As informed by the Society of Indian Automobile manufactures (SIAM), the production of LPG/CNG Passenger Cars and trucks manufactured by the OEMs during the last four years are as under:

Category	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (upto Jan 10)
Cars (LPG)	117,106	128,805	136,336	146,149
Trucks (CNG)	411	555	3,447	4,864

(b) The percentage of CNG/LPG vehicles in the total cars and trucks is and under:

Category	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (upto Jan 10)
Cars (LPG)	9.46	9.03	8.99	9.51
Trucks (CNG)	0.09	0.12	0.99	1.32

(c) and (d) At present no such plan is under consideration of the Government.

[*Translation*]

#### **Closure of Heavy Industries**

1245. SHRI ARJUN MUNDA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of heavy industries in the country are either closed or on the verge of closure;

(b) if so, state-wise number of such industries;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to revive and make productive these sick industries;

(d) if, so the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) Based on the performance data available in Public (Enterprise Survey, 2008-09, 73 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs), as per enclosed statement, have been identified as sick as per the definition in the Resolution constituting Board For Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) for making reference to BRPSE. During the last three years (from 2006-07 to 2008-09) two Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) namely Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd., Durgapur, West Bengal and Bharat Yantra Nigam Ltd., Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh have been closed.

(c) to (e) The Government have set up Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) vide Resolution in December 2004 as an advisory body to advise the Government, inter alia, on the revival and

restructuring of sick Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs), The concerned administrative ministries / departments of the CPSEs prepare proposals for revival

of sick companies on case to case basis and refer them to BRPSE for its recommendations and thereafter for approval of the Government.

**Statement**

*Ministry-wise List of Sick Central Public Sector Enterprises identified based on the Audited Financial Figures for the Year 2008-09 for the purposes of making Reference to BRPSE*

Sl.No.	Name of the Ministry/ Department/CPSE	City/State in which the Registered Office of the CPSE is located
1	2	3
<b>Department of Heavy Industry</b>		
1.	Hindustan Salts Ltd.	Jaipur (Rajasthan)
2.	Tyre Corporation of India Ltd.	Kolkata (West Bengal)
3.	HMT Bearings Ltd.	Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)
4.	Tungabhadra Steel Products Ltd.	Bellary (Karnataka)
5.	Nagaland Pulp & Paper Co. Ltd.	Tuli (Nagaland)
6.	NEPA Ltd.	Nepanagar (Madhya Pradesh)
7.	Richardson & Cruddas Ltd.	Mumbai (Maharashtra)
8.	Cement Corporation of India Ltd.	Delhi
9.	HMT Machine Tools Ltd.	Bangalore (Karnataka)
10.	Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd.	Ranchi (Jharkhand)
11.	Triveni Structural Ltd.	Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh)
12.	Bharat Heavy Plate & Vessels Ltd.	Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh)
13.	Hindustan Cables Ltd.	Kolkata (West Bengal)
14.	HMT Watches Ltd.	Bangalore (Karnataka)
15.	Instrumentation Ltd.	Kota (Rajasthan )
16.	Andrew Yule & Co. Ltd.	Kolkata (West Bengal)
17.	HMT Ltd.	Bangalore (Karnataka)
18.	HMT Chinar Watches Ltd	Jammu (Jammu & Kashmir)
19.	Burn Standard Company Ltd.	Kolkata (West Bengal)
20.	Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Corpn. Ltd.	Ootacamund (Tamilnadu)

1	2	3
21.	Sambhar Salts Ltd.	Jaipur (Rajasthan)
22.	Braithawaite and Co. Ltd.	Kolkata (West Bengal)
23.	Scooters India Ltd.	Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)
<b>Ministry of Textiles</b>		
24.	Birds, Jute SExports Ltd.	Kolkata (West Bengal)
25.	British India Corporation Ltd.	Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh)
26.	National Textiles Corporation Ltd. & its subsidiaries	Delhi, Ahmadabad (Gujarat), Bangalore (Karnataka), Indore (Madhya Pradesh), Mumbai (Maharashtra), Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu), Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh), Kolkata (West Bengal)
27.	National Jute Manufactures Corporation Ltd.	Kolkata (West Bengal )
<b>Department of Fertilizers</b>		
28.	Madras Fertilizers Ltd.	Manali (Tamilnadu)
29.	Fertilizers & Chemicals Travancore Ltd.	Kochi (Kerala)
30.	Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd.	New Delhi
31.	Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd.	New Delhi
32.	Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corpn. Ltd.	Namrup (Assam)
<b>Department of Pharmaceuticals</b>		
33.	Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd.	Pune (Maharashtra)
34.	Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	Kolkata (West Bengal )
35.	Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	Gurgaon (Haryana)
36.	Orissa Drugs & Chemicals Ltd.	Bhubaneswar (Orissa)
37.	IDPL (Tamil Nadu) Ltd.	Chennai (Tamilnadu)
38.	Bihar Drugs & Organic Chemicals Ltd.	Muzaffarpur (Bihar)
<b>Department of Chemicals &amp; Petrochemicals</b>		
39.	Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd.	Mumbai (Maharashtra)
40.	Hindustan Fluorocarbons Ltd.	Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)
<b>Ministry of Coal</b>		
41.	Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	Burdwan (West Bengal)

1	2	3
42.	Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. <b>Ministry of Steel</b>	Dhanbad (Jharkhand)
43.	Hindustan Steelworks Construction Ltd.	Kolkata (West Bengal)
44.	Bharat Refractories Ltd.	Bokaro (Jharkhand)
45.	J&K Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. <b>Department of Shipping</b>	Jammu & Kashmir
46.	Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd.	Kolkata (West Bengal)
47.	Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Ltd.	Kolkata (West Bengal)
48.	Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. <b>Ministry of Housing &amp; Urban Poverty Alleviation</b>	Delhi
49.	Hindustan Prefab Ltd. <b>Department of Agriculture &amp; Cooperation</b>	Delhi
50.	State Farms Corporation of India Ltd. <b>Ministry of Water Resources</b>	Delhi
51.	National Projects Construction Corporation Ltd. <b>Ministry of Petroleum &amp; Natural Gas</b>	Delhi
52.	Biecto Lawrie Ltd. <b>Department of Food &amp; Public Distribution</b>	Kolkata (West Bengal)
53.	Hindustan Vegetable Oils Corporation Ltd. <b>Ministry of Railways</b>	New Delhi
54.	Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd.	Delhi
55.	Bharat Wagons & Engineering Co. Ltd. <b>Ministry of Civil Aviation</b>	Patna (Bihar)
56.	Air India Charters Ltd.	Mumbai (Maharashtra)
57.	Airline Allied Services Ltd.	New Delhi
58.	Air India Air Transport Services Ltd.	Mumbai (Maharashtra)
59.	National Aviation Co. of India Ltd. <b>Department of Telecommunications</b>	Mumbai (Maharashtra)
60.	ITI Ltd.	Bangalore (Karnataka)

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1	2	3
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**Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region**

- |     |   |                      |
|-----|---|----------------------|
| 61. | North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation | Guwahati (Assam)     |
| 62. | North Eastern Handicrafts & Handloom Dev. Corpn. Ltd.     | Shillong (Meghalaya) |

**Ministry of Environment & Forests**

- |     |  |                                   |
|-----|--|-----------------------------------|
| 63. | Andaman & Nicobar Islands Forest & Plant. Dev. Corp. Ltd | Port Blair<br>(Andaman & Nicobar) |
|-----|--|-----------------------------------|

**Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises**

- |     |                                       |           |
|-----|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| 64. | National Small Industries Corpn. Ltd. | New Delhi |
|-----|---------------------------------------|-----------|

**Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment**

- |     |                                       |                        |
|-----|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 65. | Artificial Limbs Mfg. Corpn. of India | Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh) |
|-----|---------------------------------------|------------------------|

**Ministry of Tourism**

- |     |  |                         |
|-----|--|-------------------------|
| 66. | Assam Ashok Hotel Corpn. Ltd.          | Guwahati (Assam)        |
| 67. | Madhya Pradesh Ashok Hotel Corpn. Ltd. | Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh) |
| 68. | Pondicherry Ashok Hotel Corpn. Ltd.    | Pondicherry             |
| 69. | Ranchi Ashok Bihar Hotel Corpn. Ltd.   | Patna (Jharkhand)       |
| 70. | Utkal Ashok Hotel Corpn. Ltd.          | Puri (Orissa)           |

**Ministry of Science & Technology**

- |     |                          |           |
|-----|--------------------------|-----------|
| 71. | Central Electronics Ltd. | New Delhi |
|-----|--------------------------|-----------|

**Ministry of Information & Broadcasting**

- |     |  |                      |
|-----|--|----------------------|
| 72. | National Film Development Corporation Ltd. | Mumbai (Maharashtra) |
|-----|--|----------------------|
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[English]

**MoU Between IOC and NTPC for Joint Research**

1246. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation Limited and National Thermal Power Corporation have signed an MoU for Joint research; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the terms and conditions of the said MoU?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) on 09.02.2010.

The areas of mutual interest for Joint research and development of products and processed identified are as below:

- Bio-chemical treatment of sewage water or effluent rich in organic/chemicals to make it useful for the plant.

- Development of Lubricants: Aimed at developing high performance/energy efficient lubricants and to develop the lubricants for import substitution for power plants.
- Integrated plant for biodiesel production and utilization of biomass for power Generation.
- Non Destructive Testing and corrosion related projects for health assessment of boilers.

Research activities under each project to be undertaken will be defined with clear role of NTPC and IOC. Expenditures as per approved Project report will be shared in accordance with sharing of expenditure agreed by joint Working Group and approved by both the Parties.

#### **Upgradation of Airstrip at Bhiwani**

1247. SHRIMATI SHRUTI CHOUDHRY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- whether the Government has received a proposal for the upgradation of airstrip at Bhiwani (Haryana);
- if so, the details thereof;
- whether the proposal has been pending for execution for a long time;
- if so, the present status thereof; and
- the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) A reference in this regard, has been received from elected representative for development of airstrip at Bhiwani in Haryana.

(c) to (e) The airstrip at Bhiwani belongs to the State Government of Haryana and no airline operator has evinced interest in operating to/from Bhiwani. However, earlier, State Government of Haryana has requested Airports Authority of India (AAI) to provide consultancy services for preparation of a vision document for civil aviation related potential in Haryana mainly for preparation of a vision document for civil aviation related potential in Haryana mainly for 5 airstrips including airstrip at Bhiwani. Thereafter, AAI had prepared a vision

document for civil aviation related potential in these airstrips and had submitted its report to the State Government in 2008, in which, it was recommended to develop Bhiwani airfield for flying institutions.

#### **Free Coaching and Allied Scheme**

1248. SHRI D.B.CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- whether the Government is implementing Free Coaching and Allied Scheme for the assistance of candidates belonging to the minority communities in the country;
- if so, the details thereof;
- the details of coaching centres and institutes which have been selected for this purpose; state-wise;
- the criteria adopted for selection of such coaching centres and institutes;
- whether the performance of these coaching centres and institutes have been evaluated by the Government;
- if so, the details thereof alongwith the corrective measures initiated in this regard; and
- the number of students belonging to minority communities who were given coaching by such centres/institutes during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

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

(b) The objective of the scheme is to provide free coaching/training to students/candidates belonging to minority communities for: (i) qualifying examinations for admission in technical/professional courses, (ii) competitive examination for recruitment to Group A, B, C and D services and other equivalent posts under the Central and State Governments, (iii) coaching/training for jobs in private sector and, (iv) remedial coaching for technical and professional courses for undergraduate and postgraduate level. The details of the scheme are also available on the website of the Ministry, [www.minorityaffairs.gov.in](http://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in)

(c) The details of coaching centers and institutes which have been selected for this purpose State-wise are available on the website of this Ministry, [www.minorityaffairs.gov.in](http://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in)

(d) The suitability/eligibility of the coaching centers/institutes is evaluated with regard to faculty, infrastructure, past experience and success rate. The centers/institutes in private sector are inspected by the officers of State/

UT Governments before recommending the proposal to the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

(e) No, Sir.

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

(g) The information is given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	State	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (Upto 28.02.2010)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	-	-	-
2.	Andhra Pradesh	-	185	650	100
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-
4.	Assam	-	90	-	150
5.	Bihar	-	-	-	100
6.	Chandigarh	-	-	50	-
7.	Chhattisgrah	-	80	90	50
8.	Dadra and Nagra Haveli	-	-	-	-
9.	Daman and Diu	-	-	-	-
10.	Delhi	-	473	541	500
11.	Goa	-	-	-	-
12.	Gujarat	-	-	100	-
13.	Haryana	-	50	140	40
14.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	25
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	240	-	-
16.	Jharkhand	-	-	75	-
17.	Karnataka	-	450	520	35
18.	Kerala	-	-	200	25
19.	Madhya Pradesh	-	90	220	150
20.	Maharashtra	-	-	980	130



1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	Manipur	-	160	118	125
22.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	50
23.	Mizoram	-	250	180	50
24.	Nagaland	-	-	50	-
25.	Orissa	-	190	75	230
26.	Punjab	-	160	50	90
27.	Rajasthan	690	1004	75	682
28.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-
29.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	-
30.	Tripura	-	-	100	-
31.	Uttar Pradesh	-	675	685	100
32.	Uttarakhand	-	-	-	-
33.	West Bengal	-	-	623	2050
34.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-
35.	Puducherry	-	-	-	-
Total		690	4097	5522	4682

#### Oil Tanker Accidents

1249. SHRI M.B. RAJESH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of oil tanker accidents occurred in the country during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken by the Public Sector oil companies for the safe transportation of LPG and other petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) The number of major Petroleum Oil Lubricant (POL) and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) tankers accidents occurred in the country during the last three years are given below:

Year	POL tank trucks	LPG tank trucks	Total
2006-07	3	5	8
2007-08	19	15	34
2008-09	46	18	64
Total	68	38	106

Details of steps taken by the OMCs for transporting of POL Products and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) are as under:

- (i) Design of the tank trucks carrying POL products conform to the provisions of Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) standard.
- (ii) Tank trucks are having valid licenses issued by Petroleum Explosive Safety Organization (PESO), Transport Authority and other statutory bodies.

- (iii) Periodic inspection of tank trucks is carried out to ensure that the tank trucks are maintained in good condition and all safety fittings are functioning properly.
- (iv) The crews operating the oil tankers are required to undergo training for safe transportation of hazardous goods as per Rule 9 of Motor Vehicles Act 1989. The crews are also required to undergo refresher courses as per Motor Vehicle Rules.
- (v) The supplies through oil tankers are made under security locking system locking manhole covers and manifold valves with rod and therefore avoiding accidental openings.
- (vi) The transporters engaged for transportation of POL products are abided by the Transport Discipline Guidelines (TDG) followed by the oil industry and thereby strict discipline is enforced and the transporter is made responsible to undertake safe transportation of POL products.
- (vii) The vehicles are having Transport Emergency Card (TERM) detailing action to be taken in emergency during journey on road.
- (viii) Photo identity cards have been issued to tank truck crew to ensure that only authorized driver drives the vehicle and each tank truck is accompanied by cleaner.

#### **Passenger Amenities in Railways**

1250. SHRI P.T. THOMAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have formulated any comprehensive action plan to improve the passenger amenities in trains and Railway stations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether complaints have been received about poor condition of coaches in long distance trains including in Kerala bound trains; and
- (d) if so, the corrective measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Indian Railways always endeavor to improve upon the amenities provided to passengers in trains and stations and this is a continuous process. Key initiatives in this direction are:

- Cushioning of seats in unreserved coaches.
- Provision of Snack Table, Bottle Holder, Magazine Bags and Mobile Chargers etc. in sleeper Class coaches.
- Provision of curtains in the aisles of AC-3 Tier coaches.
- Introduction of On Board House Keeping Services (OBHS) in Trains.
- Use of upgraded materials for coach furnishing with improved aesthetics and fire retardancy.
- Development of stations under 'Adarsh' Stations scheme.
- Taking up the Modernization of 811 stations.

(c) and (d) Regular maintenance and upkeep of all passenger coaches is carried out during laid down maintenance schedules in open line as well as periodical overhauls in the Railways Workshops. Special Drives are Launched and surprise checks are conducted to monitor the passenger amenities in trains. The coaches are also given 'Mid-life' rehabilitation after 12-15 years of usage.

[*Translation*]

#### **'Social Obligations of Industries'**

1251. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any guidelines have been issued by the Government to industries to fulfill their social obligations;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount incurred by the various Public Sector Enterprises towards meeting their social obligations during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (c) As per existing guidelines dated 29.11.1994, (copy enclosed as statement) all Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) cannot be treated on an equal footing for undertaking various types of social activities. It is for the individual PSE to identify and implement social responsibilities keeping in view its financial ability to sustain such activities, operating environment and provisions in its Memorandum of Association (MOA)/Statute.

Information on the amount incurred by the various CPSEs towards meeting their social obligations is not maintained centrally.

### **Statement**

#### CHAPTER XII

#### MISCELLANEOUS

#### **14. DPE/Guidelines/XII/14**

#### **Social Obligations of Central Public Enterprises**

The issue relating to Social Obligations of Central Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) has been examined in the context of the recommendations made by the Committee on Public Undertakings (1993-94) in its 24th Report on 'Social Responsibilities and Public Accountability of Public Undertakings'.

2. The Government's policy towards public enterprises has been enunciated in the Industrial Policy Statement of the 24th July, 1991. The Government believes in making PSEs growth oriented and technically dynamic. Its policy is to give greater powers to the boards so that PSEs could function professionally. The emphasis of the Government is on performance improvement of PSEs. The focus is, therefore, on generating surpluses for self-sustaining growth.

3. The Memorandum of Association (MOA) of PSEs state the objectives, including social objectives, for which they have been set up. PSEs generally undertake certain amount of non-commercial responsibilities, which are

incorporated in the MOA in furtherance of their commercial objectives. All PSEs cannot be treated on an equal footing for undertaking various types of social activities. It is for the individual PSE to identify and implement social responsibilities keeping in view its financial ability to sustain such activities, operating environment and provisions in its MOA/Statute.

4. In addition to the MOA, it is likely that some social responsibilities may be assigned to PSEs through the issuance of Presidential Directives/ guidelines by the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments. While implementation of Presidential Directives is mandatory; the guidelines are also generally to be followed except when the boards of directors of PSEs decide not to adopt them for reasons to be recorded in writing as provided in DPE's OM No. 6(6)/88-Coord. dated 8.4.1991 (Please see S, No. 193 of Volume-1).

5. It is desirable that boards of PSEs have full flexibility in identification and implementation of social responsibilities because as per the Articles of Association they enjoy full autonomy in this regard. PSEs are free to avail the help of State Governments, District Administration and peoples' representatives, wherever necessary.

6. All the administrative Ministries/Departments are requested to bring the foregoing to the notice of the public enterprises under their administrative control for their information and guidance.

(DPE O.M. No. 2(1)/94-GM  
dated 29th November, 1994)

[English]

#### **Body Scanners at Airports**

1252. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to install full body scanners at the airports in the wake of frequent security threats;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to procure the scanners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Based on the inputs received from various Agencies, this Ministry is considering installing body scanners at IGI Airports, New Delhi, on trial basis once the new Terminal is commissioned. A final view in the matter is yet to be taken.

#### **Competition Commission of India**

1253. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Competition Commission of India (CCI) found evidences of bank's housing finance institutions entering into anti-competitive agreements by imposing penalty for pre-payment of home loans;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the commission against such erring banks/institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSEED): (a) to (c) The Competition commission of India (CCI) has received information under section 19 of the Competition Act, 2002 against some Banks/Housing finance Institutions with regard to anti-competitive agreements on imposing penalty for pre-payment of home loans. The matter is being enquired into by the Commission for appropriate necessary action.

#### **Promotion of Handicrafts**

1254. SHRI VARUN GANDHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken steps to promote the brand image for Indian handicrafts in the world market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken steps for protection of crafts under the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Act;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The steps taken to promote the Brand Image of Indian Handicrafts include; organizing buyer-seller meet/seminars to create awareness about Indian Handicrafts, publicity measures such as release of advertisement in print media in US and Europe through Trade magazines, launching of website for providing authentic information on handmade carpets, participation in Fairs/Exhibition abroad, organizing Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair twice a year, organizing Thematic Exhibition etc.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. The steps taken for protection of crafts under the Intellectual Property Right (IPR) Act include; registration of 33 crafts for their Geographical Indication under Intellectual Property Right (IPR) Act.

(e) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **'Advertisements by PSUs'**

1255. SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money spent by each Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) on advertisements during each of the last three years till date;

(b) whether the Government has issued/proposes to issue any guidelines to the PSUs in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the criteria adopted by the PSUs with regard to giving advertisements in the print and electronic media?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) Information on amount of money spent by individual Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) on advertisements is not maintained centrally. Such information is available with the individual CPSEs.

(b) to (d) There are no guidelines issued to the management of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) in the matter of advertisements by them in the print or the electronic media or the criteria to be adopted in this regard. This matter falls within the powers of Boards of respective CPSEs.

**Passenger Amenities at Bhairwa Railway Station**

1256. SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware of lack of passenger amenities at Bhairwa Railway Station in North-Eastern Railway;

(b) If so, the details of passenger amenities being provided at present;

(c) whether the Railways are also aware that there is no waiting room for passengers at Bhairwa Railway Station; and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) There is no Railway station called Bhairwa on Indian Railways. However, there is a railway station named Baherwa on North Eastern Railway.

Baherwa is a halt station dealing with meagre passenger traffic. All facilities required to be provided at a halt station already exist. Inter-alia these facilities include one rail level platform, platform shelter, one hand pump and 24 seats. Provision of waiting room is not warranted considering the class of station and present level of traffic dealt with at the station.

[English]

**Revival of Sick Industries**

1257. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE:  
SHRI P.T. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprise (BRPSE) has suggested various measures to revive the sick industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the follow-up action taken thereon; and

(d) the process the Government is likely to follow to deal with them including disinvestment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) has given its recommendations for revival of 55 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) as per the details given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Based on the recommendations of BRPSE, Government have approved revival of 37 CPSEs envisaging total assistance of Rs. 15253 crores (cash assistance of Rs. 2921 crores in the form of infusion of funds and non-cash assistance of Rs. 12332 crores in the form of waivers/write offs of interest/loans, etc.) from Government of India.

(d) The concerned administrative ministries/ departments of the CPSEs prepare proposals for revival/ rehabilitation/joint venture/disinvestment or closure of sick companies on case to case basis and refer them to BRPSE for its recommendations and thereafter for approval of the Government.

**Statement***Broad gist of recommendations of BRPSE on proposals of CPSEs*

Sl. No.	Name of the Administrative Ministry/ Department/CPSE	Broad gist of the recommendation of BRPSE
1	2	3
<b>Department of Heavy Industry</b>		
1.	Hindustan Salts Ltd., Jaipur, Rajasthan	Revival as a PSE
2.	Bridge and Roof Co. (India) Ltd., Kolkata	Revival as a PSE
3.	BBJ Construction Co. Ltd., Kolkata	Revival as a PSE

1	2	3
4.	Tyre Corporation of India Ltd., Kolkata	Revival as a PSE
5.	HMT Bearings Ltd., Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh	Revival as a PSE
6.	Praga Tools Ltd., Secunderabad, Andhra Pradesh	Revival as a PSE
7.	Braithwaite and Company Ltd., Kolkata	Revival as a PSE
8.	NEPA Ltd., Nepa Nagar, Madhya Pradesh	Revival through Joint Venture/disinvestment
9.	Richardson and Cruddas Ltd., Mumbai	Revival through Joint Venture/disinvestment
10.	Tungabhadra Steel Products Ltd., Bellary, Karnataka	Revival through Joint Venture/disinvestment
11.	Bharat Pumps and Compressors Ltd., Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh	Revival through Joint Venture/disinvestment
12.	Cement Corporation of India Ltd., Delhi	Closure of non-operating units. Other operating units will be revived as a PSE.
13.	HMT Machine Tools Ltd., Bangaluru, Karnataka	Revival as a PSE
14.	Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd., Ranchi, Jharkhand	Revival as a PSE
15.	Andrew Yule and Co. Ltd., Kolkata	Revival as a PSE
16.	Instrumentation Ltd., Kota, Rajasthan	Revival as a PSE
17.	Triveni Structurals Ltd., Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh	Revival as a PSE
18.	HMT Ltd., Bangalore	Revival as a PSE
19.	HMT Watches Ltd., Bangaluru	Revival as a PSE— Closure of Bangaluru unit and transfer of Ranibagh unit to State Government before its closure
20.	Bharat Heavy Plate and Vessels Ltd.	Revival through financial restructuring and taken over by BHEL
21.	Hindustan Cables Ltd., Kolkata	Revival through Joint Venture/disinvestment
22.	HMT Chinar Watches Ltd., Jammu (Jammu and Kashmir)	Revival through either transferring to State Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir or joint venture with any State/ Central Govt. PSU/Private Sector
23.	Burn Standard Company Ltd.	Revival through transfer of two wagon manufacturing units to D/o Railways and transfer of one refractory unit to M/o Steel
<b>Ministry of Textiles</b>		
24.	British India Corporation Ltd., Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh	Revival through Joint Venture/disinvestment

1	2	3
25.	National Textiles Corporation Ltd. and its subsidiaries, Delhi and other states	Revival of 15 mills as PSE unit and 19 mills through Joint Venture
26.	National Jute Manufactures Corporation Ltd., Kolkata	Revival of as a PSE
27.	Elgin Mills Co. Ltd. Deptt. of Fertilizers	Revival of Elgin Mill No. 2
28.	Madras Fertilizers Ltd., Manali, Tamil Nadu	Revival as a PSE
29.	Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd., Kochi, Kerala	Revival as a PSE
30.	Brahmaputra Velley Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (BFVCL) <b>Deptt. of Shipping</b>	Revival as a PSE
31.	Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd., Kolkata	Revival through Joint Venture/Disinvestment
32.	Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., Delhi	Revival as a PSE
33.	Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Ltd., Kolkata <b>Deptt. of Chemicals and Petrochemicals</b>	Revival as a PSE
34.	Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd., Mumbai	Revival as a PSE
35.	Hindustan Insecticides Ltd., Delhi	Revival as a PSE
36.	Hindustan Fluorocarbons Ltd., Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh <b>Deptt. of Pharmaceuticals</b>	Revival as a PSE
37.	Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd., Pune, Maharashtra	Revival as a PSE
38.	Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Kolkata	Revival as a PSE
39.	Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Gurgaon, Haryana	Revival as a PSE
40.	IDPL (Tamil Nadu) Ltd., Chennai	Merger with IDPL
41.	Bihar Drugs and Organic Chemicals Ltd., Muzaffarpur, Bihar <b>Ministry of Coal</b>	Merger with IDPL
42.	Eastern Coalfields Ltd., Burdwan, West Bengal	Revival as a PSE
43.	Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. <b>Ministry of Mines</b>	Revival as a PSE
44.	Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd., Nagpur, Maharashtra	Revival as a PSE

1	2	3
45.	Hindustan Copper Ltd., Kolkata <b>Department of Scientific and Industrial Research</b>	Revival as a PSE
46.	Central Electronics Ltd., Delhi <b>Ministry of Water Resources</b>	Revival as a PSE
47.	National Projects Construction Corporation Ltd., Delhi <b>Ministry of Steel</b>	Revival as a PSE
48.	MECON Ltd., Ranchi, Jharkhand	Revival as a PSE
49.	Bharat Refractories Ltd., Bokaro, Jharkhand	Revival through financial restructuring and merger with SAIL
50.	Hindustan Steelworks Construction Ltd., Kolkata <b>Deptt. of Agriculture and Co-operation</b>	Revival as a PSE
51.	State Farms Corporation of India Ltd., Delhi <b>Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas</b>	Revival as a PSE
52.	Biecco Lawrie Ltd. <b>Ministry of Railways</b>	Revival as a PSE
53.	Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd., Delhi	Revival as a PSE
54.	Bharat Wagon and Engineering Co. Ltd., Patna, Bihar <b>Ministry of Housing and Urban poverty Alleviation</b>	Revival as a PSE
55.	Hindustan Prefab Ltd.	Revival as a PSE

*[Translation]***Electrification of Railway Line in Maharashtra**

1258. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received proposals from the State Government of Maharashtra for electrification of rail lines in the State;

(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) No proposal has been received from the State Government of Maharashtra for electrification of railway lines in the State. However, the electrification of Daund-Manmad section (255 Route Kilometres) and Gondia-Bailharshah (250 Route Kilometres) have been proposed in Rail Budget 2010-11. In addition to above, the electrification of Pune-Wadi-Guntakal rail line has already been sanctioned with doubling of Daund-Gulbarga rail line at a cost of Rs.1437.79 crore in October 2009.



[English]

**Aviation Training Institute at Bhubaneswar**

1259. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:  
SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government Aviation Training Institute at Bhubaneswar in Orissa has requested the Aero Club of India to provide a Cessna-172 R Aircraft;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the above aircraft is likely to be supplied to the Training Institute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A request was received in Aero Club of India (ACI) on 05.10.2009 from Government Aviation Training Institute (GATI), Bhubaneswar for providing them a Cessan 172 R aircraft for flying training purposes, which was not agreed to due to non availability of Cessna 172 R aircraft with ACI.

[Translation]

**Unmanned Level Crossings**

1260. SHRI SONAWANE PRATAP NARAYANRAO:  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the rules/criteria laid down for manning the unmanned level crossings across the country; and

(b) the number of unmanned level crossings manned during the current year, zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Railway have laid down guidelines for manning of unmanned level crossings as under:

All level crossings where Train Vehicle Units (TVUs) are more than 6000 and those level crossing having TVUs between 3000 and 6000 with restricted visibility at 800 metre or less qualify for manning.

(b) Number of unmanned level crossing manned during current year upto January 2010 are as under:

Railway/Zone	Progress
Central	01
Eastern	01
East Central	10
East Coast	15
Northern	49
North Central	01
North Eastern	05
Northeast Frontier	09
North Western	11
Southern	21
South Central	13
South Eastern	11
South East Central	16
South Western	12
Western	40
West Central	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>225</b>

[English]

**Scuffle During Air India Flight**

1261. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an incident of mid-air scuffle reported recently in the Sharjah-Lucknow-Delhi flight;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether an inquiry has been ordered in this matter; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. On arrival of Flight No, IC 884 of 3.10.2009, one of the Cabin Crew made a log entry dated 3.10.2009 in the Movement Control Log Book, stating that the Commander and the Co-Pilot of that flight had mentally and physically assaulted her and one other Cabin Crew of that flight.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Immediately upon receipt of the complaint, all staff members involved in the incident viz. the Captain, Co-Pilot the two Cabin Crew were de-rostered and a preliminary enquiry was ordered. The investigations revealed that all the four staff members had exacerbated the altercation. The committee was of the opinion that some of the allegations made by the cabin crew against the Captain were baseless and appear to have been made as an afterthought. All the four crew members were charged sheeted. The enquiry against the Captain has been concluded and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken after the enquiry report is submitted. Departmental enquiries in respect of the Co-pilot and Cabin Crew are in Progress and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken once the enquiry report is submitted.

#### **Dedicated TV Channel**

1262. SHRI JAYWANTRAO AWALE:  
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to have a dedicated TV channel with independent satellite facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount likely to be spent by the Railways on the said project?

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

(b) Do not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Jobs in Railways**

1263. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:  
SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:  
SHRI PULIN BIHARI BASKE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

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

(b) if so, the number of persons who have been given job in lieu of lands acquired during the last three years, zone-wise alongwith the nature of job provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table House.

*[English]*

#### **E-Courts**

1264. PROF. RANJAN PRASAD YADAV:  
SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL:

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

(a) whether Delhi High Court has launched its first e-court recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposals to start such courts in other States;

(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 a pilot project, two courts in the High Court of Delhi have been converted into e-court and have begun functioning as "paperless" courts. One court began functioning w.e.f. 15th December, 2009 and another court w.e.f. 19th January, 2010.

(b) Entire records of the cases listed before the pilot e-courts are digitized and transferred in different portfolios in PDF format. Then judge has, on the dais, a large sized monitor with an interactive touch screen which displays the lost of cases to be heard on a particular day. By 'touching' the case number or name as appearing on the screen, the Judge can have the entire file on the computer screen. There is a large 46" monitor on the side wall of the Court room which can

be viewed by the visitors/litigants. The lawyers can bring their laptops and 'plug' into the system for viewing of the Judge and other parties on the LCD monitor on the side wall the court. However, for the present, it is 'optional' for the advocate to use either paper files or digital files and the High Court will not straightway replace paper as far as lawyers are concerned. Concerned advocates will be provided digitized data of the case to enable them to argue their case through laptop without bringing the paper files. This will help them to get used to the e-Court System.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. However, digitalization of records is a necessary requirement for such initiative. Under the Central Scheme for computerisation of District and Subordinate courts in the country, digitalisation of Court records is projected to be taken up in the Second phase of the Scheme.

#### **Setting up of Family Courts**

1265. SHRI NILESH NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of family courts functioning in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any proposal of the Government of Maharashtra pending with the Union Government for setting up of family Courts in Mumbai;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) A statement indicating the number of Family Courts functioning in the country is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (d) No proposal for setting up of Family courts in Mumbai is pending with the Government. Family Courts are set up by the State Governments in consultation with the respective High Court as per their need. The role of the Central Government is limited to providing financial assistance to the State Governments for meeting expenditure on family courts as per the norms of the scheme.

#### **Statement**

(As on 01.03.2010)

#### *Number of Family Courts functional as Reported by the Concerned High Court/State Government*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Number of Family Courts Functional in the State
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27
2.	Jharkhand	8
3.	Maharashtra	20
4.	Orissa	2
5.	Puducherry	1
6.	Sikkim	1
7.	Tripura	3
8.	Uttarakhand	7
9.	West Bengal	2
10.	Bihar	30
11.	Madhya Pradesh	15
12.	Kerala	16
13.	Manipur	1
14.	Karnataka	10
15.	Nagaland	2
16.	Gujarat	9
17.	Chhattisgarh	14
18.	Assam	2
19.	Rajasthan	6
20.	Uttar Pradesh	15
21.	Delhi	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>196</b>

#### **Introduction of Circular Trains**

1266. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:  
SHRI VARUN GANDHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal to start circular trains in upcoming cities across the country including Vijayawada-Guntur-Tenali circuit;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these trains are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Introduction MEMU train between Vijayawada-Gunter-Tenali has been proposed in the Railway Budget for the year 2010-11.

*[Translation]*

#### **Training for Pilots**

1267. SHRI MAHESH JOSHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated amount spent on the training of the pilots of the Government owned airlines during the last three years and till date;

(b) whether the Government is aware that the pilots of these airlines are being lured by the private airlines through attractive offers;

(c) If so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to protect the Government owned airlines from this alarming situation and to safeguard the interests of the pilots?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The estimated expenditure incurred by NACIL on training of Pilots during 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 (upto 10.01.2010) was Rs. 5429.86 Lakhs, Rs. 5298.66 Lakhs and Rs. 5557.47 Lakhs respectively.

(b) No, Madam.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Besides providing Job security, the Public Sector airlines have taken various steps to improve the service conditions of its pilots. Some of the steps taken are as follows:

(i) Keep the emoluments at comparable levels vis-a-vis the established Indian carriers;

(ii) Revision of Loss-of-license Insurance and Insurance Coverage for pilots to provide them high degree of security;

(iii) Retain services of pilots beyond the age of superannuation subject to the validity of the license;

(iv) Further, in order to regulate Job transfers of Pilots, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has also issued a Civil Aviation Requirement (Section 7 Series "X" Part II) In September, 2005, where a Pilot Intending to resign from an airline is required to give a notice of six months to his employer.

#### **Development of Infrastructure for FPI**

1268. SHRI JAGDISH SHARMA:  
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:  
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

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

(a) the details of production, consumption and export of processed and packed food during each of the last three years;

(b) the steps taken to promote and develop infrastructure in order to bring the farmers and industries closer;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to provide financial assistance to the entrepreneurs for promoting agriculture diversification and setting up new food processing units;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of agriculture produce used as raw material for processing during the each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) The data pertaining to production, consumption and export of processed and packed food is not maintained by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

(b) The Government is providing financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid to the implementing agencies for infrastructure development of food processing industries in the country. Financial assistance upto 50% of project cost excluding land component in general areas and 75% in difficult areas (J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, North East including Sikkim and ITDP notified areas of the States), subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 crores is provided for setting up of Mega Food Parks. For Cold, Value Addition and Preservation infrastructure, 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% in difficult areas, subject to a maximum of Rs. 10.00 crores, is provided. For Establishing/Modernisation of Abattoirs in the country, Ministry extends financial assistance with the involvement of local bodies.

(c) and (d) Under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Modernisation/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 lakhs in general areas, or @33.33% subject to maximum of Rs. 75.00 lakhs in difficult areas such as Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and North-Eastern States, A&N Islands, Lakshadweep and ITDP areas.

(e) The data is not maintained by Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

[English]

#### **Increase in Price of Insulin**

1269. SHRI MADHU GOUD YAKSHI:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL  
KHATGAONKAR:

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

(a) whether the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority has recently given permission to increase the price of insulin by 10%;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether most of the expert and organizations have opposed this price rise of insulin; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA):  
(a) and (b) National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has not given permission to increase the price of Insulin recently by 10 per cent. NPPA has revised the prices of imported Insulin formulation recently on 21.01-2010 based on applications received from different importers. The price change ranged from (-) 2.37% to 0 per cent, except in one case where the price was increased by 8-91% due to increase in exchange rate. In addition, the price of indigenous Insulin formulation manufactured by M/s Torrent was increased by 6.6% from Rs. 152.50 (without taxes), to Rs. 162.54 (without taxes) per 10ml vial based on Form III application filed by the company. The price earlier fixed in May, 2006 was Rs. 152.50.

(c) and (d) NPPA has not received any specific representation in this regard.

#### **Output of Textile Industry**

1270. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the textile output in various segments is continuously declining in the country during the last few years;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to enhance the textile production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Setting up of a Fund**

1271. DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:  
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a fund that will aid domestic public sector companies in acquiring oil and gas assets overseas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) 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 (c) As per Presidential Address to Parliament of 04.06.2009 the Government is committed to pursue India's oil diplomacy aggressively which include consultations with concerned agencies/stake holders. Keeping in view requirements of Energy Security for the country, it has been suggested to consider the idea of creation of a sovereign fund focused on resource acquisition. Presently, the acquisition of overseas Exploration and Production (E&P) assets by oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and funding thereof is based on commercial considerations based on strategy adopted by the respectively oil PSUs.

#### **Law for Rape Cases**

1272. SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:  
SHRI P.C. GADDIGOUDAR:  
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:  
SHRI C. SIVASAMI:  
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:  
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:

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

(a) whether the women groups have demanded a comprehensive legislation to address rape and sexual assault;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to constitute fast track courts for the purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) The information is being collected from the Ministries concerned and will be laid on the Table on the House.

(c) to (e) There is no proposal to constitute Fast Track Courts especially for the cases of rape and sexual assault.

#### **Loss Due to Train Accidents**

1273. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:  
SHRI LAL CHAND KATARIA:  
SHRI KUNVARJIBHAI MOHANBHAI  
BAVALIYA:  
SHRI JAGDISH THAKOR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the loss suffered by Railways due to train accidents during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(b) the measures initiated by the Railways to check the increasing number of train accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) A statement is enclosed.

#### **Statement**

(a) Loss to railway property in consequential train accidents during the last three years and the current year from April, 2009 to 25th February 2010, was as under:

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10 (April 2009 to 25th February, 2010)
Loss of Railway Property (Rupees in lakhs)	3193.00	4055.40	6064.80	3702.36*

\*Provisional

(b) The number of accidents have been decreasing due to various steps undertaken by the Railways. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signalling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices.

#### **Production Capacity of Fertilizer Units**

1274. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fertilizer units operating in the country both in public/provate sector at present, State-wise;

(b) whether these units are utilizing their full capacity;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to enhance the production capacity of these units?

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

(a) The details of number of fertilizer units producing Urea, DAP and Complex Fertilizers, operating in the

country both in public/private sector at present, state-wise are given in enclosed statement-I.

(b) to (e) Some of the fertilizer units in the country are not utilizing their full capacity. Unit-wise details of installed capacity, production and percentage capacity utilization of major fertilizer manufacturing units are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Government has been encouraging production of urea in the country to achieve self-sufficiency. The Government has announced a new policy on 4th September 2008 to attract new investments. The policy is based on Import Parity Price (IPP) benchmark with suitable floor and ceiling prices aiming to revamp, expansion and revival of existing urea units and setting up of Greenfield projects. The policy aims to substantially bridge the gap between consumption and domestic production of urea in next five years subject to adequate availability of gas at reasonable prices. Government has taken initiatives to encourage indigenous production in P&K sector by allowing import parity price the indigenous manufactures of DAP. Government has also reduced the custom duty on phosphoric acid from 5% to 2% to enable indigenous manufacturers of P&K fertilizers to procure this important input at reasonable price. Government is also encouraging private sector and public sector companies to explore possibilities for joint ventures abroad to ensure uninterrupted supply of fertilizer inputs to P&K sector.

#### **Statement I**

*State-wise and Sector-wise no. of major Fertilizer units operating in the country*

Sl. No.	Name of States	No. of Units Operating	Sector			
			Public	Co-operative	Private	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4			4	4
2.	Assam	2	2			2
3.	Bihar					
4.	Chhattisgarh					
5.	Goa	1			1	1
6.	Gujarat	8		3	5	8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Haryana	1	1			1
8.	Jharkhand					
9.	Karnataka	1			1	1
10.	Kerala	2	2			2
11.	Madhya Pradesh	2	2			2
12.	Maharashtra	5	4		1	5
13.	Orissa	2		1	1	2
14.	Punjab	2	2			2
15.	Rajasthan	3			3	3
16.	Tamil Nadu	4	1		3	4
17.	Uttar Pradesh	7		5	2	7
18.	West Bengal	1			1	1
Total		45	14	9	22	45

**Statement II**

*Unit-wise Installed Capacity, Production and Capacity Utilization for the Year 2008-09 and 2009-10 (Estimated)*

**Nitrogen**

Name of Company/ Plant	Name of Products	Annual Installed Capacity (As on 01-04-09)	Production ('000 MT)				Percentage capacity utilization	
			2008-09	2009-10	2008-09	2009-10		
			(in '000' Mts)	(Estimated)	(Estimated)	(Estimated)		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
<b>Public Sector:</b>								
NFL: Nangal-II	Urea	220.1	236.6	209.3	107.5	95.1		
NFL: Bhatinda	Urea	235.3	247.2	244.4	105.1	103.9		
NFL: Panipat	Urea	235.3	224.7	233.0	95.5	99.0		
NFL: Vijaipur	Urea	397.7	398.2	417.8	100.1	105.1		
NFL: Vijaipur Expn.	Urea	397.7	431.5	426.8	108.5	107.3		
Total (NFL):		1486.1	1538.2	1531.3	103.5	103.0		



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BVFCL: Namrup-II	Urea	110.4	27.9	38.0	25.3	34.4
BVFCL: Namrup-III	Urea	144.9	59.1	107.9	40.8	74.5
Total (BVFCL):		255.3	87.0	145.9	34.1	57.1
FACT: Udyogamandal	A/S, 20:20	77.0	50.2	57.8	65.2	75.1
FACT: Cochin-II	20:20	97.0	97.9	107.3	100.9	110.6
Total (FACT):		174.0	148.1	165.1	85.1	94.9
RCF: Trombay	15:15:15	45.0	70.7	70.6	157.1	156.9
RCF: Trombay-IV	20.8:20.8, 20:20	75.1	0.0	14.0	0.0	18.6
RCF:Trombay-V	Urea	151.8	0.0	133.4	0.1	87.9
RCF:Thal	Urea	785.1	875.6	819.1	111.5	104.3
Total (RCF):		1057.0	946.3	1037.1	89.5	98.1
MFL:Chennai	Urea/17:17:17	366.7	186.7	190.8	50.9	52.0
SAIL:Roukela	CAN	120.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
By Product	A/S	38.4	18.9	18.9	49.2	49.2
Total (Public):		3497.5	2925.2	3089.1	83.6	88.3
<b>Cooperative Sector</b>						
IFFCO: Kandla	10:26:26/12:32:16/DAP	351.5	207.3	302.8	59.0	86.1
IFFCO: Kalol	Urea	250.5	257.5	268.5	102.8	107.2
IFFCO:Phulpur-I	Urea	253.5	308.8	328.3	120.2	129.5
IFFCO:Phulpur-II	Urea	397.7	386.7	463.0	97.2	116.4
IFFCO:Anola-I	Urea	397.7	454.0	462.0	114.0	116.2
IFFCO:Aonai-II	Urea	397.7	468.4	464.6	117.8	116.8
IFFCO:Paradeep	DAP/10:26:26/20:20/ 12:32:16	325.2	252.5	279.8	77.6	86.0
Total (IFFCO):		2373.8	2331.2	2569.0	98.2	108.2
KRIBHCO: Hazira	Urea	795.4	801.8	817.1	100.8	102.7
Total(Co-operative):		3169.2	3133.0	3386.1	98.9	106.8
Total(Pub.+Coop.):		6666.7	6058.2	6475.2	90.9	97.1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>Private Sector</b>						
GSFC:Vadodara	Urea/DAP20:20/A/S	248.1	194.0	253.9	78.2	102.3
GSFC:Sikka-I	DAP/12:32:16	105.8	48.0	78.4	45.4	74.1
GSFC:Sikka-II	DAP/12:32:16	71.3	71.5	89.3	100.3	125.2
Total(GSFC-Sikka):		177.1	119.5	167.7	67.5	94.7
GNFC:Bharuch	Urea/CAN/20:20	356.7	333.9	375.1	93.6	105.2
KSFL:Shahjahanpur	Urea	397.7	397.5	440.6	99.9	110.8
CFL:Vizag	28:28/14:35:14/20:20/ 16:20	124.0	157.3	216.2	126.9	174.4
CFL:Ernore	16:20/20:20	41.2	25.3	32.5	61.4	78.9
CFL:Kakinada	DAP/10:26:26/20:20/ 14:35:14/	120.6	160.1	203.1	132.8	168.4
SFC:Kota	Urea	174.3	181.9	168.8	104.4	96.8
DIL:Kanpur	Urea	332.1	0.0	00.0	0.0	00.0
ZIL:Goa	Urea/DAP/19:19:19/ 10:26:26/12:32:16	288.7	268.5	275.4	93.0	95.4
SPIC: Tuticorin	Urea/DAP/20:20/17:17:17	370.7	0.0	89.0	0.0	24.0
MCF:Mangalore	Urea/DAP/20:20/16:20	207.2	217.8	234.7	105.1	113.3
TAC:Tuticorin	AC	16.0	0.0	62	0.0	38.8
TCL:Haldia	DAP/10:26:26/12:32:16/ 14:35:14/15:15:15	121.5	70.0	89.6	57.6	73.7
PNF:Nangal	A/c	16.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
IGCL:Jagdishpur	Urea	397.7	491.6	503.3	123.6	126.6
Hin.Ind.Ltd.:Dahej	DAP/10:26:26/12:32:16	72.0	30.4	33.8	42.2	46.9
DFPCL:Talaja	23:23	52.9	13.3	28.6	25.1	54.1
NFCL:Kakinda-I	Urea	274.8	353.7	345.9	128.7	125.9
NFCL:Kakinda-II	Urea	274.8	280.2	327.6	102.0	119.2
Total(NFCL):		549.6	633.9	673.5	115.3	122.5
CFCL:Gadepan-I	Urea	397.7	418.5	477.8	105.2	120.1
CFCL:Gadepan-II	Urea	397.7	463.8	462.9	116.6	116.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Total (CFCL):		795.4	882.3	940.7	110.9	118.3
TCL:Babrala	Urea	397.7	470.9	557.6	118.4	140.2
PPL:Paradeep	DPA/14:35:14/20:20/ 12/12:32:16/	129.6	159.4	197.6	123.0	152.5
By Product	AS	7.5	3.8	5.4	50.7	72.0
Total (Private Sector):		5394.3	4811.4	5493.3	89.2	101.8
Total(Pub+Coop+Pvt):		12061.0	10869.6	11968.5	90.1	99.2
<b>Phosphate</b>						
<b>Public Sector:</b>						
FACT: Udyogamandal	20:20	29.7	23.2	31.8	78.1	107.1
FACT:Cochin-II	20:20	97.0	97.9	107.3	100.9	110.6
Total(FACT):		126.7	121.1	139.1	95.6	109.8
RCF:Trombay	15:15:15	45.0	70.7	70.6	157.1	156.9
RCF:Trombay-IV	20.8:20.8	75.1	0.0	14.0	0.0	18.6
Total(RCF):		120.1	70.7	84.6	58.9	70.4
MFL:Chennai	20:20/19:19/17:17:17	142.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	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	191.8	223.7	44.3	51.7
<b>Cooperative Sector</b>						
IFFCO:Kandal	DAP/10:26:26/12:32:16	910.0	541.5	786.1	59.5	86.4
IFFCO:Paradeep	DAP/10:26:26/20:20/ 12:32:16	802.8	374.7	386.8	46.7	48.2
Total(Coop)		1712.8	916.2	1172.9	53.5	68.5
Total(Pub.+Coop):		2145.3	1108.0	1396.6	51.6	65.1
<b>Private Sector</b>						
GSFC:Vadodara	DAP/20:20	75.9	59.5	58.1	78.4	76.5
GSFC:Sikka-I	DAP, 12:32:16	270.5	125.4	200.8	45.6	74.2
GSFC:Sikka-II	DAP	182.2	182.7	228.2	100.3	125.2
Total(GSFC-Sikka):		452.7	306.1	429.0	67.6	94.8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
GNFC:Bhaurch	20:20	28.5	26.8	38.4	94.0	134.7
CFL:Vizag	14:35:14/28:28/10:26:26/ 20:20	166.0	176.5	257.2	106.3	154.9
CFL:Ermore	16:20/20:20	48.0	31.7	40.6	66.0	84.6
CFL:Kakrinada	DAP/12:32:16/20:20/ 14:34:14/	308.2	395.1	516.3	128.2	167.5
ZIL:Goa	DAP/19:19:19/10:26:26/ 12:32:16	197.4	193.0	247.5	97.8	125.4
SPIC:Tuticorin	DAP/17:17:17/20:20	218.5	0.0	34.8	0.0	15.9
MCF:Mangalore	DAP/20:20/16:20/	82.8	87.7	109.8	105.9	132.6
TCL:Haldia	DAP/10:26:26/12:32:16/ 14:35:14	336.9	202.2	243.0	60.0	72.1
Hin.ind.Ltd.:Dahej	DAP/10:26:26/12:32:16	184.0	77.6	86.5	42.2	47.0
DFPCL:Taloja	23:23	52.9	13.3	28.6	25.1	54.1
PPL:Paradeep	DAP/14:35:14/20:20/ 12:32:16/	331.2	355.1	433.8	107.2	131.0
SSP Units	SSP	1030.6	432.0	432.0	41.9	41.9
Total(Private Sector):		3513.6	2356.6	2955.6	67.1	84.1
Total(Pub+Coop+Pvt):		5658.9	3464.6	4352.2	61.2	76.9

\*Actual figures have been considered from April 2009-January 2010 and estimated for February 2010 and March 2010.

[Translation]

(e) If not, the reasons therefor?

### Unbooked Luggages

1275. SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are losing its revenue in crores because of unbooked luggage;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor and the details of such cases which came to the notice of Railways, zone-wise;

(c) whether the Railways are formulating any action plan to check this malpractice;

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Cases of unbooked luggage do come to light during checks, the details of which, zone-wise during the period April, 2009 to January, 2010 are as under:

Railway	Number of cases of unbooked luggage detected (in lakhs)
1	2
Central	3.14
Eastern	7.84
East Central	2.35

1	2
East Coast	1.99
Northern	11.27
North Central	0.45
North Eastern	0.62
Northeast Frontier	0.49
North Western	0.73
Southern	2.37
South Central	14.62
South Eastern	6.10
South East Central	3.96
South Western	2.39
Western	4.08
West Central	0.66
Total	63.06

(c) to (e) Regular as well as special checks are conducted by the checking squad involving Railway Officers, Railway Protection Force/Government Railway Police, in association with Railway Magistrates. Passengers detected carrying luggage unbooked or unauthorisedly in trains are charged as per provisions of law. As a result of the intensive checks conducted against carrying of unbooked luggage cases, in the current year 2009-10 (upto January, 2010), a sum of Rs. 45.20 crores has been recovered as railway dues.

[English]

#### **Opening of Rural Retail Outlets by IOC**

1276. SHRIMATI J. SHANTHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) proposes to open rural retail outlets in a big way by modernizing and expanding domestic oil market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action plan prepared by the company in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) is already developing its rural retail outlet network known as "Kisan Seva Kendras" in the rural areas. As on 01.01.2010, IOC has set up 2751 Kisan Seva Kendras (KSKs) all over India in the rural markets. KSKs are low cost retail outlets developed by IOC since 2004-05 to cater to rural/agricultural market in order to reach diesel, other petroleum products and non-fuel products at Kisan's doorstep. The development of these KSKs is based on feasibility study of the locations.

#### **Cases of Passenger Misbehaviour**

1277. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been alarming rise in the cases of passenger misbehaviour reported by female cabin crew members;

(b) if so, the present provisions available to tackle such cases;

(c) whether almost all the airlines have requested the Directorate General of Civil Aviation to enforce strict norms to deter unruly behaviour;

(d) if so, the details thereof and time by which these are likely to be finalised;

(e) whether the Government has approached International Air Transport Association to frame strict rule to tackle such unruly behaviour; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir. However, some cases have been reported during past few months.

(b) There is no specific provision in the Aircraft Act/ Rules to tackle such cases. However individual cases are dealt under other Acts, namely Indian Penal Code (IPC) etc. as per the gravity of the cases.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

#### **Bid for Oil and Gas Exploration**

1278. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR:  
SHRI MANOHAR TIRKEY:

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

(a) whether there was a poor response to the recent round of auctions conducted by the Government for oil and gas exploration;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether in view of poor response the Government proposes to allocate gas and oil blocks under, NELP-VIII to the State owned agencies such as ONGC, Oil India Limited (OIL) etc., 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) Out of 70 blocks offered under the eighth bid round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP-VIII), bids were received for 36 blocks. The response can not be considered as poor in view of global economic melt-down and also in comparison to the responses received by several other countries during recent bidding rounds. According to preliminary estimates, the committed investment in NELP-VIII is about US\$ 1.34 billion, which is more than the committed investment of US \$1.22 billion in NELP-VII.

(c) and (d) Under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP), blocks for exploration of oil and gas are offered through international competitive bidding process. National Oil Companies (NOCs) and private companies bid on a level playing field on transparent Bid Evaluation Criteria (BEC). The blocks are awarded to the eligible companies which get the maximum points on quantifiable BEC.

#### **Allocation of Natural Gas for various Sectors**

1279. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether on the recommendations from Group of Ministers priority has been finalized for allocation of D-6 gas for various sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether small and medium enterprises have been included under the priority;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government to include Small and Medium Enterprises sector in the priority list; and

(f) if so, the response of Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) The Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) constituted to decide issues related to commercial utilization of gas under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) has taken decisions regarding the various priority sectors to which the gas produced from KG D6 would be supplied. The following priority sectors have been decided keeping in view the larger public interest:

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

9. CGD entities for supply to commercial and industrial sector customers up to 50,000 scmd (standard cubic meters per day).

Small and Medium Enterprises have been covered at S.No. 9 above.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) EGoM in its meeting held on 27.10.2009 has decided that allocation of 2 mmscmd (million metric standard cubic meters per day) of KG D6 be made on fullback basis to City Gas Distribution (CGD) entities for supply to their industrial and commercial customers, whose total consumption of natural gas (including KG D6 gas) does not exceed 50,000 scmd. Many cities in Gujarat, including Surat, Bharuch, Ankaleswar, Gandhinagar, Mehsana, Sabarkantha and Ahmedabad, are having City Gas Distribution Networks. The allocated 2 mmscmd KG D6 gas will be allotted to various CGD entities, including those located in Gujarat, for supply to their industrial and commercial customers, which would include SMEs, having consumption up to 50,000 scmd.

*[Translation]*

#### **Drugs Molasses under Drugs Price Control Act**

1280. SHRI HARSH VARDHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring vaccines and molasses under the purview of Drugs Control Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) The Supreme Court vide its order dated 10.3.2003 directed the Government, to consider and formulate appropriate criteria for ensuring essential and life saving drugs not to fall out of the price control and further directed to review drugs, which are essential and life saving in nature till 2nd May, 2003". Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has brought out the National List of Essential Medicines, 2003 after the review of the National Essential Drugs List, 1996. The Draft Pharmaceutical Policy 2006 which is under consideration of the

Government, proposes to include essential drugs as contained in the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) 2003 under price control.

#### **Rail Line Between Kolhapur to Vaibhavwadi**

1281. SHRI RAJU SHETTI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal to connect Kolhapur rail line of Central Railways with Vaibhavwadi (Konkan Railways);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[English]*

#### **Purchase of Steel**

1282. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:  
SHRI BHASKARRAO BAPURAO PATIL  
KHATGAONKAR:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain Government departments have stopped to purchase steel from the secondary steel (Induction based furnace) producers;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received any memorandum from the All India Secondary Steel Induction Furnace Association in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) There is no such purchase preference policy for purchase of steel by the Government departments. Government departments are free to purchase steel from any steel producer, including those in the secondary sector, provided the required product meets the standard quality norms.

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

### **Shortage of Crude Oil**

1283. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Energy Agency (IEA) has forecast the downward revision in global oil supply by 2030; and

(b) if so, the action plane prepared by the Government to tackle such situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The IEA in their publication "World Energy Outlook 2009" has projected world oil supply for the year 2030 at 105.2 million barrels per day, which is lower than 106.4 million barrels per day the Agency had projected for the year 2030 in their publication "World Energy Outlook 2008". In respect of crude oil, they have projected 0.4% compound average annual growth during 2008-2030.

(b) The Government has formulated the following action plan to tackle any situation arising out of a decline in the global oil supply:

- (i) Carving out more and more areas of exploration for offer under various rounds of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP).
- (ii) Quicker development of discovered reserves for enabling commencement of production.
- (iii) Use of stimulation techniques for increasing production from existing fields.
- (iv) Application of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)/ Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) techniques for increasing recovery from existing fields.
- (v) Arresting decline from ageing fields.
- (vi) Acquisition of exploration acreages and oil producing properties overseas to bring in equity oil.
- (vii) Substitution of oil in the transport sector through use of alternative fuels such as Bio-diesel, ethanol, blended-petrol etc.

(viii) Diversification of the sources for procurement of crude. The India's Oil Refining Companies are now importing crude oil from about 33 countries either on term contract or through spot purchase basis.

(ix) Construction of a Strategic Storage of crude oil of 5 MMT capacity at three locations viz. Visakhapatnam, Mangalore and Padur for meeting unforeseen situations arising out of short term supply disruptions etc.

### **Petrol Pumps Owned by IOC**

1284. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol pumps owned by Indian Oil Corporation and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited as on 31st December, 2009;

(b) the total number of petrol pumps out of which are automated to check adulteration; and

(c) the details of steps taken to automatise the remaining petrol pumps in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) As on 31.12.2009, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) has 18445 petrol pumps (Retail Outlets) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) has 8793 petrol pumps across the country.

(b) and (c) All Retail Outlets (ROs) selling more than 200 Kilo Litre (KL) of Motor Spirit (MS)/High Speed Diesel (HSD) per month are targeted for automation. As on 31.12.2009, IOC has automated 1399 such ROs, out of 2357 ROs targeted for automation, which is being executed in two phases. IOC has placed work orders for the same and the work is in progress.

HPCL has 1530 ROs selling more than 200 KL MS/HSD per month. As on 31.12.2009, HPCL has completed automation at 1682 ROs.

### **Development of Oil Reserves in Iraq**

1285. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:  
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

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



(a) whether any decision regarding bidding for oil and gas fields in Iraq on the basis of the discussions held with the oil companies has since been taken;

(b) if so, whether the Oil India Limited has also decided to participate in the exploration and production of oil and gas in Iraq;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of projects undertaken by the Public Sector Oil companies and Private Oil companies of India to develop the vast oil reserves in Iraq during the last three years;

(e) the number of projects likely to be undertaken by the Public Sector and private sector oil companies in Iraq during the year 2010-2011; and

(f) the net revenue earned by these companies from these projects during the years 2005 to 2009?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL) submitted one bid in the First Petroleum Licensing Round held in Iraq in June 2009. In the 2nd Iraqi International Bidding Round held in December, 2009 OVL had bid for Halfaya Field in partnership with Oil India Limited (OIL) and Turkiye Petrolleri Anonim Ortakligi (TAPO) and for Garraf Field in partnership with TAPO. However, the bids of OVL and OIL were not successful.

(d) Public Sector Oil companies (PSUs) are not having any projects in Iraq. In so far as private companies are concerned, Ministry does not compile information in this regard.

(e) Block 8 project, Iraq is being pursued by OVL for participation.

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

*[Translation]*

#### **Locosheds in Maharashtra**

1286. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PATIL GAWALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sent any proposal for extension of locosheds at Amalnair, Shindkhera, Nundurbar Railway Stations;

(b) if so, whether the Railways propose to construct locosheds at said stations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these sheds are likely to be constructed?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[English]*

#### **MOU between ONGC Videsh Limited and National Oil Company of Angola**

1287. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:  
SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:

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

(a) whether Oil Natural Gas Videsh Limited (OVL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Oil Company of Angola, Sonangol for cooperation in the exploration/hydrocarbon sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which India will be benefited by the said MoU;

(d) whether OVL further offered to participate in the next round of bidding for exploration blocks in Angola with Sonangol;

(e) if so, the time by which the agreement is likely to be implemented;

(f) whether the Government has also agreed to provide training to Angolan personnel in the gas technology field like transmission, distribution and city gas projects; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) A memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between SONANGOL, the national oil company of Angola and ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL) on 27th January 2010 during the visit of a high level

Indian delegation led by the Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, in January 2010.

(c) SONANGOL and OVL agreed to cooperate with each other in exploration and production of oil and gas in Angola, India and third countries as per above MOU.

(d) OVL has been qualified as Operator by Sonangol for the ongoing Angola License Round 2007/08 and is in the process of evaluating the blocks for bidding.

(e) The bid date for this License Round of 2007/08 which was scheduled for 13th March 2008, has been cancelled by Sonangol.

(f) and (g) One of the areas of cooperation envisaged in the MOU provides that OVL will endeavour to promote the improvement of human resources capability of Angola personnel in different areas like geology, geophysics, accounting, financial, auditing, telecommunications, information technology and company organization and management, oil refining, gas and petrochemical, by means of training programs to be agreed upon between the parties.

#### **Strategy for Hydrocarbon Sector**

1288. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:  
SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:  
SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether the Union Government is planning to re-draw its strategy for dealing with the strong emergence of Chinese interests in the hydrocarbon sector in the African continent;

(b) if so, the strategy adopted by the Union Government in this regard;

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to tap the hydrocarbon sector in the African continent;

(d) the present imports of crude oil from African region, country-wise; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government for exploration of hydrocarbon reserve to ensure country's energy security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) A high level Indian delegation led by Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas recently visited Sudan, Nigeria, Angola and Uganda during 24th - 28th January, 2010 in pursuit of strengthening ties which will help in hydrocarbon energy security efforts of India. Meetings were held with various dignitaries/Ministers in these countries to pursue cooperation in hydrocarbon sector. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between SONANGOL, the national oil company of Angola and ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL) on 27.01.2010 during the above-mentioned visit wherein both companies agreed to cooperate with each other in exploration and production of oil and gas in Angola, India and third countries.

(d) The import of crude oil from African region countries (country-wise) is as under:

(Qty. in MMT)			
Sl.No.	Name of Country	2008-09(p)	2009-10 (Apr-Dec)
1.	Algeria	0.263	1.303
2.	Angola	4.872	4.658
3.	Cameroon	0.113	0.093
4.	Congo	0.247	0.797
5.	Egypt	1.557	1.044
6.	Equatorial Guinea	0.281	0.270
7.	Gabon	0.418	—
8.	Ivory Coast	0.138	0.098
9.	Libya	0.890	0.812
10.	Nigeria	10.542	9.412
11.	Sudan	0.772	0.769
Total		20.094	19.256

(e) Several steps have been taken/are in hand to accelerate hydrocarbon exploration and production activities to meet our maximum requirement from indigenous sources, which include the following:

(i) Carving out more and more areas for exploration for offer under various rounds of New

Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) Coal Bed Methane (CBM).

- (ii) Quicker development of discovered reserves for enabling commencement of production.
- (iii) Application of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)/ Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) techniques for increasing recovery factor from existing fields.
- (iv) Arresting decline from ageing fields.
- (v) Acquisition of exploration acreages and producing properties overseas to bring in equity oil.
- (vi) Substitution of oil through use of non-conventional source of energy such as bio-diesel, ethanol etc. Extraction of gas from gas hydrates under National Gas Hydrates Programme (NGHP) by evolving suitable production technology.

#### **Carpet Industry at Bhadohi**

1289. SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a stockpile of carpets with carpet manufacturers in Bhadohi near Varanasi; and
- (b) if so, the reasons for this situation and the steps taken by the Government to help the carpet industry of Bhadohi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reason for this situation is due to global recession as a result of which export of carpet has fallen by 23.15% in 2008-09 in comparison to 2007-08 as per the data compiled by Carpet Export Promotion Council of India. The Government is providing financial assistance for participation in fairs and exhibitions in India and abroad to encourage the manufactures and exporters to explore new markets. Government has also provided stimulus package of interest sub-vention and focus products scheme benefit. A craft cluster in Bhadohi-Mirzapur area is being taken up by the Government as Mega Cluster Scheme for overall development of the carpet industry.

#### **Exemption of VVIPs for Frisking**

1290. SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken up the issue of exemption of VVIPs from frisking while boarding the flights for America with the US authorities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the response of the United States authorities thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The issue of exemption of VVIPs from frisking while boarding the flights for USA was discussed with US authorities, during the Meeting of the Indo-US Joint Working Group held in New Delhi on 20 - 21 January 2010.

- (c) The response of the US authorities is awaited.

#### **Withdrawal of LPG Connections**

1291. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of domestic dwellings are being supplied piped natural gas (PNG) in Delhi and some other places;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) whether the Government proposes to withdraw LPG connections sanctioned to those households and re-allot those connections in far flung areas; 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.

- (b) A list of cities, including Delhi, where PNG is being currently provided, is given in enclosed statement.

- (c) and (d) According to LPG (Regulation of Supply and Distribution) Order, 2009, if any person continues to have domestic LPG Connection taken under public distribution system from a Government Oil Company

beyond sixty days of obtaining a PNG connection from any Company, public or private, the Government Oil Company shall have the power to cancel domestic LPG connection of such PNG consumer after sixty days from the date of its obtaining PNG connection by giving a notice to the domestic LPG consumer in writing by registered post.

**Statement**

*Name of cities/towns with PNG facilities*

Sl.No.	State	City
1	2	3
1.	Assam	Duliajan
2.		Digboy
3.		Tinsukia
4.		Dibrugarh
5.		Nahar Katia
6.		Moran
7.		Nazaria,
8.		Shivsagar
9.	Delhi	Delhi
10.		Anand city and Near by Village
11.		Surat
12.		Bharuch
13.		Ankleswar
14.		Vapi
15.		Valsad
16.		Navsari
17.		Hazira
18.		Nadiad
19.		Khambhat
20.	Gujarat	Chandkheda-Motera

1	2	3
21.		Gandhinagar
22.		Pethapur
23.		Halol
24.		Uttarsanda
25.		Vavol
26.		Rajkot
27.		Morbi
28.		Surendranagar
29.		Vadodara
30.		Mehsana
31.		Himat Nagar
32.		Ahemdabad
33.	Maharashtra	Mumbai
34.		Mira Bhayandar
35.		Thane
36.		Navi Mumbai
37.		Pune
38.		Tripura Agartala
39.	Uttar Pradesh	Noida
40.		Greater Noida
41.		Kanpur
42.		Bareilly

**Doubling Work in Kerala**

1292. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether doubling work on Mulanthuruthy-Kuruppanthara on Ernakulam-Kottayam section and from Kuruppanthara to Chingavanam on Kottayam-Kayamkulam section of southern railway has been delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the railway have any objection to materialize the above said work with MPLAD fund; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Requisition for land requirement for 11.5 hectare of land for Mulanturutti-Kuruppantara and 30 hectare of land for Kuruppantara-Chingavanam doubling works has been given to State Authorities. However, land has not been made available by State Government so far.

Meanwhile, bridge works have been taken up on Mulanturutti-Kuruppantara section where Railway land is available.

(c) There is no such proposal.

(d) Does not arise.

### Electrification of Rail Line in Kerala

1293. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals for electrification of rail lines in Kerala pending with the Railway;

(b) whether any time frame have been fixed for completion of these projects;

(c) the present status of these proposals; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) The details of electrification of rail lines in the State of Kerala are as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Cost	Expenditure till March'09	Outlay for 2010-11	Status
1.	Ernakulam-Trivendrum including Trivendrum-Kanyakumari (429 Route Kilometres)	286.54	202.70	19.22	Main line Ernakulam - Trivendrum completed in December 2006. Target for Trivendrum-Kanyakumari is March 2011.
2.	Shoranur-Mangalore-Penambur (628 Route Kilometres)	302.50	—	67.996	This section has since been proposed in the Budget 2010-11, and is expected to be completed by March 2015.

### Tourist Trains in Rajasthan

1294. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be please to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to introduce new special tourist trains in the country including Rajasthan during commonwealth games;

(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 Railways are presently running special tourist trains between September to March every year, namely, Palace

on Wheels and royal Rajasthan on Wheels which cater to various places of tourist interests in Rajasthan. The running of these special trains this year will coincide with the period of commonwealth Games also. In addition, another luxury tourist train 'Maharaja's Express' with different pan India itineraries including rajasthan will also run during the Commonwealth Games.

### Subsidy on Fertilizers

1295. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH:  
SHRI GAJANAN D. BABAR:  
SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY:

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

(a) whether the Government intends to move from the existing subsidy regime towards a nutrient based subsidy regime;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the proposed Nutrient Based subsidy (NBS) policy for fertilizers will hike the prices of fertilizers across the country;

(d) if so, the facts thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government has assessed its impact on the poor farmers;

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(g) whether with the continuance of earlier pricing structure for urea without a change to fixed subsidy per kilogram of nutrient will still keep the fertilizer subsidy bills high as earlier; and

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

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

(a) to (f) In the context of the Nation's food security, the declining response of agricultural productivity to increased fertilizer usage in the country and to ensure the balanced application of fertilizers, the Government has introduced Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy (NBS) for decontrolled P & K fertilizers, w.e.f. 1.4.2010. Under NBS, subsidy will be based on the nutrients i.e. Nitrogen (N), Phosphate (P), Potash (K) and Sulphur (S) contained in the decontrolled P&K fertilizers already covered under the subsidy scheme, namely Di Ammonium Phosphate (DAP), Mono Ammonium Phosphate (MAP), Triple Super Phosphate (TSP), Muriate of Potash (MOP), 12 grades of Complex Fertilizers, Single Super Phosphate (SSP) and indigenous Ammonium Sulphate (AS) produced by FACT and GSFC. The per nutrient subsidy shall be decided annually by Department of Fertilizers based on the recommendations of the Inter Ministerial committee (IMC) constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Fertilizers) and representatives of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Department of Expenditure, Planning commission and Department of Agricultural Research and Education. Any variant of the fertilizers mentioned above with secondary and micronutrients (except 'S') in such fertilizers will attract a separate per

tonne subsidy to encourage their application along with primary nutrients. The Nutrient Based Subsidy, so decided by the Government, will be converted into subsidy per tonne for each subsidized fertilizer. The distribution and movement of fertilizers alongwith import of finished fertilizers will be monitored through the 'Fertilizer Monitoring System'. 20% of the above said decontrolled fertilizers produced/imported in India will be in the movement control under the Essential commodities Act 1955 (ECA) to regulate the movement of these fertilizers to bridge the supplies in under served areas. Freight subsidy on decontrolled fertilizers will be restricted to the rail freight. The road freight is assumed to be part of the fixed subsidy and the retail prices. The import of all the decontrolled subsidized fertilizers including complex fertilizers will be place under Open General License. The market price of the subsidized decontrolled fertilizers will be determined based on the demand supply forces. However, the Government has decided that under the Nutrient Based Subsidy for 2010-11, subsidy for the nutrients 'N', 'P', 'K' & 'S' will be fixed in such a manner that the farm gate prices of non-urea fertilizers are as far as possible, near the current prices so that the farmers are not adversely affected. The customized fertilizers and the fertilizer mixture industry will be able to receive the subsidized fertilizers from the manufacturers/importers after its receipt in the districts as inputs for manufacturing customized fertilizers/fertilizer mixture. A separate additional subsidy will be provided to the indigenous manufacturers producing complex fertilizers using Naphtha based captive ammonia to compensate for the higher cost of production for a period of two years. Such units will have to convert their plants from Naphtha based to gas based plants. The payment of subsidy to the manufacturers/importers of DAP/MOP/Complex fertilizers/MAP/TSP/AS shall be based on the receipt of fertilizers in the districts of the States. The payment of subsidy to the manufacturer/marketer of SSP shall be based on the sale of SSP in the States.

(g) and (h) The Government has decided to increase to increase the MRP of urea by 10% from the current Rs. 4830/MT to Rs. 5310/MT w.e.f 1.4.2010. However, Urea will remain under partial movement and distribution control of Government. Import of urea will remain canalized during the first phase. The import of urea is made to bridge the gap between the requirement and the indigenous production. The fertilizer subsidy bill depends upon the cost of urea, requirement of fertilizer and the MRP of the same. By virtue of increase in

MRP of Urea w.e.f. 1st April 2010, the quantum of subsidy is not expected to increase.

[Translation]

### **Equal Opportunity Commission**

1296. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has adopted the recommendations of the Equal Opportunity Commission for the welfare of the minorities;

(b) if so, whether Madhav Menon Committee and Amitabh Kundu Committee set up in this regard has prepared drafts for the Commission;

(c) if so, the salient feature of the draft;

(d) whether the impact on the functioning of the National Minorities Commission has been assessed in the wake of setting up of Equal Opportunity Commission; and

(e) 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 (e) Government had constituted an expert group under the chairpersonship of Prof. N.R. Madhava Menon to examine and determine the structure and functions of an Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC) and another expert group under the chairpersonship of Prof. Amitabh Kundu to recommend an appropriate diversity index. The former has proposed a legislative framework for EOC and the latter has suggested a conceptual framework for developing an appropriate diversity index.

The details are contained in reports of these two expert groups received on 13.3.2008 and 24.6.2008 respectively. These reports are available on the website of Ministry of Minority Affairs: [www.minorityaffairs.gov.in](http://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in). The Government has taken into consideration, *inter-alia*, the recommendations of these expert groups and the functions of the National Commission for Minorities in it's deliberation of proposing an Equal Opportunity Commission.

### **Catering Services in Dehradun Bound Trains**

1297. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:  
SHRI MUKESH BHAIKAVADANJI GADHVI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the passengers have to face lot of inconvenience due to lack of proper catering facilities and cleanliness in toilets of Shatabdi Express and Janshatabdi Express running between Dehradun and New Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the food being served in Shatabdi Express train running from Dehradun to New Delhi is of sub-standard quality; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Railways for providing better catering facilities and maintaining proper cleanliness in toilets in both these trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) No, Madam. Proper catering facilities are provided in 2017/18 Dehradun Shatabdi and 2055/56 Dehradun Janshatabdi trains.

Standards for the meals being served in Shatabdi and Jan Shatabdi trains have been laid down. Various measures such as inspection, monitoring, safety audit, passenger satisfaction surveys, etc. through Officers, Quality Control Professional (QCPs) and independent professional food agencies are undertaken to ensure quality and quantity of food items.

The toilets of Shatabdi Express and Jana Shatabdi Express running from New Delhi to Dehradun are regularly attended for intensive cleaning in the coaching depots.

[English]

### **Catering Services in Trains**

1298. SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are contemplating for attaching Pantry Car in all Superfast Mail/Express trains and introducing Cell Kitchen Concept;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Railways have initiated for the welfare of helpers and vendors who have been in catering services since many years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Pantry car services on major long distance Mail/Express trains are a part of the various services offered to the passengers on Indian Railways. The decision to attach pantry cars on trains is based on various considerations such as availability of rolling stock, the timings, operational feasibility and commercial justification etc.

Cell Kitchens are established on the similar lines of Base Kitchens and provide prepared food for supply to pantry cars in trains as well as stalls in station premises. As on Nov, 2009, 17 numbers of Cell Kitchens are functioning at Nizamudding, Arakkonam, Tirupati, Gudur, New Tinsukia, Guntur, Dindigal, Cuddappah, Ongole, Rajamudry, Kottayam, Mathura, Guntakal, Delhi, Katpadi, Erode, Bhsawal.

(c) The commission bearers and vendors of the erstwhile departmental catering units are being absorbed progressively in the Railways as per Hon'ble Supreme Court's direction.

#### **Implementation of SITP**

1299. SHRI RAKESH SACHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the current status of implementation of Scheme for Integrated Textiles Park (SITP) in the country;

(b) the details of textile activities being carried out in those parks which are functional under SITP;

(c) the details of employment generation in these parks and whether arisans/weavers with poor financial capacity are being given any priority for seeking employment;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the modalities worked out through which the provision enacted for workers are timely extended to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) As per the target, forty (40) textiles park projects have been sanctioned under the Scheme for Integrated Textiles Park (SITP). Estimated cost of these projects is Rs. 4141.39 crores, of which Government of India assistance under the scheme would be Rs. 1422.43 Crore. An amount of Rs. 752.49 Crore has been released for implementation of these projects. After completion, these parks would facilitate additional investment of Rs. 19,459 Crore, textiles production worth Rs. 33,587 Crore per annum and direct and indirect employment generation for more than 8 Lakh persons. These projects are at various stages of implementation and after completion, they will have facilities for ginning & pressing, spinning, sizing, texturising, weaving, processing and garmenting etc.

The primary objective of the SITP is to facilitate development of state of the art support infrastructure for establishment of textiles units. The prevailing laws of the land, relating to labour, employment, etc., as applicable to the textiles units in general, would also be applicable to the textiles units in the textiles parks sanctioned under the SITP.

#### **Signalling System in Railways**

1300. SHRI PURNMASI RAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an audit review regarding the provision of modern signalling system on zonal railways has revealed that none of the zones except South Western Railways (SWR) have provided similar type of signalling system on all sections of a particular route;

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

(c) the steps taken to provide uniform signalling system all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, there was an audit observation. Audit test check revealed that 88 sections out of 372 sections on Indian Railways were not having similar type of signaling. This is because the modern signaling on Indian Railway is planned progressively in replacement of old system, on age cum condition basis and as per traffic requirement.



(c) A policy decision has been taken to replace the old signaling system on all sections progressively, as per availability of funds, to ensure uniformity.

#### **Financial Assistance from Private Sector**

1301. SHRI SARVEY SATYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are taking the financial assistance from private sector to develop the railways in the country especially South Central Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which the above projects are likely to be funded; and

(d) the time by which the said projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Certain areas such as development of world-class stations, establishment of super specialty hospitals/medical colleges, setting up of manufacturing units for rolling stock setting up of perishable cargo centres, infrastructure projects for port connectivity and several activities in catering/tourism and hospitality area have been identified for possible execution through public-private partnership route.

In South Central Railway, Obulavaripalle-Krishnapatnam New line project (112 Kms.) has been taken up with Private Sector Participation through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) formed by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) in partnership with Krishnapatnam Port Company Limited and Bramhani Industries Limited along with NMDC Limited and Government of Andhra Pradesh in Andhra Pradesh.

Secunderabad and Tirupati stations in South Central Railway have been identified for development into world class stations through Public-Private Partnership (PPP).

(d) No definite time-frame can be indicated at this stage.

#### **Hike in Crude Oil Prices**

1302. SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA:  
SHRI SUBHASH BAPURAO WANKHEDE:

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

(a) whether the international prices of crude oil have risen sharply;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the estimated rise in oil import bill; and

(c) the likely impact on the domestic prices of crude oil other petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) International prices of crude oil and petroleum products have remained highly volatile in the recent past. The price of the Indian Basket of crude oil, which averaged \$79.25 per barrel during 2007-08, had gone up to an unpercedented level of \$ 142.04 per barrel on 3rd July 2008 before declining sharply. However, the crude prices have been steadily increasing since December 2008, largely due to the global economic recovery and rapid increase in demand from the emerging economies. The average price of Indian Basket of crude oil for the year 2009-10 is \$ 68.95 per barrel (up to 1st March 2010). The current price of the Indian basket of crude oil is \$ 76.75 per barrel as on 1st March 2010.

Due to increase in the international oil prices, the country's oil import bill has been going up. It has increased from Rs. 40,030 crore in 1999-2000 to Rs. 3,45,815 crore in 2008-09. During the year 2009-10 (April-December 2009), the expenditure on crude oil imports has been estimated at Rs. 2,60,090 crore.

(c) The pricing of domestic crude oil is linked to international oil prices. With the cost of crude oil constituting a substantial part of the cost of the final petroleum products, the international oil prices have a decisive role in the domestic pricing of these products. As an administrative measure, however, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies have been asked to modulate the price increases in Petrol and Diesel besides maintaining prices of subsidized PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG. To protect the consumer from the inflationary impact of rising international oil prices, the Government have taken certain measures to ensure that the burden is equitably the Government have taken certain measures to ensure that the burden is equitably shared by all the stakeholders; namely, Government, Public Sector Oil Companies and the consumer.

**Locators in Aircraft**

1303. SHRI RUDRA MADHAB RAY:  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether mandatory norms to have Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELTs) in aircraft and choppers are being violated for years without being detected;

(b) if so, whether the directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) recently conducted one time check of ELTs over 900 aircraft and choppers;

(c) if so, the findings of the report of the DGCA in this regard;

(d) whether the Government has taken any action against the companies which are violating the mandatory norms; and

(e) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government for strict adherence of established norms in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. During the check conducted by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), it was found that out of 1029 operating aircraft, 907 aircraft are fitted with required Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) with dual frequency (121.5 and 406 MHz) as mandated by DGCA. The remaining 122 aircraft are fitted with ELTs operating on 121.5 MHz only.

(d) and (e) DGCA has issued guidelines to install ELTs conforming to 406 MHz frequency on all aircraft by 31/03/2010. During the intervening period, the operators have been advised to avoid operations in hilly terrain and inaccessible areas in case their aircraft is fitted with ELT conforming to 121.5 MHz frequency only.

[*Translation*]

**Import of Petroleum**

1304. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE:  
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the import of petroleum products during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;

(b) whether import of petroleum products is likely to register an increase during the current year;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the total expenditure is likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The details of the import of petroleum products during the last three years and the current year, are as under:-

Year	Quantity (MMT*)
2006-07	17.7
2007-08	22.5
2008-09	18.5
2009-10 (Prov.) (Apr-Dec. 09)	10.6

\*MMT-Million Metric Tonne

(b) The quantum of import of petroleum products during the current year is not likely to register any significant increase compared to the imports made in the previous year.

(c) and (d) Do not arise

**Accident at Tundla Railway Station**

1305. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:  
SHRIMATI MEENA SINGH:  
DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kalindi Express train collided with a stationary Shramjeevl Express at Tundla junction recently;

(b) if so, the total number of passengers injured and the number of passenger bogies damaged alongwith the number of people died in this Incident;

(c) whether any inquiry committee has been set up to look into the matter; and

(d) If so, the details of the action being taken against the officials responsible for such incidents and steps taken to check the incidents of trains hitting from behind in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir. On 16.01.2010 at 08.10 hrs, train number 4724 Kallndi Express collided with 2452 Shram Shakti Express which was standing at Tundla Home Signal between Mttawali and Tundla stations of Ghaziabad Tundla section of Allahabad Division of North Central Railway.

(b) In this accident, 3 passengers lost their lives, 18 passengers suffered injuries and one passenger coach was damaged.

(c) Statutory inquiry into above accident is being conducted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety, North Eastern Circle.

(d) The Final Report of Commissioner of Railway Safety, North Eastern Circle is awaited. Action would be initiated after receipt of the Report of Commissioner of Railway Safety.

Following steps are being taken to prevent such accidents in future :

- (i) Timely replacement of over aged signaling assets.
- (ii) Provision of track circuiting of station yards.
- (iii) Provision of Axle Counter for Block Proving.
- (iv) Provision of Light Emitting Diode (LED) signals.
- (v) Provision of interlocking of gate signals.
- (vi) Provision of means of communication to level crossing gates.
- (vii) Pilot projects of Train Protection Warning System (TPWS) covering 828 route kilometers.
- (viii) Anti-Collision Device (ACD) developed by Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) has been En service trial as a pilot project on 1736 Route Kilometres of Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) since July, 2006.

Based on experience on NFR, specifications for ACD have been revised to improve efficacy, reliability and availability of the ACD. The improved version of ACD is proposed to be extended to three more Zonal Railways (Southern, South Western and South Central Railways) for in-service trials.

[English]

### Revival of Spinning Mills

1306. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of spinning mill slying closed in each State/UT including Uttar Pradesh particularly in district Sandeela at Mishrikh parliamentary constituency;

(b) whether the Government has taken/proposes to take any steps for the revival of spinning mills lying closed especially in backward and scheduled castes dominated areas;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) 353 textile spinning mills (NON-SSI) were lying closed in the country including 1 spinning mill (i.e. Uttar Pradesh State Textile Corporation) in the district of Sandela (UP) as on Dec. 2009. The state-wise details of spinning mills closed are given in enclosed statement-I.

(b) Government seeks to foster a policy regime, which facilitates growth and development of Indian industry. It has taken a number of steps to revive sick industrial units which, *inter-alia*, include, guidelines of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to banks, amalgamation of sick units with healthy units, setting up of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the Sick Industrial Companies (Social Provisions) Act, etc. For restructuring of high cost debts of textiles units, in the organized sector, Ministry of Finance in Banking Division, in September 2003 introduced a Debt Restructuring Package to help textiles units overcome their unsustainable debt burden.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Kerala				3							1		2	6
Madhya Pradesh													2	2
Orissa				1	1									2
Punjab											1		1	2
Rajasthan	1			2	3	1					2		5	14
Tamil Nadu		1	1	8	4	0				1	2		9	26
Uttar Pradesh					1				2				5	8
Uttarakhand													2	2
West Bengal													2	2
	4	1	1	18	17	4	0	0	3	1	8	0	47	104

### Shortage of Coking Coal

1307. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel industry is facing the problem of shortage of coking coal affecting the capacity utilization of steel plants in the country;

(b) if so, the estimated demand for coking coal of steel plants, both in the public and private sectors in the country for the year 2010-11;

(c) the present availability of coking coal by way of indigenous production and imports; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to meet the shortage of coking coal in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP): (a) The availability of indigenous coking coal for steel plants in the country is lower than their total requirement of coking coal. Therefore, to fulfill their requirement of coking coal, steel plants in the country import coking coal. However, as per information given by major steel plants, the capacity utilization of steel plants has not been affected due to shortage of coking coal.

(b) As per projections made by respective companies, the estimated demand for coking coal by

the major steel producers during the year 2010-11 in the country is as follows:

Sl.No.	Name of the Company	Coking Coal Requirement in million tonnes for the year 2010-11
1.	Steel Authority of India Limited	14.85
2.	Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited	4.6
3.	Tata Steel Limited	5.623
4.	JSW Steels Limited	4.75
5.	Essar Steel Limited	1.00
6.	Jindal Steel and Power Limited	3.962
7.	Ispat Industries Limited	1.00*

\*Metcoke Ispat Industries Limited do not use coking coal and import met coke.

(c) During 2008-09, domestic steel industry consumed about 40.84 million tonnes of coking coal, out of which 16.84 million tonnes was indigenous coking coal and 24.00 million tonnes was imported. (Source-Ministry of Coal).

(d) In order to meet the demand of coking coal in the country, 11 coking coal blocks having Geological

Reserves of about 1466 million tonnes have been allotted to different steel companies for captive mining. The government is also encouraging the formation of joint ventures between steel companies to acquire coking coal blocks abroad. A joint Venture Company namely International Coal Ventures Limited (ICVL) with participation of Coal India Limited, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) and NMDC Limited has been formed for acquisition of coal assets abroad. SAIL has also formed a joint venture company with Tata Steel for acquisition and development of coal blocks in the country.

### **Konkan Railway**

1308. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have received any request to include Konkan Railway to any Zone;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has requested to railways to form a new Zone based in Kerala including Konkan Railway; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received from various Dignitaries including Chief Minister of Kerala for setting up of a separate Railway Zone in Kerala by taking areas from Southern Railway and Konkan Railway.

### **Handloom Clusters Expo**

1309. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Handloom Clusters Expo is being organised to showcase the finest and exclusive handloom products developed by the existing handloom cluster;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the role of each State in such Expo and incentives being given to them for organising more such

expos in different parts of the country especially in rural areas under the XIth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Government of India through Office of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles is implementing the Cluster Development Programme since 2006-07 in 20 handloom cluster, spread in 12 States. These clusters have participated/organized exhibitions in different parts of the country, generating sales and orders worth Rs. 43.52 crores. The recent Cluster Expo was organized at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 21st to 28th December 2009.

(c) During the XI Plan, the Cluster Development Programme is implemented under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, called Integrated Handlooms Development Scheme (IHDS). The proposals, under the Scheme are received from the respective State Governments, duly recommending the Implementing Agency, the Action Plan etc. on need basis. Implementing Agency may be the State Government/State Handloom Corporation/State Apex Handloom Weavers Co-operative Society etc. The financial assistance for each cluster is sanctioned/released to the State Government concerned. So far, 419 cluster have been sanctioned under the Scheme. This includes financial assistance towards various components like; design development and product diversification, setting up of Common facility Centre/dye house, publicity and marketing, basic input, skill upgradation etc. Some states/Implementing Agencies have already organized/participated in the Expo. Under the scheme, provision of Rs. 6.00 lakhs exists for conducting three exhibitions/fairs, out of which, share of the Government of India is Rs. 4.50 lakh. Similarly, provision of Rs. 3.00 lakh exists for organizing six buyer-seller meets, out of which, share of the Government of India is Rs. 2.25 lakh. Besides, assistance is also provided towards release of advertisement, preparation of brochure and catalogue, market survey, awareness and exposure visit, development and hosting of website etc. The Implementing Agency can organize the Expo jointly with other clusters or can participate in other Expos, depending upon the availability of budget, product range etc. These clusters can also participate in the District Level Events (DLEs), which are financially assisted by Government of India and held generally in the rural areas.

**Express Freight Corridor**

1310. SHRI P.R. NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal for laying the Express Freight corridor on the Eastern and Western side of the country through private companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria laid down for selection of the companies; and

(c) the names of the companies selected for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir. Dedicated Freight Corridor corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL), a Special Purpose Vehicle, has been formed as a Public Sector Undertaking of the Ministry of Railways to implement the Eastern and Western Dedicated Freight corridor Projects.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

**Road Over Bridge at Gajner Road in Bikaner**

1311. SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of construction work on rail over bridge at Gajner Road in Bikaner (Rajasthan) alongwith the reasons for delay in completion of the said work if any; and

(b) 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) Work of Road Over Bridge (ROB) in lieu of Level Crossing No. 138 (Gajner Road) near Bikaner was sanctioned In year 2007-08 with a total cost of Rs. 17.33 crore having Railway's share Rs. 10.15 crore and State Government's share Rs. 7.18 crore.

Work of construction of ROB is in progress. For Railway portion Sub-structure work and one Voided Slab (Superstructure) has been completed. Work for 2nd Voided Slab is in progress.

(b) Railway portion work is likely to be completed by July 2010. Approach portion of the work is being done by the State Govt. It is expected to be completed by October 2010.

[English]

**Losses Suffered by Airlines**

1312. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether all airlines in the country have landed in huge financial losses;

(b) if so, the details of losses of leading airlines for the last three years; and

(c) the major long standing and immediate causes for such losses and the measures undertaken under long term and short term processes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Details of losses/proft of leading private airlines in last three years are as under:

Airline	Profit/Loss (Rs. in Million)		
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
1	2	3	4
NACIL	-687.72 crore	-2226.16 crore	-5548 crore
Kingfisher Airlines	-5773.13	-4089.16	-16020.00
Jet Airways	279.41	-2530.63	-4020.30

1	2	3	4
Go Air	-2374.72	-1747.60	-225.5
Spicejet	-721.46	-1335.07	-3525.0
Jetlite	-6896.6	4415.00	-6304.0
Air Deccan	-4195.70	-7983.49	**
Paramount Airways	16.30	11.70	+72.6
Indigo	-2017.94	-2347.48	+821.6

(\*\*The loss of Kingfisher Airlines in 2008-09 after merger with Air Deccan)

(c) The probable causes for scheduled domestic airlines incurring losses are rise in fuel prices, economic downturn and comparatively low air fares due to competitive environments.

The Government has undertaken measures such as:

- (1) Custom duty on import of ATF has been abolished.
- (2) The State Governments have been persuaded to reduce the sales tax on ATF. Government of Andhra Pradesh and in certain cases Government of Rajasthan have reduced the sales tax on ATF to 4%. Government of Maharashtra has also reduced sales tax on ATF from 25% to 4% for flights originating from airports other than Pune and Mumbai.
- (3) The oil companies have started announcing the ATF prices on a fortnightly basis rather than monthly basis which is helping the airlines when the crude prices are going down.

#### **State Law Commission**

1313. SHRI N. CHELUVARAYA SWAMY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has asked the States to set up State Law Commissions to review the outdated laws and to update the legal system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) The Law Commission has not submitted any report for constitution of State Law Commission. However, the Hon'ble Chairman of the 18th Law Commission vide his letter dated 17.09.2008 addressed to Chief Ministers of various States, has suggested that their Governments should constitute Law Commission in their respective States with a view to scan, review and update the legal reform in their States.

#### **Booking for Flights**

1314. SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the reports that some of the booking agents and portals are making huge profit by making fake booking and depriving the genuine passengers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the preventive measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, as per standard industry practice world over, almost all airlines overbook flights in line with demand pattern and individual experience of no shows on flights across their network. This is done to minimise loss of revenues due to last minute no shows, as airline seats are perishable product.



In case of denied boarding except no shows or cancellations, schedule domestic airlines reschedule the passenger to next available flight or give cash compensation, etc. Airlines also refund the tickets as per regulations issued by DGCA.

### Summer Special Trains

1315. SHRI RAMESH RATHOD:

SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have introduced summer special trains in the country including Southern region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of various representation received in this regard, State-wise; and

(d) the reaction taken by the Railways thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Summer special trains are run every year in different regions of the country including Southern region for clearance of extra rush of passenger traffic.

(c) and (d) Requests for special trains are received at various levels i.e Station, division, Zonal and Railway board and necessary action as found operationally feasible and commercially justified is taken.

### ONGC's Oil Deal with Venezuela

1316. SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Corporation has bagged oil deal in Venezuela in the recent past;

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

(c) the terms and conditions of the deal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) The consortium of ONGC Videsh Limited (11.0%), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (3.5%), Oil India Limited (3.5%), Repsol YPF (11.0%) and Petroleum Nasional Berhad ("PETRONAS", 11.0%),

(collectively, the "Consortium"), was selected on 10th February 2010 by the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for awarding a 40% ownership interest in a Mixed Company which will develop the Project 1 located in the Orinoco Heavy Oil Belt. The Corporación Venezolana del Petróleo ("CVP"), a subsidiary of Petróleos de Venezuela S.A. ("PDVSA"), Venezuela's state oil company, will hold the remaining 60% equity interest.

The Mixed Company will build heavy oil production facilities, upgrading facilities and associated infrastructure. The upstream production facilities are expected to produce around 400,000 barrels per day of extra heavy oil of which approximately 200,000 barrels per day will be upgraded into light crude oil.

The execution of contract/agreement would be as per guidelines for the selection of shareholders for mixed companies.

### Food Plazas

1317. SHRI M.B. RAJESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether IRCTC has decided to introduce Food Plazas in Railway Stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the introduction of Food Plazas will lead to job losses of existing catering workers; and

(d) if so, the measures taken by the Railways to protect the jobs of catering workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) At present 52 Food Plazas are under operation on Indian Railways at Patna-First Floor, Patna-Ground Floor, Howrah (New and Old Complex), Vishakapatnam, Ranchi, Bilaspur, Raipur, Mughal Sarai, Sealdah, Jharsuguda, Delhi Main, Nizamuddin, Allahabad, Lucknow, Jaipur, Varanasi, Tirupati, Vijayawada, Vijayawada-II, Kacheguda, Rajamundry, Secunderabad, Coimbatore, Chennai Central, Chennai Egmore, Chennai Beach, Chennai Park, Bangalore, Thrissur, Madurai, Tiruchchirappalli, Shoranur, Ernakulam North, Ernakulam South, Katpadi, Cannanore, Pune, Mumbai Central, Mumbai CST-Suburban Concourse, Mumbai CST-Main line Bldg, Mumbai

Churchgate, Mumbai Churchgate-II, Nagpur, Agra, Habibganj, Jabalpur, Ahmedabad, Bhusawal, Akola, Surat and Bhopal.

Indian Railway and Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) will further commission, six new food plazas at Palghat, Calicut, Dhone, Mangalore, Kota and Puri by April, 2010. Besides, 25 Food Plazas of IRCTC are under construction at Pune, Manmad, Nasik, Thane, Vadodara, Ahmednagar, Matheran, Rajkot, Solapur, Daund, Ghaziabad, Amritsar, Salem, Erode, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore Cantt. Dharmavaram, Guwahati, Darjeeling, Ghum, Ranigarh, Kharagpur, Tata Nagar, Bhubaneswar and Cuttack.

(c) There will be no loss of job for existing catering staff since Food Plazas are provided in addition to the existing catering units.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Setting up of Food Parks**

1318. SHRI ARJUN MUNDA:  
SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:  
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up mega food parks in different parts of the country;

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

(c) whether the Government also provides financial assistance to State Governments for setting up of food parks in their States; and

(d) if so, the funds provided for the purpose to various State Governments during the last three years?

THE MINISTER FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) In the 11th Plan, the Government has approved a new scheme to establish 30 Mega Food Parks with a view to provide state-of-the-art infrastructure for food processing sector in the country on a pre-identified cluster

basis with a strong backward and forward linkage and to provide value addition of agricultural commodities including poultry, meat, dairy, fisheries etc. in a demand driven manner. The projects are to be implemented, owned, operated and maintained by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) consisting of a group of stakeholders like entrepreneurs, investors, processors, farmer groups, NGOs, State Govts and/or its undertakings etc. Out of total 30 approved Mega Food Parks, 10 are to be taken up in the 1st phase in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal. Detailed Project Report (DPR) in case of Andhra Pradesh (Chittoor), Assam (Nalbari), Jharkhand (Ranchi) and Uttarakhand (Haridwar) has been approved and 1st tranche of 1st instalment of grant has been released in these cases.

(c) and (d) Financial assistance is not provided to the State Governments for setting up of Food Parks. However, State Governments and/or its undertakings may be the partners in the SPV with a stake of less than 26% to retain the private sector character of the SPV.

#### **Free Legal Aid to Poor**

1319. SHRI SYED SHAHANAWAZ HUSSAIN:  
SHRI SONAWANE PRATAP NARAYANRAO:

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

(a) the funds provided by the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) to each State Legal Services Authority to provide free legal aid to the poor during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government proposes to increase the limit of free legal aid to poor; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) A statement is attached.

(b) and (c) The categories of persons entitled to free legal services are prescribed in Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. Action has been initiated to amend the aforesaid Section to expand the beneficiaries for free legal services.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	Name of the State Legal Services Authorities	2006-07 Rs.	2007-08 Rs.	2008-09 Rs.
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	503000	3500000	1748000
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	303000	800000	1256000
3.	Assam	2150000	5935000	2224000
4.	Bihar	500000	1300000	3668000
5.	Chhattisgarh	2003000	5800000	2148000
6.	Goa	-	-	152000
7.	Gujarat	2000000	4500000	4100000
8.	Haryana	2503000	7582000	6180000
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1403000	3800000	3752000
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	600000	1600000	1784000
11.	Jharkhand	1503000	6500000	5512000
12.	Karnataka	2000000	4000000	1948000
13.	Kerala	3500000	8300000	4064000
14.	Madhya Pradesh	500000	6000000	7128000
15.	Maharashtra	-	4000000	3320000
16.	Manipur	300000	-	844000
17.	Meghalaya	-	-	812000
18.	Mizoram	503000	-	1328000
19.	Nagaland	300000	450000	1328000
20.	Orissa	2200000	7000000	8940000
21.	Punjab	1503000	6000000	5180000
22.	Rajasthan	1203000	5800000	3272000
23.	Sikkim	-	-	584000
24.	Tamil Nadu	2500000	7500000	1980000
25.	Tripura	800000	-	704000

1	2	3	4	5
26.	Uttar Pradesh	3000000	7500000	8080000
27.	Uttarakhand	1500000	4400000	17681000
28.	West Bengal	3500000	8600000	7148000
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	-	228000
30.	U.T. Chandigarh	103000	200000	1000000
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	-
32.	Daman & Diu	-	-	-
33.	Delhi	-	-	-
34.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-
35.	Puducherry	700000	900000	1304000

[English]

### Women Judges

1320. SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women Judges in the Supreme Court, High Courts and Sub-ordinate Courts, as on date, Court-wise;

(b) the reasons for low representation of women in Judiciary; and

(c) the steps taken to increase women representation in Judiciary?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) A statement showing the number of women Judges in higher judiciary is enclosed.

Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts is made under Articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India respectively, which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. The proposals for appointment are initiated by the Chief Justice of India and the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court respectively.

The Government has, however, requested the Chief Justice of India to recommend names of women for

appointment as judges in the Supreme Court. Request has also been made by the Government to the Chief Justices of the High Courts from time to time impressing upon them the need to recommend names of women from the Bar, who may be suitable for appointment as High Court Judges.

Under Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the members of the subordinate judiciary in the States vests with the concerned High Court and the State Governments. As such, the information on the number of women Judges in Subordinate Courts is not Maintained centrally.

### Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	No. of Women Judges as on 1.3.2010
1	2	3
<b>A.</b>	<b>Supreme Court of India</b>	-
<b>B.</b>	<b>High Court</b>	
1.	Allahabad	04
2.	Andhra Pradesh	02
3.	Bombay	07
4.	Calcutta	02

1	2	3
5.	Chhattisgarh	-
6.	Delhi	08
7.	Guwahati	03
8.	Gujarat	03
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	-
11.	Jharkhand	-
12.	Karnataka	02
13.	Kerala	02
14.	Madhya Pradesh	03
15.	Madras	07
16.	Orissa	01
17.	Patna	03
18.	Punjab and Haryana	03
19.	Rajasthan	01
20.	Sikkim	-
21.	Uttarakhand	01
Total		52

**Rail Coach Factory**

1321. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE:  
SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:  
SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:  
SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY:  
SHRIMATI J. SHANTHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to set-up new rail production units in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways also propose to set-up rail coach factories in various parts of the country including West Bengal, Maharashtra and Orissa;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated cost and time frame fixed for the completion of these projects;

(e) whether private participation is also involved therein; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (f) A statement is enclosed.

**Statement**

(b) to (d) The following rolling stock factories are planned to be set up:

Sl. No.	Factory	Year of approval	Anticipated Cost (Rs. in crores)	State	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Coach factory at Rae Bareilly.	05-06	1685.00	Uttar Pradesh	Detailed plans and estimates are under finalization/sanction. The project is scheduled to be completed in 36 months after sanction of the detailed plans and estimates.
2.	Diesel Loco factory at Marhaura.	05-06	2052.00	Bihar	Keeping in view the budgetary requirement for various ongoing

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Electric Loco factory at	06-07	1293.57	Bihar	projects of railway, it has been Madhepura. decided to set up Diesel as well as Electric Loco factories in Joint Venture (JV) mode only, instead of departmental mode. Bidding process to select JV partner shall be initiated shortly. The projects are likely to be operational by 2013.
4.	Wagon component factory for manufacture of high capacity bogies, couplers and draft gear at Sankrail.	09-10	100.00	West Bengal	Detailed plans and estimates are under preparation by the Railways.
5.	Factory for manufacture of components and sub assemblies for EMD locos and institute for training at Dankuni.	09-10	110.00	West Bengal	
6.	Electric loco assembly and ancillary unit of chittaranjan Locomotive Works	09-10	123.00	West Bengal	
7.	Coach factory at Kancharapara.	10-11	680.16	West Bengal	The project has been included in the Railway Budget 2010-11 for Parliamentary approval.
8.	Coach factory at Palakkad.	Yet to be approved	1215.75	Kerala	In principle clearance of Planning Commission has been received. Necessary approvals are being expedited.

(e) and (f) The projects of Marhoura, Madhepura, Kancharapara and Palakkad are proposed to be set up in Joint Venture mode.

#### **Promotion of Handloom Sector**

1322. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA:  
SHRI NITYANANDA PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has devised any action plan to provide market linkages to handloom clusters and also for spreading awareness about handloom products in order to make this sector economically viable; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Government of India under Cluster Development Programme is extending financial assistance to various clusters on need basis to implement the Action Plan. This includes engagement of designer, advertisement, preparation of brochure and catalogue, holding exhibitions/fairs and buyer-seller meets, market survey, awareness and exposure visit etc. In accordance with the Action Plan of the respective cluster/s, Implementing Agency/ies are implementing the Cluster Development

Programme, including marketing of the handloom products and their awareness. Some clusters have established market linkages with different buyers and are getting the orders from time to time. Besides, the Government of India is implementing Marketing And export Promotion Scheme to assist the handloom agencies in sale of the handloom products by organizing National handloom Expos, Special Expos, Craft melas, setting up of Urban Haats etc. As a special effort, the Government of India, for the first time had celebrated "Handloom Week" from 21st to 28th December 2009 for creating awareness and promoting handloom products.

#### **New Railway Line**

1323. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have fixed any criteria for laying new railway lines in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether paucity of funds is the main cause for delay in laying the new railway lines;

(d) if so, whether the Railways propose to resort to public-private partnership mode for laying new railway lines; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The policy followed for taking up new line projects was enunciated by the National Transport Policy committee 1980 and the following criteria was prescribed:

(i) Project oriented lines to serve new industries for tapping mineral and other resources;

(ii) Missing links for completing alternative routes to relieve congestion on existing saturated routes;

(iii) Lines required for strategic reasons; and

(iv) Lines for establishment of new growth centers or given access to remote areas.

Besides the above, new lines are also taken up on socio-economic considerations for the speedy development of the economically backward areas.

(c) there is large shelf of new line projects having throwforward of approx. Rs. 50,405 cr. as on 1.4.2009.

The projects are progressed as per availability of funds on yearly basis mainly out of the Gross Budgetary Support. Besides, delay in land acquisition, forestry clearance, adverse law and order conditions, contractual failures etc. also lead to delay in completion of projects.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Public-Private Partnership is one of the possible options for implementation of new line projects.

#### **Demand and Supply of LPG in Karnataka**

1324. SHRI S. PAKKIRAPPA:

SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) the monthly demand and supply of LPG cylinders in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh for the last one year, district-wise;

(b) whether there is shortfall in supply of LPG cylinders against the projected demand; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The details of demand/sales between April 2009 and January 2010 are 780240 Metric Tonnes (MT) and 575570 Mt in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka respectively. The district-wise details are available with the Director (Marketing) of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) concerned.

(b) and (c) At present, there is no overall shortage of LPG in the country including the States of Andhra Pradesh and 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.

*[Translation]*

#### **MNCs in FPI**

1325. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH:

SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE:

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

(a) the number of food processing industries set up by the multinational companies in the country during the last three years;

(b) the investment made by these companies in the food processing sector; and

(c) the quantum of processed food exported by these companies during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) as per the information gathered from Department of

Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) number of multinational companies who sought to invest in food processing sector in India are as follows:

Year	No. of MNC's
2007	45
2008	88
2009	99

The details of investment by the multinational companies in the food processing sector is as follows:

Sl. No.	Year (Apr-Mar)	Total FDI		FDI in Food Processing Industries		% of Total FDI
		in Rs. (Amount in million)	in US\$ (Amount in million)	In Rs. (Amount in million)	In US\$ (Amount in million)	
1.	2007-08	98,664	24,579	2,745.65	69.08	0.28
2.	2008-09	122,919	27,309	4,553.04	102.64	0.37
3.	2009-10 (Apr-Nov)	93,35.4	19,379	9,223.09	793.55	0.995

(Source DIPP, Ministry of Commerce)

(c) The export data of processed food items is maintained category wise and not company wise. The details of total processed food exported are given in the enclosed statement.

#### **Statement**

Qty. in MT, Value in Lakhs

#### **Fresh Fruits and Vegetables**

Product	2006-07		2007-08		2008-09	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Fresh Onions	1378373.17	116330.57	1008606.48	103577.89	1670186.29	182752.21
Other Fresh Vegetables	276824.60	43314.38	350235.47	48949.01	505285.47	68020.32
Dried Nuts (Walnuts)	5062.86	11803.79	6716.48	16207.80	5696.34	14123.63



1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Fresh Mangoes	79060.88	14193.95	54350.80	12741.76	83703.18	17071.325
Fresh Grapes	85897.79	30192.45	96963.57	31782.51	12627.97	40861-28
Other Fresh	177638.30	30997.39	207700.78	30452.60	256768.53	43086.84
Total	2002857.6	246832.53	1724573-58	243711.57	2646267.78	365915.53
<b>Processed Fruits and Vegetables</b>						
Dried and Preserved Vegetables	119270.43	42754.17	125726.28	42993.81	147861.21	49641.51
Mango pulp	156835.51	50582.79	166752.17	50968.51	173013.60	75298.90
Other Processed Fruits and Vegetables	318067.57	95550.82	311756.29	96281.65	387126.42	137179.00
Pulses	255084.47	78999.40	170614.39	54900.85	136880.08	54232.50
Total	849257.98	267887.18	774849.13	245144.82	844881.31	316351.91
<b>Animal Products</b>						
Buffalo Meat	494506.30	321374.60	483478.29	354978.47	462749.62	483970.99
Sheep/Goat Meat	5777.52	6587.23	8908.72	13409.96	37790.64	49336.94
Poultry Products	711245.67	318117.08	1355246.31	44108.55	1057016.46	42205.80
Dairy Products	45371.84	43457.80	69415.44	86656.36	70146.77	98086.06
Animal Castings	435.98	950.65	619.68	684.14	1823.72	884.32
Processed Meat	860.69	712.62	1245.47	1296.13	857.63	1014.40
Natural Honey	8135.60	6091.63	12231.19	9329.64	15587.53	14896.37
Swine Meat	1523.47	865.30	1710.89	2463.69	817.82	917.23
Total	1267857.07	411856.91	1932855.99	512326.94	1646790.19	691312.11
<b>Other Processed Foods</b>						
Ground Nuts	251428.65	79846.01	269587.65	105407.83	297890.37	123900.93
Guargum	189304.36	112579.20	211166.56	112574.57	258567.56	133898.53
Jaggery and Confection Ery	455935.85	87346.11	2408129.70	281068.20	1467904.90	200482.09
Cocoa Products	3412.21	4011.65	4979.27	4225.84	6831.90	8403.91
Cereal Preparations	111123.05	59880.36	135962.85	67735.48	206928.49	110092.50
Alcoholic and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	50771.79	22194.22	59614.33	33856.20	56152.90	54254.20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Miscellaneous Preparations	77426.44	33687.72	130760.28	47446.61	139637.31	59172.63
<b>Total</b>	<b>1139402.35</b>	<b>399545.27</b>	<b>3220200.64</b>	<b>652314.73</b>	<b>2433913.43</b>	<b>690204.79</b>
<b>Cereals</b>						
Basmati Rice	1045714.95	279280.89	1183355.73	434458.12	1556411.06	947702.98
Non Basmati Rice	3702191.99	424307.84	5285916.33	740979.43	981879.80	168737.41
Wheat	46633.21	3535.09	237.27	23.94	1120.52	145.73
Other Cereals	730275.21	59925.14	3228051.73	300232.95	3999648.05	392057.69
Miled Products	72515.86	9994.81	46864.52	9041.50	41053.51	8133.77
<b>Total</b>	<b>5597331.22</b>	<b>777043.77</b>	<b>9752245.58</b>	<b>1484735.94</b>	<b>6530112.94</b>	<b>1516777.58</b>

(Source: Agricultural and Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce).

[English]

#### **Setting up of National Gas Highway Development Authority**

1326. SHRI JAYWANT GANGARAM AWALE:  
DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:  
SHRI ANTO ANTONY:  
SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU:

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

(a) whether the Government has finalised the financial modalities, including public- private partnerships mode for the project;

(b) if so, the status of setting up of the National Gas Highway Development Authority;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount earmarked for the said purpose and the time frame for the completion of the proposed project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) With the increase in availability of natural gas in the country and to ensure supply of natural

gas to unserved areas of the country, government proposes to develop long-distance Gas Highways leading to a National Gas Grid. The proposal for setting up of National Gas Highway Development Authority is being examined for the same. The details, including financial modalities and list of projects and their timeframe, would be worked out subsequently.

#### **Joint Venture for Nuclear Power Generation**

1327. SHRI NRIPENDRA NATH ROY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) is planning to enter into nuclear power generation business through a joint venture with Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL);

(b) if so, the status of this project;

(c) whether the sources of regular feed stock has been identified as; and

(d) if so, the likely installed capacity of the proposed nuclear plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Indian Oil Corporation Limited

(IOC) has signed a memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) on 4.11.2009 for its venture into Nuclear Power. Various opportunities available in the field of nuclear energy and the nature of role to be played by both the parties with a view to define their participation are being studied.

(c) and (d) The Techno-commercial modalities, including source of nuclear fuel and installed capacity shall be firmed up in due course of time.

### **Engine Factories in Railways**

1328. DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of two factories being set up for manufacturing electronic and diesel engine as announced by the Railways recently; and

(b) the time by which the said work on these projects are likely to started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Keeping in view the budgetary requirement for various ongoing projects of railway, Government has decided setting up of Diesel as well as Electric Loco factories in Joint Venture (JV) mode only instead of departmental mode. Bidding process to select JV partner shall be initiated shortly.

(b) Work on this projects is expected to commence during 2010-11 after International competitive bidding and the projects are expected to be operational by 2013.

### **Maharatna Status to CPSUs**

1329. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:  
SHRI S.S. RMAMSUBBU:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to accord Maharatna status to some selected CPSUs to give them more autonomy;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the nature of operational, functional/financial powers likely to be given to these CPSUs;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the nature of operational, functional/financial powers likely to be given to these CPSUs;

(d) the criteria norms for the elevation of the CPSUs as Maharatnas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government has already approved the proposal for introduction of "Maharatna" category for Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs). The Boards of Maharatna CPSEs, in addition to exercising all powers available to Navratna CPSEs, will exercise enhanced powers in the area of investment in joint ventures/subsidiaries and creation of below Board level posts.

(c) and (d) The CPSEs fulfilling the following criteria are eligible to be considered for grant of Maharatna status:

- (i) Having Navratna Status
- (ii) Listed on Indian stock exchange, with minimum prescribed public shareholding under SEBI regularions
- (iii) An average annual turnover during the last 3 years of more than Rs. 25,000 crore
- (iv) An average annual net worth during the last 3 years of more than Rs. 15,000 crore
- (v) An average annual net profit after tax during the last 3 year of more than Rs. 5,000 crore
- (vi) Significant global presence or international operations.

### **Subsidy on SSP**

1330. SHRI P.T. THOMAS:  
SHRI M.B. RAJESH:

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

(a) whether the Government is providing subsidy to farmers who are using Single Super Phosphate (SSP) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to extend this subsidy to those who are using the Rock Phosphate;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) and (b) Government has introduced revised policy on 13.8.2009 for ad-hoc concession for Single Super Phosphate (SSP) w.e.f. 1.10.2009. Accordingly, the Government is providing an ad-hoc concession to the manufacturers/marketers of Rs. 2000/- per Metric Tonne on the sale of powdered, granulated and boronated SSP w.e.f. 1.10.2009. Department of Fertilizers releases month-wise 85% 'On Account' payment of concession to the manufacturer/marketer as per prescribed proforma, duly certified by the Authorized Signatory and Statutory Auditor of the company. The balance 15% of the concession amount is released based on the certification of sales in prescribed Proforma 'B' issued by the State Governments. The selling price of the SSP shall be provided to those eligible SSP units, which have either annual capacity utilization of atleast 50% or annual production of 40,000 MTS, whichever is lower. The State Governments of the States, where the units are located and where the SSP is sold are required to ensure the production and sale of SSP as per the standards laid down under the Fertilizer Control Order.

(c) to (e) Government is providing subsidy on finished fertilizer products. Department of Fertilizers does not give subsidy to the farmers for direct application of Rock Phosphate in the crops. Also, no such proposal is under consideration with Department of Fertilizers at present.

#### **Facilities for Disabled**

1331. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the locations identified by the Railways for having standard ramps for the physically handicapped and aged persons;

(b) whether the Railways propose to have this facility to other platforms beyond the first platform;

(c) If so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of long distance trains provided with specially designed coaches for the physically handicapped travellers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Entrance to railway station at all A-1, A nd B category stations has been identified by Railways for providing ramp for physically challenged people.

Facilities comprising ramp at entrance to the station building and inter-platform transfer in the form of inclined slope or lift or escalator or pathway at the end of platforms have been provided under Phase-I at A-1 and A category stations. The provision of above facilities at B category stations has also been taken up under Phase-II.

(d) Approximately 650 pairs of Mail/Express trains including Garib Rath trains have been provided with specially designed coaches having accommodation for disabled persons.

#### **Training Centres for Textiles Sectors**

1332. SHRI VARUN GANDHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken steps to develop training centres for textile sector on public-private partnership (PPP) mode;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has proposed to leverage the Centres of Excellence (COE) scheme to increase the number of those ITIs that are catering to textile activity;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Government have already taken steps for training of persons for employment in textile/apparel sector in Public Private Partnership mode. Eight Industrial training Institutes (ITIs) in 2007-08, seven in 2008-09 and two

Government ITIs in 2009-10 have been covered under textile/apparel sector under the Scheme of Upgradation of 1396 Government ITIs through Public Private Partnership. A short not on the Scheme and a list of these ITIs is given in enclosed statement.

(c) to (e) An effort has been made to identify Government ITIs close to various textile clusters and cover them into Centres of Excellence for textile in close collaboration with the textile industry so that textile industry, on the one hand, gets skilled manpower and youth, on the other, get immediate placement. In addition to long-term courses on textile/apparel sector, 574 Modular Employable Skills (MES) courses have been developed under Skill Development Initiative Scheme and training is being imparted to persons to meet Skill Development Initiative Scheme and training is being imparted to persons to meet diverse requirements of skilled workforce for the textile sector. A list of such courses is available on the website of the Ministry of Labour (Directorate General of Employment and Training) at <http://dget.gov.in/mes/annex4.pdf>.

#### **Statement-A**

##### **Scheme**

#### *“Upgradation of 1396 Government ITIs through Public Private Partnership”*

- 1. Introduction:** The Scheme “Upgradation of 1396 Government ITIs through Public Private Partnership” was launched in 2007-08 with a total outlay of Rs. 3550 crore with the objective to improve the employment outcome of graduates from the vocational training system, by making design and delivery of training more demand responsive. 300 ITIs are taken up every

year (2007-08 to 2010-11) and remaining 196 ITIs in 2011-12 for upgradation under this scheme.

- 2. Salient features:** An Industry Partner is associated with each Government ITI to lead the process of upgradation. An Institute Management Committee is constituted with Industry Partner or its representative as its Chairperson and registered as a upgrading the training infrastructure of the ITI. Financial and academic autonomy is granted to the IMC to manage the affairs of the ITI. The State Government retains the ownership of the ITI and continues to regulate the admissions and fees except 20% of seats which are determined by the IMC. Memorandum of Agreement is signed among the Central Government, the State Government and the Industry Partner, defining the roles and responsibility of each party, before the funds are released.

- 3. Present status:** 814 Government ITIs of different States/UTs are covered under the scheme and an amount of Rs. 2035 crore has been released as an interest free loan @ Rs. 2.5 crore to each IMC Society of ITI, during 2007-08, 2008-09 and upto 26th february, 2010 for upgradation of ITI in different skill areas.

Out of above 814 Government ITIs, IMC Societies of 17 ITIs have proposed for opening of Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Apparel Sector. The list of ITIs alongwith corresponding Industry Partners is enclosed as Annexure-I.

Note: The above information has been collected from Ministry of Labour.

#### **Annexure**

#### *List of ITIs proposed for CoE in Apparel Sector under the Scheme “Upgradation of 1396 Government ITIs through Public Private Partnership.”*

Sl.No.	Name of the ITI and year of implementation of the scheme	State	Name of Industry Partner
1	2	3	4
<b>Year-2007-08</b>			
1.	ITI, Vishakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	M/S. Brandix India Apparel City (Pvt.) Ltd. Visakhapatnam

1	2	3	4
2.	ITI (Women), Himipur	Himachal Pradesh	M/s. Wep Peripheral Ltd.
3.	ITI, Shirpur	Maharashtra	M/S. Priyadarshini Sahakari Sutgimi, Shirpur
4.	ITI (Women), Nabha	Punjab	M/s. Swaraj Automotives
5.	ITI (Women), Derababa Nanak	Punjab	M/s. Deluxz Kutali Works
6.	ITI (Women), Neelapur, Rajpura	Punjab	M/s. Educomp Solutions Ltd.
7.	ITI (Women), Patiala	Punjab	M/s. Educomp Solutions Ltd.
8.	ITI (Women), Hoshiarpur	Punjab	M/s. Educomp Solutions Ltd.
<b>Year-2008-09</b>			
9.	ITI (Women), Bahadurgarh	Haryana	M/s. Reliance Haryana, SEZ, Limited.
10.	ITI (Women), Solapur	Maharashtra	M/s. B.R. Bakale & Sons.
11.	ITI (Women), Ahmedgarh	Punjab	M/s. Sunder Amarsheel Cheritable Trust New Delhi.
12.	ITI (Women), Sunam	Punjab	M/s. Saggu Agro Industries, Sunam
13.	ITI (Women), Raibareli	Uttar Pradesh	M/s Saral Industries Raebareli.
14.	ITI, Fulia	West Bengal	M/s. United Breweries Ltd.
15.	ITI (B&G), Kolkata	West Bengal	M/s. PS Group Reality Limited
<b>Year-2009-10</b>			
16.	ITI (Women), Gurgaon	Haryana	M/s. Maruti Suzuki India Ltd., gurgaon
17.	ITI (Women), Kazhakuttom	Kerala	M/s. KINFRA International, Apparal Park, Kazhakuttom, Trivandrum

### Losses to Oil Marketing Companies

1333. SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA:  
SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA:  
SHRI GANESH SINGH:

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

(a) whether the State-run oil marketing companies are incurring heavy losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, company-wise;

(c) the reasons for such losses;

(d) the cost of refining of oil per litre of crude by oil refineries;

(e) the details of the administrative expenses of these companies during the above period;

(f) the mechanism adopted to check/control the administrative expenses of the companies; and

(g) the steps taken to compensate the losses of the State-run oil companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN

PRASADA): (a) to (c) The Profits after Tax of the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPC) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPC) during the last three years are given below.

(Rs. crore)			
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
IOC	7499	6963	2950
BPC	1806	1581	736
HPC	1571	1135	575
<b>Total</b>	<b>10876</b>	<b>9679</b>	<b>4261</b>

(d) The major element of cost in the refining process in the cost of crude oil, which constitutes around 95% of total cost of production. In addition, the refineries incur operation expenses to wards salaries and wages, chemicals and catalysts, power and water, repairs and maintenance, depreciation and other overheads. In petroleum refining, crude oil is processed through numerous processing units and finished petroleum products are produced from a blend of different various intermediate streams. The blending of intermediate products streams from various process units for making finished petroleum products results in difficulty in allocating the total costs to individual refined products with reasonable degree of accuracy. Therefore, individual product-wise costs are not calculated by these Companies separately.

(e) The details of the administrative and officer expenses of the PSU oil refining companies for the last three years are given below:

(Rs. in crore)			
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
IOC	1,529.91	1,873.35	1,829.85
HPC	609.97	710.41	755.60
BPC	1,283.00	1,404.00	1,589.00
Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd.	27.32	31.39	33.80
Numaligarh Refinery Ltd.	152.52	149.13	240.33
Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	90.52	89.44	153.53

(f) The above oil refining companies are managing their administrative/office expenses in compliance of the guidelines issued by the Government on "Expenditure Management-Economy Measures of Rational of Expenditure" from time to time.

(g) The retail selling prices of the four sensitive petroleum products namely; Petrol, Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG are not being maintained in line with the international oil prices. Due to this, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) incur under-recoveries on the sale of these products. During the year 2009-10 (April-December 2009), the OMCs have incurred under-recoveries of Rs. 29.353 crore on the sale of sensitive petroleum products.

Government has been following an equitable Burden Sharing Mechanism, to ensure that the burden of under-recoveries is shared by all the stakeholders; namely the Government, the Public Sector Oil Companies and the consumers.

Under the burden sharing mechanism, Ministry of Finance have confirmed a budgetary support of Rs. 12,000 crore as the share of the Government towards meeting the under-recoveries for the year 2009-10. The PSU Upstream Oil Companies have also contributed Rs. 8.364 crore to the OMCs for their under-recoveries on Petrol and Diesel by way of discount on crude oil/products during the first three quarters of 2009-10.

#### **Import of Natural Gas from Middle East Through Deep Sea**

1334. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:  
SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:  
DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to transport gas from the Middle East through the deep sea pipelines;

(b) if so, whether the Government plans to appoint GAIL as the nodal agency to pursue a sub-sea pipeline for import of gas from Iran and Qatar;

(c) if so, whether nay agreement in this regard has been reached;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) 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) to (e) In recent years, there have been significant technological advancements in the field of Deep Sea Gas transportation technology. Accordingly, for the last few years, interest has been revived in deep sea gas pipeline route from Middle-East to India. Gas supplies from several gas rich countries of Middle East through Gas Gathering pipeline with hub in Oman (or its proximity) have been proposed, so as to supply gas to Indian Coast through the said Deep Sea Pipeline. GAIL (India) Ltd. has entered into a Principles of Cooperation in the month of July 2009 for developing the pipeline Project. As such, the proposal is at its initial stage.

#### EMU Train in Kolkata

1335. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to introduce 12 coach Electric Multiple Unit (EMU) rakes instead of present 8 coach EMU rake for local trains in Sealdah and Howrah;

(b) if so, the time by which these 12 coach rakes is likely to be operational;

(c) whether the Railways are considering to increase the frequency of various trains running between Howrah-New Delhi;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Depending upon the completion of ongoing works for the operation of 12 coach EMU rakes in Howrah and Sealdah Division and availability of new EMU coaches, the existing 9/10 coach EMU rakes will be augmented to 12 coach EMU rakes in a phased manner.

(c) to (e) There is no proposal to increase the frequency of various trains running between Howrah and New Delhi at present due to operational reasons.

[*Translation*]

#### Supply of Gas to Fertilizer Units

1336. SHRI RAJU SHETTI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate gas is being provided timely by the Government for the production of fertilizers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Adequate gas is being supplied timely by the gas suppliers for production of fertilizers in compliance of the decisions of the Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) which has accorded highest priority for allocation of gas to already connected gas based plants. The details are given in the enclosed statement. The shortage if any from time to time in individual plants is attributed to technical constraints.

#### Statement

##### *Requirement and Supply of Natural Gas in the month of January 2010 to Gas Based Fertiliser Plants*

(All Figures at NCV of 8200 Kcal/SM<sup>3</sup>)

Sl.No.	Name of the Unit	Present Rated Capacity LMT	Requirement of daily gas- (2009-10) MMSCMD	Total incl. incl. Spot MMSCMD	Expec. Shortfall (2009-10)
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>A. On HBJ Pipeline</b>					
1.	IFFCO-Aonla-I	9.999	4.250	4.005	0.000
2.	IFFCO-Aonla-II	9.999			



1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	IFFCO-Phulpur-I	6.980	3.600	3.319	0.281
4.	IFFCO-Phulpur-II	9.999			
5.	NFL-Vijaipur I & II	17.292	3.730	3.657	
6.	TCL-Babrala	8.645	2.302	2.216	0.086
7.	SFC-Kota	3.796	0.620	0.608	0.000
8.	KSFL-Shahjahanpur	8.646	2.117	1.849	0.000
9.	IGF-Jagdishpur	8.645	2.230	2.062	0.290
10.	CFCL-Gadepan-I	8.646	2.121	1.976	0.004
11.	CFCL-Gadepan-II	8.646	2.040	1.887	0.005
<b>B. Non-HBJ Pipeline</b>					
1.	NFCL-Kakinada-I	5.973	3.116	3.023	0.185
2.	NFCL-Kakinada-II	5.973			
3.	RCF-Thal	17.070	4.484	4.402	0.000
4.	RCF-Trombay	3.300	1.950	1.732	0.000
5.	IFFCO-Kalol	5.445	1.300	1.279	Nil
6.	GNFC-Bharuch	6.360	0.972	0.903	0.000
7.	KRIBHCO-Hazira	17.290	4.150	3.840	0.000
8.	GSFC-Vadodara	3.706	1.986	1.510	0.000
9.	BVFCL-Namrup-II	2.400	0.980	0.570	0.240
10.	BVFCL-Namrup-III	2.700	1.040	1.020	0.000
			42.988	39.858	1.091

### Stoppage at Raiwala Railway Station

1337. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:  
DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are contemplating to provide stoppage at Raiwala railway station for trains running between Haridwar and Rishikesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this facility is likely to be provided at Raiwala railway station?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

### Violation of Norms by ATCs

1338. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTAN: Will Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the Air Traffic Controllers (ACTs) have been found guilty of not practising the prescribed guidelines for communication;

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

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

(d) if so, the details of action taken by the Government thereon alongwith the efforts being made to improve the efficiency of ATCs in the country;

(c) whether the Government has plan to privatise the ATCs services in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No specific complaint has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, proficiency checks of controllers are carried out on regular basis to ascertain that prescribed guidelines for communication is adhered to by the controllers. Refresher Courses are conducted annually to rectify deficiencies, if any, in communication skills. As per ICAO guidelines and DGCA instructions, test for English language proficiency for ATCOs are being developed to maintain the required level of proficiency in communication.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

#### **FDI in Textiles Sector**

1339. SHRI RAKESH SACHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the textile sector during each of the last three years and the current years;

(b) the impact of FDI in overall growth of textile sector;

(c) the details of areas where the FDI has been made; and

(d) the measures taken to ensure that the entire chain of textiles sector *viz.* right from the artisan/weaver/textile worker to the industrialist are benefited proportionately through these FDIs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) The Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the textiles sector during the calendar years 2007, 2008 and 2009 (Jan.-Oct.) were of the order of the Rs. 4151.04 million, Rs. 8696.24 million and Rs. 8558.44 million respectively. The infusion of FDI in overall growth of the textiles sector has led to enhancement of additional employment.

The Foreign Direct Investment has taken place in the organized segment of the textiles sector, particularly in the apparel and garmenting segment.

The benefits flowing from FDI *viz.* enhancement of production capacity, enhanced employment generation and technological upgradation is expected to have positive effects across entire the value chain.

#### **Setting up of Petro-Chemical Plants by GAIL**

1340. SHRI MUKESH BHAIRAVDANJI GADHVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) has identified some different places, for setting up petro-chemical plants in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its present status; and

(c) the time by which such petro-chemicals plants are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) GAIL (India) Ltd. is carrying out detailed feasibility study to expand the capacity of its petrochemical plant at Pata in UP from 410 KTA (kilo tonnes per annum) to 800 KTA. Further, Brahamputra Cracker and Polymer Ltd. (BCPL), a Joint Venture Company promoted by GAIL (70%), Numaligarh Refineries Limited (10%), Oil India Limited (10%) and Government of Assam (10%) is setting up a Gas Cracker Project at Lepetakata, District Dibrugarh, Assam, which will produce 220 KTA of Polyethylene and 60 KTA of

Polypropylene. The Project is targeted to be completed in 2012.

### Checking Crimes in Trains

1341. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways propose to nominate inter-State police team for group of trains running over concerned States so that crimes get investigated in a better coordinated manner;

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

(c) whether as a train passes through more than one States, one of the States with maximum, run will be designated as coordinating State of the team;

(d) if so, the time by which this systems is likely to be introduced; and

(e) the extent to which system will be useful in checking crimes and also improving the safety of trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) A meeting of State Home Secretaries, officials of Ministry of Home Affairs and Intelligence Bureau was held with Railways on 20.01.2010 in which suggestion to form inter-State Police teams by State Governments was also included so that the gangs of criminals operating in railways can be arrested.

(c) It was also suggested that crime prone trains which pass through more than one State, one of the States with maximum run should be designated as coordinating State.

(d) The suggestions are to be implemented by the State Governments.

(e) The usefulness of system can be assessed after the implementation by State Governments.

### Agreement with Airbus

1342. SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines had entered into an agreement with Airbus for supply of 43 aircraft in 2006;

(b) if so, the details and the present status thereof;

(c) whether Airbus was to invest in a big way for creating training and repairs facilities in India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there has been some deviation from the decision of an Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) that was monitoring the purchase; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The erstwhile Indian Airlines Limited had placed a purchase order with Airbus Industries and CFM International on 20.02.2006 for procurement of 43 Airbus family aircraft at an estimated cost of Rs. 9890 crores. Till date, they have received 19 each of A319 and A321 aircraft.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. M/s. Airbus Industries is required to establish a training centre in India at an approximate investment of US\$75 million. Airbus will assist the creation of Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facilities in India in association with the promoters at an estimated investment of the order of USD 100 Million.

(e) and (f) Indian Airlines and M/s. Airbus in their agreement dated 20.02.2006 confirmed the cooperation that was envisaged by the Empowered Group of Ministers. Government is monitoring the implementation of Co-operation project with Airbus from time to time so that the letter and spirit of decisions taken at EGOM level are fully adhered to.

[Translation]

### Allotment of Petrol Pumps/Gas Agencies

1343. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM  
WAKCHAURE:  
SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP:  
SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:  
SHRI PREMCHAND GUDDU:

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

(a) the total number of petrol pumps/gas agencies/kerosene agencies set up so far in the country State-wise including Himachal Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the total number of petrol pumps and gas agencies which have been allotted to ex-servicemen or their dependants; and

(c) the number of the petrol pumps and gas agencies likely to be allotted to them during the current year State-wise including Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) During last three Financial Year (2006-09) and the period April-December, 2009/January, 2010, public sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) viz Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) have set up/commissioned a

total of 6419 Retail Outlets (RO) dealerships, 455 Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) distributorships and 21 kerosene agencies in the country, out of which, 54 RO dealerships and 15 LPG distributorships have been set up/commissioned in Himachal Pradesh. No kerosene agency has been set up in Himachal Pradesh during the subject period. The State-wise number of dealerships/distributorships set up during the last three years is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) During last three Financial Year (2006-09) and the period April -December, 2009/January, 2010, 145 RO dealerships and 90 LPG distributorships have been allotted under 'Defence' and 'Paramilitary/ Police/ Government personnel (PMP)' categories.

(c) During current Financial Year (2009-10), 104 RO dealerships and 89 LPG distributorships are earmarked for allotment under 'Defence' and 'PMP' categories. The State-wise details are available with Director (Marketing) of OMCs.

#### **Statement**

*List of Petrol Pumps/LPG Agencies/Kerosene Agencies set up during the last three financial years (2006-09) and upto December, 2009/January, 2010 (State-wise)*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Petrol Pumps	LPG Agencies	Kerosene Agencies
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	02	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	465	74	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	1	2
4.	Assam	84	4	1
5.	Bihar	368	29	6
6.	Chandigarh	2	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	127	7	2
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	1	0
9.	Daman and Diu	7	0	0
10.	Delhi	13	6	0
11.	Goa	8	1	0
12.	Gujarat	198	19	0

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Haryana	321	8	0
14.	Himachal Pradesh	54	15	0
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	88	6	0
16.	Jharkhand	121	8	0
17.	Karnataka	519	16	0
18.	Kerala	254	12	1
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	354	17	5
21.	Maharashtra	495	27	0
22.	Manipur	12	3	0
23.	Meghalaya	27	0	0
24.	Mizoram	7	0	0
25.	Nagaland	8	1	0
26.	Orissa	228	8	0
27.	Pondicherry	22	0	0
28.	Punjab	527	17	0
29.	Rajasthan	458	21	2
30.	Sikkim	4	1	0
31.	Tamil Nadu	587	59	0
32.	Tripura	4	2	0
33.	Uttar Pradesh	705	65	2
34.	Uttaranchal	53	10	0
35.	West Bengal	289	17	0
TOTAL		6419	455	21

#### **Amendment in Company Act**

1344. SHRI HARISH CHANDRA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private sector companies prosecuted for non-compliance of provisions of Company Act, 1956 during the last three years;

(b) the number of such cases which are still pending for prosecution as on date;

(c) whether the Government proposes to amend the Company Act, 1956 for taking stringent action against the fake private sector companies registered under the Company Act; 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) 13437 companies were prosecuted for non compliance of provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 during the last three years i.e. during the years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09.

(b) 4531 cases are pending for prosecution prosecution in these cases has been initiated. and process of filing prosecution in these cases has been initiated.

(c) and (d) The Ministry has introduced Companies Bill, 2009 in the Lok Sabha on 3rd Aug, 2009. Stringent provisions have been proposed under different clauses of the Bill for non compliance of provisions of the Bill. Section 631 of the existing Companies Act, 1956 provides for penalty against persons who carry on the business under any name or title in which the word "limited" or the word "private limited" are used, meaning thereby posing themselves to be carrying on business as a limited company without actually getting it registered under the Companies Act. The punishment provided under Section 631 is fine which may extend to five hundred rupees for every day upon which the name or title has been used. Provisions corresponding to existing section 631 of the Companies Act, 1956 have been retained in the Companies Bill, 2009, with enhanced punishment by way of minimum fine of Rs.1 lakh which is extendable upto Rs.5 lakhs.

[English]

#### **Shortage of LPG**

1345. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that domestic cooking gas distributors are creating artificial scarcity of gas and charging more prices for gas cylinder;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government would ensure the availability of cooking gas as per the requirement in Karnataka; 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) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have not detected any cases of creating artificial scarcity by any of their LPG against their LPG distributors in the country, out of which 6 cases were established in the State of Karnataka between April-December, 2009. Action against all the erring distributors was taken as per provisions of Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG).

(c) and (d) OMCs have reported that at present, there is no overall shortage of LPG in the country including 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.

OMCs have reported that they have supplied 575.57 thousand Metric Tonnes (TMT) of domestic LPG in the State of Karnataka between April 2009 to January 2010 as against 537.87 TMT of domestic LPG during the corresponding period of last year, showing a growth rate of 7.01%.

#### **Superfast Trains**

1346. SHRI P.R. NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have any proposal to increase the frequency of super-fast trains from Chennai to Nagercoil and Chennai to Coimbatore; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Chennai-Coimbatore Duronto Express has been announced in the Railway Budget for 2010-11. However, there is no proposal to increase the frequency of 2681/2682 Chennai-Coimbatore Express (Weekly), 2667/2668 Chennai Egmore-Nagercoil Express (Weekly) and 2689/2690 Chennai Central-Nagercoil Express (Weekly) at present.

#### **Radar failure at IGI Airport**

1347. SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a failure of the Air Traffic Control Radar at New Delhi airport on January 14, 2010;

(b) if so, the number of aircraft were in the air during the radar failure whose movements were being monitored by air traffic control;

(c) if so, the number of times the radar systems gone non-functional from January 1, 2004 to February 2010 at various Air Traffic Control locations;

(d) the name of the company which had supplied and installed the radar system at New Delhi airport and the total number of similar system of the country; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir, the Air Traffic Radar Control (Automation system) at Delhi Airport failed on 14.01.2010.

(b) There were 34 aircrafts in the air during the radar failure whose movement were being monitored by air traffic control.

(c) During the period from January 2004 to February 2010, radar system failed at CSI airport Mumbai on 3rd October 2007 and at IGI airport Delhi on 14th January 2010.

(d) M/s Raytheon, a United States (US) based company had supplied and installed existing auto track-II system at New Delhi airport. Similar system has also been installed by the same company at Mumbai Airport.

(e) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has been advised to:

- (i) review the existing Software and Adaptation maintenance download procedure and re-run several times to ensure the effectively and reliability;
- (ii) introduce a standard and well defined documented training program including refresher courses for the personnel working in DMS & Automation Maintenance team and a rating/ certification programme for ATM and CNS personnel;

(iii) keep at least an expert from M/s. Raytheon in Delhi & Mumbai for assistance and Guidance to handle the automation system;

(iv) have a similar independent parallel automation back up system with different source of power supply to avoid such type of catastrophic failure in future;

(v) establish a standard coordination procedure among Raytheon Company, DMS team and automation maintenance team and to record a communication system among them;

(vi) make available expert level of password with designated officers in DMS and automation maintenance team with sufficient level of expertise;

(vii) put in place a procedure to cross check the actions made by such officers to avoid error in executing actual command while downloading any new software;

(viii) modify the software to display automated warnings/ alerts/reconfirm windows before system executes download command;

(ix) update Auto Track system software/ adaptation download tool to prevent maintenance operator to select all sub system to download, a warning to be generated with an abort option upon doing a download indicating that the action may affect the operational system;

(x) duties and responsibilities of CNS Group and DMS Group to be defined and both the groups to work in cloie coordination;

(xi) ensure availability of trained manpower and carry out the safety assessment of the system.

#### **Upgradation of Kazipet Junction**

1348. SHRI RAJIAH SIRICILLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for upgradation of Kazipet Junction as Divisional Headquarters is pending since long;

(b) if so, the present status thereof alongwith the reasons for delay; and

(c) the time which the demand is likely to be met?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

12.00 hrs.

[*English*]

### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now Papers to be laid. Shri Srikant Jena.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Sir, I beg to lay:

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology, Chennai, for the year 2008-2009, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology, Chennai, for the year 2008-2009.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1734/15/10]

(3) A copy of the Notification No. 39 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st February, 2010, making certain amendments to the Ordinance regulating the Courses of study offered by the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research relating to Degree of Masters and

Doctor of Philosophy under sub-section (2) of Section 36 of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Act, 1998.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1735/15/10]

(4) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 1546(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th June, 2009, containing order indicating the supplies of Urea to be made by domestic manufacturers of Urea to states and Union Territories, mentioned therein, during Kharif season 2009 under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1736/15/10]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy of the Jute and Jute Textiles Control (Amendment) Order, 2009 (Hindi and English versions) published in the Notification No. G.S.R. 652(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th March, 2009 issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1737/15/10]

(3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Jute Manufactures Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2008-2009.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Jute Manufactures Corporation Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2008-2009, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.



- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1738/15/10]

12.01 hrs.

**COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS  
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

[English]

**5th Report**

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): Sir, I beg to present the Fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

12.01½ hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE**

**3rd to 5th Reports**

[Translation]

SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ (Garhwal): Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Defence (2009-2010):

- (1) Third Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations of the Committee contained in their Thirtieth Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Status of Married Accommodation in Defence and Allied Services'.
- (2) Fourth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations of the Committee contained in their Thirty-first Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Stress Management in Armed Forces'.
- (3) Fifth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations of the Committee contained in their Thirty-third Report (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Indigenisation of Defence Production-Public Private Partnership'.

12.02 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR**

**8th Report**

[English]

SHRI HEMANAND BISWAL (Sundargarh): Sir, I beg to present the Eighth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Labour on the action taken by the Government on the Recommendations/ Observations contained in the Thirty-ninth report of the Standing Committee on Labour on the 'Employees' Provident Fund Organisation – Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995'.

12.02½ hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY**

**212th to 214th Reports**

[Translation]

SHRI GORAKHNATH PANDEY (Bhadohi): Sir, I beg to lay the following Reports (Hindi and English Versions) of the Standing Committee on Industry:

- (1) 212th Report on the Action Taken Report on the 208th Report of the Committee on the Demands for Grants (2008-09) pertaining to The Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises (Deptt. of Heavy Industry).
- (2) 213th Report on the Action Taken Report on the 209th Report of the Committee on the Demands for Grants (2008-09) pertaining to The Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises (Deptt. of Public Enterprises).
- (3) 214th Report on the Action Taken Report on the 210th Report on Demands for Grants (2008-09) Pertaining to the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

12.03 hrs.

**STATEMENT BY MINISTER****Prime Minister's visit to Saudi Arabia***[English]*

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): Hon'ble Speaker, I rise to inform this august House about the historic visit of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from February 27 to March 1, 2010, at the invitation of His Majesty King Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz Al-Saud .

The Prime Minister's visit to Saudi Arabia took place 28 years after the last visit by an Indian Prime Minister, that of late Smt. Indira Gandhi in 1982. Prime Minister was accompanied by a high-powered delegation consisting of Ministers of Health and Family Welfare, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Commerce and Industry and the Minister of State for External Affairs apart from senior officials.

Prime Minister was accorded an exceptionally warm welcome by the Saudi leadership. In a departure from protocol, the Prime Minister was received at the airport by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, the Minister of Defence and Aviation, Crown Prince Naif Bin Abdul Aziz, Second Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister, Crown Prince Salman bin Abdul Aziz, Governor of Riyadh and members of the Saudi Cabinet. Prior to his talks with His Majesty King Abdullah a ceremonial arrival with an impressive Guard of Honour was held at His Majesty's residential Palace which is a rare honour. All these gestures reflected the special significance attached to the Prime Minister's visit by the highest levels of the Saudi leadership.

The Prime Minister's visit took place after the visit of His Majesty King Abdullah to India as Chief Guest at our Republic Day celebrations in 2006, when the Delhi Declaration was signed by both leaders.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister's visit provided an opportunity for the two leaders to review the progress in bilateral relations in recent years, and in particular the implementation of the Delhi Declaration. They also discussed regional and global issues of mutual interest.

Saudi Arabia is an important country and a factor of stability in the region. It is the largest country and economy in the GCC. Economic ties constitute a solid foundation of our relations. Our bilateral trade has seen exponential growth exceeding US\$ 25 billion in 2008-09. Saudi Arabia is a reliable, valuable and major supplier of crude oil to India. We import about 20% of our energy requirements from Saudi Arabia which may be further increased over time to meet our energy and development needs. We have been assured of continued Saudi understanding and support in this regard.

The most important outcome of the visit was the signing of the historic Riyadh Declaration by the Prime Minister and His Majesty King Abdullah, in which India and Saudi Arabia decided to raise our cooperation to a strategic partnership covering security, economic, defence and political areas. In particular, both leaders emphasised the importance of strengthening the strategic energy partnership. It was also agreed that both sides would work towards meeting their vast requirements relating to infrastructure and development by augmenting the flow of investments into each other's countries.

The two leaders renewed their condemnation of the phenomena of terrorism, extremism and violence, affirming that it is global and threatens all societies and is not linked to any race, colour or belief. The international community must, therefore, resolutely combat terrorism. The two sides agreed to enhance cooperation in exchange of information relating to terrorist activities, money laundering, narcotics, arms and human trafficking, and develop joint strategies to combat these threats.

The Prime Minister conveyed our gratitude to the Saudi leadership for the.

arrangements made for Haj and Umrah pilgrims from India.

In addition, the following Agreements and MoUs were signed:

- (i) Extradition Treaty;
- (ii) Agreement for Transfer of Sentenced Persons;
- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Space Research Organisation and the King Abdul Aziz City for Science and Technology

for cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space;

- (iv) Agreement on scientific and technological cooperation between the Department of Science and Technology and the King Abdul Aziz City for Science and Technology in Saudi Arabia; and

An MOU on Cultural Cooperation between the respective Ministries of Culture.

Several other Agreements in the business, trade, research and education, media and information technology sectors were signed on the sidelines of the visit.

As a special gesture, the Prime Minister was invited to address the Majlis Al Shoura in Saudi Arabia. The prestigious Government University, the King Saud University, conferred an Honorary Doctorate on the Hon'ble Prime Minister.

A high powered CEOs delegation also accompanied the Prime Minister. They had productive interactions with their Saudi counterparts. There was significant interest in directing Saudi investible surpluses to our infrastructure sector and other mutually beneficial projects. The Prime Minister addressed captains of the Saudi business and industry.

The Prime Minister also interacted with a cross-section of the Indian community in Saudi Arabia, which numbers nearly 1.8 million and is the single largest population of Indian passport holders outside India. The Prime Minister applauded their hard work and assured them that their welfare was of paramount concern to us. The Saudi leadership expressed their deep appreciation for the contribution of the Indian community to the development of the Saudi economy.

The visit of the Hon'ble Prime Minister was highly successful and has underscored the mutual desire of both countries to take our bilateral relation to a higher level.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1739/15/10]

12.04 hrs.

### DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS – (RAILWAYS), 2009-2010

[English]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): Sir, I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 2009-10.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1740/15/10]

12.04½ hrs.

### DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS – (RAILWAYS), 2007-2008

[English]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): Sir, I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Demands for Excess Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 2007-08.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1741/15/10]

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Dr. Dome may speak.

... (Interruptions)

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Bolpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, through you, I want to really raise an urgent matter of national importance.

Sir, we all know that Shri Maqbool Fida Hussain is a famous painter who is 95 years old. He is a reputed and finest artist of our country. He is our national pride but he is in exile in a foreign country for the last five years. This is a matter of shame for our nation that at this age, at the fag end of his life, an artist of such a stature could not stay in his own country. Sir, he is presently staying in Dubai and Qatar is offering citizenship to this painter. What is our Government's stand on this matter? Why cannot we bring him back to our country?

I want to know from the Government, through you, about their position on this issue. Has the Government taken any decision to bring him back to our nation to save the prestige of our country and to save the famous artist, Shri M.F. Hussain?

I urge upon the Government to take steps to bring him back to save the prestige of our country. What is the reaction of the Government on this issue?

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Sir, I would also like to say something.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have not given the notice. I am calling only those who has given notice. You please associate yourself with it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please speak after him and associate with him.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (Domariyaganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the August House and the Government towards an issue of urgent public importance. The issue I have put before you with your kind permission is not concerned with either ruling party or the opposition, the issue is solely concerned with the prestige of this House and the legislature. This is concerned with the privileges we are entitled to as Members of this august House. This issue is related to the breach of privilege of this august House and when one disposes his duty as a member of this House and some obstruction comes in his way and as a result of which it becomes contempt of the House.

Sir, he is an honourable Member of this House and he is disposing his responsibilities as a Cabinet Minister too. This is clear that Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has issued a circular in the year 2003 regarding centrally sponsored schemes that inauguration of the such schemes would be taking place with the permission or advise of the Ministry. The Ministry had written a letter on 17th of February in this regard that the bridge constructed in Raibareli with the fund released under a Centrally sponsored scheme would be inaugurated in the second week of March by the concerned Member of Parliament, Smt. Sonia Gandhi.

Minister of State Kunwar R.P.N. Singh ji was going for an inspection before the inauguration of the bridge but the Government of Uttar Pradesh did not let him go upto Dalmau, the site of the bridge and on national highway the District Magistrate. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN (Ghosi): What he is saying is not true. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let him speak, please speak after him.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. Let him speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let him speak please.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Sir, please invite a discussion in this regard. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Sir, I am only drawing the attention of the House. I am not saying anything that despite permission granted by you, the Members of Bahujan Samaj Party are interrupting. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only Jagdambika Pal's speech will go on record, other speeches will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: This shows to some extent, when they are not letting me speak in this House, it confirms that their Chief Minister had tried to prevent the Union Minister from going there. ...(Interruptions) That is why I want to say this. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please be brief.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Sir, even an ordinary citizen is also entitled to Right to Freedom of speech and expression, Right to Settle anywhere, Right to Move anywhere in the country, under Article 19 of the Constitution of India. If any person is stopped without any reason, it is unlawful, and this amounts to arresting a person and the honourable members of the same House. *...(Interruptions)* He is the hon'ble Member of this House. *...(Interruptions)* Sir, the whole House is, I would like to tell the leader of the opposition, to all the hon'ble Members of all the parties if a Union Minister is stopped at the instruction of a State Government. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: It can happen to anyone. The issue is not related to a Union Minister only. A letter in this regard was sent on 17th of February itself that the inauguration would take place in the second week of March *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members please sit down. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Shailendra Kumar.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: This is the question of safeguarding Constitution. The question is related to constitution. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Shailendra Kumar ji, please speak. His speech will not go on the record.

*...(Interruptions)\**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Jagdambika Palji, You have already spoken.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only Shailendra Kumar ji's speech will go on the record. Speeches of rest of the Members will not go on the record.

*...(Interruptions)\**

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Sir, the House is not in order. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Jagdambika Pal ji, your speech is not going on the record. The time allotted to you is over now. Please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. You were given time to put your issue, and you have done that. Now, please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You were given permission to put your point, you have put it, now, why are you still continuing.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Sir, I am not able to listen anything.... Please ask them to sit. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You were allowed to put your point, you have put your point, now, there is no need to prolong it.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shailendra Kumarji, please be brief, you are being given time because you had given notice in this regard.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Sir, I thank you very much that you have given me opportunity to speak on such an important issue of public interest. I am grateful to you. It is being telecast on television that leader of opposition of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly Shri Ahmed Hasan and member, Legislative Council Shri Rakesh Singh have. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only one person should speak at a time please.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: These people were going to Bareilly. ...(Interruptions) Like every other year, Muslim brethren were taking out procession of Barah-Wafaat in Malihabad this year also. A massive lathicharge took place there. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Why are you three persons speaking at a time? Only Shailendra Kumar has been allowed to speak. Speech of no other person will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Several houses and shops were burnt as a result of which a large number of persons have been injured. I would like to submit that there is no rift between the Hindus and the Muslims there but there is no law and order in the State. Sh. Ahmad Hasan, Rakesh Singh Rana and Shivpal Singh ji, the Member of Legislative Council have been arrested there. I would like to demand through you....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): A book normally disseminates knowledge. It also brings people together. ...(Interruptions) But at times, it also creates ill-will and brings fissures in the society. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have already made your point. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: I have not finished yet. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have expressed your views.

...(Interruptions)

12.15 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Shailendra Kumar and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. You have put up your issue. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only Shri B. Mahtab's statement will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB: One such book has been published by Penguin Group. ... (Interruptions) One writer named Wendy Doniger has written on Hindu community which is full of errors and misrepresentations. ... (Interruptions) The Book titled "The Hindus – An Alternative History" is bound to mislead students of Indian and Hindu history. Throughout the book, Doniger analyses revered Hindu Gods and Goddesses using her widely discredited psycho-sexual Freudian theories that modern, humanistic psychology has deemed limiting. These interpretations are presented as hard facts and not as speculations....(Interruptions)

Such voyeurism should be condemned and the Government should take all possible steps to pressurize Penguin to withdraw this book with immediate effect....(Interruptions)

12.16 hrs.

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the matters under Rule 377 shall be laid on the Table of the House. Members who have been permitted to raise matters under Rule 377 today and are desirous of laying them may personally hand over slips at the Table of the House within twenty minutes. Only those matters shall be treated as laid for which slips have been received at the Table within the stipulated time, the rest will be treated as lapsed.

- (i) Need to construct the road equipped with public facilities beneath the over-bridge on N.H. 14 at village Thara in Banaskantha district, Gujarat for easy movement of pedestrians and two wheelers.**

*[Translation]*

SHRI JAGDISH THAKOR (PATAN): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government, through the House, to the village Thara situated at N.H. 14 Kandla-Palanpur-Delhi in Kankrej taluka in Banaskantha district. Thara village is the main village of this taluka. An overbridge has been constructed by National Highways Authority of India in Thara. When the construction work was going on, the local residents had written letters to the NHAI and staged dharnas and protests for constructing the road equipped with public facilities beneath the over bridge.

In addition to that local Member of Legislative Assembly and Member of Parliament had also written letters and contacted the officers in this regard and the public representatives were given verbal assurance.

But I regret to say that the public did not get the benefit of the money spent by the Government. The public has to face a lot of inconvenience due to this village being far away from the main road.

The people of Thara demand that there should be proper provision for pedestrians, cycle and two wheeler riders because several accidents have taken place at this NH during the last two years leading to loss of life and property. Eight persons have lost their lives so far and the national highway also remains closed for hours due to such accidents.

I, therefore, request the honourable Minister to give proper direction to the officials in this regard so as to resolve the problems of the public.

*[English]*

- (ii) Need to resolve the issue of sharing of water of Hogenekkal Falls between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.**

SHRI R. DHROVANARAYANA (Chamrajanagar): Hogenekkal water falls located in my constituency Chamrajanagar in Karnataka is known as the Niagra of India consisting of a series of falls, attracting tourists and nature lovers alike.

Further, development of the water falls area has been stalled for quite sometime. The Government of Tamil Nadu is pursuing vigorously to take up Hogenekkal drinking water supply scheme for utilization of about 2.1 thousand million cubic feet of water in the adjoining districts of Tamil Nadu. The Government of India has given clearance only for the utilization of 1.4 thousand million cubic feet during 1997.

The Government of Karnataka has brought this matter of excess utilization of drinking water from the Hogenekkal facility to the notice of the Centre. Till now no action has been taken by the Centre to sort out the matter and solve the issue amicably between the two States. I urge immediate intervention of the Centre in the matter.

- (iii) Need to enact a legislation to improve the service conditions of Nurses working in private sector.**

SHRI P.T. THOMAS (Idukki): Since last several months, nurses working in private sector are agitating against exploitation of the management. Their genuine demands are not being considered by the management forcing them to resort to strike. Nurses working in Private sector are facing a lot of problems due to very low salary, heavy workload, pathetic working conditions and poor hostel facilities. The Medical benefits given to them are nominal and they are not even provided adequate safety measures against infectious diseases. A proper legislation for the betterment and uniformity in service conditions is very necessary. I urge the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to take initiative for this. It is our duty to consider the genuine demands of those who are working day and night to save the lives of others. So I request immediate intervention of Government in this issue of most importance.

- (iv) Need to set up a rural medical college in Murshidabad district of West Bengal.**

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Baharampur): District Murshidabad in West Bengal contains the highest density of Muslim population in India. It is also revealed in recent survey that 52% population of this district remains below the poverty line. Infant mortality rate of the district is quite high. The health infrastructure of this district needs a lot of improvement. The doctors even after being posted in rural area are not available in the hospitals.

The poor people of Murshidabad district are left at the mercy of quacks and other informal practitioners resulting in serious health risks.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to take special initiatives to deploy rural doctors by establishing medical colleges in India. I would request the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to set up one rural medical college in this district.

**(v) Need to provide adequate quantity of fertilizers to farmers in Zahirabad and Medak regions of Andhra Pradesh.**

SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR (Zaheerabad): I would like to draw the kind attention of the august House regarding the problems being faced by the farmers in getting fertilizers in time and at an affordable price in Telangana areas like Zahirabad and Medak in Andhra Pradesh and also all over the country.

Many farmers are facing lot of problems in getting the fertilizers for various crops in the Kharif and Rabi seasons at the minimum rates fixed by the Government. Sometimes, there is no stock or the farmers have to stand in queue for many hours due to lack of adequate fertilizers or they have to spend more amount to get the fertilizer from other sources. Some people and companies are creating artificial shortage of fertilizers in the market. Many farmers have been duped in recent years due to lack of awareness in the supply of fertilizers. There is no proper system to monitor the sale of fertilizers in the market at MRP rates particularly in the remote areas like Zahirabd, Medak and other Telangana regions of Andhra Pradesh. This is really an issue that concerns the interests of the farmers and the overall development of our country.

I, therefore, request the concerned Hon'ble Minister to intervene in the matter and ensure that farmers get fertilizers in time and at MRP rates in all seasons by strictly monitoring the market so that the interests of the farmers could be protected and they get the genuine returns for their hard work in improving our economy and growth.

**(vi) Need to start work on Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Berry, Ghanauli-Baddi, Nangal-Talwara and Bilaspur-Mandi-Manali-Leh railway line projects and extend Kolkata-Anandpur Sahib-Nangal Dam Express upto Una in Himachal Pradesh.**

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (Hamirpur): Sir, Himachal Pradesh is a hilly and border state. Only 36 kilometres long railway lines have been laid so far during the period of 62 years after independence. Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri-broad gauge rail line was announced in the Budget 2008 but the work has not been started yet. Ghanauli-Baddi rail line was announced in the Budget 2007 but work has not been started yet on the alternative proposal of railway for linking Ghanauli in Ropar district in Pubjab to Baddi industrial area in Himachal Pradesh because the Union territory Chandigarh administration has not provided land. The third under construction Nangal-Talwara broad gauge rail line work should be completed without delay and construction of the fourth project Bilaspur-Mandi-Manali-Leh-Laddakh broad gauge is necessary from strategic point of view and for economic development of tourist region. Hence, the construction of all the four lines should be expedited. The new train from Kolkata-Anandpur Sahib-Nagal Dam Express (weekly) proposed in the present budget should be extended upto Una as Una is only 15 kilometres far from Nangal Dam and the extension of this train would connect Himachal Pradesh directly with Kolkata.

**(vii) Need to provide enhanced passenger facilities at Gwalior Railway Station and develop it as a World Class station.**

SHRIMATI YASHODHARA RAJE SCINDIA (Gwalior): Gwalior railway station is one of the busiest railway stations in Madhya Pradesh. Important trains of Chennai, Bangalore and South India such as G.T. Express, Tamil Nadu Express, Karnataka Express, Kerala Express, Bangalore Rajdhani Express, Chennai Rajdhani Express, A. P. Express and Nizamuddin-Trivendrum Express, etc. pass through Gwalior station. Important Mumbai bound trains like Punjab Mail, Dadar-Bareilly Express, Mangala Express, Goa Express, Lashkar Express, etc. pass through Gwalior. Therefore, on the lines of Bhopal and Indore stations, including Gwalior station under the World Class Railway Stations Upgradation Programme of the Indian Railways is quite necessary.

Gwalior is not only a divisional Headquarter but also a city of mythological and historical importance which is becoming an important commercial and educational hub of the central India. Politically, administratively and by tourism point of view, it is a very important city between Delhi and Bhopal.



Therefore, the Government is requested to include Gwalior station under the World Class Railway Stations Upgradation Programme and action should be taken as early as possible to develop the said station and to provide passenger amenities there.

**(viii) Need to monitor the quality of food items being served in trains and also regularize the services of helpers and vendors working at Railway platform stalls.**

[English]

SHRI HARIBHAU JAWALE (Raver): The Railway authority has allotted the catering services to IRCTC for running trains and on Platform Stalls. For running trains the concept of Cell Kitchen has been introduced. It has been observed that there is no control on quality of food being served as it is made outside the Pantry Car.

The IRCTC has allotted private contractors for catering the services for the running trains through Cell Kitchen.

Further, IRCTC have leased out all the stalls at stations to big contractors and they in turn have sub contracted these stalls to some local people. The Helpers & Vendors who were working on these stalls since long with Railway authorization are facing lot of problems. Almost every Union from various Divisional levels have obtained the findings/judgments from the Labour Enforcement Officers directing IRCTC to absorb these Helpers & Vendors for time being on the subcontracted stalls against any new recruitments.

Through this Hon'ble House, I request the Union Minister of Railways to instruct the respective authority of IRCTC to find a solution for the Helpers & Vendors who are providing their services on Railway Platforms for more than 20 to 25 years. Their services should be regularized in railway Group Category 'D' as has been done in the case of Porters.

**(ix) Need to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Bhanjanagar, Ganjam district, Orissa.**

SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY (Kandhamal): There is a long standing demand of public to have a Central School at Bhanjanagar in the Ganjam district of Orissa. The Government of Orissa have submitted a proposal to the Government of India to establish the same at Bhanjanagar. The State Government have fulfilled all the

criteria for opening up of the school since last two years or more. The proposal is still pending with the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

In an answer to starred question no. 32 on 24 February, 2010, it was stated that the proposals to open a new Kendriya Vidyalaya during the 11th Five Year Plan period is under process. Although separate funds have not been earmarked for opening of New Kendriya Vidyalayas, there is an allocation of Rs. 15000 Crores for the Kendriya Vidyalayas Scheme during the 11th Five Year Plan Plan.

I urge upon the Government to take an early decision to open up a New Kendriya Vidyalayas at Bhanjanagar in my Parliamentary Constituency.

**(x) Need for six-laning of N.H.-67 from Tiruchirapalli Palpannai to Thuvakkudi with provisions for service roads in Tamil Nadu.**

SHRI P. KUMAR (Tiruchirappalli): The 18 Kms road stretch of NH 67 from Tiruchirapalli Palpannai to Thuvakkudi in my Parliamentary Constituency was proposed for six lane with service roads. But later on, it has been converted into four lane without provision of service roads. There are 200 direct approach roads to NH-67 in this stretch. Thousands of heavy vehicles carrying raw materials and finished goods from BHEL and other ancillary units are plying on this road. School going children and public are very much affected by the decision of NHAI. Further, frequent accidents are taking place on this stretch. The conversion of this stretch of NH-67 into four lane will not be useful for the public as well as the industries of this region. In order to have smooth heavy vehicles traffic, I request the Government through this House that the 18 Kms stretch of NH-67 may be converted into six lane as per the original plan.

**(xi) Need to clear the proposal to amend the Cable Television Networks Regulation Act, 1995 submitted by the Government of Maharashtra**

DR. SANJEEV GANESH NAIK (Thane): The Government of Maharashtra has submitted a proposal for amendment in the Cable Television Networks Regulation Act 1995. As per the provisions of the Cable Television Networks Regulation Act, 1995, a Central enactment, it is mandatory for every cable operator to get himself registered with the "Registering Authority". The Post and Telegraph Department has been prescribed

as the "Registering Authority" under Rule 5 of the Act. However, there is no provision in the Central Act to check whether the cable operator has paid the duty to the State Government. Therefore, in order to enable the Registering Authority to refuse the registration or renewal of the same of those cable operators who are evading the duty, a need was felt to amend the Central Act suitably. Hence, in order to discourage the tendency of cable operators to evade the entertainment duty, a proposal to amend the said Act has been submitted by the State Government to the Central Government vide letter NO. LAA0805/CR236/T-1 dated the 20 October 2006. In this regard, no response has been received from the Central Government and the proposal is pending with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India. As the said proposal is pending for long with Government of India, I urge upon the Government to kindly expedite the same at the earliest.

**(xii) Need to undertake construction of road linking Vathirayiruppu Pilavakkal dam foot hills with Varusanadu in Theni district, Tamil Nadu.**

SHRI P. LINGAM (Tenkasi): In my Tenkasi Lok Sabha constituency, Varusanadu hill road scheme was contemplated to link Vathirayiruppu Pilavakkal dam foot hills with Varusanadu in Theni district via Kamarjapuram. An announcement in this regard came after due consideration of a long pending demand. This proposed road would have reduced about 50 kilometers of travel distance between Tuticorin and Ernakulum benefiting southern districts like Virudhunagar, Theni, Tuticorin, Tirunelveli and Ramanathapuram and also the farmers of the interior villages to move their agricultural produce while enabling agricultural workers to have transportation facilities to their work places. This link hill tract has to be laid just for about 1.5 Kms only. This will help the local people to save time, money and energy while saving fuel for the country as it will help them all to avoid a circuitous route. This used to be a traditional road link earlier. Unfortunately this area was declared as a wild life sanctuary in 1998 and that comes in the way of construction of this much needed road for which we have been waiting since long. Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to accede to the demand of the local people to have a small stretch of this hill road which will be of big help.

**(xiii) Need to provide electricity in villages of Siwan and Chhapra districts in Bihar under Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana.**

*[Translation]*

SHRI UMASHANKAR SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): I, through this House, would like to submit before the Honourable Minister of Power that under the Maharajganj parliamentary constituency, there are several villages in Siwan and Chhapra districts, where there is no electricity even after 62 years of independence.

Through you, I would like to get assurance from, the Honourable Minister of Power that steps will be taken to provide electricity urgently to all villages of both of the said districts either under the Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana or under any other central scheme. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 1 p.m.

12.19 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirteen of the Clock.*

13.03 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Three Minutes past Thirteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, it is a very important matter. I could not complete my speech. I request you that I may be allowed to speak for one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You were given time to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Sir, at that time, the House was not in order. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If all of you keep shouting then it is not the duty of the chain make to quiet all of them. It is everyone's duty.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Sir, at that time, the House was not in order. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH (Allahabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, you had called him to speak but members of a particular party were not allowing either him or people of the congress party to speak. It is a new tradition being repeated in the House. They should have listened to at least the person you had called to speak. Those people didn't allow him to speak. It is not clear what he said. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will give you only one minute to speak.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Sir, he will complete his speech in two minutes. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have said one minute. You will speak for two minutes, then for five minutes and then will continue for ten minutes. I will not allow this, please finish your speech in one minute only.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Mainpuri): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have given him the time to speak and he is speaking, then let him speak. *...(Interruptions)* It is now proved that the Bareilly riots were the handwork of the government. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have made your point. Now, you please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, you please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I had allowed you only one minute's time and you have spoken for one minute. Now, you please sit down. One minute's time does not happen to be so long.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, you all hon'ble Members please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only what Panda ji says will go on record.

*...(Interruptions)\**

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. Since the House was not in order at that time and I sat down on your advice. Since you are our guardian, hence, we have your protection.

Sir, I was saying that the Legislative Assembly in Uttar Pradesh. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let him speak. A number of references come there.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Sir, the leader of opposition in the legislative assembly Shri Shiv Pal Singh Yadav ji and the leader of opposition in the legislative council Shri Ahmed Hasan and Shri Rakesh Singh Rana—all these three members were going. Our leaders were going to Bareilly. Riots took place somewhere on the way in connection with the procession of Barahwafat. Afterwards, the minority people were shot at with rubber bullets, there was lathicharge also. The shops of almost all the minority people were torched. *...(Interruptions)*. Their homes were also set ablaze. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Severe atrocities are being inflicted on them *...(Interruptions)*. There is no law and order in Uttar Pradesh. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please sit down. You have made your point.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Therefore, I would like to have your protection. *...(Interruptions)*

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\*Not recorded.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will take up item no. 12 now. Shri Baijayant Panda will continue his speech.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Baijayant Panda, you please continue.

...(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please take your seat now.

...(Interruptions)

[*English*]

SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA (Kendrapara): Sir, yesterday when I started speaking, I mentioned that the hon. President made a reference to Left wing extremism in the country.....(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I had allowed you a minute's time to speak and you have spoken for a minute. Now, you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What you have spoken is enough. This matter is concerned with the state. This matter does not pertain to this House. You have put-forth your subject. And the subject you have put-forth has come up for discussion.

...(Interruptions)

[*English*]

SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA: Sir, yesterday I had made a reference to. ....(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only what Shri Panda ji is saying will go on record.

.....(Interruptions)\*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your point has gone on record.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, I will not give time to anyone to speak on this matter.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the Members on both the sides please sit down and let the proceeding go further. You have spoken to the extent which you were to speak. This is a state matter and, therefore, this House has nothing to do with this matter.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I had allotted you a minute's time only and you have spoken for a minute.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have not finished yet. ....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have heard you. You have put-forth your point to the extent to which you wanted to. This is a state matter and, therefore, this House would not decide on this matter in any way.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please sit down for a minute, as the hon'ble Minister is speaking.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): Mr. Deputy Speaker, sir, I would like to give you suggestions for this particular case. As such, this is not for establishing any convention or precedent. You may please allot a minute's time each to the persons of both the sides. ....(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is not the right way. ....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please sit down. Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Vijayant Panda ji says. You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record except what Shri Panda says.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The point is made. Now, you please sit down. Your point is not going on record.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Although I have not received any notice from you, yet I have given you the opportunity to speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please listen to what I am saying. Though you had not given any notice, still I gave you a minute's time to hear you. Now what do you want?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he has been arrested at 11.30. How could I give notice before that time..... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: How will the proceedings of the House go on if everyone rises to speak without giving any prior notice. So, you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No further talk in this regard please. Shri Baijayant Panda ji, you please speak.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please sit down. Please listen for a minute.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Why did not you speak when you were allotted the time to speak? Now, you please sit down. Nothing is going on record. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You were allotted the time to speak. Then, why did not you speak that. It is not my responsibility to fore see what lies ahead. You please sit down. Please sit down. Let the proceedings of the House run.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The moment you came to speak, they will again stand up. If the proceedings of the House go on this way, nothing could be done in such a situation.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Sir, S.P. may be permitted to speak for a minute and likewise, Shri Dara Singh Chauhan may also be permitted to speak for a minute.... (Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): I will request the chair to allow both of them to raise their issues so that the matter is resolved.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shailendra Kumar ji, please make your point in just one minute.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the leader of opposition in the Uttar Pradesh legislative assembly and the leader of opposition in the legislative council... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: One minute is over. Please conclude now.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, let me complete what I am saying. I was saying that the leader of opposition and the member of legislative council Shri Rakesh Sinha Rana was going to Bareilly and all the three people were arrested. This news was being shown on TV. I merely wanted to inform you that the police had lathicharged the Barawafat procession in Malihabad. Rubber bullets were fired upon the people of the minority community. Their houses were torched. Their shops were burnt and looted. Law and order machinery has completely broken down. I urge upon you to impose law and order there. There is no law and order worth the name there. Atrocities are being committed against the minorities. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have spoken. Now sit down. Do not speak further.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have made your point, now sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Send a Central team from here to examine the information ...(*Interruptions*). The atrocities against the minorities. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have given your information. Now sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Shivpal ji was arrested, Ahmed Hasan and Rakesh Singh Rana ji were arrested. At least these three should be released. ...(*Interruptions*) You send a central team from here. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You sit down. You have had your say.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Conclude in one minute, keep it short.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN (*Ghosi*): Deputy Speaker, Sir, Section 144 is in force in Uttar Pradesh where the incident relating to the procession under discussion took place. They were not allowed to participate in the procession. This was a violation of law. That's why the State Government arrested and released the people involved in the said incident in compliance with the law. No one has the right to violate the law in Uttar Pradesh.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have made your point, now sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: No one has the right to spread/unrest there. A majority government is in power there. It is not on anyone's mercy, it is not a government that can be overthrown. Try to overthrow it. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have had your say, now sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: We were also in the government...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The matter is over, sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Baijyanath Panda, you please continue your speech on the Motion of Thanks of the President's Address.

13.16 hrs.

## MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—*Contd.*

[*English*]

SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA (*Kendrapara*): Sir, yesterday I was making a reference to the hon. President's Address where she had addressed to left

wing extremism, and I had made the point that this had not happened overnight. Left wing extremism in India has happened over a period of decades, and it is particularly affecting those parts of the country which have been left behind in development. There has been regional disparity. The States where there is more left wing extremism, whether it is Orissa or Bihar or Jharkhand, have seen less development.

I made the point that while the country as a whole was growing economically very slowly for many decades ... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please be quiet.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mulayam Singh ji, please look at the chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Mainpuri): I am trying to make these understand. I am assisting you. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Right, now look at the chair.

*[English]*

SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA: Sir, I made the point that even while the country was growing at a relatively slow rate for many decades, these parts of the country were growing at a much slower rate. Therefore, Sir, I also went on to make the comparison that the hon. President's reference to economic growth being good during a global crisis was not so relevant because the comparison was to developed countries which have already reached a high level of development. Our rightful comparison should be to China, which has a similar population as us. We are the only two countries which have more than one billion population. The tragedy is that going back 30 years, China and India had similar size of population and similar size of economy but 30 years later, today China and we still have similar size population but their economy is now four times as large as India's. So, we really need to benchmark with the Asian countries like China.

Sir, the President's Address also makes a reference to the *aam aadmi*, and says specifically that higher prices were inevitable. I do not want to dwell on the issue of price rise. This House has dealt with it extensively over the past few days but it worries me when we think that price rise is inevitable. I particularly want to touch upon the reference to various Government Schemes which are to the benefit of the BPL cardholders. I would like to bring to the attention of this august House that we all know that there are many anomalies in the List of BPL cardholders. In my State itself, we know that the inherited list that we have from 1997 has many anomalies; many people who deserve to be on that list are not there. Repeatedly, our effort from the State to get these people listed in the List of BPL cardholders has not been accepted by the Centre. These are critical issues if we have to actually take benefits forward to the *aam aadmi*.

Sir, there is a very welcome reference in the President's Address to internal security, and the steps that have been taken to boost internal security by way of setting up four national hubs, by way of providing funds and equipment to the State Police and to paramilitary forces. I would like to bring to the attention of this House that these are welcome steps but these are grossly delayed. They should have happened many years ago; they should have happened several years ago. But for many years, in debates in this House and in the other House it was conveyed that these are law and order issues that the State Governments would deal with them.

That is why this problem got compounded over the past several years.

As far as providing Central support to building up paramilitary forces and to building up the State capability in the policy capacity is concerned, a lot more needs to be done. Today, we talk about bringing modern arms and training to the police, providing one helicopter here or two helicopters there. The requirement for arms, the requirement for equipment, the requirement for helicopters, the requirement for training is substantially more, and it needs to be boosted much higher than that.

Sir, I would like to make a point that as a Member of a regional party, we have many complaints against the Central Government. There is regional disparity that we talk about. We have kept complaining about it because of many unfair policies from Delhi. But when it

comes to internal security, we will not allow politics to get in the way of national interest, and our State, our Government, our party has cooperated fully with the Central Government in taking the fight against Leftwing extremism forward. I have made the point that Leftwing extremism has to be tackled on three fronts. We have to focus on development of these backward areas, we have to take tough action through police and paramilitary forces, and also we have to have talks with those groups who are ready to give up violence. That is the way to go forward.

Sir, I am speaking of cooperation. I would like to extend the hand further of cooperation because we welcome the references in the hon. President's Address to the Women's Reservation Bill. This matter has been floating around in Parliament for many years — many decades actually — and it is shameful that action has not been taken on it earlier. I would like to make a point that the Late Shri Biju Patnaik was one of the staunchest champions of women's empowerment in politics and in national life. Some of the earlier steps taken were in my State, in Orissa to provide reservation for women at the Panchayat and Panchayati Raj Institutional level. I would like to openly state here with my colleagues, who are here that although we are in the Opposition, we will support the Women's Reservation Bill when it comes to this House and when it goes to the other House. It should be known that it is not just women, who are interested in women's empowerment, it is also parties and also men, who have the greater interest of the country at heart.

Sir, I come to the reference in the hon. President's Address to education. Once again, I would like to point out that several years ago when this Government introduced the cess, which was three per cent to fund education, many of us who have been in the Opposition in the other House and in this House, had supported it across party lines because funding required for education has been a priority that has been neglected for many decades. We have made many pious statements in this House and we have made pious statements in the other House. In fact, very recently, we have passed the Right to Education Bill. Some years ago also, we made a Constitutional amendment that every Indian child up to the age of 14 should be given mandatory and free education. But when it actually comes to taking steps, when it actually comes to providing funding for this, we have been very stingy. Now, the question that I have in my mind is this. It is a good thing to say that investment

in education is our priority but are the funds provided for it adequate? There is plenty of discussion that in fact, even today it is not adequate. Even after so many years, even after the education cess has funded many good programmes like the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, there are still a large number of schools in the country at the middle educational level and at the high school level, which do not have proper buildings, which do not have facilities, and the children are sitting outside and in broken classrooms. These need to be corrected.

It is not just a question of money. I would like to remind the Treasury Benches of a former Prime Minister, who once told this country more than 25 years ago that 'out of every rupee that the Government spends, hardly 15 paise reaches the beneficiary.' My question is that as we know increase funding on social spending, as is referred to in the hon. President's Address, how much of this spending is actually reaching the beneficiaries. We do not have clear answers on that because the data is insufficient.

We need to know this. Is it still a situation where every rupee that the Government spends only 15 or 20 paise reaches the beneficiary? Or, has it improved? And, this is where fundamental changes are required in the pattern of governance where I think big steps need to be taken.

I would like to touch upon one such big idea which has been floating around. It has been discussed in many Parliamentary Committees. It has occasionally been discussed in Parliament. It is very often discussed in the media and in educational circles. It is to restructure the pattern of funding education. Now, the Government spends enormous amounts of money on Government schools where I told you about the infrastructure lacking and where teachers often do not turn up in attendance. This has to be restructured, re-engineered.

There are ideas for introducing vouchers where the money that the Government spends would go to the families, the money that the Government spends would go to parents of children and they would choose where to use that money, where to use that voucher and which school to be rewarded. There are schools that are operating with minimal funding but doing a much better job than Government schools, side-by-side with fewer infrastructures, with lower pay for the teachers. These are the kind of schooling systems that need to be rewarded.



Sir, I come to the issue of the President's reference to railways. A specific sentence that the hon. President used in her Address says, "The Indian Railways knit this vast country together." I think that is a laudable sentiment but the fact remains that the knitting is frayed in many parts. This is a knit wear which has many holes, moth-eaten holes, in many parts of the knitting, and that needs to be corrected.

Sir, the regional disparity that I was talking about can be linked to the railways. The investment in many parts of the country is dependent on railways being there. The investment in manufacturing sector is dependent on the railways being there, and this is non-uniform. We are aware and we have discussed in this House that there are great disparities in rail track density. My home State of Orissa has one of the lowest rail track densities per square kilometre in the whole country....(*Interruptions*)

Well, I am not going to go into the issue. There have been many Railway Ministers over the past few decades but the fact remains that some of our neighbouring States have some of the highest rail track density, and this disparity is very stark because on the one hand you have very low rail track density in my State and in the adjoining State you have extremely high rail track density. The parts of my State, which do not have railway lines, are the very parts where you have Left wing extremism. Left wing extremism is the point that the hon. President has made in the very second paragraph of her Address. The fact remains that these projects are not being given adequate priority.

Everybody in this House is aware of the very backward KBK region, Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput, of Orissa, which has been known for so much poverty and so much backwardness. There has been a proposal, for example, to link Bolangir to coastal Orissa in Khurda. The Khurda-Bolangir railway line has had its original proposal about four decades ago. The work has started about 16 years ago. I would like to bring to the attention of every one of my colleagues here that they should know that how much priority we are giving to such projects. After four decades of trying to link KBK with coastal Orissa, out of 289 kilometres of track, only 36 kilometres of track has been built. That is the track record that we have to show to our people when we say that we are trying to bring development to backward areas of India. This is a shameful record and it must be changed.

The fact is that the change is not happening fast enough. For this change to happen there has to be a disproportionate investment in these backward areas. We have to take a national view irrespective of where the Railway Ministry is represented from or which State. We have to take a national view. Those States, those regions which have much lower than the national average rail track density have to be given the highest priority and not just an increase of 10 per cent or 15 per cent per year keeping in balance the other States' requirements. These are States that require 100 per cent or 200 per cent increase so that these tracks can be built within next five years and not 50 years because this country cannot withstand another 50 years of this neglect.

On this issue, I want to conclude by saying that the hon. President has made reference to a very laudable proposal, laudable idea, which is the North-East Railway Development Fund. We welcome such initiatives. North-East is also a very deprived area and we want that a similar initiative be taken for Eastern India which has been left behind very badly, States like Orissa, Jharkhand.

As I come to the conclusion, I want to mention that it is not just physical infrastructure like railways and roads, which is going to help although it is very important.

It is also communications infrastructure. India is a country that has transformed itself in the last two decades. Being known as the laggard throughout the world, today Indian is known as the IT hub of the world. We are the back office to the world. This has been made possible by fibre optic connectivity, by international telecom connectivity, by mobile services all over the country.

There is a very welcome reference in the hon. President's Address that action has been initiated to set up ten thousand towers during this fiscal year through the use of the Universal Obligation Fund. This is very good. But these towers are mostly going to help just mobile services. That is not adequate. We need to take fibre optic and we need to take high speed broadband to these backward areas, so that today the same kind of IT services that we have in Bengaluru or Kolkata or Pune or Bhubaneswar will also be possible in these rural parts of my State and other States. We have a lot of talent, we have a lot of students who have the same

talent, who are not able to go to the centres of IT excellence. We must take IT enabled services to these rural areas so that we can have a balanced development.

I just want to end by saying that the focus on the infrastructure that the hon. President's Address speaks about needs more emphasis. I am a little disappointed that while there is a lot of reference to rural infrastructure and to highways, some specific programme for infrastructure where we have seen very good results have not been emphasized. For example, one of the most successful programmes for infrastructure has been PMGSY, the *Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana*. I have seen it in my constituency, I have seen it in many other parts of the country where PMGSY roads have been built. They are world class and they have provided a complete change in the local economy. Farmers who had no access to markets today are able to access markets. Many other possibilities happen when this rural infrastructure is built. In terms of major highway infrastructure, there is a talk about building 20 kms. a day. This 20 kms. a day sounds ambitious for India. But it is very very poor compared to China that I was talking about. They build thousands of kilometres of world class infrastructure. We need to set our targets much higher and we need to ensure that this investment happens as much in the backward areas of the country as in the more developed parts of the country and that emphasis needs to be given to States like Orissa which I represent.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH (Munger): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the ongoing debate on the President's Address and the Motion of Thanks proposed by hon. Rao Inderjit Singh.

Sir, I would like to refer to the last para i.e. para No. 74 of Her Excellency's Address in which Her Excellency has stated that our country is at a historic turning point. We were never so close to realizing the dream to meet the aspirations of our nation builders as we are today. Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru had described these aspirations in the following words at the midnight of 14th August, 1947:

“Service to India means serving those crores of people who are suffering. It means to bring an end to poverty, illiteracy, diseases and inequality of opportunities.”

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has been referred to in Her Excellency's address but where do we stand today after 63 years of independence? Today it is being discussed in the country and for the last three to four years it has become a fashion to say in reply to every question that GDP growth rate is increasing. The Prime Minister, the Finance Minister, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, the Minister of Food and Public Distribution-everyone repeats this reply. When prices are rising, it is being said that GDP growth rate is increasing. When there was crisis, it was said that GDP growth rate was increasing. When there was economic recession in the world, it was said that despite global economic recession, GDP is increasing in India. It seems that this statement has become a fashion. This stock statement is being repeated as a parrot repeats anything.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, 65 percent of our population depends on agriculture. Be it employment, be it unemployment, be it livelihood, be it price rise or be it agriculture, the Government is not paying attention to these things. I would like to give an example. Yesterday on 3rd March there was a Lok Sabha Starred question No. 94. In reply to the said question the Government has stated that GDP growth rate is increasing and presented a table to show that. It has been stated in the reply that in the eleventh five year plan the growth rate for agriculture was set at only 4 percent and in 2007-08 the GDP growth rate was 4.7 percent. But in 2008-09 it decreased to 1.6 percent and in the year 2009-10 it further decreased to -0.2 percent. This is the reply of the Government and the story of GDP whereas 65 percent population of the country depends on agriculture. It was said that it decreased in 2009-10 because the whole country was under the grip of flood and drought. But there was no flood or drought in the country during the year 2008-09, then how contribution of agriculture in GDP growth rate was 1.6 percent.

The growth rate of industries was set at 10 to 11 percent which means that the whole policy is oriented towards industries. I will discuss the later. The target was 10 to 11 percent. The Government achieved 8.2 percent in 2007-08. In the year 2008-09, 3.7 percent was achieved and in the year 2009-2010, 8.1 percent was achieved. Similarly the target in the service sector was set at 9 to 11 percent. The achieved growth rate was 10.6 percent in the year 2007-08, 10.5 percent in the year 2008-09 and 8.8 percent in the year 2009-10.

The whole GDP growth rate reveals that total emphasis of the Government on industrialization. The present GDP rate being presented by the Government is a contribution of the service sector. But not caring for the 63 percent of the population dependent on agriculture has resulted in the increase in poverty, unemployment and inequality in the country. But the Government is not ready to accept it. Dr. Pranav Vardhan's report has been published in a newspaper. I would like to quote a few lines.

[English]

"The rate of decline in poverty has not improved significantly in 1993 to 2005, the period of intensive opening of the economy compared to the 70s and the 80s. This is partly because inequality has gone up in the recent period. Also, agriculture output grew at a slower rate in the last decade compared to the earlier decades largely on account of the decline in public investment in rural infrastructure like irrigation, roads or prevention of soil erosion."

[Translation]

He has further stated on the basis of NSSO data.

[English]

"The NSSO data also suggests that there has been a decline in the rate of growth of real wages."

[Translation]

This is compared to the previous decade of 1983 to 1993. This is the story of GDP.

What is the situation today. The situation is that the whole story of GDP is dependent on industrial units. Has inequality not increased today? Today a person living in Delhi earns an annual income of Rs. 78, 690 whereas the per capita income in Bihar is Rs. 12643 per annum. Where is the equality? You are praising yourself that the GDP growth rate has increased. The inflation is sky-high. I do not want to discuss the price-rise again. I fail to understand as to what the Government wants to achieve. Poverty, unemployment and inequality in this country cannot be removed until you focus on agriculture. If all these things have to be removed, the government would have to focus on agriculture.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today 60 to 65 percent people are engaged in the agriculture sector and only 25 percent population is engaged in the industry sector, and the remaining population is engaged into service sector. I would like the Government to clarify as to for whom this GDP growth rate is meant.

It is the question of oil seeds and pulses. For quite some days, it is being heard that the attention of the Government is focused on enhancing the production of these items. However import of their item is also increasing. It seems that the Government is now dependent on import and export only. The whole state of affairs is going on export, if not on import. The Government are projecting the growth of GDP on import and export and presenting a false hope before the country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Bapuji had once said that the country's soul dwells in villages. But, what is the condition of our villages after 63 years of independence? Electricity, road connectivity and facility of potable water has not been provided to every villages but, it is being said that naxalism is growing in the country.

If naxalism is growing in the country, there are some reasons behind it. One of these reasons is that the villages in the country have not witnessed the required level of development. Two districts of my constituency are affected by naxals. When I visited these areas, I could not stop my tears when I saw that the tribals people living there store spring water and use it as potable water. Majority of the people of the country are not able to get potable water even after 63 years of independence. Naxalism rises with the rise of resentment against the Government. Therefore, the reason for growing resentment among the public is that people are not getting even essential facilities.

I was listening the budget speech of the hon'ble Minister of Finance. He appreciated very much the concept of the SEZs. SEZs are being set up by acquiring the arable land and these SEZs are being boasted of. But rural population in the country is hardly getting potable water and no attention is being paid towards this aspect.

They say that don't have even chappals in their feet. When they don't get clothe to wear, how can they have chappal in their feet? This is the state-of-affairs

today and you are quoting Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru speech and saying that we are on path of development. What type of development are you claiming?

As per the data collected by me, a provision of rupees 1,73,000 crore has been made for rural development. An expenditure of rupees 77 crore 64 thousand and 753 crore has been made during 2004 to 2007 in this regard. But what has been the outcome thereof? This House was made to applaud the NAREGA. During the last Lok Sabha it was the NAREGA that continued to be the talk about the entire period, but, it has turned out to be the NAREGA. It has become a source of total loot. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let him speak.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): Sir, if he is talking about corruption in it, then let him give proof for the same. He cannot go on making accusations like this. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is the condition of NAREGA. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please do not respond to them. You just put forth your point.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH: I am not responding to them, rather I am telling them the fact. If you are satisfied with the ongoing loot, then O.K., let this loot go on...(*Interruptions*) That's why everyone has seen the fate of the NAREGA and everyone knows its fate. It has become the topic of discussion in almost all the rural areas. Let us not discuss let it go this issue as it is full of corruption despite that their NAREGA is flourishing everywhere. If you go to any village you will find what its condition is? It has however benefited in a way that many-a people have gone behind bars due to this NAREGA. Many more people are likely to go behind bars and out of them majority will be theirs. ...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANSAMY): Poor people are getting jobs under the NAREGA. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

Let him give proof.

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon'ble Minister, please do not interrupt. Let him speak.

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the hon'ble Minister goes on behaving like this, then, we too could be forced to behave like this during the reply of the Government. If he keeps on behaving like this... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Forget him, you go ahead with your point.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH ALIAS LALAN SINGH: He need not to interrupt instead he should only listen...(*Interruptions*) Whenever and wherever you want to go I will show you the loot taking place there in NAREGA. The Minister of Rural Development has admitted in this very House that irregularities are there in it. ...(*Interruptions*) Leave him, it is his this attitude and behaviour that he has been given a send-off from the I.T. Ministry ...(*Interruptions*) Therefore, it is the need of the hour today to monitor whether the funds being allocated for the purpose of rural development are being utilized effectively. If the Government is actually serious in this matter, then, they should ensure all these things.

Now, I would like to talk about the BPL people. The hon'ble Minister is present here. The hon'ble Minister was not properly replying to the question raised by me in the House. He is still shaking his head. Earlier, he was evaluating the reply and now he is shaking his head. Sir, I would like to tell you that the then NDA Government had decided in the year 2003 to conduct a door-to-door survey in this regard. As a result, data was collected. The State Governments too got such survey conducted and the parameters to these surveys by the State Governments were fixed by the Union Government.

The National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) also prepared data. They too have their own data. The deptt. of Rural Development is also preparing separate datas. The Arjun Sen Gupta Committee too prepared a separate data.

M.C.Saxena Committee has computed a seprate figure. Tendulkar Committee computed a seprate figure. There is a wide gap between the figure in the state and the figures that the Centre accepts on the basis of such evaluations. How to bridge this gap so that the poor are able to avail of foodgrains? The Government should consider ways to resolve this problem. If the government does not find a way then it means that the government wishes to bring down poverty levies only on paper. This is the maze of figures which shows up the real intentions of the government.

Sir, now I would like to talk about the state of industrial development, Industrial growth is taking place in the country whereas the need of the hour is growth of agro-based industries in the country because our entire economy is dependent on agriculture.If there is any industrial growth in the country then it should be agro-based.All industrial growth in the country today is dependent on foreign countries due to which unemployment is going up. I would like to quote a single line from the December 2008 report of the NSS which says that 662 persons out of every 1000 in the country are dependent on agriculture. Out of every 1 000 people in the country 69 persons are engaged in construction sector, 6 in hotel, transport and other services and 80 in new works. These are the facts. The report by National Sample Survey states, regarding unemployment and illiteracy, that 408 in every 1000 people are educated upto primary level only in rural regions. 158 out of every 1000 are educated upto secondary level and 281 upto middle school. Merely 56 out of 1000 are graduates and above .Now, how do you expect such people to get jobs and employment in the kind of industries that are being set up by the government? It is neglecting agriculture based employment and constructing industries. This is a travesty.

Sir, inflation has already been discussed here so I would not like to speak about it at length. However, I would like to say that inflation was discussed in the House and the government said in reply that inflation would be brought down. But the very next day the Finance Minister while presenting the Budget raised the

prices of everything from petrol, diesel to manure and fertilizers. How will this country survive? Who does it want to focus upon? It is giving concessions to all the industries and placing the burden on the agriculture sector. How will this sector grow? This will affect production. People dependent on agriculture will become poorer. The farmers will not get fair prices. What will the country do? The bus fares will go up. The rise in prices of petrol, diesel and manure will lead to price rise of all other commodities. Every product in the country will be affected. Why have things come to this pass?

In the end, I would like to talk about the women reservation bill which, I read in the newspapers that the government proposes to introduce on the 8th. I would like to say, through you, that it is a very big decision. This is a long standing matter. There are a number of parties in the country and we are a democracy. In a democracy such a huge decision of historical import should be taken after taking all the parties into confidence and building a consensus on the issue.

Democracy is run through consensus and public mandate. The government is run on the basis of getting more or less votes not a democracy. Hence, today I would like to appeal to the government that the Women's Reservation Bill is a bill which will lead to a new system of governance in the country hence any decision in this regard should be taken after discussions with leaders of all the parties and reaching a consensus in the matter. This is my request to the government, through you, and with this I conclude.

*[English]*

SHRI T.K.S. ELANGO VAN (Chennai North): Thank you hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I rise to support the Motion of Thanks to Her Excellency the President for her Address to both the Houses of Parliament proposed by hon. Rao Inderjit Singh and seconded by hon. Meenakshi Natrajan.

Sir, when Her Excellency delivered her Address, most of the hon. Members were seen clapping their hands. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHARAD YADAY (Madhepura): The government has always tried for a debate on the President's Address in the House. We said that any

issue except for an issue like inflation should be discussed in the House. These are the opposition benches... you can count their number on fingers and you can compare it with the treasury benches.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: This is the extent to which this government is serious. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Sharadji, you have had your say.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Members are coming, they are in the Central Hall, they are coming. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Member is on his legs, let him speak.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, these people cannot stay hungry. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down, is it necessary to react to everything?

[English]

SHRI T.K.S. ELANGO VAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when Her Excellency delivered her Address, most of the hon. Members were seen clapping their hands or thumping their desks. But we had to be silent spectators watching many jubilant faces with our tight faces. Most of the MPs from Tamil Nadu were wondering as to what happy message was conveyed by Her Excellency because of non-availability of simultaneous translation of Her Excellency's speech in English....(Interruptions) Her Excellency's speech had many welcome features – the reiteration of her commitment towards inclusive development, the concern towards the poorer sections of the society, the determination to strengthen the national security, her assurance for a caring and sensitive approach in dealing with the immediate economic and social problems, the desire to accommodate desperate political and regional voices and sincere work towards deepening our federal polity.

Her Excellency's speech also outlines the steps taken by the Government to help the farming community

which was facing great difficulties because of severe drought situation.

Sir, price rise is of the greatest concern of the people of India. Almost all sections of the people are agitated and worried as to the sharp increase in the prices of food grains. The President's Address states that a comprehensive reform of the public distribution system is expected. We need a comprehensive reform. We have a model. We have a successful model, which is running successfully in Tamil Nadu, the Universal Public Distribution System.

14.00 hrs.

It should be implemented in all the States in India as it will help in the reduction of food prices and will make food grains available to all sections of the people of India.

The President has assured to bring forth a legislation to ensure food security. That was what we wanted. We wanted a legislation. We wanted that the Essential Commodities Act be scrapped and a new Act be brought in its place. The new Act should have provisions for controlling prices. It should have punitive provisions for those who increase prices in the retail market. Such a piece of legislation should be brought in this Session itself.

Many discussions were held and many views were expressed about the NREGA Scheme. The NREGA scheme should be implemented for building rural infrastructure. That should be done with the support of the local Panchayats. The local Panchayats should decide on the nature of work that is required in that area. If local Panchayats are not consulted, the NREGA scheme may fail as was stated by some of our colleagues.

14.02 hrs.

[SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA *in the Chair*]

There are many things which the President's Address was silent on this year, particularly the Sri Lanka issue. I may fail in my duty if I do not mention it. In the year 2004, the President said, "My Government will support the peace initiative in Sri Lanka that fulfils the requirements of all sections of the people of Sri Lanka for a life of dignity and self-respect, which meets the legitimate aspirations of all linguistic and religious

minorities while respecting the territorial integrity and solidarity of Sri Lanka." This was the stand taken in 2004. In 2008 the Government had stated, "We are clear that there can be no military solution to the ethnic issue. It is necessary to find a negotiated political settlement within the framework of a united Sri Lanka that is acceptable to all sections of society." In the year 2009 the President had stated, "We continue to support a negotiated political settlement in Sri Lanka within the framework of an undivided Sri Lanka acceptable to all the communities including the Tamil community." In the year 2009 once again President reiterated that we will support initiatives in Sri Lanka which can lead to a permanent political solution of the conflict there and ensure that all Sri Lankan communities, especially the Tamils, feel secure and enjoy equal rights." But this year it is missing. This year the mention is, "India will contribute to the humanitarian and rehabilitation effort for the Tamil minorities and long-term reconstruction in conflict-affected areas." There is no mention about a political settlement. The war has ended, but the issues have not ended. The issues are there. So, I request the Government to impress upon the Sri Lankan Government to come for a negotiated settlement, a political settlement, giving fuller rights to the Tamils living on that island. I wish the Government will take note of this.

Our DMK party's General Council has passed many resolutions. One of the important resolutions is regarding the Education Bill which is proposed by the Government. The Government is planning to bring a Bill to set up the National Commission for Higher Education and Research, substituting the existing UGC and the AICTE.

It is not possible to implement uniform system of education that is being proposed in this legislation. Social justice may not find a place in this legislation. The DMK Party, which gives 69 per cent to the backward class communities in our State, and 22 per cent to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, oppose this legislation. We want the existing system to prevail because this Bill says that the uniform entrance examination will be held throughout India. The State of Tamil Nadu has dispensed with the method of entrance examination but this Bill trespass into the rights of the State. So, we oppose this Bill.

Regarding the Sethusamudram project, I wish to state that the President has not mentioned in her Address about this project. The matter is pending before the Court. The Court had given a direction to form a

Committee to See alternative routes but I do not know as to what steps this Government has taken to See that the project is speeded up. There is no mention of this project. Assurance on the Sethusamudram project is missing in Her Excellency's Address.

One more issue which relates to the minorities is there. There is a legislation passed under the orders of the Supreme Court that all marriages should be registered. Sir, Hindu marriages can be registered easily. Muslims and Christians have a different method, that is, Muslims register their marriages in the Jamaats; and the Christians register their marriages in the Churches. So, before bringing in the legislation, I would request the Government to have consultations with the leaders of these communities as to how the Bill should be introduced. These are the issues which the Government should take note of. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the President's Address has full of rhetoric without any tangible relief for the common people. By all indications, the President's Address does not provide any confidence to the people, to the Indian people that the problems that are being faced by them will be solved. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: We have to keep the sanctity of the office of the President. He is a very senior Member. He knows it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If it is unparliamentary, it would be deleted.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: There is an unprecedented rise in the prices of essential commodities, particularly food articles. Prices are being accentuated; farmers are committing suicide. There is no let up to the suicide committed by the farmers. The gap between rich and the poor is being widened. The country is divided. There is a hiatus between shining India and suffering India. Today, millions and millions of our people are facing problems but there is no solution to these problems. *Rashtrapatiji* has correctly referred to – Left wing extremists continue to indulge in senseless violence, as in their recent attacks in West Bengal, where a large number of innocent lives have been lost.

The President has referred to the tragic incident that has taken place in Shilda in West Midnapore District of West Bengal, where 24 EFR jawans were killed by

Left Wing Extremists. The President has mentioned in her speech that Left Wing Extremists, the Maoists are responsible for this merciless killing of EFR jawans. But if a Party belonging to the ruling coalition extends material and moral support to this Left Wing Extremists, the problem becomes difficult. ... *(Interruptions)* After this incident had taken place, a leader of a political party belonging to the ruling coalition ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only Shri Basudeb Acharia's speech will go on record and nothing else will go on record.

*(Interruptions) ...\**

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: She did not mention the names of the persons who are responsible for the killing of 24 EFR jawans. When the leader of the Maoists group, Kishanji, owned the responsibility for that, and he stated that they killed 24 EFR jawans to answer the action of the Central Government or the preparation of the Central Government to launch joint operations with the Central as well as the State forces, not only in the State of West Bengal, but also in other three States. This is not a single incident. Kishanji, stated this a number of times.

The problem of Left Extremism was not there in the State of West Bengal three years back. When was it started and how was it started? Since the Lok Sabha elections in 2009, the Maoists had killed 174 workers and leaders of our Party, the CPI (M). Only the other day, one worker belonging to our Party was killed in the district of Purulia. Most of the people who are being killed by the Maoists, the Left Wing Extremist forces belong to tribals. A part of three districts of West Bengal is affected – a part of West Midnapore, a part of Bankura and a part of Purulia got affected. Most of the people who are killed by the Maoists are tribals, *adivasis*, agricultural labourers, poor peasants; they are not killing rich people. Why are these killings taking place? Yesterday, while speaking on the problem of Maoism, the Left Wing Extremism, he said this.

According to him the problem is very simple. You just call him, talk to him and the problem will be resolved, as he did in his area. It is not so simple problem. With whom the Government should talk? It is very difficult to talk unless they absolve violence, unless

they give up arms. They are collecting sophisticated Arms and are extorting money. You will be surprised to know the bank balance of the polit-bureau member of Maoists, Kishan ji. It is more than Rs.1 core. They are extorting money from the businessmen, traders, schools teachers and employees. A responsible political party belonging to this coalition extends support to them. I can give a number of examples, a number of statements made by the Leader of that political party, *(Not recorded)* and the statements made by various leaders belonging to Maoists.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Baharampur): Sir, this should be expunged....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GOBINDA CHANDRA NASKAR (Bangaon): Sir, this should be withdrawn....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Do not disturb him. Let us See what he has to say.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing, except what Shri Basudeb Acharia says, should go on record.

*(Interruptions) ...\**

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: On 15th of January there was a mass rally organized by Trinamool Congress at Jhargram. She organized a thin gathering of 2000 people. What did she say?... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, the name must be deleted. It is my humble request to you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will See it.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, please sit down for a while.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Any statement attributed to a Central Minister should be made with prior notice to the hon. Speaker....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is a public statement....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: You cannot just stand up and make an allegation against a Minister. If you are



talking of a political leader it is a different thing but when you are talking about a Minister... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No cross-talk please. Please sit down for a while.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is a public statement made while addressing a mass rally and it has been carried out by almost all the newspapers. I would like to quote what she said:

"If necessary, I shall try my best... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: If any allegation is made against a Minister, it should be substantiated by the statement. It is in the rule....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GOBINDA CHANDRA NASKAR: The name should be expunged....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is a public statement....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. If there is anything objectionable, it will not be recorded.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It is a public statement. While addressing a thin gathering of 2000 people at Jhargram on 15th of January, 2010, she said and I quote: ... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Achariaji is a senior member. ...*(Interruptions)* It is not proper to make allegations against a Minister. ...*(Interruptions)* Achariaji should take such his words. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If it is objectionable, it will not go on record. Please sit down.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: She said:

"If necessary, I shall try my best to prevail upon the Union Government to meet your demands (demands of Maoists) including the withdrawal of joint Forces from Lalgarh."

Can she deny it? Can she say that she has not made such a statement? The decision to send Forces, the decision for a joint operation was a collective decision and it was taken by the Government of India. I would like to know can any Member of the Cabinet openly oppose the decision of the Central Government to send joint Forces for a joint operation. Time and again, she has made such statements. That political party, which is the second largest Party of the UPA-II Government is hand-in-glove with Maoists....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If it is objectionable. It will not go on record.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I charge that that political party, namely, Trinamool Congress is hand-in-glove with Maoists... *(Interruptions)* The Prime Minister of India, time and again, made public utterances that left wing extremist forces are the gravest threat to the national security.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I am on point of order under Rule 353 which says:

"No allegation of a defamatory or incriminatory nature shall be made by a member against any person unless the member has given adequate advance notice to the Speaker and also to the Minister concerned so that the Minister may be able to make an investigation into the matter for the purpose of a reply."

Sir, this is an allegation which he made against the hon. Minister of this Government. So, unless and until it is substantiated by him before hand to you by giving a notice, he cannot raise this issue in the House.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Mr. Narayanasamy, I will authenticate it... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You refer to the Chair.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I am not making any allegation against anybody. What I am quoting and referring to is a public document and a public statement. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, what happened to the point of order which I raised?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The name has been deleted.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: It appeared in the *Telegraph* of January 16. The entire speech of the leader appeared in the *Telegraph*. Why did they not lodge a defamatory suit against the Editor of that newspaper?... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already deleted the name. Any reference to the name or the portfolio will be deleted.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I am referring to a leader of a political party belonging to this coalition. Now everyone of this House knows Kishenji. He made a statement... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing should go on record.

(*Interruptions*) ... \*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: He made a statement that he wants to *See* Kumari Mamata Banerjee as the Chief Minister of West Bengal... (*Interruptions*). It is not defamatory. He made a statement that he wants to *See* the leader of a political party, which is the second largest party of this coalition, as the Chief Minister of West Bengal. Chakradhar Mahato, the President of PCPA belongs to Trinamool Congress.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Achariaji, please wind up. There is another speaker left.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: As that political party belongs to this coalition, the Government owes an explanation to this House as to how a Minister is being allowed to oppose openly a collective decision of the Government of India.

SHRI GOBINDA CHANDRA NASKAR: Who told you this? This is not true... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: This is because this Party is pursuing, I am not taking the name of the party, an electoral agenda at the cost of human life and spread of anarchy... (*Interruptions*) How responsible is the leader of that political party? ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Acharia, you please conclude within one minute. Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*) ... \*

SHRI GOBINDA CHANDRA NASKAR: Sir, he is misleading the House... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I was interrupted time and again. How can I conclude now? ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the UPA Government has declared a war against the *aam admi* of our country. When we discussed the issue of price rise at length, the entire Opposition said that the Government should take measures to control and contain the prices of essential commodities. But the next day the prices of petrol and diesel were increased by increasing the Customs Duty but again because of the pressure exerted by the Left parties and because we once extended support to this Government, the Government reduced the Customs Duty by 5 per cent. Today they have the support from parties like the Trinamool Congress and the DMK and I do not know what they will do next time. They came to the streets. They raised voice against the increase in the prices of petrol and diesel. I do not know what they will do. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Kolkata Uttar): How do you know?... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: This Government does not care.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up now. You have just one more minute.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: This reduction of 5 per cent Custom Duty has its impact ... (*Interruptions*) I am surprised that the hon. Prime Minister while justifying... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The next speaker is Shri Nageswara Rao.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: How much time should I get?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have given you your time and you please wind up now within one minute.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: They have disrupted my speech. You may give me 5 more minutes. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot give you five minutes. You may just wind up in one minute... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: If you do not allow me another five minutes then I will walk out... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is one more speaker from your party.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: I could finish only one point. You could not control them. They are continuously disturbing me and now you are asking me to sit down.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. It is objectionable.

(*Interruptions*) ...\*

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Sir, he is pointing a finger towards the Chair... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, if you do not allow me another five minutes then I will walk out ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can speak for another 2 minutes at the maximum. I will not allow you five minutes.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, if you do not give me five minutes then I will walk out. Other Members could speak for half an hour and you are giving me just 2 minutes with so much of disruption... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

SHRI GOBINDA CHANDRA NASKAR: What is your strength in the House?... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): They are continuously disturbing and that is why he is not able to complete his speech... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please stop your comments. I have seen it. Shri Acharia, you may please continue.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Increase in prices has a cascading effect and today, food inflation has reached 20 per cent which has never been since the last 26 years. Since the last 26 years, this is the highest rate of food inflation. I have mentioned that agrarian crisis has accentuated and since agricultural production is decelerating, the Government is forced to import at higher price. We have demanded that there should be a Joint Parliamentary Committee to probe into the various scams. Rashtrapati Ji has not mentioned about corruption that we are seeing today, be it the corruption in Spectrum allotment or any other corruption. We have not been allowed to discuss or raise this issue as we are told that it is *sub judice*.

Farmers are committing suicide and there is a fund of Rs. 400 crore for green revolution in Eastern India and that fund will be distributed among five States. Eastern India is the sleeping giant. There is enough potential in eastern parts of our country like eastern UP, Bihar, Orissa, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Assam. There is no proper plan to increase food production and production of pulses. Production of pulses is stagnating.

[*Translation*]

It is not going beyond 14 million tonnes.

[*English*]

How much fund has been earmarked for agriculture in the Eleventh Five Year Plan? Last year, for Krishi Vikas Yojana, Rs. 25,000 crore were allocated. How much has been allocated for three years of the Eleventh Five Year Plan? Out of Rs. 25,000 crore, only Rs. 8565 crore has been allocated for it.

What about National Food Security Mission? What about right to food security? If the Bill is brought in the present form which has been circulated, it will deprive the poor people of our country the right to food security. In many States, even in my State, 35 kilograms of rice and wheat are being provided to the people who are below the poverty line. ...(*Interruptions*)

I will take only one minute to conclude. I would like to raise a very important point. The quantum of rice and wheat should be increased to 35 kilograms at the rate of Rs. 2 per kilogram. This will provide the right to food security, and universalisation of Public Distribution System is the need of the hour.

Myself, hon. Mulayam Singh Yadav, Shri Lalu Prasad and others made a demand on the last day of the last Session. Ranganath Mishra Committee Report was placed on the Table of the House without the Action Taken Report. It is quite surprising.

[*Translation*]

Nothing has been done till use. What is the government doing.

[*English*]

Sir, the Left Front Government of West Bengal is the first State which has announced ten per cent reservation for educationally, socially, economically backward sections of Muslim minority. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing of what Shri Basu Deb Acharia should go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please give respect to the Chair.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Shri Nama Nageswaar Rao to speak.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing should go on record. Shri Rao please.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I request you to respect each other. Please do not get up in between and interrupt. Whoever sits in the Chair will manage it.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO (Khammam): Mr. Deputy Speaker/Sir, I would like to thank you for giving

me an opportunity to speak on Motion of thanks on President's address. It has been stated in the para 3.5 and 6 of the President's address that

[*English*]

the government has promised faster and more inclusive growth and bring relief to the farmers.

[*Translation*]

In this context we may see that the figures presented in economic survey report are very important.

[*English*]

this is very important.

[*Translation*]

The growth of agriculture sector has declined during UPA-I and UPA-II regime.

[*English*]

In 2003-2004, the agriculture growth was 10 percent. It has come down to 5.8 percent in 2005-06; to Four percent in 2006-07 to 4.9 percent in 2007-08 and 1.6 percent in 2008-09. This year it is minus 0.2 percent. They are telling that they are trying to improve the agricultural growth rate.

[*Translation*]

The government is making efforts for the growth of farmers.

[*English*]

It is very unfortunate. It is minus 0.2 percent.

[*Translation*]

The way government is making statements and the way the government is functioning,

[*English*]

what they are preaching and what they are practicing are entirely different.

[*Translation*]

The total responsibility of the agricultural growth rate going down from ten percent to minus 0.2 percent lies

with the government. Today all the farmers have become labourers. Several farmers have migrated from their villages. They have stopped farming. This sector has been completely neglected though during the last six years this issue has been discussed in detail in the House. It is a very serious issue for the country. We should think about it very seriously.

*[English]*

In Para 7 it is said:

“Income has increased through the public spending.” It is very unfortunate.

*[Translation]*

It is being said that the income of the villages has increased. Keeping in view the recent trend of price rise and the income our country has the largest number of hungry people, There has been no increase in income. The government should also think over whatever has been stated in the 510 President's address in this regard seriously.

Mr. Chairman Sir, the President's address also refers to foodgrains.

*[English]*

In para 7 it is said: “Promote the food security and control the food prices.” It is very unfortunate.

*[Translation]*

There has been rise in food prices every day and after three-time discussion on pricerise in the same House in XV Lok Sabha it has been stated in the President's address that the price rise has been controlled. Despite a discussion one day earlier the prices of diesel and petrol has been increased. Even after all these things such statement is made in the President's address.

*[English]*

The government should think over as to what are the items they are including in the President's Address. Why the food inflation has gone up to 20 percent? If we see the prices of all the items, the price of sugar has increased by 48 percent;

*[Translation]*

the price of pulses has increased by 38 percent, It has never happened in the country earlier. The government should also think over it seriously.

*[English]*

If we see G-20 countries, India's inflation rate is very high.

*[Translation]*

But the government says now that the prices have increased due to market forces and increase in the prices in international market.

*[English]*

These are all wrong statements. If we compare with the G-20 countries, India is the country having highest inflation rate.

*[Translation]*

There, is one more important point in it. Para 8 refers to smuggling of sugar.

*[English]*

It is very unfortunate.

*[Translation]*

The people had seen sugar scam taking place so far but they did not know about smuggling of sugar. It has been referred to in the President's address. Where the said smuggling has taken place? If smuggling is taking place, what is the government doing?

*[English]*

Why is the government not taking the responsibility?

*[Translation]*

It is the responsibility of the government to submit clarifications in regard to smuggling of sugar.

Today India is on the top of the list of the hungriest countries in the world. In India 212 million people three hunger whereas in China. 150 million people. Similar is the situation in Bangladesh, Pakistan, Ethiopia, Tajikistan,

Brazil, Vietnam etc. but India is on the top of all of them. It means that 20 percent of our total population is hungry. It is the government's responsibility.

[*English*]

They should take the responsibility for this situation.

[*Translation*]

This government is responsible for this situation. If this situation is not improving then this government is responsible for that too.

Para 12 refers to zero tolerance of the terrorist activities.

[*English*]

It is very unfortunate.

[*Translation*]

The day on which this speech would have been prepared there was a blast in Pune. Before the Pune blast the bomb blast incidents took place in Hyderabad, Lucknow and Mumbai. Now it is being said that there is zero tolerance of terrorist activities. The government is not realizing what has been happening in the country. The government should think about checking all these things with a constructive approach. Zero tolerance is only on paper. There is a need to think about this. It has a reference of construction of roads from 2 kilometers to 20 kilometers.

[*English*]

Yes India needs infrastructure. We are welcoming the provision of 20 kms per day.

[*Translation*]

There is a need to think about it seriously and work for infrastructure improvement.

[*English*]

Mr. Chairman Sir, I am giving some suggestions. I want to give constructive suggestions to the government. They have to think about the farmers immediately as to how to increase the quantity of food grains in India.

[*Translation*]

For this the farmers should be given the rates recommended by Swaminathan Commission i.e cost plus 50% immediately. Loans should be given to the farmers at the include rate of 4 percent. The nationalized banks should be given instructions in this regard. To control this rate our leader Shri Chandra Babu Naidu had introduced a scheme "kisan bazaar, right to bazaar". He succeeded in controlling the rates. The government should think seriously and introduce a similar scheme at central level.

River linking is an important factor in India. 50 percent of rains are received by the country within a span of 15 days. We are not able to conserve that water and non conservation of this leads to severe shortage of water for drinking and irrigation. Hence we should give thought to development of irrigation and river linking. This idea had been floated during the NDA regime. If this government feels that it does not want to go along with the old plans or that they are not in line with its agenda like the golden quadrilateral project then the government ought to change the names of such schemes and continue to implement them, Large scale infrastructural work had taken place under the golder quadrilateral project. As Advani saheb was saying the previous day, this government has named 450 schemes after three leaders. I would like to say that these schemes should be kept alive even if they name these schemes after their leaders because the country needs these schemes desperately.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I give you one minute. Please make your last point. You are also tired.

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO: No, Sir.

[*Translation*]

I would like to conclude my speech after submitting one point. When our party was in power in Andhra Pradesh, Shri Chandra Babu Naidu had named several projects after several ex Chief Ministers, irrespective of their party affiliation. For example, the projects were named after Shri P.V. Narsimha Rao, Brahmanand Reddy etc. and recently a proposal has been submitted for naming a project after Shri Vijay Bhaskar Reddy. But this government did not do any such thing. We had constructed an airport in Hyderabad. Shri Chandra Babu

Naidu had come here 33 times during NDA regime and made efforts for constructing the Green Field Airport. We had proposed to name that airport after our ex Chief Minister and founder of our party Shri N.T. Ramarao. But this Government has replaced his name with the name of Shri Rajivji. This should not happen.

Several farmers have committed suicide during last few years. The present government is responsible for this and they should think over it seriously.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to submit one more important thing. Use of EVMs in the elections recently held has been discussed countrywide as there are problems. Many shortcomings were noticed in EVMs in my Parliamentary constituency. A book titled 'Democracy at Risk' has been published recently. The most important factor is at page no. 12 in this book.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, you can lay it on the table of the House.

SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO: I want to make only one point about the secret software.

[Translation]

It has been written about the secret software that to control it.

[English]

The EVMs are manufactured by the BEL and ECIL.

[Translation]

The secret software of the EVMs is in America, hence one should think about it. With this, I conclude my speech.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Very Good. Shri Prabodh Panda, just wait one minute. Hon. Members, those who want to lay their written speeches on the table of the House may kindly do so.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. You have called me to speak on the President's Address delivered to both the Houses of Parliament. I have gone

through in detail the speech made by the hon. President. To me, it is very disappointing....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have got only five minutes. Please make it concise.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: As per the convention, the President's Speech is prepared by the Government.

So, my comments and criticisms are not against the hon. President, but my comments and criticisms are based upon the performance of the Government. We are discussing the President's Address at a time when our country's position among 177 countries in the Human Development Index has stumbled down to 128 as per the latest HDI Report. It was 126 in the year 2006. It appears that the announcements are mere rhetoric and they are put in a routine manner and there is no concern about the plight of the poor people of our country.

Sir, what are the main concerns of the people of our country? I do not want to go into the details to make a long speech on that, but I will just highlight these things in a very pointed manner. The first concern is price rise and this has been mentioned by all the Members of this august House. But what is the attitude of the Government of the day in respect of price rise? The President's Address is lacking in this regard. Many suggestions have been made earlier. But with regard to the price rise on food articles, what is the logic given by the first speaker from the Congress Party? The logic given by him is that the rise in food prices is due to the global recession and secondly due to the drought-like situation prevailing in our country. How is it justified? When our granaries are overflowing with food grains, how is it justified to give this logic? Huge stocks of food grains are lying under the open sky and they are getting spoiled. The logic given by the main speaker from the Congress Party is that the reason for inflation in food prices is due to deficient rain and global economic recession. I think the Government must admit that this crisis has occurred due to the wrong policies followed by not only this Government but also by the successive Governments in the past.

Sir, many proposals have been given earlier. We have suggested for the universalisation of the Public Distribution System. We have also suggested not to divide the poor people as APL population and BPL population. This idea started during the NDA regime. They divided the people as APL population, BPL

population, targeted BPL category and people covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana. The Government should take the responsibility to take care of all the poor people in the country and they should not divide them as APL and BPL categories. So, I demand that the Public Distribution System should be made universal throughout the country and food security must be given top priority by the Government.

I am surprised at the speech made by the first speaker from the Congress Party. When the whole country is agitated about high food prices, when we are talking about the fundamental rights of the people, the first speaker from the Congress Party spoke about the rights of people to have arms. Is this the concern shown towards the *aam aadmi*? We are talking about food prices and he is talking about arms. So, this is the attitude of the Congress Party towards the common people, the farmers and the poor people of the country.

Secondly, I would like to point out that nothing has been said in the President's Address about the land reform programme of the Government so far.

It was there earlier in the Common Minimum Programme of UPA-I. Now, it is UPA-II. I am not saying that it is *do* number UPA, but it is UPA-II.

We, the Left Parties, extended our support to UPA-I based on a Common Minimum Programme. But now there is no Common Minimum Programme. Now, the Trinmool Congress or the DMK Parties might be supporting the UPA not based on any programme. There is only one programme and that is pronounced by the Congress people. So, they are following the Congress programme.

What happened to the land reforms? Barring West Bengal, Kerala, Tripura and some States, most of the States are ignoring this grand programme... (*Interruptions*) Singur is not India. We are talking here in the Parliament and not talking in Singur.

Thirdly, I would talk about the jobs. Nothing has been said in this Parliament about this. It has not even been touched upon. More than 20 lakh workers are thrown out of their jobs. The number may be more than 50 lakhs. Tomorrow, across the country, more than 10 lakh workers will come on the streets and Jail *Bhara* Movement will take place by unitedly most of the Central Trade Unions, from INTUC to CITU to AITUC, etc. But

this burning problem has not been touched upon by the President in her Address to the Parliament.

Fourthly, nothing has been said about shelter. Nothing has been said about a person to live peacefully and without any disturbance. Maoist violence has been stated. Yes, very correctly and very forcefully it has been stated and I welcome what the President stated about Maoist violence. But the Government should come forward unitedly in a central voice and not a doublespeak.

May I ask the Government; may I ask the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Home Minister are they united? Is there unanimity in regard to joint operation of the joint forces to combat the Maoist violence in different areas? It is not so, Sir. Many statements are coming publicly. It means, some parts or some constituents of the UPA Government are directly or indirectly indulging in Maoist violence in different areas. So, there should not be doublespeak.

Last but not least, I want to say something about our foreign policy. Our foreign policy is gradually shifting from our traditional Non-aligned Movement Policy. We are gradually going very much close to the US policies. What about our stand with regard to Iran? What happened to the Indo-Iran gas pipeline? What is our stand with regard to Iran in other matters? Not only that, we have signed an accord with regard to joint military exercise and agricultural sector. So, gradually we are shifting from our own traditional policy of Non-aligned Movement. This is a matter of concern. So, I am deeply shocked to hear this sort of Address. I think, the Government should think over it and in the course of reply, the hon. Minister will satisfy us so that we can stand unitedly.

Lastly, it is stated that India is a country of the poor people. Sir, India is not a poor nation, India is not a poor country, but this sort of misleading and this sort of wrong policies, we are gradually declining international arena. This is very shocking.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

15.00 hrs.

[*Translation*]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the birth centenary of India's great socialist leader and thinker Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia falls in the



year 2010. Remembering that great personality, I would like to ask the Government as to what is their policy on celebrating the birth centenary of all the great personalities born in the country as 25 to 30 hon'ble Members also sought to know about it. The birth centenary of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia is being celebrated across the country and the globe and therefore, the Government should also celebrate it. It was my demand.

What happened to this demand of mine?

15.01 hrs.

*[Shri Inder Singh Namdhari in the Chair]*

Her Excellency, the President' Address is the policy and statement of the Government through the President. Through the President the Government declares its policy, and programmes for the whole year. But, what has been stated through the President? The President has been used for delivering the statement. "We are giving top priority to price rise". And lastly, it was stated that "a Committee has been constituted on it. All the people from road to the Sansad are striving hard for this. The public is groaning. I hear the alluring statement of the Government. This statement changes in the way a culprit changes his statement on being captured. The statement of this Government resembles a culprit who is guilty. Almost everyone across the country and in the States admits that the prices have risen but the Government seems to be helpless. What does it mean? It means these people are not able to be in the Government. Prices are rising and the public is being befooled and deceived by making alluring statements. The public would continue their fight against price rise from road to Sansad. This fight is not going to stop. We would fight selflessly.

All know that the slogan "Mehangai rok bandho daam" was given by Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia. It is the Government that determines the prices, the statutory prices of sugarcane. Who determines the price of sugar? It is the Government that determines foodgrain prices. Who fixes the market price of foodgrains. Everything is going on one-sided. The reason for price-rise is that it has been left to the market to decide the prices. Potatoes are purchased from the farmers and its prices go down. Then it goes to storage and thereafter, it is the ordinary consumers to bear its price. Farmer's produce is purchased at the prices fixed by the Government and when this produce goes to the merchants its price rises. The price would become sky high. The Government fixed

the sugarcane price at rupees 130 per quintal and Sugar is being sold at a price of rupees 50 per kg to the consumers. Nobody is there to take care of it. People are being befooled and deceived by making misleading statements.

Someone says that the purchasing capacity is rising, someone blames the state government and someone says it is an international phenomena. Such a disjointed explanation is being given. The government has made a dozen different excuses. I want to ask what it is feeling helpless about. I say that it has given every person the licence to loot. If not, then it should tell us what the problem is in fixing prices. There shall not be a difference of more than 20 percent in a year in the value of farmers' produce. Why is it not making such a law? The hon. Member from DMK has raised the question as to why there is no law regarding price determination. Factory products are being sold at arbitrary prices. What is the production cost of these items? What is the price at which the common man purchases them? Price fixation should be done for such items.

'Anya daam ka ghatna badhna, aana ser ke andar ho,  
Har karkhaniya maal ki kimat, laagat se dedh guni se adhikho.'

This rise is not limited to one and a half times the cost of production, but is more than five to eight or ten times that cost. The capitalists are free to charge any price but the poor farmer is helpless, he has to supply his produce at the cost fixed by the government. But now the consumer is suffering. Hence, my second question to the government is when it fixes the cost of production and the value of the produce of farmers, then why can it not fix the prices of the goods the consumer buys from the market? What is the problem in doing so? I want a categorical reply to this question, otherwise the government will have to take the responsibility for the rising inflation. No one can counter me. No one in the entire country can counter me. This is my challenge. The government should tell us if it is not complicit in this conspiracy under which the price of the farmers produce is fixed by the government and that of the goods in the market by the traders. Then it says that the forces of demand and supply decide the market prices. This is a conspiracy. Besides, this is also a question of the welfare of the farmers. The farmers in the villages are panic stricken.  
...(Interruptions)

MR CHAIRMAN: It is not for you to point this out. This is not your work.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: This is a question of the welfare of farmers. They have said they will provide food security. This is also a lie. The population of India is 118 crores now and will rise to 130 crore by the year 2020. I had heard a song—'Chundariya ghatati jaye, umariya badhti jaye'. The population of the country is rising and the available land area is decreasing. The land area of the country has decreased from 14 crore 30 lakh hectares to 14 crore hectares. 30 lakh hectares of land area has decreased. Productivity is not increasing. The area under cultivation is shrinking. How does the government propose to provide food security in these circumstances? These people are only interested in import and export. They propose to provide food security by importing foodgrain. This will bleed the country, the farmers and the poor. Therefore, it is imperative to consider ways to increase foodgrain production and productivity before talking of food security. They say that schemes such as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana costing Rs. 25 thousand crore for the last five years, Food Security Mission costing five thousand crore and the National Horticulture Mission project are being implemented. All the hon. Members know about this. There is no participation. Do the hon. Members from this party and those sitting there know about the Krishi Vikas Yojana, Food Security Mission for the Horticulture Mission? A scheme without any information, participation, understanding, monitoring, honesty is meaningless. An account of the total amount of expenditure incurred and the amount of money spent out of 25000 crore rupees should be given. What is the expenditure incurred under the National Horticulture Mission? The government says the production of pulses has reached a stagnation point and there is no way to address the issue. The only fitting reply to this statement is that they are not fit to run the government. Foodgrain is in the same situation and the farmers are in dire straits.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Raghuvansh babu, you are speaking in a very poetic manner. I do not want to stop you but time is running out.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: But sir, I was happy when you came. Hence, I will speak briefly. The President in her Address says at one place that they will work for the welfare of the minorities. This is duping the poor. What happened to the Sachar Commission,

where is the Fatmi Committee Report, what about the Rangnath Mishra Commission? What has happened to them? There is no mention of the recommendations made by them. There is no mention of these three commissions.

Sir, what will happen to the minorities? I want to raise this question and demand a categorical reply to it. Why have the reports of the Rangnath Mishra Commission, Sachar Committee and Fatmi Committee been shelved, what action has been taken thereupon? I want to know this. Sir, they are just fooling the minorities. I also want to know about the backward Muslims.  
...(Interruptions)

SHRI SANDEEP DIKSHIT: Sir, I observed that there was applause on all your other points but there was no applause on your point relating to Shri Rangnath Mishra.  
...(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Wherever the minority people hear and see it, they would come to know its crux... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sandeep ji, you observed it very attentively and carefully as to who clapped and who did not.

....(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saran): Sir, there was no clapping amongst the BJP members. I want to see your guts, you please make it happen. ... (Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, Kabir Das ji had said, "Acharaj dekhabhari sadhu, Achraj dekhi bhari re." Kabir Das ji had once noticed something astonishing and I am noticing something even more appalling. I notice that a woman is at the center of power in the country. There are women at various important and dignified posts in the country, rather, they are also there at different key and higher posts. I can also tell the names of these women and the names of posts they are holding, but, the time does not permit me for this. What is the condition of women? about 6 lakh Asha-workers are serving in the rural areas without getting any remuneration. They do not even get an allowance of rupees 500. If they are entrusted with some specific task, only then they would be able to get rupees 100 or 50, otherwise, they would get nothing. It was decided in the meeting of the Steering Committee that they would at least be paid rupees 500 as monthly allowance, but,

later on, a decision came that the Ministry of Finance did not accede to that. The report of the said Steering Committee has been ignored despite the fact that today women are holding Asha-workers are at present serving in the rural areas. Of late about 14 lac Anganwadi workers were vigorously and aggressively demonstrating at Jantar-Mantar but, no one was paying attention towards them and no one came to them to listen to what they said. On the one hand, women are holding the key posts, while on the other, such things are happening. Reservation for women is on the cards. Sir, what is this? It is cheating with women. What would happen to the women of deprived classes and minority communities. Why don't they want to give them their due? Similarly, what fate would the women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes as well as backward classes meet? Can anyone tell me why they don't want to give them their due? Those women who are deprived and are not able to contest elections would not get reservation, whereas, there is reservation for those who have got these various posts without reservation. No, this is not fair. It would be cheating and deceit. Sir, this is why I want to raise this question. Now, I want to address the issue of regional disparity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Raghuvansh Babu, your voice is getting hoarse. This is also a matter of concern for me.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, I am speaking on behalf of crores of people. I am speaking about the downtrodden and the poor. And I am speaking for those who keenly look forward. Even if my throat gets dried up while speaking, I would consider myself a lucky person. Raising voice of crores of people may certainly end up in drying of my throat. But then, we can't imagine a voice stronger than that voice.

Sir, it has been stated that the National Highway would be constructed by constructing a stretch of 20 kms of road per day. Construction of a stretch of 20 kms of road per day has been mentioned, but, I say, it would be surprising if only a stretch of 01 km of road per day is constructed. In Bihar, five years ago, construction of a four laned road was sanctioned. Construct it only upto a stretch of one km. It is the policy of the Government to connect the capital to the East-West corridor and the Golden Quadrilateral. I would bow to their style of functioning if only this is materialized. How many years have gone by? Sir, a period of more than 6 years has passed. Shershah Suri had got the Grand Trunk road constructed within a period of four years.

SHRI TARA CHAND BHAGORA (Banswara): What happened when you were the Minister?

...(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: When I was Minister, this all would be on papers. The mystery of your reversal lies in my minister ship. That is the answer for that.... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Raghuvansh Babu, please conclude.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Laluji, let me ask you. Otherwise, later on, you will level charges of not being allowed to speak. But, this is the compulsion of the Chair.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Sir, RJD has got the opportunity only to conclude. All have spoken and I am concluding. So, please listen.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The list is with me. It is a long list.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, regional disparity and regionalism exist in the country. People of an area are beaten up and murdered in other areas. But, the Government is silent over such incidents. It puts a question mark on the national integration. I have raised the question of the national integration since as long as regional disparity and regionalism are not wiped out from the country....(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA (Chhota Udaipur): The hon'ble Minister is sleeping.... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please. It may happen to anyone. Don't make it a big issue.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Regionalism and regional disparity are the country's enemy as such as terrorism and communalism. Therefore, a categorical reply is expected to the question being raised. 25 points were also included in the previous President's Address, wherein it was stated that the work would be completed within a period of 100 days, but, not a single work has been completed. 400 days have passed instead of 100 days, but none of the works has been completed. So, either the Government should reply to this question or step down.

\*SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Tikamgarh): The Address by Her Excellency the President actually reflects the action plan of the government.

The government has itself admitted, through the Address, that the programmes and policies formulated for the common man have played an important role in the rise in inflation. This has made life very difficult for the common man and people in many places are taking recourse to suicides to escape the problems posed by inflation and poverty. However, there is no concrete plan to check inflation and act against hoarders.

The farmers are facing serious problems in many parts of the country due to either scarce rainfall or excessive rainfall. On the one hand, the Bundelkhand region in Madhya Pradesh first faced the problem of scant monsoon due to which rivers, ponds and wells did not get replenished and on the other hand, in many places in Tikamgarh, Chhattarpur, the little crop that grew was completely destroyed due to hailstorms. The package for Bundelkhand provides for water conservation and irrigation benefits but there is no mention of relief for the farmers.

The rise in terrorist activities has made the common man very insecure. On 22nd of February, an aircraft originating at Belgium flew to Delhi via Karachi and landed at the Indira Gandhi International Airport without permission. This is a big question mark on the Indian security system. The Pune incident has left us all shaken. There is no mention of the relevance of the POTA legislation in this scenario.

Chinese army is violating and infiltrating our borders. Incidents of infiltration of terrorists near the line of control in Jammu and Kashmir have gone up.

4.33 crore families are purported to have been provided employment under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Guarantee Scheme but there is no mention of the fake job cards being issued and the heavy bungling of the funds meant for payment of wages.

All the unelectrified villages should be covered under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana. Even now there are a large number of majra tolas in various states in the country which are waiting for electricity.

Heavy investment has been made through Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan and under the mid day meal scheme but in many villages the primary schools have just one teacher. The impact of this fact on the quality of education should be kept in mind. Even today, in villages the students clean the school and there are no peons or sweepers to take care of this work.

On the one hand, a scheme for establishment of 373 model colleges in backward districts is being formulated and on the other hand, there are many districts in my parliamentary constituency Tikamgarh (MP) where there are no Kendriya Vidyalayas till now.

A number of natural gas reserves have come to light in Sagar and Damoh districts in Madhya Pradesh where gas is being discovered from bore wells in fields. ONGC should explore such places and set up gas plants there. Blackmarketing of LPG gas is going on at a large scale but no discussion is being undertaken for putting it to a stop.

Where on the one hand, 20km of highways are proposed to be constructed per day, on the other hand, the maintenance of highways is being neglected. The construction of fourlane Expressway Highway from Kashmir to Kanyakumari is going on at a slow pace. The national highway from Jhansi to Khajuraho, used by a large number of foreign tourists is in a bad state and not being maintained properly.

Emphasis should be laid on special action plans for rural areas, especially the hilly terrains, which do not have mobile connectivity.

250 crore rupees were allocated to the National Ganga River Basin Authority to stop industrial effluents from flowing into the river. Work in this direction was also started but even today industrial effluents are polluting the river at many points. There should be provision for punitive action in this regard. The National River Conservation Plan is being run for 38 rivers in 20 states. All the rivers in the country should be brought under coverage of this plan because sparse rainfall is leading to a crisis of water for drinking and irrigation purposes.

Health facilities in villages leave a lot to be desired. If there are doctors then there is no staff; if medicine is available then doctors are unavailable; in some places there is no building. Consideration should be given to

fix a quota at the time of admission to ensure recruitment of doctors in medical centres in villages. Chhattarpur, Tikamgarh are towns but still heart patients have to travel 150-100km by road to reach Jhansi to catch a train. Some patients die on the way.

There is no mention of checking infiltration by foreigners or of identifying and deporting them despite the fact that infiltrators are not only posing a burden on our economy but also contributing to the rise in crime. The population of border states has risen very fast during the last few years due to these infiltrators.

There should be a uniform curriculum in the private and government schools throughout the country so that uniform education is provided to all. There has been no mention of this issue.

Child labour is a serious challenge which has been neglected.

Bharat Nirman will remain incomplete till the time that the poorest person in the lowest strata does not get housing and clothing, medicine on falling ill, employment if he is unemployed and food if he is hungry.

\*SHRI SHER SINGH GHUBAYA (Ferozepur): Thank you, Sir, for permitting me to speak on the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address to both Houses of Parliament.

Sir in this Budget Session, the entire country was looking up to the Government. It had high hopes of the Government. People expected a lot from the Government. However, their hopes have been belied. The Hon'ble President in her address to both the Houses of Parliament had outlined the policies of the Government. An assurance was given that rising prices will be checked. All of us heard her address on 22nd February. However, it is rather unfortunate that the Government contradicted itself and chose to present an inflationary budget on 26th February. The prices of fertilizers, edible oil and petrol have gone up as a result of this 'anti-poor budget'. All hopes of the common man have been dashed to the ground.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Point of order?

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: I want to give some information.

MR. CHAIRMAN: First use the correct word.

Sher Singhji, please sit down for a moment. I have asked, but he is talking about giving some information.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Hon. Chairman, Sir, there is an ashram of Kripalu Maharaj ji in Pratapgarh district in my constituency Kausambi. It has a huge temple where a bhandara was being held and food and utensils were being distributed to the poor. I have just got the information that around 90 to 100 people have been badly hurt due to the main gate falling down. I would like you to get information about this incident from the state government through your office.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The chair takes cognizance of this request and arrangements shall be made to get the information.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Thank you.

*[English]*

SHRI SHER SINGH GHUBAYA: Sir, in para 8 of the President's Address, the Government has claimed that top priority is being given to provide relief to the common man and bringing down the sky-rocketing prices.

However, sir, the poor people are finding it difficult to make both ends meet. The common man is finding himself at the receiving end. The poor people cannot have two square meals a day. In spite of assurances to the contrary, the Government has taken measures that have resulted in further increase in the prices of essential commodities.

Sir, last year, vast areas of our country were plagued by drought. The production of food-grains was a casualty. A meeting of Chief Ministers was convened by the centre. I accompanied the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab Sardar Parkash Singh Badal in that meeting. The Central Government expressed concern at the situation. The centre asked Punjab to increase the production of food-grains. The centre assured us that Punjab would be adequately compensated. However, it is unfortunate that the farmers of Punjab, were not provided their due. We had asked for Rs.1200 crores. The farmers of Punjab treat their crops like their sons. They even sell household items to save their crops.

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

However, the centre has failed to bail them out in times of crisis. I am grateful to the Hon'ble Agricultural Minister. He sent our file containing our demand for Rs. 1200 crores to the Hon'ble Prime Minister. It was then sent to the Hon'ble Finance Minister. However, it has now been put in cold storage. The farmers of Punjab have got nothing.

Sir, the Government will be providing diesel subsidy to only 8 districts of Punjab. This is a grave injustice. The people of all districts of Punjab face the same problems. The weather-pattern is the same throughout Punjab. Hence, diesel subsidy should be provided to all 12 districts of Punjab. There should be no discrimination in this matter.

Sir, in para 24 & 25 of the President's Address, the Government has said that border states will be provided special assistance to ensure that a balanced development takes place every where. Like Rajasthan, Gujarat and Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab is also a border state. Sir, the people of border areas bear the brunt whenever there is a war or a war-like situation on the border. I myself hail from a border area. My village is located at a distance of only 3 Kms from the international border. I have seen the devastation and havoc caused by the 1965 and 1971 Indo-Pak wars. Bombs and cannon-balls rained on our territory. We have suffered. We helped our valiant soldiers. However, the Government did not provide us any relief or succour. No compensation was provided to us.

Sir Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh are being given incentives. We welcome it. But why not provide these incentives to Punjab also? Why is step-motherly treatment being meted to Punjab. The industries of Punjab should also be provided incentives. It will help in creation of jobs for unemployed youths. It will revive our moribund industries.

Sir, the Government has said that it will ensure quality education for all. I welcome this announcement. More schools should be opened in the border areas. A package for our industries should be provided. Children residing in far-flung areas should reap the benefits of quality-education.

Sir, Punjabis residing in foreign countries are being discriminated and harassed. Sir, the Government claims that we are a great power. We are a N-power. However, when Punjabis and Indians are harassed in foreign

countries, the Government fails to react in an effective manner. Whether it is Australia, Japan or Afghanistan, Indians and Punjabis are facing hardships everywhere. The fanatic Taliban kidnapped and beheaded two innocent Sikhs in Afghanistan. But, the Indian Government could do nothing to help them.

Sir, in 1984, when the Golden temple was attacked, many Sikhs defected to foreign countries as their religious sentiments were hurt. They were not terrorists. These people now want to come back to Punjab. The Central Government should allow them to come back. They should be brought into the national mainstream.

Sir, I hail from Rai Sikh community. It has been provided the status of Scheduled Caste in Punjab. But, in other states, the Rai Sikh Community has been placed either in the BC category or in General category. I request the Government to provide Scheduled Caste status to the Rai Sikh Community in all states of the Indian Union.

Chairman Sir, the Government has said that the quantity of foodgrains to be provided to the poor people is being increased from 2 lakh tonnes to 5 lakh tonnes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ghubaya, please wind up.

SHRI SHER SINGH GHUBAYA: Sir, I welcome the increase in the quantity of foodgrains being provided to the poor people. However, the very system of issuing of BPL cards is flawed and faulty. In Punjab, the previous Congress Government provided BPL cards only to its party-workers. The genuine people were over-looked. I appeal to the Government to conduct a proper survey so that the genuine poor people can get the BPL cards. The Government should do something concrete to mitigate the sufferings of the poor people of the country.

*[Translation]*

\*SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (Bikaner): I, through you would like to submit some constructive suggestions regarding the President's Address delivered to both the Houses on 22.02.2010.

33 percent reservation for women in the Legislature and mention of empowerment of women have been included in the Preside Address but the important issue of curbing the practice of female foeticide in view of the increasingly skewed sex ratio in the country should have found a place in the Address.

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

In some developed states the sex ratio has fallen below 800 females per 1000 males which is a matter of national concern. Hence, measures to check the practice of female foeticide should have found a place in the President's Address.

The President's Address mentioned the good economic growth rate in the country but no special emphasis was laid on the agricultural growth rate. The target for agricultural growth rate has been fixed at 4 percent and this target has been constant for the past many years. However the target achieved was 1.6 percent in 2008-09 and lower than that during 2009-10. This demonstrates that the government is not serious about achieving the target for agricultural growth rate. Hence, I would like to suggest, through you, that a comprehensive strategy should be placed before the country for all round development of agriculture.

The target for economic growth is 9 per cent but the President's Address has not made any mention of population control which is a matter of concern. The general public is not able to get the benefits of the rising rate of economic growth and the gap between the rich and the poor is widening. A comprehensive and long term policy of population control should be chalked out to enable the general public to get the benefits of the economic growth in the country and the measures for population control should get a place in the President's Address.

The President's Address has mentioned NREGS among the important schemes being run in the country but complaints of corruption in the implementation of the said scheme have been increasing. During the President's Address on 04 June 2009 in the House, a reassurance had been given that an independent monitoring and complaint redressal mechanism would be put in place to ensure transparency and accountability to the public in the implementation of NREGS. The President ought to have presented a progress report in this regard during this Address but no mention of this issue has been made therein. The President's Address should have touched upon this issue.

Unemployment and corruption are major problems being faced by the country but no special measures to reduce unemployment and corruption have been mentioned in the President's Address. The country will not be able to achieve development in real terms till the problems of unemployment and corruption are dealt with.

Hence, the issue of removing unemployment and corruption should also find a place in the President's Address.

The President's Address to the joint session of the House on 04 June 2009 had talked of implementing 'one rank one pension' for the defence forces but neither this issue nor any progress report in this regard has been mentioned in this Address. This is a matter of concern. This is a long standing demand of the armed forces, hence, this issue should be addressed at the earliest and should have found a place in the President's Address.

The handloom sector stands only second to the agricultural sector in providing employment opportunities in the country, but loan waiver was granted only for agricultural loans in 2008-09. The weavers, craftsmen and artisans who had taken loans amounting to a thousand or two thousand rupees 20-25 years earlier are not in a position to pay-off their loans till date. There is no mention of waiving of their loans in the President's Address which is a matter of concern. Hence, a scheme to waive the loans taken by weavers and artisans should have been mentioned in the President's Address.

\*SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN (Sabarkantha): With profound grief, I would like to tell you as to what the present condition of the Government is and what the Government is doing. The Government is slaking claims for development and crushing the common man under the price rise burden. I would like to tell all the learned people present here that the modern marketing model has failed the entire economy. There was plenty of various items during the regime of the NDA Government, but today, not only have their prices gone up, but their scarcity also could well be seen in the market. During the NDA Government regime, the international scenario was not favourable to us. A lot of international sanctions were imposed on us due to the Pokhran nuclear tests by us. And at the same time, our neighbouring country has also pushed our country into war by directly striking at Kargil. Still, the NDA Government put a check on price rise even after facing the war and the international sanctions at the same time. Whether the present scenario of the international circumstances and natural calamity like drought is worse than a scenario of war and international sanctions, in the name of which the Government wants to cover up

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

its inability to check price rise. The food crisis is increasingly growing in a great country like ours where the big rivers such as the Ganga, the Yamuna, the Narmada, the Sindhu, the Sutlej, the Kaveri, the Brahmaputra and the Saraswati exist and also where the soil is so fertile that farmers are able to grow upto five crops a year. Food Crisis has been assuming alarming proportion during day by day. This trend started in the year 2006 and is still going on. The sole reason for this is that the erring private companies have not made proper arrangements for import, storage and distribution. If the Government pays no attention to this aspect, the agro and food crisis shall continue to be the destiny of the country. Though the Government has increased the salaries of its employees by way of the Pay Commission, yet the Government employees are the most aggrieved lot today. Secondly, the Government has only encourages of the terrorists by withdrawing 'POTA' concerning terrorism, that is an important issue related to national security thereby leaving more than 110 crore population of the country threatened and helpless. During the last five-six years, terrorism has list almost all the major cities and vital installations of the country. Despite all this, we don't feel the need to put in place some stringent law in this connection. I fail to understand what type of policy the Government has in this regard. If we put to death someone's entire family and only utter the English term 'sorry' for this heinous act, then, do we bring back the affected person's happiness. All the countrymen have feelings and sentiments in their inner self, but, till when our innocent people shall bear the brunt of terrorism?"

Besides, we very well know that there is a out break of various other diseases in the country which are more dangerous than even Swine flu. But, it is regretted that the arrangements made by the Government to fight all these diseases to save the lives of people of this great country are like a drop in the ocean. Since the outbreak of Swine Flu in the country has its origin in America, that's why the Government has tackled this epidemic very eagerly and urgently. How many lives has the Swine Flu claimed in the country? Perhaps, the number is very meager. But, the Government has never taken pain to pay attention towards the number of lives being claimed by other diseases. Where would then the related figures come from? Thousands of people today are suffering from a number of diseases like cancer, anemia and other diseases related to kidney, heart and liver. But, there are no proper arrangements for their treatment. Even the minor facilities like x-ray and blood investigation are

still not available at block level. How will the innocent people continue to trust us in such a situation.

Today, we certainly are a part of competitive environment, but, we can't escape our moral responsibility. Be there any Government, the people will remain the same and the nation's development is possible only by winning of the people's trust. Therefore, there is a need to think as to how their trust could be won. Our scientists have undoubtedly held our heads high in pride. Are our poor farmers at all aware of this development? Perhaps, not. We all know that it is the responsibility of the Government to ensure that our small and marginal farmers have access to the advantage of various researches made by our scientist, so that they are able to enhance their produce by making good use of technical and scientific advancements. We should always remember that a big leader of America had once said that the people of India eat more. If someone even monitors our eating and drinking habits, then, there is a need to think as to what would happen to our countrymen in future. The Government is losing people's faith. People have started saying that had their been really any Government in the country, then various problems would not have aggravated, rather they would have subsided.

\*SHRI RAMASHANKAR RAJBHAR (Salempur): Sir, in H.E. the President's Address, it has been mentioned that the Members of both the Houses would complete their glorious decade and a lot of legislative work would be done. This is a welcome step. But, the Members have not been taken care of. At the time of the first general election in the country, the population of the country was nearly 30 to 35 crore but, now the country's population has increased to 120 crores. Naturally, it has increased four times. But, neither the parliamentary constituencies nor the MPLAD Funds have been increased. Do the rising prices have any effect on an MP? The public of a constituency expects development from their M.P. And if an M.P. meets their expectation, only then the public would re-elect him to the Parliament. The real problem is as to how an MP would come again to the Parliament when it is not possible to work for development in such a large constituency with a meager amount of rupees two crores.

In the Address, development for all in an equitable and impractical manner and reservation for women have

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.



been mentioned. This is right and also in line with the true spirit of the constitution. But, such things do not seem to materialize anywhere even after 62 years of independence, since the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary are its pillars. I can say that the SCs, STs & OBCs who are living in major part of the country, still have their nominal representation in the Executive, the Judiciary and in the fourth pillar-Media. Is this just and fair and is it called impartiality? No matter 63 years have gone by, but, now measures would be taken; women empowerment is essential in the country. Will the Women's Reservation Bill not seek 50 percent reservation for women belonging to SC/ST/OBC communities to provide them opportunity to come to the mainstream? Various states have demanded that the castes ruined due to social evils in the country, should be included in the Scheduled Castes to increase their ratio. Why is it so that a Bill in this regard is not being introduced? In this connection, the Government of Uttar Pradesh submitted a proposal for inclusion of 16 such castes, but, regrettably, there is no mention of it in the Address. If the government wants to change the education system, why a uniform education system is not being introduced in the country? Why do teachers and officers not enrol their children in the schools in the area of their work. How education will be given in those villages under Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan where there is no land for schools. How can we build a healthy India when no doctor wants to go to a village?

Under Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana only the majras having influential or powerful inhabitants get electrified. The majras, in which poor persons live, get electrified only on paper. It was a good effort to provide land and other resources for industry at district level and tehsil level. The villagers would have got employment. But everything went in vain. Some powerful persons got all the benefits but the industries could not survive. There is a great shortcoming in selection of eligible persons under Indira Awas Yojana and under Urban Housing Scheme as it has been left for the Panchayats to select the eligible persons. Those who enjoy the favour of Panchayat become eligible even if they are not eligible otherwise and the poor do not get anything. The poor are deprived due to fault in identification of poor and their needs. The persons implementing the schemes for the poor are benefitted and not the poor for whom those schemes are meant.

The President's Address has no reference to measures to deal with corruption. Has corruption been

uprooted from the country? Whatsoever schemes we may formulate. We cannot take our country forward until and unless corruption in implementation of the scheme is uprooted.

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SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Mainpuri): Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to give a sad information to the House. A 'Bhandara' organized by Shri Kripalu Maharaj was going on in Mangarh in Pratapgarh of Uttar Pradesh. Some food items were being served in utensils in that 'bhandara'. The place was over-crowded. Suddenly there was a stampede and 65 persons have died.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, please take this issue into notice and see that the follow up action is taken.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Chairman, Sir, 80 people are seriously injured. Most of the dead are women and children. Some of the injured may also succumb to their injuries. I would like the government to extend some financial assistance to the dead and injured persons and the House to express its condolences.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have told the Minister. I have given instructions to the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that he should take the necessary steps.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Sir, I have noted the observations of the hon. Senior Member, and whatever possible we have to do from the Government of India side we will do.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

The next speaker is Shri Adhir Chowdhury. Now, you please speak peacefully because you did not allow others to speak with peace.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Baharampur): Sir, with all the humility at my command, I can say that the

former Minister is very close to me. Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh is senior and close to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You will feel that how infuriated one becomes when one is interrupted.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Everybody is at liberty to interrupt me. There is no problem. I do not have any hesitation to say this so far as you are there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I just want to tell you that it is not a good habit. When somebody is speaking, let him speak and when your turn comes you give the reply with the core of your heart.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Does it apply to everybody?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, it applies to everybody.

15.32 hrs.

### MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—*Contd.*

[*English*]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Baharampur): Sir, at the outset, I express my concern and condolence with what has been stated by the hon. Member Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav in regard to the death of devotees in Pratapgarh in Uttar Pradesh.

Sir, I have the privilege to participate in the debate on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. By seizing the opportunity, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that it is the Presidential authority that keeps the country and the people constitutionally bound together. I would like to quote Dr. Munshi. He says:

"... for the whole country his authority runs like a golden thread throughout the Constitution. The citizens look to him for the protection of their fundamental rights. The judiciary, for initiating legislation and assenting thereto. The States look to him for safeguarding their autonomy. The country as a whole depends on him for protection in an emergency."

Sir, following the same tradition, it is incumbent upon the Rashtrapati Ji to address both the Houses assembled together each year, and thereafter Members used to take part in the deliberations.

India is a country, which is recognized as the fourth largest economy as per purchasing-power parity; seventh in terms of geographical area; and second in terms of population.

It is an old country, but a new nation. It is an ancient civilization but having a modern expression where we do not believe in the concept of *I* or *you*, but we believe in the concept of *we*.

[*Translation*]

It is our country. It is our nation. It is our duty to express our views.

[*English*]

Sir, the essence of the Presidential Address has been reflected in the presentation of General Budget 2010-11. You will be happy to note that out of total Plan expenditure in the General Budget, 37 per cent of the total Plan outlay has been earmarked for social sector, amounting to Rs. 1,33,674 crore. Insofar as infrastructure is concerned, as we know, India has been suffering from infrastructural bottlenecks, and to overcome the infrastructural deficiencies, the Government has earmarked 46 per cent of the total Plan outlay amounting to Rs. 1,73,552 crore towards infrastructure. Insofar as rural infrastructure is concerned, the Budget has allocated 25 per cent of the Plan outlay Bharat Nirman Scheme amounting to Rs. 48,000 crore. The effective rate of interest for the farmers has been lowered by five per cent per annum, and the total agricultural credit which has been decided to be provided to the farming sector amounts to Rs. 3,75,000 crore. It is a mind-boggling proportion of fund that the Government is going to pour into the agriculture sector. The Government is committed to undertake the second Green Revolution. We are happy, as I belong to the Eastern part of India, that this time the Eastern part of India including Eastern UP, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, Bengal and all other States have been included in the Green Revolution that is going to be initiated by the Government.

Sir, the President in her Address on the eve of the Republic Day stated, "Do not forget that along with the structure of steel, cement and mortar, it is also important

to bridge our differences, build roads to connect hearts and minds; harbour compassion, generate goodwill towards all, and transport these feelings to strengthen the unity of the nation. We will also have to create an atmosphere for our citizens to exercise their rights and tell them to perform their duties as well." This is India. This is our country.

Sir, you are all well aware, as a learned person, you are also well aware that this year is the 150th Birth Anniversary of the great world Poet Rabindranath Tagore. I am thankful to the Union Government that the Indian Government has already requested UNESCO to celebrate the 150th Birth Anniversary of the great Poet Rabindranath Tagore worldwide. On this solemn occasion, I think we should also do something to commemorate the contribution and the ideals of the great Poet. I am provoked to quote here what he said, "According to the true Indian view, our consciousness of the world merely as the sum total of things that exist and as governed by law is imperfect..."

"But it is perfect when our consciousness realises all things, as spiritually, one with it, and, therefore, capable of giving us joy. For us the highest purpose of this world is not merely living in it, knowing it and making use of it, but realising our own selves in it through expansion of sympathy not alienating from it and dominating it but comprehending and uniting it with ourselves in perfect union.

His is symbol of universal humanism. Sir, I would urge upon this Government through this House that the Government should take special initiative in commemoration of the world poet.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Railway Minister has taken the notice about commemorating Rabindranath Tagore's 150th Anniversary.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: She has introduced some trains after his name. What I am proposing to the Government is that the Government should build any monument or museum or anything else so that the citizens of the world could be able to memorise him for eternity, for example like the *Samadhi Sthal*. If any foreigner comes to India, he must visit *Samadhi Sthal* or *Shakti Sthal*. In line with this, can we not do anything to commemorate the greatest poet of the world Rabindranath Tagore so that we can give him the due respect for eternity?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Definitely.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: On the other hand, it is disgusting to me and it is shameful to me also that another prodigy and artist that India has ever gifted named after Fida Hussain who has been forced to live in exile for years and now he has been awarded the citizenship of a country named Qatar. Yesterday Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav has also referred to it and I am thankful to him. But why was Maqbul Fida Hussain forced to live in exile and was forced to flee the country? It is because the Hindu Zealots had perpetrated the vandalism of worst kind against the great internationally recognized and acknowledged artist and, therefore, he has been forced to flee our country. Not only that. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Mr. Chairman Sir, the Congress in power. ...*(Interruptions)* The persons like Maqbool Fida Hussain. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Adityanath ji, I will call you after him. You may continue your statement.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Hundreds of defamation cases have been filed against him by the *Bajrang Dal*, VHP and other *Sangh Pariwar* members. Nowadays we are facing the gravest threat from terrorism, from insurgents and from extremists etc. etc. A few days ago, after the Pune blast we came to know about another organization which has been nurtured and nourished by Pakistani army and ISI and other anti-national forces and it was called Karachi Project. The fugitives of Indian origin used to go to Pakistan and got trained, equipped and thereafter sent back to our country for subversive activities. You will be astonished to know that those fugitives of Indian origins have been indoctrinated by showing the videograph on Godhara riots and on Gujarat riots. Babri demolition are responsible for accentuating the terrorist activities in India? Yesterday, the former Minister Shri Lal Krishna Advani was rancouring on the issue on pre-1953 Kashmir status.

The stand of the Government is clear. Kashmir is an integral part of India. People of Kashmir exercise their franchise to elect their own Government. I would just refer to something which you will be cautious to

note. Out of the 15 points of pre-1953 Kashmir, one is that the taxes collected by the Union or the State on behalf of the Union remain exclusively under Jammu and Kashmir's control. I would just like to remind you that a few months earlier the Chief Minister of Gujarat Mr. Narendra Modi advocated for autonomy of this kind for his State. My advice to hon. former Home Minister is that charity should begin at home.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now. I have given you fifteen minutes.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Justice Ranganath Mishra Commission report issue was raised here. The issue of Women's Reservation Bill was raised here. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No interruptions please. Shri Bishnu Pada Ray, if he is speaking let him speak. When your turn comes you can reply to that.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: In the Presidential Address it is stated that the Government has developed a comprehensive roadmap for the development of minority communities. Credit flow to the minority communities has risen to Rs.82,000 crore in 2008-09 which exceeds 12 per cent of the total priority sector lending... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: I am going to conclude, Sir.

Recruitment of minorities to posts in Central Government has gone up steadily. In fresh recruitment, minority representation has increased from seven per cent in 2006-07 to more than nine per cent in 2008-09. May I ask Mulayam Singhji, may I ask CPI(M) party leadership, whether they will support Shri L.K. Advani on his already stated objective that he would run a campaign from village to village against the report of Ranganath Mishra Commission?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I now call Yogi Aditya Nath to speak. Shri Chowdhury, please sit down. I have called the next Member.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: May I ask Mulayam Singhji and other Members whether they will support the Women's Reservation Bill; whether the CPI(M) and BJP will support the Communal Violence (Prevention) Bill? This needs to be sorted out. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have requested you thrice to conclude. Okay. I allow you for one minute.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, this is the year of 125th anniversary of the great grand old party, the Indian National Congress party which is still at the commanding heights of the Indian politics. The conservative Hindutva party and the proletariat Left parties are going to be in a limbo in future as has been indicated by the recent verdict of the electorate.

The Indian National Congress by virtue of its benign attitude, by virtue of its accommodative attitude and as standard bearer of communal harmony and secularism in our country, has been prospering day after day and year after year.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I request you to conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: The people are not going to be benefitted from this hue and any being made by them on the issue of price-rise and other useless issues. ... (*Interruptions*)

\*SHRI NINONG ERING (Arunachal East): Sir, I would like to express my thanks to H.E. the President of India, appreciating her interesting Address on 22 February, 2010 to both the Houses assembled together. Through this Address, she has informed us of the various programmes being run by the present UPA Government.

The first line of her Address in which she has paid condolences to the families who have lost their family members during the recent terrorist attack, is highly appreciable. This is an important indication of her affection towards her countrymen. Besides, in connection with the terrorist activities, she has also reiterated the Government's urge to the leftist terrorists to shun the path of violence.

She has also made a mention of saving the 'Aam Aadmi', who was focal in the promises made by the Government during its previous tenure, from the crisis emerging due to monsoon failure. It is also appreciable. It means that the economic and social problems are being actively tackled and such initiatives keep the economic development dynamic. I thank her again.

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

Various developmental programmes being run by the present Government are remarkable, some of them are very important. They are:

- Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme;
- Rural Development Scheme;
- Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna;
- Rural Drinking Water Scheme;
- Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojna.
- Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission;
- Rajiv Awas Yojna and simplification and prioritization required for reforms in respect of
- Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises Schemes is underway.

Under the special Accelerated Road Development Programme, construction of 1600 kms long Arunachal highway in my own home state. Arunachal Pradesh is included. It is highly remarkable. Not only this, the plan to connect each district of all the North-Eastern States with two laned national highway is appreciable. It is a very big gift by the Government to the people of these states. Moreover, the home lighting system in all the bordering villages there, which has become operational to a great extent, is itself a big achievement. A target to construct a stretch of 20 kms. of road everyday has been fixed in connection with expansion of highways. It is also remarkable. From Rupai to Parshwamkund-Purkugselek to Pasighat.

It is really a big thing to satisfy the Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers by giving them their due right under the Scheduled Tribes and other traditional Forest Dwellers Act. They are now getting their own heritage.

Similarly, a number of programmes have been formulated for the all round development of the Minority Communities. These programmes are being given due thrust to protect their interests. The number of scholarships to be given to them has increased to 15 lac. Also, a proposal to amend the 'WAQF' Act for their welfare is also under consideration. The following schemes are very important from the country's development point of view:

1. National Rural Health Mission;
2. National Judicial & Legal Reforms Mission,
3. National Marine Development Programme;
4. Setting up of the Unique Identification Authority of India;
5. Action-Plan on National Climate Change;
6. Launching of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission; and
7. The formulation of the Universal Service Obligation Fund Scheme to provide advantage of modern communication facilities to the rural areas.

In the year 2010-2011, the work to install 10 thousand towers has started which aims at providing connectivity to the remote or far-flung areas. Under this there is a unique programme to provide nearly 60 crore telephone connections in the country.

Our economy is likely to progressively grow with the exploration of 20 new oil fields. With this, the new scheme for LPG distribution namely—'Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitrak Yojna' would prove to be very good. It is very remarkable.

The Bill seeking 33 per cent reservation for women is likely to be passed at the earliest.

National Secondary Education, Sarvasiksha Abhiyan and Mid-day Meal Programme are already existing and the Right of Free and Compulsory Education to Children Act, 2009 is likely to come into force from the coming month of April. The scheme to provide broadband internet connectivity to nearly 18 thousand colleges and 400 universities with the launch of National Education Mission is very vital. With the setting up of the National Council for Higher Education and Research, the progress in the important sector of vocational training and skill development is likely to be expedited.

The 'Sakshar Bharat Abhiyan' is specifically focused on women literacy.

The UPA Government proposes to pass a Terrorism-related Bill, 2005 which is still pending and which aims at putting a check on terrorism and destructive activities of terrorists. This Bill is specifically necessary.

Our country has got the opportunity to feel proud to get credit for hosting the Common Wealth Games to be

held in October, Housing of Games would be an outstanding activity in the world. The Doordarshan would also telecast the events.

It is a remarkable thing that the country's sportspersons and film artists have earned fame at the international level.

We are on the way to realize the dreams of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, that seek to remove poverty, diseases and ignorance etc. from the country.

With this all, I once again express my thanks to Madam Chairperson for giving me an opportunity to feel proud to be here. I express my hearty thanks to her.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I believe that you will not interrupt others now.

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Sir, the hon. President had delivered an Address before a joint assembly of the House on 22 February which is being discussed in the House today. The Address by the hon. President is taken to be an account of the achievements and the future plans of the government. It is also an accepted tradition that the Address is passed" with general consensus and a motion of thanks for the President is passed by the House. However, the Address read out by the hon. President in the joint assembly seemed an attempt by the UPA to issue untrue and misleading statement through the President and also compromised the dignity of the office of the President. The Address was completely directionless. The UPA government has been in power for more than five and a half years. During this period, the government has proved itself to be an utter failure in economic terms. This government has not provided any real development in the country apart from empty assurances. As for internal and external security of the country the UPA government has done nothing except fool the people of the country. We have to face the challenge of vote bank politics which seeks to garner votes by inflaming regional sentiments and putting the internal and external security of the country at risk. During the last session, the entire opposition had come together raised their voice on regarding the issue of sugarcane prices the very first day. Due to this unanimity shown by the opposition, the conspiracy of the government to oppress the sugarcane farmers had failed. The farmers have been able to get fair price for their produce for the first time due to the strong stand taken by the opposition. All of us are aware

of the consternation caused by inflation all over the country. The inflation has grown manifold during these six years. The price of the farmers produce has not increased. The farmers are not getting higher price for their produce but the cost of fertiliser has been increased before..(*Interruptions*) the commencement of the session.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The problem is this is a paradox that when one side speaks the other side calls them liars. What should be done?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No one's statement will go on record apart from that of Yogi Adityanath.

...(Interruptions)\*

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Sir, the remuneration paid to the farmers have not kept up with the speed with which the prices of fertilizer and seeds have increased. This government has no control over inflation. The Prime Minister and the Hon. Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution Minister keep on issuing statements. This is the first time that the cost of sugar goes up by five rupees per kg on the very next day that the food minister issues a statement. In the last six years, we have observed that sugar, which used to cost twelve rupees per kg has become as costly as fifty rupees per kg due to all these scams.

The cost of pulses has increased from twenty-eight rupees per kg to 90-100 rupees per kg during these six years. These people talk about the common man but who is this common man. The recommendations of the sixth pay commission were implemented but how many people have benefited in actual terms as a result thereof. Even if we add up the families of one crore people in service, it would mean that there are five crore beneficiaries. What about the remaining 115 crore people in the country, do they not come in the category of common people?

The Government announces that our storehouses have adequate food grain reserves. If your stores are full then why are people dying of hunger? Thousands of people have starved to death during the last six years. There have been reports of large number of starvation deaths from Eastern UP, Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa and other parts of the country. The government has not been able to provide foodgrains for them. The lakh

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\*Not recorded.

tonnes of foodgrain rotted and were eaten up by rats in our godowns but the government has no plan in place to make foodgrain available for the poor. Therefore, whatever the government has said through the President's Address in this joint session of the Parliament is nothing but an effort to deceive the people. The UP A government is in the dock over the issue of inflation. A discussion on inflation had been held in this House on 25 February and even then the government was all at sea, it had nothing to say and no explanation to give. It is an unfortunate situation that on 26 February, while presenting the budget the Finance Minister once again imposed excise duty on petroleum products which has led to an increase of about two and a half to three rupees in the price of petrol even though the price of crude oil is quite low in comparison with the year 2008. This burden will also be passed on to the consumer because the truckers, bus owners and taxi rentals have also raised their fares. This government is making the people suffer with its actions and has no concern for the general public. I think this government wants to prove that it is encouraging hoarders and blackmarketers and has become a puppet in their hands.

The security scenario in this country has been terrible during the last five D 0 5 years. The country is reeling under the onslaught of jihadi terrorism. Mumbai was attacked on 26 November 2008. At that time, the country had hardened its resolve and the government has also talked of taking action against Pakistan. But it seems that now the government has admitted defeat and keeps inviting Pakistan for talks although it is not ready to do so. But our government keeps insisting on talks. In the meanwhile, a hotel in Pune is attacked. The entire country is in the target of jihadi terrorism. There is no metropolis, district or city in this country which has not suffered from the fanaticism of Jihadi terrorists. But the government is quiet and is making no effort to acknowledge this terrorism. Sometimes the Indian Mujahideen and sometimes the Lashkar-i-Taiba keep on sending e-mails and issuing warnings but the government is doing nothing except issuing statements and forcing the people to live in an atmosphere of fear and terror. It talks of leading the country towards the path of good governance but everyone is aware of the facts.

Sir, in 2004 when UPA Government was formed at the centre, the problem of naxalism existed in only 54 districts in six states. But in these six years, unfortunately

more than 225 districts across 23 states have been struck by naxalism. The government is in no position today to solve this problem. ...*(Interruptions)* I am not saying this, this figure has been prepared by the Ministry of Home Affairs, not by me. You please ask the Ministry of Home Affairs. When you come to the House, please come after reading newspapers, magazines or other materials. ...*(Interruptions)*

**16.00 hrs.**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Aaron, what do you want to say?

*[English]*

SHRI J. M. AARON RASHID (Theni): Sir, my submission is that he should not speak like that. Ever since the UFA has come to power, the Government has controlled naxalism. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are an honourable member of the ruling party, it is unbecoming of you to interrupt like this. You please take your seat. It is not a good habit; you will have to leave it. If this House is to be run, everyone will have to work together and it is not the responsibility of a single person.

...*(Interruptions)*

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Please see those documents which are tabled by your Government in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Please address the chair.

YOGI ADITYA NATH: I am addressing the Chair only. I am looking neither at you nor at him, I am addressing the Chair only.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I was looking at Yogi ji's direction, but what can I do when I didn't see him. Yogi ji, please speak. 12 minutes have passed, please conclude.

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Only 10 minutes have passed and during these 10 minutes, they have disturbed me for 5 minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have disturbed Yogi ji for 5 minutes, please don't repeat it.

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Sir, naxalism has struck whole country today and it is spreading rapidly. The government has no clear strategy. After all, what type of talks will we held with the people who warn of armed struggle against the country, who don't accept the Constitution of India, who indulge in killing of innocent Indians and police personnels.. If they are ready to accept the Constitution of India and agree to come to talks after surrendering their arms, only then talks should be held. The government should not repeat the mistake committed in the year 2004 which led to the spread of naxalism from 24 districts to 225 districts. Earlier, naxalism was divided into PWG, MCC and several other groups, but this Government gave them the opportunity to unite against it. As a result thereof, naxals are now dreaming of converting whole of India into red-corridor. It is certain that they have got support from the parties in power. Ruling party and certain allied parties have given protection to them, otherwise naxalism could not have spread from 54 districts to 225 districts so rapidly in 6 years. I remember, NDA government had broken the backbone of ULFA in Assam in the year 2003. Bhutan government had destroyed it completely in Bhutan and Bangla Desh and Burma were compelled to ensure that ULFA is not able to set up base on their land. Today, ULFA has again started to raise its head against the government. They get Hindi-Bhashi people killed in Assam and this government keeps mum and does not say anything.

Though certain party may have benefited from the viewpoint of provoking regional sentiments within the country and use of separatists and-militants as vote bank through use of naxalism as vote bank politics, national integrity of the country is getting hurt because of this approach, innocent people are getting killed and security forces are feeling demoralized. The government does not have any clear policy in regard to tackling naxalism. They do not even have any statement regarding the separatism problem prevailing in North Eastern States.

Sir, India and Nepal have been having friendly relationship since long. The relationship between Nepal and India was termed as 'two bodies-single soul'. They had a common legacy and therefore, had a very close relationship. The makers of our Constitution had noticed 1751 kilometers of open border. The faulty policy of this government has helped China make its way into Nepal. The whole border of 1751 kilometer is unsecured now. Today, through Nepal, China is destabilizing India and encouraging and promoting naxalites in India. Not only

1751 kilometer of this border, but the way China has interfered in Arunachal Padesh and has made its way into Laddakh, it is a direct challenge to India's sovereignty. This government has failed to improve its relations with neighboring countries. I think that, except Bhutan, neither of our neighboring countries will rise in our support today. It reflects the failure of this government's foreign policy. During 1950s, we had committed a mistake in regard to Tibet and today in regard to Nepal, we are likely to repeat the same mistake. It is clear from the failure of this government's foreign policy that people are being controlled by outside forces and country's sovereignty is being played with.

I have only one thing to say that each and every person of this country has great respect for Honourable President, the supreme constitutional post of the country. But these people succeed in presenting even their falsehood through President. In one of her speeches, Honourable President says that this government is committed to reach gas and petroleum products to most of the common people. A new scheme named Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitrak Yojana has been launched for distribution of LPG. This is completely false. I had said this in morning also when starred question was being tabled. LPG quota has been halved since the year 2005. Not to talk of villages, even in cities, the people are unable to get a single cylinder despite waiting for several days.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude your speech.

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Cylinders are being blackmarketed. There has been a frequent increase in their prices but still they are in short supply. Everything was freely available at the time fthe NDA Government was in power. Anyone could buy as much gas as was needed. There was no blackmarketing. But now; they are encouraging the blackmarketing of LPG. This government has made another announcement that it will take electricity to all households by 2012 under the National Power Policy. There is no electricity in the villages. I am talking about Gorakhpur metropolis. Gorakhpur is amongst the few metropolises in Uttar Pradesh. It gets electricity for twelve to fourteen hours in a day. There are many rural areas where children do not know what electricity is. Power is restored after they go to sleep and by the time they wake up; the power cuts begin again. They have never seen electricity. How will they fulfil their claim? There was talk of setting up a project in Arunachal Pradesh, but they scrapped it in



face of Chinese threats. Why do we cower before China? Why is India not making efforts to enhance power generation? There is the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana. Whatever be its name but this scheme is being implemented in a partisan manner. No money is being provided to Uttar Pradesh. There are many villages in the State which are not electrified. We asked for them to be electrified under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana. We were refused on the grounds that the Union Government had stopped the scheme. There are many schemes which had been started during the NDA regime. Raghuvansh Prasad ji has said a few things just now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Sir, I am going to conclude. A golden quadrilateral project was started in the country under which the East-West and North-South corridor was being constructed. A by-pass is being built in Gorakhpur. The work of the by-pass was started in 2004 and was targeted to be completed by 2007. Unfortunately, the NDA Government had to step down and the UPA took over the reins. It did not allow the work to be started. Somehow or the other the work was finally started in 2007 and they said that it would be completed by 2009. Now, the present situation is that even thirty percent of the work of construction of Gorakhpur by-pass, included under the East-West corridor, has not been completed. Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, an ambitious scheme of the NDA Government is running three years behind schedule and the Government is tom-tomming other schemes under NREGA. I would like to thank the Rural Development Minister for renaming it as MNREGA. It has actually turned into MAREGA. It has become a source of corruption and loot. Needless fears have been sown in the minds of the people of the country. Even then merely 100 days of work is being provided instead of 365 days of work. During the discussion on inflation, it was said that if employment for the entire year is provided then the cost would rise by Rs. 850 per month...  
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yogi ji, you are speaking very well but ten names of BJP members are down for speaking. Everyone will not get a chance to speak if you go on like this. Shri Anant Ganga Ram Geete.

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Sir, I wanted to talk about the Bantangiya labourers. Kushinagar district is my neighbouring district. Its population includes two lakh

people of Mus-har caste. Even 62 years after independence they have neither land nor housing. They are forced to endure a crippling lack of basic facilities. They have nothing. The Bantangiya labourers have nothing. They do not have the right to participate in the panchayat elections. The government makes empty announcements. The Government should make specific policies for the welfare of Bantangiya and Banvasi people and for the Tharu tribes which reside in Balrampur, Shravasti, and Sonebhadra, Mirzapur and Chandoli in Uttar Pradesh. Mere announcements are not enough but concrete welfare schemes need to be implemented.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called Geete ji. If people like you do not respect the chair, then who shall do so? Please conclude.

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Had you not disturbed me, I would have concluded. Now I would like to talk about the corruption in the communications sector. BSNL is deemed to be the worst service provider today. The manner in which they diluted the spectrum scam is a warning to the entire country to be cautious.

16.12 hrs.

[SHRI FRANCISCO COSME SARDINHA *in the Chair*]

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you do not conclude now, then you will deprive one Member from your party.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH: I feel that the government's announcements about the National Ganga Basin Authority, corruption in the judiciary and health facilities for all are meant to remain only on paper. I believe that the Government will be able to implement the announcements made through the Hon. President. Once again, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on the President's Address.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH (Allahabad): Sir, there is a point of order. Discussion of such an important point is going on and no cabinet minister is present here.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Cabinet ministers are present here.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You will get all your replies.

[*Translation*]

\*SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (East Champaran): I express my hearty thanks to H.E. the President. But, through her, the injustice meted out to the villages, poor people and farmers by the Government has been held right, which is not fair.

In the Address, it has been mentioned that special efforts have been made so that the loss being suffered in agricultural produce due to drought could be kept to the minimum and also the Rabi produce could not get affected. But, will any farmer in the country admit it that there has not been a steep increase in the agricultural costs during the last six years, especially during the last year. The prices of almost all the components like seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, water, electricity, diesel and fodder have gone up exorbitantly. The component of Fertilizer is the worst affected and the situation is such that it is almost impossible to get it. It has been the experience of the farmers that the dealers give fertilizers to them only when they purchase costly pesticides. Such a scarcity of fertilizers has been deliberately created. Fertilizers are not available in the open market but the same could be got in black. Never before have the farmers experienced such a scarcity of fertilizers. It is the UPA Government that has created such a situation. Foreign companies every year come up with new brands of seeds and charge higher prices from the farmers. There is a severe scarcity of electricity across the country due to the unfavourable policies of the Government and lastly, it is the farmers who are the sufferers. It is this UFA Government that has increased the diesel price from rupees 20 per litre to 32-38 per litre. The UPA Government has left it to the foreign companies to enhance the prices of pesticides and these companies are exorbitantly increasing their prices due to which it is the farmer who is suffering at last. When the cost of production is bound to increase so high, then, in what manner is the farmer likely to get justice with a meager increase in the Minimum Support Price? That's why the Government claims are hollow. The increase in minimum support price which is seen on paper has been neutralized by the increasing cost of production. The farmer is not in a position to earn any profit and that's

why he has been forced to resort to crop-rotation. If the farmers had actually got remunerative prices, they would not have committed suicides in large number for being debt-ridden.

This Government could do justice to the farmers by following the Swaminathan Commission's formula, if it wanted to do so. When Shri Rajnath Singh was the Minister during the NDA Government regime, he had appointed the Swaminathan Commission. Unless and until the farmers get remunerative prices, the agro sector and the rural India are bound not to rise. Keeping this in view, this Commission was appointed. The Swaminathan Commission has devised a revolutionary formula for the purpose of providing justice to the farmers. Under this formula, the farmers are entitled to get remunerative prices in place of minimum support prices. The formula is—"Remunerative price = cost of production +50 per cent." This formula should be applicable to the farmers. The Bhartiya Janta Party has been pressing hard upon the Congress and the UPA to get this formula applied, but, the Government has not given its nod to this formula as yet. The Government's agenda does not include permanent solution to the farmer's concern and it has nothing to do with their welfare. Instead of adopting the Swaminathan Commission's formula, the Government has played the foul play of changing the term—"Minimum Support Price" as "the Fair Price." The Government has continued its mission to ruin the innocent farmers.

For agricultural growth, availability of water at all costs is necessary. Only 40 percent of total agricultural land has the advantage of irrigation facility even after 68 years of independence. This is the most important component by which farmers could be provided justice. This UPA Government should be held responsible for not expanding the irrigation facility.

The UPA Government's agenda does not have any concern with farmer's interests. The Government had brought in an ordinance on pricing of sugarcane in the beginning of the last session of Parliament. Till recent times, the state governments had the powers to announce favourable sale prices for the farmers and the mill owners had to procure the produce at that fixed price. But, by bringing in this strange ordinance, the Government has announced that if the state governments announce a price more than the minimum support price, then, they would themselves have to pay the difference of prices to the farmers. What type of game is the congress playing this? It is a mill owner who would

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

procure sugarcane, produce and sell sugar and lastly earn the profits, but contrary to this, it is the state government to pay. This black ordinance was widely opposed since its existence did not guarantee equitable and remunerative prices to the farmers. The farmers and all the opposition parties widely opposed it. The Government was concerned by all in and outside the Parliament and it was only then the Government withdrew this black ordinance.

But, the Government had played a trick while withdrawing the ordinance. Till recent times, the farmer was entitled to get 50 percent of the profit of the Mill. The Government has discontinued this due share of the farmers. For this, a number of ridiculous arguments were given. The Government said that the mill owners do not share the profits with the farmers and that's why this formula has been withdrawn. It is the Government's duty to act upon and put in place a system that is in the farmer's interest. Such mill owners should be penalized who do not share profits with the farmers. But, instead of doing so, the Government has withdrawn a system that was in the interest of the farmers. What could be a more disclosing fact of being anti farmers and having vested interests than this?

Discussion was also held on NAREGA. This programme is being run across the country under the Ministry of Rural Development. This is a very good scheme. I welcome it. But, today, I would also like to tell here that the hon'ble Minister belongs to Rajasthan. It is his party's Government both at the Centre and in Rajasthan. The Government and the social workers related to the NAREGA scheme are face-to-face in the state. There are issues pertaining to social audit and it more use of machines instead of workers as well as corruption. Social worker Aruna Rai, who is associated with the Right to Employment drive, joined the social audit system on the invitation of the hon'ble Chief Minister. She wrote a lengthy letter to the hon'ble Chief Minister and that letter is proof of the fact that the poor people in Rajasthan are not getting employment under the NAREGA, rather the workers of ruling party in the state are filling their pockets with money in the name of this scheme. I have mentioned below the last lines of the said letter:

"Social Audit is the most effective systematic concept to fight corruption. We extended our cooperation in establishing the social Audit System on your invitation. We have not taken any contract for carrying out social

audit by taking money. We assisted in carrying out social audit in entire Bhilwara first and then in other 16 districts and 16 model panchayats, but, when it was opposed by targeting us in Alwar, Barmet, Chittaurgarh, Sirohi, Udaipur, Rajas... and other districts, under an official drive, the Government and its representatives at the local level proved to be mere silent spectator of misbehaviour with our workers.

I cannot understand why this treatment was meted out to us despite the fact that we involved ourselves with this programme on your and the government's invitation. If a transparent and open atmosphere is not created for presentation of facts before the Gram Sabha at the time of social audit then the entire programme will fall prey to corruption. There are other issues but we will discuss them later. But First we would like to see what decision govt. take regarding our demands.

An extract from Pandit Jawahar Lal ji's speech at the midnight of 14 August, 1947 has been quoted at the end of the Address viz. The service of India means, the service of the millions who suffer. It means the ending of poverty and ignorance and disease and inequality of opportunity.

It is regrettable that the conduct of his followers has been entirely contradictory to the spirit of the said words. Policies formulated to eradicate poverty only served to eradicate the poor. The poor became poorer and the rich became richer. Sir, the government should explain who should be held responsible for the manner in which corruption, bribery and blackmarketing have joined hands in this country during the past few years and led to a rise in inflation. The government should tell us why:

- the support price paid to the farmers for wheat in 2007-08 was 8.50 rupees whereas it was imported at the rate of 14.82 rupees per kg.
- Wheat was imported at the rate of 10.01 rupees per kg in 2007 and at the rate of 13.02 rupees per kg in 2008-09. When wheat flour was being sold at the rate of 20 rupees per kg in 2009-10 in the country, the government was exporting wheat at the rate of 12.51 rupees per kg.

Pulses are the only recourse for the poor to get some protein intake. However, the government which purports to be the messiah of the common man has made even this means of nutrition out of his reach. One

angle is that the rise in the price of pulses was caused due to the rise in demand. However, the fact is that the government was importing pulses at high rates while exporting them at low rates at the same time. The traders let sacks of pulses lie at ports to encourage the domestic prices of pulses to rise further. Last year the support price for arhar in the country was 23 rupees per kg whereas it is being imported at the price of 56 rupees per kg. at present. Look at the irony of the policies of this government that when a delegation in the leadership of hon. Advaniji went to meet Prime Minister Manmohan Singh ji to demand 1000 rupees as support price for paddy the Prime Minister said that payment of such a high support price would lead to a rise in the price of rice. What is the situation today? The farmer is getting 10 rupees for paddy and the consumers have to pay 30-40 rupees to buy rice.

The fact is that last year there was heavy speculation in essential commodities and the actual transactions that took place were less than one percent of the business recorded on paper. The prices were increased by creating artificial scarcity and bungling of about 4.50 lakh crores was effected in the entire process.

There is no mention of this situation in the country in the Address. There is no mention of the future plan of action of the government. There is no mention of the remedial measures proposed with regard to inflation. There is no clarity of thought on part of the government regarding various important issues.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Raigarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the motion of thanks placed before the House for the Address by the hon. President. However, I do not agree with the praise bestowed on the government by the hon. President in front of both the Houses. Not only I but the entire opposition would be unable to agree with such praise. When we consider the condition of the people of this country, the difficulties they are facing we would find that even the common man referred to by the hon. President on the say so of the UPA government would not be able to agree with this praise of the government. In fact there is anger and resentment in the heart of the general public. The President's Address mirrors the policies of the government. The Address bringout the policies of the government before the House through the President. There is nothing in the Address for the poor common man who has been invoked by the Congress for many years and about whom the UPA government keeps on

talking. After that when the Finance Minister presented the budget the ordinary, poor people of the country hoped that there would be something for them in it. But unfortunately this budget too neither gave anything to the common man nor spared a thought for the poor.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the prices of diesel and petrol have gone up today. The rates have increased by 2.50 to 3.00 rupees which will have a direct effect on inflation. This House was concerned about inflation and it had seemed that the government was also concerned about it and might therefore take steps to grant some relief in this direction. However, no initiative was taken by the government in this direction at the end of the discussion. There were no efforts to contain inflation. In fact inflation was encouraged and the budget led to a rise in inflation. In this way this budget added salt to in, why inflicted by inflation upon the common man. The common man and the poor are deeply affected by inflation. What happened to the assurances given to the poor and the general public by the UPA and the Congress at the time of general elections? At that time they had talked of agenda for 100 days. Keep aside the topic of 100 days. There is some other point on which I would express my regret. Our Leader of the House and the Minister of Finance took part in a discussion overprice rise two days ahead of the presentation of the General Budget. During the discussion he supported the trend of price rise and tried to make us understand a point saying that it was this public who had elected them to the Parliament for five years and therefore, price-rise had nothing to do with the public. At that time, the opposition demanded a discussion over price-rise under the Adjournment Motion. But, the leader of the House did not have enough courage to go for that and a discussion in this regard was held under Rule-193 and during the discussion, he challenged me to be elected to the Parliament for five years. I do agree with the point that you have been elected to the Parliament by the public for five years. But what about the assurances given by you to the public who elected you to the Parliament for five years? In a way, this Government has betrayed the countrymen. It was also said that a check would be put on inflation, unemployment will be removed within hundred days. I was surprised to see that through H.E the President, it was also announced that crores of people have been provided employment under the NREGA. Now, what to say about this NREGA. My colleagues from Maharashtra and also the Members of other parties are present here. The entire NREGA has converted into MREGA today. This entire scheme....(*Interruptions*) Rashid ji, do you have any objection?

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (THENI): Under the NREGA scheme, crores of people are served food, people do not remain hungry. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing should go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: MREGA means Mahatma Gandhi Employment Scheme. The 'National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) has now been renamed as Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Gaurantee Act (MGNREGA)'. Therefore, it has become ...*(Interruptions)* Earlier it was NREGA and now with the prefix of Mahatma Gandhi's name, it has become MNREGA. Earlier, its name started with the word national. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please address the Chair.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Sir, the 'Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act' scheme has totally failed in Maharashtra. It is a flop there. Shri Gavit ji is sitting here. He is the senior most Member of this House and therefore he may tell something in this regard. This scheme has totally failed in Maharashtra. Shri Sanjay Nirupam is also present here. Perhaps, at this moment, he has gone elsewhere. This scheme is a total failure there. Since the inception of this scheme, not even a rupee has been spent on this. ....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing should go on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Sir, the beneficiaries under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) scheme belong to the BPL

category. Under this scheme, 100 days' employment is guaranteed. This scheme is not successful across the country. This is a totally i.e. cent per cent failed scheme in Maharashtra and not every a rupee has been spent on this scheme there.

Sir, there are 38 per cent BPL people in the country, but, the condition of the APL people is worse than that of the BPL people. And the condition of the farmers is much worse than this. A farmer who is the owner of even a small piece of land, does not get the benefits of BPL category. He can't be a beneficiary under this category. Today, the condition of the poor, small and marginal farmers is worse than the BPL people. Their population is nearly 60 crores. As per the official figures, the number of small and marginal farmers is 60 crore. This huge population of 60 crore does not get the benefits of NREGA. They have nothing to do with NREGA. Gradually, almost all the industries are one by one closing down which has led to growing unemployment in the country, thereby adversely affecting the industrial workers. There is no mention of it in H.E. the President's Address. The number of educated unemployed is very high. There are nearly 42 lacs educated unemployed persons in Maharashtra only. There are 42 lacs educated unemployed persons in a single state only. There is no mention of it in the Address. In this way, a fake and misleading picture is presented before the House or the country, saying that crores of people have been provided employment through NREGA. Who has got employment?....*(Interruptions)* Today, the condition of the labourers and the farmers as well is miserable and pitiable across the country. The common man is suffering too much. Despite this, H.E. the President says that her Government has taken good and commendable steps to take the country ahead. I fail to understand as to in which direction is our country moving forward.

Sir, the farmers are committing suicides even today. As per the figures of the United Nation's report, more than 10 crore children in the country are victims of malnutrition. They do not get enough quantity of foodgrains and nutrition. It means they are reeling under malnutrition. They do not get proper nutrition. More than 10 crore children lack proper food and nutrition and are facing malnutrition. Every year, lacs of children of tribals, forest-dwellers and primitive tribes as well as mothers are dying from malnutrition. This is the condition of our country today.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we talk of 8, 9 or 10 per cent GDP growth and the Government pats its own back saying the GDP growth has been nine per cent this year. What is the relation between the GDP growth rate and the lacs of children dying from malnutrition and due to lack of proper food as well as the mothers dying at the time of delivery due to malnutrition? Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a country where 70 crore rural people are living, poor people are living. If anyone is at all to be given importance in Government policies, it is the poorest of the poor who should be given importance. But, the Government does not take any initiative in this direction. It is said that top ten rich people across the globe include 3 to 4 people of Indian origin. We too feel happy to know this fact, but the reality is that people everyday are dying of starvation in the same India. The average income of a common man of the country is rupees 20 per day. This is the condition of farmers, labourers poor people and the common man in the country today.

I have supported the Motion of Thanks to the President and I also express my thanks to H.E. the President. But, expressing full disagreement with the laudatory comments made by her about her Government, I would like to say that this Government has been a failure during the last five years and this Government has completely failed at every front this time also.

DR. BALIRAM (Lalganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, today the motion of thanks on the Address by the hon. President is being discussed. The President has said in the last paragraph that never before were we so close as we are today to realizing our national aspirations as envisioned by our founding fathers. The President also quoted from the speech by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru delivered in the Central Hall on the midnight of 14th August 1947 that the service of India means, the service of the millions who suffer. It means the ending of poverty, ignorance, disease and inequality of opportunity.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, 62 years have passed after independence. His vision of ending poverty, ignorance, disease and inequality of opportunity has not been realised. Neither these inequalities nor poverty has been removed in 62 years but the government is saying that it is close to achieving this objective. Baba Saheb Dr. Ambedkar had said in his speech on 25 November 1949 that on the 26th of January 1950, we were going to enter into a life of contradictions. In politics we will have equality and we would be recognizing the principle of

one man one vote and one vote one value. But, in social and economic life we would have inequality. If this inequality is not removed at the earliest possible moment, those who suffer from inequality will blow up the structure of political democracy which the Constituent Assembly had built up so laboriously. That is why Baba Saheb Dr. Ambedkar provided for reservation, which is being discussed now, in the Constitution to provide equal opportunity to poor people. If people belonging to the weaker sections are provided reservation in government jobs, educational institutes then they may get equal status.

Sir, the Prime Minister, in the reply to a question about the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and backward classes had informed that 3537 posts reserved for scheduled castes, 2969 posts for scheduled tribes and 6439 posts reserved for backward classes had not been filled by them. This figure is not entirely correct. If we examine the census figures we will find that the quota reserved for scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and backward classes has not been filled till date. Who is responsible for this? Those people who ran the government continuously for 47 years and are in power today as well. The Congress government has not given the constitutional rights to the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and backward classes in the spirit in which they were meant till now. If anyone is responsible for this lapse, it is the Congress government which ruled this country for 52 to 53 years out of 62 years.

Sir, MNREGA is being discussed today. The UPA government has formulated this scheme to remove poverty and starvation from the country. It has mentioned the years 2009 and 2010 during which 4 crore 33 lakh families have been provided employment. They also claim that 65 percent of males and 49 percent of females provided employment thereunder belong to the scheduled castes. I want to know whether the poor consist of only scheduled castes and scheduled tribes? People belonging to backward classes and upper castes are also poor but is the government providing the benefits of the said scheme to the poor people belonging to these categories? Does the government want to break the back of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes by employing them only to dig soil? I definitely want to ask this question.

Sir, some people are mocking MNREGA by calling it MAREGA. I would like to point out that such people are getting work only for 100 days out of 365 days and

that too is not being provided to everyone . As our other members have said that the situation is very bad. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: All of you please sit down. You please conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. BALIRAM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to say that if this government is so concerned about the poor, then will it implement the separate settlement recommended to the English in 1942 by Babasaheb Dr. Ambedkar for eradicating poverty from the country? ...*(Interruptions)* He had said that the area of barren land in the country is more than the area under cultivation. If this land area is given to the poor then their poverty can be definitely removed. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up your speech now.

*[Translation]*

DR. BALIRAM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the end I would like to say that the issue of women's reservation being raised today is not a recent one. This House has been talking about it for years. The report of the Kaka Kalelkar Commission had recommended 20 percent reservation for women but the government of the day was formed by the same party which is in power today. It said that the recommendations made in the report of the Kaka Kalelkar Commission are not going to benefit the poor and the backward classes. ...*(Interruptions)* It was trashed by them. ...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will wind-up in one minute. In my opinion their intentions regarding the women's reservation bill are not good. If they had good intentions and granted reservation to the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, backward classes and religious minorities within the women's reservation then this bill would have been passed long back. In the end, I would like to say that if the government had taken all the opposition parties into confidence before discussing the bill then it would have been passed.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to conclude with these words.

*[English<sup>h</sup>]*

RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH (Pratapgarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, a very tragic incident happened in my district in a Ram Janaki Mandir. There was a stampede today in which over 70 people have been killed and a lot of people have been injured. I would request the hon. Prime Minister, through you, that each family, which has lost a family member, should be given a minimum of Rs. Five lakh and the families of the injured people, which is touching over 250 to 300, should be given Central assistance because unless Central assistance reaches these people, there will be nothing that we will be able to do for them. So, I would request the hon. Prime Minister to help these people.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This matter has already been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister. The Government will take care of it.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have already said that we will do whatever possible.

\* SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kottayam): The Hon. President of India Smt. Pratibha Patil has apprised the House of this Government's focuses areas on various aspects of governance. I am happy to note that agriculture forms a significant part of this focus. According to the Hon. President's speech, higher agriculture income is expected to improve the living standards of over 145 million rural households, in over 6,00,000 villages across the country. My constituency, Kottayam in Kerala, is area rich in agriculture. Kottayam is home to the cultivation of rubber, spices, rice....Despite being the largest producer of rubber in the country and contributing handsomely to India's economy, the farmers in my constituency and state face a lot of problems.

The chief ones among these are:

**Lack of access to low-cost funds:** At present, farmers get bank loans that carry interest rates of 7 to 8 per cent and above. Though this government has announced a one per cent interest subvention and another one per cent more of interest subvention for those farmers paying their dues on time, the hard fact is that farmers are unable to get cheap funds. And unless these farmers are able to get cheap funds, they cannot hope to operate profitably and contribute to the economic growth. As India faces a negative rate of growth in the

\*Not recorded.

agricultural sector, it becomes imminent for this government to firm up policies that will foster agricultural growth. I request this government to extend loans that carry interest rates of 3 to 4 per cent per annum to the farmers to help them operate profitably.

**Integrate linkages between agriculture and industry sectors:** The Hon. President has highlighted the need to integrate the linkages between agriculture and industrial sectors. Unless the agricultural produce is brought to the market with minimum intermediary expenses and interference, farmers cannot be expected to make maximum gains. Most of the gains are cornered by the intermediaries. I urge this government to firm up policies that will encourage and streamline procedures to take the farm products directly to the industry and the end-consumers so that:

- (i) Raw material costs for the industry are kept at the minimum possible, and
- (ii) End-consumers are able to get agricultural produce at low rates.

This will have a significant benefit for the industry by way of keeping inflation under control. When raw material costs for industry are kept under control, it will keep the inflation of manufactured goods under control. And when food prices are kept under control, it will keep food inflation under control. Food inflation is now above the 17 per cent rate and is a cause for worry for the government. It is imperative that steps be taken to control this menace that could otherwise derail India's economic growth.

I would like to bring to the attention of the Government one important matter regarding the need to make changes in the Centre State relations and by the 73rd and 74th constitutional amendments several powers assigned to states under scheduled seven of the constitution have been decentralized to the Panchayat and Municipalities. As a result the powers of the State have been curtailed substantially. However, it is regrettable to note that no corresponding step has been taken to decentralize more powers, resources and function from the Centre to the State. Therefore, necessary changes have to be brought in the Centre State relations. It is not lack of commission reports but lack of Political Will which is the underlying reason for delaying this decentralization process. It is regrettable to note that there is no mention in the President's address for any change in the Centre State relations.

I would also like to rise an another important, Inspite of economic Crisis America still remains as the super economic power. The European countries are united under the umbrella of European Union. Similarly Asian economic community is the need of the day. I urge, India should take a lead to bring together all Asian Countries to form an ASIAN economic community.

I conclude, let us all join together in our efforts to attain the declared goal of economic prosperity of the Nation.

SHRI SUVENDU ADHIKARI (Tamluk): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, on behalf of our party Trinamool Congress and our Supreme Leader Kumari Mamata Banerjee, I would like to convey our deep sorrow towards the incident that happened in Uttar Pradesh.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saran): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this tragedy that took place during the bhandara happened because people hold large gatherings without informing the government or the administration. Ours is a religious country, hence people of all ages gather together in the name of religion. People hold bhandaras without taking permission from the government or making arrangements to maintain law and order and people die as a result of such carelessness. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing should go on record except what Shri Lalu Prasad says.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, you are not a Minister to reply to him. He has got every right to bring it to the notice of the Government. I have allowed him to speak. Please take your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI LALU PRASAD: What have you done about this?...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will allow you later if you want, but there is no need to reply to him.

...(*Interruptions*)

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\*Not recorded.



SHRI LALU PRASAD: If you give some orders in this regard then people will be able to develop some faith and things will be alright in future. Get this done. You tell them. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. You have brought it to the notice of the hon. Minister.

SHRI SUVENDU ADHIKARI: Sir, I am standing here to support the Speech given by our hon. President of India to both the Houses of Parliament.

The Speech is a reflection of the activities of our UPA Government under the able leadership of hon. Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh. The UPA Government has already fulfilled multiple numbers of assurances given at the time of General Election 2009.

I would like to appreciate the activities of the Railway Minister. Our Railway Minister has already launched many popular schemes in our country, like *Izzat*, the monthly scheme for poor people and Durant Express like programmes under her Ministry.

I would also like to appreciate the Rural Development Ministry of our country. They have started the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Scheme. It is a very popular project in the rural areas of our country. Lakhs of unemployed rural people, mainly land losers, are getting jobs under this Scheme in rural India... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb the hon. Member.

SHRI SUVENDU ADHIKARI: In my State, West Bengal, the rural development programmes have failed due to the non-activities of the Left Front Government and partisan motivation of the Left Front Government. Some time back the Rural Development Ministry sent a proposal that every district of our country should form vigilance committees to monitor various rural development projects under the chairmanship of local MPs. But it is unfortunate that the West Bengal Government has not accepted it and they refused it. Sir, I would like to say that the Central Government, particularly, the Rural Development Ministry, should do something in this matter to implement the popular step taken by the Government.

In her Speech, Her Excellency, hon. President of

India has shown her great concern about the enhanced Maoist activities in our country. It is obviously true. Our Party's stand has already been cleared by our leader Kumari Mamata Banerjee. She said that we are against all types of Frankenstein activities and the law and order problem created by those Maoist groups in some parts of our country.

In West Bengal the situation is totally different. In our State, three districts are called Maoist prone areas. They are Bankura, West Midnapore and Purulia. There is an illegal nexus between Communist Party of India (Marxist) and Communist Party of India (Maoist). In the last election to the Parliament, when Trinamool Congress and Congress combine, under the leadership of Kumari Mamata Banerjee, won 26 seats out of 42 seats, in Bengal the Maoists called a vote boycott. They indirectly helped Left Front candidates and the Left Front candidates won the seats from Bankura, West Midnapore and Purulia.

Due to the failure of the Left Front Government, due to deprivation of the tribal people of West Midnapore, Bankura and Purulia and due to non-activities of the development programmes, these Frankenstein groups are getting more and more scope to enhance their activities in these areas.

The people in these areas had got work only for 12 days under NREGA in the financial year 2008-09. They are not getting food and electricity. The names of the tribal people are not included in the BPL List. The CPI (M) leaders and the names of their relatives are included in the BPL List also. Due to this reason, the tribal people are aggrieved. They started an agitation against the West Bengal Government and they want more and more Central force. In the name of Joint Action Force, ... *(Not recorded)* are recapturing these areas for their own political interest.

Sir, I would like to say to the Union Government that the Central Government should take appropriate action in this regard. The West Bengal Police is totally motivated under the guidance of CPI (M) Party.

My point is very clear that from the Lok Sabha election till today, more than 200 TMC workers had lost their lives. In the name of Maoists, they killed our Party worker and our TMC leader Mr. Nishikanta Mondal in the month of September. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Suvendu Adhikari.

*(Interruptions) ... \**

SHRI SUVENDU ADHIKARI: ...\* also killed the Belpharai leader, Mr. Jalabaran Kar and his brother. They also killed more than 20 Congress workers in the name of Maoists. ... *(Interruptions)* I would request the Central Government to take appropriate action.

Some time back, our Home Minister, Shri P. Chidambaram said, in front of the media persons, that ...\* Sir, please do something to stop this type of illegal activities. The situation which has to be dealt with under Article 356 has been created in West Bengal. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Suvendu Adhikari.

*(Interruptions) ... \**

SHRI SUVENDU ADHIKARI: Sir, we have demanded that the State Government should be dismissed by imposing Article 356 for the sake of our innocent people. Many people belonging to the minority community people, the Scheduled Castes, women and children were killed ...\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If there is anything objectionable, I will look into the matter.

*... (Interruptions)*

SHRI SUVENDU ADHIKARI: The arms should be recovered not only from the Maoists...\*

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Bolpur): Sir, law and order is a State matter. ...\* *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. If there is anything objectionable, it will be expunged.

SHRI SUVENDU ADHIKARI: They continue this torture in Mayapool, Porsura, Arambagh, Goaltor, Lalgah and everywhere in West Bengal. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, my point is very clear. The Central Paramilitary

Forces should work independently without the help of the West Bengal Police. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. I have already given my ruling.

SHRI SUVENDU ADHIKARI: Some measures should be taken immediately to restore the normalcy there. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Adhikari.

*(Interruptions) ...\**

SHRI SUVENDU ADHIKARI: The torture and the atrocities of ... \* are creating disturbances in these areas and inside the House also. ... *(Interruptions)* Due to this, their number has decreased; only nine people from their party have been elected here.

Before concluding my speech, I would like to mention one specific burning problem which our country is facing today, and that is nothing but the price hike of daily essential commodities. My Party's view is very clear that we are within the UPA but we are against the price hike in the petroleum products. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Dome, please do not disturb the House.

*... (Interruptions)*

SHRI SUVENDU ADHIKARI: Sir, Her Excellency, the President of India has already shown her great concern about this issue. I agree that the Central Government is trying its best to control the situation on this front... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Mr. Adhikari.

*(Interruptions) ... \**

SHRI SUVENDU ADHIKARI: But it is not sufficient and satisfactory. The Public Distribution System is totally in the hands of the State Government... *(Interruptions)* The implementing agency of the Essential Commodities Act is also the State Government. In my State of West

Bengal, the State Government is doing nothing against the hoarders and the blackmarketeers ...\*

While concluding my speech, I would again support the Motion of Thanks and I would support the speech made by our hon. President of India, Her Excellency, Shrimati Pratibha Devisingh Patil.

\*DR. TARUN MONDAL (Joynagar): Honourable Sir, Participating on discussion on President's Address, I would like to start where from the 'Address' ends i.e. point 74 in the last page (16). Here a saying of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru of midnight of 14th August, 1947 has been narrated. "The Service of India means the service of the millions who suffer. It means ending poverty and ignorance and disease and inequality of opportunity." I like to ask the UPA Government led by INC how far these dreams and destinations have been achieved after 62 years of independence, where INC ruled more than half a century? It's a shame that one-third of world malnourished children are ours, more than 50% of our population lives below poverty line, we are possessing the largest number of TB, Leprosy, Filariasis patients of the world where our government spends among the lowest five countries of the world in health. 'Ignorance' and 'Illiteracy' of our majority population, especially of women are among the highest of the world and a democracy we have created which means not of; of the people, by the people and for the people; but of the money power, by the money power and for the money power. And particularly after the globalization, liberalization and privatization policies of the government, have increased the gulf of difference between rich and poor people of the country. Rich became richer achieving even top ranks in the world whereas poor has become poorer. It is a pity that 77% of population of the nation earns less than Rs 20 per day. One fourth of our citizens go to bed with hunger. In this backdrop to talk about economic growth in the range of 7.5% (2009-10) is an insult to the unfed, unclothed, unemployed and diseased millions of the country.

Our Government is not actually giving due importance to pluralism and secularism. Instead there are signs and symptoms of fascist regimentation by this government. In west Bengal, people's mass and democratic movements are demolished by 'Joint Forces' in the 'Jungle Mahal' as maneuvered by CPI (M) led

government to get back their control at adivasi areas, killing and capturing citizens who are crying for legitimate demands of food, roads, education, employment, water and around development of the deprived areas. Draconian and most undemocratic acts like UAPA being implied to leaders and workers of the mass movement, stamping them as 'Maoists'. Unrest cannot be solved by 'power and guns', but can be solved by exercise of sensible talks with the agitated people and groups.

Though declared as a natural calamity of severe nature Aila'09 (of West Bengal) affected people of Sunderbans and of West Bengal have not received their due relief materials promised for them and CPM led government through partiality and corruption has eaten away crores of rupees, depriving the actual victims. Central Government should take corrective steps to save the aila victims and punish the miscreants.

Bharat Nirman 'vis-à-vis' Flagship Programme have achieved less than 50% success. 62% of our agrarian lands are without irrigation facilities after 62 years of independence. One-third villages of India still lack supply of potable drinking water. Electricity is a far cry to remote rural areas. In majority States including West Bengal NREGS is a failure and a sad 'Story' of nepotism and corruption.

UPA II Government has miserably failed to stop rise of prices of essential commodities including food grains, and food materials. PDS is in a mess. No 'Hoarders', no 'black marketeers' has been booked and punished in the entire country. If production is less, people will receive less, but in fixed and reasonable prices. But to satisfy the purse of the traders and businessmen both union and state Governments have opened the floodgate of exploitation and oppression of common people. Without 'allout State trading' of essential commodities and sale under Government control, to reduce price is impossible. To increase prices of petrol, diesel are indirectly increasing prices of everything. This is totally anti people step giving further burden to our people, who are practically living 'subhuman life'. Petroleum products price rise decision be immediately withdrawn.

In education, plan to invite foreign institutes and universities will adversely affect our education system. Privatization and commercialization are the mantras of present education policy and design to dismantle all councils and directorates in favour of National Council of Higher education and research is undemocratic.

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

In the health field, NRHM is a massive failure as per audit accounts. It is aimed to destroy our existing health structure in favour of Private health business, contractualization of services and to treat health as a commodity up to village level. Three and a half years medical course, floated by Union Government is to hoodwink rural population which is anti-constitutional and neglect to 75% rural population of India as second class citizen. The scheme should be immediately withdrawn. Improvement of infrastructure, implementation of proper, democratic, national policies and increase of health budget, instead can solve our rural health problems.

Government should take steps to stop news purchasing by moneyed political parties and candidates which are anti-people, unethical and downgrading impartiality of print and electronic media.

Discrimination in giving unique identification numbers to a section of citizens of Assam especially to Bengali speaking minorities section of that State and to make lakhs of people as devotees can not be accepted. Government must solve the problem with all sincerity and sanctity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Inder Singh Namdhari.

... (*Interruptions*)

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Bolpur): Sir, those words should be expunged from the proceedings... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. I have already given my ruling.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Sir, we want your ruling on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down, now. Do not disturb the House.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Sir, we want justice on this issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: We seek your protection, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already given my ruling.

... (*Interruptions*)

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: How can he discuss about the law and order situation? It is a State subject ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Namdhari, you please continue your speech.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: What you are doing is very unfortunate. You should know what to do. Please do not disturb the House. You are not the only Member here.

[*Translation*]

SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI (Chatra): Hon. Chairman, Sir, the motion of thanks on the President's Address is being discussed and I had also submitted amendments in the Address by the hon. President. Today, when I was reading the President's Address my eyes fell on a news item on the main page of the Indian Express—which I would like to read out to you—

[*English*]

'Made in China T-shirts with photographs of Bhindrawale are being sold openly in the towns of Punjab.'

[*Translation*]

SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI (Chatra): After reading this I felt that although comprehensive discussions have been held on all other problems but this is a fundamental issue which needs to be given serious consideration by the House. Bhindrawale had sown the seeds for breaking up the country. Now made in China T-shirts with his photos are being sold openly in Amritsar, Jalandhar and Ludhiana in Punjab. Not only that, watches and calendars of this kind are also being sold. Hence, Mr. Chairman, I would like to say, through you, that even though the President has mentioned China in her Address it is a very small mention—merely a half a line mention. She said that our relations with the major powers have been further consolidated. In the same context the Hon. President has said that our strategic and cooperative partnership with China progressively acquired greater regional and global content. The China chapter has been dealt with in these few words. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to remind you about the

Chinese attack on India in 1962. In two years fifty years would have passed since this war. The new generations would learn about the humiliating defeat suffered by India in that war. China is reminding India of that defeat once again.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you too must have read in the newspapers how China is posing a question mark over the Prime Minister's visit to Arunachal Pradesh which is an integral part of the country just like Jammu and Kashmir and the other states. Not only this, when the Indian government permitted the Dalai Lama to pray at a Buddha temple in the state, China raised objections and issued warnings to India not to permit the Dalai Lama to visit Arunachal Pradesh. Will the Prime Minister of India have to take permission from China to visit a state in the country? What has happened to India's self respect? Rahim Khan Khana was a great poet. He said:

*'Rahiman mohe na suhay amiyapiyave maan binu  
Baru bifih dehu pilay maan sahit marno bhalo'*

Life does not mean mere existence. Self respect should be the basis of life. Where has India's self respect gone? How can China dictate where the Prime Minister should go and where India cannot set-up a hydro electricity plant? How can we claim that Arunachal Pradesh is an integral part of India in this situation? No one is paying attention to this issue and we are busy fighting amongst ourselves. We need to draw a clear line. India will have to take a resolution today because after the war of 1962 this House had taken a resolution in the Prime Ministership of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru that the people of India would not feel at peace till every inch of land snatched by China is not reclaimed.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to remind the people sitting in this August House of that resolution. When will this 58 year old resolve be fulfilled? Let alone fulfil it, China has got the gall to tell us not to look at Arunachal Pradesh. China is ordering us not to set up hydro electricity plant there and not to permit the Dalai Lama to visit the state and the President is saying that we have extremely cordial relations with China. This situation is like the one described in the saying, 'Kshama shobhti us bhujang ko, jiske paas garal ho, uskp kya jo dantheen, vishheen, vineet, saral ho'. It is not a big issue if a non-poisonous snake refuses to bite—it is when a poisonous snake does not bite that the issue becomes worth noting. India is not in a position to give

a fitting reply to China and to hide its weakness it is saying that it has got cordial relations with that country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it seems sometimes that we have become isolated amongst our neighbours. The blood of Indian jawans was shed to create Bangladesh which has now become a safe haven for all the terrorists from the North-East. In Nepal, with which we have had a long entrenched relationship Indian priests are being beaten up and paraded naked in the streets. Which of our neighbours is our friend? I want to say that China has a hand in all the problems we are encountering. Even Pakistan is able to indulge in all the negative activities because it has China's backing.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to ask the House why we are not paying attention towards China? Maybe the leaders of the nation think that by burying their heads in the sand like the ostrich they will be able to make the trouble go away. They do not want to talk about China. I would like to praise Mulayam Singh ji who drew the attention of the House towards the fact that India needs to give attention foremost to the Chinese issue. George Fernandes, who is not keeping well nowadays...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Chairman Sir, I have certain feelings to express, so, please give me some time for that. After becoming the Minister of Defence, the very first statement that he made was that China is the most dangerous neighbouring country to India. Though at this, he was cornered by all and asked to withdraw his statement, yet, I would like to appreciate Shri George Fernandes today. Today, India should be beware of China. And, if at all, India has any diplomatic relations with China, then, we should today remember the words of Gopal Singh Nepali, a very famous national level Indian poet. He wrote:

*"Bhoola hai padosi, to use pyar se kah do.  
Lampat hai, lutera hai, to lalkaar kar keh do.  
Jo muh se kaha hai, vahi talwar se keh do".*

If any neighbouring country of ours has forgotten that it is on the wrong path, then, we can calmly tell it that it is on the wrong path. But, if it is a rogue state, then we can warn it in a challenging way and whatever we tell it through word, could also be conveyed through sword. Wars are not considered good all over the world but sometimes, wars become inevitable. Dinkarji has written, "Yudh ko turn nind kehte ho, magar jab talak

uthh rahi chingarian, bhinna swarthon ke kalush sangharsh ki, yudh tab tak vishwa mein anivarya hai." Therefore, I would like to ask the existing Government not to bow down before China.

**17.00 hrs.**

When Alexander the Great came to India and defeated King Porus, he had asked him how the former should treat the latter. King in reply had said like a king. India has a population of nearly 120 crore but is not gaining enough courage to face China. It fears China. China has belittled us several times by saying many things. When the Prime Minister visited Arunachal Pradesh, China stated....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: The country does not fear. It is the Government that fears.

SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI: Lajuji, the Government represents the public of the country... ..(*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: The Government is not frightened. We had made a good statement against China at that time. When the Hon'ble Prime Minister visited Arunachal Pradesh, China opposed and we responded to China's opposition.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDER SINGH NAMDHARI: Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the forthcoming days would be full of problems for the country in case the country does not keep its identity and sovereignty intact. We committed a mistake in the year 1950 due to which China occupied Tibet easily. Today, if Dalai Lama meets Barack Obama, then China protests. China is lording the entire world today. If India wants to save its existence, India has to break its silence and strongly tell China that there would be an agreement in an equitable manner. If the Government of our country bows down before China, then I think it would not be in the country's interests. Making half line mention about China in the President's Address is, I think, doing injustice to the country and the countrymen as well.

SHRI MOHD. ASRARUL HAQUE (Kishanganj): Sir, I thank you very much that you have provided me an opportunity to take part in the discussion over the President's Address. I rise in support of the vote of thanks and I also support it. H.E. President of India has

made a mention of several aspects in her Address. Of them, a major aspect pertains to enhancement of indigenous production in the country in the wake of economic recession. Besides, this aspect has also been mentioned that even big countries across the world have been affected due to economic slowdown, but, it is a matter of happiness that our country has not been affected too much from this as a result of the Government's foresightedness. But, despite all that, the Government have taken and would continue to take several steps to tackle the impact of the economic recession, though the impact is little. Promise has been made to pay special attention to the poor and the backward classes and it is also evident that the UPA Government has achieved a great success in fulfilling the promises made by it. It has repeatedly been said that even people at lower strata should have the access to the advantages of the development. Immediately, after the independence we realized that there is a large segment of people in the country that can never move forward and progress unless and until special efforts are made for their progress. And due to this, the structure which we want to form on the basis of equality, may get affected. The Constitution-makers had made a provision in the constitution to provide reservation to specific backward classes in the country. Mahatma Gandhi ji said that reservation could be provided for a period of ten years for the purpose of the progress of the backward classes. We are happy to see that this reservation is being provided since independence. As a result of it, the backward classes, who are known as dalits, have come forward. Reservation has brought about a revolutionary change in their condition. Today, their presence is being felt in every walk of life and this is the country's beauty.

But, Sir, today, I feel very sad to say that presently, more than 15 crore Muslims in the country are lagging far behind as compared to the dalits on many fronts.

I am not saying this. This is the observation of the high-powered Sachar Committee constituted by the Prime Minister. In such a situation, it was necessary to make such types of provisions for the upliftment and progress of this largely backward vast population, as were made for the upliftment and progress of a particular community, immediately after independence, I am not in favour of depriving our dalit brethren of their due share. Also, I can't say that they should not be provided the advantage of reservation now, because they have suffered a lot

since long. But, I would certainly like to ask as to what is the justification for not treating the Muslims like the dalits while it is proved that the condition of the Muslims today is worse than that of the dalits.

Muslims have been demanding reservation for a very long time. But, their demand for reservation has been neglected. In my opinion, no reservation could be provided on the basis of religion. I also do admit that not every Muslim is backward, but, majority of them are backward and everyone has admitted this fact. Thus, in such a situation are we not becoming complacent in providing the justice by not providing reservation to them?

A citizen right is not demanded on the basis of religion, rather, it is the fundamental right of every citizen to have citizen right. If we deprive a citizen of his/her fundamental right, then, we are on the way of weakening the basis of our country by doing so. By doing so, we stand in the row of such people who had more harshly suppressed the already suppressed classes for a long time. The specific provisions made after independence for the purpose of their upliftment and progress, are still in existence. We had provided them the reservation on the basis of their backwardness, and not on the basis of their religions. Today, Muslims are also demanding reservation on the basis of their being backward Indians, and not on the basis of their religion. After all, what difficulty do we have to face in providing them the reservation on the basis of their backwardness?

Sir, today, I would like to draw the attention of this House to the point that we may pave the way for upliftment and progress of the Muslims without making any specific provisions and without making any constitutional amendment. Sir, you must be remembering that the OBCs were provided 27 percent reservation on the recommendations of the Mandal Commission. Out of that percentage, 8.5 per cent was earmarked for the OBC Muslims, but, it is regrettable that the Muslim OBCs are not being given their due share whereas all others are. As per the recommendations of the Mandal Commission, 8.5 per cent reservation to the OBC Muslims could bring about a sea change. But, regretfully, no attention is being paid to that provision of 8.5 percent reservation and also, no monitoring is being done in this regard. I would like to request the House as well as the Government that the OBC Muslims should be provided the advantage of 8.5 per cent reservation without any further delay. Besides, a monitoring-

Committee comprising the hon'ble Members of this House should be constituted for monitoring the implementation thereof.

Sir, similarly, I would like to draw your attention to one more point. Mahatma Gandhi had once said that the Conversion cannot bring about any change in the social condition. But, today, we are doing exactly contrary to what Gandhiji had said. We don't provide reservation to those dalits who become Muslims by way of conversion, but, contrary to this, we provide reservation under the same article to those dalits who become Sikh, Christian or Buddhist by way of conversion. Though, no constitutional amendment is required for that. Acting upon what Gandhiji had said, the Cabinet has just to issue a circular, exactly the same as it has been done in the case of dalit Christians, dalit Sikhs and dalit Buddhists.

Sir, without having any discriminatory intention, I would like to put forth one more point that the dalits were provided reservation on the basis of their backwardness and not on the basis of religion, but, the same was provided to them all, whereas reservation is being demanded for Muslims neither on the basis of religion, nor is it being demanded for all the Muslims. Even though the number of such Muslims who are well do to and don't require reservation, is very meagre. But, despite this, we say that the backward Muslims should be provided their due share which the Mandal Commission had also recommended for them. The Ranganath Commission has also recommended the same. The Sachar Committee constituted by the Head of this very Government i.e. the hon'ble Prime Minister, too has admitted the aspect of backwardness of Muslims. The Ranganath Mishra Commission has recommended the reservation and for this purpose no constitutional amendment is required. What is needed is just to issue a circular. After all, why are the OBC and backward Muslims being deprived of their due right?

Sir, our Government formulates several schemes for the Minorities and particularly for the Muslims, but, I am sorry to say that these categories of people are not getting the full advantages of these schemes. For example, 90 Muslim-dominated districts were identified and budget was also allocated for them, but, the Muslims are not getting the full advantage of this initiative. Similarly, no monitoring of the scheme launched for providing scholarship to the minority students has been done and consequently, thousands of students could not

avail of it. So, I appeal that special attention should be paid towards implementation of the schemes meant for the minorities, otherwise, we would be only making claims and the poor sufferers would only continue to suffer. I hope that the Government will immediately pay attention to atleast three demands. These demands are providing 8.5 percent reservation to the OBC Muslims according to the Mandal Commission; Issuing of circular by the Cabinet to provide reservation under article 341 to the dalit Muslims also and the Constitution of the monitoring Committees for monitoring the implementation of the Welfare Schemes meant for the minorities.

Sir, in the end, I once again fully support the President's Address and at the same time I hope that under the leadership of the Chairperson of the UFA Government, Smt. Sonia Gandhi ji, our Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh ji and our young leader Mr. Rahul Gandhi ji, our country would continue to move on the path to success and under their leadership, the citizens of this unique country of the world, particularly the poor and the backward and suppressed classes would certainly get their constitutional right.

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am expressing my views on the President's Address. Two persons from my party have spoken so far, I am the third person. Her Excellency has presented a 74 point agenda of the works to be undertaken by the Union Government in her Address. She has laid maximum emphasis on national security. She said that, "My government has combined a caring and sensitive approach in dealing with the immediate economic and social problems, has taken measures to strengthen the nation's security," She further said, "The overall internal security, law and order, and the communal situation remained largely under control during 2009. Infiltration of terrorists from across the line of control in Jammu and Kashmir has gone up. Even then, the security situation has improved significantly in Jammu and Kashmir as well as in the North East, but left wing extremism continues to be a significant cause of concern."

17.12 hrs.

[SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN *in the Chair*]

I have read this out here because she has expressed satisfaction that no incident caused disruption of law and

order in 2009. I would like to remind you of the bomb explosion in Guwahati on OIsl January 2009 in which 6 persons were killed and 67 injured. 12 persons were injured in an incident in Tezpur, Assam on 25th March. In another incident on 06th April in Assam 07 persons were killed and 60 injured. Similarly, 8 persons were injured in a bomb explosion in Orissa on 15th May. Her Excellency has mentioned the incident in Pune in her Address and the incident that occurred in Pune on 13 February was a big challenge to the country. Nearly 17 to 18 such major incidents occurred in the country between 13 March 2003 and 30 October 2008 and a large number of persons were killed. I can mention each incident alongwith the casualty statistics. I want to know what action was taken after the said incidents? Does the country not want to know about it? Does the government not want to tell the the country about it through the hon. President's Address? The government should keep us informed about the deficiencies in our internal security system, the measures taken by it etc.

Does the country not want to know from Her Excellency about the people sentenced by the court; whether they have been penalised accordingly and if not, the reasons therefor?

One incident happened in America and it, is saying with great confidence that no one can repeat such an attack there. After the 26/11 attack on Mumbai we had felt that finally our security would be made unbreachable but such incidents are continuing to occur one after the other. The terrorists have no fear of the government of the country.

I want to ask that if the government adopts such an unconcerned attitude about such a serious situation what is the future of this country?

Her Excellency has said in her seventh point that her government has been able to avert any threat to food security. The members who have spoken before me have discussed the food security issue in depth. I want to point out that two-third of the population of the couontry is forced to live on twenty rupees per day. According to the government it has made everyone rich through the employment guarantee scheme. Sushmaji correctly said in her speech that the earning of ten thousand rupees per annum means eight hundred and fifty rupees a month. Which labourer can run his household on eight hundred and fifty rupees a month?



The government has no reply to this. The fact is that the wages being paid to the labourers under the National Employment Guarantee Scheme are not more than thirty to thirty-five rupees. This is a fact. I observe this in my constituency and you must have also observed this in yours. There are so many technical complexities that no government agency except for the gram panchayat wants to do any work. All the agencies have stopped working. It is true that the state governments have money but the agencies are not utilising that money. There are so many technical complexities and we have spoken about ways to simplify them in the House a number of times but no action has been taken.

Serious consideration needs to be given to this issue.

Food security is being talked about. But it is unfortunate that the government has not been able to identify the actual line of poverty even 62 years after independence. There are conflicting views about it. The planning commission says that 27.5 percent of the people in the country are poor. The National Commission says that 77 percent of the population of the country is poor. The Suresh Tendulkar Committee estimates 37.2 percent of the population of the country to be poor. The Rural Development Ministry constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Saxena ji and said that more than fifty percent of the population of the country is below the poverty line. What can be a bigger joke than a government which is not able to identify the correct figures regarding the people living below poverty line talking about food security? The state governments are very troubled. The Madhya Pradesh government created a list of below poverty line people after the decision of the Commission but it is not getting foodgrain for distribution.

There are more than 21 lakh poor people who have right to get food grains from the Government of India but they are not getting it. This is the situation in Bihar and same is true for Odisha too. Same situation is prevailing in several other states in the country. I would like to know when will the government become serious about this issue?

Today the situation of inflation in the country is so bad that food inflation has increased to 18-20 percent. One fails to guess its limit. 99 percent trades are speculative and only one percent is delivery based. Senior leaders have given examples in this regard and I don't

want to repeat that. The situation has become so pathetic in the country that people have started thinking that the government has lost its control over the market. After all, whose responsibility is it? They say that they have conducted a meeting of Chief Ministers. What decisions were taken in that meeting and were those decisions implemented? I thank you for doing such a great work! Madam President is saying that the government wants to save common man from inflation and provide food security to them. On the other hand, they increased petrol and diesel prices in the budget. I think that they have taken a strange decision. You should be thanked for this and duly praised for your guts! Today I am constantly talking to different people. I talked to various Honourable Members of the ruling party and all of them said that they were unable to understand why the government had taken such a decision? Today T.V. channels were telecasting a statement by Sonia jee. She said that she supported the high inflation. And a seal was put on it. Prime Minister had given a statement day before yesterday and Finance Minister gives statements everyday. I am unable to understand where will you take this country? The government should make efforts to lead this country in the right direction. It is first time that so many opposition parties are saying same thing. Shri Mulayam Singh jee and Shri Raghuvansh jee also were saying that during 1960's and 1970's, discussion on price control policy took place in this House. The government can see old documents. If any item is priced more than 1.5 times of its cost price, then the government should stop it and control the price. Whose responsibility is it? It is responsibility of the Government of India and State Governments. Who will control the market? Where will the people go? Therefore, I say that government should think over it seriously.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please conclude your speech.

SHRI GANESH SINGH: Madam, I am concluding.

Our country has a federal structure. I want to know that whether Hon. President's address should not have reference to those states, which perform better and also to those that were backward earlier but now are doing all round development with the help of their own resources? I will not mention today the status in which Madhya Pradesh state was before the year 2003, but the whole country knows it. Since the time BJP formed its government there, the state has gone through a series of wonderful development worrits not me who is saying

this but the people responsible for preparing country's figures have published this in public. Today, Madhya Pradesh is about to become a golden state. Numerous proposals related to electricity, irrigation, coal, road, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and health issues sent by the state government are lying pending with the Union Government. But the government of India failed to mention it even in one line or page of the Hon. President's address. Whether states are not to be encouraged? Whether states should not be strengthened? If states are not powerful enough, what will Union Government do? Madhya Pradesh is heart and soul of this country. If we fail to strengthen our heart, the country will not become powerful, its hands and feet ...(*Interruptions*) I also support you. I am supporting all State Governments. I am not talking about any single state government. First responsibility of the Indian government should be to strengthen the states. This subject should have been accorded priority by the union government in the President's address. I demand that when the Prime Minister replies, he must cover this subject.

Sir, in independent India's history, wonderful development work has been done in my constituency. We had read in Mahatma Gandhi's books that Gandhi jee used to do marvelous work for other's interests. In our state, Nanaji Deshmukh has done historical work in Chitrakoot near Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh border since 1990-91 till date. He has worked in 80 villages of both the states which was appreciated by former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam when he visited there. He said that he had not seen in his life such a thing where Nanaji Deshmukh operates his organization working for forest dwellers. This organization has worked selflessly to change their fate and fortune and image. This great man has just expired and he has even donated his body. I want that such a great man should be conferred Bharat Ratna. With this demand, I conclude my speech and support this proposal with certain modifications.

SHRI S.D. SHARIQ (Baramulla): Madam, thank you very much. God willing, you would be sitting in this Chair, but, please give me some time to speak. I have with me a copy of the President's Address and I have gone through it all. There are details about the Government's policy in it, which is very encouraging. There is a mention about what the Government is going to do for the country and for the countrymen as well.

This is very good and encouraging. But, next year, it would be seen as to what extent, these promises have been fulfilled. I rise in my support of the motion of thanks. I felt sad to hear certain statements. We should have talked about the betterment and progress of the country, but on the contrary, we want to do politics out of the issues and try to do what is disappointing to do.

My colleague from the opposition made a speech yesterday and talked about Kashmir in vain and also stated such things that have no antecedents. He told that permit was needs to visit there. It is true, but, this situation prevailed when it was Maharaja's state, and was not a part of this country. Had the efforts not been made, Kashmir would not have become an integral part of India. Pakistan had gained an access to Srinagar. You people know nothing and you all only rise and make noise. They do not know even the ABC in this regard. Secular forces were there that came forward and showed this country the path. It was not the BJP and the Congress whom we trusted. Rather, it was this country and the teachings and rules of Mahatma Gandhi in which we had faith. We did so since we hoped that we would be getting justice, we would be respected and above all, our aspirations would be fulfilled. We did not do so for getting humiliated here and getting beaten up on hoisting India's flag there. A wrong view about Kashmir and the people of Jammu-Kashmir is presented before the country.

Madam, I have been a witness to the partition of the country. During partition, people were openly killed, Muslims killed Hindus and vice-versa. There were massacres and such incidents created an environment of insanity. At that time, slogans were shouted on the streets of Jammu-Kashmir—" Sher-e-Kashmir's ka kya Irshaad, Hindu-Muslim-Sikh-Ittehaad". On this, Mahatma Gandhiji felt very sad and said that there would be hopelessness here now. But, I still see a ray of hope in Kashmir and today, I make a promise in the House that this ray of hope would ever be there. Thousands of people may make efforts to put off this ray of hope but we would not allow them to do so. All the parties and the party members are our colleagues. Path-showers of the country are sitting here. There is no monopolist here. India is our mother land and we all are its children. I would like to submit to you to go through the previous records of Lok Sabha, bring all the statements made by the then Prime Minister, Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru and also bring to the notice all the statements made in this House.

Also, bring to the notice of all concerned the extracts of the matters aired on the All India Radio. Also, throw light on the speeches that were made in the United Nation's Security Council. What promises had you made to the people of Jammu & Kashmir? Why are you deceiving the people of the State? We had not come here to be cheated. We came here as we were acquainted with Gandhiji and his teachings, rules and guidelines. We were not told that Muslim people would be openly massacred in the name of Ram Mandir and Masjid. Had we been told so, we would have perhaps gone there. We were not told this. Gandhiji assured us that we would get justice and each of our religion would be protected. The poor would be respected and would be provided food, clothes and shelter. There would be no discrimination among anyone.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Shariq Saheb, please listen to me for a minute. There are more than 25 members who have yet to speak and, therefore, I cannot allot anyone more than 4-5 minutes. Please put forth all the points you want to, otherwise, there would be diversion from the main issues and you are likely to stick to one point only.

SHRI S.D. SHARIQ: I am trying my best. Madam, once our former Prime Minister, Shri Atalji had said that several blunders had been committed so far as Kashmir is concerned. My God bless him with health. And this led to the spread of a new thing there and this time, this Government is also ...*(Interruptions)* I am going to conclude. I urge the entire House to see our problems and sufferings. At this point of time, I can't say everything. Look, there were bomb blasts in our land and in Pune also. What are our security agencies doing? Why are incapable people accommodated in those agencies? To whom they are accountable to? When there exists a Standing Committee on each department, then, why does not a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Security Agencies in security matters exist there to whom they should be accountable for their acts and doings? When the Parliament sanctions and allocates funds for these agencies, then, it should also have the authority to fix accountability on them.

Madam, the illegal trade of licensed and unlicensed arms is going on in this country, that leads to breach of peace, fearful environment, incidents of robbery and dacoity and therefore, spreads hooliganism. As per a survey there are 90 lakh licenced guns in Uttar Pradesh alone and there is no count of unlicenced arms. Does

the Government have any policy for controlling and monitoring such arms so that they are not put to wrongful use?

Madam, although it is often said that 80 percent of the population of the country resides in the villages, there are no doctors for them. Is it necessary that 630 only the sons of the Tatas and the Birlas have to go there after completing their MD degrees? Why can the children of the dalits, muslims and the poor rural people be provided the opportunity to do MBBS and posted there. They should also get assistance. We are still following the outdated rules formed at the time of the British rule. We are seeing the world through the same distorted angle. I would like to say that only one thing is possible in a democracy. This gap between the rich and the poor in the country will give rise to a storm. We have seen people get into Parliaments and beat-up the President and the Prime Minister. This has happened in recent years. Will we not see such scenes? When the poor get the upper hand. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please, sit down now.

SHRI S.D.SHARIQ: Madam, I am concluding.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You have spoken on all the issues submitted by you.

SHRI S.D.SHARIQ: Our planning is proving effective due to the rising population. When I was young, I had read in books that the country is making rapid progress. I was never able to understand this phrase, 'din dooni, raat chauguni'. But now I have understood. I request that the night time progress be stopped and only daytime progress be achieved.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Each of the Hon. Members please try to end your speech in five minutes.

*[English]*

\* SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (Dharwad): I have proposed about 26 amendments to the Presidents address but due to want of time I would press some of them by touching upon them. Today there are two burning issues in India they are , one is terrorism and the other is certainly the problem of rising food prices the inflation of which has touched its highest since

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

independence. Never in the history of independent India such a burning as the one we are faced with. As rightly pointed by Hon. Leader of Opposition there was no one particular issue which had so much attracted the attention of Parliament as much as the sky rocketing of the food prices in as many as nine times there has been discussion on this issue under one or the other rules.

Para 7 and 8: in Para 7 and 8, Her Excellency the President makes reference to the problems of rising food prices abnormally. But there is no clear-cut mention about the measures her Government contemplates to immediately bring down the sky rocketing Food Prices. There has been an attempt to just find out the causes for spiraling food prices. Actually there was absolutely no reasons for the Government to make the President remark about unjustified reasons for the price rise. The Government tried to pass on the buck on some unjustified causes for the problem of food price rise. It has mentioned four reasons for this impasses. The first one being short fall in the domestic production, second reasons has been attributed to price rise of pulse, rice, oil in the international market third reasons is attributed enhanced payment of MSP to the farmers and fourth one is stated to be the increased income of the poor as the Rural Development Programmer are stated to be implanted at an accelerated pace. But unfortunately all these reasons are bound to be unjustified since some of them quality leader of Opposition so efficiently denied and hence I do not go deeper into these aspects. But one thing I would like to add that instead of justifying by giving false reasons and misleading the people we would have been happy if the Government had come out with some immediate measures by which it could have touched upon the real issue of bringing around the bush has not helped the Government, on the other hand this unprecedented price rise is the result of mismanagement and mishandling of the problems by Government, which is rightly termed as associated to four scams instead of four reasons, and I also join in demanding constitution of Joint Parliamentary Committee to go into these scams and people of India has the right to unravel what is really hidden in these scams. I also demand that stringent action be taken against Black marketers and Hoarders and protect the common man from the brunt of the price rise.

For those who had expected some of these measures in the budget speech of Finance Minister, but

utterly disappointed to note nothing the sort and it has been routinely prepared Budget.

I also feel very sorry to say that nothing mentioned about improvement in agricultural productively. The basic food consumed by common man comprises of flour rise, pulse, mustard oil, tea, sugar and spices and vegetables which are getting beyond reach. The President more articulately attributes the price rise to the short fall in domestic production. It is most unfounded reason.

Agriculture Minister has himself stated that the year 2008-09 has been a good year for agriculture for the production touching 233.38 million tones of food grains. But 2009-2010 this come down to 217 million tones for the poor Monsoon etc. During the N.D.A. rule we had also suffered a short fall of 40 million tones of food grains but our then Prime Minister Shri Vajpayee Ji never faced a single discussion on price rise. Food prices were never allowed to be risen. But this Government, seeks to escape under the cover of drought and natural calamity instead of finding the good and pro-active measures and shirks its responsibility. Even your own Economic Survey presented to this House on 25th makes remarks about the failure of this Government. In controlling the food price rise and protecting the common man. Why the Government is shy on adopting the Gujarat Model to boost the rise in the productivity of agriculture, which is the lone solution for the prices rise.

At the same time, there is no mention in the Address about the measures by which Indian agriculture can be made viable and profitable profession.

It is quite ironical to observe, that about 65% of the people of India engaged in the agriculture but its contribution to the G.D.P. is less than 15%. There is always mismatched in the demand and supply of the food grains, which is the cause for the food price rise. The important factor is to make agriculture of good production and productivity. Production can be increased only if cultivable land area is increased. But as per the statistics this year area of cultivation has declined by 8%. According to the Standing Committee of Agricultural the area under food grain cultivation has declined by 8% from 680.99 Lakhs hectares in 2008-2009 to 626.47 Lakhs hectares in 2009-2010. If area under food grains continue to shrink production will certainly come down. Not only production but productively should also be increased. This Government has not taken any steps to

increase productivity, I once again would like to remarks that Government should emulate the Gujarath model for increasing productivity. There is nothing wrong in taking the leaf from the book of Hon. Narendra Modi which will boost the productivity the growth rate of agriculture in Gujarat has increased to 9.6% and hence the Agri productivity. But there is nothing in the President's speech about this important aspect.

It is very much regretful to note, there is no mention in the address about a concrete scheme by which the Indian agriculture gets a new life in terms of farmers getting meaningful sops. There has been a consistent demand to the present scheme of Agricultural Insurance more meaningful to include more and more crops and making every village panchayat an unit. there has been a consistent demand for concrete support price policy for agriculture produce. But to my utter disappointment both these important issues are not addressed.

The Government made her Excellency the President mention about assuring food security. It is also mentioned in the address that it is committed to enact a law to ensure food security. In the last year's President address also there was mention about this but till date nothing is forth coming excepting saying that the Government is committed in this regard.

Para 6 of the address makes mention about the Government releasing funds to calamity affected people and to farmers whose crops have been lost by calamity under Calamity Relief Fund and National Calamity Contingency Fund. But there is no reference in this Para regarding enhancement of funds for which there is a consistent demand from the people for long time.

Existing norms to provide the relief to victims are as follows:

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(1) if a Pukka House is fully damaged Rs. 35,000=00

(2) if severely damaged Rs. 5000=00

(3) if partially damaged Rs. 1500=00

Kacha House:

(1) if fully damaged Rs. 10,000=00

(2) if severely damaged Rs. 2500=00

(3) if partially damaged Rs. 1500=00

(4) Thatched House Damaged Rs. 2000=00

Crop Loss for Small and Marginal Farmers:

(1) Per Hectare Rs. 2000=00

For Dry Land                      For two Hectares only

(2) Per Hectare for

Assured irrigated land Rs. 4000=00

For Big Farmers:

(1) Per Hectare for dry land Rs. 2000=00

(2) Per Hectare for irrigated land Rs. 4000=00 One Hectare only

For successive calamity loss – Up to two hectares only.

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In case of drought farmers may not have invested for agricultural produce. But calamitous rains, and floods wash off the standing crops in thousands of Hectares. Here the standing crops which are the result of huge investment of the farmers in terms of manure, seeds, irrigational facilities is lost by this the farmers come under streets.

Keeping this factor in to mind the Government has to think to pay the compensation on Sunami Models to the farmers and the existing norms of compensation be revised suitably.

Now I would like to refer about internal security Para 11 and 12 mention about fight against terrorism. Here excepting one line reference about menace of terrorism nothing concrete is found to curb religious fundamental terrorism and growing left wing terrorism. It once again speaks about zero tolerance to terrorism. But it is very ironical that at one end the Government says about zero tolerance towards terrorist but at another and pursuing a clandestine and masquerading tolerance to those who have mention in the address about opening new hubs of NSG units in other place not once again there I no mention about Bangalore in Karnataka despite of vociferous demand by the State. Bangalore is fastest growing city in Asia and it is know fact that terrorism has come to the door step of Karnataka with some incidents in Bangalore as well as in remote parts of the States. Please remember how there was inordinate delay in forces reaching Mumbai during the blasts and as a result more lives were lost. Had there been the NSG units nearby Mumbai the terrorists acts could have been effectively contained. So in this background Bangalore should be immediately provided NSG unit.

In Para 21 JNURM is mentioned, there are repeated demands to change the Norms of this scheme by which more and more medium level cities can be included for which there is pressing demand and include Hubli—Dharwad city of my constituency. The Government last year only had made announcement to revise the norms for bringing the cities of above 5 Lakhs population in the fold of JNURM to accommodate more cities. So, I urge upon the Government to bring in this change, so that many more cities will be accommodated. So, I once again urge the Government to include Hubli- Dharwad which the second largest in Karnataka after Bangalore, which lacks basic infrastructure for want of funds.

It is very disgusting that there is no mention about establishing new IITs in other States. The Government had last year announced that new IITs will be set up in various cities and Dharwad an educational town of my Constituency was one of the proposed places. But it is most disappointing to miss this important mention. Shri C.N. Rao & Shri U.R. Rao Committee's which were appointed to identify location have recommended Dharwad to be a center for IIT.

It is intended by the Government that in the 11th Plan, new-programmed generated centers are to be established in some parts of the country. In this regard the Ministry had assured one such center would be established in Dharwad (Karnataka). But there is no mention about this in the President's address.

After a prolonged efforts and even staking the very existence of the Government, the Government pursued the Nuke Deal with U.S.A. with the major intension of Generating Nuclear Electricity. But in the President's address nowhere it finds the place.

SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO (Purulia): Madam Chairman, many hon. Members have participated in the debate on Motion of Thanks to the President's Address since its beginning yesterday and I now shall make some points.

As regards price rise, the Government talks about controlling the rise in prices. The price rise can be checked only when the cultivators get sufficient facilities for cultivation. Farmers are not getting fertilizers like DAP, urea, etc. Government Departments lack coordination in tackling price rise, nor is there any monitoring mechanism. The entire responsibility for this situation lies squarely on the Government's shoulders. The situation has gone from bad to worse. Immediate action needs to be taken to check the rise in prices of coal, petrol and fertilizers. The issue of *aam aadmi* which has been mentioned in the President's Address is not a new one. The Government should accord the highest importance to ensuring relief to the *aam aadmi* on the front of food prices.

My next point relates to *jal, jangal, zameen* of the forest dwellers. Today the condition of Scheduled Tribes and other forest dwellers is worse, even after the enactment of Recognition of Forest Rights Act. Less than seven lakh titles have been distributed so far.

The Government is least concerned about them. So, the Government should take efforts in conjunction with the State Governments to ensure early disposal of the remaining claims.

Thirdly, I would say that security issues are the most important to our country. To strengthen the police and para-military forces, to ensure quick and effective response to any type of possible terror attack, the Government should make efforts by strengthening the Intelligence Bureau and Multi-Agency Centre. There are certain aspects of security which perhaps have not been looked at by the bureaucracy. Hence, the Government should remain vigilant against all forms of challenges posed by terrorism.

Fourthly, I would say that the Government has developed a comprehensive roadmap for the development of minority community. So, I would request the hon. Prime Minister to have discussion on the Sachar Committee Report and Ranganath Misra Commission recommendations. The Government should take care to implement the recommendations of the Sachar Committee and the Ranganath Misra Commission for the development of social welfare of the minorities.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Madam, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks that has been moved on the President's Address Motion. But I am very sorry to say that in the President's Address, there is no mention about the Ranganath Misra Commission Report. When the Ranganath Misra Commission Report was tabled, a day after that, the concerned Minister had made a statement, which appeared in the Press, that this Commission was not formed under the Commission of Enquiries Act. If you carefully look at the terms of reference, it says, to suggest criteria for identifying backward sections among the minorities, to recommend for them welfare measures, including reservations, education, and Government employment. Such a great step was taken, and the Report has also been tabled. The Ranganath Misra Commission and the Sachar Committee have given empirical data of educational and social backwardness of the Muslim community. Based on that, Mr. Ranganath Misra, who himself has been the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, a great Jurist of his time, in his wisdom, makes a recommendation that Muslims should be given 10 per cent reservation. I

would like to know this from the Government. Is the Government serious enough to implement those recommendations? What are the steps the Government is going to take? What the Government is going to do about the Ranganath Misra Commission recommendations?

The reason I am putting over here is that, the literacy rate of Muslims is 59 per cent; National literacy rate is 65 per cent. If a hundred graduates qualify in India, only three are Muslims. The urban poverty rate in India of the Hindu community is 26 per cent; for the Muslims, it is 37 per cent. The highest number of religious people living in *katcha* houses, according to the Misra Commission, is the Muslims. The highest number of people living in rented houses are the Muslims. Based on all these parameters of development, where the Muslims are backward, I would like to know as to what the Government is going to do. How is it that we are being denied reservation just because on the name of religion? We are not saying that we should be given on the basis of religion, we say that you give it on the basis of our backwardness, the social backwardness, the educational backwardness, which have been amply proven by the Misra Commission and the Sachar Committee. Unfortunately, the Government is running away from all these things. Various steps have been taken but in the last 60 years, who is to be blamed for the conditions in which Muslims are living? The Government have taken many steps but those have not really fructified.

I would like to point out to you, that the social-educational backwardness among Muslims is more than that of the presently notified backward classes. We are being marginalized; we are being alienated; and we are being treated as second-class citizens of this country. Why cannot the benefit of reservation be given to us? The argument that comes up is, no, in the name of religion, it cannot be done. Is it wrong to be a Muslim in India? I am questioning you that your Commission has given a Report; empirical data is there; 2001 Census is there. Despite that, the Government is afraid to act on it. This bogey of conversion reason is always put forward to us. Even the Andhra Pradesh High Court has talked about it. I would like to put forward that reservation is given in Karnataka, in Kerala and also in Tamil Nadu.

In the last 20-30 years, not even a single conversion case can be pointed out. Just by saying that you are a

Muslim and we cannot give reservation, how is the community going to come up? How is India going to become a super power, when the 14 per cent of the population's literacy rate is 59 per cent? They are not even educated. This is the literacy rate. If that is the case, how can India prosper? I would request the Government that it is high time that the Government should immediately act on it; it will be travesty of justice if the Government led by Dr. Manmohan Singh does not accept the recommendation of Ranganath Mishra Committee. I would like to point out through you to the Government the political reality which is developing now – Muslims have now decided that any secular party, whether it is Congress or others, who are not going to give reservation to Muslims, the next time around, the Muslims are not going to vote for you. How long are we going to vote for you and you are going to govern us? Where are the real fruits of benefits? What is the share in national resources? Is this why we started the 1875 War of Independence, that in the independent India, I cannot get reservation because I am a Muslim? What is the 1950-Presidential Order – that only a person belonging to Hindu community or Sikh community or a Buddhist can be a *dalit*? Is this not reservation based on religion?

[*Translation*]

SHRI MAHESH JOSHI (Jaipur): Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to convey to Honourable Member that Rajasthan Government has already granted reservation to Muslims considering them backwards.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Yes it has been provided, but what is happening there. ...(*Interruptions*) Who are benefiting? ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Madam, It is quite useless to say that it has been provided in certain States. It has been provided within 27 percent. Ranganath Mishra Commission has said that.

[*English*]

There is an inadequate representation of the Muslims and pasmandha also.

[*Translation*]

If you wish to provide reservation beyond it, please do it separately for Muslims after making amendment to

the Constitution. This is not a case of reservation within reservation. This amounts to kicking up a row.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Now, please conclude your speech.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Madam, I have already requested the Speaker and am speaking for the first time in this Session. Therefore, I request you to kindly allow me to speak.

[*English*]

MADAM CHAIRMAN: I know, but I cannot help it.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: I will conclude my speech in just two minute.

[*English*]

The reason we are asking for reservation is this. I have to *See* what Rajasthan has because as far as I know, in Rajasthan, Muslims are not getting reservation. Anyway, the reason we are asking for reservation in education, is this. Dr. Ambedkar had rightly said; he talked about importance of education in this way. He said: Education is like drinking the milk of a tigress. Why should Muslims be denied the milk of tigress? Why do you want to keep us backward? Deliberately you are keeping us backward. Articles 331 and 333 talk about nomination for Anglo-Indians. That can be based on religion! Article 371D says that 80 per cent local share is there. Everything can be done; now you talk about women's reservation. Reservation for whom? I will give you my example in this august House.

In the State of Andhra Pradesh, in the State of Karnataka and in the State of Maharashtra, I am the single Muslim MP. This speaks volumes of secularism which is being practiced here! Unfortunately the secular parties believe that because BJP's strength has come down numerically, secularism has won. I would tell you, if that is the case, why are my numbers coming down? When the voting class vote and vote, people who vote are communal. That is why, I am not getting elected. You want to bring 33 per cent reservation for women – we oppose this step. Why? I say, you give us the right;



this institution is the last place where the Muslims aspire and have confidence. But tomorrow if you bring in such legislation it will be a death-knell to the Muslim community; we know for a fact that the gross reality of the parliamentary democracy is that a person can get elected, if he has money. That is the most important thing. Where will I get money from? Who will elect me? That is the gross reality. My request to the Government is that if reservation is to be given, you start with the Muslim community. You do not want to give reservation in education, employment, and you want to give reservation to women, for what sake? Where should we go? Should we have confidence in this?

[Translation]

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You have made your point, please conclude now.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Madam, please let me at least conclude.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You have made your points in a very good manner.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Thank you very much, Madam. Please allow me for two more minutes to make my point properly.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You are speaking on the same point in a good manner for the last five minutes.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: I will conclude my speech in two minutes.

[English]

If the doors of parliamentary democracy are closed for us, what will be left for us?

Should we allow those people to take over the reins of my community leadership who do not believe in parliamentary democracy? I would like the Government to reconsider it. In this present form, we do not want it. You leave it to political parties. Let political parties decide. What about us? How should we come into the august House if you are that secular? My number has

come down to 29. You do not want people with Rangnath Mishra Commission. You do not want to give us reservation. You want to give reservation to women for what? Do you want this Lok Sabha to become a Hindu Lok Sabha? You do not want any diversity over here. You do not want anything over here.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: There cannot be something like that. Now, you may conclude.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Madam, if such a legislation is brought in, it will be a bad day.

[Translation]

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please speak within your limits.

[English]

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: A Prime Minister of the caliber of Shri Manmohan Singh being there, if such a legislation is brought in... (Interruptions) This Government has taken so many steps for Muslim empowerment.

Lastly, with regard to 90 MCDs, my request to the Government is, change that approach and make it a target approach and not area approach....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

Please let me conclude my speech. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: I am not yielding to you. You may sit down. Let me say what I have to say\*. I am not a Congressman. You can do it for your party but do not tell me to do. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

... (Interruptions)\*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: This is not the way.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: I cannot stoop to that level.

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\*Not recorded.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: Do you not respect the Prime Minister?

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Yes, I respect him a lot but not at the (*Interruptions*) ... \* Do not interrupt me. Let me complete.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Shri Owaisi, do not answer him. No cross-talk. Please conclude. Do not speak to him. He is not the person to address. You address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: I am addressing the Chair, Madam.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You don't need to reply to them.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Now, please conclude your speech.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Madam Chairman, Through you, I want to inform the Government that the issue of reservation is a very important issue for muslims. Today, we have become poor and backward. Of all religions, muslims are most backward, educationally and socially. Therefore, I demand from the Government to implement the recommendations of the Rangnath Mishra Commission so that muslims get justice.

[English]

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (Inner Manipur): Respected Madam, I rise to participate in the consideration of the Motion of Thanks for the Address which Her Excellency, Madam Rastrapati ji has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament on the 22nd February 2010. I whole-heartedly support the Motion.

Madam, I would like to consider the Address in two different areas, viz., national and international. Let me first start with the national issues.

I would first like to quote the last paragraph (No. 74) of the Address. I quote:

"Our country stands at a historic turning point. Never before were we so close as we are today to realizing our national aspirations as envisaged by our founding fathers and spelt out by Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru in this very Central Hall on the August 1947:

'The service of India means the service of the millions who suffer. It means ending poverty and ignorance and disease and inequality of opportunity.'

We have taken decisive strides towards reaching these goals. Still, much remains to be done. The road is long, but our journey is in progress. Let us march together with confidence to a new and a bright future."

Madam, this speaks of everything. It speaks of a national character which everyone of us should try to have in order to achieve the national aspirations. The present UPA Government under the leadership of the Prime Minister and the UPA Chairperson, has been able to conduct itself very successfully in this direction through our National Flagship Programmes and various Welfare Schemes.

Mahatma Gandhi, NREGA, Right to Information Act, and Free and Compulsory Education Act to mention a few. All of us should be proud of it. I, very respectfully, urge upon all the hon. members present here to extend their fullest co-operation to this endeavor.

Madam, the second being the case of rising prices of essential commodities, it is the fervent hope of everyone of us that the prices of essential commodities get stabilized immediately. However, all of us are aware of the fact that considering the size of this country and its population size, it is but natural that the demands are more while the supply is limited. This theory of demand-supply is, to a large extent, responsible for the price rise. But we cannot leave it here. Our subsidy regime is still on. We must find ways to mitigate the same very earnestly and quickly. The government is doing exactly the same. I am confident that all these flagship programmes and these measures will certainly bear fruits sooner than later.

Madam, the third being the successful delivery mechanism of all the flagship programmes and welfare schemes of the UPA Government, here I would like to

mention the combined responsibilities of the federal Government—State Governments and the Union Government. I am afraid the transparency in the governance is still lacking in many parts of the federal Government. This scheme and these programmes require to be judiciously and holistically implemented. So, they require the blessings of the Union Government. At the same time, we have to ensure that these schemes reach the people for whom they are intended.

Here I would like to raise a very important issue. We do encourage the on-going effort of the Union Government to find a negotiated settlement of the vexed Naga NSCN(IM) issues at the earliest. But it should not be at the cost of the territorial integrity of Manipur and other States.

Now, I come to the next point. It is the commitment of the UPA Government to ensure the early passage of the Women's Reservation Bill and Her Excellency's urging us to accord special attention to this critical proposal. Here again, it is interesting to see the simple arithmetical coincidence of the fact that the quantum of reservation of women in the Bill is 33 per cent and Her Excellency has put this mention at Para No. 33 of her Address. Is it not really interesting?

Further, I would once again seek your kind indulgence and indulgence of the hon. members of the House to the fact that the world does have only two races—one the men-folk and the other womenfolk. We are equally responsible and entitled to share the joy, happiness and sorrows. This is a heavenly gift.

It is indeed heartening to know from the address of the Congress President today in the Central Hall that the Bill is being taken up in the Rajya Sabha on 8th March i.e., the International Women's Day for consideration and passage. Even as there are some impending objections from its known opponents, it remains our sincere hope and desire that the good sense prevails and the Bill would be passed unanimously.

Madam, next I would like to make a sincere attempt to address the issue of terror in the country and abroad, which is nevertheless an issue both National and International. Terrorism as I do always stand is a war against humanity. The zero tolerance policy of our Government has to be practiced in its fullest meaning both in spirit and in action. Civilizations grew on the

lives of millions and that the King can do no wrong do remain and has been the greatest tragedy of mankind. We who practice Democracy should think together and work together for a better world so that our children enjoy the fruit of their birth and live happily. Together we must be able to give to our children a better tomorrow.

Lastly, I would like to mention about our independent foreign policy which remained in tact. This was being debated by some of the hon. Members on the other side. We do not agree with them. Our independent foreign policy is in tact. Our relations with neighboring countries like Bhutan, Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka continue to grow from strength to strength and particularly relations with Myanmar through our Look East Policy are really improving.

Lastly I would like to whole-heartedly support the Motion of Thanks to the President's Address moved by Rao Inderjit Singh and Kumari Minakshi Natarajan and request all the other hon. Members to pass the motion unanimously.

\* SHRI VIJAY BAHUGUNA (Tehri Garhwal): In the face of a very volatile global economic recession the UPA Government deserves full praise and credit for reducing fiscal deficit and inflation and maintaining a steady growth rate of 8%.

The stimulus package provided to the industrial and export segments has shown positive results and there is an upward trend in industrial production and foreign exchange inflow.

The unprecedented drought and floods in the country gave a set back to our economy as the food grain production was reduced resulting in a steep rise in food inflation and price rise.

Both the Centre and the States have to play an active role in enhancing agricultural production and taking drastic and deterrent steps to check both hoarding and adulteration.

The focus of the UPA Government is on the agricultural sector which is the back bone of our economy and growth.

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

Loan of marginal farmers were waived and agricultural credit is available to farmers at 5% interest.

NREGA, Bharat Nirmam, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rashtriya Swasthya Mission, Rajiv Gandhi Vidhyut Yojna, Indira Gandhi Awas Yojna are providing economic upliftment of the rural India and the poor sections of our society. the budget allocation for these schemes and other welfare schemes for minorities and scheduled castes and scheduled tribe has been enhanced in Budget 2010-2011.

It is a matter of grave concern that the funds which are flowing to the states are not being properly utilized and the relief is not reaching to the common man. For instance BPL families are not getting 100 days job in NREGA and the funds provided by Centre for benevolent schemes are not being properly utilized.

The Centre should strictly monitor the performances of the State Government and expose the nonperforming Governments.

"Naxalism" is breeding in areas where there is economic backwardness, non implementation of land reforms and exploitation of the landless and oppressed sections of the society.

The State Government should take drastic steps to root out the factors responsible for spreading of Naxalism.

The Central Government should welcome the offer of talk with the Naxal leaders.

I would like to draw the kind attention of the Prime Minister and Smt. Sonia Gandhi Ji to the increasing economic backwardness and lack of development in the Himalayan States in general and Uttarakhand in particular.

Due to global warming the water sources are drying causing acute drinking water problem to the people living in remote areas. The State Government is a mute spectator and we look upon the Central Government to draw a Bundelkhand type financial assistance to provide drinking water by lifting water from rivers and funding gravity based drinking water projects.

Women and children are being deprived of basic medical care. The norms for setting up primary health centers in hill areas should be relaxed and additional funds be allotted.

The Border District Area Development fund should be enhanced and schemes should be formulated to generate employment to the youth so that they are not exploited by extremist elements from across the border.

To protect the environment cooking gas facilities should be provided to the remote villages in the hills so that timber is not used.

I appeal to the Prime Minister to create and head a Ministry for Himalayan Development so that there can be a planned and coordinated development of all the Himalayan States and necessary changes are made in the policies and guidelines formulated by various central industries to address the Himalayan conditions and development.

With these words I conclude my speech.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BALKRISHNA KHANDERAO SHUKLA (Vadodara): Madam Chairman, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on hon. President's address. It is a matter of pride for all of us that India is on the way to become the largest democratic and economic powerhouse in the world. I represent a state which has been giving important contribution in the economic development of the country continuously for the last six years.

Madam, all of us know that when the GDP of our country is 7.7 percent, the GDP of Gujarat is 10.6 percent. Gujarat comes after Manipur and Jharkhand which are smaller states. It may be seen that if in the first year of eleventh five year plan the GDP of Karnataka is 12.9 percent then even Gujarat has 12.8 percent GDP. If we make an evaluation of all the schemes implemented by the Union Government then we may see that there is no sector in which Gujarat has not made progress. Whatever national level awards have been given, Gujarat has got maximum awards.

Madam, I am here as Member of Parliament but I have another responsibility. I am also the Mayor of Baroda city. Baroda city has got three national awards from the Central Government recently. The way urbanization is taking place in the country, we know that within next two years 40 percent of our population will be living in cities and the economy will be strengthened through 62 percent urban schemes. I request you to extend JNNURM which was started in

the year 2005 and as a result thereof, development process has gained momentum in all the states. Another scheme namely Rajiv Awas Yojana was referred to in the President's address. Any such housing scheme meant for development of the poor as well as the cities is likely to make the country more prosperous.

Madam, I would like to submit one more thing that H. E. President has stated in Para 27 that our economy is growing fast, hence it is essential that the deprived sections of the society are also brought into mainstream. Madam, I would like to tell a very serious thing through you. All of us know that India is at the top in the world in one more aspect and that is cooperation. More than five lakh cooperative societies are functioning in the country and it is a big achievement. The foundation of cooperative society was laid in the year 1844 when a cooperative store was started in England. Different methods were adopted during freedom struggle. When Lal, Bal and Pal were leading the country, Lokmanya Tilak ji led a movement in Maharashtra which motivated the entire country and at that time Tilak ji told one of his friends that the country needed one such thing which could unite the whole country to fight against the British. Baroda gave Maharishi Arvind Ghosh and Ambedkar and a well known economist of the country who set up the first cooperative guidance of Tilakji.

**18.00 hrs.**

The name of that person was Vitthal Lakshmanrao Kavthekar who is known as Bhausahab Kavthekar.  
...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Twenty more honourable Members are to speak. Zero hour is also to be taken up. So if all of you agree we may extend the timing of House till 8.00 pm.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Please tell us the names of those Members first. If my name does not figure in that list, I may go. It is another thing that the sitting of the House is extended till 8 p.m. or adjourned...  
...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): The House will function

tomorrow and even day after tomorrow. But as we could not take up our list of business during the last few days, the list of business has been changed. Whatever work is scheduled, that has to be finished in time. So I request the entire House to finish this debate till 8 p.m. today itself. As Laluji has said. Other important matters could be taken up after 8 p.m. It has been already decided that 4 to 5 matters are taken up on the morning and after the proceedings of the day in the House Zero Hour is taken up.....*(Interruptions)* I would request you to let the House function till 8.00 p.m. It is an essential business which is taken up on priority basis. Madam, you can take up Zero Hour after that...  
...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: The House is extended till 8 p.m. After that no time 658 will be given. It would be better if every hon. Member winds up within five minutes.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH (Kaisarganj): The zero Hour should not be taken up. What does it mean?.....  
...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: If it is so, you may say that the discussion has been completed. The Members, who are yet to speak, may withdraw their names. We are ready to wind up this debate just now. Zero hour may be taken up.....  
...*(Interruptions)* You will have to agree to one or the other thing...  
...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: All have agreed to extend the time. The time for proceedings of the House is extended till 8 o' clock. Thereafter, there would be zero-hour. Everyone, who has given the notice to speak, would get the opportunity to speak. It would be better if the hon'ble Members conclude their speeches within the time allotted to them.

.....*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: We are to take up the Zero-hour also.

....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Please take up the zero-hour tomorrow. Please have a look as to how many members of the ruling party are sitting here ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Every issue could be taken up for discussion if you all extend your cooperation. Everyone would be adjusted if every member concludes his/her speech within the time period allotted to him/her. Shukla ji, you please conclude your point soon.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Please do not allow the zero-hour. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (*Machhlishahr*): Whosoever is desirous of taking part in discussion, would certainly sit even later on....(Interruptions)

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Shukla ji, you please conclude your point soon.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BALKRISHNA KHANDERAO SHUKLA: Kavthekar ji founded one institution namely Ananya Bank. As a result, later on, a new system called co-operative' came in to existence across the country. Gradually, the Banks moved on and continued to progress. ....(Interruptions). The Country had earned a name in the cooperative banking sector. But, with the passage of time the concept of globalization came which created problems. Cooperative Bank, which has sown the seed of cooperation in Asia, is today on the verge of dying out. In such a situation, it becomes the responsibility of all the countrymen to save it.

**18.05 hrs.**

[SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA *in the Chair*]

It was an institution that showed new direction to the entire world and the entire Asia in the field of cooperation. Everywhere, an olden thing is called a heritage. After a period of 100 years, anything assumes national importance. In this way, we make a lifeless thing a national heritage by enhancing its national importance and consider it to be the country's pride.

This is an institution having more than 50 thousand stakeholders who have invested their entire life's wealth. For this, the Government of India need not do much. In this regard, I have written to all including H.E. the President, hon'ble Prime Minister and Minister of Finance. I have also written to the Reserve Bank. They have put

a check on proceedings to certain extent. Besides, it was only yesterday that they have got a show cause Notice from the Reserve Bank.

Through this House, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government to the fact that the manner in which Mahatma Gandhi and Lokmanya Balgangadhar Tilak ji contributed a lot to the country's independence and its progress, in the same manner Kavthekarji too contributed in taking the country to the path to progress. He has the same honour for his commendable contribution and we have to save this institution to show our respect to him. To do this, the Union Government does not need lots of funds. The stakeholders of the Bank are not begging anything. What they are asking is only little time, grants and an interest free loan of nearly 10-20 crores. Thousands of crores of rupees are being incurred on scheme and if the Union Government grants 10-20 crore rupees, it would help preserve the glorious history of not only India but of the entire Asia also, which is on the verge of being a thing of the past.

Therefore, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government towards this aspect. H.E. the President has mentioned about the Mission Nirmal Ganga Project under the aegis of the National Ganga River Basin Authority. At this, I feel very proud. For all the countrymen, Ganga is revered as mother Ganga. It is so because there is no other match to this river across the world. I belong to Vadodara city. There is a river namely Vishwamitri river which has been named after Rishi Vishvamitra ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, you conclude your speech.

SHRI BALKRISHNA KHANDERAO SHUKLA: I am concluding my point within two minutes. Vadodara has a history of more than two thousand years. The Vishwamitri Navsarjan Project has been started in our city on the lines of Nirmal Ganga Mission. The concerned state too has opened an account for this purpose. Through you, I would like to request the Union Government to take the Vishwamitri Navsarjan Project in its hand like the Nirmal Ganga Project.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. "Zero Hour" now. Shri Prasanta Kumar Majumdar to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (Machhlishahr): Mr. Chairman Sir, please take up Zero Hour... *.(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Zero hour will be taken up after the discussion on Motion of Thanks on President's address is over. It has been already decided.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Prasanta Kumar Majumdar is speaking.

...*(Interruptions)\**

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This ruling has been given by the Chair, why are you raising this issue? It has been decided that Zero Hour will be taken up in the last. Please sit down and wait. If you cannot do this, you may go and come back at 8.00 p.m.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please go and take a cup of tea and come at 8.00 p.m.

....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called the name of Shri Prasant Majumdar ji to speak. Why are you disturbing the House?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Zero Hour will not be taken up now. It will be taken up after this discussion.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why are you wasting the time of the House?

...*(Interruptions)*

\*DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ (Sambhal): Mr. Chairman Sir, Her Excellency the President delivered her address on 22.02. 2010 and highlighted the Government's policies but did not promise any reduction in the prices rather the prices of diesel and petrol were increased due to which the common man is very depressed. The Muslim minority of the country is the most backward as reflected in Sachar Committee's report. The condition of Muslims is even worse than the dalits. It means the Muslims are the most backward in every aspect. Yet nothing has been said about the progress and education of the Muslims.

Aligarh Muslim University and Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi have not been given minority status till date which is an open injustice. If the Muslims of this country are backward in every aspect, the country also cannot progress. Today the Muslims need reservation. The Muslim minority cannot progress without reservation. The Muslim representation in government service is almost zero.

I regret to say that the recommendations made by the Sachar Committee have not yet been implemented. We demand that the Sachar Committee recommendations should be honestly implemented. Schools and colleges should be set up in Muslim dominated areas so that the backwardness of Muslims is removed. As the President has stated about the progress of the country, we also want the progress of the country and peace and unity. No country can progress without peace and unity. Today our country needs unity for progress as the freedom struggle was carried on unitedly. Until the farmers of this country is strengthened, the backwardness of this country cannot be removed. With these words I support the President's address.

[English]

\*SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI (Vizianagaram): I support the Motion moved by my senior colleague, Rao Inderjit Singh and seconded by kum. Meenakshi Natarajan. President has rightly said that the mandate of the UPA Government is to protect and deepen the values of pluralism and secularism and to ensure rapid growth with justice and fairness to all. The UPA Government has worked with devotion to build on the achievements of its earlier governance to deliver the

promise of faster and more inclusive growth. The main concern of the UPA Government was *aam aadmi* and it is going to be its core promise. He has been protected against global economic crisis and against the failure of the monsoon in large parts of the country in mid-2009. Though the global economic crisis has affected a large part of the world, it did not impact India much. Thanks to the balanced approach of the Government.

Our Government has taken steps to strengthen the nation's security. It is there for all of us to see. Untoward incidents were severely curtailed in 2009. Our Government has shown a desire to accommodate disparate political and regional voices. It has pro-actively engaged with the global community to enter into a partnership between the institutions of governance and civil society.

Our Government has checked economic slowdown because of strong policies and by providing stimulus to the economy. It has already yielded good results. We can all see it. We are expecting our economic growth to improve around 7.5 per cent in 2009-10 from 6.7 per cent in 2008-09.

I thank the Government for protecting farmers from the impact of monsoon failure by allocating Rs. 4000 crore from the National Calamity Contingency Fund and the Calamity Relief Fund to the drought affected States, including my State, Andhra Pradesh.

Another important achievement of this Government is flagship programme-Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme was made to allow water conservation works in the fields of small and marginal farmers. I have no doubt in my mind to say that this amendment in the NREGA has checked the fall in food production.

So far as food security is concerned, there has been unpleasant pressure on the prices of food grains and food products. We all know that this has happened due to shortfall in domestic production and due to monsoon failure and international price rise of rice, cereals and edible oils. If the farmer is not paid MSP for his produce like wheat or rice or sugar, the Government is blamed. If the farmer is paid MSP, then, naturally there will be a hike in the price of essential commodities. At the same time, the production of food grains has not increased due to vagaries of monsoon.. We are happy to say that

NREGA has raised incomes in rural areas; and it has empowered them economically. Now they have purchasing power.

Our Government is supplying essential commodities through Central agencies like NAFED, Kendriya Bhandaar, Mother Dairy at reasonable rates. Already the inflation is coming down. There is a need to strengthen local super markets. There is a need to eliminate middlemen. Farmers can directly market their produce through local super markets. There should be linkages from garden to kitchen. There is a need to revamp PDS. A Core Group consisting of Ministries has already been constituted. I thank the Government for addressing this problem.

I welcome the Government resolve to create an environment which encourages investments, including in Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises.

Thanks to the Government they will concentrate on infrastructure development, agriculture and rural development, education and health keeping the weaker sections of society in mind. With Hon'ble Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, at the helm of affairs, our Government is confident of achieving growth rate above 8 per cent in 2010-11 and seek to achieve 9 per cent growth in 2011-12.

The nation is proud of our Armed Forces. They have distinguished themselves in preserving the country's unity and territorial integrity and in defending our borders. I personally join the Hon'ble President in congratulating our Armed Forces. I whole-heartedly endorse the Government's commitment to the welfare of servicemen and ex-servicemen. This will go a long way in maintaining the moral of our forces. Thanks to the effort of the Government that they are taking new measures to modernize and strengthen the security apparatus of the country to meet the grave challenge posed by terrorism. They have set up four National Security Guard hubs including Hyderabad to ensure quick and effective response to any possible terror attack. The policy of Zero tolerance of terrorist activities should be implemented as our principle policy.

Free electricity connections have been provided to nearly 84 lakh below poverty line houses under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana. This is a great achievement and still a lot more needs to be done which our Government is embarking upon.



Another feather in the cap of our Government is Rs. one lakh crore worth of projects have been approved for urban development and welfare of the urban poor under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission.

Thanks to the Government they are paying attention to a balanced approach to national development, with special attention to our Border States. I thank the Government for its welfare measures to further uplift the SC/ST and minority communities. Here I request the Government to focus more on the welfare of OBCs. Youth are the future of our country and the whole world. I welcome the measures to provide more challenging opportunities to the youth.

Our Government is committed to ensuring early passage of the Women's Reservation Bill for which we are all looking forward to pass it and create a history in the Indian Parliament.

I also welcome the proposal of the Government to bring forward a National Green Tribunal Bill, 2009 to deal with cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests.

I congratulate the Government for finding 20 new oil discoveries; and also a new scheme of rural LPG distribution "Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitarak Yojana".

I also thank the Government for setting up a National Mission for Delivery of Justice and Legal Reforms. They have also set up Fast Track Courts which are doing wonderful job in disposing of old civil and criminal cases. But the services of these ad hoc judges working in these Fast Track Courts are yet to be regularized. I hope the concerned Ministry would pay attention to this problem.

I also welcome the steps being taken by the Government to digitalization of both All India Radio and Doordarshan. This will definitely attract more viewers and listeners.

I wholeheartedly welcome the unique identity numbers based on biometrics to all residents of India.

Ours is a responsive Government as a delivery monitoring unit has been established in the Prime Minister's Office to review flagship programmes and other initiatives.

Though I welcome the India-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement, it should not put our farmers and manufacturers of industry to a disadvantage.

I congratulate the Government for expressing India's opinion in the G-20 process, the G-8 plus G-5 Summit and the Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen. I also thank the Government for concluding new agreements for cooperation in the field of civil nuclear energy. This will meet our future energy requirements.

It is very interesting to observe the Government's commitment to bringing about a paradigm shift in our education infrastructure based on the three pillars of expansion, inclusion and excellence. I welcome the setting up of the National Council for Higher Education and Research, as an overarching body to regulate higher education and research in India.

I also welcome the Government endeavours to bring forward an appropriate legislation for facilitating the participation of globally renowned and quality academic institutions in our higher education sector, and for bringing in foreign education providers for vocational training and skill development.

I agree with Hon. President that our quest for good health for all remains a national challenge. The National Rural Health Mission has stimulated creation of public healthcare infrastructure. The correspondingly augment the availability of human resources, many measures like establishment of more medical, nursing and para-medical institutions in under-served areas, creation of additional seats for specialists and super-specialists, and incentivising service by doctors in rural areas, have been initiated. Early indications reflect the positive impact of this mission. I congratulate the Government, for containing H1N1, even though more is to be done to achieve health for all. India is hosting the 2010 Commonwealth Games. It is a rare honour and prestige to showcase the development and ability of our country. The Government measures to upgrade the Roads, Airports, ports and Railways will go a long way in strengthening the infrastructure of our country.

Before I conclude, I say we still have a long way to go to achieve dreams of India and to put our aam aadmi at the top of the world. But I am sure we will be at the top of the world.

[*Translation*]

\*SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR (Balurghat):  
Hon. Chairman Sir, you can very well see the situation prevailing in this country. Population is on the rise and unemployment is also increasing by leaps and bounds. Prices of essential commodities are also shooting through the roof. People of the country are starving ; they are hungry for food. The main reason for this is that the agricultural sector has always been neglected. The constitution provides the right to life to the citizens of this country. But who is going to ensure this right ? It is the duty of the Government to do so. Who is going to provide enough food to the teeming millions? The Government has to ensure food security. The Government probably is aware that the population is increasing day by day and accordingly supply of food has to be increased. There should be more focus on agriculture thus. But we find that investment in agriculture is extremely low. Be it for irrigation or for fertilizers, investment is too meagre. There is absolutely no development in this sector. Agricultural credit is also not freeflowing. Due to all these reasons, prices of commodities are spiralling. To bring down the prices, to provide food to the entire population, on one hand rise in population has to be contained and on the other investment in agriculture has to be increased in order to augment productivity and production. The distribution system also has to be strengthened and universalized. The hoarders and black marketers must not be allowed to create false scarcity of food. The Government was aware of this I believe 63 years have passed since independence but this Government has done absolutely nothing in this regard.

Secondly sir, we have a population of more than 120 crores. But what do we find in the rural areas? There is no proper healthcare facilities in villages. Though it has been mentioned in the address of Her Excellency President of India that National Rural Health Mission will be launched. Funds have also been allocated for this purpose but the ground reality is completely different. There is shortage of doctors and paramedics in the villages of India. No doctor is available in the small dispensaries or hospitals in the block level. Proper medical infrastructure is also not found in these

hospitals. X-Ray machines are not found ; other equipment are also not to be seen anywhere. Good laboratory facilities are missing too in these far-flung under developed hamlets. In the districts, there are few doctors, few medical equipment, some facilities are there but population pressure is so huge that those doctors are not able to properly treat all the patients. Where do we find better treatment? In urban areas, in metro cities we find better medical facilities. There are big hospitals and nursing homes where patients can pay a hefty sum and get treated. The private hospitals are money spinners. The poor helpless people cannot go to these private hospitals and are left at the mercy of quacks and exorcists. The tribal people are compelled to fall prey to these non-medical, harmful persons who only exploit their helplessness. The entire healthcare facilities are in shambles in the remote rural areas. Food, education and healthcare are the three basis needs of a person. A country where there is no food, no education, no health, no control on population explosion, there cannot be any development in such a country. Look at the European nations. They have progressed because of their policies.

We have to ponder over this. Though there are high-sounding words and promises in the Presidential Address, nothing is implemented in right earnest. The tribal population in this country is approximately 8 crores. They have no education, no language. Santhali language has been recognised but it has not developed. There is shortage of books and study materials. No research has been undertaken for its improvement. Everyone wants to speak in one's own language, own mother tongue; everyone wishes to dream in the language which is closest to one's heart. But to date, nothing has been done for this linguistic minority. We shout for the religious minorities. It is true that the Muslims are really lagging behind but the linguistic minorities are also to be taken care of. Otherwise their language will be lost one day. A nation cannot sustain without languages – this is my specific argument. Educational institutions, universities are to be opened for propagation of languages. Languages may lead us to a better future.

With these few words, I thank you whole heartedly for allowing me to participate in this discussion and I conclude my speech.

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

\*SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL (Meerut): The President's Address is the official document of the Government policies containing the details of various programmes and schemes. This Address also contains all those-things. But Sir, I feel that there is no coherence among various schemes and programmes. Several schemes and objectives contradict each other. We are concerned about food security but our efforts to bolster our food production are likely to reduce the fertility of our land. We intend to create new job opportunities but our policies are creating large scale unemployment. We also want that every one should get safe drinking water but we are not able to check water pollution. We want to face the challenges of climate change but we do not care to change our lifestyle accordingly. There are several such things and I feel that we need to incorporate some basic changes in our thinking to address these problems. I would like to draw the attention of the House to one or two points through you.

Food security is our major concern. Enhancing the food production is very essential so that everyone may have a two square meal and nobody remains hungry. The hon'ble Minister of Finance also had mentioned the need for a second green revolution in his budget speech. How will this green revolution take place? Whatever measures we have taken to enhance the agricultural produce are proving very fatal. The fertility of land is day-by-day declining as a result of more and more use of chemical fertilizers. The states like Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana etc. which always registered highest per-hectare production have now come down at tenth or eleventh position. As per the Atharvaveda, "Maata Bhoomi Putro Hum Prithivya." We have not accorded the Earth. The status of a mother, rather we have used it to the maximum extent considering it as an item of consumption. Sir, chemical fertilizers are not only making the land barren but they are contaminating the potable water also. The amount of subsidy on fertilizers for the farmers has reached rupees one lac crore. Besides, we are bound to formulate schemes and plans involving crores of rupees for the purpose of water purification. Is there any solution to all this? Is there no other alternative? Sir, there is an option alternative to this. This alternative is there in our conventions or traditions. We should resort to that. We should look to the ideals of Gandhiji. By doing so, we may find a way-out. And that way out is organic farming. I don't want

to go in details due to paucity of time. But, various scientific researches have provided that use of various types of organic fertilizers enhances fertility of land and also the production upto 15 to 20 percent. Similarly, chemical pesticides are used in farming which contaminate vegetables, fruits and lastly the water. As their alternative, we may also use organic pesticides. We should bring in practice our age—old conventional know-how on these subjects. We should make amendments to this know-how by way of new researches and enrich it so that second green revolution could be given a start in the real sense of the term.

During the recent days, the Minister of Agriculture told that the milk prices would go up. Only his statement is enough for the price of a commodity to go up, but, I think, there would be actual scarcity of milk in future. Sir, I belong to the Western Uttar Pradesh. In the entire area, particularly in my parliamentary constituency-Meerut-Hapur-Unauthorised and illegal slaughter of animals take place. More than ten thousand animals are slaughtered every day which include a major chunk of milk cattle. Population is increasing but the number of animals and milk cattle has been declining for the last decade. Through you, I would like to request that this illegal slaughter of animals should be checked in order to enhance milk production, retain availability of milk for infants and children, promote organic farming and ensure adequate production and supply of fertilizers and pesticides. Researches and tests have proved that cow-dung and urine is very much useful from this point of view. Hence, cow-slaughter should be completely banned across the country and instead of chemical fertilizers factories, safe animal-farms of different sizes should be constructed. Organic fertilizers and pesticides could be produced. This would create employment opportunities in rural areas, help stop emission of Carbon dioxide emanating from chemical fertilizers factories and also help maintain climatic balance.

Animal-slaughter is taking place on large scale since the Government has accorded the status of agricultural produce to flesh and subsidy of 20 per cent is provided on flesh export under the APEDA. Big personalities are involved in the flesh-export business, they are earning profits, financial burden is enhancing and the livestock is declining. This subsidy should immediately be withdrawn so that the earth, farming and above all the farmers could be saved.

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

Much discussions is held on the NREGA or MNREGA. The Minister of Rural Development had perhaps demanded rupees 70 thousand crores for this scheme, but the Minister of Finance could not provide this amount. I do not want to go into discussions as to how these funds are being utilized. But, I have a request to make that does pertain to the food security in the country. Presently, only 6 percent of agricultural produce is processed whereas it is nearly 65 percent in certain Western countries. Please pay more attention towards this neglected areas. This would create greater employment opportunities, and the agricultural produce would not go waste and the prices of agricultural produce would go up which would also directly benefit the farmers as well as the villages and also the country's economy would also be strengthened.

I know there is a time-limit. Therefore, I am concluding my point by making a request. 100 years ago, Gandhiji wrote the Hind Swaraj in the year 1909. This year is the centenary year of that Beej Grantha. Special discussion should be held on this book in this House. We should think by setting ourselves aside from the Western pattern. Western economy is in the dark. We should search our own way, look to the Nature and build a capable and independent India in the real sense of the term.

With this, I would like to support the Motion of Thanks on H.E. the President's Address.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Lalu Prasadji, you are given only five minutes time as Raghuvansh Prasad Singh from your party has already taken 18 minutes. So, please keep time limit in mind.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Mr. Chairman, Sir, discussion on Motion of Thanks on Hon'ble President's address to the joint session of Parliament is going on here. You gave me an opportunity to participate in this debate, I am grateful to you for this. Raghuvansh Babu has already put across his point of view on behalf of our party and after me my other colleagues would also like to speak. A glance at President's Address makes it clear that the schemes launched by the previous UPA Government are being not only repeated but also allocation for several schemes like Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna, NAREGA etc has also been curtailed. The unemployed are provided employment under NAREGA. When we were students a movement was started under

the leadership of Loknayak Shri Jai Prakash Narayan for giving unemployment allowance to the unemployed. The previous UPA Government had started NAREGA to ensure that drum-beaters and people engaged in other petty work in villages looking for proper job earn their bread and butter. But at present under this scheme big-contractors are getting the work done by machines by taking thumb impression or by paying nominal amount. Thus irregularities are being committed in this scheme.

Today corruption is rampant throughout the country. The member of almost all the parties discussed this issue in their speeches. It is correct that schemes are launched and financed by the Centre but the responsibility of implementing the schemes and spending the amount rests with the States. Several states have undertaken certain works under Bharat Nirmal Yojna but in states like Bihar, to which I belong very little has been done under this scheme. More than 500 people have died of starvation in Bihar. This number may be more. The educated youths, the labourers are migrating from Bihar because they are neither getting due respect nor work in Bihar. Bihar is paying for all this. Why this is happening is beyond our comprehension.

Our country is a federal state and a federal system is in place here. We all the countrymen are one, whether it is Shahrukh Khan or Asha Bhonsle, or cricketer God Sachin Tendulkar or Azharuddin Saheb....(Interruptions) right, or Hema Malini, how she can be left. She is a good artist. This country and Mumbai is ours. But the feeling of regionalism cropping up in cities like Mumbai is not good. As a result, the country will not progress. The Union Government lacks the will to check things like this. The people of this country are free to reside any place of their choice and earn their livelihood. But today certain organizations and parties are spreading hatred in the country in the name of regionalism for no reason. In this work Mumbai is at no. one. Mumbai is the trade center of the country.

The money of all countrymen is invested in Mumbai. The people of Bihar who earn money in Gulf-countries also invest in Mumbai. The kind of respect and honour of India get in gulf countries the same is not given to them anywhere in the world. They come with huge foreign exchange which goes to the Reserve Bank. The money of all the people is invested in Mumbai and in Delhi.

The money of all the classes, all the state is invested in Delhi. But some unscrupulous people are using such language in telling us to go from Delhi.\* .....\* You may take it otherwise because we have been with you and to keep such people away we have been with you. We have been with you when no one was your companion.

Sir, accept this or not, history cannot be belied. Your Chief Minister takes a Cabinet decision regarding domicile that only persons who are original habitants or living continuously for the last 15 years here will only be eligible to get driving licences. What does it show? Who constructs seven-eight storey buildings? The people of Bihar and UP do it. Today countrymen are fighting with one another. The Congress Party has taken a Cabinet decision in this regard there. I talked to hon'ble Prime Minister on telephone from Patna and said that it was a very harmful development. This may weaken the country. Three children from Bihar drowned in Chennai. The people from Bihar and north-east have never had any grievance against the people of Chennai, as they have at present.

The Congress is in power in Delhi. Hon'ble Sheila Dixit either commits slip of tongue or at times thinks differently. She has said many times that people from Purvanchal make Delhi dirty. We protested this. Where are you leading this country? WE have demanded many times that people raising such slogans and following such path should be dealt with strictly by the Centre and for this strong will power is required. It gives a very wrong message.

The same thing is going on in Mumbai, Patna, West Bengal, Haryana, Punjab, Kerala or Madhya Pradesh. Even the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh spoke the same thing at one time. But under your pressure he retracted.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): No, the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh said that local people should be given priority wherever any new factory is set up. Local people may be any one. Nothing like this has happened in Madhya Pradesh. He said only local people. This is what he said.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Madam, it is not that we do not understand such things. We have been in the politics since the year 1977, no one should talk like this. Such

things convey wrong message. There is poverty, penury, helplessness and they say that they have provided employment to illiterates, labourers and other so many people. But youths who are B.A., M.A. and technically qualified are migrating. These people are migrating from our state. If migration with money is the beauty of Mumbai, Pune or Andhra Pradesh or Chennai is Food in educational matters then boys of Bihar are the creams of society, these boys are from out state? What happened in Jaipur? Bihari boys were beaten black and blue. They were beaten badly?....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all right, now you have made your statement.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: As you are in the chair, so please listen to me. All of you please give five minutes from your respective party's time, we will adjust it later. Please listen to me. The country needs it today.

SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN (Churu): You have referred to Jaipur. Nothing such has happened in Jaipur.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Not Jaipur, but that incident took place in Udaipur. A selected group of the students was the victim. ... (Interruptions) O.K. Let it be Rajasthan.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now please conclude.

SHRI MAHESH JOSHI (Jaipur): Sir, I come from Jaipur. My constituency has been referred to. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, please take your seat. It does not matter.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please sit down, let Shri Laluji speak. Why are you wasting time? Sit down please.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only Laluji's speech will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No unparliamentary word has been spoken, so please take your seat.

\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

\*Not recorded.

Laluji, now you can speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: O.K. We can correct ...*(Interruptions)* All of us are brothers and united in the country. In this age of globalization, information technology and internet the world as well as our neighbours are watching us. The world is now a global village and we cannot progress unless we are united. This is just introduction. Listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: O.K. now you conclude.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Listen to me. Why are you getting restless? This is not a less important issue. Are we going to discuss this condition and issue again? So the congress party must see and take strict legal action against these persons otherwise we are going to lose our country, freedom and democracy. Odisha, Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir, Assam, Jharkhand, Eastern Uttar Pradesh are the backward states. We realized this fact during the UPA government's regime and provided funds for 200 districts, which were considered as backward districts. 15 crore rupees were provided to each of these districts. Sixty years have passed after independence. Congress has been in power for most of the time during this period. Their efforts to develop in Bihar have not borne any fruits. Bihar is not an ordinary state. Bis is not an ordinary state. Bihar and the persons living in Bihar have been subjected to discrimination from the beginning. I come from Bihar but I am not against the developed states because our brothers are living in those states. But I would like to emphasize that per capita income, investment and infrastructure development has been negligible in Bihar. That is why the entire world used to say that unless infrastructure is developed in India..*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already spoken for 15 minutes.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Our relations with the left parties have gone sour during the last few days. Power is also a part of infrastructure. You people had supported our government for uranium based thermal power plant.

Thereafter we had parted our ways and now we are getting closer. But where is the thermal power plant?

It has no reference. If there is no power, no highway then there will be no airport. Tell me whether there is any international airport in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh like other states? If additional assistance is not provided to Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and special care of the backward states is not taken how will these states be able to compete with other states? Naxalism is spreading in Bihar. A corridor is being formed from Andhra Pradesh to Lalgarh and from Jharkhand to Nepal. If we have to counter China, we will have to take Nepal into full confidence. Are we are not supposed to help the backward states? It has been rightly stated in the speech that the minority, the muslims of this country have given their votes to the government. Article 341 of the constitution was to be amended. Rangnath Mishra. Commission had made recommendations and the Cabinet had accepted the recommendation but Paswanda Muslim are not seen anywhere today. You obtained the votes of the muslimis but did not do justice to them. So many years ahve passed after independence and Congress has ruled over the country for most of the time during this period. The number of Muslims has been negligible and you doubt them. If we press for implementing the Rangnath Mishra Commission's report and providing reservation to Paswanda Muslims, you look dejected.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: You always point towards BJP that they will get mileage out of it and communalize the issue. But after the elections you forget everything. Do you think Owaisi Ji is a common man? The country cannot forget his father's contribution. We have to take that into consideration. Reservation for women is the most essential thing. What not we have done everything for the women. We have given them the highest positions. Her Excellency is a woman. We have seated Smt. Sushma ji. Sonia ji, Jayawati ji, Rabri Devi, Meira Kumar ji, Jaylalitha ji, Mamta ji, Vasundhar aji and Sheila Dikshit ji at high posts without reservation. Mr. Prime Minister, I have worked with you, so I would like to request you to call an all-party meeting and to seek the views of all the leaders. I do not support thepresent brought by the government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now I call the next speaker.

Shri A. Ganeshamurti.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Our protest will continue at every stage. Today there is poverty and unemployment

everywhere. Raghuvansh ji has rightly stated that women working as ASHA, in Aanganbadis and all other women in homes are facing the brunt of inflation. Their budget is getting spoiled and on television they are proposing reservation for women. We are trying to convince them, they should understand. Today, if two third MP's and MLA's are losing elections, it is because of MPLADS, nothing else is responsible for that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now you please sit down. I have called him.

SHRI LALU PRASAD: Talented leaders of every party would be stopped in the name of Women Reservation. MPLADS must be scrapped and if this cannot be done then Rs. 20 crore should be provided so that every Member of Parliament can do some work in his particular constituency.

Remove Women Reservation Bill, save the country.  
 ...*(Interruptions)* Bring dalit and backward women. . .  
 .*(Interruptions)* otherwise there will be a war and this war will reach the fields leading to a situation that this will never happen again. Therefore, I would request Swamiji and Bansal ji to please make them understand....*(Interruptions)* Tell all the parties and convince all those parties which do not understand.  
 ...*(Interruptions)*

\*SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE (Shirdi): Hon'ble Chairman Sir, I would like to thank you for allowing me to express my views on the President's address. In the beginning of her address hon'ble Madam President, has called for all the Members to work dedicatedly and take the country towards progress and make it a proud nation.

Hon'ble Madam President has quoted a few lines of Pt. Jawahar Lal ji at the end of her address, which are as follows:

"The service of India means the service of the millions who suffer. It means ending poverty and ignorance and disease and inequality of opportunity."

I feel extremely guilty that we have not been able to realize these words spoken by Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru in the year 1947. Despite the passage of so many years we have neither been able to eradicate poverty nor to remove diseases and inequality.

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

Hon'ble Madam President has expressed her concern towards those families who have lost their near and dear ones in the Pune terrorist attack. Sir, hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs visited Pune immediately after the terrorist attack and gave a statement that they had already warned the State Government of this attack but immediately after the incident hon'ble Chief Minister had denied having any prior information in this regard.

In our country, till date we have been unable to coordinate between the Union Government and State Governments. There is a strong necessity to establish this. Terrorist activities and attacks are continuously going on. Our Government has failed to check such attacks and provide a safe life to the citizens of our country.

In her address, Hon'ble Madam President has also mentioned about the efforts being made to bring the common man out of these problems.

Today, our country's common man is deeply affected by the increasing inflation. The Government has failed to provide them any relief from this rising inflation. Everyday our Ministers are delivering new speeches and promising new things to the common man and are seen putting the blame on each other in this regard.

The common man is not at all concerned with who is responsible for this increasing inflation. He just needs instant relief from this rising inflation which we have failed to do and the common man is compelled to buy things at high prices. Instead of providing any relief from inflation to the common man, he has been burdened by increasing petrol and diesel prices in this budget. The Government has forgotten the promises it had made to the common man. Today we do not have sufficient power in the country. Apart from metropolitan cities, there is a severe shortage of power at all other places. Hon'ble Madam President has proudly mentioned in her address that the Government had made electricity connections available to 84 lakh people living below the poverty line but the fact is that in villages people are unable to water their fields and crops in the absence of power, and then how can we expect from them to increase foodgrain production for the ever increasing population?

A number of schemes like Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission and Rajiv Awas Yojana are being run by the Government but due to the differences between the Union and State Governments the funds

allocated under these schemes do not reach the needy and poor people. Under the Rajiv Awas Yojana slum occupants are not being given the rights that they should enjoy.

Hon'ble Madam President has also spoken about including the deprived people of the society into the developing economy but as long as the Government does not take serious action, this will not be possible.

The Government has prepared a roadmap for the development of minority communities. In my opinion the development of communities should not be done on the basis of their caste and religion. This will create a wall between different communities. There should be development of people living below the poverty line and this should also be the basis for growth.

Today, the people of our country are not getting timely justice. Crores of cases are pending in courts and it takes years in getting justice in the courts. There is a dire need to strengthen our judicial system.

The Present in her Address wished for good health for all. But this seems to be just a pipe dream. Even now the number of people dying due to lack of medicines and treatment is continuously rising. Most of these people are those who are unable to buy medicines or avail treatment due to poverty. This wish of the President will remain a dream as long as the government does not take concrete action in this direction.

Madam, I conclude with these words. I am thankful to you for giving me the opportunity for speaking on this subject.

\* SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI (Erode): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Motion of Thanks to the President for her Address to both the Houses of Parliament.

It was rightly pointed out by our senior leader Shri L.K. Advani that this discussion has now become annual ritual. However, I feel that this is an opportunity to pinpoint the failures and defective way of functioning of this Government and its policies within a short time available to me.

This Government swears by the common man calling him *aam aadmi* every time. The common man is like a

man in Delhi who is left to the cold this winter shivering endlessly in the wake of spiraling up of prices of essential commodities. I am disappointed to find that the Address by the President failed to spell out any concrete measure to overcome the challenge posed by the price rise.

We also witnessed in this House a great uproar caused by the agitated Members about the price rise. The Government comes out with a reply saying that the agricultural production came down due to drought and the agricultural produce were destroyed by the floods. I would like to ask this Government as to why we are ignoring the advice given by our leaders all these years that we must go in for a lasting solution to these natural disasters by way of linking all the rivers in the country. I am again disappointed to note that there is no mention about interlinking of rivers in this Address.

Inter-State river water disputes have become the order of the day. Tamil Nadu is not getting its due share from its neighbouring States which have even gone to the extent of ignoring the directions and the Interim Relief given by the Apex Court of the country and also the Tribunal constituted as per its direction. In order to put an end to this situation, all the rivers must be nationalized. Thereafter, there could be equal distribution. That has been given a go by and there is no mention of interlinking of rivers in this Address.

It is strange that Minimum Support Price offered to the farmers is being cited as a reason for the steep price rise. We must take into consideration the cost of production. From that point of view, the MSP offered by the Government is very low. Even that is not benefiting the farmers. For instance, in Tamil Nadu, the MSP announced for copra do not benefit the farmers. The procurement agencies prefer to procure from the traders rather than the farmers directly. They cite reasons like higher level of water content and so on and so forth. But even agencies like NAFED rush to the middlemen traders to procure copra at a higher price. In Kerala, coconut is straight away procured from the farmers. Tamil Nadu must also follow suit. In a reply given to my esteemed colleague in this House, Mr. Sukumar who represents Pollachi constituency, the Government has stated that coconut shall be procured directly from the farmers. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to impress upon the Government of Tamil Nadu to procure coconut directly from the farmers.

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



In the Joint Sitting of Parliament this year, Her Excellency the President of India addressed the Members only in Hindi. There was no English rendition and there was no English interpretation. Hon. Members who do not know Hindi have been ignored. This is paining and shocking.

We must not forget that we had so many provinces in this country before Independence. In order to ensure unity in diversity, we came together cutting across language, cultural and regional barriers. We adopted a Constitution which is federal in character. It is mentioned in the President's Address that efforts would be made to strengthen this.

Her Excellency the President of India quoted the historic 'Tryst with Destiny' speech of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru delivered in our Central Hall in the midnight of 14th August, 1947 in which he said:

"The service of India means the service of the millions who suffer. It means ending poverty and ignorance and disease and inequality of opportunity."

If it is true that this Government believes in the avowed policy of Pandit Nehru, then they must make efforts to accord equal status and give equal treatment to all the languages in our Parliament.

Currently we have simultaneous interpretation facility both in English and Hindi in our Parliament. I would like to emphasize that this facility must be extended in all the official languages of all the States in our country.

We have cordial relations with our neighbouring countries and we extend warm welcome to the King of Bhutan, the Heads of States from Maldives, Nepal and other dignitaries in the name of upholding our traditional ties. This way of maintaining friendly relationship is heartening.

At this juncture, I would like to point out that the Tamils of this country have got warmer relationship with the Tamils of Sri Lanka like umbilical cord relationship than it is with our fellow countrymen. We have always been raising our voice to condemn the racial attacks on the Sri Lankan Tamils due to the Sinhala fanaticism. Whenever their rights were taken away, we condemned them. We gave voice to the far cry of the Tamils when the racist Sinhalese regime sought to wipe out the entire Tamil race in Sri Lanka. We even condemned the

measures taken by the Government of India to extend all possible help to destroy the Eelam Tamils. In the name of fighting against terror, India stood by the side of a regime that went about killing Tamils. Now, the plight of Tamils who have escaped the destruction and remain in the refugee camps is being ignored. They have not been given their due and they have not been given their rights too. There is an attempt to go in for a full-fledged genocide to wipe out the Tamil race from there. The countries like US, Britain and European Union countries wanted to impose sanctions against Sri Lanka for violating human rights and preferred to stop IMF aid to that regime, but our Government went out of the way and took all possible efforts to defeat that move in favour of Sri Lanka.

That regime in Sri Lanka has not spent the fund extended by India in our last Budget for the rehabilitation of displaced Tamils and goes about with its genocide killings. Even today, Indian has not taken any steps to monitor whether that money has been spent for the purpose for which it was extended. A demand from us to send an All Party Parliamentary Delegation to Sri Lanka has been rejected and ignored.

Emphasizing the need to stop any further assistance to Sri Lankan Government, I conclude my speech.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY (Andaman and Nicobar Islands): Hon. Chairman Sir, I will not take much time on discussing the President's Address. I will take only a little time. A comprehensive price index had been prepared by the G-20 countries to indicate which countries were majorly affected by the inflationary trends. India was ranked at number one in the said index. As a follow up to that, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs made an estimate in 2009. Nearly 13 million Indians were slotted as poor. I would like to cite the example of Andaman and Nicobar Islands whose people are called tribals by us but who have not been given the status of tribals. People belonging to Munda, Uraav and Khadiya tribes and are called Ranchi Bihar reside in Bajato village, Mayabandar tehsil. They get a little rice and vegetable from the jungle to feed themselves. This is how they are living in Andaman and Nicobar. This government has not given any thought to address the unemployment issue. Will a person who has earned an MA, MBA or engineering degree dig soil? Will NREGA give them livelihood? There is no concern about this issue. Unemployment is a big problem

today. There are 80,000 unemployed graduates, post-graduates and engineers in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, What will happen to them? After the sixth pay commission, the UFA government had stopped recruitment for the three to four thousand group D posts sanctioned earlier for APWD. I would like to request the government to reconsider this decision and start recruitment for the group D posts sanctioned in APWD.

Sir, Madam President had said, in her speech on 04 June 2009, that the government would enhance the provision for social security, particularly under the head of old age pension and for widows and handicapped persons. I would like to mention Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Delhi in particular. The Goa government and the Delhi government provides 1000 rupees per month as handicap pension. The Tamil Nadu government gives dhoti, sari and four kg rice to handicapped persons. The Mizoram government grants two thousand rupees for running a piggery, fifteen hundred rupees for poultry farming, fifteen hundred rupees for opening a small shop and a sewing machine to the handicapped to enable them to earn a livelihood. Hence, I would like to suggest that the tradition of pension for the handicapped in vogue in the rest of the states in the country should be adopted in Andaman and Nicobar Islands as well. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has himself said that Andaman and Nicobar is a remote backward area. This should be kept in mind and action taken accordingly. The precedent set by the Tamil Nadu government, Goa government and the Delhi government regarding old age pension and widow pension should be adopted these. Their pension should be fixed at one thousand rupees per month and four kg rice, dhoti and sari should be provided for them as is done by the Tamil Nadu government.

I am happy about what the Delhi government has done. The Union Government should follow the lead of Delhi government. The Delhi government is providing one thousand rupees as allowance to unmarried or deserted women, women forced to take divorce or abandoned women but this scheme has not been implemented in Andaman and Nicobar Islands till date. The Delhi government gives lumpsum amount for marriage of orphaned girls but this scheme has not been implemented in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The Delhi government also provides financial assistance to the tune of 20,000 rupees for the marriage of daughters of widowed women. I demand that this scheme should also be implemented in Andaman. Only then would the

Address of the President on 13th June prove to be meaningful. What is the honorarium for anganwadi workers-1500 or 1600 rupees. Merely 1500 rupees after 20 years of service. I would like to thank Narayansamy ji for the work done by the Puducherry government. Puducherry government and the Tamil Nadu government have given scale of pay to anganwadi workers and helpers. I demand that the similar scale of pay should be granted in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands for such workers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: I will take two minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You had said you would end in time.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: I would like to make one point about mid day meal. The President talked about climate change. It is a matter of great concern that Bengal, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Puducherry have coastal borders. Andaman is surrounded by the sea. We also have to face tsunami warnings and come into the earthquake zone. No one can predict when Andaman could be hit by a tsunami or an earthquake. The government has not given any consideration to this issue. The fishermen and other people staying in low lying areas should be relocated and permanent shelters should be built for them. This issue should be given serious consideration and action should be taken in this regard.. *(Interruptions)* Sir, I will speak for two more minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Two minutes earlier also you said two minutes. Please wind up in one minute.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Sir, forest is a matter of concern today. The law passed for traditional dwellers of forest has not been implemented in Andaman and Nicobar Island. The people who were in the government did not have will power for this. As a result what would be the fate of 4312 families who are post 78 forest encroachers, the Government have not thought about them. When the Government took notice of this it decided to allot a site of one house for them. This is not enough. The thinking of the government regarding National Parks and sanctuaries is not good..... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Come to the last point.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: The Government are concerned about Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. The Government of Tamil Nadu, Puducherry have given regular scale of pay under that scheme. This should be implemented in Andaman and Nicobar also. ....(Interruptions) The quantity of mid-day meal be increased, the snacks for Anganwadi be also increased, especially.... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now please sit down.

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Sir, in the end I would like to talk about a big scam. A big scam is being committed in forward trading in commodity exchanges. It is going on in sugar, wheat and rice....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except Shri Naveen Jindal's speech.

...(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your speech is not being recorded. Please sit down.

.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now what you will do by speaking. Give it in writing.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: Please give me one minute. ....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not even one minute. We have called another speaker. Please sit down. You have already spoken for 12 minutes. You may speak during budget discussion.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL (Kurukshehra): Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address moved by my senior colleague Rao Inderjit Singhji and seconded by Kumari Meenakshi Natrajanji. The Address by Mahamahim Rashtrapatiji analyses in

dispassionate manner the achievements of our Government in its second term and also provides an insight into the manner in which the Government proposes to tackle various economic, administrative, educational, political and judicial issues in the year to come.

May I say, in all humility, that the Address presents an encouraging scenario of the functioning of the Government for which Her Excellency the President of India has to be thanked. In order to avoid repetition, I would make mention of only some of the important issues highlighted in her Address.

The most significant analysis that is revealed from the study of the Address is that the common man or *Aam Aadmi* continues to be at the core of all developmental activities being pursued by the Government. The Government, in its endeavour to strengthen civil administration, has tried to pursue a policy which will ensure that the fruits of inclusive growth reach all and specially the disadvantaged sections of the society. The Address makes a beginning with an honest admission of certain problems being faced by the people at large like rising prices of essential commodities, food scarcity in some parts of the country due to the failure of the monsoon etc. But, side by side, it spells out the sincere efforts of the Government to provide timely relief from these problems. It has been categorically mentioned that we will concentrate on infrastructure development, agriculture and rural development, education and health to ensure that growth process is sensitive to the concerns and well-being of weaker sections of the society.

I take this opportunity to compliment the Government for achieving significant improvement in health system through the National Rural Health Mission. That a healthy, educated and productive population is an asset for the nation cannot be over-emphasised. This is a matter of great concern that every year we add 1.8 crore people, roughly the size of Australia. A majority of Indian couples have more than three children which is more than what is required to replace them and maintain a stable population. While a young population, no doubt, puts India at an advantage, their being in the reproductive age group increases the magnitude of the population issue. At current rate we are likely to overtake China by 2030 which will not be in the best interest of the country.

There are many problems like very high infant mortality rate which in turn leads to greater desire for more children. There is a lot of malnutrition amongst children which we need to rectify as the loss which occurs in the initial stages is irreparable. The *Jansankhya Sthiratha Kosh* set up under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is one such effort in the right direction. While National Rural Health Mission has helped in revitalising the family planning and welfare programme, there is more that can be done. Innovative programmes which strengthen quality of and access to contraceptive services, ensure adherence to legal age for marriage, delaying the birth of first child, increasing the gap between children can make a big difference and can slow down the momentum of the population growth.

Special attention should be given to educating and empowering women. Additional focus is required in post-primary school education for the girl child. Timely action in this area will help us ease the stress on public infrastructure and natural resources.

The *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan* through its laudable efforts over the last ten years, has tremendously increased access to primary education. Enrolment has consequently increased to almost 100 per cent. Having said that, the quality of delivered education continues to be a major concern. A recent national survey conducted by an NGO in 2009-2010 suggests that less than 50 per cent fifth standard students can read the text of second grade. In this situation my submission is that the Government should focus heavily on improving quality of education delivery.

It is a matter of prestige and pride for any country to be holding major international sports events. In October we are going to hold the Commonwealth Games which is a moment of pride for every Indian. I can assure the House and I am confident that all the stadii and all the infrastructure are going to be complete and we are going to hold the games very well. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister of Sports, Shri Gill for his efforts in doing this. The Tughlakabad Shooting Ranges are going to be one of the best Ranges in the world.

Sir, the President's Address enunciates zero tolerance of terrorist activities as a principled policy of the Government. In the President's Address, many measures to strengthen the security apparatus of the country have been enumerated to meet the challenges

posed by terrorism. The district and police machinery at the State Level and Central Paramilitary Forces are being strengthened. The National Investigation Agency is fully functional and four National Security Guard Hubs have also been created.

Sir, equally disturbing issue, which you also spoke about at length, is the issue of Maoists' violence. Apart from their continuous attacks in the areas of their influence, they recently attacked in Silda West Midnapore, killing 24 jawans. My apprehension is that though we are strengthening the local district police forces and the paramilitary forces' number, they require an understanding of the area and the logistics in the region. They also need to get proper training so that these kinds of incidents do not happen again.

Sir, we often blame our neighbours for harbouring terrorists and that terrorist camps are running across the border, but these naxalites are operating within the country. They are having camps which they are running within the country. All of us together have to fight this menace.

Sir, with regret, I would submit that in the last decade or so, more than 5,000 people have been killed. Mostly security people and innocent civilians have died at the hands of these naxals who just shoot them or just blow them away. We have to take action against them. Even our hon. Prime Minister and our hon. Home Minister have said that this is the gravest threat to our internal security.

Sir, I have observed that some pseudo-intellectuals and civil society activists are all the time blaming the elected Governments and the action taken by the security forces against these elements, but they never blame the naxalites or these unlawful elements when they kill people or blow people away. When police takes action, they cry of human rights' violations, but when such elements kill hundreds of people, nothing is said against them. I think, they must change and they must realise that our country gives us the system and if somebody wants to get his grievance addressed, he can do so. I feel, and I agree with what lot of hon. Members have said in the House, that we have to be firm in our resolve and we have to build a consensus on this issue and the whole country has to fight this menace together. For this, a National Tactical Training Centre also needs to be developed because it is not only the gun that is

important, but the man behind the gun is also important. In this National Tactical Training Centre, training would be imparted to the trainers of the police and the paramilitary forces who in turn can impart good quality training so that our forces can combat these kinds of elements.

Along with strengthening the police and the paramilitary forces, there is an urgent need of empowering and strengthening the law-abiding citizens of our country who have to face the brunt of these unlawful elements. The Government is contemplating certain changes in the Arms and Ammunition Policy of the country, for which suggestions have been invited from the public at large. This is the prerogative of the Government to review and change policies. My only submission is that procurement and possession of a weapon should be made less stringent for the law-abiding citizens who are exposed to the threats posed by undesirable elements. Events in the recent past have shown us that damage by terrorists and naxalites would have been much less in case the victims were armed and they would have retaliated.

Sir, the most praiseworthy thing that I find in the President's Address is the expression of full commitment to the modernisation of Armed Forces. It says:

"We will accord the highest priority to modernisation programmes to equip our armed forces with the required weaponry, equipment and platforms."

This is really praiseworthy and I do feel that we have the best soldiers and we have the best Army and we do need to give them the best quality of arms and ammunition and weapons so that our Army remains one of the best in the world.

My last point is very important. Para 71 of the President's Address makes a mention that Indian citizens living abroad will also get the right to vote. This is really laudable and it is long overdue also. I would only like to add that there is big migratory population in the country. People from Bihar and UP come to Haryana and Punjab. During the election, they are working there, but they do not get the right to exercise their votes.

**19.00 hrs.**

Sometimes, people are travelling within the country or abroad and they do not get a chance to vote.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The next speaker is Shri Kaushalendra Kumar.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Therefore, we have to make a provision that they can also vote.

I would like to conclude my speech with a personal note. I am grateful to the hon. Speaker Madam under whose guidance a decision has been taken by the Rules Committee of the House to allow Members to use the Tiranga as Lapel Pins while they are seated in the House. I would like to thank you for this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Sir, just give me half a minute.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Mr. Jindal, please take your seat.

SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Kindly give me 10 seconds more to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, you have already spoken for 11 minutes. Please take your seat.

SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Please give me half-a-minute more. I am just concluding my speech.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, he is concluding his speech.

SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: We are fully confident that under the remarkable leadership provided by our respected Chairperson Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and the far-sighted vision of our respected Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh would certainly ensure a proper atmosphere of development and progress with dignity to all. It will further endear our Government to the masses.

With these words, I am grateful to you for having given me this opportunity to participate in this discussion. I once again support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

*[Translation]*

\*SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (Domariyaganj): Sir, President's Address is a document, which reflects Central Government's priorities, direction, policies and

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

programmes of future. At this time Government have laid down policies to attain the target of 8.5 percent economic growth rate by reducing the fiscal deficit and continuing economic reforms. The present Government achieved growth of 6.7 percent in Gross Domestic Product in 2009-10 despite global recession of recent years, which was a world record. Only China could achieve a target of 6.7 percent growth in its GDP. In many European countries the growth rate of GDP was recorded less than three percent leading to large scale job cuts. In America and Japan business of several large banks collapsed rendering thousands of people jobless. The priority of this Government is to reduce fiscal deficit and increase growth rate. Fiscal deficit of the country was 6.5 percent last year, which has now come down to 5.5 percent as a result of the policies of the Government. Government have included agriculture sector in its priorities and aim to achieve 4 % growth rate by making investment in this sector as high growth rate of 9 percent of GDP cannot be achieved unless 4% growth rate in agriculture is attained. To contain double digit inflation is also one of the priorities of Government. Development is important for country and this development has to be inclusive. For this Food Security has to be strengthened in rural and urban areas. Attempts have been made to increase the opportunity for education and Government have also taken measures to provide healthcare facilities at family level. To achieve these targets resources have to be augmented; because central budget is not just a statement of Government finances. It reflects the farsightedness and prospective policies of the Government. As a result of Government's efforts economic growth rate was 6.7% in the year 2008-09. This growth rate increased upto 7.5% in the year 2009-10 and now a growth rate of 8% is targeted to be achieved in the next year. By achieving GDP growth rate of 9% by the year 2011-2012, the plan is to bring India into the mainstream of world economic growth. Hon'ble Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh convened a meeting of Chief Ministers in Delhi with a view to check inflation and as a result inflation is likely to come down in the next few months and to ensure this food security has to be managed in a better way.

Central Government have allowed zero duty import of sugar to check soaring prices but unless state governments streamline public distribution system the poor people of states will not get food grains. The power to take action against black marketing and hoarding lies with the state governments. Action under section 317 of

Essential Commodity Act may be taken by the State Governments only. Approach of the Government is to increase the purchasing power of the common man by making a provision of Rs. 40100 crore (forty thousand one hundred crore) for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Guarantee Scheme by reducing the rate of indirect taxes. Present Congress Government has doubled the minimum support price for farmers after demitting office of BJP and NDA Government in 2004 and as a result MSP for wheat and rice has been increased from Rs. 500 per quintal in 2004 to Rs. 1100 per quintal and this succeeded in bringing about qualitative change in the economic condition of farmers. An amount of Rs. 400 crore has been provided in the 2010-11 for green revolution to the farmers and Gram Sabhas of Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Orissa to promote inclusive growth of agriculture sector for farmers. An amount of Rs. 300 crore has been provided to increase the production of pulses and oilseeds.

A provision of 200 crore rupees has been made for conservation farming which involved attention to soil health, water conservation and reservation of bio diversity. A provision of 3,75,000 crore rupees at the interest rate of 5% has been made for grant of agriculture loan to farmers during 2010-2011, 1,73,552 crore rupees which account for 46% of the total plan allocation has been earmarked for infrastructure development. 19,894 crore rupees has been provided for development of roads. The government has decided that 20 km of road length would be constructed every day. 16,752 crore rupees have been provided as loan component for extension for railway network. A provision of 31,036 crore rupees has been made for improvement in education in the country. Similarly, a provision of 22,300 crore rupees for healthcare facilities has been proposed. A provision of 10,000 crore rupees has been made for construction of houses for the poor in rural areas in the country under Indira Awas Yojana and keeping in view the the rising cost of construction, 45,000 rupees for a house in the plains and 48,000 rupees for construction of a house in hilly regions have been provided. Funds have been provided for rural regions under the policy of the government to achieve targets which are in the interests of the common man. The government has set its priorities in a way which will ensure a smile on the face of the rural poor. With these words, I support the Motion of Thanks.

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR (Nalanda): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to take part in the discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. I have stood to take part in this discussion on behalf of my party Janta Dal(U). My parliamentary constituency, Nalanda in Bihar, is one of the largest in the country. My constituency, Nalanda, is an agriculture based region and it is also an internationally renowned religious and tourist site. The government has said that naxal terrorism poses the biggest threat to the country and is making it internally weak, hence, it is important to initiate dialogue to end it. The unemployed have to be provided employment to bring them into the mainstream so that they are not misled and lured into naxalism. The Home Minister has given the statement, 'Mao ugrawadi himsa chhode, sarkar baatcheet ke liye taiyaar par nahi rukega suraksha balon ko abhiyan'.

Sir, the leaders, social workers and the intelligentsia in the country should follow the lead of Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain who persuaded the dacoits infesting the Chambal ravines to lay down arms without use of force. In the same way, they should persuade the naxalites to abjure violence and bring them into the mainstream. It is wrong to repay violence with violence and is a blatant violation of the principle of non-violence propagated by Mahatma Gandhi. Naxalite violence needs to be eliminated from the country in the same way at the path of truth and non-violence the Father of the Nation overthrew the yoke of slavery put upon by the British by adopting. In my view, violence cannot be subdued by violence.

Sir, the BPL families in the state of Bihar are facing financial difficulties due to BPL criteria adopted in the state. Particularly in the case of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana only people who are covered in the BPL list are provided electricity but the people who are not in the list are deprived of electricity. In such a situation a 16 KVA transformer is being installed in such villages. I suggest that 63 KVA transformer should be provided to the villages so that the poor are provided electricity.

Sir, Bihar in particular, has to face drought and floods repeatedly. Hence, I suggest that the state should provide two boring wells in each revenue village in proportion to the population of the village so that farmers have a facility of irrigation and are able to deal with the problem of drought. NREGS is not meant to deal

with drought. The government should think about and find ways to improve the economic condition of people who live in villages and work as farmers or agricultural labourers, but there is no mention of this issue in the President's Address.

Sir, nearly 80 percent Kharif crop has been destroyed in all districts in Bihar due to drought and this will affect the coming Rabi crop as well. The situation of the farmers is worsening day by day. The country will not be able to prosper till the farmers do not prosper because 76 percent of the population of the country is dependent on agriculture. The production of food grain is not commensurate to the demand. The government should make efforts to bring another green revolution in the country.

The prices of chemical fertilizers have gone up, the price of diesel has also increased due to which the cost of production for the farmers has gone up. They are not able to get fair price for their produce because diesel is used for irrigation as well as for running tractors for ploughing the fields.

Sir, the government talks of providing 100 days of employment to the poor under NREGS. Development of villages cannot take place through NREGS. Drains and roads cannot be built in villages as per the NREGS norms. On the one hand, municipal councils, municipalities, nagar panchayats and municipal corporations are given money to undertake PCC works and construct drains and decorate the cities and on the other hand, the villages are being ruined. I demand that the funds earmarked for NREGS should be utilised to construct sewers, undertake PCC works and brick soling and villages should be made self sufficient and linked to developmental works.

Sir, a Central Mahadalit Commission and a Central Commission for most Backward classes should also be constituted on lines of Bihar. I demand that the Central government should constitute these two commissions on lines of Bihar.

Sir, the people who are engaged in betel leaf cultivation are categorised as gardeners. I have been raising this issue in the House for a long time that such people should be accorded irrigation facilities and they are not able to get compensation for the loss of their crop. I accorded the status of farmers. The lack of this

status deprives the betel leaf cultivators of demand that the government should accord the status of farmers to betel Cultivators.

No long term plan has been formulated or special fund constituted to remove the backwardness in Bihar. Bihar has no other source of income other than agriculture. The geographical conditions of Bihar make it vulnerable to floods and drought. I demand that the Central government should accord the status of special state too Bihar to accelerate the developmental process in the state.

With these words, I conclude

SHRI JOSEPH TOPPO (Tezpur): Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me the opportunity to speak on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

It is good that the government has acknowledged, even if a bit late, that inflation has affected the common man badly and also proposes to take steps to provide some measure of relief in this context. However, only time will tell what these steps will be and whether they would benefit the common man or only serve the interests of the profiteers and middlemen. The manner in which inflation has spiked by 20 percent in food items in the country has caused great hardship to the common man. These are the same people on whose shoulders the present government has ridden to power but has not taken any effective measure to relieve them of the burden of high prices.

The Address has stated that the growth rate of India was not affected despite the global slump in the economy. India escaped from being majorly effected by the slowdown not because of the special policies of the government but because of the overall economic situation of the country.. On behalf of the government it has been stated that the drought and famine affected states have been allotted four thousand crore rupees out of the national disaster fund. Despite this farmers across the country are resorting to suicide to s escape debt and financial crises which the government has failed to mention. Merely amendments in the Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Guarantee Scheme would not help the poor and the farmers. There is need to monitor this scheme closely because complaints of arbitrary implementation of the scheme by the state governments with a view to bestowing selective benefits are coming

in from all the states. Large scale irregularities are being committed under the said scheme in the guise of providing employment to the lakhs of unemployed youth in the country.

The government is ready to take more steps and enter into dialogue in order to resolve the problem of terrorism and naxalism in the country but it has not accorded any importance to holding talks with the various organisations in Assam and other North-Eastern states, particularly to ULFA.

The government has spoken about all the categories in the Address but there is no mention of any schemes for the upgradation and improvement of the situation of labourers in the unorganised sector particularly the labourers working in the tea plantations. Lakhs of labourers work in the tea plantations in Assam, Bengal and other states in the country but their social condition is so bad that there is no provision for treatment of any such a labourer who might get hurt while working or due to some other disaster. In case a labourer becomes incapable of working then he is left neither with any means of livelihood nor shelter. The tea garden owners provide food and lodging only till the time the labourers are capable of working. No one knows what happens to them thereafter. These labourers have no means of educating their children and are forced to put them to work in the tea plantations. There is a legislation for children's right to education in the country but there is no guarantee that this law will be able to make education accessible to the children of these labourers because a law needs a will behind it which this government lacks...(*Interruptions*). Thousands and crores of rupees have been spent on Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan but the government itself has the means to find out the efficacy of this scheme in the backward regions, particularly in the North Eastern states, in the country.

The piteous tale of the tea garden labourers does not end here. These labourers belong to the backward and extremely backward categories in Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Uttarakhand and Andhra Pradesh and have come to Assam from various regions of the said states to work in the tea gardens. In their parent states these labourers are categorised as SCs and STs but in Assam they have been placed under the general categories as OBC, MOBC and T&XT due to which they are not able to avail any benefit of any policy or scheme meant for the backward classes.



MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JOSEPH TOPPO: I will conclude in a minute...  
(Interruptions) These tea garden labourers are being treated as second class citizens in their own country.

The government earns revenue to the tune of thousands of crores of rupees from tea, crude oil and coal from the North-Eastern States, particularly Assam which directly feeds the Indian Economy. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now and sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JOSEPH TOPPO: I will conclude in a minute.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have said that three times. Three minutes have passed since then.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JOSEPH TOPPO: I have got the time to speak today. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Alright, but conclude quickly.

SHRI JOSEPH TOPPO: Despite that, there is neither arrangement for good education nor jobs for the youth in the state, particularly OBC, MOBC and Tard XT. Every year lakhs of youth migrate from their states to go to other states for higher education and employment or join insurgent groups when they get fed up of unemployment and poverty due to which the states are becoming progressively backward. ...(Interruptions) If the government starts spending just 5 percent of the revenue earnings from tea and minerals on the development of these states and on education and employment of the youth then the condition there would improve tremendously.

The government has constituted a separate ministry for the development of North-Eastern States and crores of rupees are also allocated under NLCPR Fund every year. However, the government can itself calculate how much of the allocated money has been spent for the development of North Eastern States so far. Even now 80 percent of the funds is lying unutilised with the donor ministry. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your time is over so please conclude now. Please lay the rest of your speech.

SHRI JOSEPH TOPPO: I will conclude my point in a minute. In addition to it, most of the ministries give 10 % additional assistance funds to the donor ministry. Most of the public welfare schemes submitted to the donor Ministry every year by all the Governments of the north-east states are rejected on one or other grounds or so many objections are leveled against them which are impossible to meet. Due to all these reasons, the growth rate of the north-eastern states is the least in the country even today. The Government will have to pay attention to this view if it really wants to develop the north-eastern states.

My demand is that the MPLAD fund should be increased from Rs. 2 crore to Rs. 5 crore for the improvement of the current situation of development in the north-eastern states or each MP from all the north-eastern states should be provided an additional fund of Rs. 5 crore annually.

\*DR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA (Karnal): I appreciate the Address by H.E. the President of India and support it. I also support all the achievements of the U.P.A. Government and the efforts made to accelerate the pace of growth of the country brought to notice by H.E. the President under the excellent leadership of the hon. Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and the chairperson, UPA respected Shrimati Sonia Gandhi. I also thank H.E. President that she has called on to firmly resolve to implement all the Government schemes with strong determination for the all round development of all sections of the society and further strengthen the civil administration in her Address. I also thank her that she has finely explained the smallest as well as biggest problem being faced by the common man of the country and has also guided us for their addressal as well.

I appreciate H.E. the President for her severe criticism of the terrorist activities that took place in the country and statement that any kind of violence in Democracy will not be tolerated. I also appreciate H.E. the President that she has spoken about creation of strong and fool proof security system to deal with the terrorism and has stressed upon modernization of the

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

security forces. This will boost the morale of the security forces as a result of which they will be able to deal with the terrorism more effectively and even the common man of the country would feel safe and secure.

I also thank H.E. the President that her statement has given the utmost priority to all the concrete steps taken and efforts made by the Government to chalk any kind of hoarding, rising food prices and corruption in this regard and to provide relief to the common man. This will not only rein in the rising prices but will also bring down the prices and further strengthen the Public Distribution System in the interest of the common man. I would like to assure Her Excellency that the UFA Government is determined to import all the essential food and daily needs items on large scale, to provide subsidy on oils and pulses, to procure the surplus quantity of the food items in the open market and to give relief to each consumer in their retail prices. The Central Government has even constituted a Core Group/Committee in collaboration with the Chief Ministers of the States to keep an eye on the rising prices of the food items and check them.

Our farmers have to face great challenges and even bear serious consequences as a result of severe drought and regular changes in the climate. For this, the UFA Government has taken a number of measures to provide relief to the farmers in the country like to provide grant of crores of rupees to the farmers in the drought affected states from the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund and Disaster Relief Fund, introduction of diesel subsidy schemes, implementation of the National Agriculture Development Scheme, utilization of the National Food Security Fund and to keep the losses in agriculture production due to drought at the minimum by amending the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Scheme, to check the fall in the production of the foodgrains to a large extent and to increase the crop production through water conservation which in itself is a commendable step of the Government.

I thank Her Excellency very much that she is keeping her attention on the poor also. The common man in the remote villages as well as the urban poor, both get her attention. Her Excellency has focused her attention on the urban housing and slum also besides giving more stress on the implementation of all the schemes like Indira Awas Yojana under rural development, enactment of National Rural Employment Guarantee legislation,

implementation of the National Drinking Water scheme and implementation of the Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana/National Electricity Policy/Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitrak Yojana all over the country. Similarly, she has focussed on urban housing and slums. Jawahar Lal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, efforts to expedite setting up of the National Higher education and Research Council to achieve higher standards of education in the country, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid-Day-Meal scheme, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, enactment of the right of children to Free and Compulsory Education Act and setting up of the National Mission on Education, providing education loans to the children of the poor families and launching of a new campaign 'Sakshar Bharat' keeping in view the women literacy is in itself a major achievement of the present Government. The benefit from all these schemes will also accrue to the urban poor in addition to the rural poor.

Proper development of any country is possible only when its people are healthy and free from diseases. I would also thank H.E. the President in this regard that she is concerned about the health of the common man. Through health programmes like National Rural Health Mission, setting up of Nursing and Para-medical Institutes, Medical Colleges, providing additional incentives to doctors for working in rural areas, creating additional seats for Specialists, providing drugs, vaccines and setting up new laboratories to deal with epidemics and training, the present Government is committed for better health care of common people.

Our country is a part of world community and also responsible to the world challenges. Whatever challenges are before the world, India is carrying out its responsibility by showing its participation in those issues. Under this our UP A Government has played its key role in this direction through bills like National Climate Change Action Plan, Jawahar Lal Nehru National Solar Energy Mission, Energy Efficiency Enhancement Mission, National Green Authority Bills etc. Apart from this especial emphasis has been given on the development of ocean routes by implementing National Ocean Development Programme.

Our Government has well played its role in world affairs and worked for peace, stability and progress of areas outside its geographical territory. With this the visit of head of the state of neighbouring countries like Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan to India

have further strengthened their friendship with India. Apart from this in other countries of the world like Afghanistan, India has contributed in the reconstruction work. Contribution in long-term development works will continue through cooperation between Government of India and Afghanistan. People who have settled down abroad are also spreading the name and fame of India in various fields. Our Government is grateful to them. Honouring these people our Government will try to provide them right to vote by the next general election. Our Government is committed for security and welfare of the people of Indian Origin. For this Indian Community Welfare Fund has been set up by the present UPA Government.

At last, I would like to say what hon'ble President said that service to India means service to crores of people who are suffering which further implies to eradicate poverty, ignorance, diseases and inequality in opportunity. This is the major objective of our government and to achieve these objectives we have taken decisive steps. I would like to assure you that our UPA Government is committed to fulfill all these things in toto. With this I conclude.

SHRI RAJU SHETTI (Hatkanangle): Mr. Chairman, Sir, many-many thanks to you. I rise to express my views in the House on the motion of thanks on President's address. Hon'ble President has said in her address that we have been able to keep our food security free from any crisis. This price rise has to some extent been the reflection of the implementation of our schemes of all round development under which more payment has been made to the farmers for Kharief crop and more fund has been spent by the Government on programmes of rural development. As a result of this income in rural areas have gone up.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, had this been true, farmers would have got support price based on cost price. I have expressed my views in this House many times. The farmers of this country are not getting minimum support price based on cost price. That is why farmers of our country have been incurring losses cultivation. Despite waiver of loans to the tune of rupees 78 crore the income has not gone up in rural areas but it is decreasing as the farmers are not getting support price based on cost price. It has been stated in Economic Survey that the growth of income in agriculture sector has been minus 0.2 percent. The only reason for this is

that farmers are not getting support price based on cost price and that is why suicides are being committed.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the President's Address talks about amending Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Guarantee Scheme. But in order to bring down the cost price for marginal and small farmers it is desirable that people working in their own fields also get employment. This will lead to lesser cost price and increase production of foodgrains. On the one hand we are talking about food security, providing food items to aam adami at affordable prices and on the other, farmers are not getting remunerative support price. Therefore, if we formulate any scheme to provide employment guarantee of hundred days to small and marginal farmers, to farmers working in their own fields as is the system in place in horticulture of Maharashtra, which has been very successful if any such system is implemented the objective of NAREGA may be achieved.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to put a suggestion regarding milk producing farmers because small and marginal farmers also produce milk. If they will get support from Government under NAREGA .then the common man and the poor of this country may get milk and milk producers living in villages may get some support as well.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw your attention towards one more issue. Though the welfare of ex-serviceman has been the resolve but many ex-servicemen have threatened to surrender their medals to protest the discrimination being made between the old and the new at the time of paying pension to them.

Despite the protest, the Government has overlooked this issue. It is unfortunate and there is urgent need now that the Government take some kind of decision on the pension of ex-servicemen who have protected our borders. The second issue which I like to raise, is that the soldiers who fought in Second World War, are not getting any kind of pension even today. It has been their demand since long that they should be given pension, there is a need to think about them. There are thousands of villages in the country where there is no road, children are not going school, women are not getting health care facilities. There is an urgent need to extend Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana to hilly areas and remote areas. Address also contained mention about bringing about fundamental change in the educational infrastructure....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Raju Shettiji, please conclude. Eight more members are still to speak.

SHRI RAJU SHETTI: Education mafia have cropped up in this sector. Children of the poor and common men are not getting education and as a result small children are committing suicide today. School children especially in Maharashtra are opting for suicide. I am putting last issue before you. There is proposal to introduce the National Green Revolution Tribunal Bill but the wild animals come out of forest and cause big damage to the farmers and farmers are not getting any compensation for this. There is a need to think about it and with this, along with some amendment I support President's Address.

[*English*]

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (Tripura West): While participating in the discussion on the President's Address, I would like to draw the attention of the House to some startling facts of the Indian economy. About 80 crore of Indians are living on less than Rs.20 per day. Of these, 24 crore people make a meager Rs.9 per day. There are 36 billionaires in the country, whose assets are equal to 25 per cent of India's GDP. About 20 crore people go to bed every day in empty stomach. About one thousand children die every day of malnutrition and preventable diseases. Two-thirds of the Indian people have no access to potable drinking water. And 70 per cent do not have proper sanitation. About 60 per cent households have no direct electricity. Health and education coverage is woefully inadequate. These are some of the alarming statistics we have learnt to live with. The Congress Party has been at the helm of affairs at the Centre for 52 long years. The present UPA Government has come to power in the name of helping the *aam aadmi*. The Government is doing nothing except paying lip-sympathy, making cosmetic changes and shedding crocodile tears. They have made mockery with the common people.

This House is already agitated with the rising prices of essential commodities, particularly the prices of food grains. The Central Government has failed miserably to control and tackle the rising prices. Instead, the wrongful policies have led to increase in the prices.

The decision of the Government to consider the recommendation of the Parikh Committee to decontrol

petrol and diesel prices and link it with the international prices will be anti-people and it will have disastrous consequences. The recommendation of the Parikh Committee should be scrapped. The Government has been openly encouraging speculation in the essential commodities by means of future trading, benefiting only the hoarders and black-marketeers. The future trading in food and essential commodities should be banned. The Government has been gradually dismantling the public distribution system. The public distribution system should be universalized with 35 kg. per family per month and it should be gradually increased to 50 kg per family at Rs.2 per kg. I strongly demand modification of the norms of BPL criteria so as to include all the poor families in the BPL list. The agrarian crisis is reflected in more than two lakh suicide of farmers in the country. This is due to liberal economic policies of the Government. Food grain production has declined during the last few years; the indebtedness of the households is alarming at 48.6 per cent as per NSS 59th round survey in 2003. Farmers must be provided with cheap institutional credit at four per cent rate of interest. The declining yields have to be arrested by subsidized inputs. Our party also strongly denounces the Government's decision to decontrol the prices of fertilizers and the nutrient based subsidy scheme. This anti-farmer move should be withdrawn.

The country has been facing severe threat from the terrorist attacks. There are internal security threats from Maoists and naxalites. This is evident from the recent terrorist incident in Pune and Maoist attack in Shelda, and mindless and barbaric killings of Left Front supporters and innocent people in West Bengal. The Central Government should not be complacent. There are forces in the Central Government, who are keeping in liaison with the Maoist forces or elements; they are openly demanding stoppage of joint operations. The Central Government must take appropriate action against those elements, if they are serious to contain Maoist threat. After the Lok Sabha elections, 173 CPI (M) Left Front supporters had been killed by the Trinamool Congress and Maoists combined, and thousands of CPI (M) and Left Front supporters had to leave their places and take shelter outside. So, this House must condemn this barbaric attack of the Trinamool Congress and Maoist attack. The President's Address made only a passing reference to the implementation of Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Act. Unfair conditions are imposed on such dwellers regarding granting of

rights. They say that they have to prove that they have lived in the forest for three generations, that is defined as 75 years. The redress of these dwellers has to be taken care of. The Government must be sincere to its commitment to the Women's Reservation Bill. They must not show only just sympathy to women; the Bill must be taken up in this Session and be passed.

It is unfortunate that no mention has been made in the President's Address about the implementation of the Rangnath Mishra Commission report. Our Party welcomes the recommendation for providing reservation for the minorities in the Government jobs. I would request the Central Government to take necessary steps to implement this recommendation.

Lastly, though the President's Address mentions about a balanced approach to national development, the North-East region remains neglected leading to frustration and a strong sense of deprivation among the people of the region. If the UPA Government goes against the *aam aadmi* it will have to face the consequences.

[Translation]

PROF. RAMSHANKAR (Agra): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I support the Motion of Thanks on the hon. President's Address as per tradition. A number of subjects should have been covered under the Address but was not done. A number of other issues were discussed during the Address. Our hon. Members had said that recommendations of the Rangnath Mishra Commission should be implemented. If the Rangnath Mishra Commission Report is implemented, it would pose a great danger for the unity and integrity of the country. It has been said that SCs and STs would get all reservation benefits even if they go in for religious conversion. In my view it would not be in the interest of the country. I believe if people adopt Muslim and Christian religions lured by the prospect of getting reservation, it would be a contempt towards Dr. Ambedkar and the Constitution. If the people belonging to SC\ST categories convert to Christianity or Islam religions, they would not be able to take the names of Ambedkar or Ravidas ji. Hence, I believe that if it is a question of development then if, as the previous speaker had threatened, votes would be given only to those who give reservations for Muslims, it would lead to the country and the society falling apart.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like another Commission

to be constituted which should recommend reservation for Christians and Muslims who convert to Hinduism if people feel that SCs and STs are being given too much reservation. This is my demand to the government.

Sir, the country is facing a number of challenges. The number of the poor and the labourers is rising very fast in the country. No one is paying attention to the problems being faced by their households due to inflation. Our young colleague hon. Rahul Gandhi ji goes to a dalit's house to eat one day in six months but he should also be concerned about the condition of the dalits in that village. The government should also think about the fact that crores of dalits in the country are not able to afford ever two square meals a day due to inflation.

Farmers' issue has been raised. Everyone is aware of the problems of farmers. Fertilizers, water and electricity are not available for the farmers. Water is not reaching all the farms and the number of farmers committing suicide is continuously rising.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want the government to take some concrete steps in this direction. The efforts of the government to bring about social equality are being undertaken only on the basis of figures. The House becomes satisfied with whatever figures are put up but the reality is completely different. The benefits of schemes that are run by the Centre for villages and for the lower strata do not percolate down. The common man remains deprived of their benefits. The government should take care that people get the due benefits of such schemes and these schemes are implemented properly.

Large advertisements regarding Bharat Nirman are published in newspapers. I would like to know how many poor children are there who are not able to get even one meal a day or the number of children who are not able to go to school. Buildings are being constructed and other constructions are also taking place, we talk of building the future of our country and say that these children are the future of our country but we have not ensured that these children are able to go to school or whether they are getting adequate education or not. I also demand that the government gives attention to this issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. Seven other hon. Members have to speak in the House.

PROF. RAMSHANKAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as far as the question of reservation for SC/ST is concerned I would like to say that many posts have not been filled so far. As per the figures provided by my colleagues, I understand, that there are a number of universities and degree colleges where there is a deficiency of teachers. I demand that those posts should be filled at the earliest.

Sir, in the end, I would like to demand that the schemes that the hon. President has outlined should be completed otherwise similar proposals would keep on being submitted, figures would be submitted and we would keep on running at the same place. People of the country are not getting clean water. Only one resolution, for providing clean water to all the people in the country and good education to the children, should be taken.

SHRI PRADEEP TAMTA (Almora): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the address of Hon'ble President and I rise to support it. Hon'ble President said in her address and which is true as well that today India stands at historic turning point. While mentioning this historic turning point, she reminded us of what the first Prime Minister of India Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru had said. The service of India means the service of the millions of poor who suffer and it means providing today justice to them. Today at a time, when proper India is one of the leading financial powers which in a race of being successful, Hon'ble President has said that the deprived sections should also be made part of India success story, they should also get them due share.

Sir, I have just listened to the speeches made by the honourable Members during this discussion in this House. I too would like to make two-three point before the Government also. The UPA Government has taken an important and revolutionary step in the form of MNREGA and this guarantee scheme of providing employment needs to be strengthened further. A provision of providing 100 days of work has been made under it, but number of days needs to be increased under the scheme. The Government has admitted that the minimum wages have been fixed at Rs. 100/-. This has provided employment to people throughout the country and the major plus point is that the minimum wages have been increased and a standard has been established in this regard. I would like to say that in these times of rising-inflation (Said amount should be raised.

Sir, I would also like to say that there are schemes meant for MNREGA one of such schemes is derogatively called "Marega" (meaning death). This schemes may have some shortcomings, and some lacunae, but what is the reason that the schemes made for workers, poor people are not respected by one and all? If the schemes has some shortcoming, it needs to be corrected. But this House which is supposed to work for the country of this House who undertakes and take country forward uses derogatory words for the said schemes, it pains me to see that.

Issues of terrorism and violence are being discussed in the House. The Government should take stringent steps in this regard. What is the reason that the poor of the poorest class, tribal class belonging to Bihar, Bengal, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh. Jharkhand are migrating from the States? The people of Bengal said that lot of changes has taken place. We should think over why this class has to face such situation? The UFA Government had said that they would raise the issue of distribution of land and implement it vigorously. I urge upon the Government to look into the issue of land distribution afresh in the country. The Government should launch a fresh campaign to distribute land in those States where poor, deprived sections and people belonging Scheduled Castes are not given land. Lot of changes are taking place in the country. Today, there are so many issues to be addressed such as issue of electrification, the issue of drinking water and issue of food security. Supporting the Government I demand that foodgrains under right to food should also include pulses and other commodities as food here means foodgrains, wheat and rice only. There is no provision of giving foodgrains under it. Such is right to food. Therefore, since it is an issue of providing foodgrains to poor other commodities should also be included thereunder.

Sir, the Government has made many a basic changes in voluntary sector by way of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, primary education. As a result, education sector has flourished. The Government is fully focussing on higher education.' Entry to foreign educational institutes in the country's welcome but I would like to request the Government that a provision of reservation for scheduled castes and tribes should be made. The issue of judicial reforms is being discussed here. The issue of due representation should be given to scheduled castes and tribes at higher levels of judiciary whether it is High Court or the Supreme Court. The percentage of

scheduled castes and tribes in the apex judicial institution is very low.

Concluding my speech, I would like to add that Tharot Commission was constituted to implement the SCP and TSP Plan. The report Tharot Commission has furnished contains that scheduled castes and tribes in the country should get their due share in plan budget and they should get reservation in private sector. I demand that scheduled castes and tribes should be empowered economically. I belong to border area of Uttarakhand. Uttarakhand was given an economic package which is about to expire on March 31, 2010. I would like to request that the Government should extend the said package for another ten years.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Ajnala.

(Interruptions) ... \*

[Translation]

\*\*DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA (Khadoor Sahib): Thank you, Chairman sir, for permitting me to speak on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address to both Houses of Parliament.

Sir, 62 years have passed since we gained independence. Out of these 62 years, the Congress party has ruled over the country for 52 years. Hence, the Congress party is solely responsible for all the ills that plague India. The situation is going from bad to worse. Today, the country is dogged by illiteracy and poverty. The law and order situation in the country is grim and deteriorating fast.

Sir, the President's Address has failed to mention any serious issues that plague our country today. The Government is silent on electoral reforms. Electoral reforms are the need of the hour. All Members of Parliament have to spend crores of rupees to get elected. It adds to the ever-increasing inflation. The prices of essential commodities are sky-rocketing. But we all have contributed to it. We ask for donations from traders. The traders, in turn, increase the rates of their items

and fleecy customers to recover their losses. This gives a fillip to inflation and price-rise. Hence, electoral reforms must be implemented to improve the overall system.

Sir, another sword of Damocles hanging on our head is the population-explosion. Until and unless we rein-in the ever increasing population, we will not be able to improve the living condition of the people. We should not be afraid to tackle this problem. The Government has launched various schemes like Rural Health Mission. However, the Government has turned a blind eye and a deaf ear to this burning issue. We should take a leaf out of China. China has been able to check its population growth and bring it to a zero-growth level. That is why China has left us far behind in every field. However, the President's Address is silent on this issue.

Mr. Chairman Sir, the third point I want to make is regarding corruption. Sir, corruption is eating into the vitals of our entire system. The Hon. Prime Minister also agrees that there is rampant corruption in our entire system. Be it judiciary, politics, administration or industry – all walks of life are reeking with corruption. How then can we make India a developed country? Due to the ogre of corruption, development is the casualty. Who is going to check the ever-increasing spectre of corruption? During elections, mammon-worship is the rule of the day. How then can the Government rein-in corruption?

Sir, at the time of elections, all parties had expressed concern about the black money stashed in secret bank-accounts in foreign countries. However, once the elections are over, nobody talks about bringing back this unaccounted money worth crores of rupees. It is because those who should take action, themselves seem to be embroiled in these unsavoury activities. If those who should take action are hand-in-glove with shady elements, there is no hope of ever bringing back to India the black money stashed in secret foreign bank-accounts. Five years will pass by and nothing will happen. The need of the hour is to bring back this unaccounted money worth crores and distribute it among the poor and the needy. Chairman sir, the Naxal menace is gaining strength with each passing day.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA: Sir, I thank Hon'ble Home Minister for his efforts to neutralise Naxal

\*Not recorded.

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

extremism. However, he has failed to take the wind out of the Naxal sails. Several districts of the country are burning.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly wind up.

DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA: Chairman, Sir, I have just started.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, No. You have already taken six minutes.

DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA: Sir, the Government has failed miserably in its foreign policy. Whether it is Pakistan or China, we are surrounded by hostile countries that have a hawkish anti-India agenda. Talking to them will not serve the purpose. The Government must speak from a position of strength.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Nothing is going in the records now.

... (*Interruptions*)\*

DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA: Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Bhola Singh may speak now.

Shri Ajnala, please sit down.

[*Translation*]

Your six minutes are over.

[*English*]

Nothing will go on record except what Dr. Bhola Singh says.

... (*Interruptions*)\*

[*Translation*]

DR. BHOLA SINGH (*Nawada*): Hon'ble Chairman Sir, I rise to speak on the motion of thanks on the Hon'ble President's address presented before the House. The President's address is a political, executive document and this document contains not only the vision of the entire country infact, it contains the guidelines and all those principles which make the executive accountable to the country and to this House.

\*Not recorded.

Sir, due to lack of time I would not like to go into details of this but I can say that regionalism and terrorism have not damaged this country as much as the thoughtless, valueless, characterless, self-centered and corrupt politics of this country. Today, I would like to put this thing before you that this country's political executive has stopped working. This political executive body has developed a mechanism of Committee at its own level in order to deal with all the political issues and the questions which should have been dealt with at political level and further complicated the matters.

Sir, this House is the temple of democracy. This is not the worship of the God who is worshiped in mosques and in temples but, it is the worship of that god who lives in lakhs and crores of numbers in slums, in mud houses, brick houses, lives there happily, lives there in hardships, lives there with his stomach half empty, starves there, lives in sadness and happiness and lives in both darkness and light. This House is a place of worship of that very person. On one occasion Mahatma Gandhiji had said that whenever we formulate any scheme we should see whether the voice of the last person of the society is taken into consideration and his soul is involved in the process and whether it is capable of wiping off his tears as well.

Sir, I would like to say that there is no mention of so many things in the hon'ble President's address. I would like to put this before the Hon'ble Members of this House. Sir, you might remember and you might have been a Member of this House when terrorists had attacked the Parliament, the House bled and 10-12 security personnel lost their lives in that attack but the decision pronounced by the Supreme Court has not been executed.

Sir, I would like say that when the issue of Telangana was raised in Andhra Pradesh, the House was in session at that time and the political executive went beyond its powers and gave decision on that and that decision was not brought to the House and overnight.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now you please conclude.

DR. BHOLA SINGH: Sir, I am concluding.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have to wind up by 8 o' clock.



DR. BHOLA SINGH: Sir, I am just concluding. Through you I would like to say that the political executive failed to do that work and a Committee was appointed for that. I would like to say a few words about my constituency Nawada. Nawada is without water, the rivers of Nawada are dry and so is the land there. Today there are seven blocks in Nawada and there is no ground water. I would like to request the present Government to make some arrangements for drinking water in that area. A proposal for a Rs. 90 thousand crore power project has been received from Bihar. Bihar is facing darkness and it is backward also but it has taken a big leap. Through you I would like to say that the Government should take steps towards implementing the said power project. With these words I support the vote of thanks on the hon'ble President's address.

[English]

SHRI ABU HASEM KHAN CHOUDHURY: Mr. Chairman, Sir I support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

The Indian Government's policies have always emphasized food grain self-sufficiency. The challenge for Indian agriculture is to increase production, while minimizing environmental impact. Land degradation is one major constraint for Indian agriculture. Water is another major constraint for Indian agriculture. After the Green Revolution, a lot of water has been used for the purposes of agriculture.

The trajectory of Indian agriculture and its associated environmental problems has brought about recognition that agricultural growth and productivity will have to occur simultaneously with environmental sustainability. The environmental challenges, especially in terms of land degradation and groundwater depletion, water logging and excessive use of chemical inputs are posing problems for the future of Indian agriculture. To address those problems, policies have laid emphasis on promoting sustainable agriculture including organic farming.

The potential of bringing more land under cultivation has almost been exhausted and in future the net sown area in the country may even decline because of increasing pressure on land for other than agricultural purposes.

Over the last three decades, increased reliance on groundwater and surface irrigation, chemical fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides, transformed agriculture in India to a capital intensive occupation.

Sir, to make it short, I want to conclude by saying the growth of population will by far surpass the food production growth. As per ABC news, India currently faces approximately 33 births a minute, 2,000 an hour, and 48,000 a day which calculates to nearly 12 million a year. Unfortunately, the resources do not increase as the population increases. Instead, the resources keep decreasing, leading to making survival for a human being more and more competitive even for the basic necessities of life like food, clothing and shelter.

Demographers expect India's population to surpass the population of China. Currently the most populous country in the world is China and by 2030, India is expected to have a population of more than 1.53 billion while China's population is forecast to be at its peak 1.46 billion and will begin to drop in subsequent years.

Sir, with these few words, I conclude.

SHRI MOHAN JENA (Jajpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir I rise to ventilate my views on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

Sir, at the outset, I would like to say with much pain and agony that the President's Address does not reflect the social reality. It reflects the political and economic realities to some extent, but it does not reflect the society at the grass-root level.

Sir, the majority citizen of our country belongs to *Sudra* and *Atisudra*, viz, Dalit and OBC community. After sixty years of our Independence, people belonging to these communities are deprived for their socio-economic rights.

The constitutional rights of the dalit community are at danger. The *Manuvadi* tradition and the Hindu caste systems cloud our democracy. Socially, we dalit people are not equal with others. The Government, the police system and the custodian of law and order are all silent spectators to our plight. We dalit people are second class citizens of this democratic country.

For these reasons, the very word Dalit and Scheduled Caste does not find a place in the President's

Address. We dalit people are out of sight and out of mind of the Government.

We are proclaiming that ours is a largest democracy. But in reality, the social mind of the country does not favour and it does not respect dalit right and dignity in rural India.

**20.00 hrs.**

In this country, we, the *dalit* people, are Hindus. But due to the caste practice, due to untouchability and in some areas due to the hegemony of the governing caste, the door of the temple is closed for us. The entry of *dalit* people in temples is prohibited in many parts of the country.

Our *dalit* people fought for Independence. They sacrificed their lives but still we are fighting and we are searching our Independence. So, I appeal to the government to give due importance to the *dalit* Scheduled Caste community not only in policy but also in practice.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have three more hon. Members to speak on this issue. Thereafter, the 'Zero Hour' will be taken up. So, if the House agrees, I extend the time of the House by half-an-hour.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, the time of the House is extended by half-an-hour.

Now, Shrimati Jayshreeben Patel to speak.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL (Mahesana): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for allowing me to express my views on the President's Address. The President's Address dated 4/06/2009 states-My Government proposes to formulate a new law named the National Food Security Act which will provide the basis of prosperity for such structure which will have assurance of food security for all. Each household living below poverty line in rural and urban areas will have the legal right to get 25 kg rice or wheat at the rate of

Rs. 3 per kg per month. This law will also be used to bring comprehensive systematic change in Public Distribution System. All this remained mere assurance and no concrete steps have so far been taken in this regard. The National Development Scheme of Ministry of Agriculture and National Food Security Scheme Mission have been reduced to only a source of commission. The farmers are not getting remunerative price of their produce nor has it done any good to producers. The farmers and the poor have come to be embroiled in export-import. We have been put in danger by two types of sugar, first indigenous sugar and the other, the imported sugar. Imported raw sugar is decaying at Kandla port in Gujarat, what steps have been taken by the Union Government in this regard? How many raids Government have conducted regarding the rising prices of sugar? How much sugar has been found during such raids and what kind of punishment has been given to hoarders? 55 percent of the total raids against hoarding have been carried out by the NDA and BJP ruled states. The actions of Congress ruled states have not been encouraging. Government retracted the decision to export ten lakh metric tonne sugar to European countries, was this decision justified? It is like playing with the lives of the poor. What kind of export policy is this? I would like to know as to why the ministry of Commerce and the Ministry of Agriculture took a peculiar decision regarding this sugar scam?.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL: Two minutes.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not two minutes, please conclude in one minute, because there is no time.

SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL: Rising prices are the result of faulty economic policies of the Congress and the UPA Government. This policy is taking the country towards poverty. In fact, it is a policy to eradicate the poor and not the poverty.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is mentioned in the President's Address, My Government has taken strict steps to detect the black money deposited outside India....(Interruptions), the talks again being held with Switzerland, a safe haven of black money are also only an eye wash.

Sir, in the President's Address...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Badruddin Ajmal.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL: The issue of cleaning the river Ganga... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You, please sit down. I have called the next speaker.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL: Sir, I am a woman and speaking at the end. Please give me two minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude in one minute. You will not be given more than one minute's time.

.....*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL: The holy river Ganga is the soul of mother India, mainstay of Indian culture, the water of Ganga is adorable, it offers salvation, it is the faith of offering, libation and dedication. The river Ganga is not on the earth, sky or nether most earth, but flows in the heart of every Indian. ...*(Interruptions)* Therefore concrete steps should be taken to clean polluted river Ganga.

Sir, Ganga is the life line of India, therefore it is my and people's demand to save this river. The Government should bring a white paper in this regard... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already finished.

SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL: Sir, I, will conclude after putting forth one-two points. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your one minute has elapsed. I have already called hon'ble Member to speak.....*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL: Sir, I want to conclude... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already concluded.

The hon'ble president in her address on 4.6.2009 stated that: \*My Government proposes to enact a new law — the National Food Security Act—that will provide a statutory basis for a framework which assures food security for all. Every family below the poverty line in rural as well as urban areas will be entitled, by law, to 25 kilograms of rice or wheat per month at Rs. 3 per kilogram. This legislation will also be used to bring about broader systemic reform in the public distribution system. All the above remained in the realm of assurance and no concrete steps have so far been taken in this regard. The National Development Scheme of Ministry of Agriculture and National Food Security Union have been reduced to only a source of Commission. The farmers have not got remunerative price of their produce nor has it done any good to producers. The farmers and the poor have come to be embroidered in import and export. We have been put in danger by two types of sugar, first indigenous sugar and the other, the imported sugar. Imported raw sugar is rotting at Kandla port in Gujarat. What steps have been taken by the Union Government in this regard? How many raids Government have conducted to check the rising prices of sugar? How much sugar has been jound during such raids and what kind of punishment has been given to hoarders? The NDA and the BJP ruled states have carried out 55 percent of the total raids against hoarding. The actions of Congress ruled states have not been encouraging. The Government retracted the decision to export ten lakh metric tonne sugar to European countries. Was this decision justified? It is like playing with the lives of many poor people. What kind of export policy is this? I would like to know as to why the Ministry of Commerce and the Ministry of Agriculture took such a peculiar decision regarding this sugar scam? Rising prices of food articles are the result of faulty economic policy of Congress and UFA Government. These policies are further increasing poverty in the country. In fact it is a policy to eradicate the poor and not the poverty.

It is mentioned at page no 38 in President's Address. My Government is vigorously pursuing necessary stepjito detect the illegal money stashed outside India, the talks again being held with Switzerland a safe haven of illegal money are also only a eye wash. This is a stark violation of the instructions issued by the Supreme Court, vigorous steps, as like USA, should have been taken with Switzerland also to bring out illegal money and a white paper should be issued by the Government to keep the Parliament and people of this country apprised of such developments.

\*.....\* This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

The emphasis on organized-coordinated efforts of the Centre and State to ensure 'clear and continuous flow' of the holy Ganga under the auspices of National Ganga River Basin to Authority in the Hon'ble President's Address is appreciable. But nothing but wastage of water and money has resulted during the last years in the clean Ganga Project.

The holy river Ganga is the soul of mother India, mainstay of Indian culture, the water of Ganga is adorable, people have faith that it offers salvation. The Indians respect for Ganga water is spectacular. It is the faith of offering, libation and dedication. The river Ganga is not on the earth, sky or neither-most earth but flows in the heart of every Indian. Despite this the clouds of crisis is looming large on the very existence of liberator mother. Excessive human interference has polluted it.

The Ganga will have to be saved, it is not only the inspiration of Indian culture but also the need of further generations. Keeping in view the pace of damage inflicted on Indian culture after 50 years perhaps nobody will be able to say "Hum us desh ke wasi hain jis desh me Ganga bahi hai."

Ganga is the lifeline of India, and to save it, it is my and people's demand to save this river and Government should bring out a white paper in this regard and declare it a national river.

The Right to free and compulsory education Act 2009 is likely to come into effect in the year 2010 but a good coordination among all the states is missing and as a result their future appears bleak.

I want to draw the attention of the House towards the scams of NREGA. Respected Soniaji came to know the truth about the progress and development of Central Schemes in the rural areas of her constituency during her recent visit and found huge discrepancies in the official report. Then Soniaji took the officers to task and issued orders regarding inquiry Committees. She got upset regarding NREGA.

It appears that NREGA is only a paper tiger and has become source of corruption. Despite renaming NREGA to MNREGA the ideals of service to the poor presented by Mahatma Gandhi did not get impetus.

In last, I would like to request the Government to consider different issues raised by me and take proper action.

There is no concrete proposal with regard to the electoral reforms in the President's Address. There is no mention of Gujarat Control of Organized Crime Bill- 'GUJCOC'.

Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi ji had proposed to provide gas to Gujarat from Pipavav in Gujarat. There is no mention of that also.

It is sad that there is not any mention of setting up a branch of High Court for Rajkot-Baroda-Surat, in the President's Address.

There is also no mention of any assistance to be provided by the Union Government for the schemes like Evening Courts, Fast Track Courts and Lok Adalats for new judicial procedures. Sardar Sarovar Scheme has also been ignored.

It is regretful that no mention has been made about making Ahmedabad the headquarters of Western railway and decentralizing the Western railway.

It is again sad that there is no mention of the assistance and guidance by the Union Government for the world's first Children's University, National Law University, Forensic Science University and India's first Kamdhenu University and Petroleum University as announced by the Government of Gujarat.

It is sad that the Government of Gujarat has established the first Ministry of Climate change at present and has reduced pollution at the direction of the Supreme Court. There is no mention of Centre's assistance and guidance into that.

Cows are symbolic to our culture. Cow slaughter is rampant in the country. But there is no mention of how to save cows.

It is a sorry state that the basic principle of secularism is being torn apart and many State Governments are making populist promises with vote politics behind their mind. There is no mention of any concrete steps to promote peaceful atmosphere in the country.

In the year 2005, Jawahar Lal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission was launched for development of the urban areas. Birth place of Sardar villabh Bhai Patel-Karamsad and Gandhinagar, the capital of Gujarat, the

state identified with the name of Mahatma Gandhi should have been included in category-C of URG division of JNNURM. The Union Government could have paid homage to hon'ble Babu ji by including Porbandar, his birth place, But there is no such mention\*.

[English]

SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL (Dubri): Respected Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for providing me this opportunity to participate in the discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address delivered to both the Houses of Parliament.

[Translation]

Due to shortage of time, I will speak on some special issues, after which , if you allow me, I will lay this on the Table.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude quickly.

SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL: Respected Chairman, Sir, I will conclude my speech in one minute. Poor people like us get only this much time because this is poor man's Government....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You lay your speech if you want.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL: Hon'ble Chairman Sir, I will lay my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot lay your speech if you speak. You can lay it without speaking and that is the rule.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would have already said a few things within this time... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please speak quickly.

SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, a scam of one thousand crore rupees was committed in NC Hills of Assam and we have supported the Congressmen to the full. We have demanded a CBI inquiry from the Prime Minister into this matter but the

same has not begun till date. There is a project in my area for venture schools. 30 lakh students are enrolled in the schools under that project. There are two lakh teachers over there. The State Government has not paid them salaries for the last twenty years...(Interruptions) The Government recognizes everything like certificates etc. in respect of these schools but is not giving salary to the teachers-Today they are on-hunger striken. The State Government has not taken any notice of their strike. More than 50 persons are on hunger strike and their condition is deteriorating.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I request you to give some kind of instructions to the State Government in this regard. Then comes the issue of N.R.C. and de-hoarder, which is the biggest burning issue of Assam on date, Shri Rajiv Gandhi ji had signed an agreement in this regard which took place on 25 March, 1971. All the parties honoured this agreement and we also agreed to it....(Interruptions) Now a Notification was issued one month back from here which refers to year 1966. Lakhs of Hindus, Bengalis and Muslims will get affected from this. So please pay attention towards it. This is a big issue....(Interruptions) If proper attention is not paid to it, the entire Assam will be agitating.

Mr. Chairman, please allow me to lay my remaining speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we cannot allow you to lay your speech.

SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL: Mr. Chairman, my only request is that a budget for aam admi be prepared.. (Interruptions) Now you please allow me to lay my speech....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have allowed two hon. Members namely Shrimati Jayshree-ben Patel and Shri Badruddin Ajmal to lay part of their speeches on the Table of the House, as a special case.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now the hon'ble Members who want to lay, may lay their speeches.

[*English*]

\* I can See that the majority of the 74 points/issues raised by Hon'ble President gives a clear direction of the policies of UPA Government and indication of Budget 2010.

Due to time constraint I would limit my speech pinpointing some of the issues pertaining to the state of Assam and other North Eastern States. However, I would like to begin with key national issues raised by the Hon'ble President.

I am ashamed to start with the mention of the musues of development funds for the North Cachar Hills Autonomous Council, Assam. I strongly demand a CBI enquiry of the involvement of seven state ministers and one Lok Sabha Secretariat MP in the Rs. 1,000 crore scam..

I would like to express my gratitude to our Economist Prime Minister and his able team members under whose guidance we have successfully met the global economic slowdown and the country is back on the economic growth path.

I am very happy to note that a sum of more than Rs. 4000 crore has so far been allocated from the National Calamity Contingency Fund and the Calamity Relief Fund to the drought affected States. This is a welcome move of the Government but I am constrained to say that the demands of the states were more than 72000 crores. If it is so than a lot more need to be done. I have witnessed a very little relief of the draught affected people of Assam because of corruption and inactions of the state Government.

I am happy to note that Hon'ble President has raised the issue of price rise but concerned to note that the price rise has been justified on the ground of shortfalls in domestic production, global price hike of essential commodities and most importantly the impact of the schemes of "aam admi". This is not acceptable and insult to the already wounded aam admi. Food inflation had touched a decade's high of about 20 per cent. This skyrocketing prices of food has upset the homely budget of the common man. Common man wants immediate action not assurances. the major sufferer is the poor and his family who even fails to have two times meal a day. It seems that congress ka hath aam admi ke sath the

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\*.....\* This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

slogan is loosing its relevance due to sharp increase in the prices of essential commodities in the past months. No doubt India should achieve its industrial growth target but on the other hand we must check prices of essential commodities so that common man can do not have to sleep in empty stomach.

I understand that the Government and the bureaucracy is manned by the best and the brightest Indians. But what is the use these brightness who wakes when food has gone beyond the reach of the poor and AAm AADMI! The waking up is too little too late. Blaming the increase in per capita income rise and changing food habits for food inflation is an insult to the common people of India. Certainly these did not happen callous and has been busy passing the buck and politicking. Let there be a white paper to fix the responsibility on the culprits. Let the blame be fixed objectively without taking into consideration political expediency as is happening now.

**Government promises to tackle problem of rising food prices- but when and how is the question?**

It is good to hear that the pace of implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act has picked up considerably. Similarly Government should take note of the ever increasing trends of corruption in the program. In Assam the program has become a mockery. People are not getting the works as promised, instead of works paper works has become norms. I urge the Government to go beyond statistics and See that program is actually impacting the lives of poor people.

The electrification of more than 67 thousand villages and free electricity connections to nearly 84 lakh below poverty line households are definitely very food achievement. My humbler submission before the House that thee are still thousands of villages and households in Assam that are yet to be covered by the power of light. There are thousands of riverine village in Assam wherein it is not feasible to make provisions for regular electricity and hence I urge the Government to take note of this special situation and arrange for alternative energy provisions.

I appreciate the commitment of the Government for the rapid development of infrastructure in the North-Eastern States. I only appeal and hope to See that the

world 'rapid' comes out of the black and white document and the projects get completed before another rounds of re-announcement and investigation for scams.

It is heartening to note that the Government had developed a comprehensive roadmap for the development of minority communities. It is equally disheartening to note that the inherent hurdles in the policy guidelines and communal mindset of the implementers are posing as challenges. The example is Multi-sectoral Development Programme. The program has become limited to duplication of few activities existing centrally sponsored schemes like Indira Awas Yojana, Anganwari Centres, Additional Classrooms etc. The program has lost its relevance altogether. I strongly demand for a review of the approved plans.

I appreciate the move for the early passage of the Communal Violence (Prevention, Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill, 2005, in this Session of Parliament. At the same time I appeal for rehabilitations of the victims of 1993 Kokrakhar-Bongaigaon ethnic violence in Assam who are languishing in own arranged camps for last fifteen years. It very disturbing that even after 15 years the Muslim victims are yet to be rehabilitated. I also wish to bring the House the most infamous massacre of Nellie where in more than 3000 Muslims were killed in a single day. It is very unfortunate that in the 26th year of the incident I am to demand for the compensation of the Nellie victims.

It is great to *See* that the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 has been notified to be effective from 1st April, 2010. In this context I once again wish to bring to the notice of the House that more than 25% lakhs children of Assam majority of whom are from minority communities are reading in locally named venture schools without any support from the Government. I strongly demand to the House to *See* to it that the fundamental rights of these children are ensured through this Act.

Launching of a new scheme of rural LPG distribution namely, 'Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitarak Yojana' is really need of the hour. I wish to appraise the House that in Assam before every festivals and artificial crisis of LPG gas is created and people are forced to buy from black market by paying Rs. 1000/-. The appeal the Hon. Minister to take note of the same and initiate an enquiry to unearth the black market nexus of LPG gas.

I express my gratitude of special North East Rail Development Fund to provide assured financing for nine major national projects in the North Eastern region. I sincerely hope that all the nine national projects especially the Silchar-Lumding BG conversion and Bogibeel Bridge work will get its required fund in 2010 Budget. I also hope for the announcement of Dhubri-Fulbari Bridge over river Brahmaputra as a national project in the current year budget.

It seems that pursuance of the 'Look East' policy with vigour has become a rhetoric. We are yet *See* any actionable projects. I hope this time we will *See* something concrete as a part of "Look East Policy."

Before concluding I would bring to the notice of House about the miseries of Muslims and Bengali speaking population of Assam due to the recent arbitrary amendment of the rules of the preparation of National Register of Citizens in Assam. As this point has not been covered in the speech of Hon'ble President of India, I leave it here for a special discussion in the current session.

At the end I once again thank Hon'ble President of India for her speech and convey the support of my party All India United Democratic Front (AIUDF) to the policies announced by Hon'ble President through her speech before us.\*

*[Translation]*

\*DR. KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI (Ahmedabad West): It is known to all that Hon'ble President's Address is delivered in a joint sitting of both the Houses in the Central Hall of Parliament. This address highlights the achievements of the Cabinet. I would like to make a mention of the reality of achievements made by the Government which is miles away from what has been claimed in this address and also about the way in which the Government is patting its own back instead of accepting its failure.

The 'common man' in whose name this Government was formed, has been cheated by the Government as it has forgotten the promises made during the elections. Wrong policies and scams are the reason behind increasing inflation and prices. But this Government is holding reasons like global recession, monsoon failure,

\*Speech was laid on the Table.

increasing crude oil prices and other imaginary reasons etc., responsible for this failure. Despite price rise being a union Government's issue, it keeps trying to put the blame for that on the State Governments. The Union Minister of Agriculture who is accountable to the country, refuses to accept the existence of inflation in the country in his statement given in the House and makes irresponsible statements. No concrete measures and steps have been mentioned in the Hon'ble President's Address to check inflation. The Government should take some concrete steps to check and bring down inflation.

We need to take steps in the right direction and have the state will to increase agricultural production in the country. Agricultural production capacity of India is dissatisfactory. I would like to mention about the agricultural growth of Gujarat. The State of Gujarat was never ahead in the field of agriculture but due to right directions from the state leadership, today the agricultural growth rate of Gujarat is more than 13 percent. These are not the statistics of the State Government, infact, this comes from renowned economists, agricultural experts and from the evaluation done by the International Agriculture Institute of America. I do believe that the achievements of country's this leading state should be adopted in the form of as 'agricultural model'. When it comes to the country's development then we should rise above the partisan politics and decide in favour of the people.

Hon'ble President's Address mentions about the Irrigation scheme component, which was launched in the year 2005-06. A target has been fixed to augment the irrigation capacity for one crore hectare level by the year 2011-12. But I feel very sad to say that various environment and other hindrances are being put in increasing the height of the Sardar Sarovar Nirmada Pariyojana, major irrigation project of the country.

It has also been mentioned in the Address that the Government has prepared a roadmap for the development of minority communities and there has been an increase to the extent of Rs. 82 thousand crores in the loan given to these communities during the year 2008-09, which is 12 percent more than the total priority sector.. But I feel very sad in saying that the population of Scheduled Castes is more than 16 percent and this is one of the most backward classes of the society and it is our responsibility to provide them social and economic justice. But I have to say this with a heavy heart that there should be a 16 percent budgeting

provision as per their population, but the reality is that there is a mere 5 to 6 percent allocation for these castes in the budget. The Government's attitude is immensely biased against Scheduled Castes. I would like to humbly request the Government that it should give up its policy of appeasement of certain categories keeping social justice in view and make a balanced provision in the budget for Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes.

There would be an investment of more than Rs. one lakh crore including private investment on the projects in the field of ports and shipping under the National Ocean Development Programme. Indian Maritime University has opened its campus in Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata, Vishakapatnam and Cochin. Although, Gujarat is State which has the longest sea coast in the entire country, but no provision has been made for Gujarat under this. Member of Parliament Local Area Development Fund should be increased to Rs. 10 crore.

\*SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (Machhlisahr): Effort has been made to cover up the inefficiency of the Government in the President's Address.

The Government has, through the Presidents Address, stated that the worldwide economic recession has been faced through the sound policies to promote the economy at the domestic level.

But, the facts are just the opposite. India could face the global recession not because of the policies of the present Government but due to the public sector enterprises and the mixed economy of the country. But, the self-praising Government is taking steps towards selling the profit making public sector enterprises into the hands of private sector one by one. The same Congress party, which always chants Jawahar Lal Nehru's name, is now moving away from his visionary thinking and work by aping the USA.

Whereas the former NDA Government had sold several profit making enterprises to the private sector for penuries, the present Government has now started selling the shares of the high profit making 'Maharatna' enterprises to the private sector.

The Government says that the shares of these public sector enterprises are being sold to the common man. And only the Government knows who these common men are?

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.



The Government says that a huge amount is needed for the social development works and the Government can raise this amount only through selling the shares.

This argument of the Government is beyond comprehension. From its argument, it seems that the Government will be able to raise the amount for the social development work permanently by selling the 10 or 15 percent shares of the public sector enterprises. But, that is not so.

Social development is a continuous process and if it is a continuous process then it will need the funds continuously. What will happen afterwards? Will not the Government sell again the remaining shares of the profit earning public sector enterprises?

It will sell the shares again and, thus, will sell these enterprises into the private hands, which had been the spine of the Indian economy.

In fact, our Prime Minister wants to make India, the USA. It took hundreds of years for the USA to be what it is now. But, our Prime Minister is in a hurry. Though, the recession has exposed the bitter truth about the USA.

The Government had said in the President's Address that diesel subsidy scheme was started for the aid of the farmers but by increasing the prices of diesel even before the passing of the Budget, the Government has exposed its true intention itself.

Similarly, the Government is making propaganda about the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme. The Government, perhaps, did not get the true information about the extent to which the needy people got benefit from this scheme. The Government has been forced to add Mahatma Gandhi's name to this scheme, which is full of corruption. Now, it has to be seen as to how much benefit the needy persons get after adding Mahatma Gandhi's name.

The President's Address says that the highest priority of the Government has been to provide relief to the common man from the rising food prices. Even the special debate on rising prices in this very House has exposed, the truth about this highest priority.

Both, Central Government and the State Governments, are accusing each other for the rising prices and the poor and lower middle class are suffering between them.

The Government is creating rosy picture to liberalize the import of foodgrains but the foodgrains procured from the local farmers is left out in the open to get wet under the rains and rot there. The Government has set up the Food Corporation of India but nobody knows which steps are taken by it to profit the foodgrains.

The Government shows the dreams of raising the agricultural production to ensure food security for long term. On one hand, this Government shows the dreams while on the other it shatters the dreams of the farmers by raising the prices of urea and diesel.

The Government claims to achieve 8% growth rate in 2010-11 but it does not say as to what the poor and the labourers will get from this growth rate. The Government also claims to construct 96000 kms. of roads and provide irrigation facility for more than 70 lakh hectare of land but it has not clarified as to how much work it has done in both these fields after passage of the last budget.

\*SHRI RAKESH SACHAN (Fatehpur): Sir, The President's Address is a government document which outlines the future plans of the UPA government. It is mentioned in the President's Address that the government is looking forward to further improvement in the growth rate which has gone upto 9% and also says that the government seeks to achieve higher growth rate in the coming years. But it is baseless. The real picture will emerge only if the government makes an assessment of the growth rate by dividing it in three parts. On the one hand there are labourers who live on the average income of rupees 20 per day and on the other there are farmers whose income has decreased and the third component in it is industrial income. Taking all these three things together growth rate is worked out. However, 80% people are engaged in agriculture and manual labour in villages and 20% people are engaged in industry and live in urban areas. Therefore, what the government is talking about the increase in growth rate is not correct. Unless government pays attention to the farmers, allocates budget for them, makes special arrangement for irrigation, fertilizer, subsidy, provides loan to the farmers at subsidized rate of interest to increase production, the

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\*Speech was laid on the Table.

growth rate of common man will not increase. So we demand that government should increase the allocation of fund in this budget for the development of farmers. The barren land should be converted into fertile one and irrigation facilities should be made available through tube wells and by constructing dams on rivers and building canals for un-irrigated land so that farmers are benefited.

The Public Distribution System is in a shambles, although it is mentioned in the Address that food security will be strengthened. The list of BPL people has still not been prepared in villages. There is a large population of poor. Consequently, as much as 70% of the poor are deprived of the benefits of government schemes and people are facing starvation and dying of this. I demand that a new survey be conducted to verify and determine the correct number of people living below poverty line and a list be prepared and it should be ensured that the benefits of government scheme reach all the poor. Only then we can talk about food security and proper distribution system.

The implementation of MNREGA is mentioned but unless small and marginal farmers are covered under MNREGA, the poor farmers in villages will not get the real benefit. The percentage of Kachcha and Pucca work will have to be increased and corruption will have to be checked.

The arrangement of more budget is required to be made to increase the number of beneficiaries under Rural Housing Scheme and funds should also be increased keeping in view the rising prices.

There is a need to increase the target under Gramin Sadak Yojana because even after 63 years of our Independence we have not been able to provide proper connectivity to our villages.

There is also a need to increase the target of rural water supply. There is still acute shortage of drinking water in villages and it should be addressed. I want to mention Rajiv Gandhi Vidyut Yojana. Even today 40% villages are not electrified. This target should further be increased.

There is also mention of Mission Clean Ganga under the aegis of National Ganga River Basin Authority. River Ganga will be cleaned and the flow of urban and industrial effluents into river will be stopped but the

Government is paying no need to this. The flow of urban and industrial effluents into Ganga is increasing and as a result the water of river Ganga is getting polluted. I demand that Government should pay full attention to this issue and clean river Ganga. I request to stop the flow of waste from tannery industries of Kanpur into river Ganga and there is also a need of dredging in river Ganga. In the end, I want to say that there are crores of educated unemployed youths in the country and there is no mention of providing them employment in the Address. I demand that employment should be provided to the educated youths. The arrangement should be made to provide them unemployment allowance till they get employment.

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[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we take up Special Mentions.

[Translation]

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the medical college in Kashi Hindu Vishwavidyalaya and the present state of the hospital. This hospital was counted amongst the topmost hospitals in the country at one time. The poor people from Bihar, North Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh come there get treatment. Patients in large numbers come even from Nepal to get treated there. However, the condition of this hospital has deteriorated over the last few years. The administration and the doctors, both are responsible for this state of affairs.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the condition of the hospital is such that neither the patients are examined properly by the doctors and nor is anyone admitted to the hospital without some sort of influence being exerted. Both these works require some sort of influence.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, all diagnostic facilities are available in the hospital but the patients are sent for diagnosis to private centres which prove to be costlier for the patients. The condition of the hospital is deteriorating day by day. The Central Government's reputation is also getting tarnished. This matter has been raised in the Lok Sabha earlier also but there has been no improvement in the situation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to urge the government to constitute a high level committee for investigating the said matter and to take appropriate steps as recommended by the said committee.

DR. RAJAN SUSHANT (Kangra): Hon. Chairman, Sir, the borders of the country are not secure. The country is facing threats posed by China on one side and Pakistan on the other. A strong military is the necessity of the hour but I regret to say that 'One Rank, One Pension' has not so far been implemented which has proved detrimental to the morale of the armed forces. The morale of the para-military forces is also getting affected at the same time. Their argument is that they are always at the forefront to deal not only with natural disasters such as flood, drought but also terrorism and border security. They say that they provide the same services as the army but they get neither the same pay and allowances nor the same facilities, they get neither promotion nor retirement benefits on par with the army. Hence, I demand that the para-military forces should also be given the same facilities as are provided to the army. They should be given pay and allowances, pension, family pension, medical aid, canteen facilities and re-employment facilities that are on par with the army. I thank you for permitting me to raise this important subject in the House.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Tikamgarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, large scale adulteration is taking place in food items and medicines in the country and this adulteration is being done in millions as are not burst houseful to one's head to but may prove lethal to on life. Adulteration is giving rise to a number of diseases. Almost every other person in the country is suffering from some disease or the other.

Sir, we can understand the explosive situation in the Indian Sub continent when we look at these figures. 40,000 persons in Bangladesh die due to kidney failure caused by adulteration every year. Nearly, 50,000 children in Pakistan die due to kidney failure every year. Lakhs of people die from kidney and liver damage in India.

Sir, the efforts made for prevention of adulteration have proved to be a failure. Food Safety and Standard Act for prevention of adulteration was passed in 2006, however the rules have not been implemented properly till date. Hence, through you, I would like to request the

government that effective steps are taken in this regard at the earliest and action should be taken to prevent the adulteration of food items and medicines. Strict punitive action should be taken against the people who indulge in this practice so that they are deterred from such acts in future.

*[English]*

SHRI P.T. THOMAS (Idukki): Thank you, Mr. Chairman Sir. My parliamentary constituency Idukki is mostly hilly forest area which is an eco friendly area too. For balancing bio diversity, the cutting of firewood is strictly prohibited by law, due to which consumption of LPG is an unavoidable requirement for the people living in my constituency. But, in fact, the allotment rate of LPG in that area is comparatively low with that in other areas.

In view of the above fact, I would urge upon the Government to take necessary steps to allow more gas agencies in Idukki parliamentary constituency and increase the supply in Kothamanglam, Muvathupuzha, Thodupuzha, Idukki, Udambanchola, Peerimade, and Devikulam areas of my parliamentary constituency.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAKESH SACHAN (Fatehpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for permitting me to raise the extremely important issue of public interest in the House. I would like to inform the House that the head of a dalit household, Ram Baran Pasi, resident of Village Allipur Bhadar, Block Arraya in my constituency, district Fatehpur, died from starvation on the third of this month. When the people got to know of his death they went to his home and found him lying dead with not even a kilo of flour in his home. He got no help from the government. He had neither APL card, nor BPL card. He got no help under Indira Awas Yojana. In fact, even though he had a job card under NREGS he did not get a single day's work thereunder. And he finally died from hunger. He is survived by a ten year old son, a minor daughter and his wife. I through you, would like to request the Government, to provide financial assistance amounting to at least 5 lakh rupees to the family of the deceased.

Sir, the Minister is present in the House. Jain Saheb, please find out the facts. The Government keeps on

patting its own back in the case of MNREGS. Not one but many such deaths have occurred in my district. The benefits of any scheme for the BPL population are not percolating down to the people. Neither the Government made any arrangements for identification of the poor, nor are the poor getting the benefit of any schemes. I want this issue to be given serious consideration and the state government should also be directed to provide then assistance and the Central Government should also provide assistance.

SHRI VISHWA MOHAN KUMAR (Supaul): Hon. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister towards my parliamentary constituency Supaul and raise an important issue of public interest. There is not a single gas agency in Supaul despite it being district headquarters. It must be the only district in the country which does not have a single gas agency. An agency by the name of Sangeeta Indane used to operate from here but it also closed down 15 years ago due to legal problems.

The consumers of urban areas have to face acute problems. Immediate supply is to be made to Supaul and Raghapur from Bhawani Indane of Triveniganj, which is not sufficient. Most of the cylinders vanish away in blackmarketing. Only 26 carriages arrive there, which are shared by three towns. This is not proper.

So, the hon'ble Minister is requested to make arrangement of Gas Agency in Raghapur, karjain Bazar, Nirmali, Kunauli, Pipra, Virpur including Supaul headquarter and in Shankar pur, Kumarkhand of Madhepura district at the earliest so that public resentment and peoples problems could be resolved.

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, to the dilapidated condition of national highway nos. 7 and 75 in my Lpk Sabha constituency Satna. Earlier the state government was responsible for repair and maintenance of both these roads. Since Shri Kamal Nath ji became the minister of this department, he took over the responsibility of maintenance of thousands of kilometres of the roads in this state and gave it to NHAI. Now, Bela-Jhukehi section of NH-7 is in a very poor state.

The entire road is potholed. The construction work of flyover in Maihar on this very road has not been started till now whereas the state government has paid its share. Similarly the section of NH-75 from Chhatarpur to Bela has become so dilapidated that the road accidents are taking place everyday but the road has not been repaired. In this very section, a proposal for construction of a link road to connect Sighauli via Sohaval More, Matehana industrial area and a new bridge on Tamas river has been under consideration for long. I demand immediate approval of the said proposal and also four-laning of both the national highways.

Sir, in reply to my question on 2nd March, hon. Minister of State has stated that Madhya Pradesh government had forwarded 83 proposals under Central Road Funds out of which 56 proposals had been approved but the remaining proposals had been rejected without assigning any reason thereto. I demand that a road from Rampur to Aver via Baghai, Sijhata, Hinauti, with a bridge over Tamas river, Malgaon, Gaurahya, Khamharia, with a bridge on Semrawal river and Akauna be constructed in my Lok Sabha constituency.

SHRI PURNMA SI RAM (Gopalganj): Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the government to the fact that National Highway no. 28 (B), which links Chhapva in Bihar to Padrauna via Bagaha and Madanpur forest was a kutcha road for hundreds of years. Later on, when Bagaha-Chhitauni rail line was laid and a parallel pucca road was constructed, the railways purchased the land of the farmers of Madanpur and gave that land to the forest department in exchange of the forest land acquired by the railways. The Railways provided funds for afforestation to the forest department and even carried out plantation but even today the railways is not being allowed by the forest department to carry out repair works on the said road whereas the forest department has no right on the said land as per the rules. This road is the only route, which links north-east area of Uttar Pradesh with Bihar.

Sir, through you, I would like to ask the government that the hon. Minister would pay attention to this issue because if this road is blocked, the people of north-Bihar and eastern and north regions of Uttar Pradesh, would have to travel thousand kilometres extra. So I request the government to take action in this regard.

\* SHRI SIVASAMI (Tirupur): Hon'ble Chairman I wish to bring to the notice of the august House, through you, the sorry state of affairs of the exporters in my parliamentary constituency, Tirupur, in Tamil Nadu. In order to improve India's exports, and to render assistance to the exporters, banks have been extending loans and monitoring Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

In 2007, when there was steep appreciation of Indian rupee against US dollar, the exporters from Tirupur as well as other parts of the country incur red heavy losses. This was because many banks entered into Forex Derivative contract with SMEs by cajoling them. It resulted in exporters of Tirupur and other parts of the country losing thousands of crores of rupees. In Tirupur alone, exporters have lost a sum of Rs.300 crore. In many other states, exporters have lost to the tune of approximately Rs.8,000 crore. SBI and other banks have flouted the instructions and guidelines of both the RBI and FEMA rules and converted these loss account as long term loan, which has undeniably added to their burden.

These exporters approached the Standing Committee on Finance and RBI and ventilated their genuine grievances. RBI, issued instructions to keep the profit and loss account of these exporters separately to protect them. Except the SBI, all other banks have accepted and implemented the instructions of RBI.

When the Bankers going to court against the exporters the issue was taken to Orissa High Court. It ordered CBI to carry out a thorough investigation into this sordid aspect after registering a case in which it was found out by CBI that the banks flouted the RBI guidelines. But to the utter dismay of affected exporters, Association of Bankers have obtained interim stay from the Supreme Court against the CBI enquiry ordered by the Orissa High Court.

Under these circumstances, I strongly urge upon UPA Government to order CBI enquiry on a war-footing and to protect the exporters of Tirupur and others from the clutches of Forex Derivatives contract which the banks have entered into with these exporters by flouting the RBI guidelines.

SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ (Garhwal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this August House to the news articles published in daily newspapers regarding Kaiga nuclear plant in which security lapses have been reported.

A senior officer has told that tritium was stolen from operational area and an unknown person mixed the tritium into drinking water in a water cooler. As per investigation reports, 55 employees were found having radioactive elements more than normal in their body.

One mega tonne thermo nuclear warhead is manufactured with one-gram tritium. It is used in biological and environmental studies and luminous paint. The value of one kilogram tritium is 72 crore rupees in international market.

The functioning of nuclear plants is a very complicated and technical matter and involves secrecy.

The cases of negligence in several nuclear plants have come to light in the world. But we had to be very careful after this security lapse in Kaiga nuclear power plant so as to avoid any kind of accidental loss in the nuclear power plants. A high level meeting of officers of all the security agencies like IB, Raw and NTRO may be convened to ensure the security of all the nuclear power plants. It should be ensured that tritium does not go into the hand of the terrorists. A quarterly meeting should be called to review the security system.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow, the 5th March, 2010 at 11 a.m.

20.24 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, March 5, 2010/Phalguna 14, 1931 (Saka)*

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