

**COMMITTEE  
ON  
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES  
(1975-1976)**

**(FIFTH LOK SABHA)**

**THIRTEENTH REPORT**



सत्यमेव जयते

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

3720 November, 1975/Kartika, 1897 (Saka)

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LOK SABHA

Corrigenda  
to

The Thirteenth Report of the Committee on Government Assurances (Fifth Lok Sabha).

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Page No.	Correction
3	Line 8 from bottom: <u>for</u> 'fo' <u>read</u> 'of'
5	Line 4: (i) <u>for</u> 'Question No.9722' <u>read</u> 'Question No.4006' (ii) <u>for</u> '9th May' <u>read</u> '21st March' (iii) <u>for</u> 'Primary' <u>read</u> 'manu-'
13	Line 10 from bottom: <u>for</u> 'on' <u>read</u> 'or'
14	Line 2 from bottom: <u>for</u> 'June, 1974' <u>read</u> 'June, 1975'
16	Line 11: <u>for</u> 'with' <u>read</u> 'within'
16	Line 24: <u>after</u> 'to' <u>insert</u> 'a'
17	Line 5: <u>for</u> 'preiod' <u>read</u> 'period'
17	Line 13 from bottom: <u>for</u> 'house' <u>read</u> 'houses'
17	Line 7 from bottom: <u>for</u> 'ond' <u>read</u> 'and'
18	Line 22: <u>for</u> 'Banckward' <u>read</u> 'Backward'
35	Item No.8, Col.5, line 5: <u>for</u> '31-6-75' <u>read</u> '30-6-75'
35	Item No.9, Col.5, line 1: (1) <u>for</u> 'Request' <u>read</u> 'Requests' (ii) Last line from bottom: <u>for</u> 'Anomalie' <u>read</u> 'Anomalies'
41	Item No.25, Col.5, line 4: <u>after</u> 'Sabha' <u>insert</u> 'on'
76	Col.2, in the heading: <u>for</u> 'called' <u>read</u> 'culled'

New Delhi;

December 22, 1975

Pausa 1, 1897 (Saka).

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**PERSONNEL OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT  
ASSURANCES (1975-76)**

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3. **Shri Jagadish Bhattacharyya**
4. **Shri Narendra Singh Bisht**
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15. **Shri K. Subravelu**

**SECRETARIAT**

**Shri P. K. Patnaik—Additional Secretary.**

**Shri K. D. Chatterjee—Chief Examiner of Questions.**

**Shri S. N. Khanna—Senior Examiner of Questions.**

## REPORT

### I. Introduction

1. The Chairman of the Committee on Government Assurances, having been authorized by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this Thirteenth Report of the Committee.

2. The Committee was constituted on the 1st June, 1975.

### II. Sitzings of the Committee

3. The Committee held three sittings on the 3rd and 4th October and 12th November, 1975. At the sitting held on the 3rd October, 1975, the Committee considered the following items:

- (i) Requests from the Department of Parliamentary Affairs for dropping of two assurances;
- (ii) Review of pending assurances pertaining to Eleventh Session of Fifth Lok Sabha; and
- (iii) Requests from the Department of Parliamentary Affairs seeking extension of time for the implementation of certain assurances.

4. At their sitting held on the 4th October, 1975, the Committee took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning and Ministry of Home Affairs in regard to the delay in the implementation of four assurances.

5. At their sitting held on the 12th November, 1975, the Committee considered and adopted their Thirteenth Report.

6. The conclusions arrived at by the Committee on the above matters are set forth in the Minutes of the aforesaid sittings of the Committee which are appended and form part of this Report.

Cases where the Committee found it necessary to make certain observations or recommendations are as under:

### III. Requests from the Department of Parliamentary Affairs for dropping of two assurances

7. The Committee have considered the requests made by the Government for dropping of the following two assurances:—

- (1) Assurance given by the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals during the statement made by him in Lok Sabha on

the 3rd December, 1974 regarding ONGC's Off-shore Drilling Platform, Sagar Samrat.

- (2) Assurance arising out of the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3232 on the 13th March, 1975 regarding Central directives to the Delhi State Administration about the displaced persons evicted by Estate Office.

8. The Committee have perused the reasons advanced by the Government for dropping of the assurance at Serial No. (1) above. It had been represented by the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals that the question of re-structuring of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission which was under consideration involved matters of high policy requiring a decision, after careful consideration, at the highest level in the Government. Accordingly, it was difficult to visualize precisely when a decision in the matter would materialise. As such, it was not possible to fulfil the assurance within any specific period. The Ministry had, therefore, requested that the assurance be dropped as it could not be implemented within the foreseeable future. However, the Ministry undertook to lay on the Table of the House salient features of re-structuring of ONGC as and when Government took a decision in the matter.

9. The Committee agree to drop the assurance on the undertaking given by the Government that salient features of any re-structuring or strengthening of ONGC would be laid on the Table of the House as soon as a decision was taken.

10. The Committee have perused the reasons advanced by the Government for the dropping of the assurance at Serial No. (2) above. The Ministry of Supply and Rehabilitation had stated that all efforts to trace the original records pertaining to directives issued by the Government of India to the Delhi Administration about the displaced persons evicted by Estate Office had been unsuccessful and it appeared that those records had been weeded out in the normal course. It was, therefore, not feasible to furnish the required information.

11. The Committee feel that information required in part (c) of the question as to whether the persons were still complaining about the directives issued by the Department of Rehabilitation and references having not been redeemed would definitely be available in the Ministry of Supply and Rehabilitation and accordingly at least part (c) of the question could have been replied by the Government. The Committee also regret that it has not been categorically stated by the Government that the records have actually been weeded out.

It is also likely that copies of the documents may be available with the Delhi Administration. It appears that earnest efforts to furnish the desired information have not been made by the Government. The Committee are surprised to note that no request was made by the Government either for extension of time for the implementation of the assurance or for dropping of the assurance within the stipulated period of three months of giving of the assurance.

12. The Committee do not agree to drop the assurance and desire that it should be implemented expeditiously.

#### IV. Review of pending assurances pertaining to Eleventh Session of Fifth Lok Sabha

13. In pursuance of the decision of the Committee as contained in para 6 of their Seventh Report, Fourth Lok Sabha (presented on the 13th December, 1969), Government are required to implement the assurances within a period of three months from the date an assurance is given by the Minister concerned on the floor of Lok Sabha. If Government foresee any genuine difficulties in implementing any assurance within the stipulated period of three months, they have to approach the Committee for extension of time-limit.

14. A large number of assurances pertaining to the Fifth Lok Sabha are still lying pending which have become more than three months old. These pending assurances are being reviewed by the Committee in convenient batches.

15. At their sitting held on the 3rd October, 1975, the Committee reviewed 47 pending assurances pertaining to Eleventh Session of Fifth Lok Sabha (details given in Annexure-I to the Minutes of the sitting held on 3rd October, 1975).

16. During the course of review, the Committee noted that Government have requested for extension of time in 33 cases as indicated in Annexure-I to Minutes of the sitting held on the 3rd October, 1975.

17. The observations or recommendations of the Committee in respect of each case have been indicated in the relevant Minutes. Considering the reasons advanced by the Government, the Committee agree to grant extension of time in cases wherever requested upto the period indicated under the relevant item in those Minutes. The

Committee trust that Ministries concerned will ensure implementation of these assurances by the extended dates approved by the Committee.

18. While reviewing the pending assurances, the Committee have come across several cases (mentioned at Sl. Nos. 16, 18, 20, 24, 35, 40 to 43 and 45 of para 7 of the Minutes of the sitting held on the 3rd October, 1975) where, after the assurance was given, no follow-up action to implement the assurance was taken by the Ministry/Department concerned. In such cases, the Government have neither implemented the assurance nor reported to the Committee about the action taken and progress made in the matter of collection of the required information. Moreover, the Government cared very little to seek extension of time within the prescribed period of three months for implementation of the assurance. The Committee deprecate this tendency on the part of the Government.

They also note that, in some cases, the Government approached the Committee for extension of time for implementation of the assurance a long time after the due date of implementation. The Committee urge that in cases where the Government foresee any difficulty in fulfilling the assurance within the specified period of three months, they should approach the Committee well before the due date.

#### V. Requests from the Department of Parliamentary Affairs seeking extension of time for the implementation of certain assurances

19. The Committee have considered requests from the Department of Parliamentary Affairs for the extension of time-limit for the implementation of certain assurances. After examining the reasons advanced by the Ministries concerned, the Committee agree to grant extension of time upto the period shown against each case in Annexure-II to Minutes of the sitting held on the 3rd October, 1975. Observations of the Committee in certain cases are shown in column 4 of that Annexure. The Committee desire that the Ministries concerned should ensure implementation of these assurances by the extended date.

#### VI. Examination of representatives of the Ministries of Health and Family Planning and Home Affairs

20. The Committee examined representatives of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning and Ministry of Home Affairs in



regard to delay in implementation of the following four assurances which had been pending for considerable periods of time:

- (i) Assurance arising out of the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 9722 on the 9th May, 1974 regarding Primary facturing of adulterated and sub-standard drugs;
  - (ii) Assurance arising out of the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 9722 on the 9th May, 1974 regarding Primary Health Centres;
  - (iii) Assurance arising out of the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 2923 on the 13th March, 1974 regarding Merit Scholarships and Merit Stipend to Adivasi children;
  - (iv) Assurance arising out of the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3823 on the 20th March, 1974 regarding houses for Harijans, Tribal people and Backward Classes in Madhya Pradesh.
- (i) **Delay in implementation of the assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4006 on the 21st March, 1974 regarding manufacturing of adulterated and sub-standard drugs.**

21. In regard to the delay in implementation of the assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4006 on the 21st March, 1974 (Appendix-I) regarding manufacturing of adulterated and sub-standard drugs, the Committee examined representatives of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning.

22. The Committee have been informed that the Ministry of Health and Family Planning requested through the Department of Parliamentary Affairs for the extension of time-limit upto 27-4-75 for implementation of the assurance. The following reasons had been advanced by the Ministry:

"The information to fulfil the assurance is still awaited from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh. They are being reminded at Deputy Secretary's level to expedite the information."

23. This assurance was reviewed by the Committee along with other pending assurances of Tenth Session of Fifth Lok Sabha at their sitting held on 23rd August, 1975. The Committee had observed vide their Twelfth Report as under:

"An extension of time upto 27-4-75 had been requested. No further extension had been asked for nor any explanations given for non-implementation of the assurance. As the

period of extension was already over, the Committee decided to hear the representatives of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning in regard to the delay in the implementation of the assurance."

24. When asked whether there were other points to be clarified in addition to the factual note submitted to the Committee regarding reasons for delay in implementation of the assurance, the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Planning stated:

"I have again looked into the file myself very carefully and I must admit that there was a little avoidable delay in the Ministry. Of course, we have been sending reminders to the States. All this information is to be collected from the States. They take a long time. When this information is received in the Ministry, we collate and scrutinise it and then, after obtaining the approval of the Deputy Minister, we try to fulfil the Assurances. There have been some delays in the Hindi Section and in the Issue Section. I am sorry for the delay. We have now taken adequate steps to plug the loopholes. We have taken 2 or 3 steps to see that the delay in those Sections is minimised. Another thing that we have done is that the Joint Secretary, Mr. Shravan Kumar is holding monthly meetings now to see that information is collected from the States, compiled, translated and then issued. Previously, as soon as a set of replies was made available to the Issue Section of the Ministry, the Section concerned had thought that enough had been done and that the compliance had been done. Now, in 1 or 2 cases, we found that the Issue Section took an extraordinarily long time. We have now issued instructions that the assurance will not be considered to have been fulfilled unless and until the information has been laid on the Table of the House and the statement to that effect is also made a part of the file. Secondly, the Joint Secretary, Mr. Shravan Kumar has been put in overall charge of fulfilment of Assurances to whatever Section they may relate; and he is calling monthly meetings. As a result of these steps, the number of pending assurances which was 84 on 31st March, 1975 has come down to 36 on the 30th September, 1975. We hope that very soon we will be able to bring it down to a still lower figure. You will appreciate that the information has to be collected from the States; and they sometimes take inordinately long time. We remind

them at all levels. I have been writing d.o. letters to the Chief Secretaries. Even the Minister has been requested to write d.o. letters to his counterparts. Even then, it is very difficult to go on pressing them. Sometimes, they send replies saying that some more time will be needed. In those cases, we will have to sit and wait for getting this information. We have also made efforts to partially fulfil these Assurances, in the sense that when we receive information from more than half the States, we partially communicate to the Department of Parliamentary Affairs and go on reminding the States till the Assurances are fulfilled completely and fully."

25. The Committee regret to note that the period of extension of time upto the 27th April, 1975 granted earlier had already expired and the Government had neither implemented the assurance nor asked for further extension.

26. While expressing his regret, the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Planning explained the position thus:

"They should have asked for extension before the expiry of the last date. I have already expressed my regret. We have now attempted to streamline the whole system. Actually, they should have asked for extension well before the 27th April. I am not making any excuse. What I am asking for is your indulgence on the assurance that henceforth perhaps this hon. Committee will have no opportunity for such complaints."

27. The Committee have now been informed that the required information had since been sent to the Department of Parliamentary Affairs on the 27th September, 1975 for being laid on the Table of the House in the next session.

28. When the Committee suggested that, if necessary, the special cell in the Ministry, if any, looking after the assurances may be strengthened or re-structured to get over the present difficulties, the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Planning informed the Committee as under:

"We will examine it and, if possible, we will create a special cell. We have now entrusted this job to our Joint Secretary, Shri Shravan Kumar, who holds fortnightly and monthly meetings. I also hold special meetings under instructions from the Prime Minister and we review the

implementation of these assurances. Sometimes we even send for the files and, if there is delay, we pull up the officers and take their explanations. As a result of this special drive that we have already launched, the number of pending assurances has come down considerably. It is less than half of what it was at the end of December, 1974."

29. With regard to the suggestion of the Committee that, in certain cases, assurances can be implemented in part, the Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning stated:

"But my difficulty is that when we sometimes make an effort to fulfil the assurance in part, the Department of Parliamentary Affairs comes in the way and says that it is not prepared to accept this. I could crave your indulgence in issuing instructions to it that it should accept assurances in part. We will keep this in mind. In the past there have been one or two cases where the Department did not accept assurances in part."

30. About part-implementation of assurances, the Committee reiterate their earlier observations contained in para 14 of the First Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) and repeated vide para 8 of their Ninth Report which is as follows:

"In all such cases where the collection of the information is likely to take a long time, instead of waiting for the collection of the entire information, whatever information is readily available should be laid on the Table of the House at the earliest possible opportunity. The rest of the information as and when available should be laid on the Table of the House periodically in piece-meal, say, quarterly, half-yearly and so on."

The Committee would like all the Ministries to take careful note of such observations/recommendations repeatedly made by them in their Reports.

31. The Committee would also like to point out that a Member asked a question not only for eliciting information but sometimes also for confirmation of the information he has with him and for correcting the situation. **Adulteration being a health hazard, the Ministry of Health should have moved at a very quick speed in the matter. The Committee feel that such questions should not be dealt with in the normal way but immediate preventive action should be taken.**

32. In this connection, the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Planning stated:

"We are governed by a federal constitution where some subjects are under State or Concurrent List. Drug Control is implemented by the States. The enforcement machinery is also in the States. So, while every effort is being made to see that drugs are of absolute purity and that the firms or the manufacturers are not able to play with the lives of the people in the sense they sometimes manufacture sub-standard or adulterated or spurious drugs, the fact of the matter is that in spite of our best efforts, in spite of our holding conferences every now and then, and asking for explanation so to say from the States and emphasising the need for stricter drug control and food administration by the States, there are lacunae and loopholes and also lethargy. In some of the States they do not even have a whole-time Drug Controller, and in most of the States, the Director of Health Services is also functioning, in addition to his own duties, as the Drug Controller. It is not that we have not brought this to the notice of the States. We have done so very often and almost every year this question is taken up in the Conference of Ministers and we impress this on the States, but then they say they are short of funds. We have also taken up with the States the question of strengthening their laboratories, and again they say they are short of funds. So, we pleaded with the Planning Commission that after all, the strengthening of laboratories is a matter of All-India importance, and with great difficulty they have now agreed to sanction a scheme under which we propose to strengthen some of the food and drug laboratories in the States. About the other point raised by the hon. Member, you will agree that when an assurance is to be given, it has to be as asked for in the question. If the intention of the hon. Member was to discuss measures that were being taken by the Government of India to enforce stricter drug control, then perhaps the language of the question had to be somewhat different. But now the language being what it was, he wanted certain data and obviously we are bound to collect and present that data before Parliament in the form required. There are various steps that we have already taken. We are contemplating to provide stricter penalties in the Drug and Cosmetics Act, in the sense that anybody who sells a spurious drug will be given life imprisonment. We

have consulted various Ministries and we have drafted a note which we are taking shortly to the Cabinet. But because this is in the Concurrent List, the States will be largely involved in its implementation. Whatever we do, ultimately we have to depend upon them. We are trying our best to tighten the entire machinery of drug control and I hope that some tangible results would be achieved. It is much better now than what it was five or ten years ago.

Scarcity, the price level etc., have also encouraged food and drug adulteration because people want to make quick money, but because of the emergency people are slightly more cooperative and more obedient. I do not say that we will be able to completely solve the problem, but I hope we will be able to make a sizable dent into the problem of drug adulteration."

33. The Committee have been informed by the Ministry in their note that information had been received from 14 States. When asked as to what reasons were given by the other States for not sending the information, the Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning stated:

"We do not ask them for any explanation because it involves the question of Centre-State relationship. If it is their subject, it is their subject. We only emphasise the urgency of a particular type of action, but when we go to the States we pull them up, but we do not put it in writing. So, it is a delicate matter, but at the meetings of the Secretaries, Director of Health Services etc., we take up this matter. The usual explanation is that there has been delay in collecting the information from the Districts, that the information is not readily available etc. The emergency is one of the reasons why it has been possible to bring down the number of assurances."

34. The Committee pointed out to the representatives of the Ministry that the Centre could not wash-off their hands saying that prevention of adulteration was a State-subject, as a number of arrests had been made in the States for this offence and thereafter persons had been released. If information was not forthcoming at the Departmental level, the matter should have been taken up at Ministry's

level. To this, the Secretary of Ministry of Health and Family Planning replied as under:

"We do it time and again. We do it at least twice a year. We are having discussions about this matter in the Secretaries' Committee, the Director of Health Services' Committee and also in the Minister's Committee. Over and above that, in the zonal committee, we have also discussed this matter. In fact, this is one of the items for discussion every time in the zonal committees. Even today, a meeting is going on in Goa, and this is one of the subjects for discussion. As far as implementation part is concerned, that rests with them."

35. On an enquiry by the Committee whether, apart from State Government's Drug Controllers and their intelligence departments, the Ministry had their own intelligence departments, the Drug Controller (India), DGHS stated:

"We do not have any intelligence organisation as such. We have a central drug controller organisation which acts as a liaison organisation with the States regarding the uniform administration of the Act. But we have a very small organisation. So far as collection of information is concerned, we do collect individually information from the States relating to all aspects like the number of prosecutions launched, etc. But here again, we have a problem. We do not get that information from all the States. But we keep on writing to them about this matter. There are States like Maharashtra, Gujarat and others from where we get information very quickly. Then there are certain States which are not so well organised and are not in a position to supply this information expeditiously."

36. With regard to regular checks and periodical checks about the quality of drugs manufactured by the various firms, the Drug Controller (India), informed the Committee as under:

"So far as we are concerned, we always draw samples. As far as our inspectorate is concerned, it is very small body. But we draw samples independently of the States. Then we get them tested. If we find that a particular drug is declared to be sub-standard, we do take up the matter with the Drug Controller of the particular State where the manufacturer is located. We do carry out inspections of the premises of the firms to find out about the drug which has

been declared to be sub-standard. But it is the State Drug Controller who is the licensing authority and the cancellation of a licence is done by him. We do not have any such power."

37. Further elucidating the point, the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Planning stated:

"There are two aspects of this issue. One is the location of a factory. Dr. Gothoskar has rightly pointed out that it is in the hands of the State Drug Controllers to issue a licence for the manufacture of a drug or deny it. Sometimes, it so happens that a particular drug which is manufactured in Delhi will be sold in Madhya Pradesh. Under such circumstances, State Government concerned with issue of a licence cannot take action against the factory in Delhi. These are some of the inter-State problems. We have got a small nucleus in the Ministry. We have got a few inspectors who also go around and collect some samples. If there is any particular defect in a particular sample, then that particular person is brought to book. But we do not have adequate staff for this type of work."

38. Clarifying the position whether periodical checks are conducted at the place of manufacture of a particular drug and whether reports are submitted from time to time, the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Planning stated:—

"Under the pharmaceutical rules, checks are conducted at the premises of the manufacturers and the licence is given by the States. They conduct periodical checks to see whether the manufacturers' premises are all right whether the dealers' premises are all right, and they do not submit periodical reports to us"

39. Further clarifying this point, the Drug Controller (India) informed the Committee as follows:—

"The periodical reports are not submitted to the Central Government. The Inspectors submit their reports to the Drug Controllers in their States and they take action on the basis of those reports."

40. Looking to the text of the question, it appears to the Committee that collection of data for fulfilling this assurance required no field work and the information was only to be tabulated from



the records. Moreover, the statistics required to be compiled are not so large as to require three to four months.

41. It has been stated in the note furnished to the Committee by the Ministry that the full information was available only on the 26th May, 1975 and final reply after tabulation and translation into Hindi was sent to the Department of Parliamentary Affairs on the 2nd September, 1975. The Committee are surprised to note that it has taken more than 3 months for the Ministry to tabulate and translate the information into Hindi and they deprecate the delay on the part of the Ministry on this account.

42. The Committee also desire that the Ministry of Health and Family Planning should draft replies to questions more carefully and whatever information is readily available should be supplied at the time of answering the question. Rest of the information should be collected as soon as possible thereafter and laid on the Table of the House at the earliest opportunity.

(ii) Delay in implementation of the assurance given in reply to USQ. No. 9722 on the 9th May, 1974 regarding Primary Health Centres.

43. In regard to the delay in implementation of the assurance given in reply to USQ. No. 9722 on the 9th May, 1974 (Appendix-II) regarding Primary Health Centres, the Committee have been informed by the Ministry in their note that statement in fulfilment of the assurance sent to the Department of Parliamentary Affairs earlier had not been received by that Department with the result that another set of 12 copies of the statement had to be sent to the Department on 12th September, 1975. In this connection, the Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning informed the Committee as under:—

“We have made a slight change in the procedure now; that is, we have made it the responsibility of the section to see that it is laid on the Table of the House of either the Lok Sabha or the Rajya Sabha and a copy of that must be put in the file, or otherwise, it would not be deemed to have been fulfilled.”

44. It appears to the Committee that there are loopholes in the procedure adopted by the Ministry for sending information to the Department of Parliamentary Affairs regarding important matters which need to be rectified at the earliest. The Committee desire that the Ministry should devise fool-proof arrangements for transmission of important Parliamentary papers to various authorities.

45. The Committee drew attention of the representatives of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning to Unstarred Question No. 1281, dated the 1st August, 1974 wherein information regarding number of deaths due to use of spurious drugs was asked for.

The Committee feel that the Ministry of Health and Family Planning should reorganise their machinery and they should be more vigilant so that there was no delay in collection of the information atleast insofar as spurious drugs were concerned. They urge that the information required in these questions should be expeditiously collected and laid on the Table of the House as it concerns the life of the nation.

46. The Committee are of the view that either the Drug Controller or the Ministry of Health and Family Planning should keep in touch with all the State Governments or some sort of machinery should be devised so that the Central Government is kept posted concurrently about information relating to cases of adulteration of drugs or of cases of death on account of spurious drugs to enable the Central Government to take steps to fight this menace to public health and well-being of the people of the country.

(iii) Delay in implementation of an assurance given in reply to USQ No. 2923 on the 13th March, 1974 regarding merit scholarships and merit stipend to Adivasi children.

47. The Committee examined the representatives of the Ministry of Home Affairs in regard to the delay in implementation of an assurance given in reply to USQ. No. 2923 on the 13th March, 1974 (Appendix-III) regarding merit scholarships and merit stipend to Adivasi children.

48. On the 22nd July, 1974, the Ministry of Home Affairs requested through the Department of Parliamentary Affairs for the extension of time-limit for implementation of this assurance upto 18th October, 1974. Again, on the 10th September, 1975, the Ministry have requested for further extension of time-limit upto 7th November, 1975. The following reasons have been advanced by the Ministry:

“The requisite information for the fulfilment of the assurance is being collected from the State Governments.”

49. The Ministry of Home Affairs had stated in the factual note submitted to the Committee as follows:—

“Special efforts have been made for the fulfilment of this assurance since June, 1974. This was examined at Joint Secretary's level who had suggested recasting of the re-

plies furnished by the State Governments and further clarification should be sought from the State Governments. Accordingly, further clarifications have been sought for from the States of Manipur, Gujarat, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Bihar."

50. Supplementing the information given in the note furnished to the Committee, the representative of the Ministry of Home Affairs stated:

"We have sent a statement in part fulfilment of the assurance. Still we have to get replies from three States and one Union Territory, i.e. from Bihar, Gujarat, Manipur and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. I am sorry this question took quite some time in getting finalised for the simple reason that at the other end there was some misconception about the nature of information required; so, when the replies came, we could not finalise and had to write back saying what was actually required; the replies are awaited. We hope to give this information also in the next few days, by the time the extension agreed to by the Committee expires."

51. Explaining the position with regard to various schemes of scholarships available for Adivasis, Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes etc., the representative of the Ministry of Home Affairs stated:

"I would submit that these are operated by the State Governments. Each State Government evolves its own scheme of scholarships. Therefore, unless the information is given to us by the States, we will not be in a position to furnish that."

52. The Committee are of the view that there is a constitutional obligation cast upon the Ministry of Home Affairs to look to the welfare and well-being of the Adivasis, Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and other Backward classes. Accordingly, it is expected that the Union Home Ministry would always be armed with ready information regarding their welfare. The Committee feel that information required in part (a) of the question should have been within the knowledge of the Ministry.

53. When the Committee enquired whether their schemes are being operated independently by the State Governments and grants are given by the Centre, the representative of the Ministry stated:

"Within the sphere allotted to them, they do operate their schemes and they are given bulk grants for a particular

sector. Within that, what schemes they draw and what is the amount of scholarship, etc., are left with the State Governments."

54. The Committee further enquired whether there was any direction given by the Ministry of Home Affairs that the State Governments should offer merit scholarships and merit stipends to the Adivasi children apart from general scholarships and other concessions and whether there was any Central allocation to the State Governments on that particular account and remarked that if replies to these questions were in the affirmative, then it must have been with the knowledge of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Thereupon, the representative of the Ministry stated as follows:

"I would submit that there are two kinds of assistance; one is within the State sector; and the other is Centrally sponsored where the Ministry makes grants for specific purposes. About the latter, we get the feed-back. Where it is left to the State sector, we have to ask them as to what is happening."

55. The Committee are of the opinion that the information required in the question could perhaps have been gathered from the budget papers. Budget papers for the last three years should have been looked up and reply to the question given as to whether there was any provision for such scheme or not.

56. In reply to query, the representative of the Ministry stated that they did not have any separate scheme for the merit scholarships for the Scheduled Tribes as such and States have their normal schemes of scholarships. The Centre did not make allocation for schemes below the level of matriculation.

57. With regard to the policy laid down by the Central Government regarding merit scholarships, the representative of the Ministry stated:

"There is no special policy of merit scholarships as such. There is a policy of scholarship and for that we know how many people have got that scholarship. With regard to the merit scholarship as such, we do not have the information. I concede that it is the part of the Home Ministry functioning that they should know everything about the scheduled tribes. This is probably a failure on our part that we do not have this information; so we have to collect it."

58. The Committee feel that the question relates to a very sensitive subject. The Committee fail to understand what action had been taken by the Ministry before the special drive was launched to collect the information in the month of June, 1975, i.e. during the period from October, 1974 to June, 1975. The Committee again emphasise their observations made in para 50 of their Eleventh Report (Fifth Lok Sabha), wherein it was recommended that each Ministry/Department should set up a cell under the charge of a responsible officer to co-ordinate the work relating to assurances and ensure their implementation in time. These special cells should study the assurances carefully and whenever necessary, seek information from the authorities concerned in specific terms or forms so that there was no delay in collecting the information and avoiding the need for further clarification.

It appears to the Committee that the concerned Department of the Ministry did not note the aforesaid observations of the Committee. The Committee are of the firm opinion that responsible persons should be placed as head of those Departments which are dealing with problems of Adivasis so that they might understand their problems in depth, scrutinise all those things and ask for clear cut information which may be required to be collected from the State Governments. The officials and their assistants who work in those Departments should be given a special training to study and properly understand the problems and acquire specialised knowledge to deal with the matter adequately. Frequent transfers of such persons in these Departments would also not be in public interest.

- (iv) Delay in implementation of an assurance given in reply to USQ. No. 3823 on the 20th March, 1974 regarding residential house for Harijans, Tribal people and Backward Classes in Madhya Pradesh.

59. The Committee also examined the representative of the Ministry of Home Affairs in regard to delay in implementation of an assurance given in reply to USQ. No. 3823 on the 20th March, 1974 (Appendix-IV) regarding residential houses for Harijans, Tribal people and Backward Classes in Madhya Pradesh.

60. The above assurance was reviewed by the Committee along with other pending assurances of Tenth Session of Fifth Lok Sabha at their sitting held on the 23rd August, 1975. The Committee vide their Twelfth Report, Fifth Lok Sabha agreed to grant the extension of time upto the 31st October, 1975 for fulfilment of the assurance.

61. When the Committee pointed out that there was a special provision in the Constitution that in some States, e.g. Bihar, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh and also in the tribal areas of Assam, there would be a Minister in charge for the welfare of Harijans, Tribal people and Backward Classes and the Ministry of Home Affairs should have collected the information required in the question from the Ministers concerned in the States directly, the representative of the Ministry clarified the position as under:—

“We often address it to the Chief Secretary, who sends it to the concerned person. In this particular case, the State Government did not understand the question. We asked them about the number of houses to be built, they replied in terms of money.”

62. The Committee feel that in such cases where it was not clear as to which department of the State Ministry was concerned and in order to expedite collection of information, the Minister of Home Affairs could have a dialogue with the State Minister concerned with Adivasis/Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and come to a final conclusion.

63. The Committee are of the opinion that most of the information required in questions relating to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes could be collected through the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, or the Regional Directors. The Committee are sorry to note that no efforts are made by the Ministry to keep readily available general information regarding the conditions and other aspects of the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes in the form of booklet or statistical data or in some other form so that whatever information is readily available may be supplied at the time of answering the question.

64. The Committee trust that persons entrusted with the welfare and well-being of the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Harijans etc. in the Ministry would pursue more vigorously the programmes meant for their welfare.

#### VII. Position of pending assurances pertaining to Fourth and Fifth Lok Sabha.

65. A statement showing the position of assurances pertaining to Fourth and Fifth Lok Sabha pending implementation by Government as on 12th November, 1975 is given at Appendix V, Part (i) and part (ii) respectively. The position indicated in the statement

is the same as shown in the statement appended to the Twelfth Report, as no statements in fulfilment of assurances have been laid on the Table of Lok Sabha nor further assurances given thereafter.

**The Committee once again urge upon the Ministries concerned to make earnest and vigorous efforts to implement the pending assurances at the earliest.**

NEW DELHI;

12th November, 1975

Kartika 21, 1897 (Saka)

B. K. DASCHOWDHURY,

*Chairman,*

*Committee on Government Assurances.*

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**MINUTES**

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MINUTES

THIRD SITTING

*The Committee sat on Friday, the 3rd October, 1975 from 11.00 hours to 13.20 hours*

PRESENT

Shri B. K. Daschowdhury—*Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Syed Ahmed Aga
3. Shri Jagadish Bhattacharyya
4. Shri Narendra Singh Bisht
5. Shri B. R. Kavade
6. Shri Kinder Lal
7. Shrimati T. Lakshmikanthamma
8. Shri Mulki Raj Saini
9. Shri Ramshekhar Prasad Singh
10. Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha

SECRETARIAT

Shri K. D. Chatterjee—*Chief Examiner of Questions.*

Shri S. N. Khanna—*Senior Examiner of Questions.*

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*Request from the Department of Parliamentary Affairs for dropping of an assurance given during the statement made by the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals in Lok Sabha on the 3rd December, 1974 regarding ONGC's Off-shore Drilling Platform, Sagar Samrat.*

MEMORANDUM NO. 102

5. The Committee took up for consideration Memorandum No. 102.

The Committee perused the reasons advanced by the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals through the Department of Parliamen-

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\*Paras 2—4 relate to other matters and have accordingly been omitted.

tary Affairs for dropping of the assurance. The Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals had stated that the question of re-structuring of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission was under consideration. It involved matters of high policy requiring a decision, after careful consideration, at the highest level in the Government. Accordingly, it was difficult to visualise precisely when a decision in the matter would materialise. As such it was not possible to fulfil the assurance within any specific period. As and when Government decision on the question of restructuring of ONGC was taken, salient features thereof would be placed on the Table of Lok Sabha. The Ministry had represented that the assurance be dropped as it could not be implemented in a foreseeable future.

The Committee agreed to drop the assurance on the undertaking given by the Government that salient features of any re-structuring or strengthening of ONGC would be laid on the Table of the House, as soon as a decision in the matter was taken.

*Request from the Department of Parliamentary Affairs for dropping of an assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3232 on the 13th March, 1975 regarding Central directives to Delhi State Administration about displaced persons evicted by Estate Office.*

#### MEMORANDUM NO. 103

6. The Committee took up for consideration Memorandum No. 103.

The Ministry of Supply and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) had stated in a note through the Department of Parliamentary Affairs that efforts to trace the original records pertaining to directives issued by Government of India to Delhi Administration about the displaced persons evicted by Estate Office had been unsuccessful and it appeared that those records had been weeded out in the normal course. It was, therefore, not feasible to furnish the required information. The Ministry had accordingly suggested that the assurance might be dropped.

The Committee felt that information required in part (c) of the question as to whether the persons were still complaining about the directives issued by the Department of Rehabilitation and references having not been redeemed would definitely be available in the Ministry of supply and Rehabilitation and, accordingly, at least part (c) of the question could have been replied by the Government. The Committee also regretted that it had not been categorically stated by the Government that the records had been weeded out. It appeared that earnest efforts to furnish the desired information had not been

made by the Government. The Committee were surprised that no request had been made by the Government for extension of time for implementation of the assurance on the expiry of three months after the assurance was given.

The Committee did not agree to drop the assurance and desired that it should be implemented expeditiously.

*Review of pending assurances pertaining to Eleventh Session, Fifth Lok Sabha.*

#### MEMORANDUM NO. 104

7. The Committee took up for consideration Memorandum No. 104 (Items Nos. 1—47) for the purpose of reviewing certain assurances pertaining to Eleventh Session of Fifth Lok Sabha (details given in Annexure-I).

The observations or recommendations made by the Committee seriatim on the 47 pending assurances are as under:—

- Sl. No. 1.—The Committee noted that extension of time upto 30-9-75 for implementation of the assurance had been asked for. The period of extension asked for was already over. The Committee desired to know the present position and the reasons for delay.
- Sl. No. 2.—The Government had requested for extension of time upto 31-10-75. The Committee agreed to grant the extension and decided to watch the implementation.
- Sl. No. 3.—An extension of time upto 18-9-75 had been requested. The period of extension was already over. The Committee desired that the assurance be implemented without any further delay.
- Sl. No. 4.—The assurance was given on 22-7-74 and was pending implementation for over one year. The Committee were surprised to note that an extension of time upto 30-11-75 had been requested by the Government. As the information was to be collected locally from the Delhi Administration, the Committee desired to know in details the reasons for delay in implementation of the assurance. The Committee, therefore, decided to hear the representatives of the Ministry of Education, Social Welfare and Culture before taking a final decision regarding request for extension of time.

- Sl. No. 5.**—The assurance was given on 12-8-74 and was pending implementation for over one year. The Committee were surprised to note that an extension of time upto 30-11-75 had been requested by the Government. As the information desired was of a simple nature, the Committee desired to know the difficulties faced by the Government in collecting the information. In order to know the reasons in detail for delay in collecting the information, the Committee decided to hear the representatives of the Ministry of Education, Social Welfare and Culture before arriving at a decision in the matter.
- Sl. No. 6.**—A request for extension of time upto 15-8-75 had been received from the Government. Neither the assurance had been implemented nor further extension of time asked for. As the assurance was pending for over one year, the Committee decided to hear the representatives of the Ministry of Education, Social Welfare and Culture.
- Sl. No. 7.**—The Committee noted that the assurance had been partly implemented *vide* statements laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 21-7-75 and 4-8-75. The Committee desired to know the progress made in collecting the rest of the information and reasons for delay.
- Sl. No. 8.**—A request for extension of time upto 30-6-75 had been received. The Committee were surprised to note that they had neither been informed of the progress made in collecting information nor any further extension of time asked for. The Committee took a serious view of the manner in which the Ministry of Energy had treated this assurance. They desired that the assurance be implemented without further delay.
- Sl. No. 9.**—The Committee had considered request of the Government for dropping of the assurance at their sitting held on 22-8-75. They had, *vide* para 20 of their Twelfth Report, accepted the statement furnished by the Government and noted that the assurance had been partly implemented. They expressed the hope that Government will expedite implementation of the recommendations made/ to be made by the Anomalies Committee and lay them on the Table of the House as expeditiously as possible and therefore had agreed to drop the assurance.
- Sl. No. 10.**—The Committee noted that the assurance had been partly implemented *vide* statement laid on the Table of

the House on 10-4-75. The Government had also requested for extension of time upto 31-10-75. The Committee agreed to grant the extension.

- Sl. No. 11.*—The Committee noted that extension of time upto 30-9-75 for implementation of the assurance had been asked for. The period of extension asked for was already over. The Committee desired to know the present position and the reasons for delay.
- Sl. No. 12.*—The Committee noted that an extension of time upto 30-9-75 had been requested by Government for the implementation of this assurance. The Committee recalled their earlier recommendation made *vide* para 24 of the Tenth Report, presented to the House on the 19th December, 1974 in the case of assurance relating to Unstarred Question No. 2834 dated the 10th August, 1973 and again held the view that such information regarding delegations should be readily available with each Ministry as soon as the accounts for a year were closed or even earlier and there was no justification for delay. As the period of extension was already over, they decided to watch implementation of the assurance.
- Sl. No. 13.*—A request for extension of time upto 31-10-75 had been received. The Committee agreed to the extension.
- Sl. No. 14.*—The Government had requested for extension of time upto 10-10-75. The Committee agreed to the extension and decided to watch the implementation.
- Sl. No. 15.*—The Committee noted that the assurance had been partly implemented *vide* statement laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 8-5-75. The Committee regretted that neither the rest of the information had been furnished as yet nor any extension of time asked for. They took serious view of the fact that the Government had neither come forward with any explanation with regard to reasons for delay nor cared to indicate the progress in collecting the information to the Committee. They desired that the assurance should be implemented fully without delay.
- Sl. No. 16.*—No extension had been requested in this case. The Committee regretted that no intimation with regard to the action taken to implement the assurance had been communicated to them nor reasons for delay intimated. As the assurance had been pending for over one year, the

- Committee desired that it should be implemented expeditiously and in the meantime reasons for delay and failure to ask for extension of time explained.
- Sl. No. 17.—The Government had requested for extension of time upto 31-8-75. No further extension had been asked for. The Committee desired to know the progress made in collecting the information and the reasons for delay.
- Sl. No. 18.—The assurance had neither been implemented nor any extension requested by the Government. The Committee had not been informed of the action taken so far to collect the information. They regretted the casual manner in which Government had treated this assurance.
- Sl. No. 19.—The Committee noted that the assurance had been partly implemented *vide* statement laid on the Table of the House on 21-7-75. The Government had also requested for extension of time upto 31-8-75. As the period of extension was already over, the Committee desired to know the progress in the case and the reasons for delay for supplying rest of the information.
- Sl. No. 20.—A request for extension of time upto 28-10-75 had been received in this case. The Committee agreed to the extension.
- Sl. No. 21.—A request for extension of time upto 25-10-75 had been received. The Committee agreed to the extension.
- Sl. No. 22.—A request for extension of time upto 29-10-75 had been received in this case. The Committee agreed to the extension.
- Sl. No. 23.—An extension of time upto 30-9-75 had been requested. As the period of extension was over, the Committee desired that the assurance be implemented expeditiously.
- Sl. No. 24.—A request for extension of time upto 30-10-75 had been received. The Committee agreed to the extension and wanted to know the progress of the case.
- Sl. No. 25.—The assurance had been partly implemented *vide* statement laid on the Table of the House on 21-7-75. An extension of time upto 31-8-75 had also been received. No further extension had been asked for. The Committee desired to know the progress made in collecting rest of the information and its expeditious implementation.

- Sl. No. 26.—An extension of time upto 15-7-75 had been requested. No further extension had been asked for. The Committee felt that the Central Government were also concerned in the matter of atrocities committed on the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and such information should have been readily available at the Centre. The Committee desired that whatever information was available with the Government should be laid on the Table of the House expeditiously and this matter given serious consideration.
- Sl. No. 27.—An extension of time upto 17-11-75 had been requested. The Committee felt that there was some factual basis for which the Member had tabled the question and the very purpose of the question was frustrated by the long delay in collecting the information by the Government. They took serious note of this delay and desired that the Government should take special and effective steps to implement the assurance without further delay.
- Sl. No. 28.—The Government had requested for extension of time upto 24-4-75. The Committee noted with regret that neither the assurance had been implemented nor further extension asked for though the period of extension was over five months ago. They desired to know the progress of the case and the reasons for delay. In order to know the progress and reasons for delay in details, the Committee decided to hear the representatives of the Ministry of Industry and Civil Supplies with regard to this assurance.
- Sl. No. 29.—The assurance had neither been implemented nor any extension requested by the Government. It was stated in the assurance that a statement showing the recommendations made by the Committee on Public Undertakings in their 63rd Report and the nature of final action taken on each of the recommendations was being compiled and would be laid on the Table of the House. The Committee were surprised to note that a statement showing the recommendations contained in the report of the Parliamentary Committee and the nature of action taken on the recommendations which was being compiled in August, 1974 could not be completed during the period of 14 months. The Committee were highly critical of the way in which the Government had treated this assurance. They

desired that the assurance be implemented without further delay.

- Sl. No. 30.—An extension of time upto 31-8-75 had been requested. As the period of extension was over, the Committee desired to know the progress and the reasons for delay.
- Sl. No. 31.—The Committee noted that the assurance had been partly implemented *vide* statement laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 21-7-75. The Committee desired that rest of the information should be laid on the Table of the House expeditiously.
- Sl. No. 32.—A request for extension of time upto 30-11-75 had been received. The Committee agreed to the extension.
- Sl. No. 33.—The Government had requested for extension of time upto 30-9-75. As the period of extension was already over, the Committee desired to know the progress and the reasons for delay.
- Sl. No. 34.—The assurance had neither been implemented nor any extension requested by the Government. The Committee had not been informed of the action taken so far to collect the information. They deprecated the casual manner in which the Government had treated this assurance. The Committee desired to know the reasons for delay.
- Sl. No. 35.—The assurance had neither been implemented nor any extension requested by the Government. The Committee had not been informed of the action taken so far to collect the information. They regretted the casual manner in which the Government had treated this assurance. The Committee desired to know the present position of the case and the reasons for delay in implementation of the assurance.
- Sl. No. 36.—An extension of time upto 31-3-75 had been requested. Neither the assurance had been implemented nor an extension asked for. As the period of extension was already over, the Committee wanted to know the progress and desired that the assurance be implemented without delay.
- Sl. No. 37.—An extension of time upto 15-12-74 had been requested. The Committee were surprised to note that



~~neither the assurance had been implemented nor the progress made in collecting the information intimated to them. As the assurance was pending for a long time, the Committee decided to hear the representatives of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals regarding the reasons in detail for delay in the implementation of the assurance.~~

- Sl. No. 38.*—An extension of time upto 31-10-75 had been requested. The Committee agreed to the extension.
- Sl. No. 39.*—An extension of time upto 30-6-75 had been requested. The assurance had neither been implemented nor any further extension asked for. The Committee wanted to know the reasons for delay and desired that the assurance be implemented without further delay.
- Sl. No. 40.*—The Committee desired to have a factual note from the Government with regard to this assurance.
- Sl. No. 41.*—The assurance had been given on 27-8-74. The Committee noted with regret that neither the assurance had been implemented so far nor any extension of time had been requested. The Committee took a serious view of the manner in which the assurance had been treated by the Government and desired that the assurance be implemented without delay.
- Sl. No. 42.*—No extension of time had been requested in this case nor any progress reported. The Committee desired to know the reasons for delay and wanted the assurance to be implemented expeditiously.
- Sl. No. 43.*—The assurance had been given on 25-7-74 and had been pending for over one year. The assurance had neither been implemented nor any extension of time asked for. The Committee took serious note of the matter and desired to know the reasons why the information had not been collected so far and no intimation sent to the Committee.
- Sl. No. 44.*—An extension of time upto 8-9-75 had been requested. The period of extension asked for was already over. The Committee desired to know the present position and the reasons for delay.
- Sl. No. 45.*—The Committee wanted to know the facts of the case and the progress made so far in the matter. They desired that the assurance be implemented expeditiously.

Sl. No. 46.—The Committee noted that the assurance had been partly implemented *vide* statement laid on the Table of the House on 20-12-74. The Committee wanted to know the reasons for delay in collecting rest of the information and desired that the assurance be implemented in full expeditiously.

Sl. No. 47.—The Government had requested for extension of time upto 1-11-75. The Committee agreed to the extension.

*Requests from the Department of Parliamentary Affairs for extension of time-limit for the implementation of certain assurances given during the various sessions of Fifth Lok Sabha.*

#### MEMORANDUM NO. 105

8. The Committee considered requests from the Department of Parliamentary Affairs for the extension of time-limit for the implementation of 8 assurances given during the various sessions of Fifth Lok Sabha, as shown in Annexure-II.

After examining the reasons advanced by the Ministries concerned, the Committee agreed to the extension of time for the implementation of the assurances upto the period shown against each in the Annexure. Observations made by the Committee in certain cases are shown in column 4 thereof.

The Committee then adjourned to sit again on Saturday, the 4th October, 1975.

**ANNEXURE-I**

*As on 8th August, 1975.*

(Vide para 7 of Minutes of the Third sitting)

Pending assurances pertaining to Eleventh Session,  
1974 of Fifth Lok Sabha

Sl. No.	Date and Reference	Text of the Question/Debate	Assurance given	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
(Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation)				
1.	USQ. No. 15651 dt. 5-8-74 by Shri D. B. Chandra Gowda	The requirements of tractors of each State, horsepower-wise.	On the basis of the demand registered under the Tractor (Distribution and Sale) Control order with the Agro Industries Corporations and dealers of indigenous tractors and after taking into account the demand from the Director - General, Resettlement, for ex-servicemen and Defence Personnel and the estimated requirements for Agro-Service Centres, Multiple Cropping Projects etc.; the demand is estimated to be about 60,000 nos. State-wise and horse power wise particulars of demand are being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.	Request received from DPA on 1-8-75 for extension of time upto 30-9-75. No further extension sought for.
2.	USQ. No. 1602 dt. 5-8-74 by Shri Shiv Kumar Shastri	(a) the total area of cultivable land in the country; (b) the area out of it ploughed by tractor as also by bullocks, separately;  (c) whether the fixation of ceiling on agricultural land has had any impact on the prices of tractors; and	(a) to (d) :—The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.	Request received from DPA on 10-9-75 for extension of time upto 31-10-75.

1                      2                      3                      4                      5

(d) if so, the facts thereof.

3. USQ. No. 2763 dt. 19-8-74 by Shri Ramavartar Shashtri
- (a) the number of sugar mills in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh separately;
- (b) whether surplus lands in the name of Farms are in the possession of these sugar mills;
- (c) if so, the area of lands in possession of each sugar mill; and
- (d) the scheme of the Government for distribution of the lands lying with them, in excess of the ceiling fixed.
- (b), (c) & (d) :—The desired information is being collected from the State Governments of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and will be placed on the table of the Sabha as soon as it becomes available.
- Request received from DPA on 24-7-75 for extension of time upto 18-9-75. No further extension sought for.
- (Ministry of Education, Social Welfare & Culture)
4. USQ. No. 114 dt. 22-7-74 by Maulana Ishaque Sambhali
- (a) the number of teachers who are working on ad hoc basis in Government schools in Delhi;
- (b) the reasons for which they have not been regularized though some of them have completed more than five years of Service; and
- (c) how much time it will take to regularize them.
- (a) to (c) :—The information is being collected from the Delhi Administration.
- Request received from DPA on 12-9-75 for extension of time upto 30-11-75.
5. USQ. No 2280 dt. 12-8-74 by Sh. Hukam Chand Kachwai.
- The names of the educational institutions which award the degree of 'Sashtri.'
- Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.
- Request received from DPA on 5-6-75 for extension of time up to 30-11-75.
6. USQ. No. 2287 dt. 12-8-74 by Sh. M. C. Daga.
- (a) the programmes undertaken in the country under UNI CEF and the amount of expenditure incurred on such programmes state-wise, during
- (a) & (b) :—Necessary information is being collected from the concerned quarters and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.
- Request received from DPA on 5-6-75 for extension of time upto 15-8-75. No further extension sought for.

1    2    3    4    5

1972, 1973 and 1974 respectively; and

(b) whether the Central Social Welfare Department looks after the schemes undertaken under the UNICEF and whether they have achieved their objects as per their estimate.

7. USQ. No. 2760 dt. 19-8-74 by Sh. D. B. Chandra Gowda.

(a) whether there are Universities in India which have introduced religion as an optional subject of study; and  
(b) if so, the names of such Universities.

(a) & (b) :- The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha. The collection of information will however take some time.

Partly implemented *vide* statements laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 21-7-75 and 4-8-75.

(Ministry of Energy)

8. USQ. No. 3261 dt. 23-8-74 by Sh. A.K.M. Ishaque

The quantum of coal transported to Kerala, Punjab and Gujarat and the price at which it is being sold in the respective States.

The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Request received from DPA on 21-4-75 for extension of time upto 31-6-75. No further extension sought for.

(Ministry of Defence)

9. USQ. No. 558 dt. 25-7-74 by Sh. S. M. Banerjee

(a) Whether an anomaly Committee has been formed at the Departmental Council of the J. C. M. to remove the glaring anomalies arising out of the implementation of the Pay Commission's recommendations;

(c) A statement will be laid on the Table of the House in due course, after decisions have been taken by the Government on the recommendations that may be made by the Committee.

Request for dropping of the assurance were considered by the Committee at their sittings held on 27-1-75 and 22-8-75. At their sitting held on 22-8-75 the Committee noted that the assurance has been partly implemented. They expressed the hope that Government would expedite implementation of the recommendations made to be made by the Anomalous

(b) if so, the number of anomalies rectified; and

(c) whether a statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

Committee and lay them on the table of the House expeditiously.

(Ministry of Finance)

10. USQ. No. 792 dt. 26-7-74 by Shri S. R. Damani.
- (a) whether the No. of audit observations has steeply increased since 1970 regarding financial transactions of various Ministries;
- (b) if so, the figures thereof year-wise and Ministry-wise; and
- (c) the reasons for not squaring them up for so many years.
- (a) to (c) :—The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.
- Partly implemented *vide* statement laid in Lok Sabha on 10-4-75. Request received from LPA on 7-8-75 for extension of time up to 31-10-75.
11. USQ. No. 1375 dt. 2-8-74 by Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu.
- (a) how many firms of auditors are getting business from Government, Reserve Bank and different other Government owned organisations like Government companies, autonomous and statutory bodies.
- (b) total amount paid as audit fees during the last three years with amounts annually paid to each such audit firm to be shown against each;
- (c) number of audit firms who are registered in Government panel; and
- (d) how many of them have not been given any business at all and reasons for the same.
- (a) & (b) :—Auditors are appointed different authorities—e. g. the Deptt. of Company Affairs in respect of Government Companies, the Reserve Bank in respect of State Bank, the respective Banks with the Reserve Bank's approval in the case of Nationalised Banks, different Ministries of the Govt. of India in respect of various autonomous bodies and so on. The information has to be collected from these authorities. This is being done and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House when the information becomes available.
- Request received from DPA on 21-5-75 for extension of time upto 30-9-75. No further extension sought for.
- (d) As the appointment is made by different authorities as stated in part (a)

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above, this information has to be collected from them and will be laid on the table of the House when it becomes available.

12. USQ. No. 1389 dt. 2-8-74 by Shri Jagannath Mishra. The No. of delegations including cultural, educational which went abroad since January, 1974 and the countries they visited and the expenditure incurred on each delegation. The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible. Request received from DPA on 7-8-75 for extension of time upto 30-9-75. No further extension sought for.
13. USQ. No. 1411 dt. 2-8-74 by S/Shri Birender Singh Rao and Mukhtiar Singh Malik. (a) whether several international gangs are operating in various parts of the country to drain out silver as this metal fetched a higher price abroad; (b) whether bullion dealers are smuggling silver out of the country and in return are getting gold which bears higher price here; and (c) if so, the particulars of the cases brought to light and the measures proposed to be taken to end this evil. (c) While furnishing particulars of All India seizures of silver and steps taken to end smuggling, it was stated that information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House as early as possible. Request received from DPA on 21-8-75 for extension of time upto 31-10-75;
14. SQ. No. 370 dt. 16-8-74 by Shri Indrajit Gupta. (a) how many doctors, advocates and contractors pay Income-tax in each state; (a) In the statement laid on the table of the House it was *Inter alia* stated that : Request received from DPA on 28-7-75 for extension of time upto 10-10-75. (i) with regard to advocates information regarding the No. of Advocates in the C. I. T. charge of West Bengal, (other than Calcutta City) is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. (b) the amount of Income-tax collected from these categories in 1971-72, 1972-73, 1973-74;

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- (ii) Regarding doctors it was stated that the figures in respect of commissioners' charges at Lucknow, Andhra Pradesh, Kanpur, Rajasthan, Assam, Nagpur, Orissa, Patiala, Amritsar, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh are awaited and will be laid on the table of the House as soon as possible.
- (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.
15. USQ. No. 2546 dt. 16-8-74 by Shri Sukhdeo Prasad Verma. (a) whether expenditure on telephone calls in respect of Government of India offices have considerably increased in the first six months of the year 1974 as compared to the corresponding period of the year 1973; and (a) & (b) :- The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. Partly implemented *vide* statement laid in Lok Sabha on 8-5-75.
- (b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to check this.
16. USQ. No. 2550 dt. 16-8-74 by Shri Bhogendra Jha. (a) the no. of occasions and the No. of cases when Birla Group of Industries have been found evading Income Tax, customs and excise duties since 1971; (a) (b) — It was inter-alia stated that information regarding evasion of customs and central excise duties by the Birla Group of Industries was being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.
- (b) what action Government have taken against them.
17. USQ. No. 2584 dt. 16-8-74 by Shri Madhu Limaye. Referring to the reply to Lok Sabha USQ. No. 9885 dt. 10-5-74 and asking the No. of companies whose exports are below 30 per cent of their production. The information is not readily available and the same will be laid on the table of the House as soon as ready. Request received from DPA on 7-6-75 for extension of time upto 31-8-75. No. further extension sought for.



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18. USQ. No. 4124 dt. 30-8-74 by Shri Arvind M. Patel. (a) the No. of cases of infringement of various Customs Regulations detected during the year 1973-74 and from April to June, this year; and (a) & (b) :—The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House as early as possible.
- (b) the value of goods seized and the No. of persons prosecuted for infringement of Customs Regulations.
19. USQ. No. 4138 dt. 30-8-74 by Shri Samar Guha. (a) whether expenditure for office establishment of each Ministry has increased; (a) to (d).—The information is being collected and will be laid down on the Table of the House. Partly implemented vide statement laid in Lok Sabha on 21-7-75. Request received from DPA on 8-7-75 for extension of time upto 31-8-75. No further extension sought for.
- (b) if so the comparative facts there about for last three financial years and upto the 30th June, 1974;
- (c) Comparative facts of expenditure incurred by each Minister on tours abroad during the last three financial years and upto the 30th June, 1974; and
- (d) the steps taken for curtailng such expenditures on the Ministers and establishment of different Ministries.
- (Ministry of Health and Family Planning)
20. USQ. No. 570 dt. 25-7-74 by Shrimati Bhargavi Thankapanni and Shri S.C. Samanta. (a) the No. of cases in which adulteration and substandard drugs and medicines manufactured by pharmaceutical and drug factories in various parts of the country have been involved during the last three years. (a) to (c).—The information is being collected and will be laid down on the Table of the Sabha. Request received from DPA on 28-7-75 for extension of time upto 28-10-75.

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year-wise, State-wise ;

(b) the names of the manufacturers involved in these cases or allegedly involved in the practices ; and

(c) the action taken in each case.

21. USQ. No. 680 dt. 25-7-74 by Shri S. C. Samanta.

(a) whether periodical checks are conducted at the places of manufacturing, storing and selling to find out purity or otherwise of drugs and if so, whether reports are submitted from time to time; and

Request received from DPA on 28-7-75 for extension of time up to 25-10-75.

(b) how many offenders, both from among the public and official category, have been brought to book upto June 30, 1974, and how these have been disposed of.

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

22. USQ. No. 1281 dt. 1-8-74 by Smt. Roza Vidyadhar Deshpande.

(a) the No. of persons who died in various hospitals in the country for using spurious drugs during 1973-74 ;

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

Request received from DPA on 28-7-75 for extension of time upto 29-10-75.

(b) the facts thereof ;

(c) the spurious drugs which have been detected so far; and

(d) the punishment Government has given to the culprits and the No. of persons arrested in this connection.

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## (Ministry of Home Affairs)

23. SQ. No. 154 dt. 1-8-74 by Sh. Y. Eswara Reddy. (a) whether Government are aware that Harijans and their colonies are targets of assaults or harassment more frequently by the landlords in recent days ; and (a) & (b) :- It was *inter-alia* stated that States (other than Haryana, Punjab and Pondicherry) have yet to furnish the information for the period April-June, 1974. Request received from DPA on 26-7-75 for extension of time upto 30-9-75. No further extension sought for.
- (b) the number of attacks against Harijans from April, 1974 to July, 1974.
24. USQ. No. 1215 dt. 1-8-74 by Shri Shrikishan Modi. the number of Harijan families in Rajasthan, who have been allotted residential plots during the last three years, year-wise. The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when available. Request received from DPA on 14-5-75 for extension of time upto 30-10-75.
25. USQ. No. 3106 dt. 21-8-74 by Sh. Chatrapati Ambesh. the expenditure incurred on Central Ministers in respect of their salaries, allowances and under other heads, separately, during the last two years year-wise. It was *inter-alia* stated that "The details of the total amount of expenditure incurred on maintenance of the residences and furnishings as also supply of water and electricity during the years 1972-73 and 1973-74 are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. Partly implemented *vide* statement laid in Lok Sabha 21-7-75. Request received from DPA on 14-7-75 for extension of time upto 31-8-75. No further extension sought for.
26. USQ. No. 3107 dt. 21-8-74 by Sh. S. M. Siddayya. (a) the atrocities committed on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from 1st January, 1974 to 25th July, 1974 in various parts of the country ; (a) to (d) :- Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. Request received from DPA on 2-7-75 for extension of time upto 15-7-75. No further extension sought for.
- (b) the total number of persons injured or killed (Separately) and the damage caused to the property ;
- (c) the relief given by the State Go-

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vernment or the Central Government in each case ; and

(d) concrete steps the State Governments and the Central Government have taken to put an end to such atrocities.

27. USQ. No. 3108 dt. 21-8-74 by Sh. S. M. Siddayya.

(a) what is the total amount of post-matric Scholarships awarded to the students of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during the years 1972-73 and 1973-74 in each State and Union Territory; and

(b) :—The information is being collected from the State Governments.

Request received from DIA on 23-5-75 for extension of time upto 17-11-75.

(b) of the total amount, how much has been paid towards the tuition fees, examination fees and other fees and how much has been paid to the students for their maintenance.

*(Ministry of Industry and Civil Supplies)*

28. USQ. No. 344 dt. 24-7-74 by Shri Madhu Limaye

Referring to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 9566 dt. 8-5-74 and asking:—

(a) whether the information about the applications made by the foreign companies for import licences valued at Rs. 2 lakhs and above during 1973-74 and the action taken by Govt. thereon, has since been collected;

(a) to (c) :—Information relating to the Lck Sabha Unstarred Question No. 9566 is still being collected.

Request received from DPA on 16-9-74 for extension of time upto 24-4-75. No further extension sought for.

While explaining the causes of delay, it was *inter-alia* stated that information about the import licences issued to the foreign companies during 1973-74 are being collected from all concerned authorities.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay.

It was also stated that according to the Policy, certain categories of import applications are to be made through the sponsoring Authorities like the D.G.T.D., Textile Commissioner, Tea Board, etc. and the sponsoring authorities are empowered to reject the applications if these were not according to policy. In view of this, the number of import licences issued may not be the same as the number of applications. The information in respect of the applications made by these firms are also being collected from the various sponsoring authorities. In addition to the Director of Industries in each State, there are 22 other sponsoring authorities. As the number involved is large and the information have to be collected from a large number of organisations some more time will be needed before the information is placed on the Table of the House.

29. USQ. No. 1872 dt. 7-8-74 by Sh. D.K. Panda.

(a) whether Government have taken final action on the recommendations of the Committee on Public Undertakings vide their 63rd report (IV Lok Sabha) and 23rd report (V Lok Sabha) relating to the National Industrial Development Corporation Limited; and

(b) if so, the nature of the final action taken on each of the recommendations.

(a) :—It was *inter-alia* stated that a statement showing the recommendations made by the Committee in their 63rd Report and the nature of final action taken on each of the recommendations is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

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## (Ministry of Labour)

30. USQ. No. 1940 dt. 8-8-74 by Shrimati Roza Vidyadhar Deshpande and Sh. Indrajit Gupta.
- (a) the number of fair price shops for essential commodities for organised Industrial workers in mines, Jute, iron and steel plantations, engineering, ports and docks, railways, pharmaceuticals and public sector undertakings; and
- (b) the places where these shops are situated and the commodities sold by them.
- (a) & (b) :—The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.
- Request received from DPA on 5-8-75 for extension of time upto 31-8-75. No further extension sought for.
31. USQ. No. 3169 dt. 22-8-74 by Shrimati Bhargavi Thankappan.
- (a) the number of manhours lost in the country, State-wise every month due to power shedding in 1972-73;
- (b) whether a large number of Small Scale Industries have either been closed or put to great difficulties due to the power shedding and shortage of raw material; and
- (c) the steps Government are taking to improve the situation.
- (a) to (c) :—Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House after it is received.
- Partly implemented *vide* statement laid in Lok Sabha on 21-7-75.
32. USQ. No. 3184 dt. 22-8-74 by Sh. Ramavatar Shastrri.
- (a) whether more than 700 factories/ establishments/ mines covered under the Employees Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 and the schemes framed thereunder in Bihar are not complying with the provisions of the said Act and the schemes right from the dates of their coverages;
- (a) to (c) :—The requisite information is being collected. It will be laid on the Table of Sabha in due course.
- Request received from DPA on 1-9-75 for extension of time upto 30-11-75.

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- (b) if so, which are those units and what are the reasons for their non-compliance; and
- (c) what action has been taken to secure timely compliance from them.
33. USQ. No. 3198 dt. 22-8-74 by Sh. K.M. Madhukar & Sh. Bhola Manjhi.
- (a) whether a good number of criminal cases under Section 14 of the Employees Provident Funds Act, 1952 filed against Gaya Janra Cold Storage Gaya ended in acquittal due to faulty evidence tendered by the Inspector being the main witness in the cases and mishandling by the conducting Inspector as well; and
- (a) & (b) :—The information is being collected. It will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.
- Request received from DPA on 11-7-75 for extension of time upto 30-9-75. No further extension sought for.
- (b) if so, what action has been taken against them and the broad outlines of the report with specific remarks.
- (Ministry of Petroleum & Chemicals)
34. USQ. No. 1631 dt. 6-8-74 by Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu.
- (a) who are the principal producers of soaps in the country;
- (b) licensed and installed capacities of each producer as in 1965 & 1973;
- (c) whether some producers have been charged with unauthorised expansion of installed capacity; and
- (c) & (d) :—The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.
- (d) if so, the facts thereof.

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| 35. | USQ. No. 2975<br>dt. 20-8-74 by<br>Sh. Jyotirmoy<br>Bosu.                                    | total assets, turn-<br>over profits as in<br>1960, 1970 and<br>1972 or 1973 of<br>M/s Pfizer & Co.,<br>Glaxo Laborato-<br>ries, Ciba India<br>Ltd., Roche Pro-<br>ducts Ltd., San-<br>doz (India) Ltd.,<br>Hoechst Pharma-<br>ceuticals Ltd.,<br>Cyanamid India<br>Ltd., Anglo<br>French Drug Co.<br>and Warner Hin-<br>dustan.   | Information is being<br>collected and will be<br>laid on the Table of<br>the House.                      |  |
| 36. | USQ. No. 3653<br>dt. 27-8-74 by<br>Sh. Vayalar<br>Ravi.                                      | (a) the total quanti-<br>ty of Soaps produ-<br>ced in the coun-<br>try in the years<br>1971, 1972 and 1973<br>by different com-<br>panies producing<br>these products ;<br><br>(b) how does the<br>actual production<br>compare with their<br>respective pro-<br>duction capacity<br>and whether it is<br>a fact that the pro-<br>ducers are delibe-<br>rately keeping the<br>production at low<br>level for ear-<br>ning more profits ;<br>and<br><br>(c) if so, the action<br>taken by Govern-<br>ment in this re-<br>gard. | (a) to (c) :—<br>The Information is<br>being collected and<br>will be laid on the<br>Table of the House. | Request received<br>from DPA on<br>24-2-75 for ex-<br>tension of time<br>upto 31-3-75. No<br>further exten-<br>sion sought for |
| 37. | USQ. No. 3676<br>dt. 27-8-74<br>by Sh. Bhaoo-<br>sahib Dha-<br>mankar & Sh.<br>Vasant Sathe. | (a) whether Govern-<br>ment have per-<br>mitted some fore-<br>ign companies to<br>manufacture fine<br>chemicals in India<br>and that these com-<br>panies purchased the<br>fine chemicals from<br>small scale units<br>at cheaper prices<br>and after repacking<br>marketed these che-<br>micals at exorbitant<br>prices ;  | (a) to (c) :—<br>Information is being<br>collected and will be<br>laid on the Table of<br>the House.     | Request received<br>from DPA on<br>3-12-74 for<br>extension of time<br>upto 15-12-74. No<br>further extension<br>sought for.   |



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(b) whether M/s Hoechst Pharmaceuticals Private Limited have marketed Ampicillin manufactured through a small firm with a big profit margin, in contravention of Drug (Prices) Control Act, 1970, restriction on trading activities of foreign firms and D.G.T.D. restriction on production capacities ; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken to stop such trading activities and to ensure a fair deal to small scale units for marketing their products.

38. USQ. No.3700 dt. 27-8-74 by Sh. Bhaljibhai Ravjibhai Parmar. how many bulk drugs were being manufactured by foreign drug firms with more than 26 percent equity during the Fourth Plan period and what are those proposed to be manufactured by them during the Fifth Five Year Plan firm-wise alongwith total turn over.
- It was *inter-alia* stated that "Information in regard to companies having foreign equity from 26% to 50% and firm-wise turnover of bulk drugs is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.
- Request received from DPA on 14-8-75 for extension of time upto 31-10-75.
39. USQ. No.3726 dt.27-8-74 by Sh. Bhaljibhai Ravjibhai Parmar. (a) the number of the industrial licences granted to M/s Hoechst, John Wyeth and May and Baker during the last three years for the import of Capital goods raw materials ; and (b) how many applications for import licences from each of these firms are pending and how many have been rejected during the last three years.
- (a) & (b) :- Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.
- Request received from DPA on 19-4-75 for extension of time upto 30-6-75. No further extension sought for.

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40. 31-8-74      Supplementary Demand for Grants (General)      On a point raised by Sh. Madhu Limaye whether any technical collaboration has been allowed to J & K with coal fisheries Technology and to lay the terms of the collaboration on the Table of the Lok Sabha, the Minister stated, "this is a cooperative venture which has come into being. I cannot cover everything. I can show all the papers to you if necessary."

(Ministry of Law, Justice & Company Affairs)

41. USQ.No. 3679 dt. 27-8-74 by Shri P.G. Malankar.      (a) whether Government are aware that contrary to their directions, two expatriate Dy. Managing Directors of Larsen & Toubro Ltd. still continue to be directors in the associated and subsidiary companies; and      (a) & (b) :—Information is being collected and a statement will be placed on the Table of the House.
- (b) if so, the action taken to ensure compliance to Government directions.

(Ministry of Railways)

42. USQ. No. 228 dt. 23-7-74 by Shri Hikim Chand Kachwai.      the respective sale proceeds of the railway passenger and platform tickets in the Northern Railway from 8th May to 11th May, 1974.      The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha as soon as possible.

(Ministry of Steel and Mines)

43. USQ. No. 598 dt. 25-7-74 by Shri Satyendra Narayan Sirha and Shri Arvind M. Patel.      Referring to the reply given to USQ. No. 2229 dt. 7-3-74 and asking :—      (a) whether the reports No. JHC/71/27 and JHC-71/28 of 29th October, 1971 prepared by CFRI, Dharbad are available      (a) & (b) :—The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

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lable with Government Management of the coal Mines ; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof, the grades of Coal according to Ash Content of Sample and who took the sample.

44. USQ. No.1988 dt.8-8-74 by Shri B.K. Daschowdhury

(a, whether on the recommendation of the Meghalaya Cottage Industries Department, 4 metric tons of stainless steel was allotted to Meghalaya Industrial Enterprise, Barapani, Khasi Hills in 1973 ; and

(b) whether this is a non-existent company that has not set up any plant, that it is a paper monopoly and that the entire quantity of allotted stainless steel was never moved to the Khasi Hills and was sold in the black-market.

(a) & (b) :- Hindustan Steel Ltd. did not supply stainless steel to Meghalaya Industrial Enterprise, Barapani, in 1973. As regards imported stainless steel sheets, necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Request received from DPA on 9-6-75 for extension of time upto 8-9-75. No further extension sought for.

45. Dated 21-8-74

Matter under Rule 377

Shri Vasant Sathe referred to the news-item appeared in Amrit Bazar Patrika of the 19-8-74 which said—'A Mundhra-type deal rocks Delhi and London'—where the deal refers to one Mr. Kapoor (R.N. Kapoor, Chairman of MOIL) who has purchased shares of Manganese Ore, and urged the Government to make a thorough enquiry and to make a statement the Minister stated "We are seized of the matter. Enquiries are being made. But the whole story is still to be revealed and therefore it will take time and I will make a statement."

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46. USQ. No. 3252 dt. 22-8-74 by Shri Sakti Kumar Sarkar	(a) whether there are any specific orders issued by the Ministry for intake of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates in various categories of services in the newly set up organisations like C. M. A., S.A. I. L., if not, the reasons therefor.	(b) if not, whether any recruitment has been made in class III and IV, other than the mine-workers, since the formation of the above organisations.	(c) & (d) :—Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.	Partly implemented vide statement laid in Lok Sabha on 20-12-74.
	(c) whether there is any specific quota reserved for them and if so, the manner these are going to be filled up and when this will be completely filled up.	(d) the total number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at present working in C. M. A. and S. A. I. L. and the total vacancies (reserved for S. C. and S.T.) still exist.		
47. SQ. No. 549 dt. 29-8-74 Supplementary by Prof. Madhu Dandavate.	Economy in use of Steel.	On being asked by Prof. Madhu Dandavate whether it is true that in places like Bombay 40% of the steel quota is sold in the black market, whether the Minister had instituted an inquiry and whether it is also true that these companies viz. Khira, JK and Hyco-stone were denied their steel quota as they were found blackmarketing in	Request received from DPA on 3-9-75 for extension of time upto 1-11-75.	

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steel, the Minister of Steel & Mines, stated :—

“This is a specific question. That will require an inquiry. I cannot answer the question whether it is 40%, 20% or 15% that is sold in black market. But it is true that certain quantities of steel just go to undesirable places for being sold for profit-making. But I do not know more about it. If the hon. Member so desires, I will make an inquiry and answer.”

**ANNEXURE—II**

*(Vide para 8 of Minutes of the Third Sitting)*

*Details of pending assurances for which the Department of Parliamentary Affairs have requested for extension of time and recommendations of the Committee thereon*

Sl. No.	Particulars of Assurance	Extension granted by the Committee upto	Observations of the Committee
1	2	3	4
1	SQ. No. 601 dated 21-12-73 by Shri Vayalar Ravi regarding repatriation of profits by Automobile Tyre Firms (Finance).	30-9-1975	
2	USQ. No. 149 dated 12-11-73 by Shri Indrajit Gupta re. Wheat and Rice Trade Merchants arrested under D.I.R. (Agriculture & Irrigation)	31-10-1975	
3	USQ. No. 1147 dated 30-7-73 by Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu regarding grants to Educational Institutes in India by U. S. Foundations (Education, Social Welfare & Culture)	31-10-1975	
4	USQ. No. 386 dated 13-11-73 by Shri Balakrishna Venkanna Naik regarding concessions granted by State and Central Government to large scale manufacturers of Caustic Soda (Petroleum & Chemicals).	31-10-1975	
5	USQ. No. 1453 dated 21-11-73 by Shri N. K. Sanghi regarding dispensing with Foreign Collaboration in Technology (Science & Technology).	31-10-1975	
6	Supplementary by Shri Ranen Sen on SQ. No. 594 dated 21-12-73 regarding rehabilitation of Sick Tea Gardens (Commerce).	31-12-1975.	
7	USQ. No. 2855 dated 30-11-73 by Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu regarding remittances by foreign firms (Finance).	30-9-1975	The assurance was given on the 30th Nov., 1973 and was pending for almost two years. As per earlier request of the Government, the Committee had agreed to grant extension of time upto 30th November, 1974. The Committee were

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surprised to note that the assurance had not been implemented so far and the Government have requested for further extension of time upto 30th September, 1975. As the period of further extension was already over, the Committee desire to know the reasons for such a long delay and the progress so far made in collecting the information.

- 2 USQ. No. 3172 dated 14-3-74 by Shri K. Kodanda Rami Reddy regarding deaths due to food poisoning (Health and Family Planning).

15-10-1975

The assurance had been partly implemented *vide* statement laid on the Table of the House on 31-7-75. The Committee desired to know the further progress made in the matter and the level at which the matter has been taken up with the Govt. of Rajasthan.

MINUTES  
FOURTH SITTING

*The Committee sat on Saturday, the 4th October, 1975 from 11.00 hours to 13.20 hours.*

PRESENT

Shri B. K. Daschowdhury—*Chairman*.

MEMBERS

2. Shri Syed Ahmed Aga
3. Shri Jagadish Bhattacharyya
4. Shri Narendra Singh Bisht
5. Shri B. R. Kavade
6. Shri Kinder Lal
7. Shrimati T. Lakshmikanthamma
8. Shri Mulki Raj Saini
9. Shri Ramshekhar Prasad Singh
10. Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha.

SECRETARIAT

Shri K. D. Chatterjee—*Chief Examiner of Questions.*

Shri S. N. Khanna—*Senior Examiner of Questions.*

*Witnesses Examined*

1. Shri Gian Prakash—*Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Planning.*
2. Dr. S. S. Gothoskar—*Drugs Controller (India), D.G.H.S., New Delhi.*
3. Shri K. R. Prabhu—*Additional Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs.*

*Ministry of Health and Family Planning*

The Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning in regard to the delay in the implementation of the following two assurances.



- (i) Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4006 on the 21st March, 1974 regarding manufacturing of adulterated and sub-standard drugs.
- (ii) Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 9722 on the 9th May, 1974 regarding Primary Health Centres.

2. At the outset, the Chairman observed that Hon'ble members of the Committee desired to have a very clear idea as to the reasons for the delay in the implementation of certain assurances. Some reasons had been given in the notes furnished to the Committee. When asked whether he had any further points to clarify, the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Planning stated:

"I have again looked into the file myself very carefully and I must admit that there was a little avoidable delay in the Ministry. Of course, we have been sending reminders to the States. All this information is to be collected from the States. They take a long time. When this information is received in the Ministry, we collate and scrutinise it and then, after obtaining the approval of the Deputy Minister, we try to fulfil the Assurances. In these two cases, there have been some delays in the Hindi Section and in the Issue Section. I am sorry for the delay. We have now taken adequate steps to plug the loopholes. It is good that this has been brought to our notice. We have taken 2 or 3 steps to see that the delay in those Sections is minimised. Another thing that we have done is that the Joint Secretary, Mr. Shravan Kumar is holding monthly meetings now to see that information is collected from the States, compiled, translated and then issued. Previously, as soon as a set of replies was made available to the Issue Section of the Ministry, the Section concerned had thought that enough had been done and that the compliance had been done. Now, in 1 or 2 cases, we found that the Issue Section took an extra-ordinarily long time. We have now issued instructions that the Assurance will not be considered to have been fulfilled unless and until the information has been laid on the Table of the House and the statement to that effect is also made a part of the file. Secondly, the Joint Secretary, Mr. Shravan Kumar has been put in overall charge of fulfilment of Assurances to whatever Section they may relate; and he is calling monthly meetings. As a result of these steps, the number of pending Assurances which was 84 on 31st March, 1975 has come

down to 36 on the 30th September, 1975. We hope that very soon we will be able to bring it down to a still lower figure. You will appreciate that the information has to be collected from the States; and they sometimes take inordinately long time. We remind them at all levels. I have been writing D.O. letters to the Chief Secretaries. Even the Minister has been requested to write D.O. letters to his counterparts. Even then, it is very difficult to go on pressing them. Sometimes they send replies saying that some more time will be needed. In those cases, we will have to sit and wait for getting this information. We have also made efforts to partially fulfil these Assurances, in the sense that when we receive information from more than half the States, we partially communicate to the Department of Parliamentary Affairs and go on reminding the States till the Assurances are fulfilled completely and fully."

3. In regard to the assurance given in reply to USQ. No. 4006 on the 21st March, 1974, it was pointed out by the Committee that an extension of time upto the 27th April, 1975 was granted earlier as requested by the Ministry. Though the period of extension was over, neither the assurance had been implemented nor any further extension of time was requested. Thereupon, the Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning stated:

"The point that you have made is a very valid one. They should have asked for extension before the expiry of the last date. Unfortunately, that did not happen. I have already expressed my regret. As I have told you, we have now attempted to streamline the whole system.

I find from the records that the extension had been asked for till 27th April and, later on, another request was made on the 3rd June. Actually, they should have asked for extension well before the 27th April. So, I concede that point. I am not making any excuse. What I am asking for is your indulgence on the assurance that henceforth perhaps this hon. Committee will have no opportunity for such complaints."

4. When it was suggested that, if necessary, the Special Cell in the Ministry, if any, looking after assurances might be strengthened and

re-structured to get over the present difficulties, the Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning stated:

"We will examine it and, if possible, we will create a special cell. We have now entrusted this job to our Joint Secretary, Shri Shravan Kumar, who holds fortnightly and monthly meetings. I also hold special meetings under instructions from the Prime Minister and we review the implementation of these assurances. Sometimes we even send for the files and, if there is delay, we pull up the officers and take their explanations. As a result of this special drive that we have already launched, the number of pending assurances has come down considerably. It is less than half of what it was at the end of December, 1974."

5. In connection with the suggestion of the Committee that, in certain cases, assurances can be implemented in parts, the Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning clarified:

"Thank you for this valuable suggestion. But my difficulty is that when we sometimes make an effort to fulfil the assurance in part, the Department of Parliamentary Affairs comes in the way and says that it is not prepared to accept this I could crave your indulgence in issuing instructions to it that it should accept assurances in part. We will keep this in mind. In the past there have been one or two cases where the Department did not accept assurances in part."

6. About non-acceptance of part-implementation of assurances by the Department of Parliamentary Affairs, the Committee invited attention of the representatives of the Ministry to following para 8 of the Ninth Report of the Committee which the Government had accepted:

"The Committee would like to reiterate in this connection their earlier decision contained in para 14 of the First Report (Fifth Lok Sabha) presented to the House on the 12th August, 1971, that in case it is likely to take a long time to fulfil the assurance, whatever information is readily available with the Government should be laid on the Table of the House at the earliest opportunity. The rest of the information as and when it becomes available should be laid on the Table of the House periodically in piece-meal, say, quarterly, half-yearly and so on."

7. The Committee observed that a member asked a question not only for eliciting information but also for two other reasons, *viz.*, for confirmation of the information he had and for correcting the situation. Adulteration was a health hazard. Ordinarily, the Ministry of Health was expected to move at a very quick speed in order to see that this health hazard was prevented. If it was said that there was procedural delay, that would not satisfy members. Such questions should not be dealt with in the normal way but immediate action should be taken. At this stage, the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Planning stated:

“The hon. Member is very right that the purpose of such questions is to correct the Government. But we are governed by a federal constitution where some subjects are under State or Concurrent List. Drug Control is implemented by the States. The enforcement machinery is also in the States. So, while every effort is being made to see that drugs are of absolute purity and that the firms or the manufacturers are not able to play with the lives of the people in the sense they sometimes manufacture sub-standard or adulterated or spurious drugs, the fact of the matter is that in spite of our best efforts, in spite of our holding conferences every now and then, and asking for explanation so to say from the States and emphasising the need for stricter drug control and food administration by the States, there are lacunae and loopholes and also lethargy. In some of the States they do not even have a whole-time Drug Controller, and in most of the States, the Director of Health Services is also functioning, in addition to his own duties, as the Drug Controller. It is not that we have not brought this to the notice of the States. We have done so very often and almost every year this question is taken up in the Conference of Ministers and we impress this on the States, but then they say they are short of funds. We have also taken up with the States the question of strengthening their laboratories, and again they say they are short of funds. So, we pleaded with the Planning Commission that after all, the strengthening of laboratories is a matter of All-India importance, and with great difficulty they have now agreed to sanction a scheme under which we propose to strengthen some of the food and drug laboratories in the States. About the other point raised by the hon. Member, you will agree that when an assurance is to be given, it has to be as asked for in the question. If the intention of the Hon. Member was to discuss measures that

were being taken by the Government of India to enforce stricter drug control; then perhaps the language of the question had to be somewhat different. But now the language being what it was, he wanted certain data and obviously we are bound to collect and present that data before Parliament in the form required. There are various steps that we have already taken. We are contemplating to provide stricter penalties in the Drug and Cosmetics Act in the sense that anybody who sells a spurious drug will be given life imprisonment. We have consulted various Ministries and we have drafted a note which we are taking shortly to the Cabinet. But because this is in the Concurrent List, the States will be largely involved in its implementation. Whatever we do, ultimately we have to depend upon them. We are trying our best to tighten the entire machinery of drug control and I hope that some tangible results would be achieved. It is much better now than what it was five or ten years ago.

Scarcity, the price level etc., have also encouraged food and drug adulteration because people want to make quick money, but because of the emergency people are slightly more cooperative and more obedient. I do not say that we will be able to completely solve the problem, but I hope we will be able to make a sizable dent into the problem of drug adulteration."

8. It was stated in the note received from the Ministry that information had been received from 14 States. When asked by the Committee as to what reasons were given by the other States for not being able to send the information, the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Planning stated:

"We do not ask them for any explanation because it involves the question of Centre-State relationship. If it is their subject, it is their subject. We only emphasise the urgency of a particular type of action, but when we go to the States we pull them up, but we do not put it in writing. So, it is a delicate matter, but at the meetings of the Secretaries Director of Health Services etc., we take up this matter. The usual explanation is that there has been delay in collecting the information from the Districts, that the information is not readily available etc. The emergency is one of the reasons why it has been possible to bring down the number of assurances."

9. In regard to the matter that prevention of adulteration was a State subject, the Committee pointed out that there were instances in the States when people had been arrested for this offence and then released, and as such, the Centre could not wash off hands saying that it was a State subject. If information was not forthcoming at the Departmental level, the matter should have been taken up at Ministry's level. To this, the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Planning replied as under:

"We do it time and again. We do it at least twice a year. We are having discussions about this matter in the Secretaries' Committee, the Director of Health Services' Committee and also in the Minister's Committee. Over and above that, in the zonal committee, we have also discussed this matter. In fact, this is one of the items for discussion every time in the zonal committees. Even today, a meeting is going on in Goa, and this is one of the subjects for discussion. As far as implementation part is concerned, that rests with them."

10. On an enquiry by the Committee whether, apart from State Governments' Drug Controllers and their intelligence departments, the Ministry had their own intelligence departments, the Drugs Controller (India), DGHS stated:

"We do not have any intelligence organisation as such. We have a central drug controller organisation which acts as a liaison organisation with the States regarding the uniform administration of the Act. But we have a very small organisation. So far as collection of information is concerned, we do collect individually information from the States relating to all aspects like the number of prosecutions launched, etc. But here again, we have a problem. We do not get that information from all the States. But we keep on writing to them about this matter. A question was also raised about certain States not giving this information and certain other States giving this information. There are States like Maharashtra, Gujarat and others from where we get information very quickly. Then there are certain States which are not so well organised and are not in a position to supply this information expeditiously."

11. When asked whether it was a fact that there was a system of regular checks or periodical checks about the quality of the drugs

manufactured by the various firms, the Drug Controller (India) stated:

“So far as we are concerned, we always draw samples. As far as our inspectorate is concerned, it is very small body. But we draw samples independently of the States. Then we get them tested. If we find that a particular drug is declared to be sub-standard, we do take up the matter with the Drug Controller of the particular State where the manufacturer is located. We do carry out inspection of the premises of the firms to find out about the drug which has been declared to be sub-standard. But it is the State Drug controller who is the licensing authority and the cancellation of a licence is done by him. We do not have any such power.”

12. Further elucidating the point, the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Planning stated:

“There are two aspects of this issue. One is the location of a factory. Dr. Gothoskar has rightly pointed out that it is in the hands of the State Drug controllers to issue a licence for the manufacture of a drug or deny it. Sometimes, it so happens that a particular drug which is manufactured in Delhi will be sold in Madhya Pradesh. Under such circumstances, State Government concerned with issue of a licence cannot take action against the factory in Delhi. These are some of the inter-state problems. We have got a small nucleus in the Ministry. We have got a few inspectors who also go around and collect some samples. If there is any particular defect in a particular sample, then that particular person is brought to book. But we do not have adequate staff for this type of work.”

13. Attention of the representatives of the Ministry was drawn to USQ. No. 680 dated the 25th July, 1974, wherein a member had enquired whether periodical checks are conducted at the place of manufacture of a particular drug and if so, whether reports are submitted from time to time and the answer was “yes”. The Committee felt that the effect of both the questions would be that, after the periodical checks, whatever information was available from the latest reports, at least that information could be given. To this, the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Planning stated:

“Under the pharmaceutical rules, checks are conducted at the premises of the manufacturers and the licence is given by the States. They conduct periodical checks to see whether the manufacturers’ premises are all right, whether

the dealers' premises are all right, and they do not submit periodical reports to us."

14. Further clarifying this point, the Drugs Controller (India) informed the Committee as follows:

"The periodical reports are not submitted to the Central Government. The Inspectors submit their reports to the Drug Controllers in their States and they take action on the basis of those reports."

15. The Committee desired the representatives of the Ministry of Health & Family Planning to draft the replies to questions more carefully and whatever information was available should be laid on the Table of the House at the earliest.

16. The Ministry had stated in the note furnished to the Committee that the required information was received on the 26th May, 1975 but as the material was voluminous, it took time in compilation and translation into Hindi before the final reply was ready on the 2nd September, 1975. The Committee felt that collection of data required no field work and it was only to be collected from records. Moreover, the number of persons who resorted to adulteration of drugs was not so large as to require three to four months to compile the list. The Ministry should not have taken so much time to translate the material into Hindi. The Secretary of the Ministry of Health & Family Planning assured the Committee that the Hindi Department of the Ministry would be strengthened.

17. In regard to USQ. No. 9722 dated the 9th May, 1974, it was stated in the note received from the Ministry that "on receipt of Office Memorandum No.X—HFP (51) UQ 9722 LS/74, dated September 8, 1975 from the Department of Parliamentary Affairs it transpired that this Ministry's communication forwarding the statement in fulfilment of the assurance had not been received by that Department. Accordingly, another set of 12 copies of the statement was sent to that Department on September 12, 1975". The Committee in this connection observed that there were certain loopholes in the matter of sending information to the Department of Parliamentary Affairs. The Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Planning thereupon stated:

"We have made a slight change in the procedure now; that is, we have made it the responsibility of the Section to see that it is laid on the Table of the House of either the Lok Sabha or the Rajya Sabha and a copy of that must be put in the file or, otherwise, it would not be deemed to have



been fulfilled—so that this difficulty of whether it was not received or was issued late can be settled.”

18. Attention of the representatives of the Ministry of Health & Family Planning was drawn to the replies given to USQ. No 570 and USQ No. 680, dated the 25th July, 1974 and USQ. No. 1281, dated the 1st August, 1974. When the Committee remarked that either the Drug Controller or the Ministry of Health should be in touch with the State Governments and if any case death on account of spurious drugs was reported, they could compile the information so that they would have ready information, the Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Planning stated:

“That is a very right observation of yours that the data should be readily available. But, unfortunately, this raises the question of correspondence; it raises the question of staff etc. as we don't have the strength required for this.”

19. In conclusion, the Committee emphasised that the Ministry should reorganise their machinery and expedite the information so far as spurious drugs were concerned because it vitally affected the life of the nation and that the Ministry should be more vigilant.

*(The witnesses then withdrew).*

#### MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

20. The Committee then took up evidence of the representative of the Ministry of Home Affairs in regard to the delay in the implementation of assurances given in replies to Unstarred Question No. 2923 on the 13th March, 1974 and Unstarred Question No. 3823 on the 20th March, 1974 regarding merit scholarships and merit stipend to Adivasi children and residential houses for Harijans, Tribal people and Backward Classes in Madhya Pradesh, respectively.

21. When asked whether he had to say anything further to what had been stated in the notes furnished to the Committee in regard to delay in the implementation of the aforesaid assurances, the representative of the Ministry of Home Affairs stated in connection with USQ. No. 2923 dated the 13th March, 1974:

“On this we have given a note explaining the delay. We have sent a statement in part fulfilment of the assurance. Still we have to get replies from three States and one Union Territory, i.e. from Bihar, Gujarat, Manipur and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. I am sorry this question took quite some time in getting finalised for the simple reason that at the other end there was some misconception about the nature

of information required; so, when the replies came, we could not finalise and had to write back saying what was actually required; the replies are awaited. We hope to give this information also in the next few days, by the time the extension agreed to by the Committee expires."

22. The Committee pointed out that Constitutional obligation was enjoined on the Ministry of Home Affairs to look to the welfare and well-being of the Adivasis, Scheduled Castes|Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes. Accordingly, the Union Home Ministry was expected always to be armed with ready information regarding their welfare and was to be armed with powers to see that there was no infringement of this obligation.

In part(a) of the question the Member had enquired whether there was any provision for the grant of merit scholarships and merit stipend to the Adivasi children. The Committee felt that this information should have been within the knowledge of the Ministry of Home Affairs. In this connection the representative of the Ministry stated:

I would submit that these are operated by the State Governments. Each State Government evolves its own scheme of scholarships. Therefore, unless the information is given to us by the States, we will not be in a position to furnish that. In spite of this Question, they are taking such a long time. This is one drawback. We have to get the feed-back from the States. Even when a Question is asked, they are not sending us the information."

23. When enquired whether their schemes are being operated independently by the State Governments and grants are given by the Centre, the representative of the Ministry stated:

"Within the sphere allotted to them, they do operate their schemes and they are given bulk grants for a particular sector. Within that, what schemes they draw and what is the amount of scholarship, etc., are left with the State Governments."

24. The Committee further enquired whether there was any direction given by the Ministry of Home Affairs that the State Governments should offer merit scholarships and merit stipend to the Adivasi children apart from general scholarships and other concessions and whether there was any Central allocation to the State Governments on that particular count and remarked that if replies to these questions were in the affirmative, then it must have been within the

knowledge of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Thereupon the representative of the Ministry stated as follows:

"I would submit that there are two kinds of assistance: one is within the State sectors; and the other is Centrally sponsored where the Ministry makes grants for specific purposes. About the latter, we get the feed-back. Where it is left to the State-sector, we have to ask them as to what is happening."

25. Pressing their point further, the Committee observed whether they were to presume that the Central Government are allocating lumpsum funds to the State Governments which they go on spending in any way they like, and it was only for the State Governments to decide whether they should give any merit scholarships to Adivasi children. Under the recent system, beginning from the Fifth Plan period, the Centre give to the States what was known as 'committed expenditure'—the excess amount spent by the States. But this item did not come within the 'committed expenditure' scheme and it was apparent from the Budget proposals that there was a direct provision by the Union Government. The representative of the Ministry clarified the position as under:

"The fact is that this information was not available with us when the Question was put. I admit that the Union Home Ministry must know not only what it is doing in the Centrally-sponsored sector but also what is being done in the State sector because we have a special responsibility so far as these people are concerned. I must say that we should have got this information even before this Question was asked."

26. The Committee pointed out that the information required in the question could be gathered from the Union Budget of the Home Ministry, and should have been looked up from the Budget of the Ministry and the reply to the question given as to whether there was any such scheme or not. In reply, the representative of the Ministry stated that the Ministry thought that the Honourable Member was interested in knowing the picture of the country as a whole.

In reply to another query, the representative of the Ministry stated that they did not have any separate scheme for the merit scholarships for the Scheduled Tribes as such and States have their normal schemes of scholarships. The Centre did not make allocation for schemes below the level of matriculation.

27. When the Committee enquired whether the policy laid down by the Central Government was being implemented or not, should

have been known in the Ministry of Home Affairs itself, the representative of the Ministry stated:

"There is no special policy of merit scholarships as such. There is a policy of scholarship and for that we know, how many people have got that scholarship. With regard to the merit scholarship as such, we do not have the information. I concede that we must have that. I concede that it is the part of the Home Ministry functioning that they should know everything about the scheduled tribes. This is probably a failure on our part that we do not have this information; so we have to collect it. We are ourselves interested in getting as much information as possible about these people."

28. The Committee felt that the question related to a very sensitive subject. The extension for fulfilment of the assurance upto the 18th October, 1974, had been requested. It was stated in the note received from the Ministry that in the month of June, 1975, a special drive was launched to collect the information. The Committee failed to understand what action was being taken by the Ministry during the period from October, 1974 to June, 1975 and felt that the Ministry perhaps did not feel concerned with the welfare of the Adivasi people. Thereafter, the representative of the Ministry pleaded as under:

"I would beg of you that it is not at all our intention to neglect them. So far as this question is concerned, we have written a number of letters to the States and have followed them up with telegrams. There is no question of neglect of the Adivasis by the Ministry of Home Affairs as such. But the simple fact is that if the information does not come, then what should we do? This is the real handicap in this matter. But we go on writing to them. Sometimes, we send reminders at a very high level."

29. The attention of the representative of the Ministry was drawn to the observations of the Committee contained in para 50 of their Eleventh Report, (Fifth Lok Sabha) wherein it was recommended that each Ministry|Department should set up a cell under the charge of a responsible officer to co-ordinate the work relating to assurances and ensure their implementation in time. These special cells should study the assurances carefully and whenever necessary seek information from the authorities concerned in specific terms or forms so that there was no delay in collecting the information and avoiding the need for further clarification. It was also clarified to the represen-

tative that when recommendations of the Committee go to Parliament and when the Parliament accepts them, then those observations become observations of the Parliament. It appeared that the concerned department of the Ministry did not note the aforesaid observation of the Committee.

The Committee expressed the opinion that responsible persons should be placed as head of those departments which were dealing with problems of Adivasis so that they might understand their problems in depth, scrutinise all those things and ask for clear cut information which may be required from the State Governments. The officials and their assistants who work in those departments should be given a special training as to how to study all correlated matters such as responsibilities of the State, what are their duties and so on. A person working in that particular department for the last 5 years or so would know all those things but when a new man came in, again those difficulties would arise. In this connection, the representative of the Ministry submitted:

“I fully agree with that. I fully endorse your views that they should know what is exactly required in a particular matter. If a particular person is not in the know of things, he cannot really do justice to the work. In fact, we are thinking on those lines and I hope that we will succeed in getting more information like that.”

30. With regard to the assurance given in reply to USQ. No. 3823 on the 20th March, 1974 regarding residential houses for Harijans, Tribal people and Backward Classes in Madhya Pradesh, the Committee pointed out that there was a special provision in the Constitution that in some States, e.g., Bihar, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh and also in the tribal areas of Assam, there would be a Minister for this particular department. The Committee observed that the Ministry of Home Affairs in the matter of collecting this information should have referred to the Ministers concerned in the States directly. There was a special Ministry in Orissa and in Bihar for the purpose but the matter was referred to the Ministry of Housing.

The representative of the Ministry clarified the position thus:

“In all these matters our effort is to make a direct contact with the person who can furnish us the information. In a number of States where we think that they are the persons concerned, they tell us that they are not the concerned persons. We, therefore, often address it to the Chief Secretary, who sends it to the concerned person.

In this particular case the State Government did not understand the question. We asked them about the number of houses to be built, they replied in terms of money."

31. Thereupon, it was suggested to the representative of the Ministry that the Minister of Home Affairs could have a dialogue with the State Minister concerned with Adivasis/Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and come to a final conclusion. In Delhi Administration there was adequate representation and similar provision could have been made by the Central Government in the interests of the Adivasis. The representative of the Ministry, thereupon, gave the following information regarding certain special schemes:

"For Scheduled Castes—750 houses

For Scheduled Tribes—1970 houses

The State Government have told us that the provision for Scheduled Caste houses is about Rs. 15 lakhs. Another scheme is for housing the Tribals, provision for which is about Rs. 98.5 lakhs for 1970 houses. In addition, the State Government has got a large number of housing schemes:

- (1) Lower Income Group Housing Scheme.
- (2) Integrated subsidised housing scheme for industrial workers and economically weaker persons.
- (3) Slum clearance|improvement scheme.
- (4) Village Housing Schemes.
- (5) Provision of house sites to landless workers.

These are general schemes which apply to the Scheduled Castes and other Weaker sections also. It cannot be said how much of benefit will go to the Scheduled Castes and Adivasis."

32. The Committee expressed the opinion that unless something was done for these down trodden people and various needed measures taken, the real development of the country could not be ensured.

Thereafter, attention of the representative of the Ministry was drawn to the assurances arising out of the following questions:

- (1) SQ. No. 154 dated 1-8-74 regarding harassment and assaults on Harijans and their colonies.

- (2) USQ. No. 1215 dated 1-8-74 regarding allotment of residential plots to Harijan families in Rajasthan.
- (3) USQ. No. 3106 dated 21-8-74 regarding expenditure incurred on Central Ministers in respect of salaries, allowances and under other heads.
- (4) USQ. No. 3107 dated 21-8-74 regarding atrocities committed on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in various parts of the country.
- (5) USQ. No. 3108 dated 21-8-74 regarding post matric Scholarships awarded to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students.

With regard to the above questions, it was pointed out to the representative of the Ministry that information in respect of some of these matters should have been readily available with the Government or could have been collected easily. For example, accounts of atrocities committed on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were published in the newspapers from time to time and other information could have been collected through the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, or the Regional Directors. The Committee felt that no efforts were made to maintain the information in the form of booklet or in the form of statistical data. The Committee reiterated that the persons entrusted with this task of welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Harijans should see that the programmes meant for their welfare were implemented faithfully.

33. In conclusion, the Committee emphasised that the Ministry should try to expedite implementation of these assurances without any delay. The representative of the Ministry assured the Committee that he would try his best to energise the persons concerned.

(The witness then withdrew)

*The Committee then adjourned.*

**MINUTES**  
**FIFTH SITTING**

*The Committee sat on Wednesday, the 12th November, 1975  
from 14-30 hours to 16-45 hours.*

**PRESENT**

Shri B. K. Daschowdhury—*Chairman*

**MEMBERS**

2. Shri Syed Ahmed Aga
3. Shri Jagadish Bhattacharyya
4. Shri Narendra Singh Bisht
5. Shri G. C. Dixit
6. Shri B. R. Kavade
7. Shri Kinder Lal
8. Shrimati Lakshmikanthamma
9. Shri Sarjoo Pandey
10. Shri Mulki Raj Saini
11. Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha
12. Shri K. Subravelu.

**SECRETARIAT**

Shri S. N. Khanna—*Senior Examiner of Questions.*

2. The Committee considered their draft Thirteenth Report and adopted the same with slight modifications here and there.

3. The Committee authorised the Chairman, and in his absence Shri Sarjoo Pandey, M.P. to present the Report during the next Session of Lok Sabha.

\* \* \* \*

*The Committee then adjourned.*

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\*Paras 4 to 7 relate to other matters and have accordingly been omitted.



## APPENDIX I

(Vide para 21 of the Report)

### LOK SABHA

Unstarred Question No. 4006

(To be Answered on the 21st March, 1974)

#### *Manufacturing of adulterated and sub-standard Drugs*

4006. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which adulterated and sub-standard drugs and medicines have been found to have been manufactured by the pharmaceutical and drug factories in India during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the names of the manufacturers involved in these cases, or allegedly involved in these practices;

(c) the names of the manufacturers prosecuted and found guilty in these cases and in how many cases the prosecution was dropped and the names of the manufacturers involved in such latter type of cases; and

(d) the steps taken and being taken to prevent adulteration in life saving drugs and medicines?

#### ANSWER

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (PROF. A. K. KISKU): (a), (b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Sabha when received.

(d) A note\* indicating the steps taken by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation to combat the manufacture and sale of spurious and sub-standard drugs is attached.

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\*Not reproduced.

**APPENDIX II**

(Vide para 43 of the Report)

**LOK SABHA**

Unstarred Question No. 9722

(To be Answered on the 9th May, 1974)

*Primary Health Centres*

9722. SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR:  
SHRI DEBENDRA NATH MAHATA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Primary Health Centres in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of Centres that will be opened in 1974-75, State-wise, with particular reference to West Bengal, District-wise; and

(c) the number of Centres running without Doctors and the steps taken by the Government to man the Centres with Doctors?

**ANSWER**

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (PROF. A. K. KISKU): (a) A statement\* showing the number of Primary Health Centres in the country, State-wise, is enclosed (as on 30-9-1973).

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

(c) 39 (as on 30-9-1973).

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\* Not reproduced.

### APPENDIX III

(Vide para 47 of the Report)

#### LOK SABHA

Unstarred Question No. 2923.

(To be answered on the 13th March, 1974)

#### *Merit Scholarships and Merit Stipend to Adivasi Children*

2923. SHRI DHAN SHAH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision for the grant of merit scholarships and merit stipend to the Adivasi children;

(b) If so, the number of Adivasi children to whom the merit stipend and merit scholarships were given during the last three years; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to make such a provision?

#### ANSWER

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a), (b) and (c). The information is being collected from the State Governments|Union Territories and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

## APPENDIX IV

(Vide para 59 of the Report)

### LOK SABHA

Unstarred Question No. 3823.

(To be answered on the 20th March, 1974)

*Residential houses for Harijans, Tribal people and Backward classes in M.P.*

3823. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of residential houses proposed to be constructed for Harijans, Tribal people and backward classes in Madhya Pradesh during Fifth Five Year Plan?

### ANSWER

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

## APPENDIX V

(Vide para 65 of the Report)

*Statement showing the position of assurances as on 12th November, 1979*

(i) *Assurances pertaining to the Fourth Lok Sabha*

Session	No. of pending assurances pertaining to Fourth Lok Sabha* selected by the Committee (5th Lok Sabha) for being pursued further as on 9-4-75	No. of assurances implemented/ dropped upto 7-8-75 (last date of laying of implementation statements)	No. of assurances outstanding
Sixth Session, 1968 . . .	1	1	Nil
Seventh Session, 1969 . . .	2	..	2***
Eighth Session, 1969 . . .	2	..	2%
Ninth Session, 1969 . . .	2	..	2@
Tenth Session, 1970 . . .	2	..	2£
Eleventh Session, 1970 . . .	5	..	5†
Twelfth Session, 1970 . . .	5	5	Nil
Total . . .	19	6	13

\*573 pending assurances were originally selected by the First Committee (1971-72) of Fifth Lok Sabha for being pursued further.

\*\*\*Ministries of Information and Broadcasting & Law.

%Ministry of Law and Department of Social Welfare.

@Ministries of Health and Information and Broadcasting.

£Ministries of Commerce and Finance.

†Ministries of Commerce, Home and Department of Social Welfare.

## (ii) Assurances pertaining to the Fifth Lok Sabha

Session	No. of assurances called out	No. of assurances implemented/dropped	No. of assurances outstanding
First Session, 1971 .	42	42	Nil
Second Session, 1971 .	1007	1003	4
Third Session, 1971 .	347	342	5
Fourth Session, 1972 .	831	826	5
Fifth Session, 1972 . .	351	349	2
Sixth Session, 1972 .	398	396	2
Seventh Session, 1973 .	847	832	15
Eighth Session, 1973 .	426	411	15
Ninth Session, 1973 .	490	467	23
Tenth Session, 1974 .	865	817	48
Eleventh Session, 1974 . .	362	315	47
Twelfth Session, 1974 .	561	409	152
Thirteenth Session, 1975 .	898	436	462
<b>TOTAL . . .</b>	<b>7425</b>	<b>6645</b>	<b>*780</b>

\*For Ministry wise details, please see next page

## (iii) Ministry-wise details of outstanding assurances

Ministry/Department	Session of Fifth Lok Sabha													Total
	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th		
Agriculture & Irrigation						1	1	3	6	3	16	53	83	
Commerce	1	1	1			1	2	2	1		6	8	23	
Communications												3	3	
Defence						1				1	1	1	4	
Edu., S. W. & Culture			2				1	1	3	4	9	22	42	
External Affairs												2	2	
Finance						1	3	3	6	10	28	73	124	
Health & Family Planning									10	3	17	25	55	
Heavy Industry														
Home Affairs	1		1			2	4	4	6	5	18	39	80	
Industry & Civil Supplies								1	1	2	2	8	14	
Inf. and Broadcasting									1		2	6	9	
Energy										1	6	9	16	
Labour		1		1		1			1	4	7	19	34	

## Session of Fifth Lok Sabha

## Ministry/Department

	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	Total
Law, Justice & C. Affairs.	2	1		1		1		2	4	1	5	21	38
Petroleum & Chemicals			1		2	6	4	5	3	7	18	92	138
Planning		1										3	4
Railways								1	2	1	8	25	37
Shipping & Transport						1			4	5	3	13	26
Steel & Mines						1					1	7	8
Supply & Rehabilitation											1	6	7
Tourism & Civil Aviation											3	19	22
Works & Housing											1	1	2
Atomic Energy													
Science & Technology								1				1	2
Pers. & Admn. Reforms		1									1	6	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>780</b>