

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES
(2001-2002)

THIRTEENTH LOK SABHA

SIXTH REPORT

(Request for Dropping of Assurances)

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 29.08.2001)



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

CONTENTS

Composition of the Committee (2001-2002)

Introduction

Chapter I Request for dropping assurance (Not accepted)

- (i) USQ No.204 dated 24.02.1997 regarding Ex-servicemen Status to Personnel of BRO.

Chapter II Request for dropping of Assurances (Accepted)

- (i) USQ No.866 dated 27.11.1996 regarding Council for Advancement of People's Action in Rural Technology.
- (ii) USQ No. 3506 dated 27.04.1995 regarding Reservation to Backward Classes in Private Sector.
- (iii) USQ No.3409 dated 19.12.1995 regarding Women Rights Commission.
- (iv) SQ No.656 dated 11.05.1994 and USQ No.4171 dated 03.05.1995 regarding Child Marriage.
- (v) USQ No.2000 dated 06.03.1997 regarding Media Policy.
- (vi) USQ No.488 dated 31.03.1993 regarding Allotment of Surplus Land to SCs/STs.
- (vii) USQ No.4613 dated 26.08.1994 regarding Disbursement of Credit.
- (viii) USQ No.2467 dated 11.03.1997, USQ No. 2554 dated 30.03.1995, USQ No.1458 dated 09.08.1995 and USQ No.1749 dated 07.12.1995 regarding Reservation for SCs/STs/OBCs in Private Sector.
- (ix) SQ No.267 dated 10.12.1996 regarding Misuse of Soft Loan.
- (x) USQ No. 2354 dated 11.03.1994 regarding Development of Aviation as core sector.

APPENDICES

- I. Minutes of the Sixth sitting of the Committee held on 26.04.2000.
- II. Minutes of the Eighth Sitting of the Committee held on 17.07.2000.
- III. Minutes of the Eleventh sitting of the Committee held on 27.08.2001.

ANNEXURES

- 1. List of NGOs which was referred to CBI for investigation by CAPART vide USQ No.866 dated 27.11.1996.
- 2. Part information in reply to USQ No.656 vide Statement SS.XV.10.
- 3. Part information in reply to USQ No.4171 vide Statement SS.IX.23.
- 4. Statement regarding Allotment of Surplus Land to SCs/STs vide Part (b) of SQ No.488 dated 31.03.1993.
- 5. Copy of reply to USQ No.4412 dated 22.04.1994 in reference to USQ No.4613 dated 26.08.1994.
- 6. Part information in reply to USQ No.4613 dated 26.08.1994 vide Statement SS/V/22.
- 7. Part information in reply to SQ No.267 dated 10.12.1999 vide Statement SS No.III/3.

**COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES*
(2001-2002)**

CHAIRMAN

Dr. S. Venugopal

MEMBERS

2. Shri E.Ahamed
3. Shri Haribhai Chaudhary
4. Shri Padam Sen Choudhry
5. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi
6. Adv. Uttamrao Dhikale
7. Shri Brahma Nand Mandal
8. Shri Sudarsana E. M. Natchiappan
9. Shri Rupchand Pal
10. Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani
11. Shri Dharam Raj Singh Patel
12. Shri Sohan Potai
13. Shri Chandra Vijay Singh
14. Shri Manoj Sinha
15. Rajkumari Ratna Singh**

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1. | Shri P.D.T. Achary | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri A.K. Singh | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 3. | Ms. J.C. Namchyö | - | Assistant Director |

* The Committee was nominated by the Speaker w.e.f. January 16, 2001 vide Para No.1569 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated January 17, 2001

** Nominated to the Committee on February 20, 2001 by the Speaker as published vide Para No.1721 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated February 20, 2001

INTRODUCTION

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

The Committee (2001-2002) was constituted on January 17, 2001.

The Committee (1999-2002) at their sitting held on April 26, 2000, and July 17, 2000 *inter-alia* considered Memoranda Nos.20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 33 & 35 containing requests received from the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India for dropping of pending assurances.

At their sitting held on August 27, 2001 Committee (2001-2002) considered and adopted the draft Sixth Report.

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

The conclusions/observations of the Committee are contained in this Report.

NEW DELHI;
August 28, 2001

Bhadrapada 6, 1923 (Saka)

DR. S. VENUGOPAL
Chairman
Committee on Government Assurances

CHAPTER II

(i) EX-SERVICEMEN STATUS TO PERSONNEL OF BRO

1.1 On February 24, 1997, S/Shri Badal Choudhary, Uddhab Barman and Bajju Ban Riyan, MPs addressed the following Unstarred Question No.204 to the Minister of Defence:-

“(a) whether the Government propose to provide greater benefits to the personnel of Border Road Organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also propose to give ex-servicemen status to the retired personnel of BRO; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefore?”

1.2 In reply, the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri N.V.N. Somu) states as follows:-

“(a) & (b): Government is considering possible improvements in Service conditions of all its employees.

(c) & (d): The proposal is being examined in the Ministry of Defence.”

1.3 Reply to parts (c) & (d) of the question was treated as an assurance which was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Defence within three months of the date of reply i.e. May 23, 1997.

1.4 The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. No.IV/DEF(2)USQ-204-LS/97 dated September 22, 1998 have forwarded a request of the Ministry of Defence for dropping of the assurance on the grounds indicated below:-

“It is reiterated that the proposal regarding grant of ex-servicemen status to ex-GREF personnel requires a policy decision to be taken after detailed examination of all related aspects. Moreover, the matter is now under consideration of the Kerala High Court where a petition has been filed by the Kerala ex-GREF Association and others for grants of Ex-servicemen status to ex-GREF Personnel. The Raksha Mantri has also directed in this connection separately that the above proposal be considered by the Ministry after the judgement of the Kerala High Court on the petition filed by the Kerala ex-GREF Association as mentioned above is received. This is likely to take long time.”

1.5 The request was followed by a letter dated March 01, 1999 to the Chairman, Committee on Government Assurances for dropping of the assurance from the then

Minister of State for Railways, Parliamentary Affairs, Planning & Programme Implementation on the grounds as under:-

“The Kerala ex-GREF Association and other have filed a petition in Kerala High Court for granting the Ex-Servicemen status to BRO personnel. Further examination of the proposal in the Ministry of Defence will be undertaken after the judgement of the Kerala High Court is received which is likely to take long time. The Committee on Government Assurances have accordingly been requested to drop this Assurances from the list of pending Assurances.”

1.6 The Committee note that the Writ Petition filed by Kerala ex-GREF association and others for grant of ex-servicemen status is still pending in the Hon’ble Kerala High Court. The Committee feel that services rendered by BRO personnel in maintenance of roads for smooth movement of army and civil personnel in border areas in adverse conditions cannot be ignored. The Committee, therefore, feel that whatever be the outcome of the verdict in the matter the grievances of the BRO should be considered favourably and on priority.

1.7 The Committee considered the request of the Ministry at their sitting held on July 17, 2000 but did not drop the assurance.

CHAPTER II

(i) COUNCIL FOR ADVANCEMENT OF PEOPLE'S ACTION IN RURAL TECHNOLOGY

2.1 On November 27, 1996, Shri Mohan Rawale, Prof. Ajit Kumar Mehta, S/Shri S.B. Thorat, Banwari Lal Purohit, Dr. Ramkrishna Kusmaria and Shri Rajendra Agnihotiri, MPs addressed the following Unstarred Question No.866 to the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment:-

- “(a) whether most of the funds allocated to non-Governemntal Organisations for rural development by the Council for Advancement of People's Action in Rural Technology (CAPART) have been found misused;**
- (b) if so, whether the Government propose to review Council for Advancement of People's Action in Rural Technology (CAPART) functioning and to bring transparency;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) the number of NGO's black-listed by the Government in view of misuse of funds allocated by Council for Advancement of People's Action in Rural Technology (CAPART); and**
- (e) the steps the Union Government propose to take against the involved NGOs?”**

2.2 In reply, the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment (Shri Chandradeo Prasad Verma) stated as follows:-

“(a): No Sir.

(b) & (c): The functioning of Council for Advancement of People's Action in Rural Technology (CAPART) is reviewed from time to time in the meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Body of Council for Advancement of People's Action in Rural Technology (CAPART) and wherever considered necessary, suitable steps are taken to streamline its functioning. This is a continuous process. Recently, with a view to bringing Council for Advancement of People's Action in Rural Technology (CAPART) nearer to the people and to ensure closer interaction between it and the Voluntary Organisations, the functioning of Council for Advancement of People's Action in Rural Technology (CAPART) has been decentralized by setting up six regional Committees at Ahmedabad, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur and Lucknow. The Regional Committee have been empowered to cinsider project proposals upto an outlay of Rs.5 lakhs. It is expected that the decentralization of CAPART would not only result in improving its efficiency and efficacy but would also bring about transparency in its functioning.

(d): As on December 31, 1995, Council for Advancement of People's Action in Rural Technology (CAPART) has blacklisted 224 Voluntary Organisations. In addition, Council for Advancement of People's Action in Rural Technology (CAPART) has also blacklisted 152 Voluntary Organisations which were blacklisted by other Government agencies.

(e): In addition to stopping release of further grants to the blacklisted organizations by Council for Advancement of People's Action in Rural Technology (CAPART), the other actions taken/proposed to be taken by CAPART include recovery of funds from the delinquent organization, initiation of legal proceedings, referring the cases to the police etc. CAPART has also reported that it has referred the cases of 61 organisations to CBI for further investigations."

2.3 Reply to part (e) of the question was treated as an assurance which was required to be fulfilled within three months of the date of reply *i.e.* by February 26, 1997.

2.4 The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their O.M. No.III/RAE(1)USQ No. 866-LS/1996 dated April 01, 1997 had forwarded a request of the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment for dropping the assurance on the grounds indicated below:-

"The part of the reply that 'Council for Advancement of People's Action in Rural Technology (CAPART) has also reported that it has referred the cases of 61 organisations to CBI for further investigations' has been treated as an assurance. In this regard, it may be mentioned that in so far as this Ministry is concerned, it has furnished complete information asked for by the Members in part (e) of the question. It will further be appreciated that CBI will take its own time to complete the investigations and for taking further action against the concerned on completion of such investigations. In view of the position explained above, it is requested that the part of the reply that 'Council for Advancement of People's Action in Rural Technology (CAPART) has also reported that it has referred the cases of 61 organisations to CBI for further investigations' may not be treated as an assurance."

2.5 The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment for dropping of the assurance at their sitting held on September 19, 1998. The Committee, however, did not agree to drop the assurance. Instead they desired to know about the details of the steps to be taken/proposed to taken after CBI have completed their investigations against 61 Non-Governments Organisations.

2.6 The Ministry of Rural Development *vide* DO No. E-11016/13/96-PC dated August 23, 1999 furnished the requisite information as also list of 61 of NGOs which was referred to CBI by Council for Advancement of People's Action in Rural Technology (CAPART) for investigation (Annexure I).

2.7 The status of the progress made by the investigating agency in the matter as mentioned by the Ministry of Rural Development is as under:-

“1. Out of cases of 61 (Voluntary Organisation), the CBI returned the cases of 34 (Voluntary Organisation) from Bihar as the amount involved was small. Action taken in respect of these cases is below:

(a)	FIR lodged	20
(b)	Court Cases instituted	01
(c)	Revaluation Ordered	01
(d)	Under Department processing CAPART	12

Total	34
--------------	-----------

2. Out of the remaining cases of 27 VOs which are still with CBI, one case of the VO from Andhra Pradesh is *sub-judice*.

3. As regards the remaining cases of 26 VOs from Karnataka State, CBI has registered cases of 4 VOs and has sought some further information about the remaining cases from Council for Advancement of People’s Action in Rural Technology (CAPART) which is being complied and will be furnished to CBI shortly.”

2.8 It has further been stated that the detailed action arising from one stage to other has already been undertaken and that the directions of the investigating agency/court whenever it is finally available will be considered and implemented by the Government. It has further been stated that the entire information pertaining to the jurisdiction of that Ministry has been furnished.

2.9 The Committee reviewed the request of the Ministry for dropping of the assurance at their sitting held on April 26, 2000. Having satisfied with the progress of action taken by CAPART, the Committee decided to drop the assurance.

2.10 The Committee observe that the CBI had sought some information from CAPART in regard to cases relating to Voluntary Organisations working in Karnataka State. The Committee are sure by now CAPART have already furnished information sought by CBI. The Committee are optimistic that CAPART would take sufficient measures to plug any scope for the misuse of funds for rural development by Non-Government Organisations.

(ii) RESERVATION TO BACKWARD CLASSES IN PRIVATE SECTOR

2.11 On April 27, 1995, Shri Arjun Singh Yadav, MP addressed the following Unstarred Question No.3507 to the Minister of Welfare:-

(a) whether the Government propose to provide reservation to Backward Classes in the private sector; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?"

2.12 In reply, the then Minister of Welfare (Shri Sita Ram Kesri) stated as follows:-
“(a) & (b): Suggestion is constructive. This would be examined.”

2.13 Reply to the above question was treated as an assurance which was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Welfare within three months of the date of reply i.e. July 26, 1995.

2.14 The then Minister of State for Social Justice & Empowerment *vide* her D.O. No.16011.31/95-BCC(Pt) dated December 31, 1998 had requested the then Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to approach the Committee for dropping of the above assurance on the following grounds:-

“The subject of reservation for Backward Classes in the Private Sector is a policy matter and may require consensus after detailed consultations with the Political Parties and leading industrialists in the country. This is presently not under active consideration of the Government and as this will take a lot to time, the assurance on the subject may not be kept pending for such a long time.

In view of the position stated, I am of the view that there is no option left but to make a request for dropping the Assurance. I shall, therefore, be grateful if you kindly move the Committee on the Government Assurances of Lok Sabha for dropping the Assurances in view of the reasons stated above.”

2.15 The above request was followed by a DO No.4(1)/99-Imp. dated March 01, 1999 from the then Minister of State for Railways, Parliamentary Affairs and Planning & Programme Implementation for dropping the assurance on the same grounds.

2.16 the Committee agree that the reservation for Backward Classes in the Private Sector is a policy matter which may take time to be formulated. The Committee appreciate that the Government felt it right to submit that the matter of reservation of backward classes in private sector was not under active consideration of the Government. The Committee feel that the Government should be forthright in the matter of policy decision for early implementation on dropping of such assurances.

2.17 The Committee considered the request of the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment at their sitting held on April 26, 2000 and decided to drop the assurance.

(iii) WOMEN RIGHTS COMMISSION

2.18 On December 19, 1995 S/Shri Dharmanna Mondayya Sadul and Manjay Lal, MPs addressed the following Unstarred Question No.3409 to the Minister of Human Resource Development:-

“(a) whether the Government propose to constitute ‘Women Rights Commission’ for providing equal rights to women;

(b) if so, whether a draft has been prepared and submitted for approval by the National Commission for women; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?”

2.19 In reply, the then Minister of State of the Department of Women & Child Development in the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Kumari Vimla Verma) stated as follows:-

“(a), (b) & (c): A proposal to set up Offices of Commissioners for Women’s Rights to act as public defenders of women’s right is under consideration of the Government, in consultation with various agencies, including the National Commission for Women.”

2.20 The reply to the question was treated as an assurance which was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Human Resource Development within three months of the date of reply i.e. by March 18, 1996.

2.21 The then Minister of State for Railways, Parliamentary Affairs, Planning and Programme Implementation *vide* his DO No.4(1)99-Imp-I dated March 01, 1999 had addressed a letter to the Chairman, Committee on Government Assurances for treating of the assurance as fulfilled on the following grounds as mentioned by the Ministry of Human Resource Development:-

“The assurances relates to the proposal regarding setting up the Offices of National, State and District level Commissioners for Women’s Right. The comments of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Planning Commission, National Commission for Women, Ministry of Law & Justice have been obtained on the proposal, Ministry of Home Affairs has expressed the view that NCW at the National level and State Women Commissions at the State level can carry out the proposed functions of NCWR and SCWR respectively and there is not need to set up the Offices of Commissioners of Women’s Right at national and State levels. Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Law & Justice have also expressed similar views.

In view of the above, the assurance may be taken as fulfilled.”

2.22 The Ministry of HRD, Department of Women & Child Development *vide* OM No.6-218/95-WW dated May 11, 1999 intimated that the Ministry propose to create a cell in National Commission for Women to deal with cases relating as atrocities on women. The NCW has already been requested to send a proposal for amending the National Commission for Women Act, 1990 providing for appointment of an independent Commission for Women's Rights at the National level and State and district levels.

2.23 The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Human Resource Development at their sitting held on April 26, 2000. The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry.

2.24 The Committee note that the Ministry has already proposed to create a cell to deal with cases relating to atrocities on women. The Committee feel that NCW have already drafted the proposal for amending National Commission for Women Act, 1990. The Committee are confident that the Ministry would expedite constitution of an independent Commission for Women's Rights at National and the State and district levels.

(iv) CHILD MARRIAGE

2.25(i) On May 11, 1994 Dr. K.V.R. Chowdary, MP addressed the following Starred Question No.656 to the Prime Minister:-

- “(a) the number of cases of child marriages registered during 1992-93 and 1993-94, State-wise;**
- (b) whether there has been an increase in child marriages in some of States;**
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and**
- (d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?”**

2.26 In reply, the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice & Company Affairs (Shri H.R. Bhardwaj) stated as follows:-

“(a), (b) & (c): The information is not readily available. The same is being collected from the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d): The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, was amended in 1978 with a view to provide that offences under the Act shall be cognizable for the purpose of investigation and for matters other than matters referred to in Section 42 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (arrest on refusal to give name and residence) and the arrest of a person without a warrant or without an order of the Magistrate. No further measures are contemplated at present in this regard. The practice of

child marriage is deeply embedded amongst certain sections of the Society and legislation would not itself achieve the object of stopping this practice. It is only through social and economic upliftment of these sections that the practice can be eradicated completely.”

2.27 Reply to parts(a), (b) & (c) of the above question was treated as an assurance which was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Law, Justice & Company Affairs within three months of the date of reply *i.e.* by August 10, 1994.

2.28(ii) On May 03, 1995 Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar, MP addressed the following Unstarred Question No.4171 to the Prime Minister:-

- “(a) the number of cases of child marriage registered during the last two years, State-wise;**
- (b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to prevent child marriage in the country; and**
- (c) the number of persons who have been punished by this act during the period?”**

2.29 In reply the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Law, Justice & Company Affairs (Shri H.R. Bhardwaj) stated as follows:-

“(a) & (c): The requisite information is not readily available. The same is being collected from the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b): The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, was amended in 1978 with a view to provide that offences under the Act shall be cognizable for the purpose of investigation and for matters other than matters referred to in Section 42 of the Code of Criminal Procedure 1973 (arrest on refusal to give name and residence) and the arrest of a person without a warrant or without an order of the Magistrate. No further measures are contemplated at present in this regard. The practice of child marriage is deeply embedded amongst certain sections of the Society and legislation would not itself achieve the object of stopping this practice. It is only through social and economic upliftment of these sections that the practice can be eradicated completely.”

2.30 Reply to parts(a) & (b) of the above question was treated as an assurance which was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Law, Justice & Company Affairs within three months of the date of reply *i.e.* by August 02, 1995.

2.31 The then Minister of State for Railways, Parliamentary Affairs, Planning & Programme Implementation *vide* his DO No.4(1)/99-Imp.-I dated March 01, 1999 had addressed a letter to the Chairman, Committee on Government Assurances for dropping of these assurances on a request made by the Ministry of Law, Justice & Company

Affairs that the information in case of USQ No.656 is awaited from 3 States and that in case of USQ No.4171 the information was still awaited from the State of Bihar.

2.32 Part information in regard to USQ No.656 was laid in Lok Sabha on March 08, 1996 *vide* Statement SS XV.10(Annexure 2) and part information in regard to USQ No.4171 was laid on December 13, 1996 *vide* Statement SS IC/23. (Annexure 3)

2.33 The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Law, Justice & Company Affairs at their sitting held on April 26, 2000. The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry for dropping of the above assurances.

2.34 The Committee are aware of the practice of child marriage. The Committee, however, feel that rural people still need to be educated in this regard. The Committee are of the view that the Ministry should further intensify their efforts in this direction and work out some programmes in association with voluntary organisations in educating the rural masses about the evils of child marriages. The Ministry should also seek assistance from the industrial Houses and public sector undertakings for initiating programmes for social and economic upliftment in areas where this practice is prevalent to wean away the rural poor from this evil practice once and for all.

(v) MEDIA POLICY

2.35 On March 06, 1997 Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi, MP addressed the following Unstarred Question No.2000 to the Minister of Information & Broadcasting:-

- “(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any new Media Policy as reported in ‘The Times of India’ dated September 12, 1996; and**
- (b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented?”**

2.36 In reply, the then Minister of Civil Aviation and Minister of Information & Broadcasting (Shri C.M. Ibrahim) stated as follows:-

“(a) & (b): The Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting had submitted ‘A Working Paper on National Policy’ to the Chairman of the Consultative Committee i.e. Minister of Information & Broadcasting on March 29, 1996 for consideration in accordance with the terms and conditions for the functioning of the Sub-Committee. The working paper is presently under consideration with the newly constituted Consultative Committee of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.”

2.37 Reply to above question was treated as an assurance which was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting within three months of the date of reply i.e. by June 05, 1997.

2.38 The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their UO No.IV/I&B(12) USQ-2000-LS/97 dated October 27, 1997 forwarded the request of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for dropping of the aforesaid assurance on the following grounds:-

“The Working Paper on National Media Policy was placed before the Consultative Committee of MPs attached to this Ministry in its meeting held on November 11, 1996. The Members were of the view that since it is a policy matter and the report is voluminous, enough time may be given to them to go through the report. Since the Consultative Committee are informal Committees of Parliament and are independent of the Government, it is prerogative of the Committee to take its own time to discuss the matter and arrive at a conclusion.

As the matter is under consideration/discussion of the Consultative Committee, an independent body and not under the consideration of the Government, this Ministry is of the opinion that the answer to this question should not be treated as an assurance.

In view of this, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs are requested to take up the matter with the Committee of Lok Sabha for dropping the same.”

2.39 The request was followed by a letter from the Minister of State for Railways, Parliamentary Affairs, Planning and Programme Implementation *vide* his DO NO.4(1)/99.Imp.I dated March 01, 1999 addressed to the Chairman, Committee on Government Assurance for dropping of the assurances on the grounds mentioned above.

2.40 The Committee considered the request for dropping of the assurance at their sitting held on April 26, 2000. The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

2.41 The Committee note that working paper on National Media Policy was prepared in 1996 and it was placed before the Consultative Committee of MPs on September 11, 1996. The Committee are surprised that the Ministry are advancing untenable arguments to cover up their failure to properly brief or persuade the Consultative Committee headed by their own Minister, for urgent action in matter for expeditious implementation of the assurance given to Lok Sabha.

2.42 The Committee desire the Ministry to address the issue with more seriousness and sense of urgency for speedy formulation of New Media Policy.

(vi) ALLOTMENT OF SURPLUS LAND TO SCs/STs

2.43 On March 31, 1993 S/Shri Mrutyunjaya Nayak and Anand Ahirwar, MPs addressed the following Starred Question No.488 to the Prime Minister:-

- “(a) whether the Union Government had issued directions to the State Governments for the distribution of surplus land among the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes;**
- (b) if so, the details of the surplus land allotted to the landless persons and the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in the country during the last one year, State-wise; and**
- (c) if not, the reasons therefore?”**

2.44 In reply, the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development (Shri Rameshwar Thakur) stated as follows:-

“(a): The guidelines drawn up on the basis of the conclusions of the Chief Ministers’ Conference held on July 23, 1972 provided that while distributing surplus land, priority should be to the landless agricultural workers, particularly those belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. These guidelines were circulated to the States for necessary follow up action.

(b) & (c): Information on distribution of surplus land to landless persons and the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the country during the last one year (January, 1992 to December, 1992 is given in Annexure 4).”

2.45 During the supplementary to the question Shri Tej Singh Rao Bhonsle, MP pointed out that the agricultural land in the vicinity of all big cities had been given to those people who do not cultivate land and they have sold it to somebody else. The Member requested the Government to provide all the information about it. In this connection, the Hon’ble Speaker directed the Minister to collect the information and send it to the Member.

2.46 The direction by the Hon’ble Speaker to supplementary of the question was treated as an assurance and was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development by June 30, 1993 *i.e.* within three months of the date of assurance given by Minister.

2.47 The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* UO Note No.VI/RD(25)SQ-488-LS/93 dated July 30, 1999 forwarded a request of the Ministry of Rural Development for dropping of the aforesaid assurance on the following grounds:-

“That the information asked by Shri Bhonsle is such that it has to be collected from the State Governments, and is very likely that this may

not be readily available with them. The required information if collected from the lowest level would involve a voluminous task. Collection of information of this magnitude would be time consuming, expensive and less fruitful.

Therefore, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs is requested to place the above facts before the Committee on Government Assurances and get the assurance dropped.”

2.48 The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Rural Development at their sitting held on April 26, 2000. The Committee agreed to drop the assurance.

2.49 The Committee note that agricultural land in the vicinity of all big cities are now being sold to promoters of land for construction of multistorey structures. The Committee feel that the matter needs serious attention of the Government. The Committee, therefore, like the Ministry concerned to prepare guidelines so that interest of landless agricultural labourers and land allotted to them are protected from unscrupulous builders.

(vii) DISBURSEMENT OF CREDIT

2.50 On August 26, 1994 Shri Mohan Rawale, MP referring to reply given on April 22, 1994 to Unstarred Question No.4412 (Annexure 5) addressed the following Unstarred Question No.4613 to the Minister of Finance:-

- “(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has completed investigations into irregularities in respect of two group of accounts;**
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof;**
- (c) if not, the time by which the investigation is likely to be completed;**
- (d) the details of the above two group accounts;**
- (e) the details of five Officers who were identified as involved in sanction and disbursement of advances and who have retired/resigned; and**
- (f) the action taken against them?”**

2.51 In reply, the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri M.V. Chandrashekara Murthy) stated as follows:-

“(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) & (f): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.”

2.52 Reply to above question was treated as an assurance which was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Finance within three months of the date of reply *i.e.* November 25, 1994.

2.53 The assurance given was partially implemented on July 01, 1995 *vide* SS/V/22 laid on the Table of the House. (Annexure 6)

2.54 The then Minister of State for Railways, Parliamentary Affairs, Planning & Programme Implementation *vide* his DO No.4(1)/99-Imp-I dated March 01, 1999 addressed a letter to the Chairman, Committee on Government Assurances for dropping of the assurance on the grounds mentioned by the Ministry of Finance as under:-

“The requisite information is still awaited from the concerned agencies and the same will take some more time. The cases have been registered by the CBI. Completion of investigation by CBI usually takes considerable time. After the completion of the investigations, prosecution cases are filed in the Courts. Considerable time is taken by the Courts and in case of appeals to High Courts in disposal of these cases and final punishment. The procedure being time consuming and involving points of law the process of fulfillment of the assurance would be considerably delayed if final action taken in criminal cases is to be awaited for fulfilling the assurance. It is, therefore, requested that the Committee on Government Assurances may be apprised of the above position and consider treating the assurance as fulfilled in view of the position already intimated that criminal action has been initiated in these cases.”

2.55 The Committee considered the request at their sitting held on April 26, 2000 and decided to drop the assurance.

2.56 The Committee note that there were certain irregularities by Central Bank of India in sanctioning large advances in 1991-92 as reported by RBI. The Committee also note that CBI was also investigating the irregularities. The Committee, however, acceded to the request of the Ministry in view of the fact that the cases have been registered by CBI and considerable time would be taken for investigation resulting in delay in fulfillment of assurance. The Committee would, however, like the Ministry to pursue with CBI to complete investigation expeditiously and the Committee may be apprised about the progress from time to time.

(viii) RESERVATION FOR SCs/STs IN PRIVATE SECTOR

2.57(i) On March 11, 1993 S/Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri and Syed Shahabuddin, MPs addressed the following Unstarred Question No.2467 to the Minister of Welfare:-

“(a) whether there is any proposal to ask the private sector industrialists to make reservation for Scheduled Castes and

Scheduled Tribes in their services particularly of those receiving financial help and assistance from the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?”

2.58 In reply, the then Minister of Welfare (Shri Sitaram Kesri) stated as follows:-

“(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise.

(c) The Law on reservation is under consideration of Government.”

2.59 Reply to part (c) of the above question was treated as an assurance which was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Welfare within three months of the date of reply *i.e.* by June 10, 1993.

2.60(ii) On March 30, 1995 Shri Ratilal Verma, MP addressed the following Unstarred Question No.2554 to the Minister of Welfare:-

“(a) whether the Government propose to provide reservation in services for the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Private Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?”

2.61 In reply, the then Minister of Welfare (Shri Sitaram Kesri) stated as follows:-

“(a) to (c): It would be examined.”

2.62 Reply to the above question was treated as an assurance which was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Welfare within three months of the date of reply *i.e.* by June 29, 1995.

2.63(iii) On August 09, 1995 Shri Mahesh Kanodia, MP addressed the following Unstarred Question No.1458 to the Minister of Industry:-

“(a) whether the Government have provided reservation facilities for employment to the people belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes with a view to give them opportunities of employment in the public sector industries; and

(b) if so, whether any action plan to provide the facility of reservation in the private sector also is under consideration of the Government?”

2.64 In reply, the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry (Shrimati Krishna Sahi) stated as follows:-

“(a): Yes Sir.

(b): The matter regarding reservation in the private sector is under consideration of the Government.”

2.65 Reply to part (b) of the above question was treated as an assurance which was to be implemented by Ministry of Industry within three months of the date of reply *i.e.* by November 08, 1995. This assurance was later transferred to Ministry of welfare.

2.66(iv) On December 07, 1995 Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, MP addressed the following Unstarred Question No.1749 to the Minister of Welfare:-

“(a) whether the Government propose to provide reservation to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes in the private sector; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?”

2.67 In reply, the then Minister of Welfare (Shri Sitram Kesri) stated as follows:-

“(a) & (b): The issue of reservation of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBCs in Private Sector is being examined.”

2.68 Reply to the above question was treated as an assurance which was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Welfare within three months of the date of reply *i.e.* by March 06, 1996.

2.69 On December 02, 1997, the then Minister of Welfare requested the then Minister of Parliamentary Affairs for dropping of the above mentioned four assurances *vide* his Do No.16012/2/93-SCDV. This request was subsequently followed by a letter dated March 01, 1999 from the then Minister of State for Railways, Parliamentary Affairs, Planning & Programme Implementation to the Chairman, Committee on Government Assurances for dropping of all these four assurances on the grounds mentioned by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment as under:-

“These assurances relate to introduction of reservation for SCs/STs in the Private Sector. It is a policy matter and may require amendment in the relevant provisions of the Constitution also. This require consensus after detailed consultation with the political parties and leading industrialists in the country. All these will take lot of time and the assurances on the subject may not be kept pending such a long time.”

2.70 The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment at their sitting held on April 26, 2000 and decided to drop the assurances given to various questions.

2.71 The Committee note that the reservation for SCs/STs in the Private Sector is a policy matter which needs amendment in the relevant provisions of the Constitution. The Committee hope this issue will be addressed by the Government within a reasonable time.

(ix) MISUSE OF SOFT LOAN

2.72 On December 10, 1996 Shri Madhukar Sirpotdar, MP addressed the following Starred Question No.267 to the Minister of Agriculture:-

- “(a) whether National Horticulture Board has ordered a probe into the alleged misuse of its soft loan scheme meant to promote the horticulture floriculture in the country;**
- (b) if so, the outcome of the probe; and**
- (c) the action taken by the Government against those found guilty?”**

2.73 In reply, the then Minister of Agriculture (Shri Chaturanan Mishra) stated as follows:-

- “(a) to (c): Few cases of irregular disbursement of loan have come to the notice of National Horticulture Board (NHB). The NHB is inquiring into the matter.”**

2.74 Reply to the above question was treated as an assurance which was required to be implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture within three months of the date of reply *i.e.* by March 09, 1997.

2.75 The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their UO Note No.III/Agri.(17)SQ-267-LS/96 dated May 20, 1998 forwarded a request of the Ministry of Agriculture for dropping of the aforesaid on the following grounds:-

“That reply furnished by this Department to the above question has treated as an assurance by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The implementation report was furnished by the Department on July 04, 1997 which was treated as partial fulfillment of the assurance by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. The reply given in respect of the Starred Question as also the implementation report furnished will reveal that the matter involves legal action which is likely to take a very long time.”

2.76 The assurance given was partially implemented on August 06, 1997 *vide* Statement No.SS/III/3 laid on the Table of the House (Annexure 7).

2.77 The then Minister of State for Railways, Parliamentary Affairs, Planning & Programme Implementation *vide* his DO No.4(1)/99-Imp.I dated March 01, 1999 had also addressed a letter to the Chairman, Committee on Government Assurances for dropping of the assurance on the grounds as mentioned above by the Ministry of Agriculture.

2.78 The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Agriculture at their sitting held on July 17, 2000. The Committee acceded to the request.

2.79 The Committee note that legal action has already been initiated against erring companies. The Committee, however, would like the Ministry to take ample measures to curb misuse in disbursing of such loans.

(x) DEVELOPMENT OF AVIATION AS CORE SECTOR

2.80 On March 11, 1999 Shrimati Lakshmi Panabaka, MP addressed the following Unstarred Question No.2354 to the Minister of Civil Aviation:-

- “(a) whether the Government are planning to make aviation a core transport sector so that it may play a very important role in the development of national economy;**
- (b) if so, whether this is proposed to be achieved by connecting regional hubs, creating a chain to air cargo complex, selecting suitable aircraft, rationalizing fuel and airport taxes;**
- (c) if so, the other measures being considered to make aviation a thrust area for overall growth; and**
- (d) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken?”**

2.81 In reply, the then Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Ananth Kumar) stated as follows:-

(a), (b), (c) & (d): Keeping in view the importance of aviation sector, a major initiative has been taken whereby all public sector enterprises are slated for disinvestments/privatization/corporatisation. A decision has already been taken to initiate the process of corporatisation of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai airports and the proposed new airport at Bangalore. Similarly, it is proposed to develop more air cargo complexes to provide facilities and impetus for development of economy even in regional and sub-regional areas. A package of incentives to make the operations of smaller aircraft economically viable is also under consideration.”

2.82 Reply to the question was treated as an assurance which was required to be fulfilled within three months of the date of the reply *i.e.* June 10, 1999.

2.83 The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their UO Note No.IV/C&A(12)USQ No.2354-LS/99 dated February 28, 2000 forwarded a request for dropping of the assurance on the grounds indicated below:-

“That since no specific time-frame can be indicated for arriving at the decisions concerning the three points *i.e.* Disinvestment/Privatisation of all PSUs/Corporatisation of the airports at Delhi/Mumbai/

Calcutta/ Chennai/ Bangalore, development of various air cargo complexes in regional and sub-regional areas and the package of incentives for smaller aircraft as it involves various Governmental decisions, procedural requirements and financial implications, it is felt that the assurance cannot possibly be dealt within a specific time-frame and hence needs to be dropped.”

2.84 The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Civil Aviation at their sitting held on July 17, 2000.

2.85 The Committee note that the process of disinvestments of some PSUs have been started. The Committee have no knowledge regarding corporatisation of airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai. The Committee, however, feel that attractive package of incentives for operation of smaller aircraft in unviable routes should be expedited so that remote and inaccessible areas could be connected easily.

NEW DELHI;
August 28, 2001

Bhadrapada 6, 1923 (Saka)

DR. S. VENUGOPAL
Chairman
Committee on Government Assurances

**MINUTES
SIXTH SITTING**

MINUTES OF THE SIXTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES HELD ON APRIL 26, 2000 AT 1500 HOURS IN COMMITTEE ROOM 'E', PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI.

THE COMMITTEE MET ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2000 FROM 1500 HOURS TO 1630 HOURS

PRESENT

Dr. S. Venugopal - Chairman

MEMBERS

2. Shri Haribhai Chaudhary
3. Shri Padam Sen Choudhry
4. Adv. Uttamrao Dhikale
5. Shri Brahma Nand Mandal
6. Shri Sudarsana E.M. Natchiappan
7. Shri Sukhdeo Paswan
8. Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani
9. Shri Maheshwar Singh
10. Shri Manoj Sinha

SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1 | Dr. Ashok Kumar Pandey | - | Additional Secretary |
| 2. | Shri K. Chakraborty | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 3. | Ms. J.C. Namchyö | - | Assistant Director |

The Committee considered the following Memoranda for dropping of assurances:-

Memorandum No.19

Request for dropping of assurances given in reply to various Unstarred Questions tabled from February 24, 1998 to May 04, 1995 regarding National Policy on Rehabilitation for displaced tribals.

The Committee took up for consideration the aforesaid request for dropping of these assurances (Assurances Nos.238, 8539, 3416, 806, 3308, 583, 2958, 817, 74, 6334 & 4505 dated March 24, 1988, March 08, 1989, April 04, 1990, July 29, 1991, August 19, 1991, February 27, 1992, December 10, 1992, April 29, 1993, December 02, 1994, May 05, 1994 & May 04, 1995) in pursuance of the communications received from the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment on April 29, 1999 *vide* their letter No.16012/22/95-TDB addressed to the Hon'ble Chairman, Committee on Government Assurances. While submitting a Status Report in the matter, the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment had stated:-

“The above assurances are still pending since the National Policy on Rehabilitation and Resettlement has not been finalized and is under active consideration of Group of Minister. Ministry of Welfare, now known as the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment was initially involved in the preparation of National Policy and has been contributing towards it from time to time in the form of comments and suggestions. In the meeting held on May 04, 1993, the Committee of Secretaries decided that the Rural Development will act as a nodal Ministry for formulating the policy. In consequence of this decision, Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment prepared a final draft which is now being discussed by the Group of Ministers. It is difficult to predict at this stage as to when exactly it is going to take a final shape.”

As per the Status Report submitted on April 29, 1999, it was mentioned by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment that the group of Ministers considered the comments on National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Persons or families on March, 12, 1999 and had decided to invite fresh comments from all concerned Ministries.

The Committee were also informed that a request for dropping was also considered by the previous Committee on September 01, 1998 and they were of the view that the representatives of the concerned Ministries be summoned before the Committee.

After considering the matter once again, the Committee decided not to drop the assurances, but to call the representatives of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment as also of the Ministry of Rural Development in near future.

Memorandum No.20

Request for dropping of assurance given on November 27, 1996 in reply to USQ No.866 regarding Council for Advancement of People's Action in Rural Technology.

The Committee had earlier considered the request of the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment for dropping of the above assurance at their sitting held on September 19, 1998 and had desired to know the details of the steps to be taken/proposed to be taken after CBI have completed their investigations against 61 non-Government organisations. The Committee were informed that out of all the cases registered against 61 Voluntary Organisations, CBI had returned the cases of 34 Voluntary Organisations from Bihar, as the amount involved was small. The Committee noted that CBI had asked for some additional information from CAPART about some of the remaining cases. The Committee hoped that CAPARAT would expedite the furnishing the additional information and were optimistic that sufficient measures will be taken to plug any scope for the misuse of funds for rural development by non-Government Organisations. The Committee finally decided to drop the assurance.

Memorandum No.21

Request for dropping of assurance given on May 05, 1994 in reply to USQ No.6383 regarding Complaints against Companies.

The Committee took up for consideration the aforesaid request for dropping of the assurance in pursuance of the communications received from the then Minister of State for Railways, Parliamentary Affairs, Planning & Programme Implementation *vide* his DO No.4(1)/99-Imp. dated March 01, 1999 addressed to the Chairman, Committee on Government Assurances for dropping of the assurance on the following grounds advanced by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas:-

“It may be mentioned that the process of investigation by the Director General of Investigation and Registration and further process of trial/proceeding before the Hon’ble MRTP Commission are normally very long-drawn ones. It is understood that the investigation into the affairs of 109 parties/companies would take considerable period of time. Therefore, it is quite unlikely that the outcome of the investigation and proceedings before the MRTP Commission would be available in the near future.

To prevent further occurrence of the instance of fraud and cheating by unscrupulous parties in the name of parallel marketing of LPG and Kerosene, this Ministry amended the LPG Control Order in June, 1995 to provide for compulsory rating of the private parties by the approval rating obtained by them in all advertisements/handouts/letter heads so that general public are informed of the credibility of the parties. Any party doing business without valid rating certificate is liable to be prosecuted under the Essential Commodities Act. After the introduction of such measures, the instances of complaints against the parallel marketers have come down.

From the above, it is clear that the Ministry has taken all possible action within its control to fulfil the assurance and therefore, must be dropped now.”

The Committee were, not in favour of dropping the assurance. The Committee noted that six years have elapsed since the assurance was given and it was not clear how much time is still required to complete the process of investigation by Director General of Investigation and Registration. The Committee, therefore, desired to know about the stage at which the inquiry is at present and the probable time schedule for completion thereof. The Committee also sought to know whether the parties/companies which are being investigated are still working.

Memorandum No.22 & 28

Request for dropping of assurances given on March 11, 1993, March 30, 1995, April 27, 1995, August 09, 1995 & December 07, 1995 in reply to USQ Nos.2467, 2554, 3507, 1458 & 1749 regarding Reservation for SC/ST in Private Sector.

The Committee too up the above two memoranda for consideration in pursuance of request received from the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment forwarded by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* DO No.16011/31/95-BCC(Pt.) dated December 31, 1998. The Committee concurred with the views of the Ministry that the subject of reservation of Backward Classes in the Private Sector is a policy matter which needs consensus after detailed consultation with political parties, industrialists etc. as the entire matter was time consuming and the same was not under active consideration of the Government, the Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry to drop the aforesaid assurance.

Memorandum No.23

Request for dropping of assurance given on December 19, 1995 in reply to USQ No.3409 regarding Women Rights Commission.

The Committee considered the reasons advanced by the Ministry of Human Resource Development in pursuance of a letter addressed to Chairman, Committee on Government Assurances by then Minister of State of Railways, Parliamentary Affairs and Planning & Programme Implementation [*vide* DO No.4(1)/99. I dated March 01, 1999] to drop the above assurance on the following grounds:-

“The assurance relates to the proposal regarding setting up the Offices of National, State and District level Commissioners for Women’s Right. The comments of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Parliamentary Affairs, Planning Commission, National Commission for Women, Ministry of Law & Justice have been obtained on the proposal, Ministry of Home Affairs has expressed the view that NCW at the National level and State Women Commission at the State level can carry out the proposed functions of NCWR and SCWR respectively and there is no need to set up the Offices of Commissioners of Women’s Right at national and State levels. Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Law & Justice have also expressed similar views.

In view of the above, the assurance may be taken as fulfilled.”

The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry to drop the assurance.

Memorandum No.24

Request for dropping of assurance given on May 11, 1994 & May 03, 1995 in reply to SQ No.656 & USQ No.4171 regarding Child Marriage.

The Committee considered the reasons advanced by the then Minister of State of Railways, Parliamentary Affairs and Planning & Programme Implementation [*vide* his DO No.4(1)/99. I dated March 01, 1999 addressed to the Chairman, CGA] for dropping of the above assurances in pursuance of a request made by the Ministry of Law, Justice & Company Affairs informing that the information in case of SQ No.656 and USQ No.4171 is awaited from 3 States and Bihar respectively and that Part fulfillment statement for both the assurances have been laid on the Table of the House on 08.03.1996 and 13.12.1996. The Committee noted that Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 was last amended in 1978 and no further amendment by the Ministry is proposed in near future.

The Committee, therefore, acceded to the request of the Ministry for dropping of above assurances. The Committee, however, desired that a letter be sent to the Ministry with the request to working out detailed measures for social and economic upliftment of this section with a view to putting an end to this evil practice once for all.

Memorandum No.25

Request for dropping of assurance given on March 06, 1997 in reply to USQ No.2000 regarding Media Policy.

The Committee considered the reasons advanced by the then Minister of State of Railways, Parliamentary Affairs and Planning & Programme Implementation [*vide* DO No.4(1)/99. I dated March 01, 1999 addressed to the Chairman, CGA] for dropping of the assurance on a request made by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting on the following grounds:-

“The Working Paper on National Media Policy was placed before the Consultative Committee of MPs attached to this Ministry in its meeting held on November 11, 1996. The Members were of the view that since it is a policy matter and the report is voluminous, enough time may be given to them to go through the report. Since the Consultative Committee are informal Committees of Parliament and are independent of the Government, it is prerogative of the Committee to take its own time to discuss the matter and arrive at a conclusion.

As the matter is under consideration/discussion of the Consultative Committee, an independent body and not under the consideration of the Government, this Ministry is of the opinion that the answer to this question should not be treated as an assurance.

In view of this, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs are requested to take up the matter with the Committee of Lok Sabha for dropping the same.”

The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry of the Information and Broadcasting and decided to drop the assurance. The Committee, however, were eager to know about the reaction of the Consultative Committee of MPs with respect to the working paper on National Media Policy submitted for their consideration by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

Memorandum No.26

Request for dropping of assurance given on March 31, 1993 in reply to USQ No.488 regarding Allotment of Surplus Land to SCs/STs.

The Committee considered the grounds advanced by Ministry of Rural Development forwarded by Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their UO Note VI/RD(25)SQ-488 dated June 06, 1999 for dropping of the aforesaid assurance of the following grounds:-

“That the information asked by Shri Bhonsle is such that it has to be collected from the State Governments, and is very likely that this may not be readily available with them. The required information if collected from the lowest level would involve a voluminous task. Collection of information of this magnitude would be time consuming, expensive and less fruitful.

Therefore, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs is requested to place the above facts before the Committee on Government Assurances and get the assurance dropped.”

The Committee agreed to drop the assurance. However, the Committee observed the awarding of agricultural land in the vicinity of all big cities to those, who do not cultivate the same, and the selling of those land to somebody else, is a matter, which need serious attention of the Government. The Committee were of the view that the Ministry concerned should be obtained such information expeditiously and communicate the same as early as possible.

Memorandum No.27

Request for dropping of assurance given on August 26, 1994 in reply to USQ No.4613 regarding Disbursement of Credit.

The Committee considered the reasons advanced by the Ministry of Finance to drop the above assurance on the following grounds:-

“The requisite information is still awaited from the concerned agencies and the same will take some more time. The cases have been registered by the CBI. Completion of investigation by CBI usually takes considerable time. After the completion of the investigations, prosecution cases are filed in the Courts. Considerable time is take by the Courts and in case of appeals to High Courts in disposal of these cases and final punishment. The procedure being time consuming and involving points of law the process of fulfillment of the assurance would be considerably delayed if final action taken in criminal cases is to be awaited for fulfilling the assurance. It is, therefore, requested that the Committee on Government Assurances may be apprised of the above position and consider treating the assurance as fulfilled in view of the position already intimated that criminal action has been initiated in these cases.”

The Committee agreed to drop the assurance, as completion of investigation by CBI would take considerable time and process of fulfillment of the assurance would be greatly delayed, if final action taken in criminal cases, is to be awaited for fulfilling the assurance.

The Committee decided to hold next sitting (7th Sitting) on May 04, 2000.
The Committee then adjourned.

**MINUTES
EIGHTH SITTING**

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES HELD ON JULY 17, 2000 AT 1500 HOURS IN COMMITTEE ROOM 'D', PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE, NEW DELHI.

THE COMMITTEE MET ON MONDAY, JULY 17, 2000 FROM 1500 HOURS TO 1600 HOURS

PRESENT

Dr. S. Venugopal - Chairman

MEMBERS

2. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi
3. Adv. Uttamrao Dhikale
4. Shri Brahma Nand Mandal
5. Shri Jitendra Prasad
6. Shri Manoj Sinha

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri K. Chakraborty - Deputy Secretary
2. Ms. J.C. Namchyo - Assistant Director

The Committee considered the following Memoranda for dropping of assurances:-

Memorandum No.29

Request for dropping of assurance given on November 20, 1996 in reply to USQ No.68 regarding Supply of Gas.

The Committee took up for consideration the above memorandum for dropping of the assurance in pursuance of the request received from the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas forwarded by Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their U.O. Note No.III/PNG(4)USQ 68-LS/96 dated December 17, 1998 on the following grounds:-

“The question of linkages for the above gas can be taken up only when the Oman-India Pipeline Project is implemented. The Government had signed an Agreement on Principal Terms with Oman in September, 1994 to import natural gas from Oman. This was to be followed by feasibility studies and subsequently, the signing of the Long Term Gas Supply Contract. However, the feasibility studies conducted after signing the Agreement on Principal Terms raised certain issues to the adequacy of gas reserve available in Oman to sustain at the intended depth. The Oman Oil Company has also changed its stand in respect of financing the project.”

The Committee considered the above memorandum in detail. The Committee were of the view that this matter was recently in the news and desired that the latest position in this regard be obtained from the Ministry.

Memorandum No.30

Request for dropping of assurance given on December 10, 1996 in reply to SQ No.267 regarding misuse of Soft Loan.

The Committee then took up the above memorandum for consideration in pursuance of the request received from the Ministry of Agriculture forwarded by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs vide their U.O. Note No.III/Agri.(17)SW 267-LS/96 dated May 20, 1998.

The Committee noted that the Ministry of Agriculture has already initiated action against the erring companies. The Committee, therefore, agreed to drop the assurance.

Memorandum No.31

Request for dropping of assurance given on May 08, 1997 in reply to USQ No.516 regarding Increase Traffic.

The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Civil Aviation forwarded by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs vide their UO Note No.IV/CA(8)USQ-5166-LS/97 dated November 25, 1999 for dropping the above assurance on the following grounds:-

“The construction of International Passenger Terminal (2B) at Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi and construction of 2nd phase of Domestic Passenger Terminal at Mumbai are at the preliminary stage approval from various appraisal agencies viz. Ministry of Finance, Department of Environment & Forests, Planning Commission are required before the proposals are submitted to Public Investment Board/Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs. Due to this, specific time-frame cannot be given as to when the projects mentioned above would be cleared. It is, therefore, not feasible to fulfil the assurance in near future.”

The Committee were not convinced with the reason forwarded by the Ministry as the decision for construction of 2nd Phase of International Passenger Terminal at Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi and construction of 2nd phase of Domestic Passenger Terminal at Mumbai was taken more than 3 years back and the Committee instead desired to call the representatives of the Ministry of Civil Aviation for evidence.

Memorandum No.32

Request for dropping of assurance given on August 11, 1997 in reply to USQ No.2971 regarding Chandla Committee.

The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Human Resource Development forwarded by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs vide their UO Note No.IV/HRD(20)USQ-2971-LS/97 dated February 28, 2000 for dropping the aforesaid assurance on the following grounds:-

“The assurance concerns Government of NCT of Delhi and we have been requesting that Government for expediting the fulfillment of the assurance time and over again. That Government has not explained that the assurance pertains to the amendments in Delhi School Education Act & Rules, 1973. A Committee was constituted by them under the Chairmanship of Shri P. Chandla to examine the amendments and submit the report in the matter. The report has been submitted by the Chandla Committee and is under consideration of the Government of NCT of Delhi. No definite time-frame has been indicated by that Government when the final decision would be taken on the recommendations of the Chandla Committee.

In this connection, Government of NCT of Delhi have further stated that Delhi Education Act & Rules 1973 was passed by the Parliament and, therefore, any amendment in it or its repeal would need approval of the Central Government. Thereafter, a Bill containing the amendment proposals will have to be considered by the Legislative Assembly of Delhi, which is not under control of Government.

In view of fact that the Legislative Assembly which is to decide the amendments in the Delhi School Education Act 1973 is not under the control of the Government, it is not possible to fulfil the assurance in a definite time-frame.”

The Committee were of the view that the matter related to an important issue of public interest. The Committee decided not to drop the assurance to obtain latest information in this regard.

Memorandum No.33

Request for dropping of assurance given on March 11, 1999 in reply to USQ No.2354 regarding Development of Aviation as a Core Sector.

In pursuance of the request received from the Ministry of Civil Aviation forwarded by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their UO Note No.IC/CA(12)USQ No.2354-LS/99 dated February 28, 2000 for dropping of the aforesaid assurance, the Committee were informed that since no specific time-frame can be indicated for arriving at the decisions concerning Disinvestment/Privatisation of all PSUs/Corporation of the airports at Delhi/Mumbai/Calcutta/Chennai/Bangalore, development of various air cargo complexes in regional and sub-regional areas and package of incentives for smaller aircrafts involved various governmental decisions, procedural requirements and financial implications, assurance cannot be dealt within a specific time-frame.

The Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry of Civil Aviation as they felt that the process of disinvestments has been started by the Government.

Memorandum No.34

Request for dropping of assurance given on February 28, 1999 in reply to USQ No.1195

regarding Recommendations of Law Commission.

The Committee considered the request of the Ministry of Law & Justice forwarded by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their UO Note No.IV/L&J(3)USQ-1195-LS/99 dated August 31, 1999 for dropping of the assurance on the grounds indicated below:-

“The question concerns recommendations of the Law Commission contained in its 154th Report of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and it was stated: the report is under examination of the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Ministry of Home Affairs have informed that the copies of the 154th Report of the Law Commission have been sent to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for seeking their views since the Code of Criminal Procedure is a subject on the Concurrent List of the Constitution and also the criminal laws are administered through State Governments. Comments from most of the State Government have been received.

They have further stated that a Core Group has been constituted in the Ministry of Home Affairs to formulate Government’s view on the Report. Recently, a sub-Group of the Core-Group has also been constituted which would go into each of the recommendations of the Law Commission vis-à-vis comments for Cr.P.C., have been referred to the State Governments for implementation. The Law Commission’s recommendations are being processed and, therefore, no time-frame can be fixed for introduction of a Bill in the Parliament.”

The Committee did not agree to drop the assurance as it related to an important issue and nothing had been reported by the Ministry about the progress made by the Core Group in formulating government’s views on the report. The Committee, therefore, decided to call the representatives of the Ministry of Law & Justice and Ministry of Home Affairs for Oral Evidence.

Memorandum No.35

Request for dropping of assurance given on February 24, 1997 in reply to USQ No.204 regarding Ex-servicemen Status to Personnel of BRO.

The Committee considered the reasons forwarded by the Ministry of Defence through Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs *vide* their UO Note No.IV/DEF(2)USQ-204-LS/97 dated September 22, 1998 for dropping of the above mentioned assurance.

The Committee were informed that the proposal regarding grant of ex-servicemen status to ex-GREF personnel requires a policy decision after detailed examination of all related aspects. It was also mentioned that the matter was pending in the Kerala High Court. The Committee were of the view that since the matter is sub-

judice, the assurance may remain till the Kerala High Court is known in the matter. Meanwhile the Committee desired to have the latest position in this regard.

Memorandum No.36

Request for dropping of assurance given on June 12, 1998 in reply to USQ No.2549 regarding Price Index.

The Committee took up for consideration of the above mentioned request as forwarded by the Ministry of Finance through Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs vide their UO Note No.II/Fin.(35)USQ-2549-LS/98 dated August, 31, 1998. the Committee were informed that the Expert Group set up by the Government in July, 1993 for the revision of the current series of WPI and to recommend new base year, has yet been submitted by the Expert Group. The Committee, however, did not agree to drop the assurance but desired to obtain latest position in this regard.

The Committee then adjourned to meet again on August 29, 2000.

MINUTES
ELEVENTH SITTING

Minutes of the Eleventh sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances held on August 27, 2001 in Committee Room 'E', Basement, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

The Committee met from 1600 hours to 1700 hours on Monday, August 27, 2001.

PRESENT

Shri Rupchand Pal - in the Chair

MEMBERS

2. Shri Haribhai Choudhary
3. Adv. Uttamrao Dhikale
4. Shri Sudarsana E.M. Natchiappan
5. Shri Dharam Raj Singh Patel
6. Shri Chandra Vijay Singh
7. Rajkumari Ratna Singh

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri A.K. Singh, Deputy Secretary
2. Ms. J.C. Namchoy, Assistant Director

In the absence of the Chairman (Dr. S. Venugopal) Shri Rupchand Pal, MP conducted the Sitting of the Committee after his name was proposed and seconded by the Members of the Committee present.

2. The Committee considered draft 5th and 6th Reports and adopted the same after slight amendments.
3. The Committee authorised the Chairman to present the Reports on August 29, 2001.

The Committee then adjourned.

ANNEXURE – I

1. Kasturba Pratisthan Mahila Sillai Kendra
Neura, Patna Bihar
2. Indira Ganhi Samaj Sevashram
S-383, Room No.6, West Lohi Nagar Vikas, Patna
3. Dr. Zakir Hussain Samajik Adhyan Vikas
Patna
4. Shri Rajendra Samaj Seva Sansthan Kanpura
Bihar
5. Harijan, Girijan Alpsankhyak Utthan Parishad
Farsi, Mohalla
Mokama, Patna
6. Bhartiya Gramin Kalyan Parishad
Farsi, Mohalla
Mokama, Patna
7. Parivartan Samajik Vikas Sansthan
Patna
8. Bihar Mahila Pragatisheel Kendra
Patna
9. Lohia Seva Parishad
Doctor Toli
Farsi, Mohalla
Mokama, Patna
10. Dr. Ambedkar Gramabhimukh Vikas
Sansthan, Farsi, Mohalla
Mokama, Patna
11. Bihar Nagrik Seva Parishad
Sabalpur, Deedaganj
Patna
12. Akhil Bhartiya Samajik Sarthik Evam Shaikshik
209, Ashiana Tower
Patna

13. Hind Seva Sadan
Patna
14. Narayani Mahila Silai Katai
Prashiksan Kendra
Patna City
15. Mata Jan Kalyan Pragatisheel
Vikas Parishad, Bela Moni
Hathidah, Patna
16. Vinoba Gramabhimukh Chetna Kendra
Patna City
17. Bihar Samaj Kalyan Vikas Parishad
Mokamma District, Patna
18. Gurunanak Mahila Shilp Kala Kendra
Patna
19. Bihar Gramin Sea Parishad
Patna
20. Indira Antodaya Grambimukh Prashikshan Kendra
Mokamma District, Patna
21. Dr. Ambedkar Samaj Kalyankari Yojana Samiti
Mokamma District, Patna
22. Jai Prabha Grambimukh Antodaya Vidyapith
Mokamma, Patna
23. Akhil Bhartiya Gramin Vikas Seva Parishad
Mokamma, Patna
24. Guru Govin Singh Mahila Vikas Parishad
Harminder Gali
Patna City, Patna
25. Rachna, Boring Road, Chahuaauaha
Patna
26. Bhartiya Gramin Yuva Vikas Jhauganj
Patna City, Patna

27. Veer Kunwar Singh Samajik Jagriti Parishad
Chamoria, Patna City
Patna
28. Amba Samjik Vikas Sansthan
Haziganj, Patna City, Patna
29. Akhil Bhartiya Samajik Pratishthan Parisad
Patna
30. Jaiprabha Gramin Chetna Vikas Samiti
Chamoria, Patna City, Patna
31. Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Ashram Seva Parishad
Kila Road
Patna City, Patna
32. Patliputra Bal Mahila Kalyan Sansthan
Kila Road, Patna City, Patna
33. Bihar Pragatisheel Mahila Uthaan Seva
Daribabad, Bhadaru Road
Serm, Patna City, Patna
34. Pataliputra Gramin Sewa Vikas Pratishthan
Hajiganj, Patna City, Patna
35. A Need, Chikka Kurungda
Gauribidanur, District Kolar
36. Adarsh Rural Development Society
Village Mittemari, Tq. Bagepally
District Kolar
37. Karthik Foundation, K.P. Temple Street
Gauribidanur, District Kolar
38. Amar Association
Veerandahlli Extension
Gauribidanur, District Kolar
39. Chetna, C/o Bodanna Fort
Gauribidanur, District Kolar

40. Bhagyajoti Education Trust
Ratna Niwas, 11-889/6
Ramnagar, Gulbarga District Bidar
41. Lakshminarayan Rural Development Society
Ramanswamypalli, Bagepally
District Kolar
42. Mahalakshmi Mahila Mandal
Via Peresendra Diband,
District Kolar
43. Harijan Girijana Kalyan Samit
Gudibanda, District Kolar
44. Mamta Religious Association
Nilugomba PO Hampasandra
District Kolar
45. Tripath Welfare Society
Chowtathimmanahalli
PO Gudbanda, District Kolar
46. Chinthalu Education & Rural Development Society
Chikkaballapur, District Kolar
47. Nalanda Education & Economic Development Society
Beedagena Halli
Chickballapur Taluk
District Kolar
48. Shanthala Mahila Mandal
Chicballapur Taluk
District Kolar
49. Sacred Rural Development
Bagepalli, District Kolar
50. Sri Venkateswara Silk Khadi Gramodyog Sangh
PO Gunlakothur
District Kolar

51. Shri Saraswati Mahila Samaj
G. Maddepalli
Tattanagaripalli
52. Kumar Gramodyog Sangh
PO Thirumani, Via Persandra
District Kolar
53. Poverty Elimination and Rehabilitation & Liberation Presandra
Chickballapur, District Kolar
54. Pinakini Rural Development Society
Railway Station Road,
Gauribidanur, District Kolar
55. Farmer Development Agency
Panduranga, Temple Street
Chickballapur, District Kolar
56. Vishwajyoti Social Foundation
Gidnahalli, Chickballapur
District Kolar
57. Darpan Education & Rural Development Society
Muddareddyhally
PO Varakakonda, District Kolar
58. Begepalli Rural Development Society
At. Chennaranyanrepalli, Bagepalli
District Kolar
59. Grameen Rural Development & Training Society
Agalugurki, Chickballapur
District Kolar
60. Action Society for Integral Development
Kambapet, Bagepalli
District Kolar
61. Arundhathi Yuvajana Sangham
Bayyannagudem, Koyyalagudem
W.G. District, A.P.

XIII SESSION, 1995 OF TENTH LOK SABHA

Date of Fulfillment 15.10.1996

MINISTRY OF WELFARE

DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

Q No, Date & Name of MP	Subject	Promise Made	When & how fulfilled	Remarks
USQ No.656 dated 01.05.95 by Dr. K.V.R. Chowdary, MP	CHILD MARRIAGE (a) the number of cases of child marriages registered during 1992-93 and 1993-94, State-wise; (b) whether there has been an increase in child marriages in some of States; (c) if so, the reasons therefore; and (d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?"	The information is not readily available. The same is being collected from the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations and will be laid on the Table of the House.	The information regarding the number of Child Marriages registered during 1993-94, has been collected from 26 States/Union Territories and is furnished at the Annexure enclosed.	The Information was to be collected from the State Governments/ Union Territory Administration. Hence, the delay in the fulfillment of the assurance.

Note: Information from the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Meghalaya, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh is still awaited and will be forwarded as soon as the same is received.

Sl No	Name of the State/ Union Territory Administration	1992-93				
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3	Nil	No		Does not arise
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Does not arise		Does not arise
3	Assam	Nil	Nil	Does not arise		Does not arise
4.	Chandigarh	Nil	Nil	Does not arise		Does not arise
5.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil	Does not arise		Does not arise
6.	Daman & Diu	Nil	Nil	Does not arise		Does not arise
7.	Delhi	Nil	Nil	Does not arise		Does not arise
8.	Goa	3	Nil	No		Does not arise
9.	Gujarat	784	754	No		Does not arise
10.	Haryana	Nil	Nil	Does not arise		Does not arise
11.	Himachal Pradesh	6	6	Does not arise		Does not arise
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	Nil	Nil	Does not arise		Does not arise
13	Kerala	Nil	Nil	Does not arise		Does not arise
14.	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Does not arise		Does not arise
15.	Madhya Pradesh	6	10	No High Court of MP replied not in a position to say		Does not arise
16.	Maharashtra	7	Nil	No		Does not arise
17.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	Does not arise		Does not arise
18	Mizoram	Nil	Nil	Does not arise		Does not arise

19.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Does not arise	Does not arise
20.	Orissa	Nil	Nil	Does not arise	Does not arise
21.	Pondicherry	1 Teenage Marriage	Nil	No	Does not arise
22.	Punjab	Nil	Nil	Does not arise	Does not arise
23.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Does not arise	Does not arise
24.	Tripura	Nil	Nil	Does not arise	Does not arise
25.	Tamil Nadu	Nil	Nil	Does not arise	Does not arise
26.	West Bengal	3	1 Up to July, 94	No	Does not arise

ANNEXURE – III

XIII SESSION, 1995 OF TENTH LOK SABHA

Date of Fulfillment 15.10.1996

MINISTRY OF WELFARE

DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

Q No, Date & Name of MP	Subject	Promise Made	When & how fulfilled	Remarks
USQ No.4171 dated 03.05.95 by Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar, MP	CHILD MARRIAGE (a) the number of cases of child marriage registered during the last two years, State-wise; (b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to prevent child marriage in the country; and (c) the number of persons who have been punished by this act during the period?	(a) & (c): The information is not readily available. The same is being collected from the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations and will be laid on the Table of the House.	The information regarding the cases of Child Marriages registered during the last two years and the number of persons who have been punished for the act during this period has been collected from 28 States/ Union Territories Administrations and is furnished at the Annexure enclosed.	The Information was to be collected from the State Governments/ Union Territory Administration. Hence, the delay in the fulfillment of the assurance.

Note: Information from the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Meghalaya & Rajasthan is still awaited and will be forwarded as soon as the same is received.

**LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No.4171 DATED 03.05.95
REGARDING CHILD MARRIAGE**

Sl No	Name of the State/ Union Territory Administration	Number of cases of Child Marriage registered during the last two years	The number of persons who have been punished for the act during the period
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil
2.	Assam	Nil	Nil
3	Goa	Nil	Nil
4.	Gujarat	754 (1993-94) & 660 (1994-95)	172 (1993-94) & 41 (1994-95)
5.	Haryana	2	Nil
6.	Himachal Pradesh	6 (1993) & 7 (1994)	Nil
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	Nil	Nil
8.	Karnataka	1 (1993) & 1 (1994)	Nil
9.	Kerala	4	5
10.	Madhya Pradesh	11	Nil
11.	Maharashtra	17	12
12.	Manipur	Nil	Nil
13	Mizoram	Nil	Nil
14.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil
15.	Orissa	Nil	Nil
16.	Pubjab	Nil	Nil
17.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil
18	Tamil Nadu	Nil	Nil

19.	Tripura	Nil	Nil
20.	Uttar Pradesh	1 (1993) & 3 (1994)	Nil
21.	West Bengal	1	Nil
22.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Nil	Nil
23.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil
24.	Daman & Diu	1	Nil
25.	Chandigarh	Nil	Nil
26.	Delhi	Nil	Nil
27.	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil
28.	Pondicherry	1	Nil

ANNEXURE - IV**STATEMENT REGARDING ALLOTMENT OF SURPLUS LAND TO SCs/STs**

State/Union Territory		Area distributed in Acres				Number of Beneficiaries			
		Total	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes	Others	Total No.	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes	Others
1.	Andhra Pradesh	47714	17532	11300	18882	41618	12389	9500	19729
2.	Assam	36438	6810	7390	22238	32621	5858	6303	20460
3.	Bihar	10570	4965	4551	1054	18289	8321	5072	4896
4.	Gujarat	7136	1344	300	5492	790	386	235	169
5.	Haryana	77	35	6	42	34	15	-	19
6.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8.	Karnataka	684	393	16	275	271	158	20	93
9.	Kerala	707	293	36	378	5307	2404	123	2780
10.	Madhya Pradesh	8271	2752	1692	3827	4140	1555	1071	1514
11.	Maharashtra	32161	9676	-	22485	7132	2586	2068	2478
12.	Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13.	Orissa	3195	916	1325	954	3234	1030	1118	1086
14.	Punjab	135	34	-	101	55	10	-	45
15.	Rajasthan	6930	4045	-	2885	1769	1414	-	335
16.	Tamil Nadu	3950	1304	85	2561	3560	1326	81	2153
17.	Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18.	Uttar Pradesh	2962	1789	2	1171	3917	2312	1	1604
19.	West Bengal	25857	9917	4705	11240	60711	21950	10126	28635
20.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	829	-	829	-	448	1	447	-
21.	Delhi	82	-	0	82	-	-	-	-
22.	Pondicherry	1	1	0	-	3	1	-	2
Total		187699	61806	32231	93667	183699	61716	36165	86018

DISBURSEMENT OF CREDIT BY CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA

4412. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Reserve Bank of India had detected serious irregularities in the process of Central Bank of India's disbursement of over 400 crore credit to certain companies during 1991-93 as reported in the "Economic Times" dated March 20, 1994;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government in thereto;
- (c) whether some officers of the Central Bank of India are found involved in the said irregularities; and
- (d) if so, the action taken or contemplated against them?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara Murthy):

(a) to (d): Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that its scrutiny of the relatively large advances sanctioned by the Central Bank of India during the year 1991-92 has revealed certain irregularities. RBI's scrutiny report had not given any aggregate figure of the limits sanctioned or outstanding in such accounts. However, Central Bank of India has reported that total present exposure in the accounts covered in RBI scrutiny is Rs.191.79 crores. As directed by Board of Directors of the Banks, all these accounts have been examined by the Chief Vigilance Officer of the bank and RBI is following up the matter. CBI is also investigating into irregularities in respect of two Group accounts. Two of the officers of the Central Bank identified for their involvement in these irregularities have been placed under suspension. Five other officers who were identified as involved in sanction and disbursement of these advances have since retired/resigned. Action against those involved will depend upon the investigation result.

XI SESSION 1994 OF TENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF FINANCE, DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS (BANKING DIVISION)

DATE OF FULFILMENT 22.05.1995

Question No. & Date & Name of M.P.	Subject	Promise made	When & How fulfilled	Reasons for delay
USQ No.4613, dated 26.08.94 Shri Mohan Rawale, MP	<p>DISBURSEMENT OF CREDIT</p> <p>Referring to the reply given to USQ No.4412 on April 22, 1994 regarding Disbursement of Credit by Central Bank and sated:</p> <p>(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has completed investigations into irregularities in respect of two group accounts;</p> <p>(b) if so, the outcome thereof;</p> <p>(c) if not, the time by which the investigation is likely to be completed;</p> <p>(d) the details of the above two group accounts;</p>	(a) to (f): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.	(a), (b), (c) & (d): Two Group of Accounts referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.4412 dated 22 nd April, 1994 are Sanjanwalla Group and Chaturvedi Group. The total number of accounts of operated by these two Groups with Central Bank of India was 18 out of which suits have been filed by the bank in respect of 13 accounts. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) have reported that they have registered 3 cases in respect of grant of advances by Central bank of India to the above 2 Group of Accounts. Investigation in one case has been completed and CBI has recommended initiation of major penalty proceedings against the unsuspected persons. Investigation in the remaining two cases is likely to be finalized shortly. 'A'.	The matter was to be examined in consultation with CBI & Central Bank of India.

	<p>(e) the details of five Officers who were identified as involved in sanction and disbursement of advances and who have retired/resigned; and</p> <p>(f) the action taken against them?</p>		<p>(e) & (f): The five officers who were identified as involved in sanctioning/disbursement of advances referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.4412 dated 22nd April 1994 are:</p> <p>S/Shri</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. N.M. Mistry, Ex-Chairman & Managing Director 2. S. Subramanyam, Ex-Chairman & Managing Director 3. H.S. Palav, Ex-Asstt. General Manager 4. K. Gopalkrishnan, Ex-Chief Manager 5. M.V.P. Padgonkar, Ex-Dy. General Manager <p>Action if any, to be taken against the above executives depends on the outcome of CBI investigations.</p>	
--	---	--	---	--

THIRD SESSION 1996 OF ELEVENTH LOK SABHA**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**

Question No. & Date & Name of M.P.	Subject	Promise made	When & How fulfilled	Reasons for delay
SQ No.267, dated 10.12.96 Shri Madhukar Sirpotdar, MP	MISUSE OF SOFT LOAN Asking:- (a) whether National Horticulture Board has ordered a probe into the alleged misuse of its soft loan scheme meant to promote the horticulture floriculture in the country; (b) if so, the outcome of the probe; and (c) the action taken by the Government against those found guilty?	(a) to (c): Few cases of irregular disbursement of loan have come to the notice of National Horticulture Board (NHB). The NHB is inquiring into the matter.	The following two cases or fake/misplaced guarantees were detected:- (a) M/s Lagnesh Engineering Company Pvt. Limited, Varanasi. (b) A-Rose Marketing Society, Kanpur. In both the cases, complaint has been lodged with the Police and the investigations are on.	Not Applicable