

**COMMITTEE
ON
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2005-2006)**

FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA

SIXTH REPORT

(REQUEST FOR DROPPING OF ASSURANCES)

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 20.12.2005)



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

November, 2005/ Agrahayana, 1927 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(2005-2006)

Shri Harin Pathak - CHAIRMAN

MEMBERS

2. **Shri Rashid J.M.Aaron**
3. **Shri Yogi Aditya Nath**
4. **Shri Anandrao Vithoba Adsul**
5. **Shri Ajit Singh**
6. **Shri Jigajinagi Ramesh Chandappa**
7. **Shri Biren Singh Engti**
8. **Shri Mohan Jena**
9. **Shri Sunil Khan**
10. **Shri Rasheed Masood**
11. **Shri Kailash Meghwal**
12. **Shri A. Venkatesh Naik**
13. **Shri M. Shivanna**
14. **Shri Aruna Kumar Vundavalli**
15. **Shri Kailash Nath Singh Yadav**

SECRETARIAT

1. **Shri John Joseph** - **Secretary**
2. **Shri P. Sreedharan** - **Joint Secretary**
3. **Shri T.K. Mukherjee** - **Director**
4. **Shri K. Jena** - **Under Secretary**

* **The Committee was constituted on 7 August 2005 vide Para No.1484 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 5 August 2005.**

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Committee on Government Assurances, having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Sixth Report of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee (2005-2006) was constituted on 7 August 2005.

3. The Committee (2004-2005) at their sittings held on 19 May 2005 and 2 August 2005 considered *inter-alia* Memoranda Nos. 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40 and 41 containing requests received from the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India for dropping of pending assurances.

4. At their sitting held on 30 November 2005, the Committee (2005-2006) considered and adopted their Sixth Report.

5. The Minutes of the aforesaid sittings of the Committee form part of this report. (Appendix)

6. For facility of reference and convenience, the observations and recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the Report.

NEW DELHI;

30 November, 2005

9 Agrahayana, 1927 (Saka)

(HARIN PATHAK)
CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

REPORT

CHAPTER – I

REQUEST FOR DROPPING OF ASSURANCES (NOT ACCEPTED)

(i) RESERVATION IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

1.1 Twelve assurances were given in reply to the following Starred/Unstarred Questions by the then Minister of Welfare in regard to Reservation of backward classes in educational institutions:-

- 1. USQ No.4372 dated 25.8.1994**
- 2. USQ No.1441 dated 23.3.1995**
- 3. USQ No.1501 dated 23.3.1995**
- 4. USQ No.711 dated 30.11.1995**
- 5. USQ No.396 dated 29.2.1996**
- 6. USQ No.969 dated 18.7.1996**
- 7. USQ No.1821 dated 4.8.1997**
- 8. SQ No.904 dated 2.6.1998**
- 9. USQ No.1935 dated 9.6.1998**
- 10. USQ No.4096 dated 14.7.1998**
- 11. USQ No.2563 dated 15.12.1998**
- 12. SQ No.323 dated 22.12.1998**

1.2 The above-mentioned assurances (Annexure 1 to 12) could not be fulfilled and the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment sought extension of time on several occasions for fulfillment of the aforesaid assurances, as the reservation for OBC candidates in educational institutions was not finalized due to various reasons.

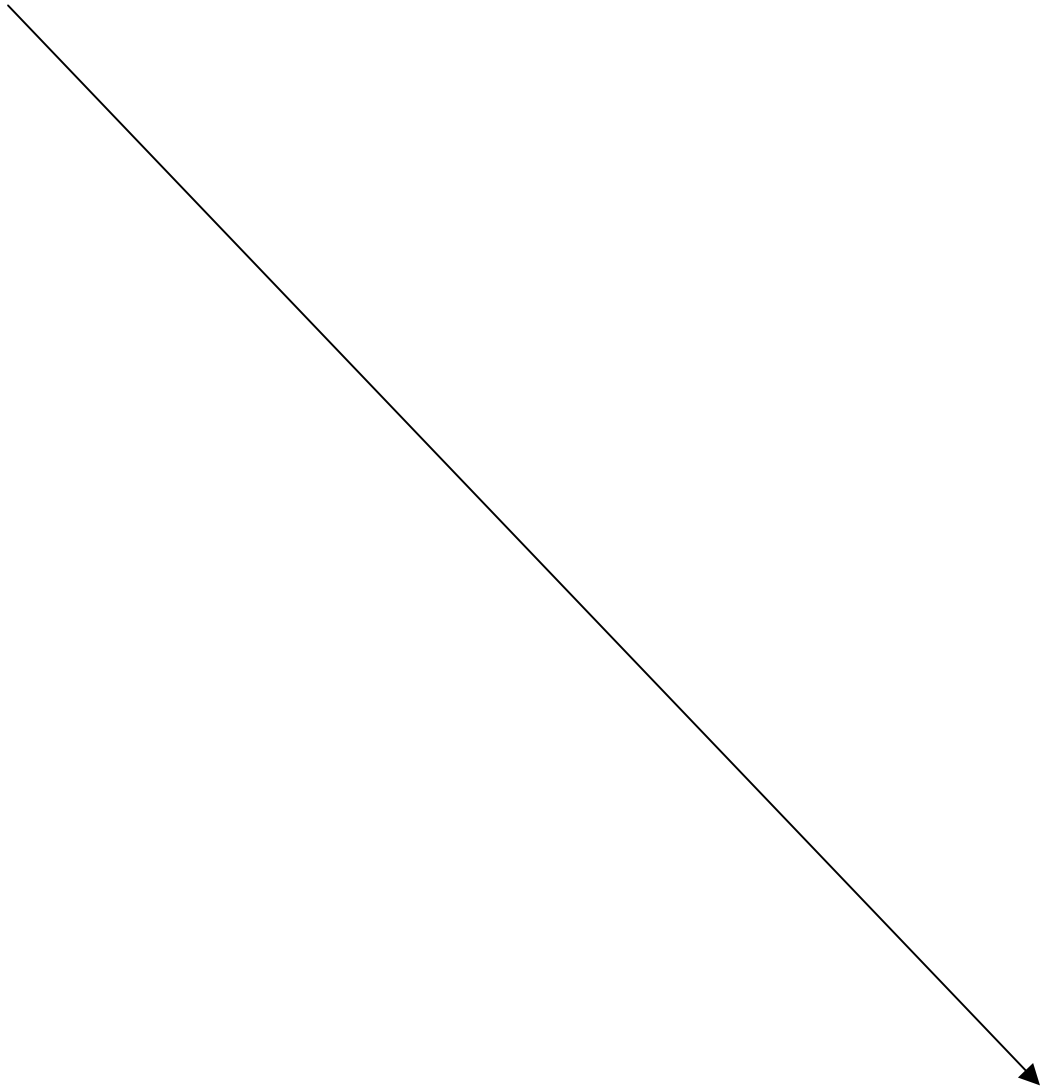
1.3 The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment vide their O.M. No.20012/49/2004-BCC dated 23 March 2005 requested the Committee to drop the assurances on the ground that "matter regarding reservation for OBC candidates in Educational Institutions under the Central Government is a major

policy decision which the Government has to take and no final view has yet been taken in this regard. It is unlikely that these assurances can be fulfilled in near future and as such it may be appropriated if these assurances are dropped for the present”.

1.4 The Committee note that as many as twelve assurances regarding reservation of seats in educational institutions for backward classes and other backward classes were given in reply to various Starred and Unstarred Questions tabled from 25 August 1994 to 22 December 1998. In reply to each of the question it was inter-alia stated that the matter was under consideration of the Government. These replies were treated as assurances and were required to be fulfilled within three months from the date of the reply of the respective question. However none of the assurances could be fulfilled and the Ministry requested the Committee to drop all the twelve long pending assurances on the ground that reservation for OBC candidates being a major policy decision to be taken by the Government, no final view has yet been taken in the matter. This request was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 19 May 2005 and the Committee decided not to drop the assurances.

1.5 The Committee note with concern that the House was first assured a decade back i.e. in the year 1994 that the matter was under consideration and thereafter the assurances were reiterated as and when a question regarding reservation for backward classes in educational institutions was raised. Even after a lapse of nearly eleven years Government is yet to take a final view in the matter. The Committee are of the view that the matter of reservation of Other Backward Classes in educational institutions is a major policy decision, affecting a large section of the society. They, therefore, desire that the

Government should take a final view at the earliest and frame the Policy accordingly.



[ii] INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTES FOR WOMEN

1.6 On 17 May 2000, Shri Rajo Singh, MP asked the following Unstarred Question No. 7954, to the Minister of Labour & Employment:-

- “(a) the year-wise details of the financial assistance provided to State Governments particularly to Government of Bihar for imparting industrial training to women especially in the backward areas during the last three years till date, State-wise;**
- (b) whether the Government have received any complaints of misuse of funds in this regard;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether there is any proposal to constitute a monitoring group in this regard; and**
- (e) if not, the reasons therefore?”**

1.7 In reply to the above question, the then Minister of State for Labour & Employment (Shri Muni Lall) stated as follows:-

“(a), (b), (c), (d) & (e): The information is being collected from the concerned States and will be laid on the Table of the House.

1.8 The above reply was treated as an assurance and was required to be fulfilled by the Ministry of Labour & Employment within three months of the date of reply i.e. by 16 August 2000. As the Ministry could not fulfill the assurance within the stipulated time, they sought extension of time on several occasions from time to time.

1.9 The Ministry of Labour & Employment vide their O.M. No.DGET-4(4)/99-CPIU dated 4 January 2005 requested for dropping of the assurance on the ground that no complaint regarding misuse of financial assistance was reported from the concerned states (including the State of Bihar) except the State of Andhra Pradesh. It was also stated that Anti-Corruption Bureau of the State Government conducting investigation on the misuse of funds allotted to the women ITIs.

1.10 In order to expedite the completion of investigations, it was stated that the Ministry of Labour had done extensive and regular follow up with the State Government at various levels such as Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Additional Secretary and Director as indicated below:

- A D.O. letter from DG/JS dated 22.1.2001 was sent to Special Chief Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh, requesting him to look into the matter, so that the enquiry is completed within a specific time frame.
- Principal Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh was requested at the level of DG/JS vide D.O. letter dated 29.10.2001 to complete the enquiry by the ACB Department within a specific time period.
- The Chief Secretary, Government of Andhra Pradesh was requested at enquiry by the ACB Department completed on priority basis.
- D.O. letters were sent to the Director of Employment and Training, A.P. on 25 July 2002, 21 October 2002 and 27 January 2003.
- A D.O. letter was sent to Additional Secretary, A.P. on 15 July 2003.

- Follow up with Senior officers is also being done regularly over telephone in this regard, following is submitted for kind consideration.
- The State Government has taken an appropriate action by entrusting investigation on misappropriation of funds to the Anti Corruption Bureau.
- Anti Corruption Bureau is a State Government agency over which Central Government has no control.
- The Ministry of Labour has been doing extensive and regular follow up with the State Government at various levels such as Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Additional Secretary and Director through D.O. letters and over telephone to expeditiously complete the investigation. State Government has requested the Anti Corruption Bureau for expeditiously completing the investigation. However, such enquiries normally take long time. The Assurance is pending since May 2000 and 12 extensions have already been taken.

1.11 In the light of the above, the Ministry requested that they may be absolved from the obligation to fulfill the above assurance.

1.12 The Committee note that a question was asked on 17 May 2000 to know the details of financial assistance given to the State Governments particularly to the Government of Bihar for imparting industrial training to women during the last three years alongwith complaints of misuse of such assistance received and proposal to constitute a monitoring group in this regard. In reply the Government assured the House that the information was being collected from the concerned State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House. The assurance which was supposed to be fulfilled within three months of the date of reply i.e. by 16 August 2000 could not be fulfilled and the Ministry sought extension of time several times to fulfill the assurance. The Ministry could not collect the desired information and rather a request for dropping the long pending assurance was made to the Committee. This request of the Ministry was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 2 August 2005 and it was decided not to drop the assurance.

1.13 The Committee are unhappy to note that even after a lapse of five years the Ministry requested the Committee to drop the assurance on the ground that no complaint regarding misuse of financial assistance was reported (including the State of Bihar) except the State of Andhra Pradesh where the Anti Corruption Bureau is investigating a case to which Central Government has no control. They regret to point out that the Government not only did not furnish the information on the

main part of the question which remained unanswered but took a long time to inform the Committee that only one case in Andhra Pradesh regarding the misuse of the fund had occurred and investigation is in progress. As regards the misuse of funds reported in Andhra Pradesh the Committee do agree with the contention that the Union Government has no control over the State investigating agencies but a monitoring mechanism can certainly be evolved to oversee the proper utilization of the financial assistance provided for the purpose. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Ministry in this regard.

[iii] JOINT VENTURE WITH EUROCOPTER FOR MANUFACTURING OF HELICOPTER

1.14 On 7 August 2003, Shri Dalpat Singh Parste, MP addressed the following Unstarred Question No. 2435, to the Minister of Defence:-

- “(a) Whether European helicopter maker Eurocopter has approached the Ministry of Defence for setting up a Joint venture company with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited to produce its Cougar and Fenner family of military choppers in India;**
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;**
- (c) whether there is any plan under Government’s consideration to replace ageing Cheetah and Chetak helicopters; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?”**

1.15 In reply to above question, the then Minister of Defence (Shri George Fernandes) stated as follows:-

- “(a) & (b): A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Eurocopter has been entered into on 17 June 2003 during the Paris Air Show. The objective of this MOU is to develop co-operative relations in the fields of helicopter, related parts, manufacturing of sub assemblies and assemblies, development of systems and equipment.**
- (c) Yes, sir**
- (d) The proposal to replace the existing fleet of Cheetah and Chetak helicopters of Army Aviation is under consideration of Government.”**

1.16 The above reply was treated as an assurance and was required to be fulfilled by the Ministry of Defence within three months of the date of reply i.e. 6 November 2003. As the Ministry could not fulfill the assurance within the stipulated time, they sought extension of time limit on several occasions.

1.17 The Ministry of Defence vide their O.M. No. 4.(14)/2003/D(Proc) dated 29 March 2005 requested for dropping of the said assurance on the ground that the acquisition proposal for the helicopter in replacement of the existing fleet of Cheetah/Chetak helicopters was being processed as per the Defence Procurement Procedure which was in the initial stages of consideration and was likely to take considerably long time for finalization of the proposal.

1.18 In view of the above reasons, the Ministry requested the Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha to drop the assurance.

1.19 The Committee note that a question was asked on 7 August 2003 regarding Joint Venture with Eurocopter for manufacturing of Helicopter. The question inter-alia sought information regarding the proposal of European Helicopter maker Eurocopter for setting up a Joint Venture company with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for production of military Choppers and also the proposal for replacement of ageing Cheetah and Chetak helicopters. In reply it was inter-alia stated by the Government that a Memorandum of Understanding in this regard was signed between HAL and Eurocopter to develop co-operative relations in the fields of helicopter, related parts, manufacturing of sub assemblies and assemblies, development of systems and equipment. The proposal for replacing the existing fleet of Cheetah and Chetak helicopters was being considered by the Government. This reply was treated as an assurance, however the Ministry of Defence requested the Committee to drop the assurance on the ground that the said proposal was in the initial stages of consideration. This request of the Ministry was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 2 August 2005 and the Committee decided not to drop the assurance.

1.20 The Committee note that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between HAL and Eurocopter will no doubt strengthen the defence of the country but it is equally important to replace the existing ageing fleet of Cheetah and Chetak helicopters for the defence of the country. The Committee are of the view that replacement of the existing

fleet of helicopters is badly needed considering the security of the country. The Committee are not convinced by the reasons advanced by the Ministry for dropping of the assurance on the grounds that it would take considerably long time in finalization of the proposal. As such the Committee desire that the said proposal though still in the initial stages of consideration, should be pursued with almost priority. The Committee would like to be apprised of the present position of the proposal.

[iv] SURVEY OF NEW RAILWAY LINES IN RAJASTHAN

1.21 On 16 December 2004, Shri, Dushyant Singh and Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat, MPs addressed the following Unstarred Question No. 2593, to the Minister of Railways:-

- “(a) the details of new/ongoing and pending rail projects of new rail line and Gauge conversion, doubling and electrification in Rajasthan;**
- (b) the time since when these projects have been under consideration and the time by which they are likely to be completed;**
- (c) the quantum of funds sanctioned by the Union Government during each of the last two years and current financial year for these projects and the initial cost involved in these projects;**
- (d) the target date set for the completion of the survey of those project; and**
- (e) the reasons for neglecting Rajasthan in respect of railways?”**

1.22 In reply to the above question, the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Shri R. Velu) stated as follows:

“(a) to (e): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2593 BY SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH AND PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 16 DECEMBER 2004 REGARDING SURVEY OF NEW RAILWAY LINES IN RAJASTHAN.

(a) to (d):(i) Details of new/ongoing rail projects in Rajasthan alongwith allocation of funds and target date wherever fixed are given as under

(Rs. In crore)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Year of inclusion in the Budget	Initial cost	Budget outlay			Progress and target date wherever fixed.
				2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	
New Lines							
1.	Dausa-Gangapur	1996-97	151.84	15.00	10.00	5.00	Acquisition of land is in progress.
2.	Ramganjmandi-Bhopal	2000-01	425.00	20.00	20.00	27.00	Land acquisition is in progress in Ramganjmandi-Jhalawar section. Work is being progressed as per availability of resources.
3.	Ajmer-Puskhar	2000-01	67.00	10.00	5.00	5.00	Land acquisition is in progress

4.	Kolayat-Phalodi	2002-03	171.00	.01	30.00	81.00	This project is being funded by Ministry of Defence and targeted for completion by 2005-06. earthwork, ballast supply, work in major bridges is in progress.
Gauge Conversion							
5.	Rewari-sadulpur including Sadulpur-Hissar	1997-98	198.00	10.86	7.32	5.00	Tenders for earthwork for Sadulpur-Hissar section (70 Kms.) is under finalization.
6.	Bhildi-Samdri	1990-91	267.00	15.00	30.00	20.00	This work has been taken up by Rail vikas Nigam Limited and part of the work from Samdari to Bhinmal (122 Kms.) has been entrusted to North Western Railway.
7.	Ajmer-chittaurgarh-Udaipur including material modification for extension from Udaipur to Umra	1996-97	262.00	30.00	30.00	41.55	In the first Phase, gauge conversion of Chittaurgarh-Udaipur has been taken up and is targeted for completion during 2004-2005. The work of Ajmer-chittaurgarh section has also been taken up where earthwork and minor/major bridges are in progress.
8.	Sriganganagar-Sarupsar	1997-98	69.00	0.01	4.83	3.21	Detailed estimate for formation work, preliminary expenses and bridge work sanctioned. Tenders for earthwork and bridges are being invited.

9.	Agra Fort-Bandikui	1995-96	88.73	26.00	40.00	40.00	Gauge conversion of Bandikui-Bharatpur has been completed and opened for traffic. The work of gauge conversion of Bandikui-agra Fort is targeted for completion during 2004-05. tenders for track linking are under finalization.
10	Pipar Road-Bilara	1993-94	258.00	5.00	5.00	3.00	Bridgework, earthwork & ballast supply are in progress.
Doubling							
11.	Jaipur-Phulera	2004-05	82.80	-	-	3.0	Preliminary arrangement are being made to take up the work.

(ii) Surveys in progress

Name of Project

Target date, wherever fixed

New Lines

(1)	Phaldoi-Nagaur	31-12.2004
(2)	Jaisalmer-Barmer	31-12-2004
(3)	Pushkar-Merta Road	--
(4)	Jhunjhunu-Pilani	--
(5)	Anupgarh-Bikaner	31-03-2005
(6)	Bilara-Bar	31-12-2004
(7)	Ujjain-Jhalawar/Ramganjmandi	--
(8)	Jaisalmer-Kandla	31-03-2005
(9)	Bari Sadari-Nimach	30-04-2005
(10)	Ratlam-Banswara via Dungarpur	31-12-2004

Gauge Conversion

(11)	Dholpur-Sirmuttra	--
(12)	Sadulpur-Ratangarh-Bikaner & Ratangarh-degana	31-01-2005
(13)	Loharu-Sikar-chura-Ringus-Jaipur & Suratpura-Hanumangarh	--
(14)	Udaipur City-Himmatnagar-Ahmedabad	31-03-2005

Doubling

(15)	Jaipur-Merta Road	31-12-2004
(16)	Delhi-Ahmedabad	30-04-2005

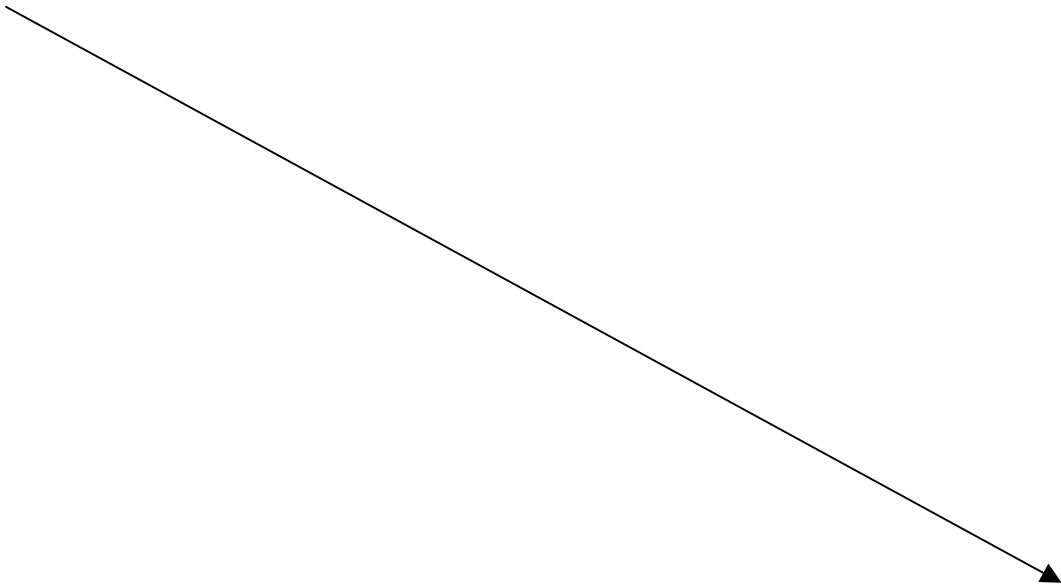
(e) Rajasthan is not being neglected in respect of Railways in view of large number of on-going works in Rajasthan as enumerated above.

1.23 The above reply was treated as an assurance and was required to be fulfilled by the Ministry of Railways within three months of the date of reply i.e. 15 March 2005. As the Ministry could not fulfill the assurance within the stipulated time, they had sought extension of time upto 30 June 2005.

1.24 The Ministry of Railways vide their O.M. No. 2004/W2/PQL/NWR/2593 dated 6 April 2005 requested for dropping of the said assurance on the ground that in reply to the above Question, the progress of new/on-going rail projects in Rajasthan was indicated. It was informed that the work of Ramganjmandi-Bhopal new line was being progressed as per availability of resources, on Kolayat-Phalodi

new line, earthwork, ballast supply, work in major bridges was in progress and on Rewari Sadulpur-Hisar gauge conversion, tenders for earthwork were under finalization, etc. As the progress of on-going works had to be indicated as 'in progress' till their completion, accordingly, the factual status of the project given in reply to the question may not be admitted as an assurance.

1.25 The Ministry therefore, requested the Committee on Government Assurances to drop the assurance.



1.26 A question was asked on 16 December 2004 which sought information inter-alia regarding new/ongoing, pending projects for new rail lines, gauge conversion, electrification and also provision of funds for the projects. In reply the Government furnished the details of various new/ongoing rail projects alongwith allocation of funds and also the target date(s) fixed. The reply was treated as an assurance since work in various projects was under progress. However the Ministry of Railways requested for dropping the assurance on the ground that the factual status of the projects mentioned in the reply may not be construed as an assurance. This request was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 2 August 2005 and it was decided by the Committee not to drop the assurance.

1.27 The Committee note that four projects for new lines, six projects for gauge conversion and two projects for doubling are at various stages of implementation. The Committee are of the view that these projects are vital for the development of the infrastructure of the country and need to be pursued and completed well in time. The Committee desire that the new/ongoing projects should be pursued vigorously and there should not be any let up. Apart from this, the Committee note that though in most of the projects target dates have been fixed but in some projects namely Pushkar-Merta Road, Jhunjhunu-Pilani and Ujjain-Jhalawar/Ramganjmandi projects for new lines and Loharu-Sikar-Chura-

Ringus-Jaipur and Suratpura-Hanumangarh for gauge conversion, no target dates have been fixed. The Committee therefore, urge the Government to fix the target dates for these projects and those targets should be strictly adhered to avoid cost escalation. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Government in this regard and also of the status of the projects.

CHAPTER – II
REQUEST FOR DROPPING OF ASSURANCES (ACCEPTED)

[i] RESERVATION FOR WOMEN IN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

2.1 Fourteen assurances were given in reply to the following Starred and Unstarred Questions by then Ministers in charge of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions in regard to Reservation for Women in Central Government Services:-

- 1. USQ No.5434 dated 10.04.1989**
- 2. USQ No.2092 dated 26.03.1990**
- 3. USQ No.8625 dated 14.05.1990**
- 4. USQ No.611 dated 09.01.1991**
- 5. USQ No.4819 dated 28.08.1991**
- 6. SQ No.81 dated 27.11.1991**
- 7. USQ No.984 dated 27.11.1991**
- 8. SQ No.185 dated 04.12.1991**
- 9. USQ No.1313 dated 04.03.1992**
- 10. USQ No.1468 dated 04.08.1993**
- 11. SQ No.82 dated 08.12.1993**
- 12. USQ No.7231 dated 11.05.1994**
- 13. USQ No.2485 dated 12.12.1995**
- 14. SQ No.13 dated 10.07.1996**

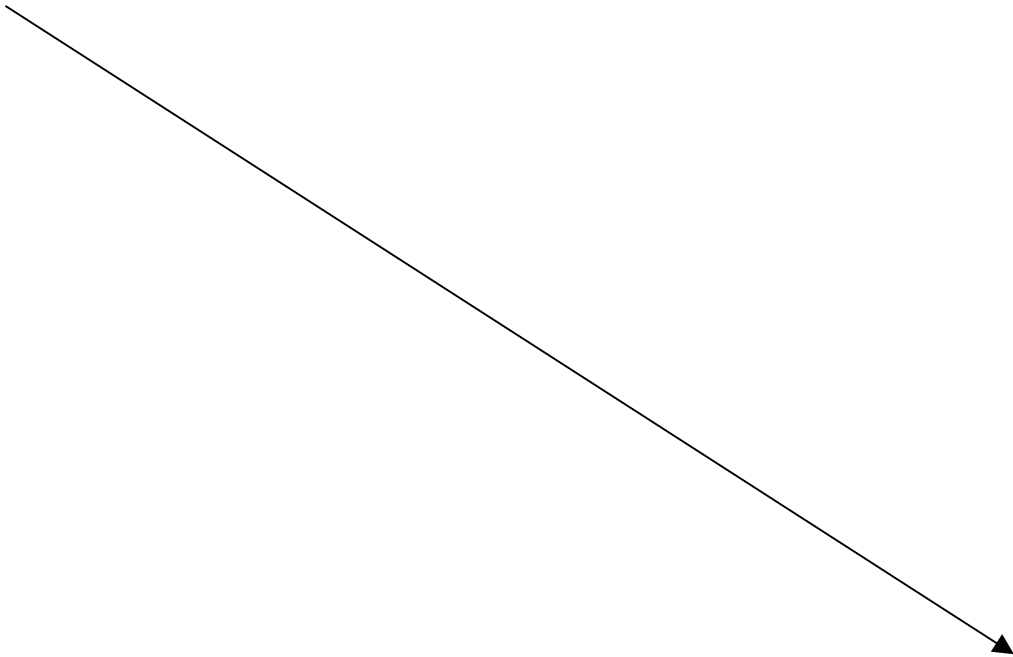
2.2 The above mentioned assurances (Annexures 13 to 26) remained unfulfilled. The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions sought extension of time on several occasions for fulfillment of the aforesaid assurances as the final decision regarding Reservation for Women in Central Government Services had not been taken.

2.3 The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions vide their communication D.O. No. 41017/11/88-Estt.(SCT) dated 5 February 2001 stated that the matter regarding Reservation for Women was considered in a meeting of the Committee of Secretaries held on 4 February 2000 wherein it was endorsed that **"In the matter of direct recruitment of posts for which women are better suited than men, preference should be given to women."** In pursuance of the decision taken in the meeting, the matter was referred to the National Commission set up to review the working of the Constitution.

2.4 They further stated that the matter was submitted to the Prime Minister in July 2000 after seeking legal advice from the Department of Legal Affairs. However, the Prime Minister directed that the status regarding implementation of women's reservation in posts in various State Governments be reviewed and the outcome thereof be submitted to him. Accordingly, the Chief Secretaries of various State Governments were requested to intimate the status in this regard. The matter would be considered further only after the receipt of complete information from various State Governments.

2.5 The Ministry also stated that the process is likely to take considerably long time. They also informed that keeping in view the aforesaid circumstances, the

Committee on Government Assurances, Rajya Sabha agreed to drop all assurances in this regard which were pending in Rajya Sabha since 1988. The Ministry therefore, requested the Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha to drop the above assurances.



2.6 The Committee note that fourteen assurances regarding reservation for women in Central Government Services were given in reply to various Starred and Unstarred Questions tabled from 10 April 1989 to 17 July 1996. These assurances remained unfulfilled. The Committee were later on informed by the Ministry, the circumstances under which there has been a delay in fulfillment of the assurances and were requested to drop all the said fourteen assurances as the process is likely to take considerably a long time. At their sitting held on 19 May 2005 the Committee considered this request of the Ministry. The Committee observed that the matter was referred to the National Commission, set up to review the working of the Constitution. Besides legal advice on the matter was also obtained. Moreover on the directions of Prime Minister, status regarding implementation of women's reservation in posts was being reviewed and the matter would be processed further only after the receipt of complete information from various State Governments. The Committee also observe that the matter is being pursued actively by Government and accordingly the Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurances.

[ii] NATIONAL SKILL DEVELOPMENT FUND

2.7 On 29 April 2002, Shri Ram Mohan Gadde, MP addressed the following Unstarred Question No.5253 to the Minister of Labour:-

- “(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Skill Development Fund in the near future in order to restrict the loss of jobs in the changing economic scenario;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the manner in which the labourers are likely to be benefited by this fund?”**

2.8 In reply, the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour (Shri Muni Lall) stated as follows:-

- “(a) to (c) : A proposal for creation of a Skill Development Fund is under the consideration of the Government.”**

2.9 The reply to the above question was treated as an assurance and was required to be fulfilled by the Ministry of Labour within three months of the date of the reply i.e. by the 29 July 2002. As the assurance was not fulfilled within the stipulated time, the Ministry sought extension of time on several occasions for fulfillment of the aforesaid assurance.

2.10 The Ministry of Labour vide O.M. No.DGE&T-28(2)/2002-A.P. dated 27 October, 2004 requested to drop the assurance on the grounds that setting up of Skill Development Fund was examined in the Labour Ministry in consultation with

IFD. The concept of setting up of Skill Development Fund was to set up a corpus by initial contribution of the Central Government and thereafter receiving contribution from the industries for augmentation of the vocational training facilities in the country.

2.11 The fund was supposed to be managed by a Committee having representatives of Government (Central and State) and Industries.

2.12 After detailed examination, it was found that formation of Skill Development Fund is not feasible due to the following reasons:

1. One scheme, i.e. 'Bharat Shiksha Kosh' is already in operation and run by the Ministry of Human Resource Development which fulfills similar objectives which were proposed to be taken up under the Skill Development Fund (SDF).
2. There is already one scheme to provide training to the retrenched workers which is being run by Department of Public Enterprises.
3. The training and re-training of the existing employees/workers results into higher productivity and the employers can get their employees/workers trained/retrained directly without routing through this SDF, which is also supposed to be funded by the industry.
4. The concept of providing autonomy to the ITIs is through establishment of Institute Management Committees (IMCs) has already been introduced. These Committees are chaired by the representatives of industry and it is expected that additional revenue generation will take place in such institutes after establishment of IMCs. Such additional revenue generation will help encourage vocational training needs.

2.13 In view of the above, the Ministry requested that the above mentioned assurance may be dropped.

2.14 A question was asked on 29 April 2002 to set up National Skill Development Fund to provide job security to the labourers. In reply, the Government stated that proposal for creation of a Skill Development Fund was under consideration. This reply was treated as an assurance. The Ministry of Labour requested the Committee to drop the assurance on the grounds that after detailed examination, the formation of Skill Development Fund was not found feasible. The request of the Ministry was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 19 May 2005 and the Committee noted that a scheme namely 'Bharat Shiksha Kosh' fulfilling those objectives for which the proposed Skill Development Fund was conceived was already in operation and run by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. Besides another scheme regarding training to the retrenched workers is being run by the Department of Public Enterprises. Moreover the training/re-training of the existing employees/workers, result into higher productivity and the employers can get their employees/workers trained/retrained directly without routing through this Skill Development Fund. Apart from this, the concept of providing autonomy to the ITIs through establishment of Institute Management Committees which had already been introduced. Having satisfied by the reasons furnished by the Ministry the Committee decided to drop the assurance.

[iii] NEW ITEMS UNDER ISI MARK

2.15 On 12 December 2003, Shri C.N. Singh & Smt. Nivedita Mane MPs, addressed the following Starred Question No.163 to the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution :-

- “(a) whether the Government has brought some new items under compulsory certification of ISI Mark;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof as on date;**
- (c) whether the Government is considering including other items under ISI Mark;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the time by which this is likely to be done?”**

2.16 In reply to the above question, the then Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution (Shri Sharad Yadav) stated as follows :-

“(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in parts (a) to (e) in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.163 for 12 December 2003 regarding new items under ISI mark.

- (a) & (b) Keeping in view the safety of consumers, Government of India has recently brought 24 new electrical products under Mandatory Certification. The notification in this regard has been issued by Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, vide S.O. No.189(E) dated 17 February 2003 titled ‘Electrical Wires, Cables, Appliances and Protection Devices and Accessories (Quality Control) Order 2003’ under BIS Act. Similarly various types of cement were brought under mandatory certification of BIS vide S.O. No.191(E) dated 17 February 2003**

issued by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.

(b) to (e) Mandatory Certification on products is normally enforced to ensure safety of common consumers keeping in view the aspects such as public health and safety. The final decision to bring any product under Mandatory Certification is taken by the concerned Ministry/Department of the Government of India.

2.17 During the discussion, Shri K. Malaisamy, MP raised the following Supplementary Question :-

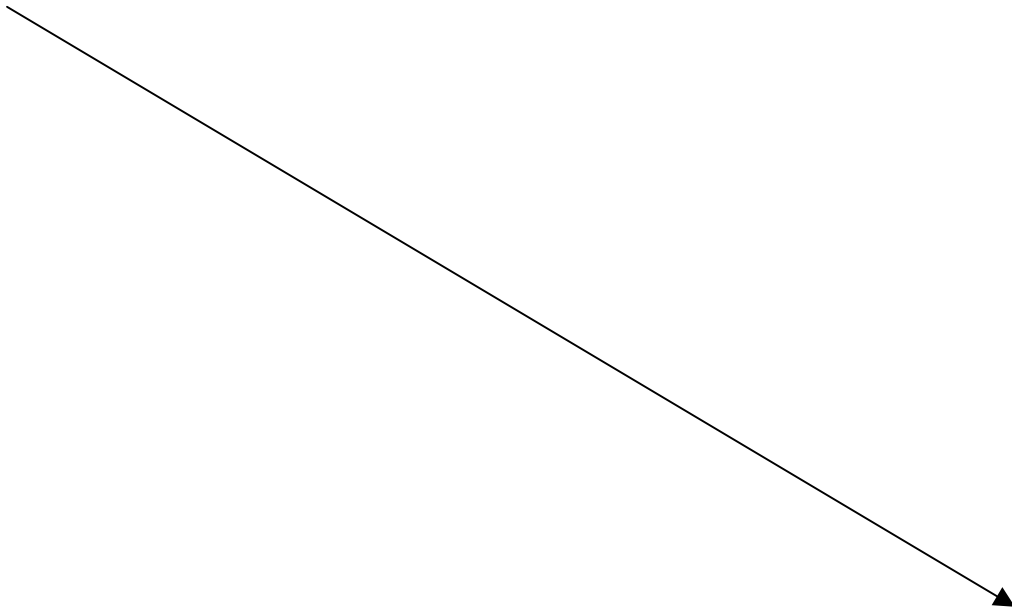
“What is the total number of products we are manufacturing in terms of the varieties? How much is being certified as ISI marked varieties? Is it one per cent or half per cent or negligible or nil? How much is the percentage? Is it half per cent or one per cent?”

2.18 **In reply the Minister stated that information was not available with him and the same will be supplied later.**

2.19 The above reply was treated as an assurance and was required to be fulfilled by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution within three months of the date of reply i.e. 11 March, 2004.

2.20 The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution vide their D.O. No.12/39/2003-BIS dated 31 May 2004 stated that “the matter has been examined in consultation with the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion. BIS is certifying a total of 1130 products as specified in the relevant Indian Standards? Regarding the number of products being produced in the country in terms of variety, the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion has expressed their inability to furnish such information as

they are not maintaining the data on the total number of products being produced in the country in terms of variety. As such it was not possible to determine the percentage of the ISI Marked products to the total number of the products being manufactured in the country". The Ministry therefore, requested that the assurance may be dropped.



2.21 The Committee note that a question was asked on 12 December 2003 regarding new items under ISI mark. The question inter-alia sought information regarding new items brought under compulsory certification of ISI mark and also the items proposed to be included. In reply it was inter-alia stated by the Government that to safeguard the consumers, the Government has brought twenty four new electrical products under mandatory certification for which notification has also been issued. However, a supplementary question was asked during discussion to know inter-alia the total number of products being manufactured in terms of the varieties and how much is being certified as ISI marked varieties its percentage thereof. In its reply, it was stated that the information would be supplied later and this reply was treated as an assurance. The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution requested the Committee to drop the assurance on the ground that the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion has expressed their inability to furnish such information as they are not maintaining the data on the total number of products being produced in the country. The Committee considered the request at their sitting held on 19 May 2005 and having been satisfied by the reasons advanced by the Ministry decided to drop the assurance.

[iv] AMENDMENT IN THE REPRESENTATION OF PEOPLE ACT

2.22 On 3 December 2004, Prof. Chander Kumar, MP addressed the following Unstarred Question No. 540 to the Minister of Law and Justice:-

- (a) whether the Government propose to make amendments in the Representation of Peoples Act in view of the corruption prevailing in the politics;**
- (b) if so, by when;**
- (c) whether the Government also propose to formulate any code of conduct in respect of elected representatives of people;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?**

2.23 In reply to the above question, the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice (Shri K. Venkatapathy) stated as follows:-

(a) to (e): The proposals on electoral reforms emanating from the judgment of the Supreme Court and High Courts and from the recommendations of the Election Commission of India, Law Commission of India and other bodies are under consideration of the Government. The process of reform of electoral laws is, however, a continuous and ongoing process and can be carried out only through consensus among political

parties, which is a time consuming process. No time frame, therefore, can be indicated in this regard.

2.24 The reply to the above question was treated as an assurance and was required to be fulfilled by the Ministry within three months of the date of the reply i.e. by 2 March 2003. As the Ministry could not fulfill the assurance within that time, they sought extension of time upto 2 June 2005.

2.25 The Ministry of Law and Justice vide their OM No.H-11012 (02)/2005-Leg.II dated 15 March 2005, requested for dropping of the above assurance on the ground that there was no intention of the Government of giving any assurance in the matter, and hence it was specifically stated that no time frame can be indicated in respect of implementing the proposals on electoral reforms.

2.26 The Ministry also stated that electoral reform is a continuous and ongoing process. There are always some proposals pending consideration before the Government, received from various sources. Several of these proposals were intentionally very good but un-practical/unfeasible from the implementation point of view. It usually takes many years to concretize these proposals into implementable shape. The proposals thereafter require evolving of political consensus, which is again a very time consuming process, depending upon the political situation of the time as well as the political willingness to effect the reforms. Suggestions on electoral reforms meanwhile keep pouring in. It is, therefore, an unending process and not possible for any Government to complete action on all the pending proposals at any given period of time. It will not be correct, therefore, to deny pendency of these proposals in response to Parliament

Questions thereon, but it will also not be possible to give any commitment as regards the implementation of these proposals. Likewise, if the reply to such Questions are treated as assurance, it would not be possible to fulfill them. In reply to such Questions, therefore, the Government always says that no time frame can be indicted in respect of implementing the proposals on electoral reforms, so as to avoid assurances been made out of such replies.

2.27 The Ministry therefore, requested that the aforesaid position may kindly be brought to the notice of the Committee on Government Assurances and the Committee may be moved for deletion of aforesaid assurance.

2.28 The Committee note that a question was asked on 3 December 2004 regarding amendments in the Representation of Peoples Act in view of the prevailing corruption in politics and formulation of Code of Conduct for elected representatives of the people. In reply, it was inter-alia stated that the proposals on electoral reforms emanating from various sources were under consideration. The reply was treated as an assurance but could not be fulfilled. The Committee were therefore requested to drop the assurance on the grounds that there was no intention of the Government of giving any assurance in the matter, and hence it was specifically stated that no time frame can be indicated in respect of implementing the proposals on electoral reforms. The Committee considered the request at their sitting held on 19 May 2005 and noted that electoral reforms is a continuous and ongoing process. There are always some proposals pending consideration before the Government received from various sources which require evolving of political consensus and which itself is a very time consuming process depending upon political situation of the time as well as the political willingness to effect the reforms. The Committee also note that it is an unending process and not possible for any Government to complete action on all the pending proposals at any given period of time. The Committee having been satisfied by the reasons advanced by the Ministry decided to drop the assurance.

[v] VISIT OF OFFICIALS

2.29 On 1 December 1999, Shri Manikrao Hodlya Gavit, MP addressed the following Unstarred Question No. 427 to the Minister of External Affairs :-

- “(a) the details of officials of his ministry visited abroad during each of the last three years alongwith the objective of their visit;**
- (b) the amount spent on each visit;**
- (c) whether his ministry had granted permission to all of them for their visit; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the action taken by the Government in this regard?”**

2.30 In reply, the then Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jaswant Singh) stated as follows:-

- “(a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.”**

2.31 The reply to the above question was treated as assurances and was required to be fulfilled by the Ministry of External Affairs within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance could not be fulfilled within the stipulated time.

2.32 The Ministry of External Affairs vide D.O. letter No. AA/125/Parl/105/1999 dated 16 June 2005 requested to drop the assurance on the grounds that partial Implementation Report which runs into 133 pages was submitted to Ministry of

Parliamentary Affairs on 7 March, 2005 (Annexure-27). It was also stated that the implementation report has been submitted partially because the information was still awaited from a couple of Divisions. Moreover some Divisions had not furnished expenditure incurred on the visits because, it was difficult to get expenditure details for each and every visit as the concerned TA bills had been weeded out.

2.33 In view of the above, the Ministry requested the Committee to consider the partial Fulfillment Report (laid on the Table of the House on 11 May 2005) as finally fulfilled and drop the assurance.

2.34 A question was asked on 1 December 1999 regarding foreign visits of officials of the Ministry of External Affairs and the amount spent on each visit. In reply, the Government assured that the information, would be placed on the Table of the House, after the same is collected. Accordingly, the Ministry collected the information from its various divisions and submitted a partial fulfillment report of the assurance. The Ministry also requested the Committee to consider the partial fulfillment report as final fulfillment of the assurance. This request was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 2 August 2005. The Committee observed that the partial fulfillment report itself ran into 133 pages. The Committee also noted that because of long time gap and weeding out of relevant TA Bills, expenditure on each of the visit could not be ascertained and having satisfied by the reasons advanced by the Ministry, the Committee decided to drop the assurance.

[vi] BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

2.35 On 20 December 2000, Shri Ram Prasad Singh, MP addressed the following Unstarred Question No. 4790 to the Minister of External Affairs :-

- “(a) the names of countries with which Government have signed bilateral agreements in different sectors during the last three years till date; and**
- (b) the details of the major provisions of the agreements?”**

2.36 In reply, the then Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Ajit Kumar Panja) stated as follows:-

- “(a) & (b) Sir, the information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.”**

2.37 On 18 April 2001, S/Shri Chandrakant Khaire, P.D. Elangovan, Thawar Chand Gehlot and Jaswant Singh Bishnoi, MPs addressed the following Unstarred Question No. 4635 to the Minister of External Affairs :-

- “(a) the countries with which agreements in different sectors have been signed by the Union Government during the last three years till date; and**
- (b) the details thereof, sector-wise?”**

2.38 In reply, the then Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri U.V. Krishnam Raju) stated as follows:-

“(a) & (b) the information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.”

2.39 The replies to the above questions were treated as assurances and were required to be fulfilled by the Ministry of External Affairs within three months of the date of their replies but the assurances could not be fulfilled within the stipulated time.

2.40 The Ministry of External Affairs vide D.O. letters No. AA/125/Parl/138/2000 and AA/125/Parl/71/2001 dated 9 June 2005 requested to drop the assurances on the grounds that the partial Implementation Report of the above said assurances in the prescribed format was forwarded to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The Implementation Report (Annexure 28) was submitted partially because the information was still awaited from 4 Ministries in respect of USQ No.4790 and from 6 Ministries in respect of USQ No.4635. These Ministries were finding it difficult to furnish information to these questions due to the long delay and also because the questions were of omnibus nature and that too for the period of 3 years.

2.41 In view of the above, the Ministry requested the Committee to consider the partial Fulfillment Report being laid on the Table of the House as finally fulfilled and drop both the assurances.

2.42 The Committee note that two questions were asked regarding bilateral agreements on 20 December 2000 and 18 April 2001 respectively. The question sought information regarding agreements signed by the Union Government in different sectors during the last three years and also about the major provisions of the agreements. In reply to both of the questions, assurances were given that the desired information would be placed on the Table of the House. Accordingly the Ministry of External Affairs collected the information and laid partial fulfillment report for the fulfillment of the assurances and also requested the Committee to treat the said report as final. The Committee considered this request of the Ministry at their sitting held on 9 August 2005 and noted that it is really difficult for various Ministries to furnish information regarding bilateral agreements due to the long delay and having satisfied with the reasons advanced by the Ministry the Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance.

[vii] THE COMPETITION BILL, 2001

2.43 On 16 December 2002 Shri Rupchand Pal, M.P., during discussion on the Competition Bill, 2001 inter-alia desired to know "whether it is applicable in the case of deputationists also who have rendered valuable services and have acquired professionalism in this particular area?"

2.44 In reply the then Minister of Finance and Company Affairs (Shri Jaswant Singh) inter-alia stated that "let there be no ambiguity about it. Nobody will be compelled to give up his job. We will absorb all – whether they are deputationists or others – the only criterion being they should be absorbable. It will be done with as broader a mind as possible"

2.45 The above reply was treated as assurance and was required to be fulfilled by the Ministry of Company Affairs within three months from the date of reply i.e. 15 March 2003 but the Ministry could not fulfill the assurance and therefore sought extension of time on several occasions.

2.46 The Ministry of Company Affairs vide their D.O. letter No.9/6/2003-IGC dated 22 February 2005 requested to drop the assurance on the ground that the point made by the Hon'ble Minister during the discussion in the Lok Sabha was of the nature of clarification rather than an assurance. There are specific provisions in section 66(2) of the Competition Act, 2002, which deal with the manner in which the existing employees of MRTPC are to be dealt with, and were clarified by the Hon'ble Minister of Finance in the House. The Ministry also stated that similar assurance was dropped by the Committee on Government Assurances, Rajya Sabha, on their request.

2.47 The Committee note that on 16 December 2002 during discussion on the Competition Bill, 2001, Shri Rupchand Pal, M.P. desired to know “whether it is applicable in the case of deputationists also who have acquired professionalism in this particular area?” In reply, the then Minister of Finance inter-alia stated that nobody would be compelled to give up his job and those absorbable would be absorbed. This reply was treated as an assurance. However, the Ministry requested the Committee to drop the assurance as the reply does not constitute as an assurance and rather it is a clarification. Accordingly the Committee considered the request of the Ministry at their sitting held on 2 August 2005 and having satisfied with the reasons advanced by the Ministry decided to drop the assurance.

[viii] CASES REFERRED TO CBI

2.48 On 22 December 2004, Shri, Bir Singh Mahato and Shri Harikewal Prasad, MPs addressed the following Unstarred Question No. 3530, to the Prime Minister:-

- “(a) whether the number of cases of Delhi Police have been referred to the CBI for investigation;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;**
- (c) the number of cases out of the above in respect of which investigation has not been completed so far alongwith the reasons therefore;**
- (d) whether the investigation work has been hampered in several cases due to the involvement of senior officers of Delhi Police.**
- (e) if so, the number of the officers above the level of Joint commissioner found involved in these cases; and**
- (f) the reaction of the Government in this regard?”**

2.49 In reply to the above question, the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.(Shri Suresh Pachouri) stated as follows:-

- “(a) & (c): Yes, sir. 10 cases involving 31 Delhi Police Officials have been referred to CBI during the last three years i.e. 2002, 2003, 2004 on the orders of High Court of Delhi. Out of 10 cases, 4 are pending under investigation.**
- (b) No, sir.**
- (c) Nil**
- (d) Does not arise.”**

2.50 The above reply was treated as an assurance and was required to be fulfilled by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievance and Pensions within three months of the date of reply i.e. by 22 March 2005. As the Ministry could not fulfill the assurance within the stipulated time, they sought extension of time upto 21 June 2005 or till the dropping of the assurance whichever is earlier.

2.51 The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions vide their O.M. No. 228/40/2004-AVD-II dated 6 April 2005 requested for dropping of the said assurance on the ground that the reply to the Question may not be treated as an assurance as the process of investigation is a legal matter and an ongoing process. Details of cases under investigation are not publicized till completion of their investigation as it may adversely affect the investigation. These cases are pursued and monitored to bring them to their logical conclusion.

2.52 In view of the above fact, the Ministry requested the Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha to drop the assurance.

2.53 A question was asked on 22 December 2004 regarding cases of Delhi Police referred to CBI for investigation in the last three years. The question also sought information inter-alia about pending cases and the reasons thereof. In reply it was stated that 10 cases involving 31 Delhi Police officials were referred to CBI in the last three years and 4 cases were being investigated. This reply was treated as an assurance. However, the Ministry requested the Committee to drop the assurance on the ground that investigation is legal as well as an ongoing process. Moreover, the details of such cases cannot be publicized till completion of the investigation. Accordingly the Committee at their sitting held on 2 August 2005 considered the request and acceded to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance.

NEW DELHI;

30 November, 2005

9 Agrahayana, 1927 (Saka)

(HARIN PATHAK)

CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4372

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.8.1994)

RESERVATION IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

USQ NO.4372. SHRI A. ASOKARAJ:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to stated:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to provide reservation of seats in the educational institutions for the Backward Classes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

.....

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WELFARE

SHRI SITARAM KESRI

- (a) & (b): The matter is under examination of the Government.
- (c): No time limit can be indicated at this stage.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1441

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.3.1995)

RESERVATION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES

USQ NO.1441. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have taken any decision to provide reservation for backward classes in the educational institutions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for inordinate delay?

.....

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU)

- (a) & (b): This issue is under consideration.
- (c): The reason for the delay is that the consultations with the political parties on various issues relating to reservation including this one have not been completed as yet.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.711

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.11.1995)

RESERVATION FOR OBCs

USQ NO.711. SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to provide reservation of seats in general and professional collages for students belonging to other backward classes (OBCs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

.....

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR WELFARE SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU

(a) to (c): This issue is under active consideration of the Government.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.969

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.7.1996)

RESERVATION FOR OBCs

USQ NO.969. SHRI O.P. JINDAL:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.396 on February 29, 1996 and state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to provide reservation of seats in educational institutions including technical institutions to the students belonging to other backward classes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

.....

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WELFARE SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

- (a) to (c): This matter is under consideration of the Government.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1821

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 4.8.1997)

RESERVATION TO BACKWARD CLASSES

USQ NO.1821. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

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

- (a) whether the Government have made any efforts to provide 27 per cent reservation to the backward classes in the educational institutions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) to (c): The question of providing 27 per cent reservation to Backward Classes in educational institutions is under active consideration of the Government and a decision is likely to be taken soon in this regard.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.904

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 2.6.1998)

RESERVATION TO BACKWARD CLASSES

USQ NO.904. SHRI BHASKAR RAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have decided to provide reservation for backward classes in educational institutions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) :

(a) to (c): A proposal to provide reservation to other backward classes in educational institutions is under consideration.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1935

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 9.6.1998)

RESERVATION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

USQ NO.1935. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have taken a decision to provide 27 per cent reservation for the backward classes in educational institutions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) :

(a) to (c): No, Sir.

A proposal for providing 27% reservation to Backward Classes in educational institutions is under consideration of the Government.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4096

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.7.1998)

RESERVATION FOR O.B.C.

**USQ NO.4096. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI:
SHRI VAIKO:
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN:**

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposed to consider for providing 27% reservation for Other Backward Classes in educational institutions under the Central Government;
- (b) if so, the decision taken by the Government during the current session in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

.....

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) :

(a), (b) and (c): A proposal for providing reservation to OBCs in the educational institutions is under consideration of the Government.

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.323

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.1998)

RESERVATION FOR O.B.C.

SQ NO.323. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANABAD):

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are contemplating to provide reservation to the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in educational institutions including medical and vocational institutes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) :

- (a) to (c): The matter is under consideration.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2563

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.1998)

RESERVATION FOR SCs/STs IN MEDICAL COLLEGES

**USQ NO.2563. DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:**

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are contemplating to make provisions for reservation to the Other Backward Classes in education and commercial institutions including medical and dental colleges;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) :

(a) to (c): The matter relating to reservation for Other Backward Classes in Educational institutions is under consideration.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1501

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.3.1995)

RELAXATION TO BACKWARD CLASS CANDIDATES

USQ NO.1501. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have considered to exempt from payment of fees and to increase opportunities and relax the age limit for the candidates belonging to backward classes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU) :

(a) to (c): Yes sir. The Government have relaxed upper age limit for direct recruitments by three years in respect of Other Backward Classes with effect from 25.1.1995. The number of attempts permissible to Other Backward Classes candidates, who are other wise eligible, shall be seven in Civil Services Examinations. Decision regarding exemption from payment of fees is under consideration.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.396

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.2.1996)

ADMISSION TO BACKWARD CLASS CANDIDATES IN TECHNICAL INSTITUTIONS

USQ NO.396. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether admission to candidates of backward classes in technical institutes, such as ITI is being given as per the reservation norms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefore; and
- (d) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) :

(a) to (d): There is no reservation for OBC Candidates in educational institutions including technical institutions so far, but the matter is under active consideration of the Government. No time limit can be indicated at this stage.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5434

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.4.1989)

JOBS RESERVATION FOR WOMEN

USQ NO.5434. CHOWDHRY AKHTAR HASAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether there is any proposal to reserve jobs for women in Union Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof stating the percentage of reservation proposed; and
- (c) the total percentage of reservation for all categories including women?

.....

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) :

- (a), (b) & (c): The proposal to reserve jobs for women in Government is under examination.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2092

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.3.1990)

RESERVATION OF JOBS FOR WOMEN

USQ NO.2092. SHRI ARVIND NETAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether Government are considering to make reservation in certain categories of jobs for women; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

.....

ANSWER

PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS (SHRI V.P. SINGH) :

(a) and (b): Yes Sir, the matter is under examination.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.8625

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.5.1990)

RESERVATION OF JOBS FOR WOMEN

USQ NO.8625. MADHAV RAO SCINDIA:

- (a) Whether the Government have considered the question of reservation of seats in the Central Civil Services and other All India Seervices for women; and
- (b) if so, what decision has been taken, in this regard; and
- (c) if no decision has yet been taken, at what stage the matter stands and when a decision is likely to be taken?

.....

ANSWER

PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) :

- (a) & (c): The issue of reservation for women in certain appropriate vocations/services under the Government is under examination.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.611

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 9.1.1991)

RESERVATION OF JOBS FOR WOMEN

USQ NO.611. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government have had under consideration a proposal of reserving certain percentage of posts for women in the Central Government Services and Public Undertakings; and
- (b) if so, the decision taken in this regard indicating the nature of such posts?

.....

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA) :

- (a) & (b): The matter is still under consideration of Government.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4819

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.8.1991)

WOMEN EMPLOYEES

USQ NO.4819. SHRI P.P. KALIAPERUMAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the strength and percentage of women employees out of the total strength of the Central Government employees as on 31 July 1991, group-wise;
- (b) whether the Government propose to provide for reservation for women in Central Government services and Public Undertakings; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

.....

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA) :

- (a) The data regarding the groupwise strength and percentage of women employees out of the total strength of Central Government employees as on 31 July 1991 is not available.
- (b) & (c) A proposal to provide for reservation for women in services under the Central Government is under consideration.

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.81

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.11.1991)

RESERVATION OF POSTS IN CIVIL SERVICES

SQ NO.81. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the notification issued recently on the reservation of posts in the civil services;
- (b) whether the notification is in the tune with the provisions of the Constitution and the various judgments delivered by the Supreme Court on the subject from time to time;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefore;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to provide reservation to the wards of the retiring Government employees also; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

.....

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA) :

(a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) :-

A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE
STARRED QUESTION NO.81 FOR ANSWER ON 27.11.1991

A copy of the Office Memorandum No.36012/31/90-Estt.(SCT) dated 25.9.91 issued by this Ministry is annexed. This Office Memorandum is by way of modification of the Office Memorandum of same number issued earlier on 13 August 1990. The Office Memorandum dated 13 August 1990 and 25 September 1991 are being challenged in the Supreme Court and therefore subjudice.

2. There is no proposal to provide reservation to the wards of retiring Government employees.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.984

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.11.1991)

RESERVATION OF JOBS FOR WOMEN

**USQ NO.984. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU:**

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have taken any decision to provide reservation to women in services under the Union Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for the delay in taking a decision in the matter?

.....

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA) :

- (a), (b) & (c) The matter is still under examination.

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.185

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 4.12.1991)

WOMEN IN CIVIL SERVICES

SQ NO.185. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and percentage of women in the Civil Services at present, State-wise; and
- (b) the steps initiated by the Government to encourage women to enter into the civil services?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA) :

- (a): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.
- (b): The following steps have been initiated by the Government in recent years for attracting women to Civil Services :
 - (i) The policy of inter-cadre transfer of All India Services has been relaxed in the case of single women officers allotted to the North-eastern cadres and J&K. It has also been decided not to allot women officers to these cadres for a period of 5 years from 1990.
 - (ii) On marriage, change of cadre of either of the two officers (provided both belong to the All India Services) is permitted to ensure that they are in the same State cadre with the condition that the transfer is not to his/her home State.

- (iii) Rules relating to grant of leave in continuation of maternity leave are in the process of being liberalized.
- (iv) Guidelines for posting husband and wife together wherever possible have been issued.
- (v) T.V. serials and spot advertisement have been encouraged over the national net work commending the role played by women officers in Civil Services.

TENTH LOK SABHA, SECOND SESSION

MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS

Q. No., Date and Name of the Member	Subject	Promise Made
Supplementary Question to Starred Question No.185 dated 04.12.1991 asked by Shri Bhogendra Jha	<p><u>Number of Women in Civil Services</u></p> <p>Hon'ble Member stated that "I am not demanding something separate for women but what efforts are being made by the Government to fix a certain ratio in all existing and future reserved categories as a matter of policy so that a certain proportion is fixed for women in each category whether it is in Tribal or Harijans or backward classes. I would like the Prime Minister to assure the country on this account in the House."</p>	Prime Minister stated that "our intentions are good and the matter is still under examination."

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1313

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 4.3.1992)

RESERVATION FOR WOMEN EMPLOYEES

USQ NO.1313. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the matter regarding the reservation for women has been examined;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefore?

.....

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA) :

(a), (b) & (c) The matter regarding reservation for women in services under the Central Government is under consideration.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1468

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 4.8.1993)

RESERVATION FOR WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT JOBS

**USQ NO.1468. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a decision has since been taken in the matter of reserving a percentage of jobs in different Government and other Public Sector services for women;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the time by which a decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA):

(a), (b) & (c) No, Sir. The proposal is under consideration.

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.82

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 8.12.1993)

RESERVATION FOR WOMEN

**SQ NO.82. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
 SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposal to provide 30 per cent reservation for women in Central Government services has since been finalised;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken in this regard?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA) :

(a), (b) & (c) The proposal is still under consideration.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.7231

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 11.5.1994)

RESERVATION FOR WOMEN IN CIVIL SERVICES

USQ NO.7231. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal under consider of the Government to provide 30% reservation for women in Civil Services;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefore?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA) :

- (a), (b) & (c) Yes, Sir. The matter is under consideration.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2485

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.1995)

RECOMMENDATIONS OF NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

USQ NO.2485. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have supported and cleared the proposal of National Commission for Women for 30% reservation for women in all the Government jobs;
- (b) if so, the time by which the final decision for its implementation is likely to be taken?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (KUM. VIMLA VERMA) :

(a) & (b): The matter relating to providing reservation for women in Government jobs is under consideration of the Government.

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.13

(TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.7.1996)

RESERVATION FOR WOMEN

SQ NO.13. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to provide 33% reservation to women also in Central Government Services in addition to the provision of reservation in Lok Sabha, Legislative Assemblies, Rajya Sabha and Legislative Councils; and
- (b) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce Constitution Amendment Bill in this regard during the ensuing session of Parliament?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) :

(a), & (b) The Government are considering a proposal to provide reservation for women in Government jobs.

MINUTES
TENTH SITTING

Minutes of the Tenth sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances held on May, 19, 2005 at 1100 hours in Committee Room 'E' Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

The Committee sat on Thursday, May 19, 2005 from 1100 hours to 1230 hours.

PRESENT

CHAIRMAN

Shri Harin Pathak

Members

2. **Shri Anandrao Vithoba Adsul**
3. **Shri Sunil Khan**
3. **Shri Rasheed Masood**
4. **Shri Kailash Meghwal**
5. **Shri A. Venkatesh Naik**
6. **Shri V. Aruna Kumar**
7. **Shri Mohan Jena**

Secretariat

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Shri S.K. Sharma | - | Additional Secretary |
| 2. | Shri P. Sreedharan | - | Joint Secretary |
| 3. | Shri A.K. Singh | - | Director |
| 4. | Shri K. Jena | - | Under Secretary |

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members and apprised them briefly about the requests received from various Ministries regarding dropping of Assurances. Thereafter, the Committee took up the following Memoranda:-

Memorandum No.28 Request for dropping of assurances given in reply to various Starred/Unstarred Questions tabled from 10.4.1989 to 17.7.1996 regarding 'Reservation for Women in Central Government Services'. (USQ No.5434 dated 10.4.1989, USQ No.2092 dated 26.3.1990, USQ No.8625 dated 14.5.1990, USQ No.611 dated 9.1.1991, USQ No.4819 dated 28.8.1991, SQ No.81 dated 27.11.1991, USQ No.984 dated 27.11.1991, SQ No.185 dated 4.12.1991, USQ No.1313 dated 4.3.1992, USQ No.1468 dated 4.8.1993, SQ No.82 dated 8.12.1993, USQ No.7231 dated 11.5.1994, USQ No.2485 dated 12.12.1995, SQ No.13 dated 17.7.1996)

The committee considered the above memorandum and noted that in the meeting of Committee of Secretaries held on 4/2/2000 it was endorsed that in the matter of direct recruitment of posts for which women are better suited than men, preference should be given to women. The Committee also noted that in pursuance of the decision taken in the meeting, the matter was referred to the National Commission set up to review the working of the Constitution. The Committee, therefore, decided to drop the assurances. However, the Committee desired that a Status Report regarding implementation of reservation for women in State Governments as well as Central Government Services be furnished for their consideration.

Memorandum No. 29 Request for dropping of assurances given in reply to various Starred/Unstarred Questions tabled from 25.8.1994 to 22.12.1998 regarding reservation of OBC candidates in educational institutions (USQ No.4372 dated 25.8.1994, USQ NO.1441 dated 23.3.1995, USQ No.1501 dated 23.3.1995, USQ No.711 dated 30.11.1995, USQ No.396 dated 29.2.1996, USQ No.969 dated 18.7.1996, USQ No.1821 dated 4.8.1997, SQ No.904 dated 2.6.1998, USQ No.1935 dated 9.6.1998, USQ No.4096 dated 14.7.1998, USQ No.2563 dated 15.12.1998, USQ No.323 dated 22.12.1998)

The Committee considered the above memorandum and observed that the matter of reservation for Other Backward Classes in Educational Institutions under the Central Government is a major policy decision, affecting a large section of people of the society. The Committee, therefore, desired that the Government should take final view at the earliest and frame the Policy accordingly. The Committee, therefore, decided not to drop the assurance.

Memorandum No. 30 Request for dropping of assurance given on 15.4.1999 in reply to USQ No.3669 regarding 'Operation Leech' conducted in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The Committee noted that the case has been pending with C.B.I. for investigation since 1998. The Committee, therefore, desired to know the reasons for delay in the investigation by C.B.I. and decided that all the assurances which are being investigated by C.B.I. may be enlisted and the representatives of C.B.I. may be called for oral evidence. The Committee, therefore, decided to not to drop the assurance.

Memorandum No. 31 Request for dropping of assurance given on April 29, 2002 in reply to USQ No.5253 regarding National Skill Development Fund.

The Committee considered the above memorandum and found that formation of Skill Development Fund has not been considered feasible because of the fact that four schemes are already in operation which fulfill similar objectives as were proposed to be taken up under the Skill Development Fund. The Committee, therefore, decided to drop the assurance.

Memorandum No. 32 Request for dropping of assurance given on 12th December, 2003 in reply to SQ No.163 regarding New Items Under ISI Mark.

The Committee considered the above-mentioned memorandum and decided to drop the assurance on the grounds that the Government is not maintaining the data on the total number of products being produced in the country in terms of variety and as such it is not possible to determine the percentage of the ISI marked products to the total number of products being manufactured in the country.

Memorandum No. 33 Request for dropping of assurance given on 3rd December, 2004 in reply to USQ No.540 regarding 'Amendment in the Representation of People Act'.

The Committee considered the above mentioned memorandum and decided to drop the assurance. The Committee felt that reforms of electoral laws

is a continuous and on-going process and there are always some proposals pending before the Government for consideration.

Memorandum No. 34 Request for dropping of assurance given on 15th December, 2004 in reply to USQ No.2317 regarding delay in construction of Chanceries abroad.

The Committee considered the above memorandum and desired to know about the projects which are under construction abroad and also about the projects, which have been completed. The Committee, therefore, decided to call the representatives of Ministry of External Affairs for oral evidence.

After considering the above mentioned memoranda the Committee met the Hon'ble Chairman and members of the Committee on Government Assurances, Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly and held informal discussion on points of common interest and exchanged the views regarding functioning of the both the Committees on Government Assurances.

The Committee then adjourned.

MINUTES
THIRTEENTH SITTING

Minutes of the sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances held on August 02, 2005 at 1500 hours in Committee Room 'E' Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

The Committee sat on Tuesday, August 02, 2005 from 1500 hours to 1530 hours.

PRESENT

CHAIRMAN

Shri Harin Pathak

Members

2. Shri Anandrao Vithoba Adsul
3. J.M. Aaroon Rashid
4. Shri Biren Singh Engti
5. Shri A. Venkatesh Naik
6. Shri M. Shivanna
7. Shri V. Aruna Kumar

Secretariat

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. | Shri S.K. Sharma | - | Additional Secretary |
| 2. | Shri P. Sreedharan | - | Joint Secretary |
| 3. | Shri A.K. Singh | - | Director |
| 4. | Shri K. Jena | - | Under Secretary |

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members and apprised them about the agenda of the meeting. Thereafter, the Committee considered the draft third report of the Committee regarding Amendment of Minimum Act, 1948 and adopted the same. The Committee then took up the following Memoranda for consideration:-

Memorandum No.35 Request for dropping of assurance given on 1 December, 1999 in reply to Unstarred Question No.427 regarding "Visit of Officials".

The Committee considered the above-mentioned memorandum and observed that the partial implementation report submitted by the Ministry itself runs into 133 pages. The Committee also observed that the Ministry has done a good job for implementation of the assurance. The Committee, therefore, decided to drop the assurance.

Memorandum No.36 Request for dropping of assurance given on 17 May 2000 in reply to Unstarred Question No.7954 regarding "Industrial Training Institutes for Women".

The Committee considered the above-mentioned memorandum and noted that the main part of the question has not been replied by the Ministry. The Committee, therefore, decided not to drop the assurance.

Memorandum No.37 Request for dropping of assurance given on 20 December 2000 and 18 April 2001 in reply to Unstarred Question Nos.4790 and 4635 respectively regarding "Bilateral Agreement".

After considering the above-mentioned memorandum, the Committee were of the view that substantial amount of information has been collected by the Ministry which runs into 23 pages and the questions are of omnibus nature and that too for a period of three years. The Committee, therefore, decided to drop the assurance.

Memorandum No.38 Request for dropping of assurance given on 16 December 2002 during discussion on the Competition Bill.

The Committee considered the above-mentioned memorandum and noted that the point made by the Hon'ble Minister during the discussion in the Lok Sabha was in the nature of a clarification rather than an assurance. The Committee, therefore, decided to drop the assurance.

Memorandum No.39 Request for dropping of assurance given on 7 August 2003 during in reply to Unstarred Question No.2435 regarding "Joint Venture with Eurocopter for Manufacturing of Helicopter".

The Committee considered the above-mentioned memorandum and noted that acquisition proposal for the helicopter in replacement of the existing fleet of Cheetak/Chetak helicopters is being processed as per the Defence Procurement Procedure. The Committee also noted that the replacement of the helicopter is badly needed considering the security of the country. The Committee were of the view that the outdated helicopter should be replaced as soon as possible. The Committee therefore, decided not to drop the assurance.

Memorandum No.40 Request for dropping of assurance given on 16 December 2004 in reply to Unstarred Question No.2593 regarding "Survey of New Railway Lines in Rajasthan".

The Committee considered the above-mentioned memorandum and observed that some projects are still in progress. The Committee, decided to obtain the status report of the projects from the Ministry and therefore, decided not to drop the assurance.

Memorandum No.41 Request for dropping of assurance given on 22 December 2004 in reply to Unstarred Question No.3530 regarding "Cases referred to CBI".

The Committee considered the above-mentioned memorandum and found that the process of the investigation is a legal matter as well as an ongoing process. Moreover, the details of cases under investigation cannot be publicized till completion of their investigation as it may adversely affect the investigation. The Committee, therefore, decided to drop the assurance.

The Committee then adjourned.

MINUTES

THIRD SITTING

Minutes of the sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances (2005-2006) held on 30 November 2005 in Committee Room 'B', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

The Committee sat on Wednesday 30 November 2005 from 1500 hours to 1530 hours.

PRESENT

Shri Harin Pathak - ***Chairman***

Members

2. Shri Anandrao Vithoba Adsul
3. Shri Ajit Singh
4. Shri Biren Singh Engti
5. Shri Sunil Khan
6. Shri Aruna Kumar Vundavalli

Secretariat

1. Shri P. Sreedharan - Joint Secretary
2. Shri T.K. Mukherjee - Director
3. Shri K. Jena - Under Secretary

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members and apprised them about the agenda of the sitting.

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XXXXXXXXXXXX

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3. The Committee then considered the Draft Sixth Report regarding requests for dropping of pending assurances and after discussion adopted the same.
4. The Committee also authorized the Chairman to present the Report to the House.

The Committee then adjourned.