

THIRTY SIXTH REPORT  
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES  
(2013-2014)

(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

REQUESTS FOR DROPPING OF ASSURANCES

*(Presented to Lok Sabha on 11 February, 2014)*



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI

*February, 2014/Magha, 1935 (Saka)*

**CGA No. 247**

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES\*  
(2013-2014)

Shrimati Maneka Sanjay Gandhi—*Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri Hansraj G. Ahir
4. Shri Kantilal Bhuria
5. Shri Jayant Chaudhary
6. Shri Bijoy Handique
7. Shri Badri Ram Jakhar
8. Shri Mohan Jena
9. Sardar Sukhdev Singh Libra
10. Shri A. Raja
11. Rajkumari Ratna Singh
12. Shri Jagadanand Singh
13. Shri Anjan Kumar M. Yadav
14. Shri Dharmendra Yadav
15. Shri Maheshwar Hazari\*\*

SECRETARIAT

- |                         |   |                             |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Shri P. Sreedharan   | — | <i>Additional Secretary</i> |
| 2. Shri U.B.S. Negi     | — | <i>Director</i>             |
| 3. Shri T.S. Rangarajan | — | <i>Additional Director</i>  |
| 4. Shri Kulvinder Singh | — | <i>Committee Officer</i>    |

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\* The Committee was constituted *w.e.f.* 23 September, 2013 *vide* Para No. 5733 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 12 November, 2013.

\*\* Nominated to the Committee *vide* Para No. 5778 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 22 November, 2013.

## 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 Thirty-sixth Report of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee (2013-2014) at their sitting held on 17 December, 2013 considered Memoranda Nos. 2 to 41 containing requests received from the Ministries/Departments for dropping of pending assurances and decided to drop 23 assurances.

3. At their sitting held on 06 February, 2014 the Committee (2013-2014) considered and adopted their Thirty-sixth Report.

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

NEW DELHI;  
06 February, 2014  

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17 Magha, 1935 (Saka)

MANEKA SANJAY 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 is 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 to implement the assurances on one ground or the other, they are required to request the Committee on Government Assurances to drop the assurances and such requests are considered by the Committee on merits and decisions taken to drop an assurance or otherwise.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2013-14) *inter-alia* considered the following requests received from Ministries/Departments for dropping of assurances at their sitting held on 17 December, 2013:—

SQ/USQ No. & Date	Ministry	Subject in Brief
1	2	3
USQ No. 1505 dated 22.08.2007	Health and Family Welfare	National Blood Transfusion Authority (Appendix-I)
USQ No. 909 dated 04.03.2008	} Commerce and Industry	Cashew Board
USQ No. 3096 dated 27.07.2009		Cashew Board
USQ No. 4128 dated 03.08.2009		Establishment of Cashew Board
USQ No. 1679 dated 30.11.2009		Setting up of Cashew Board
USQ No. 1268 dated 08.08.2011		Production and Export of Cashew
USQ No. 4260 dated 29.08.2011		Cashew Board Centre
USQ No. 6002 dated 14.05.2012		New Commodity Board (Appendix-II)
USQ No. 5482 dated 28.04.2010		Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions

1	2	3
USQ No. 3758 dated 17.08.2010	Road Transport and Highways	Condition of NH-44 (Appendix-IV)
USQ No. 5073 dated 27.08.2010	Finance	Flagship Scheme (Appendix-V)
USQ No. 440 dated 10.11.2010	Human Resource Development	Regional Centre of IGNTU (Appendix-VI)
USQ No. 898 dated 04.08.2011	Water Resources	Inter State Water Disputes (Appendix-VII)
USQ No. 1183 dated 08.08.2011	Environment and Forests	Bio-Cultural Park (Appendix-VIII)
USQ No. 2708 dated 17.08.2011	Human Resource Development	Modernisation of State Engineering Colleges (Appendix-IX)
USQ No. 2834 dated 18.08.2011	Water Resources	North Koel Irrigation Project (Appendix-X)
USQ No. 3457 dated 24.08.2011	Department of Space	Physical Research Laboratory (Appendix-XI)
USQ No. 5131 dated 05.09.2011	Shipping	International Ports (Appendix-XII)
USQ No. 5910 dated 08.09.2011	Water Resources	Subarnarekha Barrage Project (Appendix-XIII)
USQ No. 309 dated 23.11.2011	Civil Aviation	Development of Unprofitable Airports (Appendix-XIV)
USQ No. 585 dated 24.11.2011	Science and Technology	Wheat Genome Project (Appendix-XV)
USQ No. 2278 dated 07.12.2011	Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	Administrative Reforms for Public delivery System (Appendix-XVI)
USQ No. 2376 dated 28.03.2012	Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	CBI Investigation in Cheating Case (Appendix-XVII)
USQ No. 3296 dated 25.04.2012	External Affairs	Dhaka Bilateral Mission (Appendix-XVIII)
USQ No. 6194 dated 14.05.2012	Defence	Procurement Proposals of Army (Appendix-XIX)



1	2	3
USQ No. 7333 dated 21.05.2012	Defence	Helicopters for Air Force (Appendix-XX)
USQ No. 549 dated 26.11.2012	Commerce and Industry	Calculation of Wholesale Price Index (WPI) (Appendix-XXI)
USQ No. 3511 dated 14.12.2012	Finance	Selling of Stakes (Appendix-XXII)
USQ No. 4062 dated 18.12.2012	Culture	Intangible Cultural Heritage (Appendix-XXIII)

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 to XXIII.

4. After having considered the grounds cited by the Ministries/Departments, the Committee were convinced and decided to drop the aforesaid assurances.

5. The Minutes of the sitting of the Committee, where under the decision to drop the assurances were taken, are given in Appendix-XXIV.

NEW DELHI;  
06 February, 2014  
17 Magha, 1935 (Saka)

MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI,  
Chairperson  
Committee on Government Assurances.

## APPENDIX I

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1505 dated 22.08.2007, regarding "National Blood Transfusion Authority".

On 22 August, 2007 Shri Uday Singh and Shri G.M. Siddeswara M.Ps. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1505 to the Minister of Health and Family Welfare. The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (National AIDS Control Organization) *vide* O.M. No. H-11016/62/2007-NACO (BS) dated 20.05.2013, have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That Department of AIDS Control had prepared the Draft Cabinet Note for setting up of NBTA, approved by Hon'ble HFM for seeking comments of various Departments/Ministries, placing the same before the Cabinet. The comments from all the concerned Department were received. All the Departments except Department of Expenditure agreed to the proposal. Department of Expenditure did not agree to the proposal, instead they suggested that existing set up of NBTC and SBTC's could be strengthened. In view of the position, it is not possible for the Department to implement the assurance. Committee on Government Assurances is, therefore, requested to consider dropping the assurance."

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

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI;

Dated: 13.12.2013

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1505  
ANSWERED ON 22.08.2007

**National Blood Transfusion Authority**

1505. SHRI UDAY SINGH:  
SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to set up a National Blood Transfusion Authority to regulate the blood collection and distribution system in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the blood banks are facing a severe shortage of blood almost throughout the year in the country;

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

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve the problem of shortage of blood in the country?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The issue is under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) No reports of severe shortage of blood in the country have been received by the National AIDS Control Organization. The Government of India is supporting the state health authorities by providing equipment and funding for strengthening blood banks up to the district level; promotion of use of blood components instead of whole blood, organization of voluntary blood donation camps and setting up blood storage units in selected primary health centres.

## APPENDIX II

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurances given in replies to:—

- (i) Unstarred Question No. 909 dated 04 March, 2008 regarding "Cashew Board." (Annexure-I)
- (ii) Unstarred Question No. 3096 dated 27 July, 2009 regarding "Cashew Board." (Annexure-II)
- (iii) Unstarred Question No. 4128 dated 03 August, 2009 regarding "Establishment of Cashew Board." (Annexure-III)
- (iv) Unstarred Question No. 1679 dated 30 August, 2009 regarding "Setting up of Cashew Board." (Annexure-IV)
- (v) Unstarred Question No. 1268 dated 08 August, 2011 regarding "Production and export of Cashew." (Annexure-V)
- (vi) Unstarred Question No. 4260 dated 29 August, 2011 regarding "Cashew Board Centre." (Annexure-VI)
- (vii) Unstarred Question No. 6002 dated 14 May, 2012 regarding "New Commodity Board." (Annexure-VII)

The above mentioned questions were asked by various M.Ps. to the Minister of Commerce and Industry. The contents of the questions alongwith the replies of the Ministers are as given in Annexure (I to VII).

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

3. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry *vide* O.M. No. 3/4/2013-EP(Agri.II) dated 10 April, 2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That as the proposed Cashew Board involved merger of the Directorate of Cocoa and Cashew Development (DCCD) under the Ministry of Agriculture, Secretary, Commerce and Secretary Agriculture held a meeting on 12th November, 2012 on the subject. However, as an outcome, Secretary, Department of Agriculture has informed this Ministry that they are not agreeable to the merger of the Directorate of Cashew Nut and Cocoa Development (DCCD) with the Cashew Export Promotion Council (CEPC). The Agriculture Ministry have reiterated their earlier held position that the different agencies under the Agriculture Ministry have done significant work in promotion of cashew cultivation and enhancement of productivity and have maintained that there is no need for setting up a separate Cashew Board. Further, the Cashew exporters Industry too is not in favour of a Cashew Board and has conveyed their opposition to the proposed setting up of

Cashew Board. This being the position, this Ministry, with the kind approval of Hon'ble Minister of Commerce, Industry and Textiles has conveyed to the Prime Minister's Office to drop the proposal to set up a separate Cashew Board. In view of the above, it is not feasible to fulfil the above assurance and as such, the Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha is requested to kindly delete these Assurances.”

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of Commerce, Industry and Textiles, have requested to drop the above assurances.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI;  
Dated: 13.12.2013

*ANNEXURE I*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 909  
ANSWERED ON 04.03.2008

**Cashew Board**

909. SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Cashew Development Board;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH) (a) to (c): The Government had commissioned a study by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) to look into the feasibility of establishing a Cashew Board. The IIFT has given its interim report on the subject. This report is under examination by the Government.

*ANNEXURE II*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3096  
ANSWERED ON 27.07.2009

**Cashew Board**

3096. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to set up a Cashew Board in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the proposed Cashew Board is likely to be set up?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) to (c) The Government is yet to take a final decision on the proposal to set up a Cashew Board in Kerala.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4128  
ANSWERED ON 03.08.2009

**Establishment of Cashew Board**

4128. ADVOCATE A. SAMPATH:

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any proposal for the establishment of Cashew Board in the country;
  - (b) the objectives likely to be achieved by the establishment of Cashew Board;
- and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) A study done by Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) has suggested that an integrated/well coordinated institution will help to focus on all nodes of the value chain, to increase production to develop commercial orientation and to increase farmers' return and to ensure periodic sharing of information for the development growers, processors and exporters.

(c) The Government is yet to take a final decision on the proposal to set up a Cashew Board in Kerala.



*ANNEXURE IV*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1679  
ANSWERED ON 30.11.2009

**Setting of Cashew Board**

1679. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

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

- (a) whether the Central Government has received proposals from some State Governments for setting up of Cashew Board; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The Government is yet to take a final decision on the proposal to set up a Cashew Board in Kerala.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1268  
ANSWERED ON 08.08.2011

**Production and Export of Cashew**

1268. DR. KRUPARANI KILLI:

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

- (a) the total quantity and monetary value of cashew exported during the last three years;
- (b) the steps being taken to promote the export of cashew and the outcome achieved thereof;
- (c) whether the global recession has adversely affected the cashew export;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to set up a Cashew Board; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the Board is likely to be set up?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) The total quantity and monetary value of cashew exported during the last three years are as under:—

Year	QTY (in M.T.)	VALUE (Rs. in crores)
2008-09	125486	2895.11
2009-10	117453	2797.92
2010-11 (Apr.-Dec.)	67792	1920.96

Source: DGCI&S

(b) The Cashew Export Promotion Council of India under the Department of Commerce has initiated various programmes including participation in International food fairs, International conventions and seminars, sponsoring trade delegations, market surveys, disseminating trade enquiries and market information, publishing statistics and journals, organizing Buyer Seller Meets etc. It is also implementing schemes to promote cashew exports by assisting the exporters to improve processing technology, quality of cashew kernels etc. under the schemes of Department of Commerce namely, Marketing Development Assistance (MDA), Market Assessment

Initiatives (MAI), Assistance to States for Infrastructure Development of Exports (ASIDE) in addition to its Plan Schemes for the cashew exporters.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) and (e) The Planning Commission (PC) was asked by the Government to discuss issues relating to setting up of Cashew Board with the Department of Commerce and Department of Agriculture and Cooperation. In its meeting held on 14th June, 2011, the PC took a view that formation of a Cashew Board would provide the much needed platform for the future growth of cashew industry. Accordingly, the Planning Commission has been asked to outline the next steps regarding the formation of Cashew Board.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4260  
ANSWERED ON 29.08.2011

**Cashew Board Centre**

4260. SHRI K.P. DHANAPALAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to start Cashew Board Centre in Kerala;  
and  
(b) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYAM. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Presently, the production related issues in respect of raw cashewnuts are looked after by the Directorate of Cashewnuts and Cocoa Development under Department of Agriculture and Cooperation whereas export related issues are looked after by the Cashew Export Promotion Council of India under Department of Commerce. The Planning Commission, who was asked by the Government to discuss with stakeholders the issues relating to formation of a Cashew Board, has in its meeting held on 14th June, 2011, took a view that formation of a Cashew Board would provide the much needed platform for the future growth of cashew industry. The Planning Commission has been asked to outline the further steps involved in the formation of a Cashew Board.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6002  
ANSWERED ON 14.05.2012

**New Commodity Board**

6002. DR. KRUPARANI KILLI:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes the formation of any new Commodity Board so as to promote the production and export of that commodity;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the Commodity Board which is presently looking after the Cashew Industry; and
- (d) the details of the schemes for the promotion of export of cashew and the foreign exchange earned from the export of cashew during the last three years?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. A proposal to form a Cashew Board by merging the activities of Cashew Export Promotion Council of India (CEPCI) under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry and Cashew Division of the Directorate of Cashew and Cocoa Development (DCCD) of the Ministry of Agriculture is planned. The Planning Commission in this connection had held two meetings on 9th December, 2009 and 14th June, 2011 with the Department of Commerce and the Ministry of Agriculture. Presently, a draft note in the form of EFC is under preparation of this Ministry for seeking approval of the Expenditure Finance Committee of the Ministry of Finance and the Project Appraisal & Management Committee of the Planning Commission.

(c) Presently, there is no Commodity Board to look after the cashew industry. However, the Directorate of Cocoa & Cashewnut Development (DCCD) under the Ministry of Agriculture, looks after production related activities whereas the Cashew Export Promotion Council of India (CEPCI) sponsored by the Department of Commerce, looks after the export related activities of the cashew industry.

(d) Under the Plan scheme in the XI Five Year Plan, the Cashew Export Promotion Council of India was provided an assistance of Rs. 9.02 crore for upgrading processing

facilities. In addition, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry has put in place various schemes namely Market Development Assistance (MDA), Market Assistance Initiative (MAI), Assistance to State for Development of Export Infrastructure and Allied Activities (ASIDE), Vishesh Krishi and Gram Upaj Yojana, Focus Product Scheme, Focus Market Scheme, Town of Export Excellence etc. to boost Export of agri products which includes cashew industry also. The foreign exchange earned from export of cashew and allied products during the last three years are given below:—

Year	Cashew Kernel		Cashewnut Shell Liquid		Total (Ck+Cnsl)	
	Qty. (M.T.)	Value (Rs. Crs.)	Qty. (M.T.)	Value (Rs. Crs.)	Qty. (M.T.)	Value (Rs. Crs.)
2008-09	109522	2988.40	9099	26.06	118621	3014.46
2009-10	117991	2801.60	11227	27.62	129218	2829.22
2010-11	91559	2598.15	11364	31.85	102923	2630.00

Source: CEPCI : Various Custom Houses

### APPENDIX III

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 5482 dated 28.04.2010, regarding "Availing Relax Standards".

On 28 April, 2010 Shri T.R. Baalu, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 5482 to the Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training). The text of the question along with reply of the Ministry are as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented. The Ministry has sought further extension upto 27.07.2013.

3. The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training) *vide* O.M. No. 41016/15/2010-Estt.(Res.) dated 26.02.2013, have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the issue whether the judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of Jitendra Kumar Singh (Civil Appeal No. 74 of 2010) is applicable to the Government of India was being examined in consultation with the Department of Legal Affairs. In between, the High Court of Punjab and Haryana held that the decision of the Supreme Court in the case of Jitendra Kumar Singh is with reference to the State of U.P. and is not applicable to the services under the Central Government. An SLP has been filed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court against the order of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana by the private party. The matter is *sub-judice* and has to be decided by the Supreme Court. The fate of the subject case depends on the outcome of the court case. Moreover, it is difficult to draw any deadline in court cases. In view of the above, the Committee on Government Assurances (Lok Sabha) is requested to consider the matter and drop the assurance from the list of pending Assurances in the name of Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training)."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State (PP) have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI  
Dated: 13.12.2013

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5482  
ANSWERED ON 28.04.2010

**Availing Relax Standards**

5482. SHRI T.R. BAALU:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether candidates belonging to OBC, SC and ST who have availed relax standards are to be counted against reserved vacancies only;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware of the Supreme Court judgement (CA 74 of 2010 dated 08.01.2010) that reserve category candidates who have availed relaxed standards should be allowed to get selection to open category posts also;

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

(e) whether the Government has taken steps to modify the existing Government order of 01 August, 1998 in line with the Supreme Court judgement dated 08 January, 2010;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Instructions provide that when a relaxed standard is applied in selecting an SC/ST/OBC candidate for example in the age limit, experience, qualification, permitted number of chances in written examination, extended zone of consideration larger than what is provided for general category candidates etc., the SC/ST/OBC candidates are to be counted against reserved vacancies.



(c) the Supreme Court in the light of the provisions of the U.P. Public Services (Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Act, 1994 has, *inter-alia*, observed, "the relaxation in age limit is merely to enable the reserved category candidate to compete with the general category candidate, all other things being equal. The State has not treated the relaxation in age and fee as relaxation in the standard for selection, based on the merit of the candidate in the selection test. *i.e.* Main Written Test followed by Interview. Therefore, such relaxations cannot deprive a reserved category candidate of the right to be considered as a general category candidate on the basis of merit in the competitive examination".

(d) to (g) The Government is examining the matter.

#### APPENDIX IV

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3758 dated 17 August, 2010 regarding "Condition of NH-44".

On 17 August, 2010 Shri Badruddin Ajmal, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3758 to the Minister of Road Transport and Highways. The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways *vide* O.M. No. NH11016/15/2010/AS/NH-8 dated 26 March, 2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That status of works on NH-44 is as under:—

Sl.No.	Name of Work	Present Status
1	2	3
1.	PR to NH-88 from km. 197/00 to km. 222/920 from Katigorah to Karimganj bypass for the year 2009-10	Work completed
2.	PR of Barak bridge approaches on NH under NH Division, Silchar	Work completed
3.	Raising low lay stretches from km. 177/230 to km. 179/900 in selected stretches and construction of HP Culverts on NH 44 for the year 2009-2010	Work completed
4.	PR to NH-44 from km. 226/000 to km. 228/000 Karimganj Town and Km. 252/500 to km. 260/109, Km. 277/000 for the year 2009-10	Work completed
5.	Reconstruction/raising/strengthening of NH-44 from km. 175/900 to 191/000 including construction of paved shoulder for the year 2009-10 under Silchar NH-Division	Work completed
6.	Construction/improvement of drain footpath & toe wall at Patherkandi surrounding areas on NH 44 for the year 2010-11 under Silchar NH Division	Work completed

1	2	3
7.	Land acquisition and shifting of utilities for improvement of existing single/intermediate land of NH 44 to 2 lane with paved shoulder from km. 230/200 to km. 247/000, km. 260/109 to km. 261/761 and km. 271/00 to km. 284/053 A (Length=30.279) under SARDP-NE	Land acquisition has commenced
8.	Land acquisition and structure from km. 252.280 261.504 (new 260.109 existing) Patherkandi by pass on NH44	Land acquisition has commenced

In this context, it is to mention that out of above 8 sanctioned works, 6 works mentioned at Sl. 1 to 6 have already been completed and the remaining 2 works have commenced. It is further mentioned that development and maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process. National Highways are being maintained in traffic worthy condition subject to *inter se* priority and availability of funds. In view of the above, Lok Sabha Secretariat is requested to (i) give extension of time for the period already lapsed from 16.05.2012 and (ii) drop the assurance in view of the para 2. Above."

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

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI  
Dated : 13.12.2013

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3758  
ANSWERED ON 17.08.2010

**Condition of NH-44**

3758. SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Government has received several complaints/petitions regarding the poor condition of NH-44 in Assam and other connective Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are any constraints in the proper maintenance of the said NH;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any target for the completion of required repair work and maintenance of the said NH has been fixed; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (f) The Union Government as well as the State Government have received complaints/petitions from various quarters regarding the poor condition of NH-44 in Assam. The condition of this NH has deteriorated during the intervening period of re-entrustment from Border Roads Organisation (BRO) to State Public Works Department (PWD). Accordingly, the Union Government has sanctioned 8 works amounting to Rs. 173.00 crore for improvement of this NH which are targeted for completion between March, 2011 and March, 2012.

## APPENDIX V

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 5073 dated 27.08.2010 regarding "Flagship scheme".

On 27 August, 2010 Shri Baliram Jadhav, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 5073 to the Minister of Finance . The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) *vide* O.M. No. 8(16)-B(R)2010 dated 22.11.2012, have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the subject matter of the instance assurance is one of the issues contained in the proposed draft Bill of C&AG on "Audit of Public Money and C&AG's (DPC) Act, 2010". This Ministry had furnished specific comments to C&AG Act instead of replacing with a new law. Accordingly, C&AG's office have sent a revised draft Bill, *i.e.* C&AG (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 2011 proposing therein changes/deletions in the existing Act. The revised draft Bill is being actively examined in consultation with concerned Ministries/Departments and the State Governments. Thereafter the draft Bill has to be vetted by Ministry of Law and Justice. After obtaining the Cabinet's approval on the same, it has to be laid in the form of a Bill in both the Houses of Parliament for consideration and approval. Therefore, the fulfilment of the assurance would take considerable time."

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

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI  
Dated: 13.12.2013

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 5073  
ANSWERED ON 27.08.2010

**Flagship Scheme**

5073. DR. BALIRAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's statutory auditor (CAG) has sought greater powers to audit the spending of the flagship schemes for bringing more accountability in the administration of such programmes; and

(b) if so, what is Government's response thereto?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) A revised draft Bill seeking to replace the existing Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 by a new law titled 'Audit of Public Money and the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 2010' has been forwarded by C&AG Office in June, 2010.

(b) The proposals in the draft Bill impacts various areas of governance and therefore a process of consultation has been initiated with concerned Ministries/ Departments and State Governments in the matter.

## APPENDIX VI

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 440 dated 10.11.2010, regarding "Regional Centre of IGNTU".

On 10 November, 2010 Shri Nityananda Pradhan, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 440 to the Minister of Human Resource Development. The text of the question alongwith the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Human Resource Development within three months from the date of the reply put the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Human Resource Development *vide* O.M. No. 16-37/2010-Desk (U) dated 24.01.2013, have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That as ascertained from the University, the response of the Government of Orissa is still awaited. It is, however, further stated that the Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh was established in July, 2008 by the Indira Gandhi National Tribal University (IGNTU) Act, 2007 to provide avenues of higher education and research facilities primarily for the tribal population of India. It was pointed out by the Chairman, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes that the University continues to function like any other Central University of the Government with absence of any specific action plan to achieve its targeted objectives in relation to the STs. Accordingly, with the approval of the Visitor a Review Committee has been constituted to evaluate the functioning of the University in relation to the outlines objectives for its establishment and suggest ways to fulfil its objectives. The University is not yet able to set up its main Campus at Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh properly in terms of infrastructure of faculty or growth of Schools/ Departments. This Ministry therefore, has taken the view that the University should presently focus on the need to re-orient and consolidate its functioning at the main Campus with a view to building it as a premier institution for promoting higher education among tribal and undertaking other mandated activities relating to STs and not open new Campus/Centre until it stabilizes its operation at the main Campus. Keeping the above policy decision in view, Committee on Government Assurance, Lok Sabha secretariat is kindly requested to drop the above mentioned assurance from the list of Lok Sabha pending assurances."

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

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI  
Dated: 13.12.2013

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 440  
ANSWERED ON 10.11.2010

**Regional Centre of IGNTU**

440. SHRINITYANANDA PRADHAN:

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

(a) the present status of the proposal for opening of a Regional Centre of Indira Gandhi National Tribal University in Kandhamal district of Orissa; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be approved?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by Indira Gandhi National Tribal University (IGNTU), a proposal for opening of a Regional Centre in Kandhamal district of Orissa has been received by the University. Following consideration by an Experts' Committee constituted by the Executive Council, the University has approached the Government of Orissa to provide 300 acres of land, free of cost, in tribal dominated area with adequate basic infrastructure such as connectivity with State/National highway and assured electricity and water supply. The response of the State Government in this regard is awaited.



## APPENDIX VII

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 898 dated 04 August, 2011 regarding "Inter-State Water Disputes".

On 04 August, 2011 Shri S.S. Ramasubbu, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 898 to the Minister of Water Resources. The text of the question alongwith the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Water Resources within three months from the date of the reply. The assurance is yet to be implemented. The Ministry have sought extension of time upto 4 November, 2012 to fulfil the assurance.

3. The Ministry of Water Resources *vide* O.M. No. 12/21/2011/BM/500-502 dated 4 April, 2012 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the Inter-State Council Secretariat (ISCS) has informed that the Punchi Commission submitted its report in March, 2010 and had in all made 320 recommendations in its report in seven volumes covering various subject/issues concerning Centre-State Relations."

Soon thereafter, the Inter-State Council Secretariat initiated the process of seeking comments/views of the Stakeholders, *viz.* State/Union Territory Governments and the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India on the recommendations made by the Commission. So far views of 67 Ministries/Departments and 16 State Governments (including part comments) have been received. Comments of the rest of the States are still awaited. The views/comments so far received are under examination in the Inter-State Council Secretariat.

With a view to facilitate the States to expedite their comments, regional consultations have been initiated by the ISCS. The first such regional consultation (for the Western Region) was held in Mumbai on 28-29 November, 2011 with the officials of the State Governments of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Goa, Regional Consultations have also been held on 27, 28 and 29 December, 2011 in Chandigarh with the officials of the Northern States of Punjab, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and the U.T. Administration of Chandigarh. Similar consultations are being planned to be held at Kolkata (Eastern Region), Lucknow (Central Region) and Guwahati (N-E Region) during 2012.

After the comments are received from the stakeholders, the same shall be examined and the issues of convergence and divergence of opinion among the stakeholders with possible options for building consensus on the 320 recommendations

shall be submitted for consideration of the Standing Committee and Inter-State Council. This process is time consuming and it may be difficult to fix any deadline for completing the process.

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

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI;  
Dated: 13.12.2013

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 898  
ANSWERED ON 04.08.2011

**Inter-State Water Disputes**

898. SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of water disputes tribunals presently functioning in the country and the amount being spent by each of the tribunals during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government has any proposal to set up an Integrated Water Disputes Tribunal for all water disputes;

(c) If so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Punchi Commission has made some recommendations on water disputes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to implement its recommendations?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA): (a) The name of the present Inter-State water disputes under Inter-State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956 and expenditure incurred by them during the last three years is given below:—

(Rupees in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the Tribunal	Financial Year		
		2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
1.	Ravi & Beas Water Tribunal	82.66	117.27	83.45
2.	Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal	141.15	215.42	223.84
3.	Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal	144.70	178.44	166.77
4.	Vansadhara Water Disputes Tribunal	-	-	54.97
5.	Mahadayi Water Disputes Tribunal	-	-	8.45

(b) & (c) The proposal for setting up a standing tribunal for all Inter-State River Water Disputes is at conceptual stage at present.

(d) Yes, Madam.

(e) The Punchi Commission on Centre-State Relations has *inter alia* made following recommendation on water disputes:—

- (i) The Tribunal should be a multi-disciplinary body presided over by a Judge.
- (ii) It should follow a more participatory and conciliatory approach.
- (iii) The statute should prescribe a time limit for clarificatory or supplementary orders. Appeals to the Supreme Court should be prescribed under the statute; and in the long run; and Reference to a Tribunal should be invariably linked with constitution of Inter-State River Boards charged with an integrated watershed approach towards Inter-State Rivers.
- (iv) The initiating party must indicate the efforts it has made in resolution of its grievances before a River Board.
- (v) The Government of India must indicate the stand it took before the Board and in case a Board has not been constituted the reasons for not having constituted one as well as the likely time-frame in case the process is underway.

These recommendations of Punchi Commission on Centre-State Relations is under consideration of Inter-State Council.

## APPENDIX VIII

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1183 dated 08 August, 2011 regarding "Bio-Cultural Park".

On 08 August, 2011 Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu Reddy, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1183 to the Minister of Environment and Forests. The text of the question alongwith the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Environment and Forests *vide* O.M. No. 7/4/2011-RE dated 02 August, 2013, have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"Since the reply was of Odisha considered as an assurance, the matter was taken up with the State Government on several occasions. The Government of Odisha however, has not been able to allot the land for setting up of Bio-Cultural Park. Therefore, Ministry of Environment and Forests, has decided to drop the proposal of a Bio-Cultural Park in Odisha.

In view of the above the Committee on Government Assurances is requested to consider the submission of Ministry of Environment and Forests for dropping the particular Assurance on the pending list of assurance of this Ministry."

4. The Ministry of Environment and Forests with the approval of Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment and Forests have requested to drop the assurance.

NEW DELHI;  
Dated: 13.12.2013

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1183  
ANSWERED ON 08.08.2011

**Bio-Cultural Park**

1183. SHRIMAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to develop "Bio-Cultural Park" in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and criteria-wise, including Odisha and Andhra Pradesh; and
- (c) the time by which these are likely to be set up?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has proposed to establish a Bio-Cultural Park in Bhubaneswar for which the State Government of Odisha has been requested to allot ten acres of land. The response of the State Government is awaited.

## APPENDIX IX

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2708 dated 17.08.2011, regarding "Modernisation of State Engineering Colleges".

On 17 August, 2011 Shri Bhupendra Singh, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2708 to the Minister of Human Resource Development. The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Human Resource Development *vide* O.M. No. 7-34/2011-TS.II dated 01.12.2011 and 10.09.2013, have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"The above assurance relates to the scheme of expansion and modernisation of 200 State Engineering Institutions. In order to implement the above scheme, the Department of Higher Education prepared a note for Expenditure Finance Committee and *inter alia* circulated to Department of Expenditure and Planning Commission for their concurrence. Planning Commission and Department of Expenditure has, however, suggested that the above scheme be included in the XII Five Year Plan."

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

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI;  
Dated: 13.12.2013

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2708  
ANSWERED ON 17.08.2011

**Modernisation of State Engineering Colleges**

2708. SHRI BHUPENDRA SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposals from the State Governments including State of Madhya Pradesh for modernisation of facilities in autonomous State engineering colleges in their States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of such proposals, State-wise and proposal-wise?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a scheme for upgradation of 200 State engineering institutions in the XI Plan. The Government has received proposals from the State Governments of Kerala, Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Maharashtra. The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has forwarded a proposal for modernisation of facilities of four autonomous Government Engineering Colleges situated at Jabalpur, Rewa, Ujjain and Sagar.

(b) The proposals will be approved only after the criteria for selection is decided upon.



## APPENDIX X

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2834 dated 18 August, 2011 regarding "North Koel Irrigation Project".

On 18 August, 2011 Shri Sushil Kumar Singh, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2834 to the Minister of Water Resources. The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Water Resources within three months from the date of the reply. The assurance is yet to be implemented. The Ministry have sought extension of time upto 31 October, 2012 to fulfil the assurance.

3. The Ministry of Water Resources *vide* O.M. No. 5/12/2011/GB/209 dated 27 April, 2012 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That for implementation of the above assurance the prescribed period of three months from the date of assurance has already expired. However, it may be stated that North Koel Project is a joint project of Jharkhand and Bihar and is being executed in the drought prone district of Palamu (Jharkhand) and Aurangabad (Bihar). MoU was signed between Bihar and Jharkhand in June, 2006 to complete the balance work.

As the planning, execution, operation & maintenance of water resources projects is carried out by the respective State Governments as per their requirement and priorities of works, the role of Ministry of Water Resources/CWC is only limited to monitoring of the progress. Further, reply to the USQ No. 2834 was furnished on the basis of information furnished by Central Water Commission (CWC) and the respective State Governments."

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

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI;  
Dated: 13.12.2013

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2834  
ANSWERED ON 18.08.2011

**North Koel Irrigation Project**

2834. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of the North Koel Irrigation Project;
- (b) whether any land has been acquired for canals for implementation of the said scheme;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the reasons for delay in the completion of the said project and the expected time of completion?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA): (a) North Koel Project is a joint project of Jharkhand and Bihar States. As per information provided by the Governments of Jharkhand and Bihar, the current status of various components of the project is as under:—

Component	Jharkhand	Bihar
1	2	3
Dam (Masonry + Concrete)	100%	90%
Spillway	100%	Spillway Gates is still to be installed.
Gates	Nil (Due to objection by the Forest Department, the work has not been started).	—
Barrage	95% complete and only casting of 18 slabs remaining out of 40 slabs.	Almost completed 40% of the deck slab work is still remaining.

1	2	3
Right Main Canal (in Jharkhand portion)	100%	98% of main Canal completed (109.12 km)
Distribution System (Right Main Canal)	70%	65% of Distribution System Completed and the remaining work is under progress.
Left Main Canal	80%	—
Distribution System (Left main Canal)	Nil	—

(b) & (c)

#### **Jharkhand**

Construction of Jharkhand portion of Right Main Canal, which is 31 kms. out of 109 kms. is complete. Except for a length of 0.50 km. the Left Main Canal, which is 11.81 kms. long and fully in Jharkhand, is complete. Land is being acquired for remaining portion of the left main canal.

#### **Bihar**

For the canal system, approximately 1455 hectares of land has been already acquired till now and land acquisition process is going on for residual 57.36 hectare of land.

(d)

#### **Jharkhand**

As the closure of gates will cause submergence in 6203 hectares of forest land including some parts of Betla Tiger Reserve, necessary clearance of Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) is under process. Since the completion of the project includes clearances from the Indian National Board for Wildlife and MoEF, it is difficult to indicate the anticipated completion date of the project.

#### **Bihar**

For completion of dam, clearance of approximately 4710 hectare of forest land is required from Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India. This is an Inter-State project and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed on 26.6.2006 between the States of Bihar and Jharkhand as per which the action towards clearance has to be taken by the Government of Jharkhand. The delay in completion of distribution system is due to land acquisition problem. The canal system is likely to be completed by March, 2013.

## APPENDIX XI

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3457 dated 24 August, 2011 regarding "Physical Research Laboratory".

On 24 August, 2011 Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3457 to the Prime Minister. The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Department of Space within three months from the date of the reply. The assurance is yet to be implemented. The Department have not sought any extension of time to fulfil the assurance.

3. The Department of Space *vide* O.M. No. 22014/22/2012-V dated 21 January, 2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the above assurance relates to setting up of Major Research Facilities at Physical Research Laboratory (PRL). As a part of facilities to be made available at PRL, several Advanced Scientific Instruments such as Instrument for detection of exoplanets at Mt. Abu Observatory, Inductively coupled mass spectrometer for planetary studies, Instruments for study of composition of micro size aerosol particles and infrastructure facilities such as Space Instrumentation Facilities at Thaltej campus, Seminar Hall with modern facilities have been augmented recently at PRL.

PRL is a premier research institute engaged in basic research in the areas of Astronomy and Astrophysics, Planetary Science and Exploration, Space and Atmospheric Sciences, Geosciences and Theoretical Physics. The major facilities for scientific research mentioned in the assurance are a part of the 12th Five Year Plan which are being taken up in a phased manner based on the scientific programme requirements and the availability of budgetary resources over the Five Year Plan period. Hence, Department of Space is of the view that the above assurance may be deleted as it is not feasible to fulfil the same in the short-term."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry with the approval of the Minister of State (PMO), have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI  
Dated: 13.12.2013

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3457  
ANSWERED ON 24.08.2011

**Physical Research Laboratory**

3457. SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the places where Physical Research Laboratories are located in the country;
- (b) the details of the facilities and infrastructure that are required and available in these laboratories; and
- (c) the facilities proposed to be made available in these laboratories in the coming years?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), an autonomous unit of Department of Space, is located at Ahmedabad, Gujarat. PRL has three other campuses situated at Thaltej (near Ahmedabad), Mt. Abu (Rajasthan) and Udaipur (Rajasthan).

(b) PRL is carrying out basic research in the fields of Astronomy, Solar Physics; Planetary Sciences and exploration, Space and Atmospheric Sciences, Geosciences and Theoretical Physics. For research work, PRL requires facilities and infrastructure in the form of observatory telescopes (such as infrared observatory, solar telescope, etc.) sophisticated measurement and analysis instruments (such as spectrometers, photometers, multi-channel recorders, radiometers, etc.) and computational aids. Based on the programmatic requirements, these facilities and infrastructure have been made available at PRL.

(c) The major facilities proposed to be made available at PRL in the coming years include a larger size telescope at Mt. Abu; an accelerator mass spectrometer (Ahmedabad); a high end cluster-computing system, advanced scientific instruments and infrastructure facilities.

## APPENDIX XII

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 5131 dated 05 September, 2011 regarding "International Ports".

On 05 September, 2011 S/Shri Kishnbhai V. Patel, Vijay Bahadur Singh and Pradeep Majhi, M.Ps., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 5131 to the Minister of Shipping. The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Shipping *vide* O.M. No. PD-11016/18/2011-PD-III dated 30 August, 2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"In this regard, it is conveyed that a preliminary proposal to set up a company which will buy stakes in International Ports in various countries was examined in the Ministry of Shipping. It has been decided not to pursue the proposal at present. Since, the Ministry of Shipping is not pursuing the proposal further, it is requested that facts may kindly be brought before the assurance committee to consider dropping of the assurance."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry with the approval of the Hon'ble Minister of Shipping have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI:  
Dated: 13.12.2013.

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5131  
ANSWERED ON 05.09.2011

**International Ports**

5131. SHRI KISHANBHAI VESTABHAI PATEL:  
SHRI VIJAY BAHADUR SINGH:  
SHRI PRADEEP MAJHI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up a company which will buy the stake in International Ports in various countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the nature of areas in which it is likely to made investment; and

(c) the time by which such company will start its operation?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MUKUL ROY): (a) to (c) The proposal to promote a company which may *inter-alia* acquire some stake in International Ports is under consideration of Government of India. The details of the proposal are being worked out.

### APPENDIX XIII

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 5910 dated 08 September, 2011 regarding "Subarnarekha Barrage Project".

On 8 September, 2011 S/Shri Bibhu Prasad Tarai and Prabodh Panda, MPs, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 5910 to the Minister of Water Resources. The text of the question alongwith the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Water Resources within three months from the date of the reply. The assurance is yet to be implemented. The Ministry have sought extension of time upto 07 September, 2012 to fulfil the assurance.

3. The Ministry of Water Resources with the approval of the Minister of State for Water Resources *vide* O.M. No. 24/60/2011-PR dated 27 January, 2012 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That irrigation being a State subject, the planning, execution, funding, as well as priority of execution of irrigation projects are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments.

On examination, it is seen that the State Government ensures timely completion of the project and adopts appropriate measures for this purpose. Hence, the implementation of irrigation projects is to be carried out by State Governments. Therefore, the USQ 5910 given in Lok Sabha should not be treated as assurance. The State Government ensures timely completion of the project and adopts appropriate measures for this purpose. The reply provided to the above USQ contained only factual position."

4. The Minister of Water Resources *vide* his D.O. No. 24/60/2011-PR dated 14 August, 2013 addressed to the Chairperson, Committee on Government Assurances, has also requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"Water being a State subject, the planning, execution and funding of this project is done by the respective State Governments. As communicated in the Reply by the Ministry, the West Bengal and Orissa portions of the project are likely to be completed by 2015-26."

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI:  
Dated: 13.12.2013



ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA UNSTARED  
QUESTION NO. 5910  
ANSWERED ON 08.09.2011

**Subarnarekha Barrage Project**

5910. SHRI BIBHU PRASAD TARAI:  
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Subarnarekha Barrage Project is long pending for completion causing great difficulties to farmers in Paschim Medinipur district of West Bengal and some districts of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government is actively considering to take measures for its completion;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by when the project is likely to be completed?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA): (a) and (b) A tripartite agreement was concluded between the Governments of undivided Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal in August, 1978 regarding Subarnarekha river. Consequent to this agreement, each of the three Co-basin States (Orissa, West Bengal and now Jharkhand) have drawn up their own programme to harness the water resources of the Subarnarekha river basin.

The Subarnarekha barrage project of West Bengal was started in VII Plan and is ongoing. The Subarnarekha multipurpose project of Orissa was started in VII Plan and is ongoing.

(c) & (d) Central Assistance (CA) under AIBP is provided to the States for completion of the projects as per guidelines. Subarnarekha barrage project of West Bengal has so far been provided CA of Rs. 13.288 crore under AIBP. During 2004, the State Government proposed to exclude the proposal from AIBP scheme. The project is under execution by the State Government from the State Plan funds. Subarnarekha multipurpose project of Orissa has so far been provided CA of Rs. 1082.442 crore under AIBP.

(e) The Subarnarekha barrage project of West Bengal is targeted to be completed by 2015-16 and Subarnarekha multipurpose project of Orissa is scheduled to be completed by March, 2014.

#### APPENDIX XIV

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 309 dated 23.11.2011, regarding "Development of Unprofitable Airport".

On 23 November, 2011 S/Shri A. Ganeshamurthi, Nishikant Dubey, Prasanta Kumar Majumdar, Adv. A. Sampath and Manohar Tirkey, MPs, addressed an Unstarred Question No. 309 to the Minister of Civil Aviation. The text of the question alongwith the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Civil Aviation *vide* O.M. No. H-11016/78/2011-AAI dated 26 February, 2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That in reply to part (b) of the question—"the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to develop unprofitable airports" this Ministry had given the factual position as on that date stating that "AAI had got a study conducted by M/s RITES to determine the feasibility of development and operationalisation of 33 small non-operational airports of AAI. The study indicated that out of the 33 airports, only 13 were feasible for development. Status in respect of airports is given at Annexure-II." The status on development of non-operational airports relating to other smaller airports *viz.*, Warangal, Malda, Jarsuguda, Kamalpur and Vellore airports given at Annexure-II of the reply is complete in itself and no assurance was given in the matter. Further, the development of airports is a continuous process and involve several aspects including availability of land, concurrence of State Government and other agencies. Airport projects may take several years for final completion depending on the availability of land free of cost and free from all encumbrances or acquisition of land which may involve eviction/payment of compensations to its occupants and other formalities like conducting studies to find suitability of land, availability of funds and other Government policies. Completion of such projects also lies on external factors including the interest of the concerned State Governments in providing the requisite land etc. Which are beyond the control/purview of this Ministry. The Hon'ble Minister while replying to the above question did not give any explicit or implicit undertaking or assurance stating that the development of these airports will be completed within a timeframe nor the Hon'ble Member

had sought such an assurance while revising the question. It is, therefore, requested that the above said Assurance may kindly be dropped from the list of Assurance against this Ministry.

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

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI:

Dated: 13.12.2013.

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 309  
ANSWERED ON 23.11.2011

**Development of Unprofitable Airports**

309. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI:  
SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:  
SHRI MANOHAR TIRKEY:  
SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR:  
SHRI ADV. A. SAMPATH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of unprofitable airports in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to develop them, airport-wise;
- (c) the names of underutilized airports in the country, State-wise alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has made any analysis about the cost effectiveness of these airports; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for their maximum utilization?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS & MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) List of loss-making operational airports and civil enclaves belonging to Airports Authority of India (AAI) and managed by AAI for the year 2009-2010 is at Annexure-I.

(b) AAI had got a study conducted by M/s RITES to determine the feasibility of development and operationalisation of 33 small non-operational airports of AAI. The study indicated that out of the 33 airports, only 13 were feasible for development. Status in respect of airports is given at Annexure-II.

(c) Majority of the airports of AAI are being optimally utilized. In respect of the metro airports at Chennai and Kolkata, where new terminals are under construction and other non-metro airports where new terminals have been recently commissioned/proposed to be commissioned, additional capacity has been created, keeping in view of the requirement upto their saturation year.

(d) No Madam.

(e) Does not arise.

**Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 309 Dated 23.11.2011****Airports Authority of India**

## List of Loss Making Operational Airports During 2009-10

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Name of the airport
1	2	3
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands (UTI)	Port Blair
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad
3.		Rajahmundry
4.		Tirupati
5.		Vijaywada
6.		Vishakhapatnam
7.	Assam	Dibrugarh (Mohanbari)
8.		Guwahati
9.		Jorhat
10.		Lilabari (North)
11.		Silchar (Kumbhigram)
12.		Tezpur
13.	Bihar	Gaya
14.		Patna
15.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh
16.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur (Manna Camp)
17.	Delhi	Delhi (Safdarjung)
18.	Gujarat	Bhavnagar
19.		Bhuj
20.		Jamnagar
21.		Kandla
22.		Keshod (Junagarh)
23.		Porbandar
24.		Surat
25.		Rajkot
26.		Vadodara (Baroda)
27.	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra (Gaggal)

1	2	3
28.		Kullu (Bhuntar)
29.		Shimla
30.	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu
31.		Leh
32.		Srinagar
33.	Jharkhand	Ranchi
34.	Karnataka	Bangalore
35.		Belgaum
36.		Hubu
37.		Mangalore
38.		Mysore
39.	Lakshadweep Island (UT)	Agatti
40.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
41.		Gwalior
42.		Indore
43.		Jasalpur
44.		Khajuraho
45.	Maharashtra	Akola
46.		Aurangabad
47.		Gondia
48.		Juhu
49.	Manipur	Imphal
50.	Meghalaya	Shillong (3 Arapani)
51.	Nagaland	Dimapur
52.	Orissa	Bhubaneshwar
53.	Punjab	Amritsar
54.		Ludhiana
55.		Pathankot
56.	Rajasthan	Jaipur
57.		Jaisalmer
58.		Jodhpur
59.		Kota
60.		Udaipur
61.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
62.		Madurai

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1	2	3
63.		Salem
64.		Tiruchirapalli
65.		Tuticorin
66.	Tripura	Agartala
67.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra
68.		Allahabad
69.		Gorakhpur
70.		Kanpur
71.		Kanpur (Chakeri)
72.		Lucknow
73.		Varanasi
74.	Uttaranchal	Dehradun
75.		Pantnagar
76.	West Bengal	Bagdogra
77.		Behala

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**Status on Development of Non-Operational Airports of MI**

1. Akola:

Runway has been extended and strengthened from 1,219 m. to 1400 m. for ATR-42 type of aircraft operation. Expansion of apron from 90x60m. to 106x90m., modification of existing terminal building, boundary wall and other allied work completed.

2. Mysore:

Mysore Airport has already been made Operationalised in May, 2010 for ATR-72 type of aircraft.

3. Cuddapah:

Work to operationalise Cuddapah Airport for ATR-72 aircraft operations is in progress. Pavement works *i.e.* runway, taxiway, apron, etc. have been completed at a cost of Rs. 21 crores. Work on the construction of the new Terminal Building is in progress and expected to be completed by March, 2013.

4. Tezu:

Airport handed over by State Government to MI for development to handle ATR-72 type of aircraft with financial grant of Rs. 79 crores to be provided by NEC/ Govt. of India. Works likely to be completed by June, 2013.

5. Passighat:

As per PMO directive, Passighat Aerodrome belonging to MI has been transferred to IAF (MoD) for development of the Civil Enclave for ATR type of aircraft operations. AAI has projected a requirement of land measuring 12.7 acres to the Defence Authorities for development of a Civil Enclave.

6. Daparizo:

Airport belongs to State Govt., and is to be developed by MI for ATR-42 type of aircraft operations. MI has projected land requirement of 25.7 for phase-1 development for 20 seater aircraft and additional 8.6 acres (Total 34.3 acres) for ATR-42 type of aircraft operation.

7. Sholapur:

The existing airport cannot be upgraded due to urbanization all around. State Government has plans to construct and develop an alternative new Greenfield airport at Boramani in the vicinity. Also the ownership issue of Sholapur airport is yet to be decided.

8. Other Small Airports:

AAI has already projected additional land request, as per Master Plan, to State Government in respect of Warangal, Malda, Jharsuguda, Kamalpur and Vellore airports for developing these airports in phases. Concurrence of the State Government is awaited.



## APPENDIX XV

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 585 dated 24 November, 2011 regarding "Wheat Genome Project".

On 24 November, 2011 Adv. A Sampath and Shri M.B. Rajesh, MPs., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 585 to the Minister of Science and Technology. The text of the question alongwith the reply of the Minister are as given in the annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Science and Technology within three months from the date of the reply. The assurance is yet to be implemented. The Ministry have not sought any extension of time to fulfil the assurance.

3. The Ministry of Science and Technology (Department of Biotechnology) *vide* O.M. No. BT/AB/USQLS/Assu./2011 dated 2 August, 2012 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the International Wheat Genome Sequencing Consortium (IWGSC) has decided to have the gold standard sequence for all the 21 wheat chromosomes, based on clone-by-clone sequence. Simultaneously, the Indian partners have also started identifying and mapping of the 2A specific microsatellite markers and the project would be completed in the stipulated time. It is anticipated that the total wheat genome sequences will become available sometimes in the middle of year 2015. In order to get maximum benefits from this project, functional annotation of the genome sequences will be done, which will further take 10-15 years times because of strenuous, multi-disciplinary and multi-agency nature of work."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of State for Planning, Science & Technology and Earth Sciences, have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI  
Dated: 13.12.2013

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
(DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY)  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 585  
ANSWERED ON 24.11.2011

**Wheat Genome Project**

585. ADV. A. SAMPATH:

SHRI M.B. RAJESH:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is the part of Wheat Genome Project along with other countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the funds allocated for this project;
- (d) the expected period for the completion of the project; and
- (e) the benefits expected from the said project?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes Madam, India has joined wheat genome sequencing consortium along with 15 other nations namely—the US, UK, France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Czech Republic, Norway, Israel, Turkey, Russia, China, Japan, Australia and Argentina. The consortium was established with the ultimate objective of sequencing the hexaploid wheat genome to enhance our understanding of its structure, function and evolution. India has been given the responsibility for sequencing one chromosome designated as 2A.

(c) The project was sanctioned in January, 2011 at a total cost of Rs. 34.56 crore for a period of 4 years.

(d) The complete sequence shall be available by middle of 2015; it may get completed earlier too depending upon the developments in new sequencing techniques.

(e) Immediately after sequencing, India will have a large number of DNA markers which can be used for tagging genes of agronomical importance. Also, sequence information will help our scientists in cloning desired gene from wheat plant and manipulating it according to our needs.

## APPENDIX XVI

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2278 dated 07.12.2011, regarding "Administrative Reforms for Public Delivery System".

On 07 December, 2011 Shri Rayapati Sambasiva Rao, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2278 to the Prime Minister. The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions *vide* O.M. No. H-11016/7/2013-AR dated 14.06.2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"As regards part (i) of the assurance, it is submitted that 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission submitted 15 Reports to the Central Government. The Group of Ministers (GoM) has so far considered twelve reports. The report on 'Combating Terrorism (Eighth Report)' has been handled by the Ministry of Home Affairs and it is understood that necessary action has already been taken on this report. Thus, in all 13 Reports have been considered, so far. Out of 1251 recommendations as contained in 13 Reports of 2nd ARC, 1005 recommendations have been accepted, out of which, action has been completed on 633 recommendations and 372 recommendations are under various stages of implementation. The process of implementation of accepted recommendations of 2nd ARC is continuous one and the decision on 'implementation' involves interaction with stakeholders like Central Government Ministries and also State Governments and being reviewed at the level of Cabinet Secretariat from time to time. The Cabinet had taken note of the progress of action taken in respect of the following reports of 2nd ARC:—

- \* 1st Report (Right to Information Matter Key to Good Governance);
- \* 2nd Report (Unlocking Human Capital: Entitlements on Governance— a Case Study) relating to NREGA; and
- \* 3rd Report (CRISIS Management: From Despair to Hope). 6th Report (Local Governance—An inspiring journey into the future).

Accordingly, the Lok Sabha Secretariat is requested to place the instant Assurance before Committee on Government Assurances to consider to 'drop' the 'Assurance' as the Central Government have to implement all of the 'accepted recommendations' of 2nd ARC. The process of implementation involves interaction/deliberation with Central Government and State Government which is an ongoing process. Implementation of 1005 accepted recommendations may take long time to be fully implemented."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI;  
Dated: 13.12.2013

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES  
AND PENSIONS LOK SABHA UNSTARRED  
QUESTION NO. 2278  
ANSWERED ON 07.12.2011

**Administrative Reforms for Public Delivery System**

2278. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVARAO:

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has initiated a process to bring in administrative reforms and improving public service delivery;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes Madam.

(b) The second Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) presented 15 Reports to the Government for consideration on various facets of administrative reforms. The Group of Ministers (GoM) has so far considered thirteen reports. Remaining two reports *i.e* 'Public Order' and 'Personnel Administration' are to be considered shortly by GoM. Out of 1251 recommendations as contained in 13 Reports of 2nd ARC, 1005 recommendations have been accepted, out of which, action has been completed on 508 recommendations and 497 recommendations are under various stages of implementation.

For improving public service delivery on a continuous basis, the Government has developed a Quality Management System (QMS) framework called Sevottam that facilitates the creation, implementation and monitoring of public service delivery on the basis of 33 criteria that cover all the critical elements in quality based service delivery. The framework has three modules of (i) Citizen's/Client's Charter that specify the service standards and timelines against each service delivered to the citizen (ii) a robust Grievance Redress System that redresses complaint in cases services are not delivered as per standards and timelines in the Charter (iii) Capability Building for service delivery, that includes personnel training, infrastructure and putting in place processes and systems to ensure timely and quality based delivery of services.

After piloting the QMS Sevottam in ten Ministries/Departments of Government of India and in four different sectors in four States, the Government has disseminated the framework in all Ministries/Departments of Government of India and in six pro-poor sectors in all States/Union Territories. For this, the Government organized eight workshops on Sevottam out of which four were held in 2010-11 and four were held in 2011-12. Out of these eight workshops, six were for all the Ministries/Departments of Central Government and two were for all the States/Union Territories.

A draft Bill called "Citizens Right to Grievances Redress Bill" has been proposed by the Government which mandates time bound delivery of goods and provision for services and redressal of grievances, as contained in citizens charters of public authorities. The draft Bill has been placed on the website of Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances on 2nd November, 2011 inviting public comments. Views from various stakeholders like State Governments have also been sought. These views would be considered before introducing the Bill in the Parliament for enactment.

(c) Does not arise.

## APPENDIX XVII

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2376 dated 28.03.2012, regarding "CBI Investigation in Cheating case".

On 28 March, 2012 Shri Anto Antony, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2376 to the Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. The text of the question alongwith the reply of the Minister are given in the Annexure.

2. The reply to the question was treated as an assurance by the Committee and required to be implemented by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training) *vide* O.M. No. 235/13/2012-AVD-II dated 12.04.2013, have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the matter has again been examined in this Department. CBI has informed that charge sheets in all 5 cases filed before the Hon'ble Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Ernakulam are pending. After completion of investigation, it is up to the trial court to take further action and as such no time frame could be assigned. CBI has also informed that LRs sent to Thailand for execution are pending. The Embassy of India, Bangkok *vide* their letter dated 12.07.2012 informed that the office of Attorney General of the Government of Kingdom of Thailand has conveyed the Indian request to the Royal Police for execution. However, they have sought further information required as per Thai law for freezing the money in the bank accounts, search the premises and seize the documents and evidence therein for fulfilling the request. This information was provided to the Embassy of India, Bangkok, Thailand on 19.07.2012 followed by a reminder on 05.09.2012. The details of these LRs in the prescribed proforma has also been furnished to AD, Interpol for onward transmission to Indian mission in Thailand. The result of execution of LR as and when received will be filed as additional evidence in the court. As per CBI, time frame depends upon the pace of response evoked by the Thai Government for execution of the LRs. Pending execution of Letter Rogatories, it is improbable for CBI to proceed in the matter of investigation of these cases in foreign countries without relevant orders from judicial courts in these countries. As a result, no definite timeline can be assigned for the execution on LRs/completion of investigations by CBI in these cases. Even though CBI is pursuing the matter with the authorities concerned in these countries, yet the constraints in completion of investigation of these cases may be appreciated. In the absence of apparently any definite timeline for completion of investigation of these cases by CBI due to aforesaid constraints, the assurance to the question would continue to remain unfulfilled."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State (PP) have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI;  
Dated: 13.12.2013



ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES  
AND PENSIONS LOK SABHA UNSTARRED  
QUESTION NO. 2376  
ANSWERED ON 28.03.2012

**CBI Investigation in Cheating Case**

2376. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has ordered the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to enquire about cheating case by M/s. Gisa International, Kochi, Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and present status of the case;
- (c) whether the CBI has sought the help of Interpol to enquire about the overseas involvement in this case; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) Yes, Madam. The Central Government has ordered Central Bureau of Investigation to investigate against M/s. Gisa International Kochi, Kerala, which has registered 5 cases on the directions of the Hon'ble High Court, Kerala *vide* order dated 09.02.11 and on the consent of the State Government of Kerala as well.

(b) The details of these 5 cases and their present status is enclosed at Annexure.

(c) and (d) No, CBI has not sought help of Interpol to enquire about the overseas involvement in these cases.

So far as CBI is concerned, the letter Rogatory has been sent to the Central Authority in Thailand through the Central Authority of India following Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT). The execution Report will be used in all 5 cases.

## ANNEXURE

**Annexure as referred on reply to part (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred  
Question No. 2376 for 28.3.2012**

Sl. No.	Case No., Date of Registration & Section of Law	Name of the accused persons	Case title in one line	Present status
1.	RC3(S)/2011 Dt. 19.03.2011/U/s. 34 r/w 420 IPC & Sec. 24(1) (g) of Emigration Act.	Smt. Sadhana Gilbert, W/o Shri Gilbert, M/s. Gisa International Consultancy, Ponekara, Elamakkara P.O., Cochin and 3 others.	Cheated the public by offering employment abroad.	<b>Charge sheet filed.</b> LR sent to Thailand for execution is pending. Further investigation with respect to LR is pending.
2.	RC4(S)/2011 Dt. 19.03.2011 U/s. 34 r/w 420 IPC & Sec. 24(1)(g) of Emigration Act.	Smt. Sadhana Gilbert, W/o Shri Gilbert, M/s.Gisa International Consultancy, Ponekara, Elamakkara P.O. Cochin and 5 others.	Cheated the Public by offering employment abroad.	<b>Under Investigation.</b> LR sent to Thailand for execution is pending.
3.	RC 5(S)/2011 Dt. 19.03.2011 U/s 34 r/w 420 IPC & Sec. 24(1)(g) of Emigration Act.	Smt. Sadhana Gilbert, W/o Shri Gilbert, M/s. Gisa International Consultancy, Ponekara, Elamakkara P.O., Cochin and 3 others.	Cheated the public by offering employment abroad.	<b>Under Investigation.</b> LR sent to Thailand for execution is pending.
4.	RC 6(S)/2011 Dt. 19.03.2011 U/s. 34 r/w 420 IPC & Sec. 24(1)(g) of Emigration Act.	Smt. Sadhana Gilbert, W/o Shri Gilbert, M/s. Gisa International Consultancy, Ponekara, Elamakkara P.O., Cochin and 5 others.	Cheated the public by offering employment abroad.	<b>Under Investigation.</b> LR sent to Thailand for execution is pending.
5.	RC7(S)/2011 Dt. 19.03.2011 U/s. 34 r/w 420 IPC & Sec. 24(1)(g) of Emigration Act.	Smt. Sadhana Gilbert, W/o Shri Gilbert, M/s. Gisa International Consultancy, Ponekara, Cochin and 2 others.	Cheated the public by offering employment abroad.	<b>Charge sheet filed.</b> LR sent to Thailand for execution is pending. Further investigation with respect to LR is pending.

## APPENDIX XVIII

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3296 dated 25 April, 2012 regarding "Dhaka Bilateral Mission".

On 25 April, 2012 Shri Ramen Deka, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3296 to the Minister of External Affairs. The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of External Affairs *vide* U.O. No. I/ii/125/26/2012 dated 21 November, 2012 and 02 May, 2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"There are several considerations in permitting diplomatic missions to be set up in India, particularly in places where there are security and other sensitivities.

The Joint statement issued during the visit of Prime Minister to Bangladesh in September 2011, *inter alia*, stated that, 'both sides agreed to consider further strengthening diplomatic and consular presence in each other's countries'. In this context, the Government has already conveyed concurrence for opening of a Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Mumbai.

There is no active proposal at this stage for opening up of a diplomatic mission in Assam. In view of the same, it is not possible for MEA to fulfil what has been construed as an assurance in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3296."

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

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI;  
Dated: 13.12.2013

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3296  
ANSWERED ON 25.04.2012

**Dhaka Bilateral Mission**

3296. SHRI RAMEN DEKA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up Dhaka bilateral mission in Assam; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): (a) and (b) The proposal for establishing a diplomatic representation of Bangladesh in Assam continues to be under consideration.

## APPENDIX XIX

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 6194 dated 14 May, 2012 regarding "Procurement Proposals of Army".

On 14 May, 2012 Kumari Saroj Pandey, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 6194 to the Minister of Defence. The text of the question alongwith the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Defence *vide* O.M. No. 2-63/2012/D(GS-IV) dated 15 May, 2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That 13 procurement proposals are at various stages of finalization. Defence acquisition is a time-consuming and complex decision-making process that endeavours to balance the competing requirement of expeditious procurement, development of indigenous defence industry and conformity to highest standards of transparency, probity and public accountability.

Of the 13 cases at various difference stages of procurement mentioned in the reply to the Unstarred Question, four (04) contracts have since been signed and for 5 cases contract negotiations are either completed or are at advanced stage. All the 13 cases are of High end Technology Equipment and utmost care is being taken during various stages of trials and contract negotiations that we acquire state-of-the-art Equipment after detailed evaluation.

The process of acquiring complex High Technology Weapon Equipment involves formulation of qualitative requirement, Acceptance of Necessity (AoN), solicitation of offers, evaluation of technical offer by Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC), field evaluation, staff evaluation, negotiation by Contract Negotiation Committee (CNC), approval of the Competent Authority (CFA), award of contract and contract administration including post-contract management. It is important to emphasize here that this is the essential and continuous work of the acquisition wing of the Ministry.

It is, therefore, requested that considering the inherent nature of the Defence acquisition procedure, the instant assurance may be dropped."

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

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI;  
Dated: 13.12.2013

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6194  
ANSWERED ON 14.05.2012

**Procurement Proposals of Army**

6194. KUMARI SAROJ PANDEY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of procurement proposals sent by the Army to the Government in regard to procurement of military equipment during the last three years; and

(b) the number of proposals approved by the Government alongwith the number of proposals pending for approval?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Madam, proposals for procurement of Equipment pass through various stages in accordance with the Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) like the Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) stage, Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC), General Staff (GS), Evaluation and Contract Negotiation Committee (CNC) before they are approved by the competent financial authority.

A total of 44 Army contracts have been concluded by the Government in the last three years and 13 proposals are at different stages of finalization.

## APPENDIX XX

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 7333 dated 21.05.2012 regarding "Helicopters for Air Force".

On 21 May, 2012 Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey, MP addressed an Unstarred Question No. 7333 to the Minister of Defence. The text of the question alongwith the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Defence *vide* OM No. 7(55)/SO(M)/D(Air-I)/2012 dated 22 August, 2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"The Ministry provided only the factual position and did not give an assurance. The question itself seeks to know whether the Government proposes to introduce some new technologies for manufacturing of state-of-the-art helicopters for the Indian Air Force. The reply given to Part (a) and (b) of the question merely explains the factual position that the modern helicopters including the Advanced Light Helicopters, Light Utility Helicopters and Light Combat Helicopters are in the process of being developed and manufactured by M/s. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited for induction into the Indian Air Force.

Further the development and manufacturing of various types of helicopters by M/s. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited is a long draw out on-going process and the successful development/manufacturing of an equipment by M/s HAL will be in public domain. The very nature of the reply to the question does not warrant reporting back to the House, about further progress of the case."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of Defence have requested for dropping the above-mentioned assurance.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI;  
Dated: 13.12.2013

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 7333  
ANSWERED ON 21.05.2012

**Helicopters for Air Force**

7333. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce some new technologies for manufacturing of state-of-the-art helicopters for the Indian Air Force;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reasons for procuring helicopters from other countries if the required technologies are available in this country?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) : Yes, Madam. Modern Helicopters including the Advanced Light Helicopters, Light Utility Helicopters and Light Combat Helicopters are in the process of being developed and manufactured by M/s Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. for induction into the Indian Air Force.

(c) Only those helicopters which are beyond the current capability of the indigenous industry are being procured from other countries.



## APPENDIX XXI

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 549 dated 26.11.2012 regarding "Calculation of WPI".

On 26 November, 2012 Shri Jagdish Thakor, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 549 to the Minister of Commerce and Industry. The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry *vide* O.M. No. Ec.Ad/E-1/WPD/2012 dated 19.08.2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"It has been felt by Hon'ble MoS that the reply was complete. The Question sought to know whether the Government proposed to introduce a new base year for calculating the Wholesale Price Index, to which the answer was given in the affirmative, and without any further assurance. The reply further informed about the constitution of the Working Group with its terms of reference, which *inter alia* included recommendation about a new base year, appropriate commodity basket and associated weights. It was not stated anywhere in the answer that the matter(s) covered in subsequent parts (b) to (d) of the question was (were) under consideration of the Government. Such a course of action can arise only after the Working Group gives its recommendations for the Government to consider which was not the case when the question was asked and responded to."

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

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI;  
Dated: 13.12.2013

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 549  
ANSWERED ON 26.11.2012

**Calculation of WPI**

549. SHRI JAGDISH THAKOR:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce new base year for calculating the Wholesale Price Index (WPI);

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the new items which are likely to be included in the basket of commodities to determine the new WPI;

(c) whether the new system for calculating the price variation in the manufacturing products/commodities will show the real picture of the industrial production/prices of commodities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) to (d) Yes, Madam. The Government has set up a Working Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. Saumitra Chaudhuri, Member, Planning Commission on 19th March to, *inter alia*, recommend a new base year, an appropriate commodity basket and associated weights to them so as to reflect the structural changes in the economy since 2004-05 (the base year of current WPI series) for building a new WPI series.

## APPENDIX XXII

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3511 dated 14.12.2012, regarding "Selling of Stakes".

On 14 December, 2012 Dr. Padamsinha Bajirao Patil, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3511 to the Minister of Finance. The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Finance *vide* O.M. No. 4/31/2012-Policy dated 30.09.2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"There was no intention of giving any assurance in reply to the Unstarred Question No. 3511 dated 14th December, 2012. The Hon'ble Member had sought information as to whether Government is considering sale of any profit making Public Sector Undertaking. The reply to the Question was 'No Sir'. However, as a clarification, the proposals approved by the Government for sale of minority stake in Government Companies was given. Therefore, there is no assurance which is to be fulfilled by this department. It may further be added that disinvestment of minority stake in Steel Authority of India Ltd., Hindustan Copper Ltd., MMTC Ltd., National Aluminium Company Ltd., Oil India Ltd., NMDC Ltd., and NTPC Ltd., has already been completed and in all cases Government has retained 51 per cent equity and the management control with the Government."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State (Revenue) in the Ministry of Finance, have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI;  
Dated:13.12.2013

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3511  
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2012

**Selling of Stakes**

3511. SHRI PADAMSINHA BAJIRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to sell any profit making public sector companies; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, Public Sector Undertaking-wise?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Government has decided to disinvest minority stake in Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd., Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., Steel Authority of India Ltd., Hindustan Copper Ltd., MMTC Ltd., National Aluminium Company Ltd., Oil India Ltd., NMDC Ltd. and NTPC Ltd. After disinvestment Government will retain atleast 51% equity and the management control in the Public Sector Undertakings.

### APPENDIX XXIII

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4062 dated 18.12.2012, regarding "Intangible Cultural Heritage".

On 18 December, 2012 Smt. Annu Tandon, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4062 to the Minister of Culture. The text of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Culture *vide* O.M. No. 5-7/2012-UNESCO Cell dated 06.05.2013 & 26.09.2013 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"Nominations proposed to the UNESCO for inscription in the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) *vis-à-vis* their consideration by the UNESCO is a continuous process, as the nominations are regularly made by the members State(s). The same are considered by the UNESCO as per the provisions of the UNESCO Convention of ICH. Being an ongoing process and time consuming, where there is regular exchange of information between the Member State(s) and UNESCO regarding the pending nominations, the actual inscription of such nominations pending with the UNESCO in the Representative List of ICH may not be treated as an assurance. More so when there is no certainty regarding the actual number of nominations that would be finally approved by UNESCO."

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

The Committee may consider.

NEW DELHI;  
Dated: 13.12.2013

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4062  
ANSWERED ON 18.12.2012

**Intangible Cultural Heritage**

4062. SMT. ANNUTANDON:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to increase the number of Indian Cultural Practices to be listed as Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) by UNESCO;
- (b) whether the Government is considering a nationwide study under the aegis of Sangeet Natak Akademi (SNA) to document and record the ICH of the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SMT. CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH):

(a) The UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, 2003 was ratified by India in 2005. Since then 34 Indian elements on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) have been nominated for consideration in the Representative List of ICH, out of which 9 elements have been inscribed. Nominations of the remaining 25 elements are currently pending with UNESCO for their consideration and will be decided as per provisions of the Convention. Sangeet Natak Akademi, an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Culture has been entrusted with the task of preparing nomination dossiers and their submission to UNESCO.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In view of reply to part (b), question does not arise.



ANNEXURE I

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2013-14)  
STATEMENT SHOWING ASSURANCES DROPPED BY THE COMMITTEE ON  
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES AT THEIR SITTING HELD ON 17.12.2013

Sl. No.	Memo. No.	Question/Discussion	Ministry/Deptt.	Brief Subject
1	2	3	4	5
1.	2	USQ No. 1505 dated 22.08.2007	Health & Family Welfare	National Blood Transfusion Authority (NBTA)
2.	3	USQ No. 909 dated 04.03.2008	Commerce and Industry	Cashew Board
		USQ No. 3096 dated 27.07.2009		Setting up of Cashew Board
		USQ No. 4128 dated 03.08.2009		Establishment of Cashew Board
		USQ No.1679 dated 30.11.2009		Setting up of Cashew Board
		USQ No. 1268 dated 08.08.2011		Production and export of Cashew
		USQ No. 4260 dated 29.08.2011		Cashew Board Centre
		USQ No. 6002 dated 14.05.2012		New Commodity Board
3.	6	USQ No. 5482 dated 28.04.2010	Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	Availing Relax Standards
4.	7	USQ No. 3758 dated 17.08.2010	Road Transport and Highways	Condition of NH-44
5.	8	USQ No. 5073 dated 27.08.2010	Finance	Flagship Scheme
6.	9	USQ No. 440 dated 10.11.2010	Human Resource Development	Regional Centre of Indira Gandhi National Tribal University (IGNTU)
7.	12	USQ No. 898 dated 04.08.2011	Water Resources	Inter-State Water Disputes
8.	13	USQ No. 1183 dated 08.08.2011	Environment & Forests	Bio-Cultural Park
9.	16	USQ No. 2708 dated 17.08.2011	Human Resource Development	Modernisation of State Engineering Colleges
10.	17	USQ No. 2834 dated 18.08.2011	Water Resources	North Koel Irrigation Project



1	2	3	4	5
11.	18	USQ No. 3457 dated 24.08.2011	Department of Space	Physical Research Laboratory
12.	19	USQ No. 5131 dated 05.09.2011	Shipping	International Ports
13.	20	USQ No. 5910 dated 08.09.2011	Water Resources	Subarnarekha Barrage Project
14.	21	USQ No. 309 dated 23.11.2011	Civil Aviation	Development of Unprofit- able Airports
15.	22	USQ No. 585 dated 24.11.2011	Science & Technology	Wheat Genome Project
16.	30	USQ No. 2278 dated 07.12.2011	Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	Administrative Reforms for Public delivery System
17.	31	USQ No. 2376 dated 28.03.2012	Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	CBI Investigation in Cheating Case
18.	32	USQ No. 3296 dated 25.04.2012	External Affairs	Dhaka Bilateral Mission
19.	34	USQ No. 6194 dated 14.05.2012	Defence	Procurement Proposals of Army
20.	35	USQ No. 7333 dated 21.05.2012	Defence	Helicopters for Air Force
21.	39	USQ No. 549 dated 26.11.2012	Commerce and Industry	Calculation of Wholesale Price Index (WPI)
22.	40	USQ No. 3511 dated 14.12.2012	Finance	Selling of Stakes
23.	41	USQ No. 4062 dated 18.12.2012	Culture	Intangible Cultural Heritage

**APPENDIX XXV**

**MINUTES**

**Sixth Sitting**

**MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT  
ASSURANCES (2013-2014) HELD ON 06 FEBRUARY, 2014 IN  
COMMITTEE ROOM 'A', PARLIAMENT  
HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI**

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1630 hours on Thursday, the 06th February, 2014.

**PRESENT**

Smt. Maneka Sanjay Gandhi — *Chairperson*

**MEMBERS**

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri Hansraj G. Ahir
4. Shri Kanti Lal Bhuria
5. Shri Bijoy Handique
6. Sardar Sukhdev Singh Libra
7. Rajkumari Ratna Singh

**SECRETARIAT**

- |                         |   |                             |
|-------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Shri P. Sreedharan   | — | <i>Additional Secretary</i> |
| 2. Shri T.S. Rangarajan | — | <i>Additional Director</i>  |
| 3. Shri Kulvinder Singh | — | <i>Committee Officer</i>    |

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At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda. The Committee considered and adopted the following Draft Reports without any amendment:—

- (i) Draft Thirty-Sixth Report regarding requests for dropping of assurances (acceded to).
  - (ii) Draft Thirty-Seventh Report regarding requests for dropping of assurances (Not acceded to).
  - (iii) Draft Thirty-Eighth Report regarding review of pending assurances pertaining to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
2. A verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

*The Committee then adjourned.*