

**COMMITTEE  
ON  
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES  
(2009-2010)**

**(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

**SIXTH REPORT**

**REQUESTS FOR DROPPING OF  
ASSURANCES**

*Presented to Lok Sabha on 5 May, 2010*



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

**May, 2010 / Vaisakha, 1932 (Saka)**

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**COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES\***  
**(2009 - 2010)**

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. Raja Mohan Reddy
11. Rajkumari Ratna Singh
12. Shri Takam Sanjoy
13. Dr. M. Thambidurai
14. Shri Manohar Tirkey
15. Shri Hukumdeo Narayan Yadav

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri P. Sreedharan - Joint Secretary
2. Shri R.S. Kambo - Director
3. Shri D.S. Malha - Additional Director
4. Shri Kulvinder Singh - Senior Executive Assistant

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\* The Committee was constituted on 23 September, 2009 *vide* Para No. 580 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 23 September, 2009.

## 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 Sixth Report of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee (2009-2010) at their sitting held on 7 April, 2010 considered Memorandum Nos. 52 to 104 containing requests received from the Ministries/Departments for dropping of pending assurances.

3. At their sitting held on 04 May, 2010, the Committee (2009-2010) considered and adopted their Sixth Report.

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

NEW DELHI;

04 May, 2010

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Vaisakha 14, 1932 (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 (2009-10) considered the following requests received from Ministries/Departments for dropping of assurances:-

<b>SQ/USQ No. &amp; Date</b>	<b>Ministry</b>	<b>Subject in Brief</b>
<b>Point Raised by S/shri A.C. Jose &amp; Jaiprakash Agarwal, MPs on 23.7.1996</b>	<b>Health &amp; Family Welfare</b>	<b>Calling off of Strike in AIIMS</b>
<b>(i) SQ No. 243 dt. 8.8.2001 (ii) SQ No. 243 dt. 8.8.2001 (Supplementary by Shri N. Janardhana Reddy, MP</b>	<b>Health &amp; Family Welfare</b>	<b>Medical Grants Commission Medical Grants Commission</b>

<p>(iii) USQ No. 3105 dt. 13.8.2003</p> <p>(iv) USQ No. 1244 dt. 29.11.2006</p> <p>(v) USQ No. 3043 dt. 5.9.2007</p> <p>(vi) USQ No. 677 dt. 21.11.2007</p> <p>(vii) USQ No. 285 dt. 27.2.2008</p>		<p>Medical Grants Commission</p> <p>Medical Grants Commission</p> <p>Separate Commission for Medical Health</p> <p>Medical Grants Commission</p> <p>Medical Grants Commission</p>
<p>USQ No. 2875 dt. 7.12.2001</p>	<p>Commerce &amp; Industry</p>	<p>NRI investment in India</p>
<p>USQ No. 1141 dt. 29.11.2006</p>	<p>Overseas Indian Affairs</p>	<p>Voting Rights to NRIs</p>
<p>USQ No.1587 dt. 1.12.2006</p>	<p>Power</p>	<p>Shortage of gas for power plants.</p>
<p>SQ No. 96 dt. 17.8.2007</p>	<p>Law &amp; Justice</p>	<p>Use of Hindi and regional languages in courts.</p>
<p>SQ No. 221 dt. 30.11.2007</p>	<p>Women and Child Development.</p>	<p>Integrated child development services scheme.</p>
<p>USQ No. 2761 5.12.2007</p>	<p>Planning</p>	<p>Recommendations of NKC on survey outcomes</p>
<p>USQ No.791 dt. 3.3.2008</p>	<p>Agriculture</p>	<p>Enhancement of fishery trade.</p>
<p>USQ No. 1386 dt. 10.3.2008</p>	<p>Agriculture</p>	<p>Jakhau fishery harbour</p>
<p>SQ No. 51 dt. 7.7.2009</p>	<p>Agriculture</p>	<p>Production of Food Grains</p>
<p>USQ No. 533 dt. 8.7.2009</p>	<p>Health &amp; Family Welfare</p>	<p>Setting up of new Vaccine manufacturing units</p>
<p>USQ No. 787 dt. 9.7.2009</p>	<p>Corporate Affairs</p>	<p>Mega Merger of Companies</p>
<p>USQ No. 2902</p>	<p>Urban</p>	<p>Rent Control Act</p>

<b>dt. 24.7.2009</b>	<b>Development</b>	
<b>USQ No.3043 27.7.2009</b>	<b>Human Resource Development</b>	<b>Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Peace Education and sustainable Development</b>
<b>USQ No. 4802 dt. 7.8.2009</b>	<b>Urban Development</b>	<b>Master plan for development of urban and rural areas</b>
<b>USQ No. 1802 dt. 30.11.2009</b>	<b>Commerce &amp; Industry</b>	<b>Development of infrastructure facilities at Kollem port</b>

**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 decided to drop the aforesaid assurances.**

**5. The Minutes of the sitting of the Committee, whereunder the decision to drop the assurances are given in Appendix-II.**

NEW DELHI;

**MANEKA GANDHI**  
CHAIRPERSON  
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

04 May, 2010

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Vaisakha 14, 1932 (Saka)



[i] CALLING OFF OF STRIKE IN AIIMS

On 23 July, 1996 Sarvashri A.C. Jos, MP and Jaiprakash Agarwal, MP *inter-alia* raised the following points to the Minister of Health and Family Welfare:-

**"Action has to be taken against the Chief Minister; action has to be taken against the State Government. The Chief Minister's name is also involved in the incident."**

2. In reply, the then Minister of State of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Shri Saleem Iqbal Shervani) *inter-alia* stated as follows:-

**" I have also received a letter from the Chief Minister of Delhi.....  
strict action will be taken against the persons involved."**

3. The above reply was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

4. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare vide O.M. No. V-16020/50/96-ME-I (Pt) dated 4 December, 2009 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the assurance was discussed during the oral evidence of Secretary (H&FW) tendered before Committee on Government Assurances (CGA) on 13.11.2009. Hon'ble Chairperson, CGA agreed to drop the assurance."

5. In this connection it is stated that the Committee on Government Assurances at their sitting held on 13 November, 2009 directed the Ministry to send a request for dropping of assurance for their consideration."

6. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the MoS (H&FW), have requested to drop the above assurance.

## [ii] MEDICAL GRANTS COMMISSION

The replies to the Questions (Annexure I to VII) were treated as assurances and were required to be fulfilled by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare within three months of the date of their replies but the assurances are yet to be fulfilled.

2. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare vide their O.M. No. U.11020/1/1993-ME(P.II) dated 8 December, 2009 have requested to drop the above assurances on the following grounds:-

“That there are a number of assurances in Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha pending for fulfillment regarding establishment of Medical Grants Commission. In this connection, it is stated that in 1974-75 the Kartar Singh Committee had suggested establishing a Medical Grant Commission on the lines of UGC. The vision at that time was that such a Commission should improve the overall infrastructure in medical colleges and also ensure some amount of quality education being imparted. However, despite several rounds of discussion and repeated recommendations to establish such a body was never implemented.

In the meanwhile, the Planning Commission has earmarked Rs. 1350 crores for strengthening and up-gradation of Government Medical Colleges during the 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan period for expanding training of specialists. Similarly, funds are also being given to medical colleges for taking up the training of the specialists in paramedics/technicians. Medical Colleges are also being strengthened under different programmes/schemes for cancer, CVD, Blood Banks, ART Centre, NACO, etc. Further, the President of India in her address to the Joint Session of Parliament, in June 2009, announced the Government’s intension to set a National Council of Human Resources in Health (NCHRH) as an overarching body for health sector to reform the current framework and enhance supply of skilled personnel.

In view of the above developments, this Ministry is of the view that there is no need to consider setting up of a Medical Grant Commission.”

3. In view of the above the Ministry, with the approval of Minister for Health and Family Welfare, have requested to drop the assurances.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 243  
ANSWERED ON 08.08.2001  
MEDICAL GRANT COMMISSION

243. SHRI ALE NARENDRA  
SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Central Government had a proposal for setting up a Medical Grant Commission on the lines of University Grant Commission (UGC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which a legislation in this regard is likely to be brought before the Parliament; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR)

(a) to (d): There was a proposal for establishment of Medical Grants Commission on the lines of University Grants Commission but in view of scarce resources, the proposal had been kept in abeyance. The possibility of reviving the proposal in the current circumstances is being examined by the Government.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 243  
(SUPPLEMENTARY BY SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY, M.P.)  
ANSWERED ON 08.08.2001

MEDICAL GRANT COMMISSION

On 8 August, 2001 Shri N. Janardhana Reddy, M.P. raised the following supplementary question to Starred Question No. 243 to Minister of Health and Family Welfare:-

"Sir, there are so many corporate sector hospitals in the country are considered as the deemed universities.

The hon'ble Minister was telling that the Medical Council is taking care of the standards to be maintained in the Universities. The corporate hospitals have been permitted to import costly equipment in the beginning on the condition that they are going to serve the poor also at a cheaper rate. But the Medical Council is not taking care to see whether these hospitals are implementing it or not. The words may be 'Grants Commission'. Even the University Grants Commission (UGC) is not giving grants alone. In view of this, there must be a body in the country to look into whether the corporate hospitals, are coming up in a big way, are good work or not. You are looking into medical colleges only. These are deemed Universities. What is the thinking of the Hon'ble Minister on my suggestion."

2. In reply, the then Minister of Health & Family Welfare (Dr. C.P. Thakur) stated as follows:-

"This suggestion is also under the consideration of the Government."

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3105  
ANSWERED ON 13.08.2003

MEDICAL GRANTS COMMISSION

3105 SHRI AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up Medical Grants Commission;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the objectives of the said commission;
- (c) whether the Government propose to invest huge funds on the administrative structure of the Medical Grants Commission; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a)to(d): There is a proposal to set up Medical Grants Commission. The modalities of the Commission are being worked out.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1244  
ANSWERED ON 29.11.2006

SETTING UP OF MEDICAL GRANTS COMMISSION

1244. SHRI SAMBASIVA RAYAPATI RAO

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Medical Grants Commission in the country;
- (b) if so, the main features, aims and objectives of such a Commission; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c ): There is a proposal for establishment of Medical Grants Commission. The modalities of the Commission are being worked out.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3043  
ANSWERED ON 05.09.2007

SEPARATE COMMISSION FOR MEDICAL HEALTH  
3043. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up a separate Commission for medical and health education and to promote health care in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is also a proposal formulate a system of accreditation of training institutions; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

- (a) & (b) There is a proposal for establishment of Medical Grants Commission. The details are being worked out in consultation with the Planning Commission.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 677  
ANSWERED ON 21.11.2007

MEDICAL GRANTS COMMISSION

677. SHRI SAMBASIVA RAYAPATI RAO

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Medical Grants Commission;
- (b) if so, the main features, aims and objectives of the Commission; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS)

(a) to (c) There is a proposal for establishment of Medical Grants Commission. The mandate and functions of the Commission are being formulated. However, steps for setting up of said Commission can be initiated during the 11th Five Year Plan period subject to availability of necessary funds. The matter for provision of funds for this purpose is being pursued with the Planning Commission.



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 285  
ANSWERED ON 27.02.2008

MEDICAL GRANTS COMMISSION

285. SHRI CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE

Will the Minister of Health and Family Welfare be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Medical Grants Commission;
- (b) if so, the main features, aims and objectives of the Commission; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c) There is a proposal for establishment of Medical Grants Commission. The matter for provision of funds for this purpose is being pursued with the Planning Commission.

[iii] NRI INVESTMENT IN INDIA

On 7 December, 2001 Smt. Rajkumari Ratna Singh, M.P., addressed the following Unstarred Question No. 2875 to the Minister of Finance:-

- “(a) the number of proposals for investment sent by the Non Resident Indians during the last three years;
- (b) the amount involved and the number of proposals concerning to Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) the state-wise details of the proposals approved as on date and the amount involved in it;
- (d) the actual investment made under the approved proposal;
- (e) whether several Non Resident Indians have not invested even after the approval of the project because of the tough official formalities and corruption; and
- (f) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?”

2. In reply, the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil) stated as follows:-

“(a) to (f) : Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.”

3. The above reply 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.

4. The Ministry of Commerce & Industry vide O.M. No. 3(18)/2003-FC dated 25 September, 2009 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That the question was originally admitted in the name of Ministry of Finance. Since the matter was related to Ministry of Commerce & Industry, the same was transferred to this Department. The Lok Sabha Secretariat issued a corrigendum admitting this Question in the name of Ministry of Commerce & Industry on the same date (7-12-2001).

The question was replied by this Department with the approval of MOS (C&IM). Though the question was answered by DIPP on 7-12-2001, it appears that Ministry of Finance also answered the question stating that the information was being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House. Since the question has been answered by MOS (C&IM) on the same date (7-12-2001), and it involves no assurance."

5. In this connection attention is invited to para 8.3.2 of the Manual of Parliamentary Procedure in the Government of India, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs as given below:-

*"Departments should make request for dropping of assurances immediately on receipt of statement of assurances from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and only in rare cases where they are fully convinced that the assurances could not be implemented under any circumstances and there is no option left with them but to make a request for dropping. Such requests should have the approval of their Minister and this fact should be indicated in their communication containing the request."*

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2875 TO BE ANSWERED ON**

**FRIDAY, 7.12.2001**

**NRI INVESTMENT IN INDIA**

**2875: SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH**

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of proposals for investment sent by the Non Resident Indians during the last three years;
- (b) the amount involved and the number of proposals concerning to Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) the state-wise details of the proposals approved as on date and the amount involved in it;
- (d) the actual investment made under the approved proposal;
- (e) whether several Non Resident Indians have not invested even after the approval of the project because of the tough official formalities and corruption; and
- (f) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

## **ANSWER**

### **THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**

**(DR. RAMAN SINGH)**

- (a) 525 NRI investment proposals, involving an amount of Rs. 3160.02 crore, were approved during 1998 to September, 2001;
- (b) 22 proposals, involving an amount of Rs. 66.64 crore, were approved in respect of Uttar Pradesh during the period;
- (c) The information is given in the Statement attached;
- (d) The information on actual investment by NRIs is not centrally maintained;
- (e) & (f)

The time taken for inflow is usually longer because of several factors such as acquisition of land, obtaining various statutory clearances, arranging funds, etc. which take time. Apart from these, international factors such as global market conditions and trade fundamentals also determine major investment decisions. With a view to making the Indian economy competitive and creating an investor-friendly environment, a dynamic policy for encouraging Foreign Direct Investment, including NRI investment, is already in place. However, the review of the policy is an ongoing and consultative process involving several Departments and Ministries of the Government.

#### [iv] VOTING RIGHTS TO NRIs

On 29 November, 2006 Shri Chengara Surendran and Shrimati C.S. Sujatha, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1141 to the Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs. The contents of the question along with its reply 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 Overseas Indian Affairs within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs vide O.M. No. OI-11017/58/2009-DS dated 6 October, 2009 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2006 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on the 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2006. The Bill seeks to amend section 20 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 (43 of 1950) to enable Indian citizens who are absent from their place of ordinary residence in India owing to their employment, education or otherwise outside the country, to get their names registered in the electoral rolls of the constituency of their place of ordinary residence in India to be able to cast their votes in the Parliamentary/State elections. The Bill also seeks to make an enabling provision for such citizens to be able to contest the elections.

The Bill was referred to the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, and Law & Justice on the 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2006 for examination and report. The Committee presented its 16<sup>th</sup> report on the subject to the Rajya Sabha/laid it in the Lok Sabha on the 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2006 and, while agreeing with the letter and spirit of the amendment Bill, has recommended for bringing a comprehensive Bill on the subject containing all the details regarding the manner of enrolment of the Non-Resident Indians, the mode of voting and the conditions for contesting elections. The report of the Committee is under examination of the Legislative Department since then.

This Ministry has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Law and Justice at the level of the Minister for expediting the matter. The Legislative Department, Ministry of Law and Justice, who moved the Bill, regretted to accept transfer of earlier assurances on the subject, advising this Ministry to keep taking extension of time for fulfillment of the assurance.

Since a comprehensive Bill to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950 (43 of 1950) is to be drafted by the Ministry of Law and Justice as recommended by the Parliamentary Committee which examined the Bill, it is requested that the above assurance may be deleted from the list of assurances pending against this Ministry.”

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

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1141  
ANSWERED ON 29.11.2006  
VOTING RIGHTS TO NRIs

1141. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN  
SMT. C.S. SUJATHA

Will the Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs be pleased to state:-

- (a) The present status of conferring the right of franchise to the Non-resident Indians;
- (b) Whether the report submitted in this regard has since been examined; and
- (c) If so, the outcome thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS(SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) to (c) : With a view to enabling citizens of India who are absenting from their place of ordinary residence owing to their employment, education or otherwise outside India, to get their names enrolled in the electoral rolls and cast their votes when they are in their constituency at the time of polls, the Government introduced the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 2006 in Rajya Sabha on 27-02-2006. The said Bill was referred to the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice for examination. The Committee presented its Report to Rajya Sabha/laid in Lok Sabha on the 4th August, 2006. The Report is being examined in the Legislative Department, Ministry of Law and Justice.



## [v] SHORTAGE OF GAS FOR POWER PLANTS

On 1 December, 2006 Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1587 to the Minister of Power. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister of Power (Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde) 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. 9/6/2006-Th-I dated 1 January, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That NTPC has informed that first meeting of India-Qatar Monitoring Mechanism, Qatar had indicated only to consider India’s request for supply of additional 2.5 million tones of LNG starting 2012. On further pursuing the minutes, it is clear that they refrained from making any commitment for the said 2.5 million tones of LNG (Qatar only agreed in principle to follow up on supplying the 1 million tones of addl. LNG on mediums/long term based through diversions, which is being pursued by M/s Petronet India Limited.

As per NTPC’s information gathered from its meeting with Qatari officials, it is evident that due to the moratorium imposed on further exports of gas till 2012 by Qatar Government, Qatari side is unable to commit any additional gas. Due to the above moratorium, NTPC’s all out efforts during the past 2-3 years for gas tie-up with Qatar have not been successful.

As such there seems no possibility of fulfilling the pending assurance of gas tie-up with Qatar for RGCCPP gas based project of NTPC in the near future.”

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

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
 MINISTRY OF POWER  
 LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1587  
 ANSWERED ON 1.12.2006  
 SHORTAGE OF GAS FOR POWER PLANTS

1587. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY

Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state:-

- (a) the performance of gas fuelled power plants in the country;
- (b) the estimated gas required by NTPC for its gas based power plants;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to deal with the problem of gas scarcity in such plants ;
- (d) whether NTPC has offered stake to Qatar Investment Board (QIB) for gas based power plants;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the response of Qatar Investment Board thereto?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE)

(a) :The performance of Gas fuelled power plants in the country during the current year (April, 2006-October, 2006) compared with corresponding period of last year are given as under:

Sectors	2006-07 (April, 2006 to Oct., 2006)		2005-06 (April, 2005 to Oct., 2005)	
	Actual (in MUs)	Plant Load Factor (in MUs)	Actual	Plant Load Factor
Central	14527	71.45%	14196	69.82%
State	9398	59.00%	9771	63.23%

Private (Pvt. Utility and IPP)	9773	49.22%	10013	60.62%
Total	33698		33980	

Note: Excludes Liquid (NAPTHA/Diesel) based station.

(b) & (c) : The estimated requirement of Gas for NTPC Power Plants to meet the generation targets fixed by Central Electricity Authority for its Gas based power stations is 13.74 MMSCMD (Million Metric Standard Cubic Meter Per Day).NTPC has made long time arrangement for supply of 13.74 MMSCMD of gas for all its gas based plants (including 0.75 MMSCMD of Gas on fall back basis for Gandhar Gas Power Project). As against this, Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) signed an agreement for only 12.93 MMSCMD of Gas and supplied approximately 8.95 MMSCMD of Gas during the current year (till October, 2006) which works out to 65.14% of requirement of gas by NTPC plants and 69.22% of quantity committed by GAIL.

In order to mitigate the shortage of gas, tie-ups have been made by NTPC for supply of Re-gasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG) from GAIL, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) & Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) on fallback basis. Further, NTPC are also procuring Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) through the Spot market from time to time from GAIL, IOCL, BPCL, Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation (GSPC) & Hazira LNG Ltd.

(d) to (f) :The Indian delegation to Qatar led by Principal Secretary to Prime Minister in May, 2006 had discussions on investment opportunity in India in various sectors including power sector.

During the discussion, NTPC`s proposed gas based expansion project namely Rajiv Gandhi Combined Cycle Power Project Stage-II (1950 MW) at Kayamkulam, Kerala was offered for investment to Govt. of Qatar / Qatar Investment Authority as an equity partner / joint venture partner.

Accordingly, the project highlights and draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) were forwarded by NTPC to Qatar Investment Authority (QIA) during May, 2006 / June, 2006 for their reference and perusal. As per the draft MoU, the equity holding offered to Qatar was upto 40% with NTPC having controlling stake with equity not less than 50%.

The response from QIA is still awaited.

[vi] USE OF HINDI AND REGIONAL LANGUAGES IN COURTS

On 17 August, 2007 Sarvashri M. Appadurai and Dr. Dhirendra Agarwal, M.Ps., addressed a Starred Question No. 96 to the Minister of Law and Justice. The contents of the question along with the reply of the then Minister of Law and Justice (Shri H.R. Bhardwaj) 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 Minister of Law and Justice vide D.O. No. L-20013/09/2007-Jus. dated 5 July, 2009 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That in the year 2007, a proposal seeking permission for use of Tamil in the proceedings of the High Court of Madras was received from the Government of Tamil Nadu and the same is still under examination of this Department in consultation with other concerned departments. As per the Allocation of Business Rules, language used in the Supreme Court and High Courts is the subject matter of the Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs. It may also be mentioned here that earlier the proposal was turned down as the Supreme Court of India had not favoured implementation of the proposal because of various reasons. It is unlikely that the Court would change its stand now. As such, it may not be possible to fulfill the assurance in the foreseeable future.

I shall, therefore, be grateful, if you could kindly look into the matter and arrange to drop the above assurance for the reasons stated above.”

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 96  
ANSWERED ON 17.8.2007  
USE OF HINDI AND REGIONAL LANGUAGES IN COURTS

\*96. SHRI M. APPADURAI  
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL

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

- (a) whether all works in Supreme Court and High Courts in the country are done in English instead of Hindi and other regional languages;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has requested the Union Government to make Tamil as official language for Madras High Court;
- (d) if so, the action taken thereon;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to make Hindi and other regional languages as official language of the Supreme Court, High Courts and other lower courts; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ)

A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Parts (a) to (f) of J Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 96 for 17.08,2007 by Shri M. Appadurai and Dr. Phirendra Agarwal regarding use of Hindi and Regional Languages in Courts.

(a)to(f): Article 348(1)(a) of the Constitution of India provides that all proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High Court shall be in English language until Parliament by law otherwise provides.

Under Article 348(2), the Governor of the State may with the previous consent of the President, authorize the use of the Hindi language or any other language used for any official purpose of the State, in the proceedings of the High Court having its principal seat in that State.

In four States namely; Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan the use of Hindi language has been authorized for the proceedings of the High Courts.

No law has since been made in this regard by the Parliament; therefore, English continues to be the language for all the proceedings of the Supreme Court.

The matter of use of Hindi in the proceedings of the Supreme Court has been examined by the Department of Official Language in consultation with the Registry of the Supreme Court. With respect to a reference made by Department of Official Language, the Registrar, Supreme Court of India intimated that the point of introduction of optional use of Hindi in the hearing and proceedings in the Supreme Court has been considered by the full Court twice i.e. on 10.4.1990 & 26.9.1996. However, after ascertaining the views of the Bar Council of India, Supreme Court Bar Association and the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Records Association, it was unanimously resolved that it was not practically feasible to introduce Hindi in the proceedings of the Supreme Court on the ground that matters in this court are filed from all parts of the country and Hindi Language is used only in Northern India. If introduced, it will cause great difficulties to the litigants, hon`ble Judges as well as Bar members, particularly to those who hail from Southern region of the country.

The request of the Tamil Nadu Government for permitting use of Tamil language in Madras High Court was forwarded to the then Registrar General, Supreme Court for obtaining the comments of Hon`ble Chief Justice of India. CJI has not favoured implementation of the above proposal on certain grounds which were communicated to the State Government.

Thereafter, the Hon`ble Chief Minister, Tamil Nadu had written to Hon`ble Minister of Law and Justice as well as to Home Minister for early decision in the matter. The matter is presently under examination of the Government in consultation with the concerned Departments.

[vii] INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES SCHEME

On 30 November, 2007 Shri N.N. Krishnadas, M.P., addressed the following Starred Question No. 221 to the Minister of Women and Child Development:-

“(a) whether the Government has decided to extend the ICDS project to new areas in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the allocation of funds to different States for this purpose till October 31,2007; and

(d) the manner in which the Panchayati Raj System is proposed to be utilized in the proper implementation of the scheme?”

2. In reply, the then Minister of State of the Ministry of Women and Child Development (Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury) stated as follows:-

“(a),(b),(c)&(d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a),(b),(c) & (d) OF LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 221 FOR 30.11.2007 BY SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS  
REGARDING  
INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES SCHEME

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to cover all the hitherto uncovered habitations, across the country, the States/Union Territory (UT) Administrations were requested to undertake a micro level survey having regard to predominantly SC/ST/Minority habitations and furnish specific requirement of additional Projects/Anganwadi Centres(AWCs)/Mini-AWCs. Additional requirements for 613 Projects, 2.20 Lakh AWCs and 77360 Mini AWCs have been received from 34 States/UT Administrations. These requirements have been incorporated in a composite proposal for competent approvals.

(c) State-wise allocation of funds for this purpose will be made only after the competent approval has been accorded.

(d) The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme envisages, inter-alia, involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in the Programme implementation. As per information received from the States/UT Administrations, PRIs have been associated in the implementation of the ICDS Scheme in different areas like in selection of Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs), supervising distribution of supplementary nutrition, distribution of honorarium to AWWs/AWHs, and providing infrastructural facilities for AWCs etc."

3. On 30 November, 2007 Shri Bhanwar Singh Dangawas, M.P., addressed the following Suuplementary to Starred Question No. 221 to the Minister of Women and Child Development:-

" Speaker, Sir, the Minister is a very dynamic person and a well wisher of the girl children. The H.R. department is not giving any assistance to the schools for girl children run by NGOs and other institutions which have hostel facilities. The concerned people have applied for this purpose many times. Hence, I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister whether she is ready to take up the responsibility of diet for the said girls? Will her ministry provide the entire funds for ensuring the supply of proper diet to the girl students studying in the schools which are run by such institutions or NGOs which run only girl schools? Madam, so far the said assistance has not so far reached the State of Rajasthan."

4. In reply, the then Minister of State of the Ministry of Women and Child Development (Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury) stated as follows:-

" We are providing nutritious foods especially under 'Kishori Shakti Yojna' to the girls under the age of eighteen in various States. But the welfare hostels do not come under our subject. If he transfers all those subjects to my Ministry, I will definitely do something for them also. I will never raise an objection to this. With your permission, first of all I will introduce it in Rajasthan."

5. The above reply was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.



6. The Ministry of Women and Child Development vide O.M. No. 11021/1/2009-PU dated 15 January, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That the reply given by the Hon’ble Minister in response to the remarks of Hon’ble MP appear to have been made in a lighter vein. It, therefore, should not be treated as an assurance of any kind”.

7. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of Women and Child Development, have requested to drop the above assurance.

[viii] RECOMMENDATIONS OF NKC ON SURVEY OUTCOMES

On 5 December, 2007, Dr. M. Jagannath and Shri K.S. Manoj, MPs, addressed the following Unstarred Question No.2761 to the Minister of Planning:-

- (a) whether the National Knowledge Commission (NKC) has submitted its findings and recommendations of the first ever survey conducted by it;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the findings of the survey;
- (c) whether the Government has accepted the findings of the survey; and
- (d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

2. In reply, the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Planning (Shri M.V. Rajasekharan) stated as follows:-

(a) to (d) : The National Knowledge Commission (NKC) till November, 2007 has submitted recommendations relating to:

\* Libraries \* Translation \* Language \* Knowledge Network \* Right to Education \* Health Information Network \* Portals (Water, Energy) \* Vocational Education \* Higher Education \* Legal Education \* Medical Education \* Management Education \* Open and Distance Education \* Open Educational Courseware \* National Science and Social Science Foundation \* Intellectual Property Rights \* Innovation \* E-governance \* The recommendations are under examination.

3. The above reply to the question was treated as an assurance and was required to be fulfilled by the Planning Commission within three months of the date of the reply *i.e.* by 4 March, 2008. However, the assurance is yet to be fulfilled. The Planning Commission have sought extension of time till a decision regarding dropping the assurance is taken.

4. The Planning Commission vide O.M. No. H.11016/10/2007-Edn dated 27 February, 2008 requested to drop the above assurance. The request was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 11 June, 2008. The Committee decided not to drop the assurance. The Committee desired that a status report on the subject may be furnished for their consideration. Accordingly, the Planning Commission vide their O.M. No. H-11017/11/2007-Edn dated 9 January, 2009 have submitted an updated status of Action

Taken on the Recommendations of NKC (Annexure-I) and again requested to drop the above assurance on the following grounds:-

“Briefly, the Planning Commission has examined the following recommendations of National Knowledge Commission till date:

I Libraries, II Translation, III Teaching in English Language in Schools, IV Integrated National Knowledge Network, V Portals, VI Right to Education, VII IRAHE, VIII Medical Education, IX Higher Education, X Vocational Education & Training, XI E-Governance, XII Legal Education, XIII Open & Distance Education, XIV Open Educational Resources, XV Management Education, XVI Health Information Network, XVII National Science & Social Science Foundation, XVIII Legal Framework on Public Funded Research, XIX Intellectual Property Rights, XX Traditional Health Systems, XXI School Education, XXII Attracting Talented Students to Maths & Science, XXIII Innovations, XXIV Attracting More Quality PhDs, XXV Engineering Education.

The above recommendations have been forwarded to the concerned Ministries by the PMO and the Planning Commission. In some cases Ministries have framed schemes on the recommendations of NKC which are in various stages of appraisal by the Planning Commission and Department of Expenditure for example, the National Mission on Libraries, others schemes formulated on the recommendations of NKC are ready for implementation for example: Skill Development Mission, National Translation Mission, National Mission for ICT in Higher Education, etc. Some recommendations of NKC are still under examination of concerned ministries / Depts. and comments are awaited.

The Planning Commission undertook two inter-ministerial meetings to review the status of action taken on the recommendations of NKC (on 07.02.08 and 15.04.08). The minutes of these two reviews were issued to the ministries concerned and to the PMO and Cabinet Secretariat.

As no fixed time can be stipulated for taking action/ implementing the recommendations of NKC, in view of the position stated in para 2 above, we hereby furnish an updated status on the recommendations of NKC processed in the Commission and again request the Committee of Government Assurances to kindly reconsider deleting the above Assurance. Simultaneously, we request for grant of extension of time till a decision is taken to drop the Assurance.”

5. Accordingly, the Planning Commission, with the approval of MOS(P), have requested to drop the assurance.

Planning Commission  
Education Division

**Follow up on Recommendations of National Knowledge Commission – Updated Status as on 31.12.2008**

**I. Libraries**

***Recommendations of NKC :***

- *Set up a National Commission on Libraries*
- *Prepare a National Census of all Libraries*
- *Promote ICT application in all libraries*
- *Revamp and encourage PPP in library information services*

**Action Taken - updated status**

Based on the recommendations of NKC the Dept. of Culture (DOC) proposed setting up a National Mission for Libraries during the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan as a Central Sector Scheme. The EFC Memo is under revision by the DOC and is being restricted to Rs. 180 crore earmarked for the same during the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan. The NML will cover only libraries under the DOC. The project / mission will cover a 4-year period from 2008-09 – 2013. The activities under the NML include : National Census of Libraries; Modernization including networking of Libraries under DOC; establish Knowledge Centres; establish Digital Libraries.

**II. Translation**

***Recommendations of NKC :***

- *Propagate Indian language and literature through high quality translation*
- *Provide impetus for developing translation as an industry*
- *Establish a store-house of information on all aspects of translation involving Indian languages*
- *Create and maintain various tools for translation, including machine translation*
- *Provide quality training and education for translators*
  
- *Translate pedagogic materials at all levels*
- *Set up a National Translation Mission and web portal for this purpose*

**Action Taken - updated status**

The National Translation Mission (NTM) has been approved for implementation. This Mission has a 11<sup>th</sup> Plan outlay of Rs. 75 crore. The CIIL, Mysore would be the nodal

agency for implementation of the mission. The Project Advisory Committee under MHRD is working out details.

### **III. Teaching in English Language in Schools**

#### ***Recommendations of NKC :***

- *Introducing English from Class I and modify Pedagogy, train teachers, revise textbooks, use multi media for English language teaching.*

#### **Action Taken - updated status**

25 States have already introduced English subject from class I. With the help of NCERT and CIEFL the MHRD is guiding English Teaching in schools in the States / UTs. by developing appropriate curriculum, materials and training of teachers with skills in English.

### **IV. Integrated National Knowledge Network (iNKN)**

#### *Recommendations of NKC :*

*Proposes inter-connecting all knowledge institutions throughout the country through an electronic digital broadband network with adequate capabilities to encourage sharing of resources and collaborative research.*

#### ***Some specific recommendations are :***

- *Build a National Knowledge Network with gigabit capabilities to connect all universities, libraries, laboratories, hospitals and agricultural institutions to share data and resources across the country in a time bound manner. Implementation could be in phases targeting 500 to a 1000 nodes in the first phase.*
- *One time capital support should be given to user institutions to set up Fast Ethernet LANs to enable them to hook on the grid.*
- *A special working group of experts should be set up to finalise specifications, implementation plans, cost estimates, network plans, carry out the actual task of procurement and commissioning of the network.*
- *A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) consisting of major stakeholders should manage the day to day working.*

#### **Action Taken - updated status**

During 2008-09 Rs. 100 crores has been allocated for the iNKN which proposes interconnecting knowledge institutions with gigabit capabilities for sharing resources and research. A high level committee in DIT has been constituted. Separate committees under different ministries would work out content development in their respective application areas for use with in NKN. The

NIC (under DIT) would be the main implementer of the NKN. The network would be operationalised in two phases. The core and distribution network covering 1000 nodes with gigabit capacity would be initially set up. The network is scalable and its coverage can grow up to 10,000 nodes / institutions. The High Level Committee in DIT has met thrice in the current year in May, July and November 08 and is firming up the proposal. Thereafter, the proposal shall be appraised by the EFC.

## **V. PORTALS**

### ***Recommendations of NKC :***

- *Creation of national web based portals for basic needs on certain key sectors such as Water, Energy, Environment, Education, Food, Health, Agriculture, Employment, Citizen Rights.*
- *A consortium consisting of representatives from a wide range of stakeholders from the sectors should own and manage the portal.*
- *Provide access to Government held data.*
- *Encourage collaborative funding*

### **Action Taken - updated status**

NKC has facilitated the setting up of **four** portals: one on Water ([indiawaterportal.org](http://indiawaterportal.org)), championed by Arghyam Trust; one on Energy ([indiaenergyportal.org](http://indiaenergyportal.org)) championed by The Energy Research Institute (TERI); on Environment ([indiaenvironmentportal.org.in](http://indiaenvironmentportal.org.in)), championed by Centre for Science and Environment; a National portal for teachers ([teachersofindia.org](http://teachersofindia.org)), championed by Azim Premji Foundation. A portal on biodiversity being developed by the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE) will be launched in December.

Planning Commission in its earlier reviews has given the following suggestions: Each Ministry should establish its individual Portals / websites under "indiagov.in" under guidance of NIC (DIT) which has developed guidelines for standard and security for portals.

## **VI. Right to Education Bill**

### ***Recommendations of NKC:***

- *Steps to be taken to enforce Right to Education*

### **Action Taken - updated status**

It is proposed to introduce Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Bill 2008 in the Parliament.

## **VII. Independent Regulatory Authority for Higher Education (IRAHE)**

### ***Recommendations of NKC***

- *Setting up IRAHE, an overarching body, which will be responsible for setting criterion and deciding on entry of institutions.*
- *Eligibility of setting up new institutions of higher education, technical education, medical education, distance/correspondence universities and colleges, management institutes, law colleges and universities would be decided by IRAHE.*
- *The entry regulatory functions of the AICTE , MCI, BCI would be performed by the IRAHE so that their role is limited to that of professional associations*
- *The role of the UGC shall be redefined to focus on disbursement of grants and maintenance of public institutions in higher education.*
- *The MCI will function only as a professional association with powers to conduct examinations and provide licenses to those who want to join profession*
- *IRAHE would be the only agency authorized to accord degree granting power to higher education institutions.*
- *IRAHE be responsible for standards and settling disputes*
- *IRAHE will be responsible for maintaining quality, standards and accreditation in education.*
- *The Autonomous Standing Committees of IRAHE will look after education in various areas.*

### **Action Taken - updated status**

The UGC / AICTE Review Committee now named as Committee for Rejuvenation and Renovation of Higher Education is examining the regulatory set up for Higher Education. The report is awaited.

## **VIII. Medical Education**

### ***Recommendations of NKC :***

- *Only one All India Common Entrance Test for students seeking admission in self-financing medical colleges.*
- *An independent and standardized National EXIT exam at the end of four and half years of study to conduct national assessment of skills and knowledge.*
- *PG admission to be based on credits received in national EXIT examination.*
- *Additional capacity for nursing staff to be created. Every district hospital should have attached nursing school offering diploma*
- *Para-medical Council should be set up to look into quality of paramedics such as compounders, lab technicians and health workers*
- *Pharmacy education must be encouraged*
- *ASHA must be viewed as an accessible and effective health workers. Their training working conditions and pay should be improved.*

## **Action Taken - updated status**

MOHFW has stated that at the apex level, regulation of medical education may be done by MOHFW. If needed the IMC Act will be suitably amended and the functions of the MCI refined to accommodate views of the NKC. Setting up an Inter-Ministerial Consultation Group may be considered to achieve uniformity and higher standards across all educational institutions. Proposal is under consideration of MOHFW to enact a Central legislation for regulating fee and admission in private medical institutions. Regulations relating to UG/PG medical education, minimum standard requirements for medical colleges including teachers eligibility qualifications etc. are under review for carrying out suitable amendments.

## **IX. Higher Education**

### ***Recommendations of NKC :***

*NKC has proposed a series of initiatives for expansion, excellence, and greater access in Higher education covering regulation, accreditation, governance, curriculum, research, faculty development, financing, asset management, affirmative actions.*

### ***Some specific recommendations are:***

- Create 1500 universities for a GER of at least 15 per cent by 2015.*
- Increase public spending; diversify sources of financing for raising funds through fees, land utilization, philanthropic contributions and private investment*
- Establish 50 National Universities as exemplars offering a variety of disciplines and students on an all India basis.*
- Reform universities: curricula revisions, course credit system, internal assessment, governance, accountability etc.*
  
- Restructure the system of affiliated undergraduate colleges-issue of autonomy*
- Promote enhanced quality through faculty development, salary differentials and promotion of research.*
- Ensure access for all deserving students through well funded scholarships, and affirmative action that takes into account multi dimensionality of deprivation*

## **Action Taken - updated status**

Various committees have been set up by the UGC and the DHE on reforms including one for review of UGC / AICTE now named as Committee for Rejuvenation and Renovation of Higher Education. The reports of these committees are awaited.

## **X. Vocational Education and Training (VET)**



- *Recommendation of NKC: a major expansion, redesign and quality enhancement of VET.*

### **Action Taken –updated status**

A three tier structure has been constituted in July 2008 consisting of a) National Council on Skill Development, b) National Skill Development Corporation, and c) National Skill Development Coordination Board.

- a) The functions of the National Council on Skill Development under the Prime Minister would be to lay down policy objectives, strategies, financing and governance model to promote skill development.
- b) The National Skill Development Coordination Board shall enumerate strategies to implement decisions of the Prime Minister's National Council on Skill Development. It would develop operational guidelines and instructions for meeting larger objectives of skill development needs of the country and also make appropriate practical solutions and strategies to adopted by the union and state governments.
- c) The National Skill Development Corporation will develop a system of institutionalizing measures to this end.

### **XI. E-governance**

#### ***Recommendations of NKC –***

*A set of initiatives to ensure that the Government makes the most optimum and effective use of ICT in the service of citizens.*

#### **Action Taken - updated status**

The Plan envisages creation of core infrastructure like SWAN, CSCs and State Data Centres. The updated status from DIT in the context of following NeGP initiatives is as follows:

Till date SDCs approved for 26 States ( 50% of DIT share for the first year released).

Under approved CSC scheme which envisages establishing 100000 + CSCs across India ( @ 1 CSC per 6 villages)—Till date 20,558 CSCs rolled out. Process of roll out started for another 250968 CSCs.

## **XII. Legal Education**

### ***Recommendations of NKC***

*A package of reforms covering regulation, curriculum, examination, research, faculty development etc. **Some specific recommendations are : setting up IRAHE to deal with all aspects of Legal Education; give autonomy to National Law Schools to decide core and optional courses and level of fees; have independent rating system to assess institutions teaching law; set up CALSARs in four regions for cutting edge research in Legal Education;***

### **Action Taken - updated status**

**The Ministry of Law and Justice** has conveyed in principle approval on the following : Standing Committee on Legal Education under IRAHE and consequent changes in role of BCI, curriculum development, developing research tradition in law schools / universities.

**MHRD** does not support IRAHE and is of the view that professional councils (MCI, BCI, AICTE, DCI, etc. ) should be responsible for that part of the standard of education that they deal with. The role of the BCI can be redefined - BCI can be asked to conduct examination for granting licenses to practice.

The 7 National Law Schools established at Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Jodhpur, Bhopal, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Raipur are deemed universities under the UGC purview.

These National Law Schools and other law institutions already have autonomy in designing their curricula. The curricula and syllabi determined by the Bar Council are the basic minimum to be met. Each school is free to go beyond the BCI determined syllabus. UGC committee is designing model curriculum for various subjects including Law.

**MHRD does not support the setting up of CALSARs.** "as this may result in a disconnect between research pursuits and the university system. Instead the National Law Schools should be encouraged to strengthen LLM and research programmes, in addition to undergraduate teaching. The concept of CALSAR may not be relevant as all that it would do, is to wean away a few of legal researchers in each national law school or university, depriving the existing institutions of the modicum of research ambience and enthusiasm that exist in the university system". Further, The MHRD is of the opinion that the present Indian Law Institute (ILI) can be strengthened instead as it performs the same functions of the proposed CALSARs. *Proposal for setting up CALSAR for the northern region at Manesar (Gurgaon) was submitted by the Dept. of Legal Affairs to Planning Commission. The Dept. has been advised to make budget provision for the scheme of CALSARs in the 11<sup>th</sup> Plan.*

### **XIII. Open and Distance Education (ODE)**

#### ***Recommendations of NKC***

*A package of initiatives covering regulation, quality, use of ICT, use of open courseware, convergence with conventional universities etc.*

#### **Action Taken - updated status**

- *The ODL System which includes IGNOU, 13 SOUs, and 119 correspondence course institutes has considerably expanded in recent years. The cumulative enrolment of the students at IGNOU is over 1.48 million as on January 2007. The student support system network of IGNOU consists of 60 regional centres, 7 sub-regional centres and 1409 study centres.*
- *In principle approval has been given for new activities of IGNOU namely – i) IGNOU -skill development programme, ii) New community colleges – skill development for through ICT.*
- *The proposal for establishment of DEC under Act of Parliament as an independent statutory authority has been referred to GOM.*

### **XIV Open Educational Resources (OER)**

#### ***Recommendations of NKC***

*A series of initiatives for encouraging the development and use of open educational resources.*

#### ***Some specific recommendations are:***

- *Support production of quality content by a select set of Indian institutions.*
- *Leverage global open educational resources*
- *Encourage open access*
- *Create faculty and institutional development programme to realize the benefits of extended access and improved quality through OER*

#### **Action Taken - updated status**

Comments awaited from MHRD.

## **XV. Management Education**

### ***Recommendations of NKC***

*A package of reforms covering regulation, quality, accreditation, and rating, quality, governance, access, social relevance etc.*

### ***Some specific recommendations are:***

- *Mushrooming private Management Educational Entities (MEEs) necessitate a reliable rating system to help market function better and enable students and employers to compare different MEEs*
- *Two stage rating process recommended*
- *Grading norms should be established with experts like CRISIL and ICRA*
- *Widen the scope of management studies, enhance relevance in the social context*
- *Mentoring - to achieve excellence leading management institutions must adopt 3-5 MEEs*
- *Promote faculty development*
- *Governance : Board of Governors for all MEEs should consist of 50% independent members*

### **Action Taken - updated status**

Comments awaited from MHRD.

## **XVI. Health Information Network**

### ***Recommendations of NKC***

*Promote use of ICT in health services such as connecting all health care establishments in both private and public sector, establishing national standards for clinical terminology and health informatics and creating a common electronic health record.*

### **Action Taken - updated status**

Committee set up under MoHFW. DIT, DOT and MHRD are represented on this committee. Report awaited.

## **XVII. National Science and Social Science Foundation (NS3F)**

### ***Recommendations of NKC :***

- *Set up National Science and Social Science Foundation (NS3F) to look at knowledge as one seamless entity.*
- *The foundation will suggest policy initiative to make India a leader in the creation and use of Knowledge, to ensure that science and technology are maximally used for the betterment of the lives of people, and to develop the scientific temper in the country.*

### **Action Taken - updated status**

**MHRD** of the view that NS3F not necessary. There are various institutions in government and private engaged in R & D activities like ICAR, ICMR, CSIR, etc. An umbrella NS3F will have adverse effects on their autonomy. Further, freedom of universities / institutions like IITs engaged in research in emerging areas will be curbed.

**DST** generally supports this foundation without duplication of effort with National Science and Engineering Research Board. (It may be stated that "The Science and Engineering Research Board Bill 2008" has been introduced in Parliament).

Comments from **DBT** awaited.

## **XVIII. Legal Framework on Public Funded Research**

### ***Recommendations of NKC***

*A legislation to give universities and research institutions ownership and patent rights over inventions arising out of government funded research to create an enabling environment for commercialization.*

### **Action Taken - updated status**

Draft Bill on the subject supported by Planning Commission.

## **XIX Intellectual Property Rights**

### ***Recommendations of NKC***

*A package for scaling up the efforts of creating a world class IPR infrastructure, covering infrastructure, HRD and processes.*

### **Action Taken - updated status**

- **Transparency and accessibility (with stakeholder participation).** IP Office has put on its website, the relevant acts, rules, manuals etc. There is no restriction on access to these materials.
- **National patent database needs to make available online all decisions, applications (including complete claims and specifications) etc.** Digitization of all patent records underway. 45,000 patent records already on IPO website.
- National Institute of Intellectual Property Management (NIIPM) to be set up at Nagpur
- **IPR Tribunal on all aspects of IPR.** An IP Appellate Board already set up for trademarks, geographical indications and patents. The extension of the scope of the board to designs requires amendment to the Designs Act which is under examination.
- The issue of sui-generic legislation for protection of traditional knowledge. DIPP examining the issue. Chairman desired a note on the issue to be sent to Department of AYUSH with copy to Planning Commission.
- The Patent Office already requested Department of AYUSH for allowing access to the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL). Department of AYUSH stated that once the agreements with the USPTO and the EPO are finalized they could consider providing access to the TKDL to the Patent Office.

## **XX. Traditional Health Systems (THS)**

### ***Recommendations of NKC***

*A set of initiatives to promote THS covering education, research, pharmacopeias, clinical trials, knowledge protection etc.*

### **Action Taken - updated status**

- AYUSH industry be given higher subsidy for quality control.
- 100 clusters of AYUSH industry sanctioned.

## **XXI School Education**

### ***Recommendations of NKC***

- *Some specific recommendations include: Reorient SSA bringing in a strong rights focus to make Right to Education a reality: ensure basic learning condition; special focus on Math., Science and English; Common Syllabi and Curriculum & Pedagogy.*
- *Gradually reduce Central Govts. funding over the Plan period rather than move immediately to 50:50.*
- *Ensure minimum standards for norms in public and private schools and address systemic issues of accountability, decentralization of decision making, teacher recruitment, teacher training.*
- *Recognise and encourage role of private providers.*
- *Special focus on disadvantaged groups and educationally backward areas.*
- *Strengthened teacher training.*
- *Use ICT based Pedagogy and learning aids.*

### **Action Taken - updated status**

Comments awaited from Dept. of school Education and Literacy, MHRD.

## **XXII. Attracting Talented Students to Maths. and Science**

*The recommendations cover different aspects of strengthening Science and Mathematics in Schools as well as in colleges and universities such as infrastructure expansion, curriculum changes and reforms, faculty improvement, Science Outreach Programmes, Industry Participation, etc.*

### **Action Taken - updated status**

Comments have been solicited from Dept. of School Education and Literacy and Dept. of Higher Education. These are awaited.

## **XXIII. Innovations**

### ***Recommendations:***

- *Put in place a National Innovation Policy which encourages competition among enterprises, greater diffusion of knowledge and increased support to early stage technology development initiatives and grass-root level innovators.*
- *Foster increased collaboration among the R&D institute, universities and private sector enterprises and leverage upon their cumulative strengths in designing and implementing various innovation programmes.*
- *Create new interface structures to forge partnership between academia and industry.*

### **Action Taken - updated status**

Comments have been sought from Ministries / Depts. of Heavy Industries, SME, Textiles, Food Processing, Labour, DST, DBT, DIPP. These are awaited.

## **XXIV Attracting More Quality PhDs.**

### ***Recommendations:***

*NKC has recommended steps to improve the quality of PhDs. These include massive investment in education and research at all levels, together with renovation and reform of the university system and the fostering of a global outlook in research. Further steps have to be taken to rejuvenate the doctoral programme across disciplines and develop vigorous industry - academia interaction.*

### **Action Taken - updated status**

DST is being requested to expedite the National Research Mission under the National Science and Engineering Research Board. The Bill to set up Science Engineering and Research Board has been introduced in the Parliament. Recommendations of NKC are being forwarded to State Govts. for favour of implementation in universities and other academic institutions in their jurisdiction. Recommendations being forwarded to MHRD with the request to implement the same on a priority basis by leveraging 11<sup>th</sup> Plan outlays for Higher Education.



## **XXV Engineering Education**

*Recommendations:*

*Proposed a series of initiatives for improving quality, regulation and governance of engineering education.*

***Some specific recommendations for engineering education are:***

***Reforming the Regulatory Framework:*** *(IRAHE to decide entry of institutions, admission, standards and other criteria).*

***Improving Governance of Institutions***

***Attracting and Retaining Faculty:*** *Incentives like better salary, modern infrastructure; professional development; use of ICTs to overcome shortage of faculty.*

***Curriculum Reform*** *to provide greater flexibility; inter-disciplinary perspective and choice of electives; laboratory courses to be revamped.*

***Integrating Science and Engineering Education***

***Encouraging Research***

***Industry-academia interaction***

***Improve Access***

***Mentoring*** *of State engineering colleges by NITs and RECs*

### **Action Taken - updated status**

Comments have been solicited from MHRD. These are awaited.

## [ix] ENHANCEMENT OF FISHERY TRADE

On 3 March, 2008 Shri Jasubhai Dhanabhai Barad, M.P., addressed the following Unstarred Question No.791 to the Minister of Agriculture:-

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to modernize several ports in Gujarat to enhance fishery trade in the State;
- (b) if so, the details of the project proposals alongwith the cost thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken in this regard so far?

2. In reply, then Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (Dr. Akhilesh Prasad Singh) stated as follows:-

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. Three existing fishing harbours namely Mangrol, Veraval and Porbandar have been identified for modernization to enhance the fishery trade in the State. The Government of Gujarat has submitted proposal for modernization of Mangrol Fishing Harbour at a cost of Rs.615 lakhs in February 2008. The State Government has been requested to submit the restructured proposals for modernization of the other two fishing harbours.

3. Reply to the above questions were treated as assurances and was required to be fulfilled by the Ministry of Agriculture within three months of the date of replies but the assurances are yet to be implemented.

4. The Ministry of Agriculture *vide* their O.M. Nos. 33018-1/2008-Fy(H) dated 16 December, 2008 and 28 May, 2008 have requested for dropping the above assurances on the following grounds:-

“That this Department has in March, 2008 accorded approval to the proposal of Government of Gujarat for modernization of the existing fishing harbour at Mangrol at a total cost of Rs.614.52 lakhs under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme with financial 50% assistance. The first instalment of Central share amounting to Rs.25 lakhs has been released to the State Government in March, 2008 itself. The Government of Gujarat has not submitted the restructured proposals in respect of remaining two fishing harbours namely Veraval and Porbandar.”

5. The Ministry of Agriculture further stated that:-

“This Ministry through one of Centrally Sponsored Schemes has been providing financial assistance to the tune of 50% of the capital cost for development of fishing harbours and fish landing centres including modernization of the existing fishing harbours and fish landing centers to the coastal State Governments. The proposal for development of new fishing

harbours as well as modernization of the existing fishing harbours have to be originated from the concerned State Governments after careful assessment of the techno-economic feasibility, besides ensuring matching funds in the State budget. The processes involved in formulation of the project proposal, in general, comprise completion of required engineering & economic investigations, model studies wherever necessary, planning and designing of the associated structures including framing of detailed estimate, formulation of Techno-Economic Feasibility Report/Detailed Project Report (DPR), acquiring necessary land and obtaining statutory/administrative clearances from the concerned authorities both at the Centre and State. Completion of these pre-implementation processes and submission of the proposal are the responsibilities of the concerned State Government. Hence, it may be appreciated that the Government of India has no role with regard to formulation of the project proposal and GOI's role is limited to the extent of providing financial assistance as and when a complete and techno-economically viable proposal is submitted by the State Government. The proposals of the Government of Gujarat for modernization of the remaining two fishing harbours namely Veraval and Porbandar are presently at the formulation stage. Considering the time consuming pre-implementation processes involved in formulation of the proposals, no time can be fixed by the Government of India at this stage for speedy approval and implementation of the project. In view of the above, this Ministry is of the strong opinion that the answer given in respect of the aforesaid question does not constitute an assurance."

6. The Ministry of Agriculture also stated:

"that in case of similar assurance on fishing harbour project in the past in answer to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.1185 dated 27 November, 2000, the Committee on Government Assurances had taken a stand that the reply need not be treated as an assurance. Since this case under reference is very similar to the above mentioned case, it is requested that the Committee may kindly take a similar view."

7. In view of the above, the Ministry with the approval of the Minister of State for Agriculture have requested the Committee on Government Assurances to consider the deletion of the assurance.

[x] JAKHAU FISHERY HARBOUR

On 10 March, 2008 Sarvashri Mahesh Kanodia, Bharatsinh Madhavsinh Solanki and P.S. Gadhavi, MPs addressed the following Unstarred Question No. 1386 to the Minister of Agriculture:-

(a) whether the proposal for the Union Government of Jakhau Fishery Project is awaiting environment clearance from the Government since long;

(b) whether a comprehensive report on the escalation of cost of the project and a revised estimate were also sent by the Government of Gujarat to the Union Government; and

(c) if so, the present status of the proposal?

2. In reply, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN) stated as follows:-

(a) : No, Sir. Clearance from environmental angle for construction of fishing harbour at Jakhau was accorded way back in December, 1997.

(b) & (c) : Yes, Sir. A proposal revising the original cost from Rs. 1143.60 lakhs to Rs. 3483.90 lakhs has since been received from the Government of Gujarat. Since the techno-economic aspects justifying the cost escalation have not been fully covered in the revised report, the State Government has been requested to submit the same.

3. The above reply to the question was treated as an assurance and was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture within three months of the date of the reply *i.e.* by 9 June, 2008. However, the assurance is yet to be implemented. The Ministry has sought extension of time up to 10.03.2009 to implement the assurance.

4. The Ministry of Agriculture vide their O.M. No. 33018-10/2007-Fy(H) dated 16 December, 2008 have requested for dropping the assurance on the following grounds:-

That the Government of Gujarat has been requested to submit a comprehensive report on Revised Cost Estimate (RCE) proposal for further examination in this Department. The RCE proposal is yet to be received from Government of Gujarat.

5. In view of the facts stated above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State for Animal Husbandry in the Ministry of Agriculture, have requested to drop the assurance.

## [xi] PRODUCTION OF FOOD GRAINS

On 7 July, 2009 Sarvashri Purnmasi Ram and T.R. Baalu, MPs addressed a Starred Question No. 51 to the Minister of Agriculture. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister of Agriculture (Shri Sharad Pawar) are as given in Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Agriculture vide their O.M. No. 3-1/2009-AS(E)-ES dated 9.11.2009 have requested to drop the above assurance on the following grounds:-

“That the above programmes introduced by Ministry of Agriculture as part of strategy to increase production of foodgrains in the country are ongoing schemes and there is no time limit for the above programmes to be completed. Thus in reply to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 51 dated 7 July, 2009, the Ministry had not made commitment of any further action in the matter. It appears that the use of phrase ‘are under implementation’ has resulted into the reply being treated as an Assurance.

As the Ministry of Agriculture is implementing above programmes/schemes on ongoing basis and no further action from the Ministry is called for in the context of the reply to the aforesaid question.”

4. Accordingly, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State for Agriculture, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, have requested to drop the assurance.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 51  
ANSWERED ON 7.07.2009  
PRODUCTION OF FOODGRAINS

51\*. SHRI PURNMASI RAM  
SHRI T.R. BAALU

Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:-

- (a) the production of foodgrains, oilseeds, sugarcane etc. in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, crop-wise and State-wise;
- (b) whether the agricultural production in the country has remained stagnant or has declined during the above period;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the current level of production of foodgrains is adequate to meet the existing demand in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, and the strategy adopted and the schemes formulated by the Government to increase production and meet the futuristic requirements?

## ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (c): The State-wise and crop-wise production of foodgrains, oilseeds, sugarcane and cotton in the country during the years 2005-06 to 2008-09 is given in the Annexure. Generally, there has been increase in the production of foodgrains, cotton and oilseeds. However, in the case of some oilseeds (groundnut and mustard) and sugarcane, there have been wide fluctuations and dip in production in 2008-09 due to unfavourable weather conditions and area shift from these crops to relatively more remunerative crops.

(d) & (e): Yes, Madam. Currently, the production of foodgrains in the country is adequate to meet the demand. For the year 2008-09, as against the projected demand of 219.00 million tonnes of foodgrains, the production is estimated at 229.85 million tonnes. By the end of 11th Plan, i.e. 2011-12, as against the projected demand of 234.26 million tonnes, the projected production of foodgrains is 239.30 million tonnes. In order to meet the demand in the years to come, several steps have been taken to increase production of foodgrains in the country and programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA), Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) etc. are under implementation.



[xii] SETTING UP OF NEW VACCINE MANUFACTURING UNITS

On 08 July, 2009 Shri S. Ramasubbu, MP addressed the following Unstarred Question No. 533 to the Minister of Health and Family Welfare:-

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Union Government to set up new vaccine manufacturing units in the country including the State of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these units are likely to become operational?

2. In reply, the Minister of Health and Family Welfare (Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad) stated as follows:-

(a) & (b): The Government of India has mandated HLL Life Care Limited, a Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to set up an integrated Vaccine Complex (IVC). The Integrated Vaccine Complex will be a world class 'C' GMP compliant facility which will cater to (a) the manufacture of vaccines that are required for the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) of the Government (b) production of new generation vaccines and (c) a centre for research and development (R&D) standardization, testing and validation of vaccines.

(c) The first phase of the Project which will cover the formulation, filling and packing of UIP Vaccines is likely to be operational by the year 2012.

3. The above reply was treated as an assurance and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

4. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare vide O.M. No. H-110016/01/2009-EPW dated 01 January, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

"That the proposal for establishment of Integrated Vaccine Complex (IVC) is in conceptual stage. At this stage, it is not feasible to fulfill the assurance."

5. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister for Health and Family Welfare have requested to drop the above assurance.

[xiii] MEGA MERGER OF COMPANIES

On 9 July, 2009 Shri Vilas Muttemwar, MP addressed the following Unstarred

Question No. 787 to the Minister of Corporate Affairs:-

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate regulation for the mega mergers and corporate restructuring deals to be followed by the Competition Commission of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposed regulations will be applicable only to companies resorting to merger in future;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of the proposals pending with the Government for merger; and

(f) the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

2. In reply, the Minister of Corporate Affairs (Shri Salman Khurshid) stated as follows:-

(a) & (b): The Competition Act, 2002 inter-alia proposes to regulate combinations as per the provisions contained therein. However, the provisions of the Competition Act, 2002 relating to regulation of combinations, including mergers and amalgamations have not yet been notified.

(c) & (d): The Act is applicable only with prospective effect.

(e) & (f): Do not arise.

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

4. The Ministry of Corporate Affairs vide O.M. No. 15/3/2009-CL.III/CS dated 15 September, 2009 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“that in this connection it is submitted that sub-section (3) of section 1 of the Competition Act, 2002 provides as under:-

(3) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint:

Provided that different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act and any reference in any such provision to the commencement of this Act shall be construed as a reference to the coming into force of that provision.

This sub-section empowers the Central Government to appoint different dates for different provisions of the Act. The Central Government within the powers conferred by the Competition Act, 2002 and taking into consideration other relevant aspects has not yet notified the provisions relating to mergers. In reply to the Question, neither there was an intention nor any specific submission which may constitute an assurance.”

5. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State with Independent Charge, Corporate Affairs, have requested to drop the above assurance.

[xiv] RENT CONTROL ACT

On 24 July, 2009 Dr. Ram Shankar, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2902 to the Minister of Urban Development. The contents of the question along with its reply 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 Urban Development within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Urban Development vide O.M. No. H-11016/35/2009-NURM dated 5 October, 2009 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That the Government of India has launched Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) on 03.12.2005 for reforms driven planned development of urban areas in the country. To avail the Additional Central Assistance (ACA), the States and Union Territories are required to implement certain urban sector reforms, including the reforms in Rent Control within the committed timeline as per the Memorandum for Agreement (MoA) signed with the Union Government. The Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CSMC) before releasing the second and subsequent installments of ACA satisfies itself as regards the physical and financial progress of the projects under implementation and steps taken for achievement of reform milestones as agreed upon by the States and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs).

Various States have given/committed different timeframe ranging from 2007-08 to 2011-12 for carrying out the Reform on Rent Control, a State Level reform (details as enclosed). This period covers the mission period of 7 years i.e. 2011-12 implying thereby that this assurance cannot be fulfilled till 2011-12. Ministry of Urban Development has been emphasizing to all States to implement all reforms as per committed timelines under JNNURM.”

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. 2902  
ANSWERED ON 24.7.2009  
RENT CONTROL ACT

2902. Dr. RAMSHANKAR

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

(a) whether the Union Government has asked the various State Governments including the Government of Uttar Pradesh to amend the existing Rent Control Act and to adopt the Model Rent Control Act under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM);

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

(c) whether the Union Government would continue to release the funds to these State Governments including the Government of Uttar Pradesh under JNNURM in the absence of Model Rent Control Act;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the number of States enacted the new Model Rent Control Act and the steps taken by the Government for enactment of new Model Rent Control Act in other States?

ANSWER

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

(a)to(e): The Union Government had prepared Model Rent Control Legislation and the same was forwarded to the State Governments including State of Uttar Pradesh in 1992 for amending their existing Rent Control Laws or enacting new Rent Acts on the lines of the Model Legislation, rent control being a State subject.

Under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) to avail the Additional Central Assistance (ACA), the States and Union Territories are required to implement certain urban sector reforms, including the reforms in Rent Control within the committed timeline as per the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) signed with the Union Government. State-wise details is at Annexure II.

The second and subsequent installments of Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for projects are released only upon receipt of proper utilization certificate from State Governments. The Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CSMC) before releasing the second and subsequent installments of ACA satisfies itself as regards the physical and financial progress of the projects under implementation and steps taken for achievement of reform milestones as agreed upon by the States and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs).

Ministry of Urban Development has been emphasizing to all States to implement all reforms as per committed timelines under JNNURM. So far 7 States have implemented the reforms on Rent Control. 24 States, including Uttar Pradesh are to implement this reform as per their commitments. Uttar Pradesh has committed to implement the Rent Control reforms by 2009-10. A statement showing the State-wise status of implementation of reforms in Rent Control is at Annexure I.

**Annexure referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2902 for  
24.7.2009**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>State Name</b>	<b>Commitment as per Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) for Reform in Rent Control Act</b>	<b>Status</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	2007-08	Not achieved.
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2009-10	-
3	Assam	2009-10	-
4	Bihar	2007-08	Not achieved.
5	Chandigarh	Not Committed	-
6	Chhattisgarh	2007-08	Not achieved.
7	Delhi	Not committed.	-
8	Goa	2009-10	-
9	Gujarat	2009-10	-
10	Haryana	2009-10	-
11	Himachal Pradesh	2010-11	-
12	Jammu & Kashmir	2008-09	Not achieved.
13	Jharkhand	2009-10	-
14	Karnataka	-	Achieved
15	Kerala	2011-12	-
16	Madhya Pradesh	2007-08	Not achieved.
17	Maharashtra	Not Committed.	-
18	Meghalaya	2009-10	-
19	Manipur	-	Achieved
20	Mizoram	-	Achieved
21	Nagaland	-	Achieved
22	Orissa	-	Achieved
23	Puducherry	2008-09	Not achieved.
24	Punjab	2007-08	Not achieved.
25	Rajasthan	-	Achieved
26	Sikkim	2010-11	-
27	Tamil Nadu	2008-09	Not achieved.
28	Tripura	2008-09	Not achieved.
29	Uttar Pradesh	2009-10	-
30	Uttarakhand	2009-10	-
31	West Bengal	-	Achieved

[xv] MAHATMA GANDHI INSTITUTE OF PEAC EDUCATION  
AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

On 27 July, 2009 Shri Milind Deora, M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3043 to the Minister of Human Resource Development. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Smt. D. Purandeswari) 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 Human Resource Development within three months of the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Human Resource Development vide O.M. No. F. 1-4/2009-INC dated 19 November, 2009 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That since the approval of the General Conference, the highest body of UNESCO, has been obtained recently i.e. only 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2009, the proposal of establishment of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace & Sustainable Development (MGIEP), a Category-I Institute of UNESCO at New Delhi, is still at a nascent stage.

Considering the importance and prestige linked with such kind of International institutes, various administrative and legal procedures/formalities like agreement between Government of India and UNESCO, appointment of Head & other functionaries of the Institute, etc. are required to be completed at both ends before its establishment, as such it may take upto 2-3 years for its establishment/functioning.

Further, the establishment of the Institute also depends upon various approvals of the Government like that of Planning Commission, Expenditure Finance Committee and the cabinet and necessary clearances from various civic authorities like DDA, MCD/NDMC, DUAC, CPWD, etc.

In view of the above, the undersigned is directed to request that the answer to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3043 answered on 27.7.2009 may kindly not be treated as an assurance and the same may be dropped from the list of assurances as establishment of the Institute will take time. The delay in making a request for dropping of assurance is highly regretted.”

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



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3043  
ANSWERED ON 27.7.2009  
MAHATMA GANDHI INSTITUTE OF PEACE, EDUCATION AND SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT

3043. SHRI MILIND DEORA

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Peace Education and Sustainable Development as a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) category-I institute;
- (b) if so, the details and objectives thereof;
- (c) whether a team of UNESCO recently visited the country to undertake a feasibility study of the proposal; and
- (d) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. The Institute is proposed to be established at New Delhi for promoting teaching, research and capacity building activities in peace education. The overall focus of the Institute's activities will be on fostering a culture of peace through education, promoting sustainable economic and social development and respect for human rights. The proposal is being discussed with UNESCO and is at a nascent stage.

[xvi] MASTER PLAN FOR DEVELOPMENT OF URBAN AND RURAL AREAS

On 7 August, 2009 Shri Rakesh Singh, MP addressed the following Unstarred Question No. 4802 to the Minister of Urban Development:-

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to launch any Master Plan for the development of urban and rural areas across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be launched?

2. In reply, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development (Shri Saugata Roy) stated as follows:-

(a) to (c): No, Madam. The Union Government does not propose to launch any master plan for the development of urban and rural areas across the country. However, the requirement of integrated planning for rural and urban areas is promoted through District Planning Committee which is required to be set up under Article 243ZD of Part IX A of the Constitution. The Government of India has also brought out a `Manual for Integrated District Planning` in the year 2008 to facilitate the process.

3. The above reply 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 but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

4. The Ministry of Urban Development vide O.M. No. H-11016/13/2009-UD-II dated 20 October, 2009 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That to enable integrated planning for urban and rural areas, suitable provision exists in the Constitution and the Planning Commission has issued guidance on the subject through the “Manual for Integrated District Planning”. Ministry of Urban Development was also associated with the development of this manual. No further action is required on part of the Ministry of Urban Development.”

5. The Ministry have requested to drop the above assurance on above grounds. The note has the approval of the Minister of State (Urban Development).

[xvii] DEVELOPMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES AT KOLLEM PORT

On 30 November, 2009 Shri Kodikkunil Suresh, MP addressed the following Unstarred Question No. 1802 to the Minister of Commerce & Industry:-

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned a proposal of Government of Kerala for the development of infrastructure facilities at Kollam Port under Assistance to States for Developing Export Infrastructure and Allied Activities (ASIDE) Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the project;

(c) whether due to increase in cost of project, the Kerala Government has requested the Union Government to refund the balance amount; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

2. In reply, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce & Industry (Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia) stated as follows:-

(a) to (d) Yes, Madam we had received the phase-I proposal for Development of the Infrastructure Facilities at Kollam Port, Kerala during 2007-08 at the total estimated cost of Rs. 12.80 crore and the entire amount i.e. Rs. 12.80 crore has already been released. However, later the Govt. Of Kerala (Port and Fisheries Department) informed that the sanctioned work are in progress but the cost of the project has got escalated to Rs. 17.00 crore. The Department of Commerce has sought clarification from the State Government which are still awaited.

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

4. The Ministry of Commerce & Industry vide O.M. No. 4/4/2009-SC dated 11 February, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:-

“That Department of Commerce has already released the entire amount i.e. Rs. 12.80 crore approved under ASIDE Scheme for the phase-1 proposal for development of the infrastructural facilities at Kollam Port.

The request of Government of Kerala for funding the increase in cost is subject to approval of Empowered Committee. Certain clarification from Government of Kerala has been sought. The requisite clarification from State Government is awaited i.e. action at this point of time is pending on the part of Government of Kerala and not on part of Department of Commerce. Therefore, it may not be treated as assurance. Moreover, the awaited clarification is in reference to the routine monitoring of the implementation of such infrastructural project (having larger gestation period) for its timely completion & within the approved cost of the project for bringing financial prudence.”

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

MINUTES  
THIRTEENTH SITTING

Minutes of the sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances (2009-2010) held on 7 April, 2010 in Committee Room 'G-074', Parliament Library Building, New Delhi.

The Committee sat from 1015 hours to 1300 hours on Wednesday, 7 April, 2010.

PRESENT

CHAIRPERSON

Shrimati Maneka Gandhi

Members

2. Shri Anandrao Adsul
3. Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar
4. Shri Mohan Jena
5. Rajkumari Ratna Singh
6. Shri Manohar Tirkey

Secretariat

1. Shri P. Sreedharan - Joint Secretary
2. Shri R.S. Kambo - Director
3. Shri D.S. Malha - Additional Director
4. Shrimati Veena Kumari - Deputy Secretary

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members and apprised them briefly about the agenda for the sitting.

2. Thereafter, the Committee considered requests for dropping of assurances. After in depth deliberations, of all such cases, the Committee were convinced with the reasoning adduced by the Ministry and decided to drop 17 assurances as per details given *vide* Annexure-I. The Committee also decided to retain 36 assurances, which are to be pursued further, as per details given in Annexure-II. Thereafter, the Chairperson Smt. Maneka Gandhi left and the Committee then took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in which the following representatives of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare were present:-

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***The Committee then adjourned.***



**Details of Assurances Dropped by the Committee on Government Assurances at their sitting held on 07.04.2010.**

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question No. /Discussion & Date	Ministry/ Department	Brief Subject
1	2	3	4	5
1.	53	Point Raised by S/shri A.C. Jose & Jaiprakash Agarwal, MPs on 23.7.1996	Health & Family Welfare	Calling off of Strike in AIIMS
2.	56.	(i) SQ No. 243 dt. 8.8.2001 (ii) SQ No. 243 dt. 8.8.2001 (Supplementary by Shri N. Janardhana Reddy, MP (iii) USQ No. 3105 dt. 13.8.2003 (iv) USQ No. 1244 dt. 29.11.2006 (v) USQ No. 3043 dt. 5.9.2007  (vi) USQ No. 677 dt. 21.11.2007 (vii) USQ No. 285 dt. 27.2.2008	Health & Family Welfare	Medical Grants Commission  Medical Grants Commission  Medical Grants Commission  Medical Grants Commission  Separate Commission for Medical Health  Medical Grants Commission  Medical Grants Commission
3.	57	USQ No. 2875 dt. 7.12.2001	Commerce & Industry	NRI investment in India
4.	67	USQ No. 1141 dt. 29.11.2006	Overseas Indian Affairs	Voting Rights to NRIs
5.	68	USQ No.1587 dt. 1.12.2006	Power	Shortage of gas for power plants.



6.	70	SQ No. 96 dt. 17.8.2007	Law & Justice	Use of Hindi and regional languages in courts.
7.	71	SQ No. 221 dt. 30.11.2007	Women and Child Development.	Integrated child development services scheme.
8.	72	USQ No. 2761 5.12.2007	Planning	Recommendations of NKC on survey outcomes
9.	74	USQ No.791 dt. 3.3.2008	Agriculture	Enhancement of fishery trade.
10.	75	USQ No. 1386 dt. 10.3.2008	Agriculture	Jakhau fishery harbour
11.	85	SQ No. 51 dt. 7.7.2009	Agriculture	Production of Food Grains
12.	87	USQ No. 533 dt. 8.7.2009	Health & Family Welfare	Setting up of new Vaccine manufacturing units
13.	89	USQ No. 787 dt. 9.7.2009	Corporate Affairs	Mega Merger of Companies
14.	94	USQ No. 2902 dt. 24.7.2009	Urban Development	Rent Control Act
15.	96	USQ No.3043 27.7.2009	Human Resource Development	Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Peace Education and sustainable Development
16.	98	USQ No. 4802 dt. 7.8.2009	Urban Development	Master plan for development of urban and rural areas
17.	101	USQ No. 1802 dt. 30.11.2009	Commerce & Industry	Development of infrastructure facilities at Kollem port

**Details of Assurances to be pursued further by the Committee on Government Assurances at their sitting held on 07.04.2010.**

Sl. No.	Memo No.	Question/Discussion Reference	Ministry/Department	Brief Subject	Observations of the Committee
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	52	USQ No. 3393 dt. 30.7.1992	Tribal Affairs	Funds to Voluntary Organisations	Non-availability of records cannot be a reasonable ground for dropping of an assurance.
2.	54	(i) SQ No. 597 dt. 16.5.1997 &  (ii) USQ No. 2721 dt. 23.7.2009	Law & Justice	Amendments in Article 324 of Constitution & Voting Percentage	Electoral Reforms is an important Public issue. Needs to be pursued.
3.	55	USQ No. 4960 dt. 26.4.2000	Culture	Recommendations of Fifth Pay Commission	The recommendations of the V CPC on Library staff needs to be considered.
4.	58	SQ No. 6 dt. 21.7.2003	Culture	Theft of Antiques	Important issue. Investigation of CBI & Police are in progress. Needs finality.
5.	59.	USQ No. 1325 dt. 10.12.2003	Human Resource Development	Cash Incentives to Poor Children	Information may be called from remaining States & assurance be implemented.
6.	60.	(i) USQ No. 3312 dt. 19.8.2004 (ii) USQ No. 7007 dt. 12.5.2005	Information & Broadcasting	Publication of Foreign News Paper Publication of International Herald Tribune	Amendment to the Press & Registration of Books Act, 1869 may be expedited.
7.	61	USQ No. 2899 dt. 11.8.2005	Defence	Public-Private Partnership in Defence Production	A final decision on the recommendations made by the Kelker Committee be taken.
8.	62	USQ No. 3949 dt. 23.8.2005	Home Affairs	Recommendations of Past Committee	Police reforms is a major issue and needs to be pursued vigorously.

9.	63	USQ No. 453 dt. 25.11.2005	Law & Justice	Law Commission Report	The Law Commission has given recommendations on a number of social subjects. May be pursued further.
10.	64	SQ No. 2 dt. 17.2.2006	Law & Justice	State Funding of Elections	There is need to evolve consensus among Union and State Governments on State Funding of Elections.
11.	65	USQ No. 327 dt. 26.7.2006	Shipping	Revival of Ailing Hindustan Shipyard Corporation Limited	A Note CCEA be expedited.
12.	66	USQ No. 996 dt. 28.11.2006	Tribal Affairs	New Policy for STs	The finalization of Policy may be expedited.
13.	69	USQ No. 5296 dt. 14.5.2007	Labour and Employment	Workers' Bank	Expert group to decide Workers' Bank be expedited.
14.	73	USQ No.2879 dt. 5.12.2007	Overseas Indian affairs.	Demand of Indian workers abroad.	Concerted efforts required to be made by the Ministry to implement the assurance.
15.	76	USQ No. 3671 dt. 17.4.2008	Culture	MC Gupta Committee on Delhi Public Library	Follow up action for reconstitution/ expansion of Delhi Library Board (DLB) be expedited.
16.	77	USQ No. 150 dt. 17.10.2008	Law & Justice	Survey on corruption in judiciary	Road map for judicial reforms be expedited.
17.	78	USQ No. 607 dt. 21.10.2008	Commerce & Industry	CEPA with Sri Lanka Delegation	Important issue. May be pursued further.

18.	79	USQ No. 1262 dt. 27.10.2008	Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution	Recommendation of Wadhwa Committee	Functioning of Public Distribution System needs to be tuned up. Assurance may be pursued.
19.	80	SQ No. 348 dt. 23.12.2008	Home Affairs	Integrated Check Posts	Detailed Engineering Report (DER) prepared at the earliest.
20.	81	USQ No. 137 dt. 17.2.2009	Home Affairs	Guwahati Bomb Blast	Investigation in the case needs to be concluded to its logical ends.
21.	82	USQ No. 578 dt. 24.2.2009	Human Resource Development	Madarsas	Madarsas need to be medium for imparting quality education. Pre- requisite consensus among all stakeholders yet to be arrived at.
22.	83	USQ No. 787 dt. 25.2.2009	Finance	FEMA by RIL	Important subject to be pursued further.
23.	84	SQ No. 41 dt. 7.7.2009	Home Affairs	Measures to check Naxalism	Important subject pursued and implemented.
24.	86	USQ No. 505 dt. 7.7.2009	Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution	Functioning of FCI	TPDS is an important social security scheme. Needs to be pursued further.
25.	88	USQ No. 536 dt. 8.7.2009	Environment & Forests	Development of Biosphere Reserves	Expedite reply from the State Government.
26.	90	USQ No. 1078 dt. 13.7.2009	Defence	Procurement of Combat Aircraft	Trials to be completed at the earliest.
27.	91	USQ No.1220 dt. 13.7.2009	Defence	Military and Sainik Schools	Military & Sainik Schools provide quality education to wards of defence forces. Needs to be pursued.
28.	92	USQ No.1742 16.7.2009	Civil Aviation	Development of Jharsuguda airport.	Airport at Non-Metro Stations needs to be set up at the earliest.

29.	93	USQ No.2653 dt. 23.7.2009	Corporate affairs	Monitoring Committee for vanishing companies	Investors are being duped. Important subject. Needs to be pursued further.
30.	95	USQ No.390 dt. 20.11.2009	Finance	Implementation of TINXSYS	Goods & Services Tax is an important subject. Pursue further.
31.	97	USQ No.3306 dt. 28.7.2009	Consumer Affairs Food & Public Distribution	Corruption in FPS	P.D.S. is an important scheme. Pursue further.
32.	99	USQ No.4818 dt. 7.8.2009	Finance	Investigation on oil for food programme	Directorate of Enforcement is conducting enquiry.
33.	100	USQ No. 924 dt. 25.11.2009	Coal	Allotment of coal blocks to Shahpura thermal power project.	Ministry of Power be impressed upon to send their recommendations. Pursue further.
34.	102	USQ No. 2350 dt. 3.12.2009	Law & Justice	Appointment of judges	Impeachment of Judges, is an important issue. Pursue further.
35.	103	USQ No. 3017 dt. 18.12.2008	Railways	Train Protection Warning System	Train protection warning system needs to be extended for preventing rail accidents. It is an important subject. Pursue further.
36.	104	USQ No. 1842 dt. 4.8.2005	Civil Aviation	I.A. to join Global Airline	National Carrier joining Global Airlines will boost Indian Aviation Sector. Important issue. Pursue further.