

**40**

**COMMITTEE ON  
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES  
(2015-2016)**

**SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**FORTIETH REPORT**

**REQUESTS FOR DROPPING OF  
ASSURANCES  
(NOT ACCEDED TO)**

*(Presented to Lok Sabha on 11 August, 2016)*



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

***August, 2016/Shravana, 1938 (Saka)***

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*August, 2016/Shravana, 1938 (Saka)*

**CGA No. 290**

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES\*  
(2015-2016)

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal “Nishank” — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri E. Ahamed
4. Shri Anto Antony
5. Shri Tariq Anwar
6. Prof. (Dr.) Sugata Bose
7. Shri Naranbhai Bhikhabhai Kachhadiya
8. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
9. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
10. Shri A.T. Nana Patil
11. Shri C. R. Patil
12. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh
13. Shri Taslimuddin
14. Shri K.C. Venugopal
15. Shri S.R. Vijayakumar

SECRETARIAT

- |                      |   |                             |
|----------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Shri R.S. Kambo   | — | <i>Additional Secretary</i> |
| 2. Shri J.M. Baisakh | — | <i>Director</i>             |
| 3. Shri S.L. Singh   | — | <i>Deputy Secretary</i>     |

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\* The Committee has been constituted *w.e.f.* 01 September, 2015 *vide* Para No. 2348 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 31 August, 2015.

## 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 Fortieth Report (16th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee (2015-2016) at their sitting held on 18 April, 2016 considered Memoranda No. 82 to 121 containing requests received from the various Ministries/Departments for dropping of pending Assurances and decided to pursue 21 Assurances.

3. At their sitting held on 09 August, 2016 the Committee (2015-2016) considered and adopted their Fortieth Report.

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

NEW DELHI;  
09 August, 2016  

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18 Shrawana, 1938 (Saka)

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK",  
*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/Department are unable to implement the Assurances within the prescribed period of three months, that Ministry/Department are required to seek extension of time. In case, the Ministry finds it difficult in implementing the Assurances on one ground or the other, it is 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 (2015-2016) considered the following requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of Assurances at their sitting held on 18 April, 2016:—

| Sl. No. | SQ/USQ No. & Date                   | Ministry                                 | Subject   |
|---------|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1.      | USQ No. 4465<br>dated<br>21.02.2014 | Tribal Affairs                           | Declaration as Scheduled Tribal Area in Himachal Pradesh (Appendix-I) |
| 2.      | USQ No. 1281<br>dated<br>27.10.2008 | Labour and Employment                    | Regularisation of Casual and Contract Workers (Appendix-II)           |
| 3.      | USQ No. 2489<br>dated<br>06.02.2014 | Railways                                 | Job in Lieu of Land Acquired for Railway Lines (Appendix-III)         |
| 4.      | USQ No. 3318<br>dated<br>12.12.2014 | Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) | Financial Sector Reforms (Appendix-IV)                                |
| 5.      | USQ No. 2381<br>dated<br>28.03.2012 | Planning                                 | Classification of Expenditure (Appendix-V)                            |
| 6.*     | USQ No. 2774<br>dated<br>07.02.2014 | Finance (Department of Expenditure)      | Irregularities in Data (Appendix-VI)                                  |
| 7.      | USQ No. 147<br>dated<br>05.12.2013  | Earth Sciences                           | Desalination Plants (Appendix-VII)                                    |



| Sl. No. | SQ/USQ No. & Date  | Ministry   | Subject  |
|---------|--|--|--|
| 8.      | USQ No. 849 dated 08.08.2013                                   | Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation                        | North Eastern Water Resources Authority (Appendix-VIII)    |
| 9.      | USQ No. 5505 dated 06.09.2011                                  | Environment, Forest and Climate Change   | Consumption of (Appendix-IX)                               |
| 10.     | USQ No. 2759 dated 07.02.2014                                  | Finance (Department of Economic Affairs)   | Enhancing Scope of Audit (Appendix-X)                      |
| 11.     | USQ No. 4844 dated 23.12.2014                                  | Home Affairs   | Cases Handed over to NIA (Appendix-XI)                     |
| 12.     | USQ No. 768 dated 29.07.2010                                   | Law and Justice (Department of Legal Affairs)                                    | New Law to Deal with Man-Made Disasters (Appendix-XII)     |
| 13.     | USQ No. 4003 dated 06.08.2014                                  | Space  | Satellite Launch Pads (Appendix-XIII)                      |
| 14.     | USQ No. 1284 dated 26.02.2003                                  | Shipping   | Non-Payment of Wage/Salary (Appendix-XIV)                  |
| 15.     | USQ No. 5358 dated 09.05.2012                                  | Planning   | Utilization of Funds (Appendix-XV)                         |
| 16.     | USQ No. 6978 dated 18.05.2012<br>USQ No. 4945 dated 25.04.2013 | Power  | Power Generation Irregularities under RGGVY (Appendix-XVI) |
| 17.     | USQ No. 1930 dated 23.07.2014                                  | Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training) | Sharda Chit Fund Scam (Appendix-XVII)                      |
| 18.     | USQ No. 197 dated 06.08.2010                                   | Finance (Department of Economic Affairs)   | Audit of Joint Ventures (Appendix-XVIII)                   |
| 19.     | USQ No. 387 dated 25.02.2015                                   | Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training) | Bribery Nexus (Appendix-XIX)                               |

| Sl. No. | SQ/USQ No. & Date                   | Ministry   | Subject   |
|---------|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| 20.     | USQ No. 4135<br>dated<br>17.12.2014 | Personnel, Public<br>Grievances and<br>Pensions<br>(Department of<br>Personnel and Training) | CBI Investigation<br>against VVIPs<br>(Appendix-XX) |
| 21.     | USQ No. 3996<br>dated<br>17.12.2014 | Personnel, Public<br>Grievances and<br>Pensions<br>(Department of<br>Personnel and Training) | Prevention of<br>Corruption Act<br>(Appendix-XXI)   |

\* Implementation Reports laid on the Table of the House on 04/05/2016.

3. The details of the Assurances arising out of the replies and the reason(s) advanced by the Ministries/Departments for dropping of the Assurances are given in Appendices - I to XXI.

4. The Minutes of the sitting of the Committee, where under the requests for dropping of the Assurances, were considered, are given in Appendix-XXII.

5. After having considered the requests of the Ministries/Departments, the Committee are not convinced with the reasons furnished for dropping the Assurances. The Committee desire that the Government should take note of the Observations of the Committee, as contained in Annexure-II to Appendix - XXII and take appropriate action, for the implementation of the Assurances expeditiously.

NEW DELHI;  
09 August, 2016  
18 Shrivana, 1938 (Saka)

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL "NISHANK",  
Chairperson,  
Committee on Government Assurances.

## APPENDIX I

### MEMORANDUM No. 83

**Subject:** Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4465 dated 21.02.2014, regarding "Declaration as Scheduled/Tribal Area in Himachal Pradesh".

On 21 February, 2014 Shri Virender Kashyap, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4465 to the Minister of Tribal Affairs. 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 Tribal Affairs within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs *vide* O.M. No. 16012/6/2013-C&LM-I dated 22.10.2014 and 16012/6/2013-C&LM-I dated 21.11.2014 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the proposal was examined with reference to the above criteria and Government of Himachal Pradesh had been requested for furnishing the population details of the area' is a promise made. In reply to the above question, the following criteria for declaring an area as Scheduled Area under Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India was also mentioned:—

- (i) Preponderance of tribal population;
- (ii) Compactness and reasonable size of area;
- (iii) Viable administrative entity such as a district, block or taluka; and
- (iv) Economic backwardness of the area as compared to the neighbouring areas.

The reply given by this Ministry does not constitute an Assurance. In fact, this is only an aspect of the procedure. The process for declaring/alteration/increase/decrease or rescinding of any order relating to Scheduled Area requires fulfilling of requisite criteria and approval by the Union Cabinet and the Hon'ble President of India. Thus, what was brought out by this Ministry was the procedural aspect. This does not constitute a promise. In fact Assurance cannot be given for declaring any area as Scheduled Area by this Ministry due to requirements of criteria fulfilment and approval. The Lok Sabha Secretariat, Committee on Government Assurances, is therefore requested that the assurance may be dropped."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State for Tribal Affairs, has requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4465  
ANSWERED ON 21.02.2014

**Declaration as Scheduled Tribal Area in Himachal Pradesh**

4465. SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP :

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Government of Himachal Pradesh has submitted a proposal for declaring some parts of Sirmour district as Scheduled/Tribal Area;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SMT. RANEE NARAH): (a) & (b) The State Government of Himachal Pradesh had submitted a proposal for declaring the Trans Giri Area of Sirmour District as Scheduled Area.

(c) For declaring any area as Scheduled Area under Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India, the criteria are:

- (i) preponderance of tribal population;
- (ii) compactness and reasonable size of the area;
- (iii) a viable administrative entity such as a district, block or taluka; and
- (iv) economic backwardness of the area as compared to the neighbouring areas.

The proposal was examined with reference to the above criteria and the Government of Himachal Pradesh had been requested for furnishing the population details of the area.

## APPENDIX II

### MEMORANDUM NO. 84

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1281 dated 27.10.2008, regarding "Regularisation of Casual and Contract Workers".

On 27 October, 2008 Shri Bapu Hari Chaure and Shri Swadesh Chakraborty, M.Ps. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1281 to the Minister of Labour and Employment. 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 Labour and Employment within three months from the date of reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Labour and Employment *vide* O.M. No. H-11016/12/2008-LW dated 02.12.2014 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the matter of regularization of casual/contract workers do not come within the purview of this Ministry. The matter of regularization of casual/contract workers in Government comes within the purview of Department of Personal and Training, In the last meeting of Committee on Government Assurances the concerned Joint Secretary of DoPT was present in the meeting held on 11.11.2014 and had explained comprehensively the legal and Government position to the Committee on Government Assurances. Under the circumstances the said Assurance may be dropped against this Ministry. In view of the above the aforesaid assurance may kindly be dropped against this Ministry."

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

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1281  
ANSWERED ON 27.10.2008

**Regularisation of Casual and Contract Workers**

1281. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE :  
SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTTY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of non-muster-roll and casual workers appointed in the Central Government, Public Sector Undertakings during each of the last three years and the current year separately, State-wise;

(b) the details of minimum wages paid to them;

(c) the mechanism put in place to ensure payment of minimum wages to the contract and casual workers through the labour contractors;

(d) whether the Government has formulated any policy for regularisation of above workers including contract workers; and

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

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES):  
(a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### APPENDIX III

#### MEMORANDUM NO. 86

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2489 dated 06.02.2014, regarding "Job in lieu of Land Acquired for Railway Lines."

On 06 February, 2014, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2489 to the Minister of Railways. 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 Railways within three months from the date of reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Home Affairs *vide* O.M. No. 2014/W-2/ECR/PQL/04 dated 29 June, 2015 had requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That as the land acquisition is done by the State Government and it depends upon various factors like availability of funds with Railways, joint verification of land plans etc. Further, the provision of jobs to the eligible land losers of a project is a long drawn process as it involves multiple agencies. Hence no fruitful purpose will be served by keeping this assurance alive for indefinite period. Therefore, Ministry of Railways requested the Lok Sabha Secretariat (CGA) to drop the assurance."

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

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2489  
ANSWERED ON 06.02.2014

**Job in Lieu of Land Acquired for Railway Lines**

2489. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of acquisition of land for new railway line projects on Hajipur-Sagauli, Chhapra-Muzaffarpur and Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi sections;
- (b) the total number of farmers whose land has been acquired for the purpose;
- (c) the total number of farmers who have applied for the job in lieu of their land acquired by the Railways for the purpose;
- (d) the action taken/being taken by the Railways thereon for providing job to all the eligible farmers along with the present status thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the process of providing such jobs is likely to be completed by the Railways?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHODHURY): (a) The Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi new line project has since been completed and commissioned by acquiring the requisite land required for the project. However, the land acquisition process for Hajipur-Sagauli and Chhapra-Muzaffarpur new line projects is yet to be completed.

(b) The project-wise number of farmers whose land has been acquired for these projects are as under:

|                       |   |           |
|-----------------------|---|-----------|
| Hajipur-Sagauli       | — | 6514 nos. |
| Chhapra-Muzaffarpur   | — | 2213 nos. |
| Muzaffarpur-Sitamarhi | — | 5850 nos. |

(c) So far 421 farmers have applied for jobs in lieu of their land acquired for these projects.

(d) The issue of providing jobs to eligible land losers for these projects is being looked into.

(e) No time frame for providing jobs to all eligible land losers has been fixed as it involves multiple agencies.



#### APPENDIX IV

##### MEMORANDUM NO. 89

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3318 dated 12.12.2014, regarding "Financial Sector Reforms."

On 12 December, 2014, Shri Dinesh Trivedi & Shri B.V. Naik, M.Ps. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3318 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. 13/1/2014-FSLRC dated 10.04.2015, have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That since answer to the question is a simple statement of fact, about an action taken by the Government, it may be not be construed and treated as an Assurance, and be deleted."

4. 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.

Dated: 13.04.2016

New Delhi

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3318  
ANSWERED ON 12.12.2014

**Financial Sector Reforms**

3318. SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI:

SHRI B.V. NAIK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:—

- (a) whether the Government has partially implemented the report of Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time by which the recommendations are likely to be implemented fully?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) & (b) The regulatory authorities, namely the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA), Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) and Forward Markets Commission (FMC) are voluntarily implementing the governance enhancing non legislative aspects of the Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission (FSLRC) recommendations within the existing legal framework. These relate to transparency in the functioning of the regulatory authorities and the process of regulation making.

On the legislative recommendations, the Government has set up Task Forces for laying down the roadmap for upgrading the existing Securities Appellate Tribunal to Financial Sector Appellate Tribunal and establishing new agencies namely, Resolution Corporation, Public Debt Management Agency and Financial Data Management Centre on 30th September 2014. Decisions on other legislative recommendations have not been taken.

(c) No timelines have been fixed for implementing the recommendations of the FSLRC report fully.

## APPENDIX V

### MEMORANDUM NO. 91

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2381 dated 28.03.2012 regarding "Classification of Expenditure."

On 28 March, 2012 Shri M. Anandan, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2381 to the Minister of Planning. 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 Planning within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The NITI Aayog *vide* O.M. No. H-11016/16/2015-FR dated 03.07.2015 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That there are two parts of the assurance:

- (i) Rangarajan and B.K. Chaturvedi Committee recommendations for transfer of central plan funds to the States through the consolidated fund route; and
- (ii) the recommendation of Rangarajan Committee on abolition of plan and non-plan distinction.

The erstwhile Planning Commission *vide* communication no. H-11016/3/2012-FR dated 06.05.2014 informed the Lok Sabha Secretariat that in respect of the Rangarajan and B.K. Chaturvedi Committees recommendations for transfer of central plan funds to the State through the consolidated fund route, the Government has decided to transfer of central plan funds to the State through the consolidated fund route the Government has decided to transfer CSS/ACA funds to the States through the consolidated Fund of the State concerned. This mode of transfer is been implemented in a phased manner by the administrative Ministries/Departments in BE 2014-15.

As regards the recommendation of the Rangarajan Committee on abolition of Plan and non-Plan distinction the facts of the matter are as follows:

- (i) The recommendation of the Rangarajan Committee on Efficient Management of Public Expenditure regarding doing away with the Plan and Non-Plan distinction was placed before the Internal Planning Commission (IPC) of the erstwhile Planning Commission. IPC *inter alia* agreed to accept the recommendation in principle. However, since the 12th Plan has been formulated on the basis of the distinction, which is under implementation, the IPC was of the view that such distinction can be abolished only after completion of the 12th Plan.

- (ii) On January 1, 2015 NITI Aayog has replaced the erstwhile Planning Commission. In the first Governing Council meeting of the NITI Aayog it was decided that the 12th Plan will run its full course. Therefore, abolition of the distinction even if agreed on principle cannot be fully implemented till the time the 12th Plan, formulated on the basis of distinction of Plan/non-Plan, is operational. In view of the above, Lok Sabha Secretariat is hereby requested to drop the said assurance given to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2381 dated 28.03.2012, put down by Shri M. Anandan on "Classification of Expenditure."

4. In view of the above, the NITI Aayog, with the approval of Minister of State, Planning (I/C), have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION  
NO. 2381

ANSWERED ON 28.03.2012

**Classification of Expenditure**

2381 SHRI M. ANANDAN:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether majority of the States have favoured the Rangarajan Committee's recommendation on doing away with the current system of classification of expenditure into plan and non-plan categories and agreed to implement B.K. Chaturvedi group report on centrally sponsored schemes;

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

(c) whether the States have also urged the Central Government to give funds directly to them for various social sector schemes; and

(d) If so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) The States are in broad agreement with B.K. Chaturvedi Committee's report on restructuring of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS). However, they have also made several suggestions. The Rangarajan Committee's report has also been circulated to the States. Some States specifically supported the recommendation on doing away with the current system of classification of expenditure into Plan and Non-Plan categories in the NDC meeting held in October, 2011. Both these matters are under the consideration of the Planning Commission. In his budget speech 2012-13, Hon'ble Finance Minister has mentioned that in implementing the Twelfth Plan, the recommendations made by the Expert Committees to streamline and reduce the number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes and to address Plan and Non-Plan classification, would be kept in view.

(c) and (d) Both Rangarajan Committee and B.K. Chaturvedi Committee have recommended that transfer of Central Plan Funds to States should be made through State Consolidated Fund. In those existing schemes where the funds are directly transferred through autonomous agencies/societies, the mode of transfer should be changed to treasury route over a defined period. This recommendation is under the consideration of the Planning Commission.

## APPENDIX VI

### MEMORANDUM NO. 94

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2774 dated 07.02.2014 regarding "Irregularities in Data".

On 07 February, 2014 Shri Neeraj Shekhar and Shri Yashvir Singh, M.Ps. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2774 to the Minister of Finance. 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 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 Expenditure) *vide* O.M. No. 2(1)/E.Coord/2014 dated 16 December, 2014 and 30th June, 2015 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the C&AG in a similar Question from Rajya Sabha, has intimated that the issue raised in the Question are currently under consideration of the Public Account Committee. In terms of Rule 47(2) (ix) of the Rule of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, information is not to be sought with regard to matter which are under consideration of a Parliamentary Committee. In view of the above position, it is requested that the Assurance may be dropped."

4. 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.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2774  
ANSWERED ON 07.02.2014

**Irregularities in Data**

2774. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI YASHVIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether serious irregularities have been reported/noticed in the data of his Ministry on schemes worth Rs. 3 lakh crore for 2012-13;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government accorded ex-post-facto sanctions in several cases and in some instances expenditure has been authorized even after 31 March, 2013 *i.e.* closing of the financial year 2012-13; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the reaction of the Government in the matter?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

## APPENDIX VII

### MEMORANDUM NO. 96

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 147 dated 5.12.2013 regarding "Desalination Plants".

On 05 December, 2013 Shri Hamdullah Sayeed, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 147 to the Minister of Earth Sciences. 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 Earth Sciences within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Earth Sciences *vide* O.M. No. MoES/43-Parl./98/2013/20 dated 27 January, 2014 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That there is no promise made since the Detailed Project Report (DPR) was submitted to Lakshadweep Administration and there is no action pending from Ministry of Earth Sciences. Accordingly, the assurance given during the XV session 2013 of XV Lok Sabha Unstarred Q. No. 147 dated 05.12.2013 may be deleted."

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

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi



*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 147  
ANSWERED ON 05.12.2013

**Desalination Plants**

147. SHRI HAMDULLAH SAYEED:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Ocean Technology has prepared a Detailed Project Report with revised Estimates to set up desalination plants in six islands in Lakshadweep;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) has prepared a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for establishing desalination plants in six islands of Lakshadweep (Androth, Amini, Kadamat, Chetlat, Kiltan and Kalpani) at an estimated cost of Rs. 190.67 crore.

(c) The DPR was submitted to Lakshadweep Administration for approval of the Project by Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (MoDW&S).

## APPENDIX VIII

### MEMORANDUM NO. 97

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 849 dated 08.08.2013 regarding "North Eastern Water Resources Authority".

On 08 August, 2013 Shrimati Jyoti Dhurve, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 849 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 but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation *vide* O.M. No. 12011/2/2014-B&B (NE)1/736-38 dated 26.06.2015, have requested to drop the assurance, on the following grounds:—

"That after declaration made by the Hon'ble Prime Minister regarding formation of North Eastern Water Resources Authority (NEWRA) in November 2004, the Guidelines for constitution of NEWRA as a basin level authority for overall development of Water Resources in the North Eastern Region was prepared by Ministry of Water Resources. The draft guidelines for constitution of NEWRA was prepared and sent to State Government of Arunachal Pradesh for obtaining their views in April, 2011. Thereafter, Government of Arunachal Pradesh has been requested several time to expedite their views/comments on the Guideline, latest D.O. letter from AS (WR, RD & GR) to Chief Secretary, Government of Arunachal Pradesh on 13th November, 2014. However, views of the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh are still awaited. The matter was also taken up during the High Powered Review Board (HPRB) Meetings of Brahmaputra Board under Chairmanship of Minister of WR, RD & GR. The State Government of Arunachal Pradesh has some reservations on the jurisdiction, structure etc of the proposed authority.

Serious efforts at all levels and forums has been tried to bring the Government of Arunachal Pradesh on board regarding creation of NEWRA as announced by Hon'ble PM during November, 2004. However, Government of Arunachal Pradesh has resisted and registered their reservations on the issue of creation of NEWRA since its inception and there is no reply to the requests of MoWR, even on Guidelines only (for constitution of NEWRA) therefore, the formation of the NEWRA was dependent on the receipt of the views' of State Government of Arunachal Pradesh, however same could not be materialized.

The issue of Restructuring of Brahmaputra Board into North-East and Brahmaputra River Rejuvenation Authority (NEBRRRA) is under active consideration of MoWR, RD & GR which would replace the proposed formation of North-Eastern Water Resources Authority (NEWRA).

Accordingly, a policy document Restructuring of Brahmaputra Board into NEBRRA was prepared and circulated to all NE States for comments. Based on the feedback of the States and Justice Doabia Committee suggestions, a draft bill on basin authority was prepared and circulated to all member states during 7th High Power Review Board Meeting at Shillong. All the States have furnished their comments except Tripura. The comments of these basin States were discussed during the recent 8th meeting of HPRB held in New Delhi on 19th June, 2015, in which all the basin States including Tripura have agreed to the proposal.

As explained in the preceding para, the formation of the NEBRRA in place of NEWRA is under active consideration of MoWR, RD & GR and all basin States including Arunachal Pradesh have accepted the concept with certain suggestions, which are being addressed suitably by MoWR, RD&GR.

In view of the above, it is requested to kindly consider for dropping of the above subject assurance please.”

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State for Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation has requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 849  
ANSWERED ON 08.08.2013

**North Eastern Water Resources Authority**

849. SHRIMATI JYOTI DHURVE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

The present position in regard to the formation of North Eastern Water Resources Authority?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES (SHRI HARISH RAWAT):

The status of reply of the Unstarred Question No. 2925 dated 14.03.2013 remains unchanged. However, Government of Arunachal Pradesh has further been requested in March, 2013 and July, 2013 to expedite their response. Any further action is dependent upon the same.

## APPENDIX IX

### MEMORANDUM NO. 99

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 5505 dated 6.9.2011 regarding "Consumption of Meat and Meat Products".

On 06 September, 2014 Shrimati Jyoti Dhurve, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 5505 to the Minister of Agriculture. 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 Environment, Forest and Climate Change within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented. The assurance was later on transferred to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

3. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change *vide* O.M. No. F. No. 14/11/2011-AWD dated 17 June, 2015 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the House was informed that the Ministry of Environment and Forest is considering to replace the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 by comprehensive Animal Welfare Bill. In 2011, Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) submitted the draft Animal Welfare Bill to replace the PCA Act which was put up for public comments, circulated to concerned ministries incorporated and vetted by Law Ministry, In the light of Supreme Court judgment dated 07.05.2014 on Jallikattu, in June, 2014 AWBI proposed an entirely new bill which is still at its initial draft stage. Various provisions of Animal Welfare Bill, 2014 are yet to be finalized in the Ministry and will take time for their finalization. In view of the above, Committee on Government Assurances (Lok Sabha) may be requested to drop this assurance given in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5505 of 06.09.2011 by Smt. Jyoti Dhurve regarding consumption of meat and meat products by Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture. "

4. In view of the above the Ministry, with the approval of the Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change(I/C), have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated:- 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5505  
ANSWERED ON 06.09.2011

**Consumption of Meat and Meat Products**

5505. SHRIMATI JYOTI DHURVE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the per capita consumption rate of meat and meat products in the country;
- (b) whether the total number of animals slaughtered for meat has increased to more than 11 crore in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the export of meat products to foreign countries has substantially increased in the recent years;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to review the Animal Protection Act and suggests amendment to it after consultation with the State Governments in view of changing scenario of animal production and use causing adverse effect on domestic prices of meat products; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT): (a) As per the report on key indicators of 66th round NSS Survey on household consumer expenditure in India (July 2009-June 2010), monthly per capita quantity of consumption of meat (goat meat/mutton, beef/buffalo meat, pork and chicken) is 0.215 kg. in rural areas and 0.327 kg. in urban areas.

(b) & (c) All India estimates of number of animals slaughtered (including poultry birds) for meat production during the year 2009-10 are given below:

*(in million numbers)*

| Cattle | Buffaloes | Sheep | Goats | Pigs | Poultry |
|--------|-----------|-------|-------|------|---------|
| 2.48   | 5.88      | 23.27 | 50.71 | 6.75 | 1568.31 |

Source: Basic Animal

Husbandry Statistics, 2010, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Government of India

(d) & (e) India's export of meat and meat products during 2007-08 to 2009-10 are given below:

| Year    | Quantity<br>(million tonnes) | Value<br>(Rs. crore) |
|---------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 2007-08 | 0.498                        | 3742.64              |
| 2008-09 | 0.503                        | 5362.55              |
| 2009-10 | 0.546                        | 6254.56              |

*Source:* DGCI&S, M/o of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

(f) & (g) Ministry of Environment and Forests is considering to replace the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 by a comprehensive Animal Welfare Bill in consultation with other Union Ministries.

## APPENDIX X

### MEMORANDUM No. 100

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2759 dated 07.02.2014, regarding "Enhancing Scope of Audit".

On 07 February, 2014 Shri Nama Nageswara Rao M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 2759 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(1)-B(R)/2014 dated 19.12.2014 had requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That no assurance was given by this Ministry. The revised draft bill forwarded by C&AG's Office in June, 2010, for replacing the existing C&AG's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 by a new law titled 'Audit of Public Money and the C&AG's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 2010 contains amendments of around 36 Sections/Sub-sections. Among others, one of the amendments proposed is under section 13(i) & (ii) of the draft bill which include various schemes including the flagship programmes to be placed under the ambit of C&AG's audit as emphasized in the instant Question. Since the proposed draft bills of C&AG impacts various areas of governance, a process of consultation has been initiated with concerned Ministries/Departments and State Governments. After receipt of the comments from all concerned, the proposed draft Bill will be examined in consultation with C&AG and Ministry of Law & Justice. Later, O/o C&AG made extensive changes/deletions in the form of a revised draft bill, namely, C&AG's (Duties, Power and Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 2011. Subsequently, on 18.03.2011 this Ministry had called for the views/comments of the concerned Central Ministries/State Governments on the revised draft Bill for taking a decision of the Government. The comments received so far from the Ministries/State Governments have been considered in the Ministry. The same along with the finance Ministry's comments have been sent to Office of the C&AG's for their comments. A consensus has to be reached between Ministry of Finance and C&AG before the exercise on preparation of the draft Cabinet Note is finalised and vetted by Ministry of Law & 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 a considerable time. The aforesaid exercise would consume considerable time. Therefore, the fulfilment of the assurance would either not be feasible to fulfil the same or would take very considerable time due to impending administrative/political circumstances. In the light of the above, as no assurance is given by the Ministry in the reply to the said Question, the decision for treating it as an 'Assurance' may be reconsidered."

4. The above request for dropping the assurance was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 12 February, 2015 and it was decided of not to drop the assurance. The Committee accordingly presented its 12th report (16th Lok Sabha) on April, 2015. The Committee *inter alia* recommended that the process may be expedited and the matter may be brought to its logical conclusion and would like to be apprised of the initiative taken and progress made in the matter.

5. However the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) *vide* OM No. F.No.8(1)-B-(R)/2014 dated 28 April, 2015 has again requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"Since the exercise relating to amendment of the C&AG's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 would consume considerable time, no timeframe nor any promise/assurance was given for placing the Bill in Parliament. As such, it may be seen from the reply to the said Question that this did not constitute an assurance nor any assurance was given by this Ministry. The reply of the said Parliamentary Question has incorrectly been treated as an assurance. While requesting for extension of time for fulfilling the assurance, it has also been reiterated that the said assurance may be deleted from the pending assurances as the Ministry feels that the fulfilment of the assurance would either not be feasible or it would take very considerable time due to impending administrative circumstances.

It is pertinent to mention that in the 36th Report of the Committee on Government Assurance regarding dropping of the assurances, presented to Lok Sabha on 11.02.2014, the Assurance relating to Lok Sabha USQ No. 5073 for 27.08.2010 regarding the similar subject matter *i.e.* 'Flagship Scheme' has been dropped. Therefore, it is requested that this reply may not be treated as an assurance and this assurance may kindly be deleted from the list of Assurances in the light of the above para".

6. In view of the above, the Ministry with the approval of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance has requested to drop the assurance.

The Committee may reconsider.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2759

ANSWERED ON 07.02.2014

**Enhancing Scope of Audit**

2759. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Statutory Auditor has sought amendments in the relevant Act to enhance the scope of the audits and ensure timely tabling of reports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the present status of the request;
- (c) the reasons for the delay in accepting the request, if any; and
- (d) the time by which the said request is likely to be acceded to?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
(SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b), (c) and (d) The revised draft Bill is being actively examined by Ministry of Finance in consultation with concerned Ministries/Departments and all the State Governments. The matter is under process.

## APPENDIX XI

### MEMORANDUM NO. 101

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4844 dated 23.12.2014, regarding "Cases Handed over to NIA".

On 23 December, 2014 Shri C.S. Putta Raju, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4844 to the Minister of Home 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 Home Affairs within three months from the date of reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Home Affairs vide O.M. No. F. No.1-13012/13/2014-IS-IV dated 09 March, 2015 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That while indicating the status of the cases handed over the NIA it had, *inter alia*, been stated that 26 cases are under investigation which have been treated as assurance. Since the NIA is an Investigation Agency and cases are entrusted to the Agency for investigation on regular and continuous basis. Certain number of cases remain under investigation at any particular time and it is not possible to complete investigation of all cases at given time as new cases are assigned to the Agency on regular basis. Treating the above reply as an assurance does not seem to be appropriate.

Earlier reply of this Ministry to a similar question *i.e.* Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3946 regarding cases handed over to NIA Answered on 18.12.2012 was also treated as an assurance initially, however, pursuant to requests of this Ministry based on above justifications, the assurance was deleted/dropped. The Lok Sabha Secretariat *vide* their OM dated 31.05.2013 conveyed exclusion/dropping of the said assurance from the list of pending assurances."

4. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, has requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4844  
ANSWERED ON 23.12.2014

**Cases Handed over to NIA**

4844. SHRI C.S. PUTTA RAJU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the cases handed over to the National Investigation Agency (NIA) for investigation since its inception, till date;
- (b) the status of such cases under investigation by the NIA;
- (c) whether it is a fact that inadequate manpower in the NIA hampers the investigation process and final and logical conclusion of cases, which are of utmost national importance; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) & (b) A total number of 88 cases have been assigned to the National Investigation Agency (NIA) for investigation and prosecution since its inception. Out of these 88 cases, investigation has been completed in 62 cases and charge sheets have been filed in 60 cases and closures reports have been filed in 2 cases. In 12 cases, trials have concluded and judgment has been delivered by the Special Courts constituted under the NIA Act, 2008, out of which, in 10 cases, 29 accused persons have been convicted, and 2 cases have resulted in acquittal. The remaining 26 cases are under investigation.

(c) No Madam.

(d) Does not arise.

## APPENDIX XII

### MEMORANDUM NO. 102

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 768 dated 29.07.2010, regarding "New Law to Deal with man-made Disasters."

On 29 July, 2010 Shri Uday Singh, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 768 to the Minister of Law and Justice. 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 Law and Justice (Department of Legal Affairs) within the three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Ministry of Law and Justice (Department of Legal Affairs) *vide* O.M. No. F.No. 3 (44)/2014-Adv. B dated 11 May, 2015 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That it is pointed out that the subject matter of the assurance pertains to Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals. However, it is relevant to mention that pursuant to the decision taken by Group of Ministers on Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster held during 18-21 June 2010 the subject was referred to Law Commission of India for their consideration and recommendation on the subject and Department of Legal Affairs right from the very beginning pursuing the same with the Commission for expeditious consideration.

It is also relevant to mention that in a recent communication received from the Law Commission of India this Department has been informed that no specific progress/time limit for completion of study report can be fixed for a work of this nature.

Further, it is pointed out as per the established procedure if the Law Commission submits its report in near future to this Department the same will be forwarded to nodal Departmental *i.e.* Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals for their consideration and appropriate action at their end which may further consume considerable time. Therefore, fulfilment of this Assurance is not dependent merely on the Report of the Law Commission but will also depend on the action taken report of the Nodal Department in view of the above and as there is no prospect for fulfilment of this Assurance in near future, it is requested that the Committee on Government Assurances (Lok Sabha) may please consider for dropping of this assurance."

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

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

*ANNEXURE*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 768  
ANSWERED ON 29.07.2010

**New Law to Deal with man-made Disasters**

768. SHRI UDAY SINGH *ALIAS* PAPPU SINGH:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the recent judgment on the Bhopal Gas disaster, the Union Government has decided to enact a new law to deal with man-made disasters;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government plans to put the Law of torts in the Indian statute books to empower Indians to claim damages for negligence by multinational coporations; and

(d) if so, the details of steps the Government proposes to take in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### APPENDIX XIII

#### MEMORANDUM NO. 103

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4003 dated 06.08.2014, regarding "Satellite Launch Pads."

On 06 August, 2014 Shri B.V. Naik, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4003 to the Department of Space. 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 Department of Space within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The Department of Space *vide* O.M. No. F. No. 22014/21/2012/Sec. V dated 24 July, 2015 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the above assurance relates to setting up a new satellite launching pad, referred as Third Launch Pad, at Sriharikota. The third Launch Pad is intended to support increased launch frequency, launching requirements of future advanced launch vehicles and also serve as a redundant launch pad for the GSLV MIII class of vehicles. Detailed studies on possible concepts/options and preliminary configuration have been carried out. The possible site for the Third Launch Pad has been identified in Sriharikota taking into account, the safety distances and maximal utilization of existing launch pad facilities.

Further work on design of the launch pad will be taken up at an appropriate time after finalizing the configuration of the advanced launch vehicle, readiness of the advanced launch vehicles, operationalisation of GSLV MIII, programmatic requirements and resource availability.

Finalisation of the configuration of advanced launch vehicles and their readiness, operationalisation of GSLV-MkIII, are long drawn technological process and it is not feasible to associate a fixed timeline for the completion at this stage. Also, there are technological uncertainties involved in future programmatic requirements and resource availability at this stage.

In view of the above, it is requested to kindly delete the above said assurance from the list of pending assurances of Department of Space."

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

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 13.0.4.2016  
New Delhi

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SPACE  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4003  
ANSWERED ON 06.08.2014

**Satellite Launch Pads**

4003. SHRI B.V. NAIK:

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the satellite launch pads in the country;
- (b) the details of countries that have used these launch pads during the last three years and the revenue earned as a result thereof, year-wise;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to set up new satellite launch pads and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the budgetary allocation made to the Department of Space and the amount spent for Research and Design (R&D) along with the achievements made during the above period?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) India has two operational satellite launch pads located at Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.

(b) The launch pads at Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota are used exclusively for launch vehicles developed by ISRO. However, India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV), has launched 10 satellites of eight foreign countries (Austria, Canada, Denmark, France, Japan, Luxembourg, Singapore, United Kingdom) during the last three years. These satellites belonging to foreign countries are launched by ISRO, on a commercial basis, under a contract between foreign countries and Antrix Corporation Ltd., a commercial arm of ISRO.

The revenue earned by Antrix Corporation Ltd. through launch of these satellites during last three financial years, year-wise is as follows:

| Financial Year | Revenue Earned  |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 2011-12        | USD 1,000,000   |
| 2012-13        | Euro 540,000    |
| 2013-14        | Euro 21,095,000 |



(c) Yes Madam. The Government is considering setting up a new satellite launching pad, referred as Third Launch Pad, at Sriharikota. The Third Launch Pad is intended to support increased launch frequency, provide active redundancy to existing launch pads and to support launching requirements of advanced launch vehicles. The possible sites for the Third Launch Pad has been identified in Sriharikota taking into account the safety distances and maximal utilization of existing launch pad facilities.

(d) The budgetary allocation made to Department of Space during the last three years are:

[₹ in Crore]

| Financial Year | Amount Allocated |                   |         |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------|---------|
|                | Budget Estimates | Revised Estimates | Actuals |
| 2011-12        | 6626.04          | 4432.30           | 3790.78 |
| 2012-13        | 6715.04          | 4880.03           | 4856.28 |
| 2013-14        | 6792.04          | 5172.04           | 5168.95 |

The details of amount spent for R&D, under the Plan budget of Department of Space, which includes Development of Earth Observation Satellites, INSAT/GSAT system, Development of Launch Vehicles, Space Applications and Space Science & Planetary exploration during the last three years are:

[₹ in Crore]

| Financial Year | Amount Allocated |                   |                    |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
|                | Budget Estimates | Revised Estimates | Amount Spent Total |
| 2011-12        | 5700.04          | 3432.03           | 2791.61            |
| 2012-13        | 5615.04          | 3800.03           | 3783.23            |
| 2013-14        | 5615.04          | 4000.04           | 3997.93            |

Major achievements of Department of Space, during the last three years (2011-14) include:

- i. Launch of India's first interplanetary mission to Mars, Mars Orbiter Mission.
- ii. Augmentation of Earth Observation capability with launch of indigenous Radar Imaging Satellite (RISAT-1) having day & night capability under all weather conditions; Indo-French Joint Missions viz. Satellite for ARGOS and ALTika (SARAL) for oceanographic studies and Megha-Tropiques for tropical weather/climate studies; Resourcesat-2 for natural

resources surveys; Advanced Weather satellite, INSAT-3D and science satellite YOUTHSAT.

- iii. Indigenous development and flight testing of cryogenic engine and stage on board GSLV-D5.
- iv. Operational flights of Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C16 to C22 & PSLV-C25).
- v. Development and qualification of large solid state booster (S200) and higher thrust liquid stage (L110) stages for the next generation launch vehicle GSLV-MkIII.
- vi. Augmentation of INSAT/GSAT system with five communication satellites namely, GSAT-7, GSAT-8, GSAT-10, GSAT-12 and GSAT-14 adding 89 transponders in Ku, C, Extended C, S and UHF bands to the transponder capacity.
- vii. Establishment of GPS Aided Geo-Augmented Navigation for safety of life applications for civil aviation sector.

## APPENDIX XIV

### MEMORANDUM NO. 104

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1284 dated 26.02.2003, regarding "Non-Payment of Wage/Salary."

On 26 February, 2003 Shri Mahboob Zahedi, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1284 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. H-11016/4/2003-L dated 04 June, 2015 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That in the reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question no. 1284 Answered on 26th February, 2003 relating to payment of salary/wage to the Employees of Calcutta Dock Labour Board, an Assurance was given in reply to part (f) of the Question stating that the proposals of the CDLB seeking Financial assistance for implementing a Special Voluntary Retirement Scheme and for Payment of outstanding dues of Pensioners were under consideration of the Government. This Assurance could not be fulfilled as the issue pertaining to financial support/loan for merger of CDLB with Kolkata Port Trust (KoPT) has not yet been resolved.

The proposal regarding grant for financial restructuring for meeting future pensionary liabilities of pensioners and workers/employees of CDLB is under consideration since 2003 which require approval of the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.

The proposal regarding financial assistance to KoPT was considered by the Committee of Secretaries in its meeting held on 8th February, 2008 and it was again taken up with the CoS and it was agreed to provide an Annual Budgetary support of Rs. 19.43 crore per annum to the KoPT in the form of grant by the Government.

To sort out the matter, three meetings were taken by the then Joint Secretary (Cabinet Secretariat) and last such meeting was taken on 28th October, 2009. The matter was referred to Department of Expenditure for reconsidering the issue of providing financial support to the CDLB. After receipt of the comments from D/o Expenditure, the issue was reviewed in COS meeting held on 16.02.2010. COS agreed to grant Non-Plan loan to KoPT/CDLB. Department of Expenditure had been requested to take urgent action to sanction the loan as per approval of CoS on 16.02.2010. The following decisions were taken in the meeting of COS held on 16.02.2010.

MoS will take pro-active steps for merger of CDLB with KoPT and will come up with a comprehensive proposal by the end of current financial year to carry out merger in a time-bound manner.

- (ii) MoF may examine setting up liberal terms and conditions for repayment of the annual non-plan loan to be given to CDLB/KoPT as budgetary support from Government of India.
- (iii) MoS will formulate a separate proposal for restructuring of merged entity of KoPT with CDLB, seeking financial assistance from GoI to counter the above impact of merger.
- (iv) As a long term measures, MoS will expedite work relating to development of river by taking River Regulatory Measures and such other steps, as may be necessary, for improving river navigability.

As the KoPT is not in a position to bear the financial liabilities of CDLB, Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure was requested to take steps for sanction of loan to CDLB. Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure advised to send the proposal for restructuring the merger of CDLB with KoPT. The formal proposal for eventual restructure of CDLB with KoPT involving CDLB's liability of Rs. 1226.35 crore as on 31.03.2013 requesting for the following financial support:

Rs. 315.78 crore may be given as one time grant against the total arrears and save interest on arrears of Rs. 193.94 crore.

- (ii) The balance Rs. 716.63 crore for creation of Pension Fund may be given as 75% grant and 25% interest free soft loan of 30 years with a moratorium of 10 years on repayment.

CDLB stated that since the KoPT is also reeling under financial crunch due to declining draft, traffic and mounting pension load, financial assistance from Government of India is an absolute necessity for the merger of CDLB with KoPT. Accordingly, the aforesaid proposal was sent to the Department of Expenditure. The Department of Expenditure has sought a comprehensive merger/restructuring package of CDLB and KoPT. The KoPT has taken up the matter with IIFT, Kolkata for a Study Report in this regard.

It is seen that the issue regarding financial grant to CDLB with KoPT has been constantly pursued which has not yet been resolved even after more than 12 years since the time of the Assurance given to Lok Sabha USQ No. 1284 Answered on 26.02.2003. The financial support/loan to KoPT does not seem to be forthcoming in the near future. The eventual merger of CDLB with KoPT cannot take place till the issue of financial support/loan KoPT is resolved."

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

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1284

ANSWERED ON 26.02.2003

**Non-Payment of Wage/Salary**

1284. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the workers and employees of Kolkata Dock Labour Board have not been paid their salaries/wages for the last three months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the statutory deductions from their wages/salaries are not being properly credited;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether pension is not being paid to retired workmen; and
- (f) if so, the remedial step being taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI): (a) & (b) Due to acute financial crisis, the Kolkata Dock Labour Board has not been able to pay salary and wages to its employees and workers by due date. There has been a time lag of 2 to 3 months in making payments.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) Due to acute financial crisis, there has been time lag of 2 to 3 months in payment of pension to retired workmen.

(f) The Kolkata Dock Labour Board, which is a statutory and autonomous body consisting of representatives of Government, employers of Dock Workers and Dock Workers, has taken several steps for reduction in wasteful expenditure and intensification of activities for increasing its income. The proposals of the Board seeking financial assistance for implementing a special Voluntary Retirement Scheme and for payment of outstanding dues of pensioners are under consideration of the Government.

## APPENDIX XV

### MEMORANDUM NO. 105

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 5358 dated 09.05.2012, regarding "Utilisation of Funds".

On 09 May, 2012 Shri K. Sudhakaran, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 5358 to the Minister of Planning. 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 Planning within three months from the date of the reply but the assurance is yet to be implemented.

3. The NITI Aayog *vide* O.M. No. H-11016/15/2015-FR dated 28 July, 2015 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

- (i) "That the recommendation of the Rangarajan Committee with respect to the annual budgeting process presumes that Five Year Plans (FYPs) will be operational with the following linkages so as to influence the budgeting function of the Ministry of Finance involving the State Governments in preparing FYPs projection of State's resources and their respective State Plan.
  - (a) FYPs will provide the overall framework for sectoral allocation for sectors/service/ministries over the FYP time period.
  - (b) Ministry of Finance will prepare a Medium Term Expenditure Plan (MTEP) on a three year rolling basis broadly based on FYP.
  - (c) Mentions schedule for involvement of Planning Commission in output/outcome linked reviews of Ministries performance alongwith Ministry of Finance.
  - (d) Based on the (a) and (b) above, Ministry of Finance would go ahead with the RE and BE exercise and the RE and BE proposals would be made both to Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission and the later would participate in budget meetings.
  - (e) Review of Ministries proposals based on MTEP and resource projects submitted by Ministry of Finance.
- (ii) Even though NITI Aayog (erstwhile Planning Commission) has not been consulted in GBS exercise for 2015-16, Hon'ble Prime Minister as Chairman of the NITI Aayog did hold pre-budgetary consultations.
- (iii) Although Five Year Plans are not specified in the resolution of NITI Aayog but attention is drawn towards NITI Aayog's functions, *inter alia* to evolve a shared vision of national development priorities, sectors and strategies with the active involvement of States in the light of

national objectives to design long term policy programme frame works. These would definitely go ahead to influence budget-making. In other words, its future involvement in budget-making in a structured way would have to be determined.

(iv) Directions are awaited to the announcement of the next Five Year Plan.

Therefore, in view of the NITI Aayog's role being evolved in accordance with its resolution. Lok Sabha Secretariat is hereby requested to drop the said assurance."

4. In view of the above, the NITI Aayog, with the approval of Minister of State, Planning (I/C), have requested to drop the above assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5358  
ANSWERED ON 09.05.2012

**Utilisation of Funds**

5358. SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the panel headed by C. Rangarajan had submitted a report in August, 2011, recommending creation of Central Plan monitoring system to provide information on utilisation of funds by the Central Ministries and if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(b) whether the report also suggests that the Ministry of Finance should design annual budgets for the Ministries later to be approved by the Planning Commission and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) The High Level Expert Committee on efficient management of Public Expenditure headed by Dr. C. Rangarajan recommended that the Central Plan Scheme Monitoring System (CPSMS) should be extended to enable tracking of utilization of funds for all Central Schemes in all States for which resources are either transferred through treasury route or society route. CPSMS was launched in April, 2008 as Central Sector Scheme with a view to putting in place a suitable Management Information System (MIS) and Decision Support System (DSS) to enable informed planning budgeting and decision making and meaningful monitoring of plan Schemes of the Union Government. The Scheme is being operationalized in phases. The scheme will be fully rolled out during the 12th Five Year Plan.

(b) The Rangarajan Committee has recommended to revise the Annual Budgeting process. The recommendations of the Committee are being examined.



## APPENDIX XVI

### MEMORANDUM NO. 106

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 6978 dated 18.05.2012, regarding "Power Generation and USQ 4945 dated 25.04.2013 regarding Irregularities under RGGVY'.

On 18 May, 2012 and 25 April, 2013 Shri Ravinder Kumar Pandey, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 6978 to the Minister of Power. The text of the questions along with the reply of the Minister are as given in the Annexures-I & II.

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

3. The Ministry of Power *vide* O.M. No. 40/55/2012-RE dated 06 February, 2013 had requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the Part (d) & (e) of the assurance be dropped because implementation of three projects of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Viduyutikaran Yojana in Jharkhand are being investigated by CBI and it is not possible to anticipate the likely date of completion of enquiry of CBI."

4. The Committee considered the request of the Ministry at their sitting held on 06 February, 2014 and decided not to drop the assurance and accordingly, presented its 40th Report (15th Lok Sabha) on 17 February, 2014 *inter-alia* recommending that the matter should be pursued vigorously and the Committee be apprised of the progress made by CBI in the matter from time to time.

5. However, the Ministry of Power *vide* OM No. 40/03/2012-RE dated 12th May, 2015 have again requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the matter has been taken up with CBI who in turn, *vide* their ID No. 25/3/15-PD/899 dated 23.04.2015 has furnished the present status of the following two assurances *w.r.t.* CBI investigation in the State of Jharkhand and J & K which is as under:—

| Sl No. | Q.No. & Date                     | Subject          | Promise Made  | Status of CBI investigation   |
|--------|----------------------------------|------------------|---|---|
| 1      | 2                                | 3                | 4   | 5   |
| i.     | LS USQ No. 6978 dated 18.05.2012 | Power Generation | Implementation of three projects of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Viduyutikaran Yojana regarding award of work by JSEB are being investigated by CBI | The closure report of the CBI enquiry filed in the court on 24.10.2014 and the same is under consideration. |

| 1   | 2                                      | 3  | 4   | 5   |
|-----|--|--|---|---|
| ii. | LS USQ No.<br>6978 dated<br>18.05.2012 | Irregularities<br>under Rajiv<br>Gandhi<br>Grameen<br>Vidyutikaran<br>Yojana | Complaints regarding alleged<br>irregularities in award of<br>work in the State of<br>Jharkhand and Jammu &<br>Kashmir were received.<br>The matter is under<br>investigation by CBI. | The Status of CBI enquiry<br>in r/o the State of Jharkhand<br>has mentioned in Point<br>(i) above. Further, the<br>investigation proceedings<br>in r/o irregularities under<br>implementation of Reworks<br>in District Leh & Kargil<br>was completed and the<br>closure report was accepted<br>by the court and the other<br>investigation in r/o district<br>Udhampur, are under Trial. |

It is evident that the said CBI Case has almost attained its logical conclusion/ finality in the State of Jharkhand and J&K except one case which is under trial and it is not possible at this stage to anticipate the likely date of completion of the said enquiry. In view of above, it is requested that the Committee on Government Assurance, Lok Sabha secretariat may kind drop these two assurances."

6. In view of the above, the Ministry with the approval of the Minister of State (I/C) of Power have requested to drop the assurance.

The Committee may reconsider.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF POWER  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6978  
ANSWERED ON 18.05.2012

**Power Generation**

6978. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have sent any proposal to the State Government of Jharkhand to increase the Power production in view of electricity crisis in the country particularly in the State of Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount provided under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana by the Union Government during the last three years and current financial year to the State Government of Jharkhand along with the details of its utilization and progress of work;

(d) whether the Government proposes to conduct any investigation regarding the amount issued to the State Government of Jharkhand along with the proper utilization and progress of work; and

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

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER ( SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL) (a) & (b) No, Madam.

(c) Cumulatively, an amount of Rs. 2992 crore including loan by Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) has been released under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) for the State of Jharkhand as on 30.04.2012. The year-wise release of funds during the last three years and current year, is as under:

*(Rs. in crore)*

| Year funds                                | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13<br>(as on<br>30.4.2012) | Total (includes<br>released prior to 2009-10) |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------------------------------|---|
| Funds (including<br>loan by REC) released | 750.48  | 161.89  | 116.54  | 12.38                           | 2,992.00                                      |

The physical progress of projects sanctioned under RGGVY in Jharkhand is as under:

| Revised coverage Cumulative achievement as on 30.04.2012 |                                      |                                      |        |       |           |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------|-------|-----------|
| Un-electrified villages (UEV)                            | Partially electrified villages (PEV) | Below Poverty Line Connections (BPL) | UE     | PEV   | BPL       |
| 19,281   | 7,223                                | 18,30,722                            | 17,917 | 5,511 | 12,75,252 |

(d) & (e) Implementation of three projects of RGGVY regarding award of work by JSEB are being investigated by CBI.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF POWER

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4945

ANSWERED ON 25.04.2013

**Irregularities under RGGVY**

4945. SHRI RAMKISHUN:  
SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN:  
RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:  
SHRI P.L. PUNIA:  
SHRI BAIDYANATH PRASAD MAHTO:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints regarding irregularities under the Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) have been received from various States particularly in Bihar, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of enquiry conducted through any Committee to ascertain as to whether the funds allocated to the various States including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have been properly utilized, State-wise;

(c) the action taken/being taken against the responsible persons for delay in completion of the projects under the Scheme along with the corrective measures being taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) the details of funds allocated for Barabanki and Pratapgarh areas of Uttar Pradesh and utilized during the last three years under the Scheme along with the status of completion of projects in the said areas and the number of villages in which electricity has been provided;

(e) whether the Government proposes to make amendments in RGGVY; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA) (a) to (c) Complaints regarding alleged irregularities in the States of Jharkhand and Jammu & Kashmir were received. The matter is under investigation by CBI.

No such enquiry has been conducted by any Committee to ascertain as to whether the funds allocated to the various States including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have been properly utilized.

In addition, other complaints of various nature that are received in the Ministry of Power from different quarters are promptly sent to the concerned implementing agencies for taking appropriate action/corrective measures.

(d) In the last three years *i.e.* 2010-11 to 2012-13, no fund has been released to Barabanki and Pratapgarh in Uttar Pradesh. Under RGGVY, projects of district Barabanki and Pratapgarh of Uttar Pradesh were sanctioned in the 10th Plan with the project cost of Rs. 7636.60 lakh and Rs. 4950.40 lakh respectively. The electrification works in these districts have been completed.

(e) & (f) The Ministry of Power has proposed for continuation of the RGGVY Scheme to the remaining villages/habitations having population 50 and above against the existing provision of population 100 and above in the 12th Plan subject to availability of funds.

## APPENDIX XVII

### MEMORANDUM NO. 108

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1930 dated 23.7.2014, regarding "Sharda Chit Fund Scam".

On 23 July, 2014 Shri Hukum Singh M.P., addressed an Unstarred Question No. 1930 to the Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. The text of the question along with 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. 235/21/2014-AVD-II dated 23.04.2015 and 235/34/2014-AVD-II dated 21.11. 2014 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That it is stated that the replies of this Department furnished to the question raised by Hon'ble members only mentioned the details of cases and their present status. There was no element of promise in the said reply and that the said reply did not constitute an assurance. The enquiry/Investigation is an ongoing process guided and determined by the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. Investigation of case by the CBI takes time because of complicated nature of cases requiring scrutiny of voluminous documents. The Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha is requested not to treat the reply given in this Parliament Question as an assurance."

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.

Dated: 13.04.2016

New Delhi

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1930

ANSWERED ON 23.07.2014

**Sharda Chit Fund Scam**

1930. SHRI HUKUM SINGH:

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

- (a) the progress made by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in the inquiry of Sharda Chit Fund Scam;
- (b) the total number of persons arrested in this connection; and
- (c) the time by which the said inquiry is likely to be completed?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE. (DR. JITENDRA SINGH) (a) CBI has registered four cases (three in West Bengal and one in Odisha) against Sharda Group of Companies. Till 18/07/2014 more than 350 Bank accounts in the name of different companies of Sharda Group and more than 160 companies of Sharda Group have been identified. The investigation to find out diversion of fund and larger conspiracy is in progress. Total 64 witnesses have been examined so far.

(b) After registration of the cases, six accused persons namely, S/Shri Sudipta Sen, Kunal Ghosh, Somnath Datta, Monoj Nagel, Arvind Chowhan and Smt. Debjani Mukherjee, were shown arrested and their Police Custody was taken w.e.f. 16/06/2014 to 22/06/2014. S/Shri Sudipta Sen, Kunal Ghosh and Smt. Debjani Mukherjee were taken in further Police Custody till 26/06/2014.

(c) The investigation of these cases, though at initial stage presently is being carried out expeditiously.



## APPENDIX XVIII

### MEMORANDUM NO. 110

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Starred Question No. 197 dated 6 August, 2010 regarding "Audit of Joint Ventures".

On 6 August, 2010 Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi and Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan) Singh, MPs, addressed a Starred Question No. 197 to the Minister of Finance. The contents of the question along with the reply of the Minister are as given in Annexure.

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

3. The Ministry of Finance *vide* O.M. No. 8(16)-B(R)/2010 dated 7 December, 2010 have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That it is clear from the reply to the question that no assurance was given by this Ministry with respect to part (c) of the question. It was not the intention of the Ministry to give any assurance for bringing such entities within the ambit of C&AG. The revised draft bill forwarded by C&AG Office in June, 2010 for replacing the existing Comptroller & Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 by a new law titled "Audit of Public Money and the C&AG's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 2010 contains amendments of around 36 sections/sub-sections. Among others, one of the proposed amendments is under section 13(1) of the draft Bill which include various projects under joint venture of the public and private sector under the ambit of C&AG's audit as emphasized in the instant question.

The reply to the question indicated that no assurance was given by this Ministry. The answer of the question simply intimate that the revised draft Bill forwarded by C&AG Office in June, 2010 for replacing the existing Comptroller & Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 by a new law titled 'Audit of Public Money and the C&AG's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 2010' contain proposals/amendments on various issues in the light of changed structure and processes of governance and pattern of outflows from the public exchequer and several other factors. Since the draft Bill has impact on the various areas of governance, with the approval of FM, a process of consultation has been initiated with concerned Central Ministries/Departments and State Governments. Till date, a considerable number of comments/views have since been received both from Central Ministries/Departments and State Governments which are being complied and examined. Therefore, the matter relating to expanded provision of C&AG with respect to audit of income and expenditure accounts of projects under the joint venture of the public and private sector as queried in the question and the reply of which has been treated as an assurance may be reconsidered.

As already pointed out, no assurance was given in the reply with regard to part (c) of the question. In the light of the above, as no time-frame nor any assurance is made in the reply to the question that the Bill proposed by the

C&AG would be enacted, treating it as an assurance may be reconsidered."

4. The above request for dropping the assurance was considered by the Committee at their sitting held on 21 July, 2011 and it was decided of not to drop the assurances. The Committee accordingly presented its 17th report (15th Lok Sabha) on 30 August, 2011. The Committee *interalia* recommended that the process may be expedited and the matter may be brought to its logical conclusion and would like to be apprised of the initiative taken and progress made in the matter.

5. However, the Ministry of (Finance Department of Economic Affairs) *vide* OM No. F.No. 8(10)-B(R)/2010 dated 29 April, 2014 has again required to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the subject-matter of the above 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'. The Ministry had furnished specific comments to C&AG on the proposed draft Bill soliciting their views/comments for amendments to the existing 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's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Services) Amendment Act, 2011, proposing therein changes/deletions in the existing Act. The revised draft Bill is being examined in consultation with concerned Ministres/Departments and the State Governments. Thereafter the draft, if approved, Bill has to be vetted by Ministry of Law & 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 either not be feasible or would take very considerable time due to impending administrative/political circumstances.

It is pertinent to mention that recently, the Lok Sabha Secretariat has *vide* O.M. No. 36 report/11/2/2013-CGA, dated 13.2.2014, forwarded a copy of the 36th Report of the Committee on Government Assurances regarding dropping of the Assurance, presented on 11.2.2014. According to the said Report, the Assurance relating to Lok Sabha USQ No. 5073 for 27-8-2010 regarding amendment of C&AG (DPC) Act, 1971 had been dropped. It is reiterated that as no Assurance was given by the Ministry in the reply to the said Question, the decision for treating it as 'Assurance' may be reconsidered. It is therefore, requested that this Assurance may please be deleted from the list of Assurances. The matter may kindly be placed before the Committee on Government Assurances for reconsideration in the light of the 36th Report of the Committee on Government Assurance."

6. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance has requested to drop the assurance.

The Committee may reconsider.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 197  
ANSWERED ON 06.08.2010

**Audit of Joint Ventures**

197. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN (LALAN) SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the income and expenditure accounts of the projects under the joint ventures of the public and the private sector are subjected to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG);

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to bring such entities within the ambit of C&AG; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a), (b), (c) and (d) A statement is placed in the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha starred Question No. tabled by Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh *alias* Lalan Singh and Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi for Answer on Friday, August 6, 2010 regarding 'Audit of Joint Ventures'.

(a) Yes, Madam. The income and expenditure accounts of projects under the ventures of the public and the private sector are subject to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India under sections 14 and 20 of the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) & (d) A revised draft Bill seeking to replace the existing Comptroller and Auditor General (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 is under consideration. The proposals in the draft Bill include, *inter alia*, provision for expanded powers of Comptroller and Auditor General of India with respect to audit of income and expenditure accounts of projects under the joint venture of the public and the private sector.

## APPENDIX XIX

### MEMORANDUM NO. 112

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 387 dated 25.02.2015, regarding "Bribery Nexus".

On 25 February, 2015 Shri Venkatesh Babu T. G., M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 387 to the Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. The text of the question along with 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. 235/1/2015-AVD-II dated 18.06.2015 and have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That the Enquiry/Investigation is an ongoing process guided and determined legally by the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. Investigation of cases by the CBI takes time because of complicated nature of cases requiring scrutiny of voluminous documents. Further, Government does not interfere with the investigation of cases by the CBI and does not intervene in the judicial functioning of the Hon'ble Courts.

As per updated information received from CBI, case RC 01/2015-ACB Chennai dated 10.01.2015 is still under investigation.

Since the fulfilment of assurance relates to a case which is under investigation by CBI and the completion of investigation depends on the facts and circumstances of a particular case. Hence, no definite time-frame can be stipulated for completion of the investigation. Hence, the Committee on Government Assurances, Lok Sabha is requested not to treat the reply given in Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 387 on 25.02.2015 as an Assurance in view of above stated fact."

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.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

ANNEXURE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 387  
ANSWERED ON 25.02.2015

**Bribery Nexus**

387. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH BABU:

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

- (a) whether the CBI has busted a bribery nexus involving income tax officials, chartered accountants and businessmen as reported in the media;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken to nab the culprits and taken action against; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) & (b) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered 2 Regular Cases (RCs) and 2 Preliminary Enquiries (PEs) in this regard during the year 2014. Further, 1 RC No. 1/2015 was registered during the year 2015 in which Income Tax officials, Chartered Accountants and Businessmen are involved which was recently reported in the media.

(c) & (d) The matter in RC No. 1/2015, as mentioned above, is under investigation and after completion of investigation, the action will be taken in a accordance with law. Government does not interfere with the investigation of cases by the CBI.

## APPENDIX XX

### MEMORANDUM NO. 113

Subject: Request for dropping of assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4135 dated 17.12.2014, regarding "CBI Investigation against VVIPs".

On 17 December, 2014 Shri Kalyan Banerjee, M.P. addressed an Unstarred Question No. 4135 to the Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. The text of the question along with 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. 235/47/2014-AVD-II dated 11.05.2015 and have requested to drop the assurance on the following grounds:—

"That Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4135 replied on 17.12.2014 *inter alia* sought details of CBI inquiry started for investigations against VVIPs during the last three years and the current year. The question also seeks action taken/proposed to be taken against guilty. In reply, this Department had *inter alia* furnished the details of 45 cases registered by CBI against VVIPs and their present status was mentioned as Under Investigation/Under Trial etc. However, the reply mentioning that out of above 45 cases, 25 cases are under trial and 14 cases are under investigation has been treated as an assurance.

The Enquiry/Investigation is an ongoing process guided and determined legally by the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. Investigation of cases by the CBI takes because of complicated nature of cases requiring scrutiny of voluminous documents. Further, Government does not interfere with the investigation of cases by the CBI and does not intervene in the judicial functioning of the Hon'ble Courts.

As per updated information received from CBI, out of 14 cases, 09 cases are still under investigation, 03 cases are pending for trial, in 01 case chargesheet has been filed (presently, case is under further investigation) and in 01 case closure report filed by CBI (However, court directed for further investigation and to seek sanction for prosecution against some accused).

The assurance relates to 'under investigation cases' by CBI and 'under trial cases'. The completion of investigation/trial depends on the facts and circumstances of a particular case. Hence, no definite time-frame can be stipulated for completion of the investigation/trial. Hence, the Committee on

Government Assurances, Lok Sabha is requested not to treat the reply given in Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4135 on 17.12.2014 as an Assurance in view of above stated facts."

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.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4135

ANSWERED ON 17.12.2014

**CBI Investigation against VVIPs**

4135. SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE:

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

(a) the details of CBI inquiry started for investigations against the Central Government Ministers, MPs and Ex-Ministers of State and Central Government during the last three years and the current year; and

(b) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against those found guilty in this regard?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) & (b) CBI has registered during the last three years and upto 31.10.2014 of the current year, a total of 45 cases (41 RCs and 4 PEs) against the Central Government Ministers, MPs and Ex-Ministers of State and Central Government. The year-wise break-up of these cases is as under:—

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| 2011                      | 12 |
| 2012                      | 15 |
| 2013                      | 9  |
| 2014<br>(upto 31.10.2014) | 9  |
| Total                     | 45 |

Out of the above 45 cases, 25 cases are under trial and 14 cases are under investigation. Five cases have been closed by CBI and in one case, CBI has gone on Appeal against the order of the Court.

After completion of investigation, the action is taken in accordance with law. In a series of judgements, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed that CBI be given full independence/autonomy while conducting any investigation. Government does not interfere with the investigation of cases by the CBI and does not intervene in the judicial functioning of the Hon'ble Courts.



## APPENDIX XXI

### MEMORANDUM NO. 121

Subject: Request for dropping of Assurance given in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3996 dated 17.12.2014, regarding "Prevention of Corruption Act".

On 17 December, 2014 Shri Bhagwant Mann, MP addressed an Unstarred Question No. 3996 to the Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. The text of the Question along with 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. The Ministry has further sought extension of time up to 16.03.2016 for fulfilling Assurance.

3. The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training) *vide* O.M. No. 410/04/2015-AVD-IV(B) dated 16.06.2015 has requested to drop the Assurance on the following grounds:—

“That the prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2013, for amending the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 19.08.2013. The Bill was referred to the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice, for examination and report. The Parliamentary Standing Committee submitted its report on the Bill on 06.02.2014, wherein it has made a number of recommendations for amendments in the Bill. Having regard to the fact that the Bill contemplates an important paradigm shift in defining the offences relating to bribery, Government sought the views of the Law Commission of India on the proposals contained in the Bill. The Law Commission of India, in its 254th Report on the Bill, presented to the Government on 12th February, 2015 has suggested a number of significant improvements in the Bill which have been considered by the Government. The Cabinet in its meeting held on 29.04.2015 approved the proposal of this Department to move Official Amendments to the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2013 pending in the Rajya Sabha. Accordingly, Notice for moving official Amendments and for consideration and passing of the Bill was given in the Rajya Sabha in the Budget session, 2015 of Parliament. However, the same could not be taken up for discussion & passing in the Budget Session, in Rajya Sabha.

Since the Law Commission of India has already submitted its 254th Report on the Bill on 12.02.2015 which has been considered by the Government and the Government has already given notice for consideration and passing of the Bill with official amendments, the assurance seems to have been fulfilled. Therefore, Committee on Government Assurances (Lok Sabha) is requested

that the above said assurance may be treated as fulfilled and dropped accordingly from the list of pending assurances against this Ministry."

4. The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions *vide* their communication dated 22.02.2016 have further stated:—

"That the Law Commission of India, in its 254th Report on the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2013, presented to the Government on 12th February, 2015, has already given its view on the Bill, which have been considered by the Government. Notices for moving official amendments and for its consideration & passing were given in the Rajya Sabha, in the Budget, Monsoon and Winter Sessions of 2015 of Parliament. During Winter Session of Parliament, 2015, it was decided by consensus that the said Amendment Bill with official amendments thereto may be referred to the Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha. The said Bill, as of now, stands referred to a 23 Member Select Committee of Rajya Sabha."

5. In view of the above, the Ministry, with the approval of Minister of State (PP) has requested to drop the above Assurance.

The Committee may consider.

Dated: 13.04.2016  
New Delhi

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS  
LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3996

ANSWERED ON 17.12.2014

**Prevention of Corruption Act**

3996. SHRI BHAGWANT MANN:

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to amend or repeal sections 11 and 13 of the existing Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988;
- (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 PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) The Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2013 which was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 19.08.2013, contains provisions, *inter alia*, for omission of section 11 and for amending section 13 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

The said Bill provides that section 11 of the Act shall be omitted. This Bill further provides for substitution of the following sub-section in place of existing sub-section (1) of section 13, namely:—

(1) A public servant is said to commit the offence of criminal misconduct,—

(a) if he dishonestly or fraudulently misappropriates or otherwise converts for his own use any property entrusted to him or under his control as a public servant or allows any other person so to do; or

(b) if he intentionally enriches himself illicitly during the period of his office and, he or any person on his behalf, is in possession or has, at any time during the period of his office, been in possession for which the public servant cannot satisfactorily account, of pecuniary resources or property disproportionate to his known sources of income.

Explanation.—For the purpose of this section, 'known sources of income' means income received from any lawful source.

The Bill was referred to the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice for examination and report. The Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee submitted its 69th Report on the said Bill to the Parliament on 6th February, 2014.

Having regard to the fact that the Bill contemplates an important paradigm shift in defining the offences relating to bribery, the Department of Legal Affairs of the Ministry of Law and Justice has been requested to seek the views of the Law Commission of India.

**APPENDIX XXII**

MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

(2015-16)

**(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

TENTH SITTING

**(18.04.2016)**

The Committee sat from 1500 Hrs. to 1615 Hrs. in Committee Room "B", Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' — *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri E. Ahamed
3. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
4. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
5. Shri A.T. Nana Patil
6. Shri C.R. Patil
7. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh
8. Shri Taslimuddin

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri R.S. Kambo — *Joint Secretary*
2. Shri S.C. Chaudhary — *Director*
3. Shri T.S. Rangarajan — *Additional Director*
4. Shri S.L. Singh — *Deputy Secretary*

\* \* \* \* \*

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them regarding the day's agenda.

\* \* \* \* \*

2. Thereafter, the Committee took up 40 Memoranda (Memo. Nos. 82 to 121)

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\*Not enclosed.

containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping of pending Assurances. After considering a few Memoranda, the Committee authorized the Hon'ble Chairperson to decide the remaining Memoranda. Thereafter, the Hon'ble Chairperson decided to drop 19 Assurances as per details given in Annexure I\* and to pursue the remaining 21 Assurances as per details given in Annexure II, for implementation by the Ministry/Department concerned.

\* \* \* \* \*

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

*The Committee then adjourned.*

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\*Not enclosed.

## COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2015-16)

**Statement Showing Assurances *not dropped* by the Committee on Government Assurances at their sitting held on 18.04.2016**

| Sl. No. | Memo. No. | Question                      | Ministry/ Department  | Subject   | Remarks  |
|---------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--|
| 1.      | 83        | USQ No. 4465 dated 21.02.2014 | Tribal Affairs        | Declaration as Scheduled Area in Himachal Pradesh | The Ministry have contended that no Assurance was given in the the matter. The Committee reject outright this contention of the Ministry as it is their prerogative to treat a particular reply as an Assurance and the Ministry cannot question the wisdom of the Committee as to what constitutes an Assurance. The Ministry are required to pursue the matter with the State Government of Himachal Pradesh to expedite implementation of the Assurance.  |
| 2.      | 84        | USQ No. 1281 dated 27.10.2008 | Labour and Employment | Regularization of Casual and Contract Workers     | The Committee observe that the contention of the Ministry that the matter of regularization of casual/contract workers do not come within their purview and hence, the Assurance may be dropped is untenable. The Ministry should have coordinated with the other Ministries/Departments concerned to compile the requisite information and got the reminder of the Assurance transferred to the Ministry/Department concerned and inform the Committee accordingly. The failure to do so even after a lapse of more than 7 years indicates the lackadaisical attitude of the Ministry as well as utter disregard of the Committee which is highly deplorable. Since the Assurance involves only compilation of certain information, the |

|    |    |                                  |  |   |   |
|----|----|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
|    |    |                                  |  | Committee do not see any justification for such undue delay in fulfilling it. The Committee desire that the Ministry must pursue the matter with concerted efforts to fulfil the Assurance at the earliest. |   |
| 3. | 86 | USQ No. 2489<br>dated 06.02.2014 | Railways                                       | Job in lieu of Land<br>acquired for<br>Railway Lines  | The Committee understand that land acquisition is done by the State Government and it depends upon various factors like availability of funds with Railways, joint verification of land plans etc. and providing jobs to the eligible land losers of the project is a long drawn process as it involves multiple agencies. However, the contention of the Committee that no fruitful purpose will be served by keeping Assurance alive for indefinite period is untenable. Such a statement is not only a manifestation of the Ministry's perfunctory approach towards fulfilling their Parliamentary obligation but also shirking of their responsibility. An Assurance cannot be dropped just because its implementation would take a long time. The Ministry are required to make earnest efforts to expedite implementation of the Assurance. The Committee, therefore, direct the Ministry to vigorously pursue the matter with the State Government concerned and the respective agencies and fulfil the Assurance at the earliest. |
| 4. | 89 | USQ No. 3318<br>dated 12.12.2014 | Finance<br>(Department of<br>Economic Affairs) | Financial Sector<br>Reforms   | The Committee do not accept the contention of the Ministry that the reply to the question is a simple statement of fact about an action taken by the Government and hence it may not be construed and treated as an Assurance. While it is prerogative of the Committee to  |



| Sl. No. | Memo. No. | Question                      | Ministry/ Department                | Subject                       | Remarks  |
|---------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
|         |           |                               |                                     |                               | <p>treat a particular reply as an Assurance, the Ministry cannot question the wisdom of the Committee as to what constitutes an Assurance. Since the Government has setup Task Forces for laying down the road map for upgrading the existing Securities Appellate Tribunal and establishing new agencies namely Resolution Corporation Public Debt Management Agency and Financial Data Management Centre, it is incumbent upon the Ministry to proceed further and accomplish the tasks at the earliest for achieving the desired financial sector reforms. The Ministry cannot give commitments and dishonour them later at will. The Committee desire the Ministry to take proactive steps and pursue the matter vigorously to expedite fulfilment of the Assurance.</p> |
| 5.      | 91        | USQ No. 2381 dated 28.03.2012 | Planning                            | Classification of Expenditure | <p>The Committee find that in sum and substance, the Assurance has been implemented by the Ministry. The Committee would like the Ministry to lay the requisite Implementation Report on the Table of the House.</p>   |
| 6.      | 94        | USQ No. 2774 dated 07.02.2014 | Finance (Department of Expenditure) | Irregularities in Data        | <p>The Committee note that Rule 47 (2) (IX) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, which stipulates that information is not to be sought with regard to the matters which are under consideration of Parliamentary Committee is applicable only when deciding admissibility of Questions and the same cannot be a valid reason for dropping Parliamentary Assurances.</p>   |

Since the fulfilment of the Assurance involves only compilation of certain information, the Committee do not see justification for undue delay in the matter. While admonishing the Ministry not to find lame excuses to the extent of avoiding responsibility, the Committee direct the Ministry to take earnest steps for early fulfilment of the Assurance.

- |    |    |                                 |                              |   |  |
|----|----|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---|--|
| 7. | 96 | USQ No. 147<br>dated 05.12.2013 | Earth Sciences               | Desalination Plants                           | <p>The contention of the Ministry that there is no promise made since the Detailed Project Report was submitted to Lakshadweep Administration and there is no action pending from the Ministry of Earth Sciences, cannot be accepted. The Ministry are required to pursue the matter with the Lakshadweep Administration and the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation for getting the DPR approved so as to set up the proposed desalination plants. Moreover, it is the prerogative of the Committee to treat a particular reply as an Assurance and the Ministry cannot question the wisdom of the Committee as to what constitutes an Assurance. The Committee desire the Ministry to make concerted and coordinated efforts to fulfil the Assurance at the earliest. The Committee would like to be apprised of initiatives taken and progress made in this regard.</p> |
| 8. | 97 | USQ No. 849<br>dated 08.08.2013 | Water<br>Resources,<br>River | North Eastern<br>Water Resources<br>Authority | <p>The Committee note that the North Eastern States possess huge potential in water resources and the setting up of the North Eastern Water Resource Authority (NEWRA) will facilitate tapping of the</p>  |

| Sl. No. | Memo. No. | Question                      | Ministry/ Department                | Subject                               | Remarks   |
|---------|-----------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
|         |           |                               | Development and Ganga Rejuvenation  |                                       | said resources to a large extent. The formation of the North East and Brahmaputra River Rejuvenation Authority (NEBRRRA) in place of the NEWRA would not be ideal in this regard since there is a lot of differences between overall development of water resources and rejuvenation of rivers. Thus, the replacement of the NEWRA by the NEBRRRA would not lead to the fulfilment of the Assurance. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to actively pursue the matter with the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh to ensure that the Assurance is fulfilled at the earliest.  |
| 9.      | 99        | USQ No. 5505 dated 06.09.2011 | Environment Forest & Climate Change | Consumption of meat and meat products | The Committee note that various provisions of the Animal Welfare Bill, 2014 are yet to be finalized in the Ministry which may take time. However, an Assurance cannot be dropped just because its implementation would take a long time. Besides, the issue of animal welfare is assuming greater proportions now-a-days and the Ministry need to remain fully alive to the concerns and sensitivities of humanity and enact the said bill at the earliest. While deploring the lackadaisical attitude of the Ministry, the Committee direct the Ministry to take concerted and coordinated steps in consultation with other Ministries/ Department concerned so as to expedite fulfilment of the Assurance. The Committee would like to be apprised of the initiatives taken and progress made in this regard. |

|     |     |                               |  |                          |   |
|-----|-----|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------|---|
| 10. | 100 | USQ No. 2759 dated 07.02.2014 | Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) | Enhancing Scope of Audit | The Ministry has contented that no Assurance was given in the matter. The Committee outrightly reject this contention of the Ministry as it is their prerogative to treat a particular reply as an Assurance and the Ministry cannot question the wisdom of the Committee as to what constitutes an Assurance. Moreover, an Assurance cannot be dropped just because its implementation would take a long time. The Ministry need to make earnest efforts in coordination with other Ministries/Departments concerned and the office of the C&AG of India to expedite fulfilment of the Assurance in the best interest of the country instead of resorting to an irresponsible approach. The multiproliferation of the Government activities and the changing patterns of governance necessitates a paradigm shift in Government auditing and this can be made possible by amending the outdated C&AG's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971. While castigating the Ministry for their lackadaisical attitude, the Committee urge the Ministry to be proactive and take concerted and coordinated steps for early fulfilment of the Assurance. The Committee would like to be apprised of initiatives taken and progress made in this regard. |
| 11. | 101 | USQ No. 4844 dated 23.12.2014 | Home Affairs                             | Cases Handed over to NIA | The Committee note that cases are handed over to NIA for investigation on regular and continuous basis and hence, certain number of cases will always remain pending. However, it is erroneous on the part of the Ministry to state that their reply to this Question has been appropriately treated as an Assurance since it is the  |

| Sl. No. | Memo. No. | Question                     | Ministry/ Department                          | Subject                                 | Remarks  |
|---------|-----------|------------------------------|---|---|--|
|         |           |                              |   |   | prerogative of the Committee to treat a particular reply as an Assurance the Ministry cannot question the wisdom of the Committee as to what constitutes an Assurance. While it is not possible to complete investigation of all cases at a given time as new cases are assigned to the Agency on a regular basis, a proper understanding of the matter would reveal that what the Committee desire is the outcome of the 26 cases mentioned in the reply to this question. The Committee criticize such deplorable attempts of the Ministry to shirk responsibility and would like the Ministry to take proactive steps to expedite investigations of the aforesaid 26 cases and fulfil the Assurance at the earliest.  |
| 12.     | 102       | USQ No. 768 dated 29.07.2010 | Law and Justice (Department of Legal Affairs) | New Law to Deal with Man-Made Disasters | The Committee note that the country badly needs a new law to deal with man-made disasters especially in the aftermath of the Judgment on the Bhopal Gas Tragedy. Considering that there are many forms of man-made disasters, it is erroneous on the part of the Ministry to sweepingly state that the subject matter of the Assurance pertains to the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals. The Ministry themselves are responsible for enacting such a law in coordination with other Ministries/Departments and agencies concerned. Moreover, an Assurance cannot be dropped merely because its implementation would take considerable time. The failure of the Ministry in this crucial matter that too after a lapse of more than 5 years of giving the Assurance is a serious lapse symptomatic of the Ministry's indifferent attitude towards colossal sufferings |

13. 103 USQ No. 4003 Space Satellite Launch  
dated 06.08.2014 Pads

during man-made disasters. While deploring the Ministry for this failure, the Committee direct the Ministry to pursue the matter with all the Ministries/Departments and agencies concerned and make earnest and coordinated efforts to expedite fulfilment of the Assurance. The Committee would like to be apprised of initiatives taken and progress made in this regard.

The Committee note that though the Department has initiated preliminary steps for setting up of the Third Launch Pad at Sriharikota, no priority has been given to it and further work has been put on hold. The Department has even requested for dropping the Assurance. The Committee feel that an Assurance cannot be dropped merely on the ground that its fulfilment is a long drawn out technological process and it is not feasible to associate a fixed timeline for the same. Even if there are technological uncertainties involved in future programmatic requirements and resource availability at this stage, the Department needs to take advance action to fix a time-frame for setting up of the Third Launch Pad in sync with the ongoing developments in the domestic and global space scenario and the country's ambitious space programme so that the requisite infrastructure is put in place in time and ISRO is not constrained when the situation demands most. This is all the more important since the Department is increasing its ability to assemble the number of launch vehicles; trying to increase the launch frequency; and also

| Sl. No. | Memo. No. | Question No.                  | Ministry/ Department | Subject                    | Remarks   |
|---------|-----------|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|---|
|         |           |                               |                      |                            | going to come up with higher capacity launch vehicles and even vehicles for human space missions which would eventually require the Third Launch Pad especially when it will take about 5-6 years to construct the Launch Pad after obtaining due approval. Under these circumstances, it is not appropriate for the Department neither to have taken up the project for approval nor to have fixed any timeline for the same. The Committee, therefore, urge the Department to be proactive and make earnest efforts under a well formulated vision plan to expedite setting up of the Third Launch Pad so as to fulfil the Assurance. The Committee would like to be apprised of initiatives taken and progress made in this regard.  |
| 14.     | 104       | USQ No. 1284 dated 26.02.2003 | Shipping             | Non-Payment of Wage/Salary | The Committee note that the issue regarding financial grant to Calcutta Dock Labour Board (CDLB) for its merger with Kolkata Port Trust (KoPT) has not yet been resolved even after more than 13 years from the date of giving the Assurances resulting in the non-fulfilment of the Assurance as on date. Further, regarding the financial support/loan, KoPT does not seem to be forthcoming in the near future. However, this cannot be a valid ground for dropping the Assurance since once an Assurance has been given, it is incumbent upon the Ministry to fulfil it with proper planning and coordination. The Ministry is required to take concrete steps at all levels to expeditiously materialize the eventual merger of CDLB with KoPT by resolving the issue of financial support/loan to KoPT. While |

|     |  |          |  |  |
|-----|--|----------|--|--|
|     |  |          |  | admonishing the Ministry not to shirk their responsibility, the Committee urge the Ministry to develop some effective strategies to resolve the deadlock and fulfil the Assurance without further delay. The Committee would like to be apprised of initiatives taken and progress made in this regard.  |
| 15. | 105 USQ No. 5358 dated 09.05.2012                                  | Planning | Utilization of Funds                               | The Committee find that in sum and substance, the Assurance has been implemented by the Ministry. The Committee would like the Ministry to lay the requisite Implementation Report on the Table of the House.  |
| 16. | 106 USQ No. 6978 dated 18.05.2012<br>USQ No. 4945 dated 25.04.2013 | Power    | Power Generation<br><br>Irregularities under RGGVY | The Committee are of the view that an Assurance cannot be dropped merely on the ground that the matter is being investigated by the CBI and it is not possible to anticipate the likely date of completion of the said investigation. In this case, the Ministry are required to furnish the details of the CBI investigation into the irregularities in the award of 3 projects of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) by Jharkhand State Electricity Board and the irregularities in the implementation of RGGVY work in Jammu and Kashmir. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Ministry must enhance the level of coordination with the CBI for a proper and expeditious investigation into the aforesaid cases and the details thereof be apprised to the Committee so as to fulfil the Assurances. |



| Sl. No. | Memo. No. | Question                      | Ministry/ Department   | Subject                 | Remarks   |
|---------|-----------|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------|---|
| 17.     | 108       | USQ No. 1930 dated 23.07.2014 | Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel & Training) | Sharda Chit Fund Scam   | The Ministry have contented that no Assurance was given in the matter. The Committee reject outrightly this contention of the Ministry as it is their prerogative to treat a particular reply as an Assurance and the Ministry cannot question the wisdom of the Ministry as to what constitutes an Assurance. An Assurance cannot be dropped merely on the ground that the matter is being investigated by the CBI and it would take time to complete the said investigation. Moreover, the matter is of crucial national concern and sensitive and hence it should be brought to its logical conclusion within a time frame. Even if the enquiry/investigation is an ongoing process guided and determined by the code of criminal procedure, 1973 and would take time because of complicated nature of cases requiring scrutiny of voluminous documents, undue delay in this regard can be avoided with effective planning and coordination. The Committee, therefore direct the Ministry to scale up the level of coordination with the CBI for a proper and expeditious investigation into the case and ensure fulfillment of the Assurance at the earliest. |
| 18.     | 110       | SQ No. 197 dated 06.08.2010   | Finance (Department of Economic Affairs)                                       | Audit of Joint Ventures | The Contention of the Ministry that no Assurance was given by them in their reply to this Question and hence the same may be dropped is untenable. It is the prerogative the Committee to treat a particular reply as Assurance and the Ministry cannot question the wisdom of the Committee as to what constitutes an Assurance. Moreover, this Assurance cannot be equated with the Assurance given in reply to   |

|    |     |                                 |  |               |
|----|-----|---------------------------------|--|---------------|
| 19 | 112 | USQ No. 387<br>dated 25.02.2015 | Personnel,<br>Public<br>Grievances and<br>Pensions<br>(Department of<br>Personnel &<br>Training) | Bribery Nexus |
|----|-----|---------------------------------|--|---------------|

USQ No. 5073 dated 27.08.2010 regarding Amendment of C&AG (DPC) Act, 1971 which stands dropped *vide* the 36th Report (16th Lok Sabha) of the Committee. The multi proliferation of governmental activities and the changing patterns of governance and Government funding has led to growth of joint ventures of the public and the private sectors with huge government funding. The Committee feel that it would be in the fitness of things to bring the income and expenditure amounts of projects under such Joint Ventures within the ambit of C&AG auditing so as to ensure accountability towards achieving economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the utilisation of funds therein. That the Ministry has failed to accomplish the task even after a lapse of more than 5 years is deeply regrettable. The Committee, therefore, desire the Ministry to work earnestly for early fulfillment of the Assurance. The Committee would like to be apprised of initiatives taken and progress made in this regard.

The Committee are of the view that an Assurance cannot be dropped merely on the ground that the matter is being investigated by the CBI and no time-frame can be stipulated for completion of the investigation. Moreover, the matter is of crucial national importance as it is a common knowledge that there is widespread bribery nexus involving income tax officials, chartered accountants and businessmen causing huge loss to the Exchequer but their detection/conviction rate is minuscule. In this case, the Ministry are

| Sl. No. | Memo No. | Question                      | Ministry/ Department   | Subject                         | Remarks   |
|---------|----------|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---|
|         |          |                               |  |                                 | required to furnish the details and outcome of the CBI investigation including action taken against the culprits. Accordingly, even though the case under reference is only a tip of the iceberg, the said investigation should be brought to its logical conclusion. While deploring the lackadaisical attitude and inaction of the Ministry, the Committee desire that the Ministry must scale up the level of coordination with the CBI for a proper and expeditious investigation into the case and the requisite information apprised to the Committee so as to fulfil the Assurance.  |
| 20.     | 113      | USQ No. 4135 dated 17.12.2014 | Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training) | CBI Investigation Against VVIPs | The Committee do not accept the contention of the Ministry that their reply to this Question should not be treated as an Assurance. It is the prerogative of the Committee to treat a particular reply as an Assurance and the Ministry cannot question the wisdom of the Committee as to what constitutes an Assurance. Further, an Assurance cannot be dropped merely on the ground that the matter is being investigated by the CBI and no definite time-frame can be stipulated for completion of the investigation. Moreover, the matter is of crucial national concern and sensitive and needs to be brought to its logical conclusion so as to give befitting punishment to the culprits irrespective of his/her position and help check and prevent corruption in high places. Any failure in this regard would only fuel the malignant spread of corruption in the country much to its detriment on all fronts. Even if investigation of cases by the CBI takes time |

21. 121 USQ No. 3996 Personnel, Prevention of  
dated 17.12.2014 Public Corruption Act  
Grievances and  
Pensions  
(Department of  
Personnel and  
Training)

because of complicated nature of cases requiring scrutiny of voluminous documents, the Ministry are required to pursue the matter and furnish the details of the investigation and the action taken against those found guilty in this regard. While castigating the irresponsible approach of the Ministry, the Committee direct the Ministry to enhance the level of coordination with the CBI for a proper and expeditious investigation into the case and the requisite information apprised to the Committee so as to fulfil the Assurance.

The contention of the Ministry that the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2013 with official amendments thereto has been referred to 23 Member Select Committee of Rajya Sabha after seeking the views of the Law Commission and hence the Assurance may be dropped is untenable. The Assurance given is for carrying out amendment in the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and seeking views of the Law Commission in this regard is only a step in this direction. Until the Act is actually amended, the Assurance would remain unfulfilled. The Committee feel that the existing Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 is by and large ineffective and the said Amendment is urgently needed to achieve better results in the fight against corruption. The Committee desire that there should not be any lapse on the part of the Ministry in carrying out the amendment. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to actively pursue the matter for fulfillment of the Assurance at the earliest.

**APPENDIX XXIII**  
**MINUTES**  
**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES**  
**(2015-2016)**  
**(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)**  
**THIRTEENTH SITTING**  
**(09.08.2016)**

The Committee sat from 1500 hours to 1645 hours in Committee Room "139", Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal "Nishank" — *Chairperson*

**MEMBERS**

2. Shri Rajendra Agrawal
3. Shri E. Ahamed
4. Shri Tariq Anwar
5. Shri Sugata Bose
6. Shri Naran Bhai Kachhadia
7. Shri Bahadur Singh Koli
8. Shri Prahlad Singh Patel
9. Shri A.T. Nana Patil
10. Shri C.R. Patil
11. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri R.S. Kambo — *Additional Secretary*
2. Shri J.M. Baisakh — *Director*
3. Shri S.L. Singh — *Deputy Secretary*

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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. Thereafter, the Committee considered and adopted the following five draft Reports:

(i) Thirty-Sixth Report regarding "Review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Earth Sciences".

(ii) Thirty-Seventh Report regarding "Review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Food Processing Industries".

(iii) Thirty-Eighth Report regarding "Review of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Pharmaceuticals)".

(iv) Thirty-Ninth Report regarding "Request for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)".

(v) Fortieth Report regarding "Request for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)".

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*The Committee then adjourned.*

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