

COMMITTEE
ON
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2010-2011)

(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)
SIXTEENTH REPORT

REQUESTS FOR DROPPING OF
ASSURANCES

Presented to Lok Sabha on 30 August, 2011



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

August, 2011/Bhadrapada, 1933 (Saka)

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13. Unstarred Question No. 4479 dated 22 April, 2010 regarding Preservation of Minority Languages.
14. Unstarred Question No. 926 dated 30 July, 2010 regarding Real Estate under GST.
15. Unstarred Question No. 2311 dated 9 August, 2010 regarding Induction of AWACS.
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17. Unstarred Question No. 15 dated 9 November, 2010 regarding New Consumer Law.
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19. Unstarred Question No. 2184 dated 23 November, 2010 regarding Upgradation of NHs.
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Appendix-II

- I Minutes of the Sitting of the Committee held on 21 July, 2011.
- II Minutes of the Sitting of the Committee held on 23 August, 2011.

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(2010 - 2011)

Shrimati Maneka Gandhi - **Chairperson**

MEMBERS

2. Shri Anandrao Adsul
3. Shri Avtar Singh Bhadana
4. Shri Dara Singh Chauhan
5. Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar
6. Shri Mohan Jena
7. Shri Raghuvir Singh Meena
8. Shri Bishnu Pada Ray
9. Shri K.J.S.P. Reddy
10. Shri M. Rajamohan Reddy
11. Shri Takam Sanjoy
12. Rajkumari Ratna Singh
13. Dr. M. Thambidurai
14. Shri Manohar Tirkey
15. Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. | Shri P. Sreedharan | - | Additional Secretary |
| 2. | Shri R.S. Kambo | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri D.S. Malha | - | Additional Director |
| 4. | Shri Kulvinder Singh | - | Committee Officer |

* The Committee was constituted on 23 September, 2010 *vide* Para No. 1948 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 22 September, 2010.

INTRODUCTION

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

2. The Committee (2010-2011) at their sitting held on 21 July, 2011 considered Memoranda Nos. 47 to 87 respectively containing requests received from the Ministries/Departments for dropping of pending assurances.

3. At their sitting held on 23 August, 2011, the Committee (2010-2011) considered and adopted their Sixteenth Report.

4. The Minutes of the aforesaid sitting of the Committee form part of this report.

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

NEW DELHI;

23 August; 2011

1 Bhadrapada, 1933 (Saka)

MANEKA GANDHI
CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

REPORT

While replying to Questions in the House or during discussions on Bills, Resolutions, Motions, etc., Ministers sometimes give assurances, undertakings or promises either to consider a matter, take action or furnish information to the House at some later date. An assurance is required to be implemented by the Ministry concerned within a period of three months. Where a Ministry are unable to implement the assurances within the prescribed period of three months, they are required to seek extension of time. In case, the Ministry finds it difficult in implementing the assurances on one ground or the other, they are required to approach the Committee on Government Assurances requesting to drop the assurances. Such requests are considered by the Committee on merits and decisions taken to drop an assurance or otherwise.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2010-11) considered the following requests received from Ministries/Departments for dropping of assurances at their sitting held on 21 July, 2011:-

SQ/USQ No. & Date	Ministry	Subject in Brief
USQ 2747 dated 11.8.2005	Social Justice and Empowerment	Reservation in Armed Forces, Judiciary and Autonomous Bodies.
SQ 171 dated 11.3.2008	Commerce & Industry	Free Trade Agreement between India and EU.
(i) USQ 904 dated 23.10.2008	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Iran-Pakistan-India (IPL) Gas Pipeline Project.
(ii) SQ 59 dated 11.11.2010		Indo-Iran Gas Pipeline Project.

USQ 3000 dated 24.7.2009	Urban Development	Metro Rail Projects.
USQ 3997 dated 31.7.2009	Power	Additional Power Generation by NTPC.
USQ 4483 dated 4.8.2009	Road Transport & Highways	Connectivity of Ports with Highways.
SQ 3 dated 19.11.2009	Textiles	Revival of NTC Mills.
USQ 2350 dated 3.12.2009	Law & Justice	Appointment of Judges.
USQ 2969 dated 8.12.2009	Road Transport & Highways	Construction of Express Highways.
USQ 1971 dated 9.3.2010	Home Affairs	Special Recruitment Drive for IPS.
(i) SQ 193 dated 10.3.2010	Culture	Improvement of Public Libraries.
(ii) USQ 2051 dated 10.3.2010		Setting up of Central Library Fund.
USQ 2065 dated 10.3.2010	External Affairs	Indo-Nepal Treaty
USQ 4479 dated 22.4.2010	Minority Affairs	Preservation of Minority Languages.
USQ 926 dated 30.7.2010	Finance	Real Estate under GST.
USQ 2311 dated 9.8.2010	Defence	Induction of AWACS.
USQ 2318 dated 9.8.2010	Defence	Procurement of Sukhoi Aircraft.
USQ 15 dated 9.11.2010	Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	New Consumer Law.
USQ 601 Dated 11.11.2010	Civil Aviation	Airports in Madhya Pradesh.
USQ 2184 dated 23.11.2010	Road, Transport & Highways	Upgradation of NHs.
USQ 2652 Dated 25.11.2010	Law and Justice	Free legal assistance.

3. **The details of the assurances arising out of the replies and the reason(s) advanced for dropping of assurances are given in Appendix-I.**
4. **After having considered the grounds cited by the Ministries/Departments, the Committee were convinced and decided to drop the aforesaid assurances.**
5. **The Minutes of the sitting of the Committee, whereunder the decision to drop the assurances were taken, are given in Appendix-II.**

NEW DELHI;

23 August; 2011

1 Bhadrapada, 1933 (Saka)

MANEKA GANDHI
CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

[i] RESERVATION IN ARMED FORCES, JUDICIARY AND AUTONOMOUS BODIES

On 11 August, 2005 Shri Manjunath Kunnur, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2747 to the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment vide O.M. No. 16012/02/2005-RIC dated 04 March, 2011 and 06 June, 2011 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That no assurance has been given in answer to the question, it is requested that the decision of the Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha in regard to deletion of the assurance may kindly be conveyed to this Ministry at the earliest."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2747

ANSWERED ON 11.8.2005

RESERVATION IN ARMED FORCES, JUDICIARY AND AUTONOMOUS BODIES

2747. SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR

Will the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the National Commission for Scheduled Castes has sought reservation in armed forces, judiciary and autonomous bodies;
- (b) if so, the details of recommendations given by the Commission in this regard; and
- (c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT(SMT. SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN)

(a) to (c) There National Commission for Scheduled Castes, set-up in February, 2004 has not submitted any report containing recommendations.

[ii] FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIA AND EU

On 11 March, 2008 Shri Ballashowry Vallabhaneni, M.P, addressed a Starred Question No. 171 to the Minister of Commerce and Industry. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry vide O.M. No. 12/3/2008-RMTR dated 4 April, 2011 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That a Broad Based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) between India and the EU is being negotiated since June, 2007. So far twelve rounds of negotiations have been held. The first round of negotiations was held on 28-29 June, 2007 at Brussels and the last (12th) round was held from 26 – 28 January, 2011 in India. This Department is unable to fulfil the assurance since the negotiations are still underway and it is not possible to predict a time-line for conclusion of these negotiations. Therefore, the Committee on Government Assurances is requested to delete the above mentioned pending assurance."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of Commerce & Industry, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 171

ANSWERED ON 11.03.2008

FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIA AND EU

*171. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the European union and India have exchanged lists for identifying the products that will be kept out of a free trade pact;
- (b) if so, the details of the lists; and
- (c) the final decision taken in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH)

(a) Yes, Sir. During the Third Round of Negotiations for the India – EU Broadbased Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) in December, 2007 in Brussels, both sides exchanged their initial list of Sensitive items.

(b) EU gave a sensitive list of 977 items at 8-digit HS level which covers approximately 10% of India's exports to EU. The list contains items relating to meat and fish products, milk and dairy products, wheat, rice and other agricultural products, sugar, textile products, etc. India also gave its indicative sensitive list of 750 items at 6-digit HS level which covers approximately 18% of EU's exports. India's list covers items relating to fish & marine products, agriculture and dairy products, chemicals, plastics and some components, etc.

(c) The negotiation on Trade in Goods is a part of a single undertaking under the India-EU BTIA which covers agreement on services, investments and other areas. The negotiations are being held and the lists will be finalized when an agreement is reached between both sides at the time of signing of the BTIA.

[iii] IRAN-PAKISTAN-INDIA (IPL) GAS PIPELINE PROJECT/
INDO-IRAN GAS PIPELINE PROJECT

On 23 October 2008 S/Shri Ananta Nayak, Raosaheb Patil Danve, Syed Shahnawaz Hussain, Vijay Kumar Malhotra, Laxminarayan Pandey, Kinjarapu Yerrannaidu, Gurudas Das Gupta, C.K. Chandrappan & Pankaj Chaudhry, M.Ps addressed an Unstarred Question No. 904 and on 11 November, 2010 S/Shri Ponnamp Prabhakar and Suresh Kumar Shetkar, M.Ps, addressed a Starred Question No. 59 to the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas. The contents of the questions along with the replies of the Ministers are as given in Annexure-I & II.

2. The replies to the questions were treated as assurances and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas within three months of the date of the replies but the assurances are yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas vide O.M. No. L-15014/16/08-GP-II and O.M No. L-15014/21/2010-GP-II dated 15 April, 2011 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That many questions have been raised in both the Houses of Parliament seeking information relating to transnational gas pipeline projects, including Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) Gas Pipeline Project. Since discussions on transnational gas pipeline projects, including IPI, are in progress, replies to such questions have been treated as Assurances. Reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 59 dated 11.11.2010 regarding Indo-Iran Gas Pipeline Project has also been treated as an Assurance.

It may be mentioned that, by their very nature, such transnational pipeline projects involve protracted discussions with various foreign Governments and other parties. These decisions have to be preceded by examination in detail of various proposed agreements and different aspects of these projects. The decision of selling the gas rests with the concerned foreign Government and is not within the jurisdiction of the Government of India. Further, discussions with foreign Governments on these projects are confidential and very sensitive in nature. While answering such questions, all the relevant information, which could be furnished, is included in Ministry's replies, without prejudicing or jeopardizing the discussions on these projects and breaching the confidentiality agreement signed therein. Even while fulfilling the assurance, no such information can be furnished, which could prejudice the discussions and/or breach the confidentiality agreement. It may take several years to fulfill these assurances, as such multilateral projects involve

protracted discussions, for all the aspects have to be carefully examined and deliberated upon to the satisfaction of the participating countries to protect each country's interests and to avoid any problems in the future in the successful operation of the project.

It needs to be mentioned that this Ministry had requested Lok Sabha Secretariat vide OM No. L-15015/58/05-GP-II dated 30.4.2007 to move the Committee on Government Assurances to drop the assurances in respect of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 305 answered on 24.3.2005, Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 669 answered on 12.5.2005 and Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 387 answered on 24.11.2005 relating to transnational gas pipeline projects. Subsequently, the Committee decided to drop these assurances because they considered Government's discussion with foreign Governments to be confidential and sensitive in nature, as communicated vide OM No. CD/19/12/2007-(CGA) dated January 9, 2007."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of MOS (P&NG), have requested to drop the above assurances.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 904

ANSWERED ON 23.10.2008

IRAN-PAKISTAN-INDIA (IPL) GAS PIPELINE PROJECT

904. Shri ANANTA NAYAK
RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE
SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN
VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA
LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY
KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU
GURUDAS DAS GUPTA
C.K. CHANDRAPPAN
PANKAJ CHAUDHARY

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas be pleased to state:-

- (a) the present status of Indo-Iran gas pipeline project;
- (b) whether talks on the proposed Indo-Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline has been progressing very slowly;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether any discussion was held in this regard with the President of Iran during his recent visit to India;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether Iran is willing for a change in the delivery point of gas for IPI pipeline;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) the time by which this gas pipeline agreement is likely to be finalised?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS

(SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

- (a) to (c): India is pursuing the import of natural gas from Iran through Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) Gas Pipeline Project. Various important issues, viz., pricing of gas, delivery point of gas, project structure, payment of transportation tariff and transit fees for passage of natural gas through Pakistan, etc. are under discussion amongst the participating countries.

Such multilateral projects involve protracted discussions, as all the aspects have to be carefully examined and deliberated upon to the satisfaction of the participating countries to protect each country's interests and to avoid any problems in the future in the successful operation of the project.

(d) & (e): In the meeting held between the President of Islamic Republic of Iran and Prime Minister on April 29, 2008, the modalities of pursuing the project were discussed.

(f) & (g): The issue is under discussion amongst the participating countries.

(h): Finalization of the agreement can be achieved when satisfactory resolution of the issues under discussion is reached by the countries participating in the project, viz., Iran, Pakistan and India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 59
ANSWERED ON 11.11.2010
INDO-IRAN GAS PIPELINE PROJECT

*59. SHRI PONNAM PRABHAKAR

SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas be pleased to state:-

- (a) the present status of the Indo-Iran gas pipeline project;
- (b) whether India continues to have serious differences over the pricing of the gas and security of the proposed \$7.5 billion Iran-Pakistan-India pipeline that will pass through the unstable regions of Baluchistan; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to resolve such issues amicably with each concerned country within a timeframe?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (c): India is pursuing the import of natural gas from Iran through Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) Gas Pipeline Project. Various important issues, viz., pricing of gas, delivery point of gas, project structure, payment of transportation tariff, transit fees and security of the pipeline for passage of natural gas through Pakistan, etc., are under discussion amongst the participating countries.

Such multilateral projects involve protracted discussions, as all the aspects have to be carefully examined and deliberated upon to the satisfaction of the participating countries to protect each country's interests and to avoid any problems in the future in the successful operation of the Project.

[iv] METRO RAIL PROJECTS

On 24.7.2009 S/Shri Gadhvi Mukesh Bhiravadanji, Dr. Vinay Kumar Pandey 'Vinnu', Rajendra Agrawal, S.S. Ramasubbu, K.J.S.P. Reddy and Devji M. Patel, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3000 to the Minister of Urban Development. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure-I.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Urban Development within three months of the date of the reply. However, the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Urban Development vide O.M. No. H-11016/9/2009-Metro dated 13 May, 2011 have requested to drop the assurance on the following present status and reasons:-

"Sl.No.8 of annexure referred to in reply to Lok Sabha USQ No.3000 for 24.7.2009 Haryana: Extension of Delhi Metro to Bahadurgarh

Government of Haryana (GoH) has been advised to submit Comprehensive Mobility Plan, alternative analysis report, starting of modern city bus service and to address mandatory reforms along with financial commitment on cost sharing as well as to obtain 'in principle' approval of GNCTD. The information sought from Government of Haryana is still pending with the State Government. Since nothing is pending before the Central Govt., it may not be treated as an Assurance.

Sl.No. 14 of annexure referred to in reply to Lok Sabha USQ No.3000 for 24.7.2009 Kerala: Kochi Metro Rail Project

The proposal was received from the Govt. of Kerala on 12.9.2005. The Planning Commission supported the proposal subject to certain conditions and the final Cabinet Note for Kochi Metro Rail Project was sent to the Cabinet Secretariat after approval of the Hon'ble Minister of Urban Development for consideration of the Cabinet, which was subsequently treated as withdrawn as per Cabinet meeting held on 19.11.2009. Again a meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary to PM on 17.5.2010 wherein, Member Secretary, Planning Commission, Finance Secretary, Secretary MoUD and Additional Secretary Expenditure participated and a decision was taken that the "Ministry of Urban Development will again circulate a Cabinet Note, take the views of the Ministries concerned and present before the Cabinet all the options/alternatives for undertaking this project, for its consideration". Accordingly, a draft Note for the Cabinet has been processed and is presently under

approval of the competent authority in the Ministry. In the circumstances, no comments can be given at present and hence the reply given earlier may not be treated as an Assurance.

Sl.No.15 of annexure referred to in reply to Lok Sabha USQ No.3000 for 24.7.2009 Andhra Pradesh: Hyderabad Metro Rail Project.

The previous Concessionaire failed to achieve Financial Closure by the due date and the Concession Agreement with them was terminated by the State Government in July 2009. GoAP invited global bids through fresh pre-qualification. The financial bids for the Project were opened on July 14, 2010 and three of the six pre-qualified bidders who purchased the bid documents participated in the bids. GoAP has selected the successful lowest bidder M/s Larsen & Turbo Ltd. (L&T Ltd.). The Concessionaire for the Hyderabad Metro Rail Project has quoted grant amount of Rs. 1458 crore (12% of the Total Project Cost). Concession Agreement (CA) was signed between the Government of Andhra Pradesh and L&T Hyderabad Metro Rail Private Limited, a SPV set up by L&T on September 04, 2010. As such, the project is under implementation by the State Government under PPP mode and there is no proposal for Viability Gap Funding pending before the Central Government. Hence, it may not be treated as an Assurance."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State for Urban Development, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3000

ANSWERED ON 24.7.2009

METRO RAIL PROJECTS

3000. SHRI GADHVI MUKESH BHIRAVADANJI
DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY 'VINNU'
SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL
SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU
SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY
SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL

Will the Minister of Urban Development be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various State Governments to provide metro rail services in their States during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken by the Government thereon;
- (d) the details of the present status of such proposals, State-wise; and
- (e) the time by which the proposals are likely to be approved and implemented ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI SAUGATA ROY)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b)to(e): The desired information is given in the statement enclosed (Annexure).

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to Lok Sabha USQ No.3000 for 24.7.2009.

STATEMENT SHOWING PROPOSALS OF METRO RAIL PROJECTS RECEIVED BY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FROM VARIOUS STATES.

Sl. No.	State	Name of Project, Length in Km, Cost in Rs. crore	Action taken by the Government / Present Status.
1.	Delhi	<u>Delhi MRTS</u> <u>Phase II</u> Length: 54.675 km Cost: Rs. 8605.36 crore (without central taxes)	Project has been sanctioned by Government of India and work started. Shahdara - Dilshad Garden and Vishva Vidyalaya - Jahangir Puri sections have been commissioned on 30.6.2008 and 3.2.2009 respectively. Remaining portion is targeted for completion by 31.10.2009.
2.	Delhi / Haryana	Extension of Delhi Metro from Ambedkar Nagar in Delhi to Sushantlok (Gurgaon) Length: 14.47 km Cost: Rs. 1589 crore	The project has been sanctioned by Government of India and is targeted for completion by 31.1.2010.
3.	Delhi / Uttar Pradesh	Extension of Delhi Metro from New Ashok Nagar in Delhi to NOIDA Sector-32	The project has been sanctioned by Government of India and is targeted for completion by 31.10.2009.

		<p>Length: 7.0 km</p> <p>Cost: Rs. 827 crore</p>	
4.	Delhi	<p>High Speed Express Link from New Delhi Railway Station to IGI Airport .</p> <p>Length: 19.2 km</p> <p>Cost: Rs. 3076 crore.</p>	<p>The project has been sanctioned by Government of India and is targeted for completion by 31st August , 2010.</p>
5.	Delhi	<p>Express link from IGI Airport to Dwarka Sector-21</p> <p>Length: 3.50 km</p> <p>Cost: Rs. 793 crore.</p>	<p>The Project has been sanctioned by Government of India and is targeted for completion by 30.9.2010.</p>
6.	Delhi	<p>Metro Link from Dwarka Sector-9 to Dwarka Sector-21</p> <p>Length: 2.76 km</p> <p>Cost: Rs. 356.11 crore</p>	<p>The Project has been sanctioned by Government of India and is targeted for completion by 30.9.2010.</p>
7.	Haryana	<p>Extension of Delhi Metro to Faridabad</p> <p>Length: 13.875 km</p> <p>Cost: Rs. 2028 crore</p>	<p>Government of Haryana has been requested to submit Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP), improvement of city bus service, setting up of special purpose vehicle, etc. which is awaited.</p>

			Approval of Government of National Capital Territory, Delhi (GNCTD) being 50% owner of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) is also awaited. As such no commitment can be given regarding approval and implementation of project.
8.	Haryana	<p>Extension of Delhi Metro to Bahadurgarh</p> <p>Length: 11.781 km</p> <p>Cost: Rs. 1432 crore</p>	Government of Haryana has sought approval of detailed project report from Govt. of NCT of Delhi and Ministry of Urban Development. Union Govt. has requested the Govt. of Haryana to submit detailed proposal with cost estimates, cost sharing and firm commitment to meet its share of the cost, etc. which is awaited. As such no commitment can be given regarding approval and implementation of project.
9.	Karnataka	<p>Bangalore Metro Rail Project-</p> <p>Length: 42.3 km</p> <p>Cost: Rs. 8158 crore</p>	The Project has been sanctioned by the Government of India and is now targeted for completion by 30.9.2012.
10.	West Bengal	<p>East-West Metro corridor, Kolkata</p> <p>Length: 14.67 km,</p> <p>Cost : Rs. 4874.58 crore</p>	The Project has been sanctioned by the Government of India and is targeted for completion by

			31.01.2015.
11.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai Metro Rail Project. Length: 46.5 km Cost: Rs. 14600 crore.	The Project has been sanctioned by the Government of India and is targeted for completion in 2014-15.
12.	Maharashtra	Versova-Andheri-Ghatkopar Line-I, Mumbai. Length: 11.07 km Cost : Rs. 2356 crore	The project is being implemented by Govt. of Maharashtra on Public Private Partnership basis. The State Government has been informed that Ministry of Finance, Government of India has noted the requirement of Viability Gap Funding support provision of Rs. 235.50 crore for the project as Additional Central Assistance (ACA) in 2009-10. Project is targeted for completion in 2011-2012.
13	Maharashtra	Charcop-Bandra-Mankhurd Line-2, Mumbai Length: 31.87 km Cost: Rs. 7660 crore	The project is to be implemented on Public Private Partnership mode. Empowered Committee in its meeting held on 25.8.2008 has recommended in principle for giving 20% VGF as per project cost of Rs.7660 crore under the Viability Gap Funding scheme of Ministry of Finance. As

			per bids received recently by State Government, Viability Gap Funding of Rs.2298 crore has been asked.
14.	Kerala	<p>Kochi Metro Rail project.</p> <p>Length: 25.3 km</p> <p>Cost: Rs. 2991.5 crore</p>	<p>Proposal received from Government of Kerala on 12.09.2005. Planning Commission has supported the proposal subject to certain conditions. Draft Note for Cabinet has been circulated for comments of concerned Ministries/ Departments. It is premature to indicate the time by which the proposal is likely to be approved by the Government.</p>
15.	Andhra Pradesh	<p>Hyderabad Metro Rail Project.</p> <p>Length: 71.16 km</p> <p>Cost: Rs. 9696 crore</p>	<p>Proposal received from State Government on 28.06.2005 for taking up project with Viability Gap Funding support from Government of India. The concession agreement for the project was awarded by Government of Andhra Pradesh in 2008 to a consortium led by M/s Nav Bharat where no Viability Gap Funding was envisaged. The State Government is reported to have cancelled this concession agreement. Fresh proposal has not yet been received from the State Government.</p>

[v] ADDITIONAL POWER GENERATION BY NTPC

On 31 July, 2009 Shri Baijayant Panda, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3997 to the Minister of Power. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Power within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Power vide O.M. No. 9/21/2009-Th-I dated 10 June, 2011 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That there is protracted correspondence on this matter with Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) which does not seem to conclude in near future. NTPC is making their efforts but it all depends on the FGN to respond which is beyond the control of NTPC. As such it is not feasible to fulfill the same at this stage. It is therefore requested to kindly delete the assurance from the list under intimation to this Ministry."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State for Power, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF POWER

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3997

ANSWERED ON 31.07.2009

ADDITIONAL POWER GENERATION BY NTPC

3997. SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA

Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) has signed any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Union Government to develop and provide reliable power related products and services at competitive prices and integrating multiple energy sources with innovative and eco-friendly technologies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action plan of the NTPC to generate additional power during the Eleventh and Twelfth Five Year Plan period;
- (d) whether the NTPC proposes to set up some power plants abroad; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Madam. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Ministry of Power and NTPC Limited for the year 2009-10 has been signed on 31st March, 2009. The NTPC`s MOU identifies various performance parameters/targets for the company in line with its Mission statement which states:

`Develop and provide reliable power, related products and services at competitive prices, integrating multiple energy sources with innovative and eco-friendly technologies and contribute to society.`

The MOU contains parameters relating to financial performance, operational efficiency, and activities related to Business Development, Research & Development, Environment Management, Human Resource and Project Implementation etc. which, inter alia, captures the essence of NTPC`s Mission statement.

(c) : At present, the total installed capacity of NTPC is 30644 MW. NTPC has targetted capacity addition programme of about 22000 MW (approx.) in 11th Plan period. Out of which, 3240 MW has already been commissioned, 17430 MW is under construction and balance is under advanced stage of processing. Further, NTPC targets to add about 25000 MW during the XII Plan to become a 75000 MW plus company by the year 2017 (end of XII Plan).

(d) & (e) : NTPC proposes to set up power plants in Sri Lanka and Nigeria. The details are as follows:

Sri Lanka

A tri-partite Memorandum of Agreement for setting up of a 2x250 MW coal based power project at Trincomalee in Sri Lanka was signed between Government of Sri Lanka, Ceylon Electricity Board and NTPC Limited on 29.12.2006 to be developed in joint venture between NTPC Limited and Ceylon Electricity Board.

Nigeria

An MOU was signed between NTPC Limited and Ministry of Energy, Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) on 22nd May, 2007 for energy cooperation as per which FGN has agreed to provide, subject to availability, three (3) million tonnes per annum of LNG at a reasonable price for a period of 25 years from its existing/future LNG terminals to NTPC for use in NTPC`s plants in India and upon successful tie-up for LNG supply, NTPC is to build, own and operate a 700 MW gas based and a 500 MW coal based power plant in Nigeria. Pre-feasibility Report (Pre-FR) for the proposed 500 MW coal based and 700 MW gas based power plants in Nigeria had been submitted to FGN on 11.6.2008.

Response from FGN is awaited.

[vi] CONNECTIVITY OF PORTS WITH HIGHWAYS

On 4 August, 2009 Smt. Poonam Veljibhai Jat, Smt. Jayshreeben Patel, M.Ps, addressed on Unstarred Question No. 4483 to the Minister of Road Transport and Highways. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Road and Transport and Highways within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways vide O.M. No. H-11016/42/2009-PIC dated 30 July, 2010 and 3 November, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following ground:-

“It is evident from the statement (enclosed) that some projects under reference in the Question are related to progress which is continuous process and take more time for their completion.”

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of MOS (R), have requested to drop the above assurance.

Statement

Lok Sabha unstarred question 4483 dated 04.08.2009

Promise Made	When and How fulfilled	Reasons for delay
Annexure-I S.No. 1 West Bengal Haldia Port connectivity (NH-41) from Kolaghat to Haldia in West Bengal-Terminated contract re-awarded and commenced in October, 2008, likely to be completed by September, 2010.	The work is in progress. It is likely to be completed by September, 2010.	There is some problem of law and order, which is being resolved with the help of concerned State Government.
S. No. 4 Tamil Nadu-Chennai-Ennore Port Connectivity in Tamil Nadu -Two road contracts terminated, Restructured project is pending for award.	The work could not be awarded due to non-receipt of confirmation of contribution from SPV partners. Fresh bids were invited and total 11 Nos. bids have been received. The bids are under evaluation.	Delay in confirmation of equity contribution by SPV partners i.e. Chennai Port, Ennore Port and GoTD.
S.No. 5- Tuticorin Port Connectivity Project on NH-7A in Tamil Nadu- Contract terminated in May-2009 and balance work to be awarded.	After termination of contract in May, 2009, work for balance work awarded and agreement signed on 05.04.2010.	-
S.No. 7 Karnataka-New Mangalore Port Connectivity Project on NH-17, 13 and 48 in Karnataka – 46% progress.	The work is in progress and present progress is 71%. Target date of completion is 31.12.2010.	Work delayed due to LA, Utility shifting and other hindrances due to religious structure.
S.No. 9 JNPT-Package-II (SH 54 and Aamra Marg including Panvel Creek Bridge) – Substantially completed.	Work substantially completed except 2.3 km where land acquisition is delayed by CIDCO.	Delay in LA by City Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO) due to encroachment by public.
Annexure-II S.No. 1 – Four laning of Gandhidham-Mundra Section of NH-8A(Extn.) in the State of Gujarat -Feasibility study of the project has been completed and Request for Qualification (RFQ) for pre-qualification of bidders has also been completed. The project is targeted for awarded during year 2009-2010.	The project has been awarded to M/s Reliance Infrastructure Ltd. Agreement signed on 10.03.2010.	-
S.No. 3 Vijayawada to Machilipatnam on NH-9 in the State of Andhra Pradesh -Project is being restructured for re-invitation of bids.	RFP for the project has been withdrawn/cancelled on 06.07.2010. The project shall be taken up afresh in due course.	-

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAY

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4483

ANSWERED ON 04.08.2009

Connectivity of Port with Highways.

4483 Smt. Poonam Veljibhai Jat
Smt. Jayshreeben Patel

Will the Minister of Road Transport and highways be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to connect major and minor ports in the country with the National Highways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and NH-wise;
- (c) the number of projects launched so far in this regard, State-wise and NH-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the speedy commencement/ completion of such projects?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
(SHRIR.P.N.SINGH)

- (a) to (c) Details regarding development of road connectivity to major ports are enclosed at Annex-I. Development of road connectivity to minor ports other than National Highways comes under the purview of the concerned State Government. Some National Highways being developed under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-III are also serving minor ports. Details are enclosed at Annex-II.
- (d) Special Purpose Vehicles (SPV) / Companies of NHAI have been set up for implementing major port connectivity projects. Concerted efforts are being made through interaction with Port Trusts and State Governments for speedy completion of projects.

ANNEX-I

ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4483 FOR ANSWER ON 4.8.2009 ASKED BY SHRIMATI POONAM VELJIBHAI JAT AND SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL REGARDING CONNECTIVITY OF PORTS WITH HIGHWAYS

STATUS OF MAJOR PORT CONNECTIVITY PROJECTS UNDER NHDP PHASE- I

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Length (in km)	Project Cost (Rs. crore)	Status (by June, 2009)
1.	<u>West Bengal</u> Haldia Port Connectivity (NH-41) from Kolaghat to Haldia in West Bengal	52.2	522	Terminated contract re-awarded and commenced in October, 2008. Likely to be completed by September, 2010
2.	<u>Orissa</u> Paradip Port Connectivity (NH-5A) from Chandikhole to Paradip in Orissa	77	427.4	Completed and opened to traffic in June, 2009
3.	<u>Andhra Pradesh</u> Visakhapatnam Port Connectivity (Port Road) in Andhra Pradesh	12.5	116	Completed and opened to traffic in November, 2006
4.	<u>Tamil Nadu</u> Chennai-Ennore Port Connectivity in Tamil Nadu	30	309	Two Road Contracts terminated. Restructured project is pending for award.
5.	Tuticorin Port Connectivity Project on NH-7A in Tamil Nadu	47.2	231.2	Contract terminated in May, 2009 and balance work to be awarded
6.	4-laning of NH-47 from km 348.4 to km 358.75 in Kerala	10.40	193	Terminated contract re-awarded and commenced in October, 2008. Likely to be completed by April, 2010.
7.	<u>Karnataka</u> New Mangalore Port Connectivity Project on NH-17, 13 & 48 in Karnataka	37.5	196.5	46% progress.
8.	<u>Goa</u> Mormugao Port, Goa - Connectivity on NH 17 B in Goa	18.3	145	13.1 km completed in 2004. Balance work awarded in June, 2009
9.	<u>JNPT</u> JN Port Mumbai			Completed and opened to traffic in June, 2005
	i) JNPT Package-I (NH-4B & NH-4)	30	159	
	ii) Package-II (SH 54 & Aamra Marg including Panvel Creek Bridge)	14.4	143	Substantially completed.

Note : (1) The connectivity to Mumbai Port was dropped as it was passing through Salt Pan.
(2) The connectivity to Kolkata Port is held up for want of transfer of defence land.

ANNEX-II

ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED
QUESTION NO. 4483 FOR ANSWER ON 4.8.2009 ASKED BY SHRIMATI POONAM
VELJIBHAI JAT AND SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL REGARDING CONNECTIVITY
OF PORTS WITH HIGHWAYS

**DETAILS OF PROJECTS UNDER NHDP PHASE – III ALSO SERVING
SOME MINOR PORTS**

Sl. No.	Description of Project	Minor Port being served	Status of Project
1.	Four laning of Gandhidham-Mundra Section of NH-8A (Extn.) in the State of Gujarat	Mundra Port, Gujarat	Feasibility Study of the project has been completed and Request for Qualification (RFQ) for pre-qualification of bidders has also been completed. The project is targeted for award during the year 2009-2010.
2.	Four laning of Maharashtra/Gujarat Border –Surat-Hazira Section of NH-6 in the State of Gujarat	Hazira Port, Gujarat	The project has been awarded with scheduled completion by May, 2012.
3.	Vijayawada to Machilipatnam on NH-9 in the State of Andhra Pradesh	Machilipatnam, Andhra Pradesh	Project is being restructured for re-invitation of bids.

[vii] REVIVAL OF NTC MILLS

On 19 November, 2009 S/Shri Vitthalbhai Hansrajbhai Radadiya and Mansukhbhai D. Vasava, M.Ps., addressed a Starred Question No. 3 to the Minister of Textiles. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister of Textiles are as given in Annexure-I.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Textiles within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Textiles vide O.M. No. 1/6/2009-NTC dated 24 May, 2010 had requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That it may be stated that vide their order dated 16.12.2009 BIFR has approved extension of implementation period of the sanctioned scheme upto 31.03.2011. Action for obtaining requisite approval of the Cabinet is in progress. However, this may take some time and it may not be possible to fulfill the assurance shortly. Since BIFR approval for extension of the implementation period upto 31.03.2011 has already been received.”

4. The Committee considered this request of the Ministry at their sitting held on 06 August, 2010 and decided not to drop the assurance. Accordingly, the Committee presented its 10th Report (15th Lok Sabha) on 27 August, 2010 and recommended that the Government should take appropriate action in the matter and implement the assurance expeditiously.

5. However, the Ministry of Textiles vide O.M. No. 1/6/2009-NTC dated 2 December, 2010 once again requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That revival plan of NTC was approved by the Group of Ministers constituted by the Cabinet; and also by the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). In view of GoM/BIFR approvals, the revival plan is already being implemented at a vigorous pace. As already intimated vide this Ministry's O.M. dated 18th August, 2010, modernization of 18 mills has been completed by NTC. The enclosed status report in respect of the 4 mills would show that the progress is fully on track as per BIFR sanction. The implementation of revival scheme is being closely monitored by the Board of Directors of NTC, the Ministry of Textiles and the BIFR from time to time. It is also stated that assurance on similar issue (Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4410 dated 08.05.2007) has already been dropped by the Committee on Government Assurances vide O.M. No. Report/9/27/08/2010-(CGA) dated 31.08.2010."

6. The Committee considered this request of the Ministry at their sitting held on 12 January, 2011 and once again decided not to drop the assurance. Accordingly, the Committee presented its 13th Report (15th Lok Sabha) on 23 March, 2011 and reiterated its recommendation made vide its 10th Report and also desired that revival of all the NTC mills be expedited at the first instance and the assurance implemented.

7. The Ministry of Textiles vide O.M. Nos.1/6/2009-NTC dated 22 February, 2011 have once more requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"As already stated vide O.M. dated 9 December, 2010 the progress is on track as per BIFR scheme and its implementation is being closely monitored by the Board of Directors of NTC, the Ministry of Textiles and the BIFR from time to time. Further, assurance on similar issue (Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.4410 dated 8.5.2007) has already been dropped by the Committee on Government Assurances vide O.M. No.Report/9/27/08/2010-(CGA) dated 31.8.2010"

8. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State for Textiles, have once again requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 3

ANSWERED ON 19.11.2009

REVIVAL OF NTC MILLS

*3. Shri Vitthalbhai Hansrajbhai Radadiya
Shri Mansukhbhai D. Vasava

Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the revival plan for the National Textile Corporation (NTC) as approved by the Board of Industrial and Financial Restructuring (BIFR) has since been implemented;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons, if any, for the delay in the implementation of the revival plan; and
- (d) the further action proposed in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN)

(a) & (b): The scheme for revival of National Textile corporation Ltd. (NTC) was approved by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in the year 2002, and modified in the years 2006 and 2008. The scheme is currently under implementation. The present status of implementation of the scheme is given in the Annexure.

(c) & (d): The Revival Scheme is self-financing and mainly depends on generation of resources through sale of surplus land of NTC, as envisaged in the scheme. Sale of surplus land requires permission from various State Governments. Implementation of the scheme has been delayed mainly due to delay in receipt of such permissions and partly due to delay in getting formal approval under the Industrial Disputes Act for closure of unviable mills, retirement of workers in these mills under the Modified Voluntary Retirement Scheme (MVRS) etc. The recent recession in real estate market has also adversely affected the sale of land, thus delaying the implementation schedule. Proposal for extension of the implementation period is in process for seeking approval of Government/BIFR.

[viii] APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES

On 3 December, 2009 Shri Manish Tewari, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2350 to the Minister of Law and Justice. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister of Law and Justice (Dr. M. Veerappa Moily) are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Law and Justice within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. Earlier the Ministry of Law and Justice vide O.M. No. K.15018/42/2009-US.II dated 25 February, 2010 requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That as per the provisions of the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968 the Committee constituted by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha for the purpose of making an investigation into the grounds on which the removal of Shri Justice Soumitra Sen of the Calcutta High Court is prayed for, is required to submit its report to Chairman at the conclusion of the investigation stating therein its findings on each of the charges separately with such observations on the whole case as it thinks fit. If the report of the Committee contains an evidence that a Judge is guilty of any misbehavior or suffers from any incapacity, then the motion referred to in sub-section (1) of Section 3 of the Act shall, together with the report of the Committee, be taken up for consideration by the House. There is no time frame prescribed for this purpose.

From the above, it will be seen that the Government has no role in this whole exercise and, therefore, it is requested that the assurance may be dropped.”

4. The above request of the Ministry was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 7 April, 2010 and decided not to drop as the Committee were not convinced with the reasons furnished by the Ministry. Accordingly, 7th Report was presented to the Lok Sabha.

5. The Ministry of Law and Justice vide O.M. No. K.15018/42/2009-US.II dated 22 February, 2011 have now once again requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the matter was further pursued with the Rajya Sabha Secretariat and the Judges Inquiry Committee constituted by the Chairman Rajya Sabha. It is understood that the Judges Inquiry Committee, constituted for the purpose of making an investigation into the grounds on which removal of Shri Justice Soumitra Sen of the Calcutta High Court is prayed for, has submitted its report on 10.11.2010. Further action for dealing with the motion, referred to in sub-section 1 of section 3 of the Judges Inquiry Act, 1968 is to be taken up for consideration by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha and the House.

From the above, it will be seen that the Government has no role in this whole exercise and, therefore, it is requested that the assurance may be dropped."

6. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of Law and Justice, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2350
ANSWERED ON 3.12.2009
APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES

2350. SHRI MANISH TEWARI

Will the Minister of Law and Justice be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government contemplating on evolving a new mechanism for the appointment of High Court and Supreme Court Judges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government formulated any view on the primacy that is accorded to the Chief Justice of India in the appointment and transfer of Judges of the higher judiciary in terms of the Supreme Court Advocates and Records Association Vs the Union of India (1993) 4SCC41 ; and

(d) the status of the impeachment proceedings against Justice Soumetra Sen of the Calcutta High Court?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY)

(a): No, Madam.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): The Government has drawn up two Memoranda of Procedure for appointment & transfer of Judges of the Supreme Court of India and High Courts in accordance with the judgment of the Supreme Court dated October 6, 1993 read with their Advisory opinion dated October 28, 1998.

(d): An Enquiry Committee under the provisions of the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968 has been constituted by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha for the purpose of making an investigation into the grounds on which the removal of Shri Justice Soumitra Sen of the Calcutta High Court is prayed for. The Committee has yet to give its findings.

[ix] CONSTRUCTION OF EXPRESS HIGHWAYS

On 8 December, 2009 S/Shri Lalji Tandon, Anto Antony, Baijayant Jay Panda & Arjun Munda, M.Ps, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2969 to the Minister of Road Transport and Highways. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways within three months of the date of the reply. However, the assurance is yet to be fulfilled.

3. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways vide O.M. No. H.11016/87/09-P&M dated 4 February, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That This Ministry in December, 2008 had awarded a Consultancy Service for formulation of a Master Plan for the National Expressway Network in India as per the goals and objective of the 11th Five Year Plan.

The objective of the Consultancy Services was to prepare Master Plan in order to establish a National Expressway Network identifying therein the expressway corridors for the horizon year 2022 i.e. end of 13th Five Year Plan giving prioritised phasing for completion by the year 2012, 2017 and 2022. The Consultants, inter-alia, after due consideration of the views received from some of the State Governments, submitted the Final Report in November, 2009. The Report has been accepted by the Ministry. The Report inter-alia, other recommendations identifies National Expressway Network of about 18,637 km.

The above mentioned report is only a study which identifies the potential corridors/routes for the development of the expressways in the country. The decisions regarding its implementation, or the decision of further studies, and the approval of the Cabinet etc. is yet to be taken by the Ministry. This proposal is only at a conceptual stage with this study report.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this statement which has been considered by Lok Sabha Secretariat as assurance could not be fulfilled till the final approval of Government regarding its modalities and implementation strategy are approved.”

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of State (Road Transport & Highways), have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2969

ANSWERED ON 8.12.2009

CONSTRUCTION OF EXPRESSWAYS

2969. SHRI LALJI TANDON
SHRI ANTO ANTONY
SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA
SHRI ARJUN MUNDA

Will the Minister of Road Transport and Highways be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Union Government has set an annual target for constructing expressways on Built-Operate-Transfer basis for linking of tourist places in various States;
- (b) if so, the details of the length of expressways constructed, proposed to be constructed and those under construction during each of the last three years and the current year as against the targets set, Statewise and project-wise;
- (c) whether construction work on some expressways has been delayed;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) the details of the requests received from various States for construction of expressways during the said period, Statewise and project-wise including Kerala;
- (f) whether the Government has taken any action on these proposals; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor, State-wise and project-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
(SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) and (b) This Ministry is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs) including National Expressways. No annual target has been set for constructing expressways on Build Operate & Transfer (BOT) basis for linking of tourist places in various States. However, so far, one National Expressway has been constructed between Ahmedabad and Vadodara for a total length of about 93.4 km. At present, no National Expressways are under construction. The Government approved construction of 1,000 km of Expressways under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase VI through Public Private Partnership (PPP) on BOT basis in November 2006 for a total cost of Rs. 16,680 crore. This is targeted for completion by December, 2015. The details of sections included under NHDP Phase VI are given below: -

S.No.	Section	Length (in km)
1.	Vadodara-Mumbai	400
2.	Delhi-Meerut	66
3.	Bangalore-Chennai	334
4.	Kolkata-Dhanbad	277

In addition, there is proposal to develop National Expressway No. NE-II, i.e. Eastern Peripheral Expressway, for a total length of about 134 km in the States of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh connecting NH-1 at km 36.083 near Kundli and terminating on NH-2 at km 64.330 near Palwal.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

(e) to (g) The Ministry had awarded a Consultancy Services in December, 2008 for Formulation of a Master Plan for the National Expressway Network in the country. The Final Report submitted by the Consultants, duly considering the views / observations received from the State Governments and inter-alia recommending total Expressway Network of about 18,637 km for completion in prioritized manner in three phases spanning upto the year 2022, has been accepted by the Government. However, the detailed programme of implementation is yet to be finalized.

[x] SPECIAL RECRUITMENT DRIVE FOR IPS

On 9 March, 2010 Dr. M. Jagannath and Shri Yashwant Sinha, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1971 to the Minister of Home Affairs. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Home Affairs within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Home Affairs vide O.M. No. I.45028/02/2010-IPS-I dated 30 November, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That to mitigate the shortage of large number of IPS officers into the State and Central Police Forces, this Ministry has taken following steps: -

(i) As an immediate course of action on the core issue of mitigation of shortage of IPS Officers in the States and Central Police Forces, this Ministry has increased the Annual Intake of Direct Recruit Officers through Civil Services Examinations from 130 to 150. In addition, Cadre Reviews in respect of all the Cadres of IPS have also been carried out, thereby increasing promotion quota of all the States meant for State Police Services Officers from 1230 (As on 1.1.2010) to 1450 (As on date), thus an increase of 220 posts. As per rules, these posts will be effective from 1.1.2011. Since, sufficient numbers of officers are available in State Police Services, these posts would be filled up in one go.

(ii) Further, in order to make alternate method of recruitment to IPS, after taking the comments from DOP&T, various Central Paramilitary Forces and State Governments/UTs, a Final Scheme of Limited Departmental Competitive Examination has been drafted and the Hon'ble Home Minister has approved the draft scheme on 29.09.2010. As per this scheme, 80 officers per year are proposed to be recruited from amongst eligible Deputy Superintendents of Police (DSPs) in States, Assistant Commandants in Central Para Military Forces (CRPF, BSF, ITBP, CISF and SSB) and Captain & Major or equivalent rank from Defence Forces. In order to implement this scheme the following Rules & Regulations have also been drafted: -

a) Indian Police Service (Appointment by Limited Competitive Examination) Regulations, 2010.

- b) Indian Police Service (Pay) Fifth Amendment Rules, 2010.
- c) Insertion of Sub Rule 3(2)(iii) and Sub Rule 13(3)(A) in IPS (Probation) Rules, 1954.
- d) Insertion of Sub Rule 4(1)(a)(i), Sub Rule 4(3) and Sub Rule 7(a) in IPS (Recruitment) Rules, 1954.
- e) Insertion of Sub Rule 3(iii) in Rule 3 of IPS (Regulation of Seniority) Rules, 1988.

- (iii) The Final Draft Scheme of Limited Competitive Examination, comments as received from various Central Paramilitary Forces & State Governments/UTs and draft of the proposed Rules/Regulations have been sent to DOP&T on 11.11.2010.

It may be seen from the above that to address the core issue of shortage of IPS Officers in the States and Central Forces as well as to meet the assurance, this Ministry has already taken substantive steps, therefore, it is requested that the subject assurance may be dropped."

- 4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of MOS (M), have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1971
ANSWERED ON 09.03.2010
SPECIAL RECRUITMENT DRIVE FOR IPS

1971. DR. M. JAGANNATH
SHRI YASHWANT SINHA

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:-

- (a) Whether the Government proposes to conduct a special recruitment drive open to serving junior ranking police officers from State and Central police forces, for filling a large number of vacancies in the Indian Police Service(IPS); and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): To mitigate the shortage of Direct Recruitment quota of Indian Police Service(IPS) officers, this Ministry has proposed to fill about 490 posts in that quota through the mode of Limited Competitive Examination in a time span of 07 years. The said proposal has been sent to the Department of Personnel and Training(DOPT) and the Union Public Service Commission(UPSC) for consideration.

[xi] IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES/
SETTING UP OF CENTRAL LIBRARY FUND

On 10 March, 2010 Shri P.T. Thomas, M.P. and Shri Varun Gandhi, M.P. addressed Starred Question No. 193 and Unstarred Question No. 2051 to the Minister of Culture respectively. The contents of the questions along with the replies of the Ministers are as given in Annexures-A&B.

2. The replies to the questions were treated as assurances and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Culture within three months of the date of the reply but the assurances are yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Culture vide O.M. Nos. 1-3/2010-Lib. & 1-5/2010-Lib. dated 23 March & 16 March, 2011 respectively have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the assurances relate to the details of development of modern libraries across the country which comes under the proposed National Commission on Libraries in the Ministry of Culture as recommended by the National Knowledge Commission.

In connection with setting up of the National Commission on Libraries, it may be mentioned that the Planning Commission had already given "in-principle approval" for the proposal. The document on the proposed Commission was submitted to Committee of Secretaries (COS) for necessary approval. In the Meeting of COS, the following decisions have been taken:

(i) Libraries are required to be developed at all levels and to achieve this, a new Mission may be required; however, constitution of National Commission on Libraries does not appear to be necessary at this stage. Digitization and Networking would enhanced public access to the Libraries it is therefore observed that the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata could function as a coordinating body for promotion of Libraries and further strengthening of the foundation may be necessitated at later stage.

(ii) A group, consisting of representatives from D/o Higher Education, M/o Panchayati Raj, D/o School Education & Literacy and M/o Culture may prepare an action plan on what can be done in the next couple of years for promotion of libraries at all levels. The proposal for a National Commission on Libraries can be considered at a later stage as part of the deliberations of the 12th Plan Working Group."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of Culture, have requested to drop the above assurances.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 193
ANSWERED ON 10.03.2010
IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES

*193. SHRI P.T. THOMAS

Will the Minister of Culture be pleased to state:-

- (a) the number of public libraries in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the central assistance made available and utilised during the last two years and the current year;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to enhance the central financial assistance to public libraries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government for the improvement of public libraries?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR STATE OF PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) The number of public libraries in the country as per evaluation Study on status of Public Libraries in the country conducted by A.C. Nielson ORG MARG pvt. Ltd. on behalf of the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF) in the year 2003 may kindly be seen at Annexure-I.

(b) The Central assistance to Public Libraries is provided through the RRRLF, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Culture. The amount of central assistance made available through the RRRLF during last two years and the current year may kindly be seen at Annexure-II. The grant available with RRRLF was fully utilized for promotion of public libraries all over the country.

(c) & (d) On the recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission, it is proposed to set up a National Commission on Libraries. Proposals to improve Public Libraries inter-alia by modernization of facilities, providing services like inter-Library loan, online public access of catalogues/audio visual resources, improvement of physical space with clean drinking water, toilet facilities taking into account special needs of children, women and physically challenged, are likely to be considered for implementation.

(e) RRRLF has schemes of matching assistance and non-matching assistance for improvement of Public Libraries covering inter-alia aspects like adequate stock of books, purchase of computers, assistance for organizing seminars etc.

**Annexure –I as referred to in reply to part(a) to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question
No. 193 for 10.3.2010**

NUMBER OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN INDIA

SL. NO.	STATE / UNION TERRITORY	STATE CENTRAL	REGIONAL DIVISIONAL	DISTRICT	CITY AND TOWN	VILLAGE	TOTAL
1	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLAND	1	0	0	0	5	6
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	1	6	23	217	2517	2764
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	1	0	9	0	36	46
4	ASSAM	1	0	10	30	0	41
5	BIHAR & JHARKHAND	1	5	26	69	4000	4101
6	CHANDIGARH	1	0	0	1	0	2
7	DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	1	0	1	1	0	3
8	DAMAN	0	0	0	1	0	1
9	DELHI	1	0	0	114	104	219
10	DIU	0	0	0	1	0	1
11	GOA	1	0	0	9	0	10
12	GUARAT	1	2	18	202	6491	6714
13	HARYANA	1	0	6	43	0	50
14	HIMACHAL PRADESH	1	0	11	2	207	221
15	JAMMU & KASHMIR	1	1	14	44	0	60
16	KARNATAKA	1	11	19	299	1966	2296
17	KERALA	1	0	11	180	1127	1319
18	LAKSHADWEEP	1	0	0	0	0	1
19	MADHYA PRADESH & CHATTISHGARH	1	4	24	109	15800	15938
20	MAHARASHTRA	1	5	34	286	3562	3888
21	MANIPUR	1	0	5	1	0	7
22	MEGHALAYA	1	0	4	1	1	7
23	MIZORAM	1	0	2	1	0	4
24	NAGALAND	1	0	1	0	0	2
25	ORISSA	1	0	13	15	3500	3529

26	PONDICHERRY	1	0	2	52	0	55
27	PUNJAB	1	0	11	68	500	580
28	RAJASTHAN	1	5	24	40	2500	2570
29	SIKKIM	1	0	3	0	0	4
30	TAMIL NADU	1	0	15	1448	1083	2547
31	TRIPURA	1	0	2	7	500	510
32	UTTAR PRADESH & UTTARANCHAL	1	0	54	69	1500	1624
33	WEST BENGAL	1	0	21	334	2286	2642
	TOTAL	31	39	363	3644	47685	51762

**Annexure-II Amount Available with RRRLF for Promotion of Public Libraries and
Utilization thereof**

Rupees in Lakhs

Year	Grant Received	Fund Utilized
2007-08	2629.12	2629.12
2008-09	3280	3280
2009-10	3705	3705 (expected)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF CULTURE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2051

ANSWERED ON 10.03.2010

SETTING UP OF CENTRAL LIBRARY FUND

2051. SHRI VARUN GANDHI

Will the Minister of Culture be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government has received a proposal to set up a Central Library Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken or proposes to take any steps to encourage greater community participation in library management;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to promote application of Information Communication Technology (ICT) in libraries?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. The National Knowledge Commission (NKC) has recommended setting up a Central Library Fund from the Government for upgrading existing libraries over a period of three to five years. This central funding may be matched by the private sector, through corporate philanthropy.

(c) & (d) The National Knowledge Commission has also recommended greater community participation in library management by involving different stakeholders and user groups in managerial decision.

A National Commission on Libraries is proposed to be set up to consider the recommendations of the National Knowledge Commission and to work out details of implementation.

(f) The National Library, Kolkata, Central Reference Library and other important Libraries of the Country, under the Ministry of Culture have started computerization of their Catalogue Records. Digitalization of old and rare books and documents is also under progress. ICT is now used in libraries like Delhi Public Library to provide better services to readers.

[xii] INDO-NEPAL TREATY

On 10 March, 2010 Dr. Vinay Kumar Pandey 'Vinnu', M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2065 to the Minister of External Affairs. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of External Affairs within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of External Affairs vide U.O. No. E.II/125/3/2009 dated 22 April, 2010 and 02 November, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That India and Nepal initialed an updated Extradition Treaty in January, 2005. The treaty needs formal signatures to take effect. The Government has been regularly taking up the matter of early signing of the Treaty with the Government of Nepal. Government of Nepal's confirmation is awaited. It is not possible to put a time frame on a sovereign country's decision."

4. The above request of the Ministry was not acceded to by the Committee at their sitting held on 12 January, 2011. Accordingly, the Committee presented its 13th Report to Lok Sabha on 22 March, 2011.

5. The Ministry of External Affairs vide U.O. No. E.II/125/3/2009 dated 19 April, 2011 have once again requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That India and Nepal initiated an updated Extradition Treaty in January, 2005. It is awaiting confirmation of the Government of Nepal for formal signatures. The Government has been regularly taking up the matter of early signing of the revised Treaty with the Government of Nepal. Recently, the Foreign Secretary, during her visit to Nepal from 18 – 20 January, 2011 had raised issues related to mutual security and updating of bilateral legal instruments, including the revised Extradition Treaty with the Nepalese leadership. Government of India will continue to do so. Government of Nepal had assured the Government that it is working to develop domestic consensus on signing of the treaty at an early date. Nepal is passing through a political transition and is engaged in the task of drafting a new constitution and conclusion of the peace process. There cannot be any prediction on when Government of Nepal would be ready to sign the revised treaty. In any case, there is no possibility of being able to put a time frame on a sovereign country's decision."

6. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of External Affairs, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2065
ANSWERED ON 10.03.2010
INDO-NEPAL TREATY

2065. DR. VINAY KUMAR PANDEY 'VINNU'

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:-

- (a) the reasons for new repatriation treaty having not been signed between India and Nepal;
- (b) whether this issue was raised during his recent visit to Nepal;
- (c) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (d) the approach of Nepalese Government towards this treaty?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

(a) to (d) India and Nepal signed an Extradition Treaty on 02/10/1953, which remains in force. With a view to strengthen the institutional legal arrangements for effectively combating crime and terrorism in tune with contemporary realities, India and Nepal initialed an updated Extradition Treaty in January, 2005. It is awaiting formal signatures. The Government has regularly taken up the matter of early signing of the updated Extradition Treaty with the Government of Nepal including during the visit of the Minister of External Affairs to Nepal in January, 2010 and their confirmation is awaited.

[xiii] PRESERVATION OF MINORITY LANGUAGES

On 22 April, 2010 S/Shri Sanjay Bhoi and Neeraj Shekhar, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4479 to the Minister of Minority Affairs. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Minority Affairs vide O.M. No. F. No. 5-14/2010-CLM dated 1 April, 2011 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That the assurance was given as formulation of "Scheme for Promotional Activities for Linguistic Minorities" was in process. The Planning Commission has declined in principle approval of the scheme.”

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State of Minority Affairs, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4479
ANSWERED ON 22.04.2010
PRESERVATION OF MINORITY LANGUAGES

4479. SHRI SANJAY BHOI
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR

Will the Minister of Minority Affairs be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government proposes to preserve and translate important Government decisions, announcements into minority languages;
- (b) If so, whether this proposal would include dying minority languages of Andaman Islands;
- (c) if so, whether any survey has been undertaken in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SALMAN KHURSHID)

- (a) to (d) Formulation of a scheme for promotional activities for linguistic minorities is in process as per approved modalities.

[xiv] REAL ESTATE UNDER GST

On 30 July, 2010 Shri K.J.S.P. Reddy, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 926 to the Minister of Finance. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Finance within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Finance vide O.M. No. 30011/16/2010-SO(ST) dated 12 November, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That it may please be appreciated that reply to parts (a) and (d) was factual and complete at the time of furnishing the reply. The finalization of GST and all its elements involves consultation with States which is a long drawn process. If this reply is considered as an assurance, it would be infeasible to fulfil it within a short time and the assurance may remain pending for very long. It is, therefore, requested that this assurance may kindly be dropped."

4. The Ministry vide O.M. No. S-30011/16/2010-SO (ST) dated 4 July 2011 have further informed as follows:-

"That reply to part (a) to (c) of the question was given indicating the position at the point of time. No final decision has been taken on GST so far. All the issues involved in it are yet to be finalized. There are many more design parameters related to GST on which consensus is yet to emerge. No time frame can be indicated by which such consensus will emerge. The issue is under discussion between the Union Finance Ministry & Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers. It is not possible to indicate the time from by which all issue will get finalized."

5. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the MoS (Revenue), have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 926

TO BE ANSWERED ON 30 July, 2010

REAL ESTATE UNDER GST

926. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to bring real estate under the Goods and Services Tax (GST);
- (b) if so, the complete details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the guidelines in this regard; and
- (d) the views of the State Governments in regard thereto?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) to (d): Some of the design elements of Goods and Services Tax (GST), like treatment of real estate are yet to be firmed up. However, there is a broad understanding between the Centre and the States, that Stamp duty be kept out of GST, at least to begin with.

[xv] INDUCTION OF AWACS

On 9 August, 2010 Shri S. Semmalai, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2311 to the Minister of Defence. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Defence within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Defence vide O.M. No. 7(20)/US(A)/D(Air-I)/10 dated 28 October, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the reply given in respect of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2311 dated 9 August, 2010 was a statement indicating the factual position and current status of the procurement of Airborne Warning and Control Systems (AWACS) aircraft for the Indian Air Force (IAF). It had been stated that two AWACS aircraft have already been inducted into the Indian Air Force (IAF) while 3rd aircraft was expected to be delivered by December, 2010. The reply given in respect of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2311 was only a statement indicating the factual position of the procurement project. The induction of 3rd AWACS is expected to be done as per the provisions of the contract. It is submitted that the reply reflects only the factual position and does not constitute an assurance.

In view of the above position, the Hon'ble Committee on Government Assurances may please be requested to consider deletion of the above mentioned assurance from the list of pending assurances."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Raksha Mantri, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2311

ANSWERED ON 09.08.2010

INDUCTION OF AWACS

2311. SHRI S. SEMMALAI

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:-

(a) the details of Airborne Warning and Control Systems (AWACS) inducted into the Air Force to make Indian airspace impregnable;

(b) the number of such systems proposed to be inducted; and

(c) the number of occasions on which AWACS has detected intrusion of foreign aircraft into Indian airspace?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b) : A contract was signed with M/s Elta Israel for the procurement of three Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) aircraft. Two AWACS aircraft have already been inducted into the Indian Air Force while the third is expected to be delivered by December, 2010.

(c) : There has been no intrusion of foreign aircraft into the Indian airspace during AWACS operation.

[xvi] PROCUREMENT OF SUKHOI AIRCRAFT

On 9 August, 2010 Shri Asaduddin Owaisi, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2318 to the Minister of Defence. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Defence within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Defence vide O.M. No. 7(21)/SO(M)/D(Air-I)/10 dated 28 October, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the reply given in response to parts (c) to (f) of the question only states the factual position that the proposal is being progressed as a repeat order from M/s Hindustan Aeronautics Limited under the Defence Procurement Procedure-2008 (DPP-2008). Hence, it is submitted that the Statement did not constitute an assurance. It may be further submitted that the DPP-2008 envisages a broad time frame of about 20-29 months from accord of Acceptance of Necessity by the Defence Acquisition Council to signing of the contract. The instant proposal is being progressed in accordance with the provisions of the DPP-2008. It is not possible to complete the process within the stipulated period of three months from the date of reply to the question viz. by 8.11.2010."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Raksha Mantri, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2318

ANSWERED ON 09.08.2010

PROCUREMENT OF SUKHOI AIRCRAFT

2318. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Cabinet Committee on Security has cleared the proposal for purchase of 42 Sukhoi-30 MKI fighter aircraft from Russia;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, the total cost involved therein and the delivery schedule of the aircraft;
- (c) whether due tendering process was held for procurement of these aircraft;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the aircraft are proposed to be produced indigenously under the agreement; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): The Defence Acquisition Council has accepted a proposal for the procurement of 42 Sukhoi-30 MKI aircraft from M/s Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, India. The proposal is being further progressed for submitting to the Cabinet Committee on Security. The estimated cost of the project is Rs.20107.40 crores and the aircraft is planned to be delivered during 2014-2018.

(c) to (f): The proposal is being progressed as a repeat order from M/s Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, India under the Defence Procurement Procedure-2008.

[xvii] NEW CONSUMER LAW

On 9 November, 2010 S/Shri Milind Deora and Adhir Chowdhury, M.Ps., addressed a Unstarred Question No. 15 to the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution vide O.M. No. 7(10)/2010-CPU dated 8 February, 2011 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That in view of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) and Planning Commission not agreeing on the proposed setting up of the National Trade Practices Regulatory Authority and on the advice of Ministry of Law & Justice, a meeting was taken by Secretary (CA) on 27.01.2011 to discuss the matter with the representatives of Ministry of Corporate Affairs and the Ministry of Law & Justice. It was decided in the meeting that since the matter regarding regulation of unfair trade practices involving business to business transactions, does not concern the end-consumers, it need not be dealt further in the Department of Consumer Affairs. As per the advice of Ministry of Law, the matter has been transferred to Ministry of Corporate Affairs for amending the Competition Act, 2002 or any other action as may be deemed fit. Accordingly, the proposal to set up a National Trade Practices Regulatory Authority (as mentioned in reply to L.S. USQ No. 15 dated 09.11.2010) has now been dropped by this Department."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State (I/C) (CA, F & PD), have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 15
ANSWERED ON 09.11.2010
NEW CONSUMER LAW

15. SHRI MILIND DEORA
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution of be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to formulate a new law for safeguarding the interest of consumers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented;

(d) the details and nature of the body proposed to be constituted under the new law for dispensing justice to the consumers;

(e) the number of consumer redressal commission in the country alongwith the number of cases registered, disposed and pending during the last two years and the current year, State-wise; and

(f) the other steps taken to ensure speedy delivery of justice to the consumers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

(a) to (d): A proposal to set up a National Consumer Protection Regulatory Authority is under consideration in consultation all the stake holders.

(e): Details in this regard may be seen at Annexure I & II.

(f): The important steps being taken by the Central Government to expedite disposal of complaints are as under:

(i) Financial assistance is being provided to the States/UTs for strengthening their infrastructure. 'CONFONET' scheme for computerization and networking of Consumer Fora across the country is also being implemented which is expected to bring about systematization of Consumer Fora and improve their efficiency.

(ii) With an objective to facilitate the Fora in quicker disposal of cases, several provisions were made through Consumer Protection (Amendment) Act, 2002 which included enabling the Senior Most Member to preside over the Consumer Fora if the President is absent for any reasons, establishment of Circuit Benches of National Commission/State Commissions and providing for reappointment of President/Members of Consumer Fora.

(iii) The Central Government has been requesting State Governments to take advance action for filling up expected vacancies of President and Members. They have also been advised that wherever required, adjacent Fora can be clubbed together. Benches can also be established in Consumer Fora, as required.

(iv) The State Govts have been advised that the Consumer Fora should also resort to Lok Adalat method for disposing off long pending complaints.

(v) In addition the National Commission also takes the following steps for speedy disposal of cases in the Consumer Forum.

(a) The Hon'ble President of the National Commission regularly writes letters to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of States to meet the short-comings in the Consumer Fora, particularly with regard to appointment of President / Members in the State Commissions, providing sufficient staff and infrastructure etc. as well as interacts with the Presidents of the State Commissions to get the first hand information regarding functioning of the State Commissions & District Forums, pendency of the cases and the difficulties faced by them.

(b) The National Commission also advises the State Commissions and District Forums to adopt the process of holding Lok Adalats for speedy disposal of the cases. The National Commission also holds Circuit Bench sittings as per the provisions of Section 22 C of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, for rendering speedy justice at the doorsteps of the consumers of that particular State. So far, the National Commission has held Circuit Bench sittings at Hyderabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Pune, and Kolkata.

(c) In the following States Circuit Benches / Additional Benches are functioning

- | | | |
|-----|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| (a) | Gujarat | 03 Additional Benches |
| (b) | Maharashtra | Circuit Bench at Nagpur & Aurangabad |
| (c) | Uttar Pradesh | 01 Additional Bench |
| (d) | West Bengal | 01 Additional Bench |
| (e) | Madhya Pradesh | 01 Additional Bench |
| (f) | Punjab | 01 Additional Bench |

(d) In addition to the existing five Benches of the National Commission, the Central Government has recently sanctioned one additional bench for the National Commission for a period of five years for disposing off backlog of pending cases.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 15 FOR 09.11.2010 REGARDING NEW CONSUMER LAW.

 INFORMATION REGARDING FUNCTIONAL/NON FUNCTIONAL CONSUMER FORA IN ADDITION
 TO THE NATIONAL COMMISSION
 (STATE COMMISSIONS/DISTRICT FORUMS)

(Update on 01.11.2010)

Sl. No.	States	Whether SC Functional or Non-functional	No. of District Fora	Functional	Non-functional	As on
1	Andhra Pradesh	Yes	29	29	0	30.06.2010
2	A & N Islands	Yes	1	1	0	31.3.2006
3	Arunachal Pradesh	Yes	16	16	0	30.06.2010
4	Assam	Yes	27	27	0	30.09.2010
5	Bihar	Yes	38	34	4	31.03.2010
6	Chandigarh	Yes	2	2	0	30.06.2010
7	Chattisgarh	Yes	16	16	0	30.09.2010
8	Daman & Diu	Yes	2	2	0	30.06.2010
9	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Yes	1	1	0	30.09.2008
10	Delhi	Yes	10	10	0	30.09.2008
11	Goa	Yes	2	2	0	30.06.2010
12	Gujrat	Yes	30	30	0	30.06.2010
13	Haryana	Yes	19	19	0	30.09.2010
14	Himachal Pradesh	Yes	12	11	1	30.09.2010
15	Jammu & Kashmir	Yes	2	2	0	31.03.2009
16	Jharkhand	Yes	22	22	0	31.03.2010
17	Karnataka	Yes	30	30	0	30.09.2010
18	Kerala	Yes	14	14	0	31.12.2009
19	Lakshadweep	Yes	1	1	0	30.09.2010
20	Madhya Pradesh	Yes	48	48	0	30.06.2010
21	Maharashtra	Yes	40	40	0	31.03.2010
22	Manipur	Yes	9	9	0	31.12.2008
23	Meghalaya	Yes	7	7	0	30.06.2009
24	Mizoram	Yes	8	8	0	30.09.2009
25	Nagaland	Yes	8	8	0	31.12.2008
26	Orissa	Yes	31	31	0	30.06.2010
27	Pondicherry	Yes	1	1	0	30.09.2010
28	Punjab	Yes	20	20	0	30.06.2010
29	Rajasthan	Yes	34	33	1	30.09.2010
30	Sikkim	Yes	4	4	0	31.12.2009
31	Tamil Nadu	Yes	30	30	0	30.06.2010
32	Tripura	Yes	4	4	0	30.09.2010
33	Uttar Pradesh	Yes	75	74	1	30.06.2010
34	Uttaranchal	Yes	13	12	1	30.09.2010
35	West Bengal	Yes	21	21	0	31.03.2010
	TOTAL		627	619	8	

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.15 FOR 09.11.2010 REGARDING NEW CONSUMER LAW.

YEAR-WISE FILING & DISPOSAL IN
NATIONAL COMMISSION & STATE COMMISSIONS

(Upto 30.09.2010)

	2008		2009		2010		As on
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	
National Commission	5873	5456	5399	7350	3333	3242	31.07.2010
States	2008		2009		2010		As on
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	
Andhra Pradesh	1785	268	1384	199	421	11	31.03.2010
A & N Islands	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.			
Arunachal Pradesh	3	4	0	0			30.06.2010
Assam	146	20	79	194			
Bihar	616	755	299	385			30.06.2010
Chandigarh	2376	1448	783	1127	286	640	
Chattisgarh	962	451	891	1232	629	862	30.06.2010
D & N Haveli/Daman & Diu	0	0	4	0			
Delhi	1464	1859	1359	1129			30.06.2010
Goa	89	176	73	119			
Gujrat	2428	1739	2248	2516			30.06.2010
Haryana	2274	2134	1923	3906	989	1690	
Himachal Pradesh	1508	1521	1694	1789	1291	1369	30.09.2010
Jammu & Kashmir	187	234					31.03.2010
Jharkhand	583	515	448	418	105	69	
Karnataka	3149	3105	4610	2978	4385	3360	30.09.2010
Kerala	463	1632	834	1684			31.03.2010
Lakshadweep	0	0	2	2	0		
Madhya Pradesh	3250	3201	2764	1962			31.03.2010
Maharashtra	4673	3935	1221	1422			
Manipur	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.			31.03.2010
Meghalaya	22	4	11	6			
Mizoram	21	25					31.03.2010
Nagaland	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.			
Orissa	1122	573	1216	1136	453	398	31.03.2010
Pondicherry	48	34	19	25	4	9	
Punjab	1742	1926	2020	1791	1214	699	31.03.2010
Rajasthan	3196	4604	2887	3902	2800	2484	
Sikkim	0	2	3	1			31.03.2010
Tamilnadu	1039	933	566	309			
Tripura	68	121	71	63	25	26	31.03.2010
Uttar Pradesh	2832	3569	2733	2161			
Uttaranchal	290	289	242	391	315	238	30.09.2010
West Bengal	502	694	769	825	220	211	31.03.2010
TOTAL	36838	35771	31153	31672	13137	12066	

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.15 FOR 09.11.2010 REGARDING NEW CONSUMER LAW.

YEAR-WISE FILING & DISPOSAL IN
DISTRICT FORUMS

(Upto 30.09.2010)

States	2008		2009		2010		As on
	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed	
Andhra Pradesh	5644	6141	5032	2826	1578	311	31.03.2010
A & N Islands	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.			
Arunachal Pradesh	16	13					
Assam	743	802	154	60			
Bihar	2873	2326	2007	1824			
Chandigarh	2908	2791	2600	2477	1255	1062	30.06.2010
Chattisgarh	1976	2105	2064	2271	1585	1598	
D & N Haveli/Daman & Diu	6	0					
Delhi	11378	10358	11288	9411			
Goa	213	334	191	225			
Gujrat	9418	7895	9970	9636			
Haryana	10986	8751	12050	11732	6448	6615	30.06.2010
Himachal Pradesh	2153	2290	2387	2253	1771	1585	30.09.2010
Jammu & Kashmir	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.			
Jharkhand	1748	2308	1488	1802	384	376	31.03.2010
Karnataka	10073	10189	10041	9672	8727	8311	30.09.2010
Kerala	5119	5802	5608	6177			
Lakshadweep	2	3	5	0			
Madhya Pradesh	12267	11006	13889	11644			
Maharashtra	16956	16375	5932	3702			
Manipur	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.			
Meghalaya	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.			
Mizoram	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.			
Nagaland	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.			
Orissa	4099	4108	4420	4250	2363	2051	31.03.2010
Pondicherry	104	61	102	12	103	56	
Punjab	8684	8917	10559	10247	5331	5733	
Rajasthan	17690	15558	15543	10518	14556	12074	
Sikkim	5	2	8	11			
Tamilnadu	3363	3354	3985	2520			
Tripura	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.			
Uttar Pradesh	24203	21993					
Uttaranchal	1073	939	1037	890	972	1256	30.09.2010
West Bengal	3907	3325	5207	4911	1002	1307	31.03.2010
TOTAL	157607	147746	125567	109071	46075	42335	

[xviii] AIRPORTS IN MADHYA PRADESH

On 11 November, 2010 Shri Premchand (Guddu), M.P, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 601 to the Minister of Civil Aviation. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Civil Aviation within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Civil Aviation vide O.M. No. H.11016/124/2010-AAI dated 24 January, 2011 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That in the reply given to the above subject Parliament Question, the expected date of commencement of various works at Bhopal Airport has already been given. Therefore, this may not be treated as assurance and may be deleted from the list of pending assurance regarding this Ministry."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of State for Civil Aviation (Independent Charge), have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 601
ANSWERED ON 11.11.2010
AIRPORTS IN MADHYA PRADESH

601. SHRI PREMCHAND (GUDDU)

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:-

- (a) the number of airports under Airports Authority of India in Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) the number of airports out of them proposed to be made international airport;and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) There are eight airports in Madhya Pradesh including Gwalior airport which is operated by Indian Air Force where Airports Authority of India (AAI) manages a Civil Enclave.

(b) AAI is developing Bhopal and Indore airports for integrated operation of domestic and international aircraft movements with limited customs and immigration facilities, for possible international air connectivity.

(c) Various development works have been undertaken by AAI which are as under:

Indore Airport- Runway has been strengthened and extended from 2287 M to 2750 M which is suitable for B 767 type of aircraft operations. Apron has been extended and work related to construction of New Integrated Terminal Building suitable to handle 700 passengers during peak hours is underway with expected date of commissioning by March, 2011.

Bhopal Airport- Runway has been strengthened and extended from 2045 M to 2744 M which is suitable for B 767 type of aircraft operation. Works related to construction of New Integrated Terminal Building to handle 1080 passengers during peak hours is underway with expected date of commissioning by March, 2011.

[xix] UPGRADATION OF NHs

On 23 November, 2010 Shri P. Kumar, M.P, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2184 to the Minister of Road Transport and Highways. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways within three months of the date of the reply. However, the assurance is yet to be fulfilled.

3. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways vide O.M. No. H.11016/1/2011/W.Bank/P-9 dated 28 February, 2011 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That Detailed Project Report (DPR) for these stretches are under preparation. After completion of DPRs, process relating to invitation of tenders for award of the projects will start. Accordingly, at this stage, it is too early to mention the total estimated cost for development of 3770 km of NH to 2 lane / 2 lane with paved shoulders configuration under World Bank Assistance. However, the World Bank was requested for a loan of US \$ 2.96 billion. The bank is considering approval of the loan in 3 trenches."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of State (RT & H), have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2184
ANSWERED ON 23.11.2010
UPGRADATION OF NHs

2184. SHRI P. KUMAR

Will the Minister of Road Transport and Highways be pleased to state:-

- (a) Whether the Government has decided to upgrade around 3700 kms of National Highways under the National Highway Inter Connectivity Improvement Project (NHIIP) at a cost of about Rs. 20,000 crores;
- (b) if so, whether the project involves two laning of single lane in many States;
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
(SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a): The Government has decided to upgrade 33 road stretches of National Highways totaling to about 3770 km under National Highway Inter Connectivity Improvement Projects (NHIIP) and the estimated cost is yet to be assessed.

(b) & (c): The project involves Rehabilitation and Upgrading of single/intermediate lane to 2-lane/2-lane with paved shoulders configuration in 7 states namely Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and one union territory namely Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

[xx] FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE

On 25 November, 2010 Shri C.R. Patil, M.P, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2652 to the Minister of Law and Justice. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Law and Justice within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Law and Justice vide O.M. No. H-11016/26/2010-Admn.III(LA) dated 11 April, 2011 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the information relating to number of persons particularly in Gujarat benefited under Legal Assistance Scheme is not maintained by the Central Government. However, efforts have been made to collect the required information from the State. But the response of the State Government is very poor."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of Law and Justice, have requested to drop the above assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2652

ANSWERED ON 25.11.2010

FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE

2652. SHRI C. R. PATIL

Will the Minister of Law and Justice be pleased to state:-

(a) the parameters fixed by the Government to avail free legal assistance under Legal Assistance Scheme;

(b) the number of persons particularly in Gujarat get benefited under this scheme during the last three years, State-wise

(c) the number of applications received, approved, rejected and pending for free legal assistance during the said period, State- wise; and

(d) the details of financial assistance provided under Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 in various States/Union Territories during the last three years, State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY)

(a): The eligibility criteria for availing free legal services have been enumerated under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. Accordingly, the following persons are entitled to free legal services;-

Criteria for giving legal Services- Every person who has to file or defend a case shall be entitled to legal services under this Act if that person is:-

(a) a member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribes;

(b) a victim of trafficking in human beings or beggar as referred to in article 23 of the Constitution.

(c) a woman or a child;

(d) a person with disability as defined in clause (i) of section 2 of the Person with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act,1995 (1 of 1996);

(e) a person under circumstances of underserved want such as being a victim of a mass disaster, ethnic violence, atrocity, flood, drought, earthquake or industrial disaster; or

(f) an industrial workman; or

(g) in custody, including custody in a protective home within the meaning of clause (g) of Section 2 of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, or in a Juvenile home within the meaning of clause (j) of Section 2 of the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 (53 of 1986), or in a psychiatric hospital or psychiatric nursing home within the meaning of clause (g) of Section 2 of the Mental Health Act, 1987 (14 of 1987); or

(h) in receipt of annual income less than rupees nine thousand or such other higher amount as may be prescribed by the State Government, if the case is before a court other than the Supreme Court, and less than twelve thousand rupees or such other higher amount as may be prescribed by the Central Government if the case is before the Supreme Court.

The aforesaid categories of persons in the country are entitled to free legal services from the legal services authorities. The power to enhance the income limit for free legal services in respect of persons not belonging to other categories mentioned in section 12 of the Act, is vested with the State Government. At present, all States have raised the income ceiling to Rs. 50,000/-. However the power to enhance the income limit for availing of free legal services in the Supreme Court is vested with the Central Government. The present Income limit for Supreme Court matters is still Rs. 50,000/-.

(b) & (c): The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d): A statement showing the funds allocated to States/Union Territories during the last three financial years viz. 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10 is annexed as ANNEXURE-A`.

Annexure-A

(Statement showing the funds provided by National Legal Services Authority to the Legal Services Authorities in the States/Union Territories during the last three financial years i.e. 2007-08,2008-09 and 2009-10)

S.No	Name of the State Legal Services Authority	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
		(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1	Andhra Pradesh	3500000	1748000	3700000
2	Arunachai Pradesh	800000	1256000	2200000
3	Assam	5935000	2224000	3700000
4	Bihar	1300000	3668000	5200000
5	Chhattisgarh	5922250	2148000	3700000
6	Goa	-	152000	1900000
7	Gujrat	4500000	4100000	5000000
8	Haryana	7582000	6180000	7200000
9	Himachal Pradesh	3800000	3752000	4200000
10	J & K	1600000	1784000	3200000
11	Jharkhand	12232000	5512000	11559500
12	Karnataka	6174500	1984000	4200000
13	Kerala	8300000	4064000	11697750
14	Madhya Pradesh	6000000	7128000	6700000
15	Maharashtra	6478900	3320000	6200000
16	Manipur	-	844000	2835899
17	Meqhalaya	-	812000	2200000
18	Mizoram	-	1328000	3600000
19	Naqaland	450000	1328000	2700000
20	Orissa	7000000	8940000	6600000
21	Punjab	6500000	5180000	9200000
22	Rajasthan	5800000	3272000	6700000
23	Sikkim	-	584000	2800000
24	Tamil Nadu	7500000	1980000	4700000
25	Tripura	-	704000	3300000
26	Uttar Pradesh	7900000	8080000	9700000
27	Uttaranchal	4400000	1768000	3200000
28	West Bengal	9237000	7288000	8484000

29	And. & Nico. Islands		228000	1700000
30	U.T. Chandigarh	200000	1000000	2500000
31	Dadra & Nagar Have!!	-	-	1400000
32	Daman & Diu	-	-	1400000
33	Delhi	18000000	-	4200000
34	Lakshadweep	-	-	1950000
35	U.T. Puducherry	900000	1304000	3200000
36	Supreme Court Legal Services Committee	5000000	12500000	16000000
	Mediation & Conciliation Project		30000000	-

MINUTES
SEVENTEENTH SITTING

Minutes of the sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances (2010-2011) held on 21 July, 2011 in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

The Committee sat from 1030 hours to 1230 hours on Thursday, 21 July, 2011.

PRESENT

CHAIRPERSON

Shrimati Maneka Gandhi

Members

2. Shri Anandrao Adsul
3. Shri Mohan Jena
4. Shri Raghuvir Singh Meena
5. Shri Bishnu Pada Ray
6. Shri K.J.S.P. Reddy
7. Rajkumari Ratna Singh
8. Shri Manohar Tirkey
9. Shri Hukamdeo Narayan Yadav

Secretariat

1. Shri P. Sreedharan - Additional Secretary
2. Shri R.S. Kambo - Director
3. Shri D.S. Malha - Additional Director

At the outset the Hon'ble Chairperson welcomed the Members and apprised them about the agenda of the day. Thereafter, the Committee considered 41 Memoranda containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping the pending assurances. After in depth deliberations, of all such cases, the Committee were convinced with the reasoning adduced by the Ministry and decided to drop 20 assurances as per details given vide Annexure-I. The Committee also decided to retain 21 assurances, which are to be pursued further, as per details given in Annexure-II.

2. Thereafter, the representatives of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution (Department of Food & Public Distribution) were called in.

3. xx xx xx xx xx xx

4. A verbatim record of the sitting has been kept.

The Committee then adjourned.

Annexure-I

Details of Assurances Dropped by the Committee on Government Assurances at their sitting held on 21.07.2011.

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question No. /Discussion & Date	Ministry/ Department	Brief Subject
1	2	3	4	5
1.	48	USQ 2747 dated 11.8.2005	Social Justice and Empowerment	Reservation in Armed Forces, Judiciary and Autonomous Bodies.
2.	52	SQ 171 dated 11.3.2008	Commerce & Industry	Free Trade Agreement between India and EU.
3.	53	(i) USQ 904 dated 23.10.2008 (ii) SQ 59 dated 11.11.2010	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Iran-Pakistan-India (IPL) Gas Pipeline Project. Indo-Iran Gas Pipeline Project.
4.	56	USQ 3000 dated 24.7.2009	Urban Development	Metro Rail Projects.
5.	58	USQ 3997 dated 31.7.2009	Power	Additional Power Generation by NTPC.
6.	59	USQ 4483 dated 4.8.2009	Road Transport & Highways	Connectivity of Ports with Highways.
7.	60	SQ 3 dated 19.11.2009	Textiles	Revival of NTC Mills.
8.	61	USQ 2350 dated 3.12.2009	Law & Justice	Appointment of Judges.
9.	62	USQ 2969 dated 8.12.2009	Road Transport & Highways	Construction of Express Highways.

10.	65	USQ 1971 dated 9.3.2010	Home Affairs	Special Recruitment Drive for IPS.
11.	67	(i) SQ 193 dated 10.3.2010 (ii) USQ 2051 dated 10.3.2010	Culture	Improvement of Public Libraries. Setting up of Central Library Fund.
12.	68	USQ 2065 dated 10.3.2010	External Affairs	Indo-Nepal Treaty
13.	70	USQ 4479 dated 22.4.2010	Minority Affairs	Preservation of Minority Languages.
14.	71	USQ 926 dated 30.7.2010	Finance	Real Estate under GST.
15.	74	USQ 2311 dated 9.8.2010	Defence	Induction of AWACS.
16.	75	USQ 2318 dated 9.8.2010	Defence	Procurement of Sukhoi Aircraft.
17.	80	USQ 15 dated 9.11.2010	Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	New Consumer Law.
18.	83	USQ 601 dated 11.11.2010	Civil Aviation	Airports in Madhya Pradesh.
19.	85	USQ 2184 dated 23.11.2010	Road, Transport & Highways	Upgradation of NHs.
20.	86	USQ 2652 dated 25.11.2010	Law and Justice	Free legal assistance.

Annexure-II

Details of Assurances to be pursued further by the Committee on Government Assurances at their sitting held on 21.07.2011.

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question/ Discussion Reference	Ministry/ Department	Brief Subject	Observations of the Committee
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	47	(i) USQ 1090 dated 7.12.2004 (ii) USQ 994 dated 29.11.2005 (iii) USQ 1053 dated 29.11.2005 (iv) USQ 2240 dated 6.8.2010	Tribal Affairs	Comprehensive Policy for Tribal Welfare. Protection of Tribal Culture. National Policy for the welfare of Tribals. Maintaining Data of Tribals.	The Committee noted that the National Tribal Policy is hanging fire since the year 2004, when the first assurance on the subject was given. It is an important issue concerning welfare of Tribals. The Committee, therefore, desired that the finalization of the Policy be expedited and the assurance be implemented at the earliest.
2.	49	(i) USQ 3681 dated 18.8.2005 (ii) USQ 2694 dated 12.12.2005 (iii) USQ 3462 dated 26.4.2007 (iv) USQ 2749	Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises	Revival of HCL. Revival of Hindustan Cables Ltd. Revival of HCL and BPCL. Hindustan Cables Ltd.	The Committee noted that review of PSUs units, are under consideration of BIFR/BRPSE. It is an important issue, the Committee, therefore, desired to know the outcome thereof and decided not to drop the assurances.

		dated 23.7.2009			
3.	50	USQ 3832 dated 19.12.2006	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	Purchase from SC/ST Entrepreneurs.	The Committee noted that non-reconciliation/revaluation of an assurance between two Ministries/Departments is no valid ground for dropping of the same. The Committee also noted that request of the Ministry to drop the assurance was not agreed to vide their 26th Report, 14th Lok Sabha, presented to the House on 22.10.2008. The Committee, therefore, desired that both the Ministries may resolve the issue and implement the assurance expeditiously.
4.	51	(i) USQ 139 dated 26.2.2008 (ii) USQ 2642 dated 18.3.2008 (iii) USQ 3411 dated 23.12.2008 (iv) USQ 648 dated 23.11.2009	Commerce & Industry	Scam in STC. Pulse Scam in State Trading Corporation. Wheat Import Scam. Irregularities in STC.	The Committee has taken note of irregularities in STC which are under investigation by CBI. The contention that since matter is under investigation and no time frame can be predicted for fulfilling the assurance, is no ground to drop an assurance. The Committee also noted that request of the Ministry to drop the assurance was not agreed to vide their 4th Report, 15th Lok Sabha, presented to the House on 16.12.2009. The Committee desired that pending finalization of the CBI enquiry Report, a status report be filed after every six months, till assurance is implemented in letter and spirit.

5.	54	USQ 505 dated 7.7.2009	Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution	Functioning of FCI.	<p>The Committee noted that dropping of an assurance by CGA, Rajya Sabha cannot be a ground for dropping an assurance given in Lok Sabha. The Committee further noted that the computerisation of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) has been taken up as a Pilot Scheme in four States and the scheme is under implementation and after getting results of the Pilot implementation, the scheme will be rolled out in other States. The Committee, therefore, desired that the Pilot Scheme be expedited and assurance implemented at the earliest.</p>
6.	55	USQ 2653 dated 23.7.2009	Corporate Affairs	Monitoring Committee for Vanishing Companies.	<p>The Committee noted that the investigation is being conducted by the State Police in respect of 112 FIRs filed against Promoters/Directors of vanishing companies under Indian Penal Code (IPC) and 110 prosecutions filed against vanishing companies and its promoters/Directors under various provisions of the Companies Act, 1956. Further, similar request to drop the assurance was turned down <i>vide</i> their 7th & 13th Reports, 15th Lok Sabha, presented to the House on 5.5.2010 & 22.3.2011. There is no further material on record which justifies exclusion of the assurance. The Committee, therefore, desired that these cases may be brought to their logical conclusion and the assurance be implemented.</p>

7.	57	USQ 3306 dated 28.7.2009	Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution	Corruption in FPS.	The Committee noted that dropping of an assurance by CGA, Rajya Sabha cannot be a ground for dropping an assurance given in Lok Sabha. The Committee further noted that the Government had approved in December, 2008 implementation of a Pilot Scheme on Smart Cards based TPDS in Chandigarh and Haryana and after getting results of the Pilot implementation, the Scheme will be rolled out in other States/UTs. The Committee, therefore, desired that the Pilot Scheme be expedited and assurance be implemented.
8.	63	USQ 3588 dated 11.12.2009	Finance	Portability of Health Insurance.	The Committee noted that appropriate exposure draft on the subject is being finalized and would be released shortly for feedback/comments from stakeholders & public. The Committee, therefore, desired that the follow-up action taken at the earliest and the assurance implemented.
9.	64	(i) SQ 350 dated 14.12.2009 (ii) USQ 1770 dated 8.3.2010	Rural Development	Recommendations of Saxena Committee. Census of BPL families.	The Committee noted that the Ministry could not finalise the process of methodology for BPL census since the year 2009 i.e. when reply to SQ 350 dated 14.12.2009 was given. The Committee, therefore, desired that finalization of the policy be expedited and the assurances on the subject be implemented at an early date.

10.	66	SQ 165 dated 9.3.2010	Home Affairs	Ex-Gratia for CPF Personnel.	The Committee noted that out of 27 cases of payment of Ex-gratia for CPF personnel, 16 cases have been settled and 11 cases are pending for want of succession certificate. The Committee desire that Ministry should impress upon the next-of-kin of the victims to settle the issue amicably at the earliest so that ex-gratia compensation in these cases be paid. The Committee desired that the matter be pursued vigorously and the assurance implemented at the earliest.
11.	69	USQ 2108 dated 10.3.2010	Human Resource Development	Uniform Fee Pattern.	The Committee noted that the Committee constituted by All India Council for Technical Education under Chairmanship of Justice Ranganath Mishra to consider fixing norms and guidelines for charging tuition and other fees may take decision only after the passage of the bill introduced on the subject. The Committee, therefore, desired that necessary steps be taken in the matter and assurance implemented at the earliest.

12.	72	USQ 1565 dated 3.8.2010	Home Affairs	Firing by BSF Personnel.	The Committee were not convinced with the contention of the Ministry that it is not feasible to furnish implementation report of the assurance being a subject concern of the State Government of West Bengal. On the contrary the Committee were of the opinion that it is the joint responsibility of both State & Union Governments. The Committee having been not satisfied with the reasons furnished by the Ministry, decided not to drop the assurance.
13.	73	SQ 197 dated 6.8.2010	Finance	Audit of Joint Ventures.	The Committee do not agree with the contention of the Government that no assurance was given in reply to the question. The Committee feel that it is exclusive prerogative of the Committee to decide as to which part/portion of the reply constitute an assurance. Further, a revised draft bill seeking to replace the existing Comptroller and Auditor General (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 is under consideration. The Committee desire to know the present status of the Bill and also desired that the assurance be implemented as early as possible.

14.	76	SQ 333 dated 17.8.2010	Road, Transport and Highways	Quality Control in construction of NHs.	The Committee noted that in the four laning of NH-7, Madurai-Kanyakumari Section and NH-6 Nagpur-Kandhali Section, deviation in standard of bitumen and cement used, have been found respectively. Similarly in the 4 laning of NH-7 Hyderabad-Bangalore Section and 8 laning of NH-1 in Delhi, use of less cement have been detected. The Committee also noted that inspite of periodic checks by the vigilance division of NHAI/Chief Technical Examiner (CTE) at the project sites, action is pending in all these projects. The Committee, therefore, desired that necessary action in the matter be taken at the earliest and the assurance implemented.
15.	77	USQ 4519 dated 20.8.2010	Finance	World Bank Assisted Projects.	The Committee that a statement II of the reply (status of proposal) indicates interim position. The Committee desire that final position be furnished and assurance implemented at the earliest.
16.	78	USQ 4692 dated 25.8.2010	Home Affairs	Indians in Seychelles Jails.	The Committee note that not even a single agreement as required under the Repatriation of Prisoners Act, 2003 has been signed till date, thus defeating the whole purpose of the Act. They, therefore, desired that utmost priority be accorded to the matter and the matter be pursued vigorously with the Government of interested countries.

17.	79	SQ 442 dated 27.8.2010	Women & Child Development	Integrated Development Scheme.	Child Services	The Committee note with concern the contention of the Government that no promise has been made by Hon'ble MoS WCD (I/C) while replying the question, may not be treated as an assurance. The Committee would like to reiterate that it is their prerogative to treat an answer as assurance or otherwise. Further, the Committee note that investigation report from the State Government of Chhattisgarh is yet to be received. The Committee desire that the matter be pursued with the State Government for expediting the report and the assurance implemented.
18.	81	USQ 39 dated 9.11.2010	Home Affairs	Development for J&K.	package	The Committee noted that out of 67 projects of scheme announced under Prime Minister's reconstruction plan for J & K, 31 projects have been completed, 33 projects are on-going and remaining 3 projects are yet to be launched. Further the projects have not been completed even after the expiry of their target date of completion. The Committee, therefore, desired that the completion of the projects be expedited.

19.	82	USQ 249 dated 10.11.2010	Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension	Cases handled by CBI.	The Committee take strong exception to contention of the Ministry over treating the question under reference as an assurance or otherwise. The Committee would like to reiterate that it is their exclusive prerogative to treat a reply or part thereof as assurance or otherwise. The Committee noted that as many as 949 cases are under investigation by CBI as on 31.10.2010 and 7 cases are more than 5 years old. The Committee desired that the cases be monitored and status report of pending cases furnished to the Committee after each quarter.
20.	84	USQ 726 dated 12.11.2010	Finance	Goods and Services Tax.	The Committee noted that the draft of the Constitutional Amendment Bill on the subject has been revised and another version to Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers has been sent on 28.1.2011. The Committee therefore desired that the matter be brought to its logical conclusion.
21.	87	USQ 2719 dated 25.11.2010	Railways	Central Vigilance Commission.	The Committee would like to reiterate that it is their exclusive prerogative to treat a reply or part thereof as an assurance or otherwise. The Committee note that a large number of cases under Discipline & Appeal Rules (D&AR) are being considered. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken on pending assurances, periodically.

MINUTES

EIGHTEENTH SITTING

Minutes of the sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances (2010-2011) held on 23 August, 2011 in Committee Room 'B', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1600 hours on Tuesday 23 August, 2011.

PRESENT

IN THE CHAIR

Shri Anandrao Adsul

Members

2. Shri Dara Singh Chauhan
3. Shri Mohan Jena
4. Rajkumari Ratna Singh
5. Dr. M. Thambidurai
6. Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav

Secretariat

1. Shri R.S. Kambo - Director
2. Shri D.S. Malha - Additional Director
3. Smt. Veena Kumari - Deputy Secretary

At the outset, in the absence of the Chairperson, Shri Anandrao Adsul was chosen as Chairman under rule 258(3) of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. Thereafter, the Committee considered and adopted the following draft reports without any amendment:-

- (i) 15th Report regarding review of pending assurances pertaining to Ministry of Civil Aviation.
- (ii) 16th Report regarding requests for dropping of assurances (acceded to).
- (iii) 17th Report regarding requests for dropping of assurances (not acceded to).
- (iv) 18th Report regarding review of pending assurances pertaining to Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

2. The Committee authorized the Chairperson to finalise the Reports and present them to the House.

The Committee then adjourned.

FOURTEENTH REPORT
COMMITTEE
ON
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2010-2011)

(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

REQUESTS FOR DROPPING OF
ASSURANCES

Presented to Lok Sabha on 22 March, 2011



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

March, 2011/Chaitra, 1933 (Saka)
