

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Fourth Session**  
**(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)**



*(Vol. IX contains Nos. 21 to 30)*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
**NEW DELHI**

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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Wednesday, April 20, 2005/Chaitra 30,1927(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Sarbananda Sonowal – Q.No. 361

#### Telecom Service in Rural areas

\*361. SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to provide more thrust to rural areas in telecom sector;

(b) whether some private parties have come forward to invest in rural areas in the telecom sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the States in which these telecom projects are likely to be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN) :  
(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. Government would be providing Village Public Telephones in all the remaining 66,822 unconnected villages by November, 2007. This excludes villages having population less than 100 lying in the forest areas, insurgency/naxalite infected areas etc. It is also planned to introduce WLL on large scale by providing at least one BTS in each Short Distance Charging Area (SDCA). In addition, the office of Administrator Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) has entered in to agreements with various operators for providing DELs on Demand in the rural areas of 1,685 Net cost positive SDCAs.

(b) to (d) The office of Administrator, USOF has entered into agreements with M/s Reliance Infocomm Limited for provision of Rural Community Phones (RCPs) and

provision of rural DELs. It has also entered into agreements with M/s Tata Teleservices Limited and Tata Teleservices Limited (Maharashtra) for provision of rural DELs after their selection through tendering process. Details of the same are given in the enclosed Annexure-A and B for RCPs and rural DELs respectively.

#### Annexure-A

##### List of RCPs to be installed by M/s RIL

| Sl. No. | Name of the State (Service State) | Name of SSA                 | No. of Villages to be provided with RCP |
|---------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1       | 2                                 | 3                           | 4                                       |
| 1       | Andhra Pradesh                    | East Godavari (Rajahmundry) | 137                                     |
| 2       |                                   | Guntur                      | 243                                     |
| 3       |                                   | Karim Nagar                 | 487                                     |
| 4       |                                   | Kurnool                     | 302                                     |
| 5       |                                   | Medak (Sangareddy)          | 193                                     |
| 6       |                                   | Nizamabad                   | 16                                      |
| 7       |                                   | Vishakapatnam               | 204                                     |
| 8       |                                   | Vizia Nagaram               | 133                                     |
| 9       |                                   | West Godavari (Eluru)       | 150                                     |
| 10      | Bihar                             | Arrah (Bhojpur)             | 287                                     |
| 11      |                                   | Chhapra (Saran)             | 108                                     |
| 12      |                                   | Patna                       | 545                                     |
| 13      |                                   | Sasaram                     | 128                                     |
| 14      |                                   | Dhanbad                     | 192                                     |
| 15      |                                   | Munger                      | 211                                     |
| 16      |                                   | Motihari                    | 374                                     |
| 17      |                                   | Saharasa                    | 367                                     |
| 18      |                                   | Katihar                     | 724                                     |
| 19      | Jharkhand                         | Hazaribagh                  | 264                                     |
| 20      |                                   | Jamsedpur                   | 54                                      |
| 21      | Gujarat                           | Bhavnagar                   | 176                                     |
| 22      |                                   | Vadodara                    | 124                                     |

| 1  | 2           | 3                             | 4   |
|----|-------------|-------------------------------|-----|
| 23 | Haryana     | Ambala                        | 20  |
| 24 |             | Gurgaon                       | 141 |
| 25 |             | Hissar                        | 243 |
| 26 |             | Karnal                        | 96  |
| 27 |             | Rewari (Narnaul)              | 33  |
| 28 |             | Sonepat                       | 64  |
| 29 |             | Jind                          | 29  |
| 30 | Karnataka   | Belgaum                       | 253 |
| 31 |             | Daksin Kannada<br>(Mangalore) | 174 |
| 32 |             | Dharwad (Hubli)               | 147 |
| 33 |             | Kodagu (Medikeri)             | 54  |
| 34 |             | Mandya                        | 41  |
| 35 | Maharashtra | Goa                           | 101 |
| 36 |             | Nagpur                        | 49  |
| 37 |             | Pune                          | 155 |
| 38 | Punjab      | Bhatinda                      | 70  |
| 39 |             | Hosiarpur                     | 4   |
| 40 |             | Jalandhar                     | 10  |
| 41 |             | Ludhiana                      | 5   |
| 42 |             | Pathankot (Gurdaspur)         | 26  |
| 43 |             | Patiala                       | 25  |
| 44 |             | Ropar                         | 9   |
| 45 |             | Sangrur                       | 76  |
| 46 | Tamil Nadu  | Cuddalore                     | 415 |
| 47 |             | Dharmapuri                    | 145 |
| 48 |             | Erode                         | 60  |
| 49 |             | Karaikudi                     | 104 |
| 50 |             | Salem                         | 57  |
| 51 |             | Trichy                        | 600 |
| 52 |             | Vellore (South Arcot)         | 388 |

| 1  | 2                       | 3              | 4   |
|----|-------------------------|----------------|-----|
| 53 | Uttar Pradesh<br>(EAST) | Allahabad      | 362 |
| 54 |                         | Azamgarh       | 384 |
| 55 |                         | Ballia         | 169 |
| 56 |                         | Barabanki      | 181 |
| 57 |                         | Deoria         | 513 |
| 58 |                         | Etawah         | 191 |
| 59 |                         | Faizabad       | 188 |
| 60 |                         | Farrukhabad    | 182 |
| 61 |                         | Fatehpur       | 219 |
| 62 |                         | Gazipur        | 247 |
| 63 |                         | Gonda          | 207 |
| 64 |                         | Hardoi         | 351 |
| 65 |                         | Kanpur         | 279 |
| 66 |                         | Lucknow        | 118 |
| 67 |                         | Mainpuri       | 146 |
| 68 |                         | Rai bareli     | 217 |
| 69 |                         | Sitapur        | 269 |
| 70 |                         | Sultanpur      | 138 |
| 71 |                         | Unnao          | 183 |
| 72 |                         | Varanasi       | 177 |
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| 78 |                         | Ghaziabad      | 635 |
| 79 |                         | Moradabad      | 356 |
| 80 |                         | Meerut         | 142 |
| 81 |                         | Mathura        | 233 |
| 82 |                         | Muzaffar Nagar | 186 |
| 83 |                         | Pilibhit       | 84  |
| 84 |                         | Rampur         | 95  |

| 1  | 2           | 3                        | 4   | 1     | 2 | 3                    | 4     |
|----|-------------|--------------------------|-----|-------|---|----------------------|-------|
| 85 |             | Saharanpur               | 353 | 92    |   | Kharagpur (Midnapur) | 556   |
| 86 | Uttaranchal | Chamoli (Kotdwar)        | 10  | 93    |   | Kolkata              | 1871  |
| 87 |             | Nainital                 | 43  | 94    |   | Krish nagar (Nadia)  | 301   |
| 88 |             | New Tehri                | 2   | 95    |   | Malda                | 177   |
| 89 | West Bengal | Asansol                  | 588 | 96    |   | Suri                 | 196   |
| 90 |             | Bankura                  | 162 | 97    |   | Purulia              | 172   |
| 91 |             | Behrampore (Murshidabad) | 519 | Total |   |                      | 21459 |

**Annexure-B***Rural DELs in net cost positive SDCAs—Distribution of SSAs and SDCAs to Successful Bidders*

| Sl. No. | Name of the successful bidder | Number of Service Areas | No. of SSAs | No. of eligible SDCAs | Service Areas in which rural DELs are to be provided   |
|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|--|
| 1.      | BSNL                          | 18                      | 171         | 1267                  | All States except Haryana  |
| 2.      | RIL                           | 15                      | 61          | 203                   | Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh (East), Uttar Pradesh (West) and West Bengal |
| 3.      | TTL                           | 08                      | 37          | 172                   | Bihar, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh (East), Uttar Pradesh (West)   |
| 4.      | TTL(MH)                       | 01                      | 05          | 43                    | Maharashtra  |
| Total   |                               |                         | 274         | 1685                  |  |

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL : Hon. Speaker, Sir, from whatever hon. Minister has replied through his written answer, it may be seen that Assam and North-East have been totally ignored. As you know, hon. Speaker, Sir, the status of telecommunication system in Assam and North-East is not up to the mark. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether it is true that telecommunication network in Assam has not been expanded due to the fear that it will be advantageous to the extremist groups.

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN: Sir, let me answer the hon. Member through you. Basically, this Question relates to thrust in the rural areas of telephones. Basically, what I have answered in my statement is about the phones which are covered by the USO Fund in the areas which are not

profitable to operate and where the USOF has been used. Out of 6,13,000 or so villages, BSNL covers about 5,60,000 villages. The remaining villages are yet to be covered in this current year and next year. Sir, it is not that we have stopped completely. We are still in the process of giving connections.

MR. SPEAKER : He mentioned about the North-East. What is the position?

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : Sir, we have covered the North-East and we will be covering the remaining areas in the next financial year.

MR. SPEAKER : The list does not say this.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL : I am not happy at all with whatever the hon. Minister has replied because in his own reply, nothing is visible about their future plan for the North-East.

It is also a fact that only from the security point of view, occasionally the network is shut down in some selected areas of Assam and North-East. If that is not the case, how will the hon. Minister explain such failure in Assam and North-East?

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : Sir, I have the information saying that there are plans for a total of around 8,931 village public telephones in Assam alone. They have planned to be provided. Let me also tell the hon. Member that our concentration is very serious in providing telephones for the North-East and Assam and all the areas which need our attention. The process has started.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL : Hon. Speaker, Sir, . . . .

MR. SPEAKER : Thank you.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL : Sir, please allow me.

MR. SPEAKER : Okay. But this should not be treated as a precedent. I am allowing you to put another supplementary because of my weakness for North-East.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL : Now, I want to know from the hon. Minister the plan of his Ministry to cover all the villages, as expressed by him, including tea gardens in the State of Assam.

We know from our bitter experience that reception by BSNL cellphones is very poor in Assam and North-East. Can we expect improvement in the quality in the near future?

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : Sir, allow me to explain, how the system works, to the hon. Member. The system is very simple. BSNL is not the only service provider in it, and there are other private service providers also.

Secondly, I would like to mention that BSNL gives connections depending upon the waiting list in a particular area. If the waiting list exceeds 100 or 200, then

immediately BSNL begins its work, and starts setting up an exchange for providing telephone connections in such areas?

On the other hand, in areas where there is no waiting list or no demand, then, naturally, they are not inclined to provide telephone connections till the waiting list increases to a substantial number. Moreover, we are trying to clear all the waiting list by June next year, and most of them will be cleared by the end of this year.

If there is congestion in certain areas depending on the terrain like hilly areas – especially in unreachable areas – where it is very difficult to provide connections, then we try to cover the major areas where there is demand. Subsequently, we are going into other areas also, and increase the number of WLL towers. We are also looking into new fields like YMAX, which has a good penetration in rural areas. It is very cost effective to be installed in such areas. The research in this field is going on, and we will be trying them out.

[Translation]

SHRI SOHAN POTAI : Mr. Speaker Sir, the telephone facility has today become an essential part of life. In his reply, the hon. Minister has informed that he has fixed a target to connect all the remaining 66822 villages with the telephone facility by November, 2007. In the Bastar district of Chhattisgarh several villages having population of two to five thousand do not have telephone facility. In that the system that was provided earlier, there was continuous connectivity but since the cable has been laid, several villages are deprived of the telephone connection. Banskot area of the development block, Bade Rajapur under my Parliamentary constituency of Bastar district is even today deprived of the telephone facility. I want to know the time by which telephone facility would be provided in my area by laying cable under this scheme? Under 'B' part of this question. I would like to know that. . . .

MR. SPEAKER : Please put a specific question, Not 'B'.

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : Sir, I can give the details for his specific constituency, but I will be repeating the same answer. Hence, I will give a specific reply separately to the hon. Member.



MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Potai, you will get the reply separately.

Chaudhary Lal Singh, please put a specific and small question.

*[Translation]*

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH : In reply to this question the hon. Minister has given a list which indicates that private operators like 'Reliance' have not been, provided concessions for telephone services in Jammu-Kashmir. 'Airtel' services are also lying suspended there. The position of the BSNL is also critical. Recently, some of our people were trapped in the avalanche, we could have averted this situation, had required connectivity been provided there. I want to know from the hon. Minister, the time by which this facility is likely to be provided to our state in a time-bound manner ?

*[English]*

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : Sir, the hon. Member has misunderstood my statement. In the statement I have given the list of the rural RCPs, which are to be installed by the private operators like the Reliance. This is the list that I have given in my statement. Reliance is operating the village public telephones in the Jammu and Kashmir region. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please, no running commentary.

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : BSNL is also there, and BSNL is providing the services. Even during the avalanches, BSNL went out of the way to ensure that the services became operational as quickly as possible. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You have got a very energetic Minister, and he is agreeing to all your suggestions.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please, let us do some serious work.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to part 'a' of this question, I would like to ask a

supplementary question. I would ask just one supplementary question, but I would need half a minute to make it understand. In the reply to the part 'A' of this question, it has been mentioned that for telephone facility in the rural areas WLL technology is going to be introduced, but actually, it is not being done. This technology has already been introduced but is not proving to be effective. The batteries of the mobiles purchased by the people in the rural areas can not be charged due to lack of electricity there. People purchase batteries but they can not get it charged there due to lack of electricity. That is why telephone facility is not available in the rural areas. For setting up a new exchange the Government have laid down a criterion that cable would be laid in the remote rural areas to provide telephone facility to the consumers living at a distance of five kilometers. I through you, would like to know from the Government to clearly spell out the time by which it is likely to provide the landline telephone facility in the rural areas by laying cable and setting up exchanges at a distance of five kilometers.

*[English]*

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that the first priority of BSNL is to provide telephones in the rural areas through WLL. The reason is that it is much more faster and quicker compared to putting a copper cable. Putting a copper cable takes a longer time, and also the cost per line is very expensive. Initially, which is our first preference, we try to give it using WLL technology.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : WLL system has failed. . . .*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : The hon. Member is right that initially, we were giving connections within a radius of 2.5 kilometres from the exchange. Now, we have extended it to five kilometres from the exchange. They are now planning to start another exchange after every five kilometres. The work has started now. Let me tell you that laying of copper cables takes a longer time compared to WLL.

SHRI KHAGEN DAS : Sir, I am from North-East and I am a Member of the Telephone Advisory Committee. I know what is going on in the North-Eastern States, particularly in Tripura.

MR. SPEAKER : Please put your question.

SHRI KHAGEN DAS : On the plea of shortage of optical fibre cables, no new connections have been provided, and thousands of applications have been kept pending. Will the hon. Minister kindly reply as to how many cases are pending in Tripura and in other North-Eastern States?

Secondly, telephones in the rural areas have been provided using WLL technology, and it has exceeded its capacity. Can this WLL technology, which is being used in the rural areas, be revamped?

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : In North-East I, in the urban areas, there is a waiting list of 2,142; in the rural areas, it is 4,122. In North-East II, in the urban areas, there is a waiting list of 3,509; in the rural areas, it is 1,391. We are planning to complete this waiting list by the end of this year.

SHRI KHAGEN DAS : What about shortage of optical fiber cables? We have been raising this issue time and again.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the commitment of the Government to extend telecommunication facilities in the rural areas so that telecom facility could be provided to the people because most of the people reside in the villages. I think that the system of providing telephone lines to the rural people through the Department of Telecommunication is not functioning properly. Nowhere, telephone lines are available in the villages. Along with Patna, there are several areas in Bihar came under the rural areas of just five-seven kilometers around the city where the telephone service of the Department of Telecommunication is not functioning properly. I would like to know about the work being done by the Government to lay the telephone lines in the villages so as to make this facility, be it landline telephone or mobile available to the people there. Network is not

working even in the towns, not to say of the rural areas. It appears that the Department of BSNL is hand in glove with the private companies and is intentionally deteriorating its service. . . .*(Interruptions)*. This is correct. . . .*(Interruptions)*. What is the reason behind it that BSNL is not able to function in the villages as well as in cities. . . .*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : You have asked a very good question.  
*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the action he would like to take to make available mobile and landline telephone services properly through the Department of Telecommunications to the people of villages as per the policy of the government. . . .*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : Repetition does not help.

*[English]*

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : Let me tell you, the Government is very much committed to providing telephones in the rural areas. In fact, the Government is very serious because we have realised that there is a digital gap. There are 25 telephones for every 100 people in urban areas whereas there are 1.68 phones for every hundred people in the rural areas. We are planning to increase this to three by 2007. That has been our policy, the National Telecom Policy of 1999. We are on it.

To say that the cellular networks are congested in the rural areas is not correct. Congestion is more in the cities, like Patna. In rural areas, the congestion is not that much. BSNL is in the process of expansion. As I mentioned earlier also, by June, we will be clearing our expansion programme. I think this congestion will be taken care of by June.

SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, WLL telephone in rural areas is a complete failure. Whether the Ministry aware of it and is it taking any action in this regard?

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : I do not agree with the view that it is a total failure. There are some problems, I do not deny that. There are some problems with regard

to some critical equipment like MARR equipment, which are being changed. If the Member brings to my notice any specific case, I can look into it.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please tell him that he has already told.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the telephone of WLL system is also not working. I challenge the reply of the hon. Minister. . . .(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will be recorded except Shri Ananth Kumar.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER : I will make an observation after the question is over.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, I want to ask the hon. Minister as to what is the status of implementation of Universal Service Obligation by various service providers.

MR. SPEAKER : It does not arise out of this.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : It definitely arises out of this. This is about rural telephony.

Secondly, if some service provider does not comply with it, what penal action is proposed to be taken?

MR. SPEAKER : You are competent enough to put it as one. Do not say 'second'.

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : On the question of Universal Service Obligation Fund. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: How much have you got?

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : A total of Rs. 1,314 crore have been given.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : I am asking as to what is the status of implementation of USO by various service providers; and if some service providers have not complied

with that, what is the penal action that Government proposes to take?

MR. SPEAKER : It does not arise out of this.

Mr. Minister, if you are in a position to answer, you can.

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : I can answer, Sir.

Agreements were signed covering 46,250 villages on 13-9-2004 with successful bidders of M/s. BSNL, Reliance Infocomm Limited 24,794; and 21,459 number of RCPs. The RCPs are to be provided by September 2007. They will be providing in three years' time. They have already signed. This is the first time private people are participating in the USO Fund. Till now private people were not coming. Today, Tatas and Reliance are coming in aggressively and they are causing fall in the rates.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : What is the penal action for noncompliance?

MR. SPEAKER : No further questions. No, cross talks here.

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : This does not arise out of the main question, Sir.

SHRI VANLAL ZAWMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have only one simple question to ask regarding rural connectivity, especially in the North-East. You know very well about the problems of the North-East as well as of Kashmir. While you were Chairman of the Committee on Information Technology, we discussed the problem. As far as rural connectivity in my State is concerned, we have only 8 BTS for WLL and we are eagerly waiting for another 22 BTS for more than one year. When is the BTS going to be supplied to the State of Mizoram?

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : As I mentioned earlier, we have just started the process. It is a six-month process. By the middle of June I think you will see. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Middle of June, this year?

SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN : Yes, Sir, this year.

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed eight supplementaries on this Question from Members coming from almost all

parts of the country. Everybody understands, I am sure the Government understands, that there is a great demand for telephone. That shows the progress of the country. Therefore, I am sure the young Minister will look into the matter with all seriousness.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER : When none of your statement is going on record, then why are you continuing with your speech?

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

### **Carcinogenic Chemicals in Baby Products**

\*362. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY :

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that Maharashtra Food and Drug Authority (FDA) has directed certain companies engaged in the production of baby food to remove the word 'baby' from products meant for infants as reported in the Hindustan Times dated March 17, 2005;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the chemicals used by such companies are carcinogenic in nature;

(d) if so, whether any modalities in this regard have been worked out;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the preventive measures being taken to protect the babies from ill effects of chemicals used in such products?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### **Statement**

The Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Maharashtra, issued a show cause notice to M/s

Johnson and Johnson on 15.3.2005 asking their explanation for marketing their various cosmetic products as 'baby products'. Similar notices have also been issued to M/s Wipro Ltd., Bangalore, M/s Himalaya Drug Co., Bangalore, M/s Dabur India Ltd., New Delhi and M/s Imami Ltd., Kolkata, in respect of their products marketed exclusively for use of babies.

The Commissioner, FDA, Maharashtra, who had licensed these products, has taken a view that the firm's claim that their baby oil is the ideal massage oil for babies is not justified for a cosmetic product and the product is, therefore, misbranded under Section 17-C of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act. Similarly, in the notices to the 3 ayurvedic manufacturers, they have been asked to explain the proof of 'Adikaran' regarding manufacture of their baby oils and their safety and benefits for being massaged on baby skins.

In the said notices to above mentioned five companies including M/s Johanson and Johnson, Mumbai, the Commissioner, FDA, Maharashtra, has not alleged the ingredients or the products to be carcinogenic in nature.

The ingredients used by M/s Johnson and Johnson in their baby oil i.e. liquid paraffin, Tocopheryl acetate (Vit. E), ready mixture of Vitamin A and D and perfume are used world over in the manufacture of various cosmetic products as well as pharmaceuticals and are not reported to be unsafe. The standards for cosmetics and the raw material used in the finished cosmetics are prescribed by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). As per specification for mineral oil for cosmetic industry, it is stated in the BIS standard that it possesses excellent stability to heat, light, acids and alkalis, has no colour or odour and is harmless to skin.

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY : On 17th March of this year, the Hindustan Times carried an editorial praising the hon. Minister under the caption "Keeping a Finger on the Pulse". You also, in this august House, complimented him for earning a name in a very short period.

MR. SPEAKER : We are joining you.

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY : On the very same day, some newspapers had published a news item that the Maharashtra Food and Drug Authority has directed a world popular private company noted for baby products to

remove the word 'baby' in their products, as the products contain chemicals which are used for cosmetic products. The hon. Minister, in his reply, has said that the Bureau of Indian Standards stated that oil in question possesses excellent all weather stability and is harmless to the skin. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any plan to blacklist such companies which produce baby toiletries in future as the chemicals that might be used in the product could also be carcinogenic in nature and dangerous to the health of the baby.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : Sir, the issue we are discussing today is about the notices issued by the Commissioner of Food and Drugs Administration in Maharashtra to a couple of multinational companies and some Indian companies manufacturing cosmetics. He had issued these notices asking them about their claims in some of the so-called baby products. Sir, under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, we have a set of standards framed by the Bureau of Directives, the Cosmetics Toiletries and Fragrance Association, USA and also the guidelines of the International Fragrance Association (IFRA) appearing from time to time. Under these guidelines, only the chemicals or the minerals or oils mentioned under this Act, are allowed to use for producing the baby products. Liquid paraffin, a mineral oil is permissible under the BIS standards and the Commissioner, FDA has not mentioned about any carcinogenic in his report when he issued notices to the companies.

MR. SPEAKER : Second supplementary.

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY : Sir, in view of the hon. Minister's reply, I have no second supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER : Very good. This is the response needed.

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH : My question is connected with the news item appeared in the *Hindustan Times*. But I am referring to the report of the Press Trust of India, Beijing, dated March 23, 2005 – The Chinese Health Ministry said it was making its own investigations into products sold by Johnson and Johnson, involved in a controversy in India over ingredients in its baby care products, even as the company assured Chinese consumers that it was complying with the Government norms. In the statement issued by the Chinese headquarters of

Johnson and Johnson, it said that it produced in accordance with the norms required by the Ministry of Health.

I would like to know as to whether the Ministry of Health is aware about this. Some of the Johnson and Johnson's products in India were recently found to contain ingredients considered harmful for babies. The Maharashtra Food and Drugs Administration has found. . . .

MR. SPEAKER : What is your question?

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH : This is an important matter.

MR. SPEAKER : On this, the Minister has already replied.

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH : The matter relating to baby products is a very serious. . . .

[Translation]

This milk would be fed to the baby children of the age group of one to three months, three to six months and six months to one year – if the term 'baby' is removed from the product then this milk would also get included in the category of common milk powders being sold in the market.

[English]

I will ask the hon. Minister to show a very serious concern to this. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He has said this. If it is found to be containing anything undesirable. . . .

(Interruptions)

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH : Chemicals and paraffin are two contents which are very harmful. They can create cancer and other diseases. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is your question? I will disallow it.

(Interruptions)

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH : I would like the hon. Minister to kindly show a concern to this matter. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is not for expressing concern.

The question is this. Is it harmful to the baby?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : There are about 28 different cosmetics which have got standards, for example, skin powder, tooth powder, tooth paste, skin creams, hair oils, baby toilet soaps and so on pertaining to both tender and age specific groups. We have standards and we have mentioned in those standards that those products should not be used in these cosmetics.

Coming to the specific question of Johnson and Johnson, the Commissioner has issued notice on their so-called claims. In that claim, it is partly mentioned that some of these baby oils are clinically proven for the growth of the babies. This is not mentioned in the same oil manufactured in Western countries or developed countries. This is what the Commissioner was particular about. The cosmetics industry is a growing industry. About two years ago, we had issued the regulation that the expiry date or 'use before date' of cosmetics should be mentioned on the product. Last year, we have asked them to mention the names of the ingredients used in the cosmetics on the labels. We are going through a process of changing the label pattern. There are some frivolous claims. Some cosmetics say that within 21 days, you could turn from black to white.

MR. SPEAKER : Which are those?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : I do not want to mention them. There are some frivolous claims going on. We need to take active steps to curb these practices. The Government is actively considering it. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The question is whether the word 'baby' in the Johnson and . Johnson product should be retained or not.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : We have asked for an explanation about their so-called claim.

MR. SPEAKER : That means, the matter is under consideration.

DR. P.P. KOYA : The question was about the products and the carcinogenic or otherwise, cancer causing effects

of them. There are hundreds of products coming in the market in the name of Ayurvedic products. There is no check. There are no standard measures to prevent them. It gets wide publicity through TV channels and other media. There is no restriction or there is no law to restrict the TV channels from giving publicity to them. My pointed question is whether the Minister is having some plan to check the Ayurvedic products which are not having the general approval.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : I agree with the hon. Member on this issue because today only the modern molecules are being regulated. We have the practical problem with the Ayurvedic molecules because Ayurvedic products have certain combinations and these combinations have been there from the ancient times. Even the scriptures have not divulged the contents of those products. Some of these combinations have a lot of plant based contents in them. In fact, we are still deliberating on it. In the middle of this year, the Drug Coordination Committee is going to meet and they are going to take up these issues. Then it will go to the Drug Technical Advisory Board.

The issue is of content being labelled. All the contents should be there in the descending order. The expiry date and the privilege claims, as I said, should be cured or it should be changed and all that should be restricted. We are taking a view on this.

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, right at the beginning, I secure protection because this Question is a very important one. It concerns national health of the country.

MR. SPEAKER : You need protection for what? Put your question and get a reply.

SHRI ANIL BASU : In page 2 of the reply, hon'ble Minister very intelligently has used two words. — one 'are not reported to be unsafe' and two 'is harmless to skin.' Even if the product is spurious, if it is not unsafe, if it is not harmless then it is allowed. The most unfortunate thing in this country is that Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Drug Control Order provides no teeth to the regulators. It is very difficult for the prosecution to substantiate his case before court of law. It is because even if drugs and cosmetics are spurious and the claims of the manufacturers in the

advertisement on the label of the product even for babies are not true, action could not be taken because it is not harmful and unsafe. In view of the above, I would like to know whether the Minister would bring necessary amendments to the Act so that the product is not harmful and unsafe. Even if it is found spurious, action could be taken against the manufacturers.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : Sir, firstly I am very harmless and he does not need any protection from me. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : But when the spurious drugs are now in circulation, he may need it.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : The cosmetic industry is growing at a rapid pace. As I mentioned earlier, we have a set of standards for these cosmetics. We have taken different standards worldwide. They are from Europe, from America and we have also general global standards. We have incorporated them into our Indian standards through BIS. If we find that there are spurious cosmetics which have detrimental effects. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU : I asked about the Act. I want to know whether you are bringing any change.

MR. SPEAKER : Let him complete.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : There are hundreds and thousands of products in the country. The Government cannot go on testing each product for these detrimental effects. We have a general standard of products and we keep updating these products. If there are some spurious cosmetics, then we have a law enforced by the States punishable with three years' imprisonment. It comes under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act. We are enforcing it. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANIL BASU : It is a very evasive reply. He can speak about the Drug Control Order. . . .*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You give a notice. I think it needs a proper discussion. You give a separate notice and I will consider it permitting a discussion.

SHRI ANIL BASU : This is concerning babies of this country and the Minister has given a very evasive reply to the House.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : We pride ourselves that probably by 2010, India will be one of the youngest countries in the world. The Government has to think whether we want to be a very young country between the age of 18 and 35 in a population of one hundred plus crore, which will be 80 per cent young and sick and ill or young and healthy.

Firstly, there are Coca Cola and Pepsi Cola about which there was a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC). The Committee gave very commendable recommendations but nothing has been done on that. Now, it is baby food and everybody knows that baby food in India has been since long being prepared with products which are very inferior, compared to world standard. The Minister just mentioned that it is impossible for the Government to check every product. I would like to know whether the Government has any proposal to strengthen the law against producing inferior quality products meant for children and babies. If they have a proposal, when would they bring a Bill in Parliament regarding this matter?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : Definitely, the Government is very concerned about this issue. Like the hon'ble Member has said we are progressing and this Question does not pertain to baby food but baby cosmetics.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : It covers everything.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : Food comes under the PFA, and this comes under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act.

MR. SPEAKER : Okay; both are important.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : In the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, now we are going through an enactment of changing this penal legislation, making it more stringent, making it more component based, having a special court for that, and making it cognisable. All these offences come under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act. So, this covers both the drugs and cosmetics.

Naturally, we are concerned about this issue, and we are going to take it up on a broader prospective. In the middle of this year, there is going to be a whole lot of deliberations all over the country and all the State controllers are going to come and assemble in New Delhi.

We are going to have a lot of deliberations on this issue. I am personally going to take this issue up.

SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has any scheme for the manufacturing and distribution of ayurvedic baby products at subsidised rates to reach the people who are living below poverty line.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : About the manufacturing of ayurvedic products, we have our own, Governmental organisation in Uttaranchal. I am not able to recollect the name of that organisation. It is a Government of India undertaking through which we are supplying the ayurvedic products to the CGHS and other dispensaries.

MR. SPEAKER : Do you have any scheme for distribution of these products at subsidised rates for the poor people?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : Sir, these are the best quality medicines. At the best available prices, you can get them.

MR. SPEAKER : At the best available prices! *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI : Sir, the base used in this baby oil is basically 99.9 per cent liquid paraffin. According to the statement laid on the Table, it has been stated that 'it is quite safe to use liquid paraffin in pharmaceuticals and cosmetics'. However, liquid paraffin is not recommended for use in babies or rather infants. There is also no mention of liquid paraffin on the label, which is supposed to divulge the ingredients that go into the making of these products on the products themselves.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister the measures taken by the Government to bring such companies to task, which delve into such unethical methods wherein they do not divulge the details of the ingredients.

MR. SPEAKER : He has already mentioned it. However, he may reiterate it.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : Sir, liquid paraffin is being used internationally, all over the world, in the

developing countries, and in the developed countries. It is being used for babies. There is no restriction of using liquid paraffin for any baby products globally. India also is following the example of global use of liquid paraffin, and we have not found any detrimental effect of liquid paraffin being used in all baby products.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shrimati Maneka Gandhi.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI : But Sir, I also want to know the measures taken by the Government against those companies, which do not divulge the details of ingredients.

MR. SPEAKER : He has answered it earlier. Very well, he may very briefly recap.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : I have already answered that we are now going to have these companies to divulge the contents and composition on the label itself. So, that is going to come. Last year, only the main contents were supposed to be divulged with the labelling. But maybe in subsequent years, or maybe later this year, all the contents would be labelled.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Sir, the hon. Minister has repeatedly said that he is extremely concerned about the spurious products. I would like to know this. Has he actually banned any product, any medicine at all for the last one year?

Secondly, on cosmetics, he has said that they are using a foreign standard. But we cannot use foreign standards selectively. A large number of tests that are conducted, we have not done away with, even though they have been done away internationally. For instance, LD-50 test, which has proven to be completely useless in judging the efficacy of any drug and cosmetics.

Retin A for instance is used across the board in many cosmetics. What has the hon. Minister done about Retin A, which is carcinogenic?

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : Actually, these are going to be the cosmetics and not the drugs. Even about drugs, we have banned certain drugs including Cost Inhibitor vios. We have banned those products. It is not just banning simply. It is done globally. I have explained it.



Coming to her second part of question, we have our own Bureau of Indian Standards.

This Bureau of Indian Standards takes the essence of the international standards prevalent all over the world, especially in the developed countries. We are bringing in our Indianised standards. We just do not take up those standards approved here; we do not incorporate them here. We take essence out of them and have Indianised standards.

#### **Visit of Chinese Premier to India**

\*363. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :  
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chinese Prime Minister visited India recently;

(b) if so, the details of discussions held and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the Foreign Secretary of India visited China recently;

(d) if so, the details of the talks held and the bilateral agreements, if any, signed on both these occasions;

(e) whether border disputes, merits of free trade agreement as well as current stand of China with regard to Arunachal Pradesh came up during the talks;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof and the benefits likely to accrue to both the countries as a result of these agreements; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen the relations with China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Statement**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Chinese Premier H.E. Mr. Wen Jiabao paid a State visit to India from April 9-12, 2005, during which

he held detailed discussions with Prime Minister on wide-ranging bilateral issues and regional and international issues of common interest. Both sides expressed satisfaction over the growing mutual trust and understanding and agreed that India-China bilateral relations have entered a new phase of comprehensive development. During the visit, the two countries established a "Strategic and Cooperative Partnership for Peace and Prosperity", which provides a framework for an all round and comprehensive development of bilateral relations and reflects the global and strategic perspective in which both sides view their relationship with each other. Such a partnership is non-military in character and not directed against any third country. Both sides also reiterated their desire to resolve outstanding differences, including on the boundary question, in a proactive manner without allowing these differences to affect the overall development of the bilateral relations. A number of bilateral agreements were concluded during the visit.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Foreign Secretary visited Beijing from March 30-31, 2005 to hold the fifteenth meeting of the India-China Joint Working Group (JWG) with the Chinese Vice Foreign Minister, during which both sides discussed issues related to the India-China boundary question, including confidence building measures and clarification and confirmation of the line of actual control. During his visit, the Foreign Secretary also held discussions with the Chinese side on preparations for the visit of the Chinese Premier.

During the visit of the Chinese Premier to India, Prime Ministers of both countries signed a Joint Statement, which offers a vision of India-China relations and also an action plan for cooperation in various areas. Eleven other agreements were signed, including the "Agreement on Political Parameters and Guiding Principles for the Settlement of the India-China Boundary Question". An MOU on major liberalization of civil aviation links and several other agreements on economic and trade matters were also signed. A number of initiatives were agreed upon to step up cultural, S and T and people-to-people links.

(e) and (f) During the visit of the Chinese Premier, both sides exchanged views on the India-China boundary

question and reiterated their readiness to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution, through equal and friendly consultations and proceeding from the overall interests of bilateral relations. They expressed satisfaction over the progress made in the discussions between the Special Representatives of the two countries and welcomed the conclusion of the "Agreement on the Political Parameters and Guiding Principles for the Settlement of the India-China Boundary Question". Both sides expressed the conviction that an early settlement of the boundary question will advance the basic interests of the two countries and should therefore be pursued as a strategic objective. The need to seek an early clarification and confirmation of the line of actual control through the mechanism of Joint Working Group was also reiterated. A "Protocol on Modalities for the Implementation of Confidence Building Measures in the Military Field along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas" was also concluded.

The India-China Joint Study Group submitted its report to the two Prime Ministers, in which it recommended an India-China Regional Trading Arrangement. The two Prime Ministers agreed to appoint a Joint Task Force to study in detail the feasibility of, and the benefits that may derive from, the India-China Regional Trading Arrangement and give recommendations regarding its content. Both sides noted that an all-round expansion of India-China bilateral economic cooperation, including trade and investment, constitutes an important dimension of a stronger India-China relationship.

(g) Government is committed to developing relations with China on the basis of the principles of Panchsheel, mutual respect and sensitivity for each other's concerns and aspirations, and equality. The substantive outcome achieved during the visit of the Chinese Premier to India is fully reflective of Government's determination to raise the level and quality of India's relations with China and seek mutually beneficial cooperation over a wide range of areas.

*[Translation]*

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to ask the Minister the details of

eleven comprehensive agreements including political one which have been signed during Indo-China talks.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : A statement will be made by the hon. Prime Minister later. I think he will set out. Yes, you can briefly indicate them.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Sir, one Agreement and 11 MoUs were signed between India and China. The Joint Statement signed by the Prime Minister contains a vision for India-China relation and areas of co-operation. As the hon. Member has asked about, 11 agreements – agreement on political parameters, guiding principles, settlement of the boundary question, protocol and the confidence-building measures – were signed.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Prime Minister is going to make his statement on it. Let us wait.

MD. SALIM : But we do not have the opportunity to discuss.

MR. SPEAKER : We shall have a discussion if necessary. Would you like to put your second supplementary? Let us wait for the hon. Prime Minister's statement.

*[Translation]*

SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that today Chinese products are being sold in India at cheaper rates. Whether any discussion was held about the Chinese products being sold here at cheaper rates?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Are you trying to put a brake on China?

SHRI E. AHAMED : We have also entered into an agreement on trade and other relations. A number of MoUs have been signed.

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH : Thank you hon. Speaker Sir.

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER : Come on this side.

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH : My seat is here.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am permitting you to shift a little.

[Translation]

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH : There is no arrangement of mike at my seat, therefore, I have to shift to speak.

[English]

Sir, I have a specific question on the total Indian territories at present under the occupation of China. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this matter was discussed with the Chinese Prime Minister to get them back and what was his reaction.

MR. SPEAKER : It has been mentioned in the reply.

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH : It is not specific.

MR. SPEAKER : Not specific! He wants it specific.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Sir, there is a strategic and co-operative partnership for the peace and prosperity and that is the mechanism. Their framework is that the special representatives of India and China will be discussing the matter. It is to be discussed in detail. They have agreed to discuss. The Chinese Prime Minister himself has described his visit as historic. It would also say that it is a very substantive outcome and will be a major landmark in our bi-lateral relations. There is a consensus that China and India have entered into a new phase of comprehensive development. So, discussions will be held between the two representatives. It has already been made. The hon. Prime Minister is going to make a statement here at 12 o' clock.

MR. SPEAKER : Any more question? I do not think it arises. Let us wait. We shall have a discussion, if necessary. The statement is at 12 o' clock; you wait for 15 minutes and get the statement.

MD. SALIM : You allow us to put clarifications on the statement of the Prime Minister, we will be happy to switch over to a new question.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, unlike Rajya Sabha, we cannot seek clarifications in this House.

MR. SPEAKER : Therefore, I am prepared to allow a proper debate on this after the statement.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Please allow us one or two more supplementaries.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, we are told that during the recent visit of the Chinese Premier, H.E. Wen Jiabao India and China established a strategic and cooperative partnership for peace and prosperity.

This reflects global strategic perspective. May I know from the hon. Minister whether there was any proposal which was considered for trilateral relations between India, China and Russia?

SHRI E. AHAMED : India gives much importance to such discussions between India, China and Russia. There were some discussions, and there will also be discussions in future. One such discussion is going to be held most probably in the first week of June between India, China and Russia. It will definitely be of importance not only to India but also internationally, since these countries will join together and do it.

SHRI TAPIR GAO : Before the arrival of the Chinese Premier to India, the Chinese Ambassador to India claimed Arunachal Pradesh as a disputed territory. I would like to know from both the hon., Prime Minister and the Minister of External Affairs

[Translation]

that on the slogan of 'Chini-Hindi Bhai Bhai'

[English]

whether Arunachal Pradesh has been truly considered as a disputed territory between India and China? If not, what conclusions have been reached between the Prime Ministers of India and China during the discussions? No proper answer has been given to the question. The answer has been limited to 'yes'. This is a very particular and a specific question. I represent Arunachal Pradesh, and Arunachal Pradesh wants to know from the Government of India, whether it is also considering Arunachal Pradesh as a disputed territory between these two countries. If not, a clear answer is required.

SHRI E. AHAMED : It is a fact that there are unresolved issues on the question of border between India and China. That is why, we have entered into such agreements and also entered into agreed framework for a discussion. The Special -Representative will hold discussions to reach a consensus on this issue. So, this is a matter which will definitely be in the agreed framework for a discussion between the Special Representatives. It is a well-known fact that there are unresolved issues on the question of border between India and China.

#### Strengthening of Indo-African Bilateral Ties

\*364. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN :  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently the officials of the Ministry visited African Countries to firm up bilateral ties with them;

(b) if so, whether this is likely to boost our claim for a permanent seat in the UNSC;

(c) if so, the details of various discussions held and the bilateral agreements signed on the occasion, country wise;

(d) the outcome thereof alongwith the benefits likely to accrue to India by these agreements; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve business as well as foreign relations with African Countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (RAOINDERJIT SINGH) : (a) to (e) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) to (e) Senior officials of the Ministry of External Affairs have been visiting African countries from time to time in order to review our relations with them at the bilateral and multilateral level as well as to discuss how these relations can be further strengthened. We have a close rapport with African countries and there is a great similarity in our views vis-à-vis international issues, including the need to bring about restructuring of the UN

so that it can reflect the new realities which have come into existence after the end of the Second World War. The discussions held by our officials in various African countries also covered the question of our candidature for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council. There is recognition in Africa that India has emerged as a major regional power and our candidature for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council is generally endorsed.

During recent months following visits to African countries were paid by officers of this Ministry :

- (i) Nigeria and – Additional Secretary (Admn.)  
Angola and Joint Secretary (West Africa)
- (ii) Namibia and – Secretary (West)
- (iii) Mauritius – Secretary (West) and Joint Secretary (E and SA) *Accompanied Prime Minister*
- (iv) South Africa – Additional Secretary (ER) and Joint Secretary (MER)  
*Accompanied EAM for IBSA meeting*
- (v) South Africa – Joint Secretary (E and SA) *Accompanied MOS (RIS)*
- (vi) Guinea – Deputy Secretary (WAF)
- (vii) Senegal – Deputy Secretary (WAF) *accompanied MOS (RIS)*

During the visit of Secretary (West) to Namibia a Memorandum of Understanding was signed for cooperation between the Foreign Service Institute of the Ministry of External Affairs and the Foreign Office of Namibia. During the visit of Prime Minister to Mauritius following MOUs/agreements were signed:

- i. Agreement for setting up of a Joint Working Group on combating international Terrorism.
- ii. MOU relating to Bilateral Air Services between India and Mauritius.
- iii. MOU on Cooperation in the field of Protection of the Environment.

- iv. MOU on offering a fresh line of Credit of US\$10 million for the Baie du Tombeau Sewerage Project.

During MOS (RIS)'s visit to Senegal, an agreement to conduct a feasibility study for the railway line linking Dakar and Ziguinchor was signed.

It is hoped that the agreements signed with Mauritius and Namibia will further strengthen India's relationship with these countries and would help to enhance economic and commercial interaction with them.

Our Government during recent years has been paying great importance to improving India's relations with Africa. The Ministry of Commerce in 2003 adopted 'Focus Africa Initiative' to foster our economic and commercial links with Africa. Earlier we announced a credit line of US\$ 200 million to New Economic Partnership for African Development and US\$ 500 million to TEAM-9 which comprises West African countries. A number of lines of credit on a bilateral basis have been extended to countries of Africa. During the last two years, we have disbursed considerable assistance in terms of foodgrains and medicines of African countries. We facilitate and encourage meetings between African officials and ministers with our leading companies and chambers of commerce. A conclave organized by the CII recently in Delhi was attended by over 100 African dignitaries and a large number of prominent Indian companies.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : In the reply, hon. Minister has stated that there is a recognition in Africa that India has emerged as a major regional power, and our candidature for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council is generally endorsed. My question is when our candidature is generally endorsed, is it being opposed from any quarter in Africa, specifically when the names of South Africa and Nigeria are being mentioned for the seat in the Security Council?

RAO INDERJIT SINGH : India is an aspirant from the Asia Section. With South Africa, we have talked and we will try and get a seat in the Security Council. There is no opposition as such to India's candidature from any of the countries which the hon. Member has mentioned.  
... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Asia cannot raise the issue of permanent seat. . . .  
(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : He is very competent. Shri Kharabela Swain will raise it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No. If you want to put a question, I will allow you. But now let the second Supplementary Question be put.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : My second Supplementary is this. During the visit of our Prime Minister to Mauritius, an agreement was signed which included the setting up of a Joint Working Group on combating international terrorism. Do we apprehend Mauritius to be the hub of terrorist activity?

Is there any precedence when the terrorists have utilised Mauritius as a base for their activities to be carried out in India?

RAO INDERJIT SINGH : Mauritius is a friendly country. We have entered into an agreement regarding terrorism with Mauritius because in case there are some terrorists who do harbour in Mauritius, we should have an agreement with them. As of date, we have not had any instance where terrorists have been harboured in Mauritius.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Asaduddin Owaisi – Not present.

[Translation]

MD. SALIM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, our relations with African countries have been cordial from the beginning ever since the country got independence. Our country have played important role in the freedom struggle of African countries. Due to change in the attitude of the Government for the last some years, a feeling of disbelief towards, our friendship has emerged in the African countries and some differences have also emerged. We have been saying from

the very beginning that, we want to maintain better relations with western countries, but at the sometime we should also ensure that our old friends should not leave us. Today, when our candidature for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council is going round, we have seen that big powers have not extended their support on this, however, we relied upon them. If we maintain corelial relations with Asian, African and Latin American Countries particularly the African Countries. We are sure they would definitely support us Countries issue. With reference to the direction mentioned in the UPA Government's Common Minimum Programme, I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to what concrete steps have been taken or propose to be taken by the Government to strengthen the traditional bonds and to have better relation not only with South Africa but all African Countries.

[English]

RAOINDERJIT SINGH : Sir, India is cognizant of the fact that Africa has 54 or more votes when it comes to election to the Security Council. Our relations with Africa have always been good. They have not gone into decline. Today, when there is a talk about getting India's Membership to the Security Council, we have taken a number of issues. We have appointed Special Envoys, which I can read out.

MR. SPEAKER : A list is there.

RAOINDERJIT SINGH : We have appointed Special Envoys to visit all the countries in Africa. Shri V.K. Grover is being sent as a Special Envoy who would visit Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not necessary to give the names.

RAOINDERJIT SINGH : There are other envoys as well who are going there. We have extended lines of credit at concessional rates of interest. Under NEPAD, we have given 200 million lines of credit. Under TEAM-9 initiative, which is the west portion of Africa, we have proposed to give lines of credit to 500 million US dollars.

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH : Sir, my question relates to Indo-China relationship.

MR. SPEAKER : I am sorry, China does not come under the main Question.

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH : A lot of Tibetans were staying in Karnataka.

MR. SPEAKER : I am sorry, it is related to Indo-African bilateral ties. You can ask your question later on.

MR. SPEAKER : Q.365.

Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai Barad – Not present.

Shri G. Karunakara Reddy – Not present.

Q. 366

Shri Subhash Sureshchandra Deshmukh - Not present.

### **Malaria Cases**

+

\*367. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA :  
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA :

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

(a) whether in its latest study, WHO has reported an alarming increase in the cases of Malaria particularly in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### **Statement**

WHO has reported that they have not conducted or technically supported any recent study on the malaria situation in the member countries including India. However, the study recently published in Nature (Vol.434/10<sup>th</sup> March/2005) by Mr. Robert W. Snow and others deals with mapping the global distribution of clinical episodes of

*Plasmodium falciparum* (Pf) Malaria. The report does not mention about the increase in malaria cases in India. In fact, WHO has challenged the report regarding alarming rise in the incidence of Pf malaria in 'the Times International'.

Incidence of malaria as well as the *Plasmodium falciparum* cases in the country has been showing declining trend over the past few years. Epidemiological situation of malaria in the country since the year 2000 is given below :—

| Year                  | Positive Cases<br>(in Million) | Pf. Cases<br>(in million) | Deaths |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--------|
| 2000                  | 2.03                           | 1.05                      | 932    |
| 2001                  | 2.09                           | 1.01                      | 1005   |
| 2002                  | 1.84                           | 0.90                      | 973    |
| 2003                  | 1.86                           | 0.86                      | 1006   |
| 2004<br>(Provisional) | 1.73                           | 0.80                      | 832    |

The strategies for control of malaria includes surveillance, early diagnosis and prompt treatment of cases, sustainable vector control including indoor residual spray with insecticide treated bednets, use of larvivorous fish etc. besides training and information education communication to enlist community involvement. For malaria control, Government of India provides medicines, insecticides and larvicides as per the approved policy. The programme is implemented and monitored by the State Health Authorities and operational costs are borne by the State Governments. North-Eastern States are being provided 100% support for the programme implementation including operational cost since December, 1994. State of Sikkim has been included as a part of the North-Eastern Region for such support since 2003. 1045 PHCs predominantly inhabited by tribals in 100 districts in eight States namely Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Rajasthan are being provided additional support since December, 1997, including operational expenses under Enhanced Malaria Control Project (EMCP) with World Bank assistance.

Further, Seven North-Eastern States, Jharkhand, Orissa and West Bengal have been included under Intensified Malaria Control Project (IMCP) to be launched shortly and being funded by the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) to accelerate anti malaria activities e.g. early diagnosis and prompt treatment, promotion of insecticide treated bednets and behavior change communication through community participation.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN : Sir, in the Statement the Minister has said that. . . .(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shall we pass it on to Shri Dasgupta?

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN : Sir, I did not expect that my turn would come so soon.

MR. SPEAKER : Therefore, it shows that I can pick and choose any question I like.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN : Sir, from the statement it is evident that the WHO has reported that they have not conducted or technically supported any recent study on the malaria situation in member-countries including India.

I would like to know whether the Government is aware of the fact that incidence of malaria in different parts of the country is on the increase. If that is so, whether the Government proposes to take any action on that. Also I want to know whether the Government would seek the support of the World Health Organisation in this regard.

SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI : Sir, as per the answer given, there is no increase in the incidence of Malaria in India. We have given year-wise data in the answer. We are trying to control malaria and the Government also is taking steps in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : So, there is no increase in the incidence of malaria.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN : Sir, there is increase in the incidence of malaria in different parts of the country including in the State of Kerala. I thought the hon. Minister would enlighten the House on what all steps are being taken by the Government and also whether the Government is seeking any help from the World Health Organisation in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : That exhausts your second supplementary as well.

Madam Minister, is the Government taking any steps to control the incidence of malaria since there are still some cases of malaria being reported from different parts of the country?

SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI : Sir, we are supplying insecticide treated bed nets to places where there is incidence of malaria. Moreover, in ten States, for the seven North-Eastern States and to States like Orissa, Jharkhand and West Bengal, the Government is providing global funds to prevent this disease.

MR. SPEAKER : I compliment you for this.

Shri Gurudas Dasgupta.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot ignore Shri Gurudas Dasgupta.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Sir, the hon. Minister of State is not equipped enough to reply to this question and has not given the answer that she should have given. If one looks at the statistics it would be seen that it is not the question of whether incidence of malaria has declined numerically or the number of deaths owing to malaria has declined numerically. The fact remains that it still continues to be one of the deadly diseases which is afflicting our country.

Sir, there are reports that malaria is re-appearing in different parts of the country. Not only that, there are medical reports suggesting that malarial parasites, which of late is appearing, are not being able to be treated by conventional medicines because of pollution and such other factors.

Therefore, my specific question to the Government is whether the Government agrees that malaria, a deadly disease, still continues in the year 2005; and whether in view of the character of the disease the Government would take effective measures including removal of water stagnation, which is the breeding ground for malarial parasites, even in the cities to control the spread of malaria.

MR. SPEAKER : Can the Central Government do that?

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : She was doing well.

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : Sir, though she was doing well, I wish to answer this question on behalf of my colleague. . . .*(Interruptions)*

Sir, the hon. Member has mentioned that incidence of malaria is on the rise.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : I said, it is re-appearing. Let there be no jugglery of words. . . .*(Interruptions)*

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : Sir, today the State of Orissa has got the highest incidence of malaria followed by the State of West Bengal and then there are States like Andhra Pradesh, Kamataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan and the North-Eastern States. These are the main areas where there is prevalence of malaria.

12.00 hrs.

The Government is taking a lot of steps to prevent malaria. We have the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme and, through this Programme, we have started supplying bed nets which are already put in the synthetic pyrethroids. Larvivorous fish called the Jambudia fish are put in the ponds where the larvae will be eaten up. We are spraying insecticides. We are spraying DDT and Malathion. We are taking a lot of steps to prevent it. . . .*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Sir, that Programme should continue. . . .*(Interruptions)*

DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS : We are doing that. This year, the budget for prevention for malaria has been increased. The Government is taking steps to prevent it. There is the issue of resistance against malaria and we are giving anti-malarial tablets and injections which are very costly. So, Government is going to that extent. We are concerned about the issue and we are 'going all out to prevent malaria.



## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Reduction in poverty level

\*365. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD :  
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has fixed any target for the reduction of poverty level;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the target fixed and achieved during the Ninth Five Year Plan;
- (d) the target fixed for the Tenth Five Year Plan; and
- (e) the specific steps being taken by the Union Government to achieve the set target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) : (a) and (b) The Tenth Five Year Plan period (2002-07) for the first time has set a target for reduction of poverty by 5 percentage points by 2007 and by 15 percentage points by 2012.

(c) There was no target fixed for reduction of poverty level in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(d) The Tenth Five Year Plan period (2002-07) has set a target for reduction of poverty by 5 percentage points by 2007 and by 15 percentage points by 2012.

(e) The Government has adopted a three pronged strategy for reducing poverty : (i) acceleration of economic growth with a focus on sectors which are employment intensive; (ii) human and social development through provision of basic minimum services; and (iii) targeted anti-poverty programmes.

With effect from June, 1997 the Public Distribution system in India was streamlined by issuing special cards to families Below Poverty Line (BPL) and selling food grains under PDS to them at specially subsidised prices which was about 50% of the economic costs. Under the new scheme, viz., the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) each poor family is entitled to 35 kgs of foodgrains.

In order to make the TPDS more focused and targeted towards the very poor category, the "Antyodaya Anna Yojana" provides 35 kgs of foodgrains to the poorest of the poor families at a highly subsidized rate of Rs.2 per kg., for wheat and Rs.3 per kg., for rice. In the recent budget presented on 28-02-05 it was announced that the coverage of Antyodaya Anna Yojana will be increased from 2.0 crore(BPL) families to 2.5 crore families in 2005.

In order to alleviate poverty in rural areas, the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing two major employment generation Schemes namely programmes i.e. Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) and Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) a wage employment and self-employment programmes respectively. The Indira Awas Yojana(IAY) is the major scheme for construction of houses to be given to the poor. The Government have also launched a new wage employment Scheme namely National Food for Works Programme (NFFWP) in 150 most backward districts of 27 states of the country to generate supplementary wage employment and providing employment in these districts.

- The primary objective of the SGRY scheme is to provide additional wage employment in all rural areas and thereby provide food security and improve nutritional levels. The secondary objective is the creation of durable community, social and economic assets and infrastructural development in rural areas. The SGRY is open to all rural poor who are in need of wage employment and desired to do manual and unskilled work in and around the village/ habitat.

- The objective of the SGSY is to bring the assisted poor families (Swarozgaris) above the poverty line by organizing them into Self Help Groups (SHGS) through the process of social mobilization, their training and capacity building and provision of income generating assets through a mix of Bank credit and Government subsidy.

- The Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) is the major scheme for construction of houses to be given to the poor, free of cost. It has an additional component, namely, conversion of unserviceable kutcha houses to semi pucca houses. Further, a Credit-cum-subsidy for rural housing

was launched from 1.4.99 targeting families having annual income up to Rs. 32,000?

The National Food for Work Programme has the objective to provide additional resources to 150 most backward districts of the country so that generation of supplementary wage employment and provision of food security through creation of need based economic, social and community assets in these districts is further intensified. Foodgrains are provided to the States free of cost. Works are taken up under the programme in accordance with the Five Year Perspective Plan.

For urban areas the poverty alleviation scheme, which rests with the Ministry, is Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar yojana (SJSRY). This programme seeks to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed or under-employed poor through encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures or provision of wage employment. The programme targets the urban poor, defined as those living Below the Poverty Line, as defined from time to time. This programme relies on creation of suitable community structures and delivery of inputs through the medium of urban local bodies and such community structure. It is funded on a 75:25 basis between Centre and the States. The Programme is applicable to all urban towns in India. The Programme is implemented on a whole town basis with special emphasis on urban poor clusters.

In addition to this, the Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY), and National Slum Development Programmes (NSDP) which are meant for providing shelter/upgradation of shelter and environmental upgradation for the urban slum dwellers, also contribute indirectly towards poverty alleviation.

[Translation]

**Loans at Concessional Rates to  
BPL Category**

\*366. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government provides loans and other facilities at concessional rates to the applicants of BPL category for setting up of small scale industries;

(b) if so, the bank interest rate in this regard;

(c) whether the rural applicants are being given special facilities in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD) : (a) The Central Government does not provide loans at concessional rates to persons living below the poverty line (BPL) or any other person for setting up of small scale industries. However, under the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) and Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), persons of BPL category and under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) and Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) persons belonging to the weaker sections are provided subsidy, for setting up various enterprises for self-employment. All these are credit-linked subsidy schemes.

(b) The lending to small scale industries is covered under the priority sector lending of the banks. The rates of interest applicable to such loans are as per the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from time to time. As per extant guidelines issued by the RBI, interest rates on loans up to Rs.2 lakh should not exceed the prime lending rate (PLR) of the banks. For loans beyond Rs.2 lakh, the fixation of interest rates is left to the banks, subject to PLR and the maximum band.

(c) and (d) Under the SGSY, the subsidy assistance provided to the eligible rural applicants is as follows :

| Sl. No. | Category of beneficiary              | Subsidy assistance   |
|---------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1.      | General                              | 30% of the project cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 7,500.  |
| 2.      | Scheduled Castes/<br>Scheduled Tribe | 50% of the project cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 10,000.   |
| 3.      | Self-Help Groups                     | 50% of the project cost, subject to per capita subsidy of Rs. 10,000 or total of Rs. 1.25 lakh, whichever is less. |

Under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) being implemented by the Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), entrepreneurs can avail of margin money assistance

(subsidy) from the KVIC and loans from any public sector scheduled commercial bank, for projects with a maximum cost of Rs.25 lakh. The margin money assistance is given as detailed in the following table:

*Margin Money Assistance under REGP*

| Sl.No. | Category of beneficiary  | Project cost                           | Margin money assistance                            |
|--------|--|--|--|
| 1.     | General  | Upto Rs. 10 lakh                       | 25 per cent of project cost                        |
| 2.     | Scheduled Castes (SC)/Scheduled Tribes (ST)/ Women/ex-Serviceman/North Eastern (NE) Region/ Hill Areas | Upto Rs. 10 lakh                       | 30 per cent of project cost                        |
| 3.     | General  | Above Rs. 10 lakh and upto Rs. 25 lakh | Rs. 2.5 lakh + 10 per cent of balance project cost |
| 4.     | SC/ST/Women/ex-Serviceman/NE Region/Hill Areas   | Above Rs. 10 lakh and upto Rs. 25 lakh | Rs. 3 lakh + 10 per cent of balance project cost   |

Under the PMRY, for self-employment, the Central Government provides subsidy as follows :

*Subsidy under PMRY*

| S. Category of No. projects | Maximum loan amount (Rs.) | Maximum subsidy per beneficiary (Rs.) – General category | Maximum subsidy per beneficiary (Rs.) – Special category States |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Business                 | 1,00,000                  | 7,500  | 15,000  |
| 2. Service                  | 2,00,000                  | 7,500  | 15,000  |
| 3. Industry                 | 2,00,000                  | 7,500  | 15,000  |

Under this scheme, eligible persons can join together in a partnership to get assistance for projects with investment upto Rs. 10 lakh. One of the conditions of this scheme is that the eligible applicant's annual income should be limited to Rs.40,000. This scheme is implemented in both rural and urban areas.

The beneficiaries of the REGP and PMRY also include those living below the poverty line.

*[English]*

**Visit of U.S. Secretary of State**

\*368. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI :

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, visited India recently;

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed during the said visit;

(c) the outcome thereof;

(d) whether the U.S. State Department has okayed several key collaborative ventures agreed upon in principle during the visit of U.S. Secretary; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH) : (a) to (e) Secretary of State Dr. Condoleezza Rice visited New Delhi on 15-16 March 2005. She held discussions with the External Affairs Minister and called on the Prime Minister.

Discussions focused on India-U.S. bilateral relations including issues such as the Next Steps in Strategic Partnership, high technology trade and strategic commerce, defence cooperation, civil aviation and expanding economic and trade links. Major regional and global issues were also discussed with the U.S. Secretary of State. The visit contributed to taking India-U.S. bilateral ties to a higher plane. Both sides reaffirmed the need to expand areas of cooperation, particularly in energy, defence and high technology sectors. Follow-up action to the discussions during the visit is under way. During the External Affairs Minister's visit to Washington D.C. on April 13-14, 2005 further progress was made on various aspects of India-U.S. relations.

#### **Cancellation of Licences**

\*369. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY :  
SHRI UDAY SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Government has recently cancelled licences of many Ayurvedic and Unani drug manufacturers across the country for not following the norms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has a proposal to enact effective legislation to curtail manufacture of spurious Ayurvedic and Unani drugs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) For the purpose of manufacturing Ayurvedic and Unani drugs, the State Government appoints the licencing-authorities for such areas as may be specified in this behalf by notification in the official gazette. An application for the grant or renewal of a licence to manufacture for sale any Ayurvedic or Unani drugs has to be made in the prescribed form to the licencing authority as per provisions under Rule 153 of the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules, 1945.

According to the information received from the State Governments, 116 applications for renewal of licences have been rejected as on September, 2004, for non-

compliance of Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) provisions of these were 10 from Himachal Pradesh, 6 from Delhi 75 from Orissa and 25 from Punjab.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to enact a fresh legislation to deal with the manufacture of spurious Ayurvedic and Unani drugs, as the existing legal provisions if enforced effectively, are adequate for this purpose. Section 17 of the Drugs & Cosmetics Act provides for punishment for misbranded, fake and spurious (Ayurveda and Unani) drugs. State Drug Controllers are required to implement this provision.

[Translation]

#### **Study undertaken on Diabetes**

\*370. SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the study undertaken by the Delhi Diabetic Research Centre with assistance from Delhi Government wherein it has been observed that abstaining from the intake of prevalent soft drinks can prevent diabetes;

(b) if so, whether the Government has decided to carry out any other scientific study/testing in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government ever since the publication of the aforesaid report?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) to (d) "The Delhi Diabetes Research Centre", a non governmental organization, in collaboration with Government of Delhi, launched an awareness and education programme and a study focusing on hazards of obesity and its relation with diabetes, among the school children in Delhi. The Delhi Diabetic Research Centre claims that in course of the said study, 34 schools in Delhi have been covered so far. Children in the age group of 8-14 years were randomly selected and were assessed on the basis of skin fold thickness, body weight percentage, BMI, waste hip ratio and BP. The Study concluded that lack of physical activity/exercise combined with excess consumption of fast food

and aerated drinks is the major cause of over weight/obesity in these children.

The Delhi Diabetes Research Centre has informed that this study is still going on and only preliminary results of the study are available.

However, several epidemiological studies, done in different parts of the country show increasing prevalence of Type II diabetes in urban and rural areas. Keeping this in mind, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have now initiated steps to obtain the in principle approval of the Planning Commission to create a National Programme for Control of Diabetes.

#### **Polio cases in the Country**

\*371. SHRI ATIQ AHAMAD :

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

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

(a) the details of polio cases reported recently in the country, State-wise, and the steps taken by the Government to eradicate polio;

(b) whether the Government is aware that Western Uttar Pradesh and Bihar continue to report the maximum number of Polio cases in the country as reported in the Indian Express dated March 18, 2005;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether adequate facilities are available for children particularly in Bihar and UP for oral polio vaccine;

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(f) whether the Government proposes to introduce new vaccines for polio immunization; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) In the year 2004, 136 polio cases were reported in the country. In the year 2005 from 1st January upto 14th March 2005, 14 cases have been reported. The number of polio cases reported in the country during last three years is enclosed as Statement.

The Government has taken various steps to eradicate polio in the country as mentioned below :—

- Five nationwide immunization rounds (NIDs) and one sub national immunization round (SNID) were undertaken during 2004
- Two mop-up immunization rounds were undertaken in the high-risk districts during 2004
- During 2005, two sub-national immunization rounds (SNIDs) covering the high risk areas and one nationwide immunization round (NID) have already been undertaken during the period January to April 2005
- There is a plan to undertake one more NID and four SNIDs during the period May to December 2005
- Steps have also been taken to improve the quality of the immunization campaigns so that children do not miss the immunization rounds which include :—
  - Improved involvement of the government officials at the district, sub-district level, block and even up to the village level in order to ensure multi-sectoral involvement in the efficient implementation of the immunization rounds
  - Improved micro-planning and training of vaccinators and supervisors, to select vaccination teams that are appropriate to the local situation and are well-versed with their role
  - Improved social mobilization to improve acceptance of all community to polio vaccine
  - Identification of high risk districts and high risk areas within these districts for focused and targeted action in order to improve the reach of the vaccine in these areas
  - Regular monitoring and supervision of the programme by the Central and state level officials

The above steps have been taken in accordance with the recommendations of the India Expert Advisory Group (IEAG) that comprises of National experts in the field of public health, pediatrics, virology and also representatives of International bodies like WHO and UNICEF.

(b) and (c) Western Uttar Pradesh and Bihar continue to report maximum cases. In the year 2004 out of 136 polio cases reported in the country, 80 cases were from Western Uttar Pradesh and 41 cases were from Bihar. One of the main reasons for this is that during the pulse polio rounds, adequate number of children are not reached and this has resulted in continued transmission of poliovirus circulation. Other factors that have contributed to a continued circulation of poliovirus in these areas are high density of population and poor sanitary conditions.

(d) and (e) Adequate facilities have been provided in Bihar and UP for providing oral polio vaccine. These include setting up sufficient booths in UP during each round on day one of the campaign. This is followed by house-to-house search and vaccination by teams that visit each and every house in the State. In Bihar, the teams start the search and vaccinate from day 1 itself.

Each team is provided with sufficient vaccine in a cold box for vaccinating all children. All teams are trained so that they are aware of their exact role while they participate in the immunization campaign.

Inputs like funds for booth mobilization, training, supervision, IEC and social mobilization are being provided to both UP and Bihar by Government of India to ensure that the two states are able to make all necessary provisions in these states.

Additional funds are provided to these two states to ensure that sufficient teams are deployed at all transit points during the rounds to vaccinate children in transit, such as major railways stations, bus stands, fairs, market places etc.

The Government of India is supplying sufficient oral polio vaccine to these states for every immunization round to immunize each and every child under the age of 5 years.

(f) and (g) In order to contain the circulation of polio type 1 virus in the high-risk areas of UP, Bihar and

Maharashtra, the Government of India have introduced the monovalent type 1 polio vaccine (mOPV1) during the April 2005 immunization round. The same vaccine will also be used in these areas during May 2005. The mOPV1 is not a new vaccine. It has been used in other countries in the past. The mOPV1 provides better immunity to polio type 1 virus compared to the trivalent OPV (tOPV). The decision to switch over to the mOPV1 has been made now because most of the polio cases, which have been detected in our country during the recent months, are only due to type 1 poliovirus.

### **Statement**

*Polio cases for 2002 to 2005*

(upto 15th April, 2005)

| Sl. No. | Name of the States/UTS      | Wild Poliovirus |    |    |    |
|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------|----|----|----|
|         |                             | 02              | 03 | 04 | 05 |
| 1       | 2                           | 3               | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 1.      | Andhra Pradesh              | 0               | 21 | 1  | 0  |
| 2.      | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0               | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| 3.      | Arunachal Pradesh           | 0               | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| 4.      | Assam                       | 0               | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| 5.      | Bihar                       | 121             | 18 | 41 | 7  |
| 6.      | Chandigarh                  | 1               | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| 7.      | Chhattisgarh                | 1               | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| 8.      | Dadra and Nagar Haveli      | 0               | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| 9.      | Daman and Diu               | 0               | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| 10.     | Delhi                       | 24              | 3  | 2  | 1  |
| 11.     | Goa                         | 0               | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| 12.     | Gujarat                     | 24              | 3  | 0  | 0  |
| 13.     | Haryana                     | 37              | 3  | 2  | 0  |
| 14.     | Himachal Pradesh            | 0               | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| 15.     | Jammu and Kashmir           | 1               | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| 16.     | Jharkhand                   | 12              | 1  | 0  | 1  |
| 17.     | Karnataka                   | 0               | 36 | 1  | 0  |

| 1                  | 2    | 3   | 4   | 5  | 6 |
|--------------------|------|-----|-----|----|---|
| 18. Kerala         |      | 0   | 0   | 0  | 0 |
| 19. Lakshadweep    |      | 0   | 0   | 0  | 0 |
| 20. Madhya Pradesh | 21   | 11  | 0   | 0  |   |
| 21. Maharashtra    | 6    | 3   | 3   | 0  |   |
| 22. Manipur        | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0  |   |
| 23. Meghalaya      | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0  |   |
| 24. Mizoram        | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0  |   |
| 25. Nagaland       | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0  |   |
| 26. Orissa         | 4    | 2   | 0   | 0  |   |
| 27. Pondicherry    | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0  |   |
| 28. Punjab         | 2    | 1   | 0   | 0  |   |
| 29. Rajasthan      | 41   | 4   | 0   | 0  |   |
| 30. Sikkim         | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0  |   |
| 31. Tamil Nadu     | 0    | 2   | 1   | 0  |   |
| 32. Tripura        | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0  |   |
| 33. Uttaranchal    | 14   | 0   | 1   | 1  |   |
| 34. Uttar Pradesh  | 1242 | 88  | 82  | 4  |   |
| 35. West Bengal    | 49   | 28  | 2   | 0  |   |
| Total              | 1600 | 225 | 136 | 14 |   |

#### Merger of MTNL and BSNL

\*372. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :  
SHRI P. RAJENDRAN :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received the report of Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India securities with regard to merger of the BSNL and the MTNL;

(b) if so, the main points thereof;

(c) whether any Committee has been constituted by the Government to study the merger of BSNL and MTNL;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the views of the Government on the recommendations of the Committee;

(e) whether any discussion with the recognised Unions of these two PSUs have been held;

(f) if so, the details thereof and by when the said PSUs are likely to be merged;

(g) the manner in which the Government proposes to protect the interest of the employees working in both the PSUs; and

(h) the likely benefits to accrue to the general public as a result of merger?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN) : (a) Yes Sir. M/s ICICI Securities, lead partner of the Consortium of consultants have submitted their report on 'Restructuring of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. (MTNL).

(b) As per the consultant, in the telecom market, the vertically and geographically integrated operator will be better positioned to compete effectively and unsynergised MTNL/BSNL would loose out. The consultant has short listed following four options :-

- Option I A: Merger of MTNL into BSNL
- Option I B: Merger of BSNL into MTNL
- Option II A: Acquisition of MTNL by BSNL, IPO by BSNL
- Option II B: Acquisition of BSNL by MTNL

Out of these, option II A has been preferred by the Consultant.

(c) and (a) Yes, Sir. A Steering committee comprising of the Secretary, DOT and other senior officers of DOT, Department of Disinvestment, MTNL and BSNL has been constituted to examine the consultant's report. The committee is studying details of the report.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. The Government is yet to take a view on the report submitted by the consultant.

(g) As per the consultant's report, restructuring of BSNL and MTNL does not adversely affect interests of the employees of the PSUs.

(h) All the relevant factors would be considered while taking final view on the report.

### **Spurious Drugs**

\*373. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU :

SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN:

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

(a) whether expenditure on medical research is substantially low as compared to average spending on health care;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of medical laboratories in the country to check spurious drugs, state-wise;

(d) whether the Government has allocated funds to establish some more laboratories;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to check spurious drugs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) and (b) Expenditure on medical research is low as compared to average spending on health care. According to the National Health Policy, 2002, expenditure on health research in the public and private sectors was of the order of Rs. 1150 crores in 1998-99 against an aggregate annual expenditure of Rs. 80000 crores. Recognizing the need in the newly emerging frontier areas of research based on genetic and genome based drugs and vaccine development, monocellular biology etc., the National Health Policy, 2002, envisages an increase in government funded health research to a level of 1% of total health spending by 2005 and thereafter upto 2% by 2010.

(c) to (e) There are 6 drug laboratories under the Central Government and 20 drug laboratories in the States to check spurious, drugs and the state-wise list of these laboratories is given in the enclosed statement. 3 drug laboratories are being set up in the newly created States of Chhatisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttranchal and the project

cost of the new laboratories is of the order of Rs 941.81 lakhs.

(f) The steps taken by the Government to check spurious drugs include :

- Detailed guidelines issued to State Governments to undertake focused surveillance over possible movement of spurious drugs.
- A Capacity Building Project through World Bank assistance has been taken up to provide substantial assistance to State Governments to upgrade drug testing facilities or to establish new drug testing laboratories. It is expected to increase the number of samples tested in the country from about 36,000 samples to 1,00,000 samples per year and to reduce the reporting time to less than a month as against the present period from 3 to 6 months.
- Specific training programmes for regulatory officials of State Government on logistics of intelligence work, prosecutions etc. has been conducted with the assistance of FDA, Maharashtra. This activity is proposed to be continued.
- In order to ensure efficient information exchange between drug regulatory officers in the country, in respect of licensing, sampling, prosecution, etc., a countrywide computer networking project has been undertaken by the Central Government. This will enable the Central Government to regularly monitor the enforcement activities and recommend corrective measures.
- Pharma Industry and trade have been motivated to fight the menace of spurious drugs as a shared responsibility. Number of cases could be successfully detected through the initiatives taken by Pharma Industry involving hiring of retired intelligence officers.
- Since the success of eradicating the menace of spurious drugs depends upon adequate measures taken by State Governments, this issue was taken up by the Union Health and Family



Welfare Minister in October, 2002, with all Chief Ministers.

- A meeting of Health Ministers of all major States was specially convened in November, 2002, to ensure the action to check the menace of spurious drugs. The views emerged in the meeting have been communicated to all State Governments in January, 2003, for implementation.
- The recommendation of Mashelkar Committee which was constituted by the Government in 2003 to examine all aspects relating to the drug regulatory system in the country including the problem of spurious/sub standard drugs, are being followed for necessary change in legislation as well as improvement of enforcement activities.

#### Statement

*No. of Drug Testing Laboratories in the Country, Statewise*

| Name of State | Name of Drug Laboratory |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| 1             | 2                       |

#### State Sector

|                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Andhra Pradesh    | Hyderabad and Vijawada |
| Delhi             | Delhi                  |
| Gujarat           | Vadodara               |
| Haryana           | Chandigarh             |
| Himachal Pradesh  | Kanda Ghath            |
| Jammu and Kashmir | Srinagar               |
| Kerala            | Thiruvananthapuram     |
| Karnataka         | Bangalore              |
| Madhya Pradesh    | Bhopal                 |
| Orissa            | Bhubaneshwar           |
| Pondicherry       | Pondicherry            |
| Rajasthan         | Jaipur                 |
| Tamil Nadu        | Chennai                |

| 1             | 2                     |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| Tripura       | Agartala              |
| Uttar Pradesh | Lucknow               |
| West Bengal   | Kolkata               |
| Chattisgarh   | Raipur (New)          |
| Jharkhand     | Ranchi (New)          |
| Uttaranchal   | Patwadangre (New)     |
| Maharashtra   | Mumbai and Aurangabad |
| Goa           | Panaji                |

[English]

#### Periodical tests for Doctors

\*374. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

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

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to hold periodical tests after every five years for every registered/ practicing doctors to assess their familiarity with modern medical science;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposal has been discussed with the medical fraternity;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(f) by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) to (f) There has been a scheme in vogue for quite long for providing Continuing Medical Education (CME) to registered medical practitioners. However, the same is not linked to re-registration of doctors. There have been proposals under consideration to link compulsory renewal of registration of doctors after every five years to undergo compulsory Medical Education

(CME) by the doctors. The details of the proposal are being worked out.

#### **External Aid for Road Sector**

\*375. SHRI HITEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of amount provided to the various States by the World Bank and other foreign financial institutions for construction, improvement, repairing, maintenance and widening of the National Highways during the last three years;

(b) the details of achievements made in this regard;

(c) whether all the grants provided by all the financial institutions have been spent; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No Sir. No amount has been provided to the States for National Highways, by the World Bank and other foreign financial institutions in the last three years.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **World Bank Assistance for National E-Governance Plan**

\*376. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has offered assistance for the first phase of the national e-governance plan;

(b) if so, the details of the projects submitted by the Government to the World Bank;

(c) the details of the projects approved by the World Bank alongwith the assistance World Bank has agreed to provide; and

(d) the terms and conditions laid down by the World Bank for such assistance?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN) : (a) to (d) The World Bank has indicated its in principle approval for providing funding upto an extent of US \$500 million and programme management support to the National E-governance Plan (NEGP). Discussions with the Bank are at a preliminary stage and a specific project report has not been tabled or approved. Detailed terms and conditions of World Bank support have not been finalized so far.

#### **Nuclear Power Programme**

\*377. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has recently formulated a nuclear power programme to provide long-term energy security to the country based on indigenous nuclear fuel resources:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the stage at which it stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) A three-stage nuclear power programme to utilize large thorium reserves in the country for electricity generation has been envisaged since the inception of nuclear power in the country.

(b) The three stages of the programme are :

- Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors, in the first stage, based on natural uranium available in the country.
- Fast Breeder Reactors utilising plutonium- uranium fuel cycle, in the second stage.
- Breeder Reactors for utilisation of our vast resources of thorium, in the third stage.

The three stages have important fuel cycle linkages and have to be gone through sequentially.

(c) At present, there are 14 power reactors in operation with a total capacity of 2770 MWe. In addition, six Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) and two Light Water Reactors(LWRs) are under construction.

A beginning to the second stage programme has been made with the start of construction of 500 MWe Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor(PFBR) at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu.

The third stage of the programme will be launched after sufficient base capacity of the second stage FBRs are put in operation. A technology demonstration project of Advanced Heavy Water Reactor(AHWR) is also proposed for construction.

[Translation]

#### **Decline in Sale of Postal Articles**

\*378. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA :

SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sale of envelopes, inland letters and postcards has been adversely affected during the last few years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether income of post offices has declined during the last three years as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the details thereof during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The number of envelopes, inland letters and Post Cards sold during the last two years has shown a mixed trend in comparison to the year 2001-2002, as can be seen from the details given below :—

#### *Details of the number of Envelopes, Inland Letter Cards and Post Cards Sold*

(Figures in Millions of pieces)

| Item                | 2001-2002 | 2002-2003 | 2003-2004 |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Envelopes           | 4181.25   | 3536.99   | 3591.87   |
| Inland Letter Cards | 2249.37   | 1806.22   | 1455.07   |
| Post Card           | 1958.07   | 1634.65   | 1805.63   |

Considering the sales pattern as seen from the above numbers, the trend appears to be mixed.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The income of the Post Offices from postal operations has not declined during the last three years. The fluctuation in the number of pieces sold of departmentally produced envelopes, inland letter cards or post cards does not necessarily imply a corresponding change in revenue, as postage revenue also accrues in the form of postage from use of privately produced envelopes, inland letter cards or postcards sent through the Department of Posts. Details of revenue receipt for three years from the Postal Operations of the Department are given below :—

#### *Income of the Post Offices from Postal Operations during the last three years*

| Year      | Income of the Post Offices from Postal Operations (in crores of Rupees) |
|-----------|---|
| 2001-2002 | 2200.36   |
| 2002-2003 | 2432.65   |
| 2003-2004 | 2494.43   |

[Translation]

#### **Mobile Phone Services of BSNL**

†\*379. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the BSNL is facing difficulties in providing mobile-phone services to the new subscribers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the imports made by the BSNL to provide mobile services in the country during the last three years alongwith the country-wise names of such companies from where the imports were made;

(d) whether all imported equipments are being used; and

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN) : (a) and (b) As on 31.3.2005, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has provided 94.47 lakh Cellular connections against network capacity of 94.92 lakh lines. Due to capacity constraints and to provide congestion free service to the existing customers, release of pre-paid new connection further has been controlled temporarily in some parts of the country.

(c) to (e) Though BSNL had invited bids and placed orders on the Indian Registered Companies for supply of mobile equipments, yet the companies had indicated that around 70% of the equipment needs to be sourced through imports. The imported equipments are with reference to mobile switches, Base Station Transmitters and controllers, Antenna Subsystems, Intelligent Network Systems, Packet handlers and systems etc. All the equipment have been put to use except those which are presently under installation as received from M/s Nokia and M/s Nortel. The names of the companies on which the orders were placed by BSNL and the country from where they have sourced their supplies and inducted into the network during last three years is given below:-

| Sl. No. | Name of Company         | Year of Procurement   | Country from where sourced |
|---------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1.      | M/s ITI, Bangalore      | 2002 and 2004         | USA, France                |
| 2.      | M/s Ericsson India Ltd. | 2002-03-04            | Sweden                     |
| 3.      | M/s Motorola India Ltd. | 2002-03-04            | China, USA                 |
| 4.      | M/s Nokia India Ltd.    | 2004-05               | China, Finland             |
| 5.      | M/s Nortel Networks     | 2004-05<br>India Ltd. | China, US,<br>France       |

(f) Does not arise in view of (c) to (e) above.

[English]

#### Guidelines for use of Stem Cell

\*380. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :  
SHRI S.D. MANDLIK :

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

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research has submitted draft guidelines for use of stem cell in the country as reported in the Hindustan Times dated March 19, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has approved the same;

(d) if not, by when it is expected to be approved;

(e) whether a lucrative trade pertaining to use of Stem Cell is on in the country in the absence of any guidelines or law; and

(f) if so, the present status in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS) : (a) to (f) It would not be correct to say that the stem cell research and its use is unregulated in the country. The issues of research involving the use of stem cells are addressed in the "Ethical Guidelines for Bio medical Research on Human Subjects" as part of chapters on Specific Principles for Research in Transplantation including Foetal Tissue Transplantation, Assisted Reproductive Technology, use of embryonic and foetal tissue, prepared by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). These guidelines provide for informed consent and also provide that use of embryonic and foetal tissue must be approved by local scientific and ethics Committee and also referred to National or Central Ethics Committee for final approval. These guidelines have been accepted by the Government and have been circulated to all concerned research and diagnostic institutions. These guidelines are in the process of being legislated.

In view of recent developments in the area of stem cell research, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has examined the research and therapeutic procedures involving the use of various stem cells. Consequently, a Draft Guideline on stem cell research/ regulation prepared by an expert committee constituted by ICMR has been put on the ICMR website for inviting suggestions and comments. The said Draft Guidelines provide for promotion as well as regulation of stem cell research and its clinical applications in the country. The

ICMR has received comments and suggestions on the said draft guidelines and is in the process of its finalisation.

[Translation]

### Optical Fibre Lines in UP

†3915. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the places in Uttar Pradesh, especially Eastern Uttar Pradesh, for which Optical Fibre Lines have been sanctioned as on date;

(b) the place-wise length of these cables;

(c) the district-wise length in kilometers of Optical Fibre Cable lines provided to be sanctioned; and

(d) the time by which the said facility is likely to be made available to the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) The details of the places in UP for which OFC lines have been sanctioned and place-wise length of cables are also given in enclosed Statement-I.

(c) The district-wise length in Kilometers of Optical Fibre Cable lines, proposed to be sanctioned is given in enclosed Statement-II.

(d) Schemes as per enclosed Statement-I are likely to be completed by March 2006.

### Statement-I

*Details of Place-wise OFC Lines and  
Length of Cables in U.P.*

| Sl. No. | SSA       | Scheme Name             | RKM    |
|---------|-----------|-------------------------|--------|
| 1       | 2         | 3                       | 4      |
| 1.      | Allahabad | Conenalganh-KK INST BTS | 1.000  |
| 2.      | Allahabad | Ghoorpur-Lalpur         | 24.000 |
| 3.      | Allahabad | Manda Road Mobile BTS   | 0.500  |

| 1   | 2         | 3                            | 4      |
|-----|-----------|------------------------------|--------|
| 4.  | Allahabad | Medical CHRC-Civil Lines BTS | 0.800  |
| 5.  | Allahabad | Meja Koraon                  | 19.000 |
| 6.  | Allahabad | Naraini-Shankargarh          | 19.000 |
| 7.  | Allahabad | Phafamau-CRPF BTS            | 2.000  |
| 8.  | Allahabad | UP Tech-Civil Lines BTS      | 2.000  |
| 9.  | Bahraich  | Mihinpurwa-Matehi Kala       | 17.396 |
| 10. | Bahraich  | Mihinpurwa-Pipra Bhagaria    | 15.338 |
| 11. | Bahraich  | Rampur-Gaighat Bhoibia       | 19.000 |
| 12. | Banda     | Atarra-Khurand BTS           | 00.000 |
| 13. | Banda     | Banda-Banda City BTS         | 0.000  |
| 14. | Banda     | Karvi XGE-Karvi RSU BTS      | 0.000  |
| 15. | Barabanki | Belsar New BLDG-Rudauli      | 2.000  |
| 16. | Basti     | Bankati-Nath Nagar           | 0.500  |
| 17. | Basti     | Khalilabad-Maghar            | 0.000  |
| 18. | Basti     | Siddarth Ngr-SHG(New) BTS    | 13.100 |
| 19. | Basti     | Vikram JOT-CHWNI             | 0.000  |
| 20. | Deoria    | Gauribazar-Betalpur          | 9.000  |
| 21. | Deoria    | Godarwar Cattangaanj BTS     | 0.000  |
| 22. | Deoria    | Khukhundu Mobile BTS         | 0.000  |
| 23. | Deoria    | Kushinagar Mobile BTS        | 6.300  |
| 24. | Deoria    | OCB DEO-C-DOT DEO            | 0.000  |
| 25. | Deoria    | Sonal Nagar Mobile BTS       | 0.000  |
| 26. | Etawah    | Bharthana-Chakarnagar        | 0.000  |
| 27. | Etawah    | Bharthana-Mehewa             | 27.605 |
| 28. | Etawah    | Kusmara-Bewar                | 0.500  |
| 29. | Faizabad  | Inayat Ngr-Amanianj          | 0.000  |
| 30. | Faizabad  | Jafraganj Akbpur             | 0.000  |
| 31. | Faizabad  | Lalbagh-Ashwanipura BTS      | 1.200  |
| 32. | Faizabad  | Old XGE Bikapur-New XGE BTS  | 1.500  |

| 67            | Written Answers            |   |        | APRIL 20, 2005   | to Questions                 |   |        | 68 |
|---------------|----------------------------|---|--------|------------------|------------------------------|---|--------|----|
| 1             | 2                          | 3 | 4      | 1                | 2                            | 3 | 4      |    |
| 33. Ghazipur  | Ghahmar Momile BTS         |   | 0.000  | 62. Lucknow      | Bakshitalab-IAF BKT          |   | 4.300  |    |
| 34. Ghazipur  | Ghazipur-Zamania           |   | 0.000  | 63. Lucknow      | Baksi Ka Talab BTS           |   | 4.500  |    |
| 35. Ghazipur  | Hasrajpur Mobile BTS       |   | 0.000  | 64. Pratapgarh   | Bishaiya-Kunda               |   | 12.000 |    |
| 36. Ghazipur  | Manpur Mobile BTS          |   | 0.000  | 65. Pratapgarh   | Dilip Pur-Patti              |   | 15.000 |    |
| 37. Ghazipur  | Tazpur-Mahan               |   | 0.000  | 66. Pratapgarh   | Gauradead-Antoo              |   | 8.000  |    |
| 38. Gonda     | Tulsipur-Harraiyaatgarwa   |   | 14.200 | 67. Pratapgarh   | Mohmadabad-Tajpur            |   | 11.519 |    |
| 39. Gonda     | Tulsipur-Kauwapur          |   | 5.500  | 68. Pratapgarh   | Semari-Bersinghpur           |   | 8.000  |    |
| 40. Gonda     | Tulsipur-Maharajganj Tarai |   | 4.700  | 69. Raebareli    | Gadaganj SBM-RSU             |   | 0.000  |    |
| 41. Hamirpur  | HMP City HMP BTS           |   | 0.000  | 70. Raebareli    | RBL Badhokhar BTS            |   | 0.000  |    |
| 42. Hamirpur  | Kulpahar-Cahrkhari         |   | 6.000  | 71. Raebareli    | RBL Gurubaks Ganj BTS        |   | 0.000  |    |
| 43. Hamirpur  | Mahoba-Srinagar            |   | 12.000 | 72. Shahjahanpur | Banda Dhakaghansyam          |   | 8.500  |    |
| 44. Hamirpur  | Rath-Atraula BTS           |   | 0.000  | 73. Shahjahanpur | Tilhar Nigohi                |   | 26.800 |    |
| 45. Hamirpur  | Srinagar-Mahoba BTS        |   | 2.200  | 74. Sitapur      | HDI Crossing-Main XGE<br>BTS |   | 0.900  |    |
| 46. Hardoi    | Hadoi-Semra Chauraha BTS   |   | 0.500  | 75. Sitapur      | Ramgarh-Mishrikh             |   | 0.000  |    |
| 47. Hardoi    | Pali-rupanpur BTS          |   | 0.000  | 76. Sitapur      | Sitapur-Gausala              |   | 3.500  |    |
| 48. Hardoi    | Roopapur-Pali              |   | 8.500  | 77. Sultanpur    | Bhadar-Amethi BTS            |   | 12.000 |    |
| 49. Jaunpur   | Baderi-Mariyahu            |   | 15.600 | 78. Sultanpur    | Jamo-Jagdishpur BTS          |   | 7.492  |    |
| 50. Jaunpur   | Belwabazar-Sujanganj       |   | 8.200  | 79. Sultanpur    | JIA-Halliapur                |   | 11.200 |    |
| 51. Jaunpur   | Saraibeeka-Machhlisahar    |   | 13.995 | 80. Sultanpur    | JIA-Harimau                  |   | 5.300  |    |
| 52. Jhansi    | Army XGE-CANTT XGE         |   | 0.000  | 81. Sultanpur    | JIA-Jainabganj               |   | 5.965  |    |
| 53. Jhansi    | Army XGE-E-10B JI          |   | 0.000  | 82. Sultanpur    | Kaadipur-Ravania             |   | 14.668 |    |
| 54. Jhansi    | Bijauli-E-10B XGE          |   | 0.000  | 83. Sultanpur    | Kadipur-Tatamuraini          |   | 13.448 |    |
| 55. Jhansi    | Isagarh-Grassland          |   | 0.000  | 84. Sultanpur    | Kurwar-Sultanpur BTS         |   | 0.000  |    |
| 56. Jhansi    | Lalitpr-Dailwara           |   | 12.000 | 85. Sultanpur    | Motinagar Mobile BTS         |   | 0.475  |    |
| 57. Jhansi    | Lalitpr-Rajghat            |   | 16.500 | 86. Sultanpur    | Rajanaseerpur-Sangipur       |   | 18.000 |    |
| 58. Jhansi    | Saidpur-Madwara            |   | 14.000 | 87. Sultanpur    | Raniganj-JIA                 |   | 9.036  |    |
| 59. Jhansi    | Vijaipura-Talbehat         |   | 20.00  | 88. Sultanpur    | Sultanpur-Semari             |   | 12.150 |    |
| 60. Lakhimpur | Mudasarai-Bhira            |   | 9.600  | 89. Sultanpur    | Tiyari-Sultanpur BTS         |   | 2.500  |    |
| 61. Lakhimpur | Nighasan-Pallia            |   | 42.000 |                  |                              |   |        |    |

| 1    | 2            | 3                         | 4      |
|------|--------------|---------------------------|--------|
| 90.  | Unnao        | Hasanganj-Safipur         | 0.000  |
| 91.  | Unnao        | PD Nagar-Awas Vikas BTS   | 0.000  |
| 92.  | Unnao        | PD Nagar Bighapur         | 0.000  |
| 93.  | Unnao        | PD Nagar Kotwali BTS      | 1.200  |
| 94.  | Varanasi     | Gilla BZR-Shivpur BTS     | 0.000  |
| 95.  | Varanasi     | Laxampur-Lalpur BTS       | 0.000  |
| 96.  | Varanasi     | Ram Nagar Chowk-City BTS  | 7.600  |
| 97.  | Varanasi     | Saraiya-Golgadda BTS      | 0.000  |
| 98.  | Balrampur    | Utraula-Mahuwa            | 18.000 |
| 99.  | Ambedkar Ngr | Gaidas Buzurg-Dhuswa      | 8.000  |
| 100. | Ambedkar Ngr | Jalalpur-Rukanpur         | 10.000 |
| 101. | Ambedkar Ngr | Baskhari-Rukanpur         | 10.000 |
| 102. | Ambedkar Ngr | Bendipur-Newada           | 8.000  |
| 103. | Ambedkar Ngr | Mijhaura-Bhitti           | 14.000 |
| 104. | Ambedkar Ngr | Akbarpur-Rampur Sakarwari | 11.000 |
| 105. | Auraiya      | Newari Kal-Achhalda       | 7.500  |
| 106. | Banda        | Kamasin-Sarhua            | 11.000 |
| 107. | Karvi        | Kamasin-Sarhua            | 11.000 |
| 108. | Mainpuri     | Sikohabad-Sirsaganj       | 10.000 |
| 109. | Mainpuri     | Sirsaganj-Katphori        | 15.000 |
| 110. | Mainpuri     | Makanpur-Khairagarh       | 7.000  |
| 111. | Deoria       | Paina-Barhaj              | 9.080  |
| 112. | Deoria       | Bakhra-Gauri Bazar        | 8.500  |
| 113. | Deoria       | Bakhra-Hati               | 7.500  |
| 114. | Deoria       | Pratappur-Ahiraubaghel    | 11.736 |
| 115. | Deoria       | Pakan Deoria              | 8.000  |
| 116. | Deoria       | Ramlaxman Old-New         | 0.600  |
| 117. | Deoria       | Khukhundu Old-New         | 0.600  |
| 118. | Padrauna     | Kushinagar-Padrauna       | 3.000  |

| 1     | 2            | 3                        | 4       |
|-------|--------------|--------------------------|---------|
| 119.  | Padrauna     | Kushinagar-Kasya         | 3.000   |
| 120.  | Padrauna     | Capatanaganj Old-New     | 0.600   |
| 121.  | Padrauna     | Khadda-Chitauni          | 11.665  |
| 122.  | Padrauna     | Mansachhapar-Jathhabazar | 15.100  |
| 123.  | Padrauna     | Pipar-Padrauna           | 16.770  |
| 124.  | Padrauna     | Baraipatti-Ghughuli      | 8.980   |
| 125.  | Padrauna     | Harpur Bridgr-Hata       | 8.200   |
| 126.  | Padrauna     | Janga Mod-Motichak       | 4.200   |
| 127.  | Padrauna     | Tamkuhi-Kasya            | 32.000  |
| 128.  | Kanpur Dehat | Dewbrampur               | 8.000   |
| 129.  | Kanpur Dehat | Amraudha                 | 8.500   |
| 130.  | Kanpur Dehat | Kaurawan                 | 9.500   |
| 131.  | Kanpur Dehat | Bhaupur                  | 13.500  |
| Total |              |                          | 947.818 |

*Up West*

| Sl. No. | Name of the Place | Length of Sanctioned Cable in Kms |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1.      | Agra              | 55                                |
| 2.      | Bijnore           | 20                                |
| 3.      | Badaun            | 10                                |
| 4.      | Mathura           | 40                                |
| 5.      | Meerut            | 55                                |
| 6.      | Moradabad         | 75                                |
| 7.      | Muzaffarnagar     | 40                                |
| 8.      | Noida             | 10                                |
| 9.      | Etah              | 20                                |
| 10.     | Pilibhit          | 10                                |
| 11.     | Saharanpur        | 15                                |
| Total   |                   | 350                               |

*By Project Circle*

| Sl. No. | Name of the Place      | Length of Sanctioned Cable in Kms |
|---------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1.      | Barabanki              | 38                                |
| 2.      | Sultanpur              | 110                               |
| 3.      | Faridabad (Farukhabad) | 183                               |
| 4.      | Jhansi                 | 57                                |
| 5.      | Lucknow                | 150                               |
| 6.      | Kanpur                 | 74                                |
| Total   |                        | 613                               |

**Statement-II***District Wise Length of OF Cable to be Sanctioned*

| Sl. No. | Name of Place | Length of sanctioned OFC to be completed by March, 2006 |
|---------|---------------|---|
| 1       | 2             | 3   |
| 1       | Agra          | 77  |
| 2       | Firozabad     | 3   |
| 3       | Aligarh       | 61  |
| 4       | Hathras       | 50  |
| 5       | Bareilly      | 40  |
| 6       | Bulandshahar  | 135   |
| 7       | Badaun        | 22  |
| 8       | Ghaziabad     | 35  |
| 9       | Mathura       | 19  |
| 10      | Moradabad     | 16  |
| 11      | J.P. Nagar    | 6   |
| 12      | Noida         | 44  |
| 13      | Rampur        | 15  |
| 14      | Saharanpur    | 53  |
| Total   |               | 576   |

**By Project Circle**

|    |        |     |
|----|--------|-----|
| 1. | Kanpur | 302 |
|----|--------|-----|

| 1     | 2           | 3   |
|-------|-------------|-----|
| 2.    | Lucknow     | 142 |
| 3.    | Jhansi      | 47  |
| 4.    | Bahraich    | 154 |
| 5.    | Mainpuri    | 41  |
| 6.    | Shajahanpur | 66  |
| 7.    | Unnao       | 87  |
| Total |             | 839 |

**Medical Allowances to Pensioners**

3916.SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government had announced any medical allowances for pensioners in 1998;

(b) if so, the rate on which the medical allowances were to be given;

(c) whether the Government proposes to increase the medical allowances as per the increase in the prices of medicines; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHAURI) : (a) and (b) Based on the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission, the Government of India, during December 1997, introduced the scheme of payment of Fixed Medical Allowance of Rs. 100/- (Rupees One hundred only), on monthly basis to those Central Government pensioners and family pensioners residing in areas not covered by Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) administered by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and corresponding health schemes administered by other Ministries/Departments for their retired employees for meeting expenditure on day-today medical expenses that do not require hospitalisation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Fifth Central Pay Commission, on whose recommendations the scheme of Fixed Medical Allowance



was introduced in December 1997, did not recommend any periodic review of the rate of the Allowance. The financial burden on account of any such revision is also expected to be excessive.

[English]

#### **Sale of Sub-Standard Drugs**

3917.SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether registration system for the imported drugs was started to check the inflow of sub-standard medicines into the country;

(b) whether a large number of foreign companies have been registered without any inspections of the premises as per the Drug and Cosmetic Act; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure that these companies follow the WHO GMP norms and not supply sub-standard drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) Yes Sir. Under the New system of registration of import of drugs in the country, which came into force 1st April, 2003 no drug can be imported in the country without manufacturing site registration and import licence in Form 10 under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules.

(b) and (c) Inspection of overseas manufacturing sites is not a mandatory criteria for registration of import of drugs. Presently, such imported drugs, which have been in use in the country for considerable period any are duly approved have been registered, provided all formalities prescribed in the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules are complied with. The applicants are required to submit regulatory status of the drug, free sale certificate and GMP certificate in WHO format or certificate of pharmaceutical product (CPP), issued by regulatory authority of the country of origin and Free sale approval issued by the regulatory authorities of other major countries.

At the time of import of the drug the Custom Authorities forwards the bill of entry or any application relating to the consignment to the Port Officer of Central Drugs Standards Control Organisation(CDSCO) at Ports and Airports, prior to import, who check the documents and test the samples

at Government or approved testing laboratories. Drugs are cleared for use if they meet the required parameters.

#### **Telephone Bhavan in West Bengal**

3918.SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether telephone bhavan of BSNL at Indpur in the district of Bankura in West Bengal was scheduled to be opened most probably in the year 2001-2002; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not opening it till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) No, Sir. It is proposed to commission the telephone exchange at Indpur in January, 2006.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

#### **Pending cases of PCO/ISD/STD Booths**

3919.SHRI SUBRATA BOSE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of PCO/STD/ISD booths installed in West Bengal, Bihar, Rajasthan, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and NER during the last three years, district-wise, category-wise;

(b) the number of applications lying pending for the installation of such booths in these States;

(c) the reasons for their pendency; and

(d) the time by which these applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) Sir, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The number of applications lying pending are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The reasons for pendency of the applications are :—

(i) Non-availability of U/G cable pairs in the area.

- (ii) Non-availability of hardware (CCM Cards) in the exchanges.
- (iii) Non-availability of WLL based Fixed Wireless Telephones (FWTs).
- (iv) Poor coverage of WLL signal due to shortage of WLL Towers (BTSS).
- (v) Non completion of documents by the franchisee.
- (d) The pending applications are likely to be cleared by March, 2006.

#### Statement

##### *Pending Applications for PCOs*

| Sl. No. | Name of State               | Applications pending |         |       |
|---------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------|-------|
|         |                             | Local                | STD/ISD | Total |
| 1.      | Assam                       | 0                    | 0       | 0     |
| 2.      | Meghalaya                   | 0                    | 0       | 0     |
| 3.      | Mizoram                     | 0                    | 0       | 0     |
| 4.      | Tripura                     | 0                    | 2099    | 2099  |
| 5.      | Manipur                     | 0                    | 3392    | 3392  |
| 6.      | Nagaland                    | 81                   | 91      | 172   |
| 7.      | Arunachal Pradesh           | 0                    | 0       | 0     |
| 8.      | West Bengal                 | 84                   | 3783    | 3867  |
| 9.      | Kolkatta Telephone District | 720                  | 0       | 720   |
| 10.     | Orissa                      | 11                   | 135     | 146   |
| 11.     | Rajasthan                   | 125                  | 486     | 611   |
| 12.     | Bihar                       | 275                  | 1664    | 1939  |
| 13.     | Madhya Pradesh              | 0                    | 0       | 0     |

[Translation]

#### Conversion of Telephone Exchanges

†3920. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV :  
 DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :  
 SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV :  
 SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO :  
 SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

- (a) the State-wise telephone exchanges in the country;
- (b) the number of telephone exchanges which has not been converted into electronic exchanges, State-wise;
- (c) the time by when the remaining telephone exchanges are likely to be converted into electronic exchanges, State-wise;
- (d) the target fixed for conversion of telephone exchanges into electronic exchanges during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and
- (e) the quantum of funds provided by the Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) Sir, in Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. (MTNL), 339 telephone exchanges are working in Delhi and 175 in Mumbai State-wise telephone exchanges of BSNL in the country are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) All the telephone exchanges in BSNL and MTNL are electronic exchanges.

(c) to (e) Do not arise in view of (b) above.

#### Statement

##### *State-wise details of Exchanges as on 31.12.2004*

| Sl.No. | Name of State       | No. of Exchanges |
|--------|---------------------|------------------|
| 1      | 2                   | 3                |
| 1.     | Andaman and Nicobar | 52               |
| 2.     | Andhra Pradesh      | 3330             |
| 3.     | Assam               | 592              |
| 4.     | Bihar               | 1447             |
| 5.     | Chhatisgarh         | 816              |
| 6.     | Gujarat             | 3273             |
| 7.     | Jharkhand           | 431              |
| 8.     | Haryana             | 1116             |

| 1     | 2                             | 3     |
|-------|-------------------------------|-------|
| 9.    | Himachal Pradesh              | 936   |
| 10.   | Jammu and Kashmir             | 381   |
| 11.   | Karnataka                     | 2701  |
| 12.   | Kerala                        | 1185  |
| 13.   | Madhya Pradesh                | 3031  |
| 14.   | Maharashtra                   | 4939  |
| 15.   | Meghalaya                     | 99    |
| 16.   | Mizoram                       | 76    |
| 17.   | Tripura                       | 94    |
| 18.   | Arunachal Pradesh             | 101   |
| 19.   | Nagaland                      | 55    |
| 20.   | Manipur                       | 53    |
| 21.   | Orissa                        | 1287  |
| 22.   | Punjab (including Chandigarh) | 1535  |
| 23.   | Rajasthan                     | 2344  |
| 24.   | Tamilnadu                     | 2325  |
| 25.   | Uttar Pradesh                 | 3351  |
| 26.   | Uttaranchal                   | 489   |
| 27.   | West Bengal                   | 1867  |
| 28.   | Diu                           | 3     |
| 29.   | Daman                         | 5     |
| 30.   | Dadar Nagar Haveli            | 7     |
| 31.   | Pondichery                    | 30    |
| 32.   | Lakshadweep                   | 11    |
| Total |                               | 37962 |

#### **Rashtriya Gramin Swasthya Scheme**

3921.SHRI THAWARCHAND GEHLOT : Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has launched a scheme called the Rashtriya Gramin Swasthya Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by when the Government is likely to implement this scheme;

(c) the details of facilities including allocation of funds and disbursement of medicines to the States under the said scheme in regard to family planning, mother and child healthcare, control of diseases and epidemics alongwith the modus operandi to be adopted while making the said allocation;

(d) whether only the name of the Pradhan Mantri Surakhsha Swasthya Yojana(PMSSY) Scheme introduced by the previous Government has been changed and the rest of the things remains the same; and

(e) if not, the difference between the scheme introduced by the previous Government and the present scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) Yes sir. The Government has launched the Rashtriya Gramin Swasthya Yojana (National Rural Health Mission) on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2005, to provide integrated health care services to the people especially to rural poor, throughout the country. The main strategies of the Mission include provision of a trained female Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) at village level; untied fund of Rs. 10000/- per Sub-centre, upgrading CHCs to Indian Public Health Standard (IPHS), merger of vertical Health and Family Welfare programmes at all levels and district level management of Health. The duration of the Mission is from 2005-12.

(c) The details of State-wise allocation of funds under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) for 2005-06 is given in the enclosed Statement. Weightage has been given to 18 high focus states identified under the Mission, while conveying the Financial Envelope.

(d) No Sir.

(e) The PMSSY launched in 2003 envisaged setting up of six AIIMS like Institutions and upgradation of six existing Medical Institutions, whereas NRHM aims at provision of comprehensive primary health care facilities through out the country.

## Statement

Detailed State-wise allocation of Grants-in-AID during 2005-06

| Sl. No.              |                   | Name of State/UT | Total FW Schemes (RCH) | Schemes of Department of Health |         |         |        |           |          | Grand Total for NRHM |                     |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|---------|--------|-----------|----------|----------------------|---------------------|
|                      |                   |                  |                        | TB                              | Leprosy | IDSP    | IDD    | Blindness | NVBD/CP  |                      | Total Health Scheme |
| 1                    | 2                 |                  | 3                      | 4                               | 5       | 6       | 7      | 8         | 9        | 10                   | 11                  |
| 18 High Focus States |                   |                  |                        |                                 |         |         |        |           |          |                      |                     |
| 1.                   | Bihar             |                  | 33207.01               | 1270.28                         | 320.00  |         | 3.50   | 284.52    | 4736.19  | 6614.49              | 39821.50            |
| 2.                   | Chhatisgarh       |                  | 8213.75                | 740.21                          | 151.00  | 305.00  | 3.50   | 271.78    | 2114.72  | 3586.21              | 11799.96            |
| 3.                   | Jharkhand         |                  | 12160.81               | 957.30                          | 285.00  |         | 3.50   | 183.74    | 2179.13  | 3608.67              | 15769.48            |
| 4.                   | Madhya Pradesh    |                  | 23507.59               | 925.51                          | 292.50  | 900.00  | 3.50   | 549.50    | 1897.77  | 4568.78              | 28076.37            |
| 5.                   | Orissa            |                  | 14372.84               | 300.00                          | 213.00  | 425.00  | 7.00   | 326.64    | 4027.67  | 5299.31              | 19672.15            |
| 6.                   | Rajasthan         |                  | 22783.64               | 865.75                          | 55.00   | 500.00  | 5.50   | 554.79    | 1661.86  | 3642.90              | 26426.54            |
| 7.                   | Uttar Pradesh     |                  | 69580.10               | 2545.16                         | 357.00  |         | 5.00   | 1061.06   | 1121.00  | 5089.22              | 74669.32            |
| 8.                   | Uttaranchal       |                  | 4279.98                | 302.49                          | 73.50   | 300.00  | 6.75   | 164.77    | 58.44    | 905.95               | 5185.93             |
| 9.                   | Himachal Pradesh  |                  | 3711.35                | 93.47                           | 35.00   | 360.00  | 4.50   | 122.18    | 31.72    | 646.87               | 4358.22             |
| 10.                  | Jammu and Kashmir |                  | 4710.87                | 154.76                          | 43.90   |         | 3.50   | 216.35    | 50.96    | 469.47               | 5180.34             |
| 11.                  | Arunachal Pradesh |                  | 1434.99                | 55.31                           | 50.00   |         | 13.00  | 21.00     | 1063.66  | 1202.97              | 2637.96             |
| 12.                  | Assam             |                  | 20249.11               | 1337.50                         | 47.50   |         | 13.00  | 115.00    | 3035.10  | 4548.10              | 24797.21            |
| 13.                  | Manipur           |                  | 2465.26                | 120.68                          | 31.50   | 172.00  | 12.00  | 30.00     | 531.37   | 897.55               | 3362.81             |
| 14.                  | Meghalaya         |                  | 2147.32                | 115.65                          | 32.00   | 164.00  | 12.00  | 15.50     | 729.00   | 1068.15              | 3215.47             |
| 15.                  | Mizoram           |                  | 2177.51                | 45.25                           | 35.00   | 149.00  | 13.00  | 23.50     | 677.82   | 943.57               | 3121.08             |
| 16.                  | Nagaland          |                  | 1934.23                | 100.56                          | 78.00   | 164.00  | 12.00  | 20.50     | 732.23   | 1107.29              | 3041.52             |
| 17.                  | Sikkim            |                  | 692.69                 | 25.14                           | 23.00   |         | 13.00  | 13.50     | 24.65    | 99.29                | 791.98              |
| 18.                  | Tripura           |                  | 3036.33                | 160.90                          | 21.00   | 151.00  | 12.00  | 61.00     | 1616.65  | 2022.55              | 5058.88             |
| Total for 18 States  |                   |                  | 230665.38              | 10115.92                        | 2143.90 | 3590.00 | 146.25 | 4035.33   | 26289.94 | 46321.34             | 276986.72           |

(Rs. in lakhs)

| 1                    | 2                           | 3         | 4        | 5       | 6       | 7      | 8       | 9        | 10       | 11        |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|----------|---------|---------|--------|---------|----------|----------|-----------|
| <b>Other States</b>  |                             |           |          |         |         |        |         |          |          |           |
| 1.                   | Andhra Pradesh              | 24572.36  | 1100.00  | 92.50   | 610.00  | 4.50   | 528.76  | 852.37   | 3188.13  | 27760.49  |
| 2.                   | Goa                         | 447.10    | 19.92    | 15.50   | 59.00   | 4.00   | 68.44   | 21.13    | 187.99   | 635.09    |
| 3.                   | Gujarat                     | 27990.67  | 775.35   | 111.00  | 440.00  | 5.00   | 521.44  | 838.84   | 2691.63  | 30682.30  |
| 4.                   | Haryana                     | 6106.80   | 200.00   | 30.10   | 283.00  | 6.00   | 184.52  | 122.76   | 826.38   | 6933.18   |
| 5.                   | Karnataka                   | 16427.04  | 807.30   | 45.00   | 620.00  | 9.00   | 462.08  | 385.99   | 2329.37  | 18756.41  |
| 6.                   | Kerala                      | 10535.53  | 487.27   | 18.50   | 330.00  | 5.00   | 270.19  | 91.53    | 1202.49  | 11738.02  |
| 7.                   | Maharashtra                 | 27501.20  | 1483.27  | 74.50   | 890.00  | 3.50   | 351.07  | 768.09   | 3570.43  | 31071.63  |
| 8.                   | Punjab                      | 6741.59   | 372.35   | 46.50   | 55.00   | 4.75   | 148.39  | 140.70   | 767.69   | 7509.28   |
| 9.                   | Tamil Nadu                  | 17843.30  | 951.56   | 61.00   | 760.00  | 4.50   | 1294.39 | 358.60   | 3430.05  | 21273.35  |
| 10.                  | West Bengal                 | 24402.41  | 1228.91  | 182.50  | 290.00  | 3.50   | 390.41  | 1231.17  | 3326.49  | 27728.90  |
| Total - Other States |                             | 162568.00 | 7425.93  | 677.10  | 4337.00 | 49.75  | 4219.69 | 4811.18  | 21520.65 | 184088.65 |
| Total all States     |                             | 393233.38 | 17541.85 | 2821.00 | 7927.00 | 196.00 | 8255.02 | 31101.12 | 67841.99 | 461075.37 |
| 1.                   | Delhi                       | 2554.64   | 232.42   | 61.00   | 177.00  | 5.50   | 63.00   | 42.51    | 581.43   | 3136.07   |
| 2.                   | Pondicherry                 | 181.35    | 16.84    | 11.00   |         | 2.50   | 24.00   | 31.77    | 86.11    | 267.46    |
| 1.                   | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 286.56    | 5.05     | 11.00   |         | 6.00   | 17.50   | 236.96   | 276.51   | 563.07    |
| 2.                   | Chandigarh                  | 152.42    | 15.16    | 10.40   | 46.00   | 6.00   | 29.00   | 69.62    | 176.18   | 328.60    |
| 3.                   | Dadra and Nagar Haveli      | 131.25    | 3.37     | 8.70    |         | 5.00   | 4.50    | 50.09    | 71.66    | 202.91    |
| 4.                   | Daman and Diu               | 104.56    | 3.37     | 10.00   |         | 6.00   | 11.00   | 11.66    | 42.03    | 146.59    |
| 5.                   | Lakshadweep                 | 94.23     | 1.68     | 6.50    |         | 5.00   | 6.00    | 8.27     | 27.45    | 121.68    |
| Total - UTs          |                             | 3505.01   | 277.89   | 118.60  | 223.00  | 36.00  | 155.00  | 450.88   | 1261.37  | 4766.38   |
| Grand Total          |                             | 396738.39 | 17819.74 | 2939.60 | 8150.00 | 232.00 | 8410.02 | 31552.00 | 69103.36 | 465841.75 |

IDSP - Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme

IDD - Iodine Deficiency Disorder

NVBDCP - National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme

### **Disaster Management System**

3922.SHRI RAKESH SINGH : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether disaster management related systems as established in developed countries are also available in India;

(b) if so, whether the Government has any plan to set up such system in earthquake prone area of Jabalpur; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) Necessary steps have been initiated to modernize the disaster management systems in the country to meet the disaster threats. Towards effective disaster management, Government of India is in process to set up a Disaster Management Authority. States have been advised to convert their Department of Relief and Rehabilitation into Department of Disaster Management so as to focus on mitigation and vulnerability reduction. Also, states in earthquake prone areas have been requested to review and amend their building bye-laws as per the requirement.

(b) and (c) As regard, setting up a system in earthquake prone area of Jabalpur, the action has to be initiated by the State Government.

### **Use of Soil in Road Construction**

3923.SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether soil has been used in place of 'Muram' in both the solders at k.m.107, 108, 109, 110 (Bara Malhara Nagar) of National Highway No.86 in Chhatarpur (M.P.) which has exposed people living nearby to fatal diseases like asthma and T.B. alongwith other health hazards;

(b) if so, the time by which 'Muram' is likely to be used at NH No.86;

(c) whether the Union Government is considering to provide compensation to people who suffer from such diseases;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) to (e) Selected soil conforming to this Ministry's specifications have been used in the shoulders of the stretches mentioned above. Reports linking the use of such materials in the shoulders to the diseases suffered by the people in the area have not been received. Hence, the question of providing any compensation does not arise.

### **Utilising Herbs in Maharashtra**

3924.SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has made efforts to discover or study herbs found in the forests of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and;

(c) the details of private and public sector units established for utilizing the same in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) The Botanical Survey of India, Western Circle, Pune has undertaken floristic survey of the State and published the State Flora of Maharashtra in three volumes. According to the survey report, there are about 4000 species of flowering and about 450 species of medicinally important plants in Maharashtra.

(c) There are 677 Pharmacies of Ayurveda in Maharashtra including 3 in public and 674 in the private sector as on 1.4.2004.

### **Telephone Adalats in Jharkhand**

†3925.DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the dates on which the telephone Adalats were held in each district of Jharkhand during the last two years;

(b) the number of cases which came up before these Adalats during the said period, district-wise and the number of cases disposed out of them;

(c) the details of relief provided to the telephone subscribers and the rules for organising such Adalats;

(d) whether there has been violation of these rules during the last three years, and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) to (c) The details are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Generally Adalats are held as per schedule. However, some adalats could not be held. Details are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

### **Statement-I**

#### *Details of Telephone Adalats held in Jharkhand during last two years*

| Name of SSA | 1-4-2003 to 31-3-2004     |                          |                              |                                     | 1-4-2004 to 31-3-2005     |                         |                              |                                     |
|-------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|             | Date of holding of Adalat | Number of cases received | Number of cases disposed off | Details of relief given (In Rupees) | Date of holding of Adalat | Number of cases receive | Number of cases disposed off | Details of relief given (In Rupees) |
| 1           | 2                         | 3                        | 4                            | 5                                   | 6                         | 7                       | 8                            | 9                                   |
| Hazaribagh  | 26.12.03                  | 22                       | 22                           | —                                   | 13.08.04                  | 13                      | 13                           | —                                   |
|             | 28.01.04                  | 04                       | 04                           | —                                   | 25.01.05                  | 02                      | 02                           | —                                   |
|             | 17.02.04                  | 02                       | 02                           | —                                   | 10.02.05                  | 03                      | 02                           | —                                   |
|             | 17.03.04                  | 03                       | 03                           | —                                   | 25.02.05                  | 02                      | 02                           | —                                   |
|             | 24.03.04                  | 03                       | 03                           | —                                   | 05.03.05                  | 02                      | 02                           | —                                   |
|             |                           |                          |                              |                                     | 27.03.05                  | 02                      | 01                           | Rs. 80.00                           |
| Jamshedpur  | 23.01.04                  | 23                       | 13                           | 4252.00                             | —                         | —                       | —                            | —                                   |
|             | 27.01.04                  | 17                       | 09                           | 2339.00                             | —                         | —                       | —                            | —                                   |
| Dumka       | 12.01.04                  | 06                       | 06                           | 152.00                              | 14.12.04                  | 05                      | 05                           | —                                   |
|             | —                         | —                        | —                            | —                                   | 25.02.05                  | 05                      | 05                           | —                                   |
|             | 19.01.04                  | 05                       | 05                           | 115.00                              | —                         | —                       | —                            | —                                   |
|             | 04.03.04                  | 10                       | 10                           | —                                   | —                         | —                       | —                            | —                                   |
|             | 28.01.04                  | 07                       | 07                           | —                                   | 22.12.04                  | 06                      | 06                           | 165.00                              |
|             | 20.02.04                  | 05                       | 05                           | —                                   | 05.02.05                  | 05                      | 05                           | —                                   |
|             | 25.02.04                  | 05                       | 05                           | —                                   | 02.03.05                  | 07                      | 07                           | —                                   |
|             | —                         | —                        | —                            | —                                   | 18.12.04                  | 06                      | 06                           | —                                   |

| 1          | 2        | 3  | 4  | 5        | 6        | 7  | 8  | 9        |
|------------|----------|----|----|----------|----------|----|----|----------|
| Ranchi     | 31.05.03 | 74 | 74 | 21698.00 | 13.07.05 | 61 | 61 | 28534.00 |
|            | 20.09.03 | 28 | 28 | 4630.00  | 29.11.04 | 30 | 30 | 6535.00  |
|            | 28.01.04 | 68 | 68 | 27021.00 | 18.01.05 | 23 | 23 | 23876.00 |
|            | -        | -  | -  | -        | 07.03.05 | 01 | 01 | -        |
|            | -        | -  | -  | -        | 14.03.05 | 12 | 12 | 33375.00 |
|            | -        | -  | -  | -        | 29.03.05 | 24 | 24 | 29923.00 |
| Daltonganj | 29.01.04 | 25 | 17 | -        | -        | -  | -  | -        |
| Dhanbad    | 04.07.03 | 09 | 09 | 8266.00  | 24.09.04 | 63 | 63 | 3062.00  |
|            | 29.12.03 | 41 | 41 | -        | 25.09.04 | 13 | 13 | 6985.00  |
|            | 30.12.03 | 17 | 17 | -        | 17.02.05 | 26 | 26 | -        |
|            | 05.01.04 | 35 | 35 | -        | 28.02.05 | 13 | 13 | -        |
|            | 06.01.04 | 10 | 10 | -        | 08.03.05 | 01 | 01 | -        |
|            | -        | -  | -  | -        | 18.03.05 | 01 | 01 | 80.00    |

**Statement-II**

No. 12-1/2001-(PG)

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited  
(A Government of India Enterprise)  
10th floor, Chandralok Building  
Janpath, New Delhi-110001

Dated : 22.06.2001

To

All Heads of Telecom Circles and Districts

**Sub : Holding of Telephone Adalats.**

References : 18-1/87-PG and I dated 11 -6-87  
18-1/87-PG and I dated 8-2-88  
18-1/87-PG and I dated 17-9-89  
18-1/87-PG and I dated 22-5-92  
18-1/87-PG and I dated Oct, 96  
2-2/2000 PEG (PG) dated 16-12-2001  
2-2/2000-PG dated 9-2-2001  
12-1/2001-PG) dated 20-3-2001

In order to bring Department and aggrieved Customer face to face and settle the customer's problems on an appointed date, it was decided to form Telephone Adalats

in Telecom Circles and Districts as an internal arrangement of the departments.

**Scope**

The scope of Telephone Adalat as per the earlier orders was to cover all problems relating to telephone services such as excess billing complaints, service complaints, non provision/delayed provision of telephone connections etc. Now the scope of Telephone Adalats shall cover all Telecom Services provided and billed by the respective Telecom Circles/Districts. Adalat headed by CGMs can also consider the cases of appeals against the decisions of the Adalat chaired by SSA head and the cases which are not individual and/or having a repercussion in whole of the Circle. The appeal shall be based on the facts presented before the SSA Adalat. Adalat headed by SSA heads can also consider cases of excess billing which have been rejected by them as Administrative heads. Cases more than three months old only be considered by Adalats.

**Jurisdiction and Venue:**

The Jurisdiction of Telephone Adalats conducted by CGM shall be his Telecom Circle/District. The jurisdiction



of the Telephone Adalat conducted by SSA head shall be his SSA.

#### Committee:

Following will be the Constitution of the Committee.

- (i) Adalat headed by CGM
  - (a) CGM of Telecom Circle/Districts \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman
  - (b) Financial Advisor of Circle/District \_\_\_\_\_  
Member
  - (c) Engineering Officer next to CGM in Circle Office \_\_\_\_\_  
Member
  - (d) SR.DDG/DDGs nominated \_\_\_\_\_ One
- (ii) List of nominee from BSNL headquarter is mentioned in Annexure-I.

#### Frequency Date and Time:

CGMs are to hold Adalats once in three months and SSA heads are to hold Adalats once in two months. The Adalats should be conducted at regular interval. The date and time can be decided by the Chairman of the Adalats. In case of Metro Districts CGM can hold Adalat once in three months and Area GMs may hold the Adalat once in two months. In case of SSAs where more than one CGM is holding independent charge, then all such independent

GMs will hold independent Adalats for their area once in two months.

#### Publicity:

The information of holding Adalats by COM and SSA head may be given wide publicity through local News Paper and Electronic Media. Concerned MP and MLAs may be intimated in advance. A gap of atleast 30 days should be provided between the date of publication and date of Adalat. Last date to receipt of applications may be 15 days before the date of Adalat.

#### Decision Making:

The decision of the Adalat should be in speaking order. The Adalat conducted by CGM shall evaluate the quality of Adalat conducted by his subordinates.

#### Record Keeping:

The consolidated information about number of cases settled, amount of rebate given and other relevant information pertaining to whole Circle may be maintained in the Circle Office. This information may be kept in the Circle web site so that customers or BSNL headquarter can have access and the credibility of Telecom Circle/District is improved. After each Circle level Adalat, the representative from BSNL HQ attending the Adalat shall give a brief (one paragraph) report through his Sr. DDG/DDG to Sr. DDG (PG) who shall maintain a record in his unit.

#### Statement-III

*Details of Adalats held during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05*

| Name of SSA | 2002-03                                |                     |                             |                                 | 2003-04                                |                     |                             |                                 | 2004-05                                |                     |                             |                                 |
|-------------|--|---------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
|             | No. of Adalats to be held as per norms | No. of Adalats held | Total no. of cases received | Total no. of cases disposed off | No. of Adalats to be held as per norms | No. of Adalats held | Total no. of cases received | Total no. of cases disposed off | No. of Adalats to be held as per norms | No. of Adalats held | Total no. of cases received | Total no. of cases disposed off |
| 1           | 2                                      | 3                   | 4                           | 5                               | 6                                      | 7                   | 8                           | 9                               | 10                                     | 11                  | 12                          | 13                              |
| Ranchi      | 06                                     | 02                  | 128                         | 128                             | 06                                     | 03                  | 170                         | 170                             | 06                                     | 06                  | 151                         | 151                             |
| Jamshedpur  | 06                                     | 01                  | 28                          | 28                              | 06                                     | 02                  | 40                          | 22                              | 06                                     | -                   | -                           | -                               |

| 1                       | 2  | 3  | 4   | 5   | 6  | 7  | 8   | 9   | 10 | 11 | 12  | 13  |
|-------------------------|----|----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|
| Dhanbad                 | 06 | 01 | 41  | 41  | 06 | 05 | 112 | 112 | 06 | 06 | 117 | 117 |
| Hazaribagh              | 06 | 01 | 22  | 22  | 06 | 05 | 34  | 34  | 06 | 06 | 24  | 22  |
| Dumka                   | 06 | 06 | 08  | 08  | 06 | 06 | 38  | 38  | 06 | 06 | 34  | 34  |
| Daltonganj              | 06 | 02 | 05  | 05  | 06 | 01 | 25  | 17  | 06 | —  | —   | —   |
| Jharkhand Circle office | 04 | 04 | 138 | 138 | 04 | 03 | 157 | 157 | 04 | 02 | 28  | 28  |
| Total                   | 40 | 17 | 370 | 370 | 40 | 25 | 576 | 550 | 40 | 26 | 354 | 352 |

### Modernisation of Postal Operations

3926. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Wing of the Department of Post is laying emphasis on modernisation of various aspects of postal operations and development of a comprehensive network all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a scheme for the modernisation of parcel dispatch system is also being implemented;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of post offices, head post offices and speed post centres in Rajasthan computerised and modernised, post office-wise; head post office-wise and speed post centre-wise; and

(f) the number of proposals in this regard likely to be considered in the coming financial year and the time by which action is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Over 79% of the total allocation of Rs. 1350 crore for the department's 10th Five Year Plan is allocated for induction of technology, computerisation and modernisation of Postal Network and its operations. In 2005-06, 86.7% of the total outlay of Rs. 354 crore is earmarked for such activities. Details of modernisation and development activities taken up in 2005-06 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) No such scheme is being implemented. However under the Tenth Plan, there is a proposal to set up parcel centres for an outlay of Rs. 7.02 crore. The scheme has not yet been approved for implementation.

(e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(f) For the year 2005-06, the target is to computerise 2860 large Sub-Post offices and 350 Speed Post Centers in the entire country including Rajasthan. Computerisation of the remaining large Sub-Post offices can be taken up, subject to availability of resources and approval of the competent authorities. Modernisation of 205 Post offices and 150 Speed Post Centers are targeted to be covered in the entire country, including Rajasthan during 2005-06.

### Statement

#### *Details of Modernisation and Development Activities taken up in 2005-06*

| Sl. No. | Plan Scheme/Activity  | Financial Outlay (Rs. in crores) |
|---------|---|----------------------------------|
| 1       | 2   | 3                                |
| 1.      | Computerisation of post offices (installation of MPCMs), Accounts and Administrative offices and software Development | 250.10                           |
| 2.      | Computerisation and networking of Mail Offices  | 1.87                             |
| 3.      | Modernization and upgradation of VSAT system  | 0.06                             |

| 1     | 2   | 3      |
|-------|---|--------|
| 4.    | Modernization of operative/working systems (improving ergonomics) | 16.78  |
| 5.    | Automatic Mail Processing Centre                                  | 20.00  |
| 6.    | Mechanisation/Modernization of mail movement                      | 0.02   |
| 7.    | Modernization/upgradation of premium products                     | 3.82   |
| 8.    | Modernisation of circle stamp depots                              | 0.44   |
| 9.    | Computerisation of International Mail processing                  | 0.61   |
| 10.   | National Data Centre  | 10.00  |
| 11.   | Establishment of Parcel Post Centres                              | 3.05   |
| 12.   | e-Post  | 0.20   |
| 13.   | e-Bill Post   | 0.10   |
| Total |   | 307.05 |

#### **Free Treatment for poor Patients in AIIMS**

3927.SHRI JAIPRAKASH (MOHAN LAL GANJ) : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether poor patients are being provided neither medicines nor any concession for various types of costly medical tests in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide free treatment facilities to the poor and serious patients who are referred to the AIIMS by various State hospitals; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (d) The patients, including poor patients coming to AIIMS Casualty/Emergency are provided free medical checkup and diagnostic tests. The surgical

consumables and life saving drugs are also being provided free of cost. The patients admitted to the general wards are issued specified surgical items and life saving drugs, as per prescribed norms free of cost.

In addition, the poor and indigenous patients who cannot afford to buy medicines and surgical items are also provided financial assistance through Poor Patients Fund, National Illness Assistance Fund (AROGYA NIDHI), Prime Ministers Relief Fund, Health Minister's Discretionary Grant and Voluntary Organization.

#### **Modernisation of Hospitals with World Bank Fund**

3928.SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN :

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

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

(a) whether the Government has received financial assistance from the World Bank for modernization of hospitals in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the States in which the financial assistance is likely to be spent for the Modernisation of hospitals; and

(d) the time by which the said modernization work is likely to be completed;

(e) whether any proposal has been received by the Government from State Government of Maharashtra for modernization of hospitals in that State; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, World Bank assisted State Health System projects, pertaining to strengthening and upgradation of secondary health care systems in the states have been approved and completed in Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka and Punjab. Such projects in Orissa, Maharashtra, UP and Uttaranchal are under implementation.

(e) and (f) Government of Maharashtra submitted a proposal in December, 2001 for strengthening the Quality of Medical Education and Improving the Physical Infrastructure of the Government Medical Colleges and attached hospitals for financial assistance of Rs.550 crores from World Bank. The proposal was examined, in consultation with Department of Economic Affairs, Planning Commission and World Bank. Department of Economic Affairs has communicated that the present focus of World Bank funding for health sector is on disease control, primary health, family welfare and immunization, thus the proposal of government of Maharashtra for strengthening the medical education is not in line with present priorities of World Bank funding for the Health Sector in India. The above views have been communicated to the State Government on 30th January, 2004.

[English]

#### **Funds for AIIMS type Institutes**

3929.SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the funds provided to AIIMS types of Institutes during the year 2005-06, State and Institute-wise;

(b) the co-operation and contribution of each State Government for setting up of these institutes in their respective States; and

(c) the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) Under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), it is proposed to set up one AIIMS-like institution each in the states of Bihar (Patna), Chhattisgarh (Raipur), Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal), Orissa (Bhubaneswar), Rajasthan (Jodhpur) and Uttaranchal (Rishikesh). For this purpose, respective State Government is required to provide a minimum of 100 acres of free land, free road connectivity, electricity and water supply for the Institutes. Land for the proposed AIIMS like institutions has already been made available by four states namely Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Uttaranchal. In

respect of AIIMS at Patna and Jodhpur, the matter of transfer of requisite land is being pursued with the respective State Governments.

In addition, it is also proposed to upgrade seven medical institutions to the level of AIIMS-like institutions in different locations. The recurring cost including recruit manpower or running the facilities of these upgraded institutes will be borne by the respective States. During the year 2005-06, there is a proposal for providing Rs. 250 crores in the Budget Estimates for the entire PMSSY Scheme.

#### **Projects under Jai Vigyan Scheme**

3930.SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise details of projects identified and set up under "Jai Vigyan Scheme" as on December 31, 2004;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up more such projects under the scheme during the current year; and

(c) if so, the total amount earmarked, sanctioned and spent under the scheme as on December 31, 2004?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) 21 Jai Vigyan National S and T Mission projects have been supported under the Jai Vigyan Scheme. These are implemented by 10 Ministries/ Departments through different research institutes/universities across the country. The State-wise details of projects are enclosed as Statement.

(b) No new Project is proposed to be set-up during 2005-2006.

(c) The total amount sanctioned for the 21 projects under the scheme is Rs. 381.71 crores. The total expenditure under the scheme up to December, 2004 is Rs.305.77 crores.

| Statement |               |   |
|-----------|---------------|---|
| S. No.    | Project Title | States where projects have been implemented |
| 1         | 2             | 3   |

*Indian Council of Agricultural Research*

|    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 1. | Household Food and Nutritional Security. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andhra Pradesh</li> <li>• Arunachal Pradesh</li> <li>• Assam</li> <li>• Bihar</li> <li>• Chhattisgarh</li> <li>• Gujarat</li> <li>• Haryana</li> <li>• Himachal Pradesh</li> <li>• Jammu and Kashmir</li> <li>• Jharkhand</li> <li>• Karnataka</li> <li>• Madhya Pradesh</li> <li>• Maharashtra</li> <li>• Meghalaya</li> <li>• Mizoram</li> <li>• Nagaland</li> <li>• New Delhi</li> <li>• Orissa</li> <li>• Rajasthan</li> <li>• Utranchal</li> <li>• Uttar Pradesh</li> <li>• West Bengal</li> </ul> |
| 2. | Conservation of Agrobiodiversity         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andaman and Nicobar Islands</li> <li>• Andhra Pradesh</li> <li>• Assam</li> <li>• Bihar</li> </ul>  |

| 1 | 2 | 3   |
|---|---|---|
|   |   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chhattisgarh</li> <li>• Gujarat</li> <li>• Himachal Pradesh</li> <li>• Jammu and Kashmir</li> <li>• Jharkhand</li> <li>• Kerala</li> <li>• Madhya Pradesh</li> <li>• Maharashtra</li> <li>• Manipur</li> <li>• Meghalaya</li> <li>• Nagaland</li> <li>• Orissa</li> <li>• Punjab</li> <li>• Rajasthan</li> <li>• Tamil Nadu</li> <li>• Uttar Pradesh</li> <li>• Utranchal</li> </ul> |

*Department of Atomic Energy*

3. Application of nuclear technology in medicine Maharashtra

*Department of Biotechnology*

4. Development and production of new generation vaccines and diagnostics for infectious diseases – Not State specific, will benefit all States
5. Biotechnological approaches for coffee improvement Not State specific, will benefit all States
6. Biotechnological approaches towards herbal product development Not State specific, will benefit all States
7. Setting up of mirror sites for genomic research Not State specific, will benefit all States

| 1  | 2   | 3   |
|--|---|---|
| <i>Council of Scientific and Industrial Research</i> |   |   |
| 8.   | Design and Development, fabrication and airworthiness testing of Light Transport Aircraft (LTA)         | Not State specific, will benefit all States   |
| <i>Ministry of Environment and Forests</i>           |   |   |
| 9.   | Setting up of NOIDA Botanical Garden  | Uttar Pradesh   |
| <i>Ministry of Information Technology</i>            |   |   |
| 10.  | Technology Development for Indian Languages   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Karnataka</li> <li>• Maharashtra</li> <li>• Tamil Nadu</li> <li>• West Bengal</li> </ul>                                 |
| 11.  | National Programme for Braille Literacy with application of information technology.                     | Not State specific, will benefit all States   |
| 12.  | National Programme for deployment of indigenously developed Integrated Medical LINAC for cancer therapy | Not State specific, will benefit all States   |
| <i>Department of Ocean Development</i>               |   |   |
| 13.  | Ocean thermal energy conversion.  | Tamil Nadu  |
| <i>Indian Council of Medical Research</i>            |   |   |
| 14.  | National Mission Mode Programme on Control of Thalassemia   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assam</li> <li>• Gujarat</li> <li>• Karnataka</li> <li>• Maharashtra</li> <li>• Punjab</li> <li>• West Bengal</li> </ul> |
| 15.  | Jai Vigyan National Mission for Rheumatic Fever/  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chandigarh (UT)</li> <li>• Karnataka</li> </ul>  |

| 1   | 2  | 3  |
|---|--|--|
|   | Rheumatic Heart Disease Prevention – Phase I   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kerala</li> <li>• Tamil Nadu</li> </ul>   |
| <i>Department of Science and Technology</i> |  |  |
| 16.   | Technology Mission for Visually Impaired   | Not State specific, will benefit all States  |
| 17.   | Technology Mission for Himalayan Geology with special reference to prevention of natural disasters.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andhra Pradesh</li> <li>• Assam</li> <li>• Mizoram</li> <li>• Manipur</li> <li>• Nagaland</li> <li>• Sikkim</li> <li>• Uttar Pradesh</li> </ul> |
| 18.   | Area Development Mission for Andaman and Nicobar Islands through Science and Technology<br>(a) Formulation of overall strategy,<br>(b) Biodiversity characterization at landscape level using satellite remote sensing and geographic information system in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. | Andaman and Nicobar Island   |
| 19.   | Jai Vigyan Swasthya Project for Rural Areas – A remote medical diagnostic system.  | Andhra Pradesh   |
| <i>Department of Space</i>                  |  |  |
| 20.   | Cropping system studies using remote sensing and GIS.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Punjab</li> <li>• West Bengal</li> </ul>  |
| 21.   | Disaster Management  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assam</li> <li>• Bihar</li> <li>• Orissa</li> <li>• Uttar Pradesh</li> <li>• West Bengal</li> </ul>   |

[Translation]

**Telecom works in Maharashtra**

†3931. SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of works carried out in relation to development, extension and upgradation of telecommunication in rural and urban areas of Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) the details of the said telecommunication works in rural areas;

(c) whether the said telecommunication works are going on at a very slow pace in rural areas; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) of (b) The details of works carried out in relation to development, extension and upgradation of telecommunication in rural and urban areas of Maharashtra Telecom Circle during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) No, Sir.

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

**Statement**

*Details of works carried out in relation to development, extension and upgradation of telecommunication in rural and urban areas of Maharashtra Circle during the last three years.*

**I. Development**

| Sl.No. | Work item   | Year    | Urban | Rural | Total    |
|--------|---|---------|-------|-------|----------|
| 1.     | New Telephone Exchanges                                 | 2002-03 | 44    | 82    | 126      |
|        |   | 2003-04 | 0     | 17    | 17       |
|        |   | 2004-05 | 03    | 07    | 10       |
| 2.     | Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) Services (No. of Stations) | 2002-03 | 0     | 16    | 16       |
|        |   | 2003-04 | 2     | 158   | 160      |
|        |   | 2004-05 | 0     | 50    | 50       |
| 3.     | Optical Fibre Cable (in RKMs)                           | 2002-03 | —     | —     | 9,041.00 |
|        |   | 2003-04 | —     | —     | 3,368.54 |
|        |   | 2004-05 | —     | —     | 1,464.67 |

**II. Extension**

| Sl.No. | Work item                            | 2002-03      | 2003-04      | 2004-05 (Provisional) |
|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1.     | Expansion of Landline (L/L) Switches | (U) 2,15,883 | (U) 44,664   | (U) -26,720           |
|        |                                      | (R) 2,40,346 | (R) 1,09,602 | (R) 72,648            |
| 2.     | Expansion of WLL Capacity            | (U) 5,000    | (U) 34,750   | (R) 50,000            |
|        |                                      | (R) 8,500    | (R) 1,46,100 |                       |

U — Urban, R — Rural

**III. Upgradation**

| S.No. | Work Item  | Year    | Numbers |
|-------|--|---------|---------|
| 1.    | Single Based Modul to Remote Switching Unit (SBM to RSU) | 2002-03 | 53      |
|       |  | 2003-04 | 646     |
|       |  | 2004-05 | 296     |
| 2.    | C2 conversion to AN RAX                                  | 2002-03 | 0       |
|       |  | 2003-04 | 352     |
|       |  | 2004-05 | 1,337   |

*[English]***Clinical Trials of Letrozole**

3932.SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a case has been filed against Sun Pharma manufacturer of letrozole for using the drug as clinical trials without the knowledge of DCGI for infertility; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken against the clinics who are still engaged in using letrozole (anti-cancer drug) for infertility illegally?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) Letrozole has been approved in the country as 1st and 2nd line therapy of breast Cancer for manufacture by M/s. Novartis and also by M/s. Sun Pharma, Natco Pharma and Cipla Ltd. etc.

Reports had, however, been received about the use of Letrozole by some Gynecologists for the treatment of infertility based on internationally published reports in Medical Journals about its usefulness in induction of ovulation. The issue was examined in this Ministry in consultation with experts. Such use of drug by Medical Practitioners for an indication, not yet officially approved is considered as "Off label use of drugs", and is practiced all over the World by doctors.

However, the firms including M/s. Sun Pharmaceuticals Ltd., M/s. Dabur India Ltd. were strongly warned not to promote their Letrozole formulations for the treatment of infertility in Indian women.

*[Translation]***Telephone Exchanges with STD Facility in Andhra Pradesh**

3933.SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Taluka or Tehsil headquarters in Andhra Pradesh where telephone exchanges with S.T.D. facility are in existence till date;

(b) the number of Talukas in the State where this facility is not available so far along with the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this facility is likely to be provided in such Talukas' headquarters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) There are 316 Taluk Headquarters in Andhra Pradesh. All the 316 Taluk Headquarters have been provided with telephone exchanges with S.T.D. facility.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

**Internet Facility In Hilly Areas**

†3934. SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to provide internet facility in the hilly areas of the country;

(b) if so, the time by when this target is likely to be achieved;

(c) the quantum of funds sanctioned for this purpose; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) to (c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited(BSNL) is already providing Internet service all over the country on local call basis including hilly areas. BSNL



has planned an investment to the tune of Rs. 11 crores for completing ongoing projects towards Internet service infrastructure in hilly areas.

In addition, Department of Information Technology (DIT) has taken up an initiative for setting up of Community Information Centres (CICs) in the hilly, far-flung areas of the country for socio-economic development of these regions. CICs are a citizen's interface for IT enable e-government services and are provided with Internet connectivity through VSATs, computers and peripherals as per the following details:

- (i) 487 CICs at block level have been set up in the 8 North Eastern States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim with outlay of Rs. 242 crores for 5 years. An amount of Rs. 141.62 crores has been released on the project since February, 2002. Project has been implemented by NIC/NICSI.
- (ii) Based on the experiences of North Eastern States, DIT has taken up setting up of 135 CICs at block level in Jammu and Kashmir with outlay of Rs. 41.67 crores for 5 years. An amount of Rs. 24.96 crores has been released on the project since February, 2004. Project is being implemented by NIC/NICSI in two phases i.e. 60 CICs in the first phase by October, 2004 and remaining 75 CICs in the second phase by October, 2005.
- (iii) DIT has taken up setting up of 41 CICs at Schools in Andaman and Nicobar, and 30 Schools in Lakshadweep Islands with outlay of Rs. 21.75 crores for 5 crores. An amount of Rs. 5 crores has been released since February, 2005 on this project. Project is being implemented by ERNET India for establishing 71 CICs by December, 2005.
- (iv) Setting up of 328 CICs (95 at block level and 233 at village level) are under review by Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance with outlay of Rs 85 59 crores for 4 years.

- (v) For other parts of the country, DIT is in the process of formulating a plan to facilitate establishment of Common Service Centres (CSCs) in rural areas across the country. For this purpose, draft guidelines have been prepared which aim to promote establishment of CSCs through appropriate Public Private Partnerships (PPPs). Such Centres would have flexibility to offer a mix of services (from government and non-government including localized services) that may be needed by the local community.

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

#### **Network of Government Chemist Shops**

3935. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has a plan to set up a country wide network of Government chemist shops;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) There is no such proposal to set up a country wide network of Government chemist shops.

- (b) and (c) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

[English]

#### **Assistance from CRF to Himachal Pradesh**

3936. DR. COL (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the State Government of Himachal Pradesh had requested the Central Government to provide financial assistance from the Central Road Fund during the last three years by submitting estimates as per the guidelines of Ministry for the improvement and upgradation of some main roads; and

- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith their names?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A list of proposals received from State Government of Himachal Pradesh during last 3 years along with details is given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

*Assistance from CRF to Himachal Pradesh*

| S.N. | Name of the Road along with brief description of work   | Month of receipt of the proposal | Amount (Rs. in lakhs) |
|------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1    | Construction of 154 m span double lane pre-stressed concrete girder bridge over Neogal Khad on Paraur-Lehla-Chachian-Lugribhatti-Bandla-Palampur road at km1/315 [RDs from] | May 2002                         | 242.90                |
| 2    | Strengthening of Nangal Mubarikpur Talwara road km. 38/800 to 50/200 in HP.   | June 2002                        | 193.13                |
| 3    | Strengthening of road crust on Dharamshala-Yol-Dadh-Palampur road km 0/0 to 8/15 and 8/15 to 15/25  | June 2002                        | 270.00                |
| 4    | Improvement of Banethi-Bagthan-Rajgarh-Chandol Road km.0/0 to 7/0 and 28/0 to 48/0.   | June 2002                        | 236.00                |
| 5    | Construction of balance work of Ramshilla-Bijli-Mahadev Road km.0/0 to 24/0.  | June 2002                        | 304.00                |
| 6    | Strengthening/Improvement of riding quality of M.R.R. via Lakkar Bazar km. 149/645 to 154/045   | August 2002                      | 127.29                |
| 7.   | Strengthening/Improvement of riding quality of Chotta Shimla-Kasumpti-Panthaghat road km.0/0 to 2/370   | August 2002                      | 58.03                 |
| 8    | Construction of 225.7m span' Bridge over Tara Khad on Indpur-Tappa road in Tehsil Indora in Kangra Distt  | December 2002                    | 110.77                |
| 9    | Improvement and Upgradation of Theog Kotkhai Hatkoti road from km.0/0 to 19/705 SH: Improvement/Upgradation from km. 8/0 to 13/255)   | February 2004                    | 207.46                |
| 10.  | Improvement and Upgradation of Theog Kotkhai Hatkoti road from 23/705 to 72/800 (SH: improvement/upgradation from km 34/0 to 39/0)  | February 2004                    | 288.32                |
| 11   | Improvement and Upgradation of Theog Kotkhai Hatkoti road from 23/705 to 72/800<br>(SH: Improvement /Upgradation from km.68/0 to 72/705)                                    | February 2004                    | 227.29                |
| 12.  | Construction of Kangra Bypass from km 0/0 to 4/487  | November 2004                    | 234.60                |
| 13.  | Improvement of Banethi-Bagthan Rajgarh Chandol Road from km 61/00 to 95/00  | March, 2005                      | 285.40                |

### **Transfer of Telephone Connections**

3937. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any time period has been fixed by the MTNL for the transfer of telephones from one exchange to another exchange on transfer of residence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of cases of transfer of telephone connections particularly from Albert Square under the Janpath Exchange to Lodhi Road Exchange under Jor Bagh Exchange pending with the MTNL;

(d) the reasons for their pendency;

(e) the official found responsible for causing delay in this regard; and

(f) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) As per the TRAI norm, the target fixed for shifting of telephone is within 3 days. No separate targets have been fixed by MTNL.

(c) One case was received for shifting of telephone from Janpath Exchange to Jorbagh Exchange, where the job could not be completed in time due to incomplete address mentioned in the application by the subscriber. However, correct address of the party has now been obtained and telephone has been shifted.

(d) to (f) Do not arise in view of (c) above.

[Translation]

### **Classification of States**

3938. SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has classified the States in developed, under-developed and backward category;

(b) if so, the names of States after such identification, category-wise;

(c) the details of the action plan of the Government for development of States in backward category;

(d) whether the Government proposes to provide special development package for backward/under developed States; and

(e) if so, the details of the package?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) : (a) to (e) No, Sir. However Special Category Status is given to those States which are predominantly of hilly terrain with large tribal population, located on sensitive international border areas, with underdeveloped socio-economic infrastructure, low revenue base and non-viable nature of State's finances and overall economic backwardness. These Special Category States are Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttaranchal. Central Assistance is given to these States in the grant-loan ratio of 90:10 as against 30:70 for non-special category States.

[English]

### **Procedure for Maintaining of Vacancies**

3939. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1973 dated 16th March 2005 and state:

(a) the procedure/system for keeping track/maintaining of vacancies in various Ministries/Departments of Government of India;

(b) whether the Staff Selection Commission conducted the Grade 'D' Stenographers' Examination even when it was not in conformity with the scheme of combined Matric Level Examination;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the total money collected by the Staff Selection Commissions by inviting the applications of the above said examination;

(e) whether SSC proposes to refund the amount paid by candidates for the said examination since the same now stands cancelled or adjust the said amount as application money for other ensuing examinations;

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time by when the needful will be done; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHAURI) : (a) Extant instructions of the Government prescribe a vacancy register giving a running account of the vacancies arising and being filled from year to year to be maintained by each appointing authority.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) A total number of 51,645 candidates in the General and OBC categories had applied and deposited the fees @ Rs. 50/- each to the various regional offices of the Commission.

(e) and (f) The Commission has already issued necessary orders for refunding the amount paid by the candidates for the said examination for which due publicity was also given by publishing the same in the Employment News/Rozgar Samachar and also in important English/Hindi newspapers.

(g) Does not arise.

#### **Policy/Criteria for Opening ISM and H CGHS Units**

3940. SHRI RANEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the policy/criteria followed by the Government for opening Indian System of Medicines and Homeopathy Government for opening (ISM and H), CGHS Units in a phased manner;

(b) the details of resources required in comparison to the Allopathic dispensaries; and

(c) the details of ISM and H Units opened from January 1, 2000 till date, by the Government by following the above policy/criteria?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) As per the SIU norms, the criteria for opening a new CGHS Allopathic dispensary in an existing CGHS covered city is 2000 cardholders (serving/pensioners) which translates into about 10,000 beneficiaries. For extending CGHS to a new city, it requires at least 6,000 cardholders (serving/pensioners) which translate into about 30,000 beneficiaries.

There are no fixed norms for opening ISM and H/Ayush dispensaries/Units under CGHS. These units are opened as per the requirements/demands of the CGHS beneficiaries based on justification and subject to availability of manpower and resources.

Apart from requiring a rented private building/Govt. accommodation and related infrastructure and financial resources, opening of a CGHS Allopathic dispensary requires creation/filling up of various posts in accordance with the SIU norms, as per details given below :—

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Medical Officer                              | Two |
| Pharmacist                                   | Two |
| Staff Nurse                                  | One |
| Lower Division Clerk                         | One |
| Sweeper, Chowkidar and other Group 'D' staff | Six |

As ISM and H Units under CGHS are generally opened in buildings where a CGHS Allopathic dispensary is already functioning utilising the common services of LDC, Sweeper, Chowkidar and other Group 'D' staff, opening of a CGHS ISM and H Unit requires creation/filling up of the following posts :—

|                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| Medical, Officer | Two |
| Pharmacist       | One |

(c) The information is given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

*Dispensaries opened during 10<sup>th</sup> Five Year  
Plan under ISM and H*

| Sl. No. | Name of the CGHS City | Type of Ayush | No. of Ayush dispensaries sanctioned |
|---------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1       | Trivendrum            | Ayurvedic     | One                                  |
| 2       | Trivendrum            | Homoeopathic  | One                                  |
| 3       | Guwahati              | Ayurvedic     | One                                  |
| 4       | Guwahati              | Homoeopathic  | One                                  |
| 5       | Delhi                 | Unani         | One                                  |
| 6       | Delhi                 | Sidha         | One                                  |
| 7       | Delhi                 | Yoga Centre   | One                                  |

[Translation]

**Family Planning Centres**

3941. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of family planning centres set-up in the country, State-wise particularly in the rural areas of Himachal Pradesh ;

(b) whether the Government proposes to set up more centres particularly in backward, hilly and rural areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the year-wise amount allocated by the Government for the upkeep of the aforesaid centres, state-wise, during the last five years;

(e) whether the said amount is adequate for the various purposes;

(f) if not, whether the Government proposes to increase the amount so that the people in border and hilly areas have access to health services; and

(g) if so, the time by when the said proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) Family Welfare Services are provided, in the country, through Sub-centres (SCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs). The number of Sub-centres, PHCs and CHCs in the state of Himachal Pradesh, is 2067,438 and 66 respectively. The State-wise details of these centres is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

The Tenth Plan targets for establishment of these centres have been given in the enclosed Statement-II. Although, target is given by the Central Government, it is upto the State Government to set up these Centres according to their local needs.

(d) and (e) The State-wise funds released to States/ UTs during last 5 years is given in the enclosed Statement-III. Government of India provides funds for repairs, renovations and expansion of existing health care infrastructure under Major Civil Works scheme of the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme. The funds released under Major Civil Work during last 5 years is given in enclosed Statement-IV. Under Minor Civil Works Rs.49 crores have been released since 1997. For basic upkeep of these services, these funds are adequate.

(f) and (g) It is proposed to provide more funds for upkeep of these centres under Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme-II, and National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).

**Statement-I**

Table 9.

*Number of Sub-Centres, PHCS and  
CHCs Functioning*

| S.No. | State/UT          | Sub centre | PHCs | CHCs |
|-------|-------------------|------------|------|------|
| 1     | 2                 | 3          | 4    | 6    |
| 1.    | Andhra Pradesh    | 12522      | 1490 | 161  |
| 2.    | Arunachal Pradesh | 376        | 78   | 31   |

| 1                     | 2 | 3     | 4    | 6   | 1                               | 2 | 3      | 4     | 6    |
|-----------------------|---|-------|------|-----|---------------------------------|---|--------|-------|------|
| 3. Assam              |   | 5109  | 610  | 100 | 21. Punjab                      |   | 2852   | 484   | 117  |
| 4. Bihar              |   | 10337 | 1648 | 101 | 22. Rajasthan                   |   | 9926   | 1675  | 298  |
| 5. Chhattisgarh       |   | 3818  | 516  | 116 | 23. Sikkim                      |   | 147    | 24    | 4    |
| 6. Goa                |   | 172   | 19   | 5   | 24. Tamil Nadu                  |   | 8682   | 1380  | 35   |
| 7. Gujarat            |   | 7274  | 1070 | 271 | 25. Tripura                     |   | 539    | 73    | 9    |
| 8. Haryana            |   | 2433  | 408  | 72  | 26. Uttaranchal                 |   | 1525   | 229   | 36   |
| 9. Himachal Pradesh   |   | 2067  | 438  | 66  | 27. Uttar Pradesh               |   | 18577  | 3640  | 294  |
| 10. Jammu and Kashmir |   | 1879  | 334  | 70  | 28. West Bengal                 |   | 10356  | 1173  | 95   |
| 11. Jharkhand         |   | 4462  | 561  | 47  | 29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands |   | 107    | 20    | 4    |
| 12. Karnataka         |   | 8143  | 1679 | 253 | 30. Chandigarh                  |   | 13     | 0     | 1    |
| 13. Kerala            |   | 5094  | 933  | 115 | 31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli      |   | 38     | 6     | 1    |
| 14. Madhya Pradesh    |   | 8835  | 1194 | 227 | 32. Daman and Diu               |   | 21     | 3     | 1    |
| 15. Maharashtra       |   | 9727  | 1780 | 382 | 33. Delhi                       |   | 42     | 8     | 0    |
| 16. Manipur           |   | 420   | 72   | 16  | 34. Lakshadweep                 |   | 14     | 4     | 3    |
| 17. Meghalaya         |   | 401   | 95   | 23  | 35. Pondicherry                 |   | 75     | 39    | 4    |
| 18. Mizoram           |   | 351   | 57   | 12  |                                 |   |        |       |      |
| 19. Nagaland          |   | 394   | 87   | 21  | All India                       |   | 142655 | 23109 | 3222 |
| 20. Orissa            |   | 5927  | 1282 | 231 |                                 |   |        |       |      |

Note : Figures are provisional.

**Statement-II**

*Tenth Plan (2002-2007) and Annual Targets for the Year 2004-2005 for establishment of Sub Centres, PHCs and CHCs*

| Sl.No. | State/Uts         | Sub Centres                   |                        | PHCs                          |                        | CHCs                          |                        |
|--------|-------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
|        |                   | 10 <sup>th</sup> Plan Targets | Annual Targets 2004-05 | 10 <sup>th</sup> Plan Targets | Annual Targets 2004-05 | 10 <sup>th</sup> Plan Targets | Annual Targets 2004-05 |
| 1      | 2                 | 3                             | 4                      | 5                             | 6                      | 7                             | 8                      |
| 1.     | Andhra Pradesh    | 0                             | 0                      | 321                           | 76                     | 208                           | 50                     |
| 2.     | Arunachal Pradesh | 0                             | 0                      | 0                             | 0                      | 0                             | 0                      |

| 1                                 | 2 | 3    | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   |
|-----------------------------------|---|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 3. Assam                          |   | 0    | 0   | 116 | 27  | 81  | 19  |
| 4. Bihar                          |   | 1215 | 288 | 319 | 75  | 403 | 95  |
| 5. Chhattisgarh                   |   | 874  | 208 | 159 | 39  | 26  | 8   |
| 6. Goa                            |   | 0    | 0   | 4   | 1   | 1   | 0   |
| 7. Gujarat                        |   | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 4   | 1   |
| 8. Haryana                        |   | 183  | 43  | 12  | 2   | 39  | 9   |
| 9. Himachal Pradesh               |   | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| 10. Jammu and Kashmir             |   | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| 11. Jharkhand                     |   | 0    | 0   | 115 | 27  | 122 | 29  |
| 12. Karnataka                     |   | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 19  | 5   |
| 13. Kerala                        |   | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 75  | 18  |
| 14. Madhya Pradesh                |   | 0    | 0   | 123 | 29  | 100 | 24  |
| 15. Maharashtra                   |   | 808  | 192 | 0   | 0   | 88  | 21  |
| 16. Manipur                       |   | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| 17. Meghalaya                     |   | 51   | 12  | 0   | 0   | 6   | 1   |
| 18. Mizoram                       |   | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| 19. Nagaland                      |   | 23   | 5   | 8   | 2   | 5   | 1   |
| 20. Orissa                        |   | 447  | 106 | 0   | 0   | 108 | 25  |
| 21. Punjab                        |   | 6    | 2   | 0   | 0   | 14  | 3   |
| 22. Rajasthan                     |   | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 49  | 12  |
| 23. Sikkim                        |   | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 2   | 1   |
| 24. Tamil Nadu                    |   | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 237 | 55  |
| 25. Tripura                       |   | 40   | 9   | 38  | 9   | 13  | 3   |
| 26. Uttaranchal                   |   | 155  | 37  | 8   | 2   | 36  | 8   |
| 27. Uttar Pradesh                 |   | 1997 | 474 | 0   | 0   | 588 | 126 |
| 28. West Bengal                   |   | 2230 | 529 | 464 | 110 | 332 | 61  |
| 29. Andaman and Nicobar<br>Island |   | 0    | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   |

| 1                          | 2 | 3     | 4    | 5    | 6   | 7    | 8   |
|----------------------------|---|-------|------|------|-----|------|-----|
| 30. Chandigarh             |   | 0     | 0    | 2    | 1   | 0    | 0   |
| 31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli |   | 4     | 1    | 1    | 0   | 1    | 0   |
| 32. Daman Diu              |   | 0     | 0    | 0    | 0   | 0    | 0   |
| 33. Delhi                  |   | 148   | 35   | 24   | 6   | 8    | 1   |
| 34. Lakshadweep            |   | 0     | 0    | 0    | 0   | 0    | 0   |
| 35. Pondicherry            |   | 0     | 0    | 0    | 0   | 0    | 0   |
| All India                  |   | *8181 | 1941 | 1714 | 405 | 2562 | 574 |

No Targets have been given for establishment of new RFWCs.

\* Revised to 8996 in view of inclusion of opening of sub-centres in desere areas of Rajasthan as per the population Norm of 1 Sub-centre for 3000 population in desere areas.

#### Statement-III

##### *Statewise grants in AID released for running and maintenance of Sub Centres*

Rs in Lakhs

| Sl. No. | State/UT          | Releases<br>2000-01 | Releases<br>2001-02 | Releases<br>2002-03 | Releases<br>2003-04 | Releases<br>2004-05 |
|---------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1       | 2                 | 3                   | 4                   | 5                   | 6                   | 7                   |
| 1.      | Andhra Pradesh    | 3000.00             | 3450.00             | 9615.33             | 9848.57             | 9203.56             |
| 2.      | Arunachal Pradesh | 85.00               | 185.00              | 251.43              | 10.05               | 253.66              |
| 3.      | Assam             | 3020.00             | 4700.00             | 9195.00             | 4711.82             | 4737.92             |
| 4.      | Bihar             | 6000.00             | 3725.00             | 9402.51             | 8710.40             | 9003.00             |
| 5.      | Chhattisgarh      |                     | 1280.00             | 3474.67             | 3869.53             | 3324.88             |
| 6.      | Goa               | 50.00               | 55.00               | 54.00               | 163.98              | 150.16              |
| 7.      | Gujarat           | 2900.00             | 3350.00             | 6620.45             | 6454.20             | 6335.24             |
| 8.      | Haryana           | 980.00              | 1110.00             | 2093.32             | 2030.51             | 2002.56             |
| 9.      | Himachal Pradesh  | 750.00              | 815.00              | 1884.37             | 1862.75             | 1802.04             |
| 10.     | Jammu and Kashmir | 850.00              | 870.00              | 1547.74             | 1509.71             | 1481.40             |
| 11.     | Jharkhand         |                     | 3155.00             | 4058.95             | 4420.06             | 3886.24             |



| 1         | 2                          | 3        | 4        | 5         | 6         | 7         |
|-----------|----------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 12.       | Karnataka                  | 2575.00  | 3650.00  | 7429.15   | 6941.30   | 7092.16   |
| 13.       | Kerala                     | 2530.00  | 3000.00  | 4635.48   | 4924.75   | 4436.48   |
| 14.       | Madhya Pradesh             | 4300.00  | 2550.00  | 4730.31   | 6622.71   | 7080.08   |
| 15.       | Maharashtra                | 4025.00  | 4800.00  | 8849.20   | 9076.87   | 8469.84   |
| 16.       | Manipur                    | 185.00   | 390.00   | 746.93    | 103.26    | 389.80    |
| 17.       | Meghalaya                  | 195.00   | 300.00   | 727.80    | 182.98    | 381.80    |
| 18.       | Mizoram                    | 75.00    | 185.00   | 532.22    | 238.24    | 320.16    |
| 19.       | Nagaland                   | 140.00   | 285.00   | 540.00    | 66.40     | 280.40    |
| 20.       | Orissa                     | 2550.00  | 2935.00  | 5393.87   | 5162.21   | 5162.52   |
| 21.       | Punjab                     | 700.00   | 785.00   | 670.01    | 2761.24   | 2482.72   |
| 22.       | Rajasthan                  | 4500.00  | 4520.00  | 9031.06   | 9382.99   | 8644.56   |
| 23.       | Sikkim                     | 90.00    | 195.00   | 258.75    | 46.50     | 136.20    |
| 24.       | Tamil Nadu                 | 3600.00  | 4280.00  | 7897.34   | 8474.30   | 7560.24   |
| 25.       | Tripura                    | 310.00   | 510.00   | 967.50    | 140.17    | 500.16    |
| 26.       | Uttaranchal                |          | 1463.00  | 1385.23   | 1583.70   | 1327.40   |
| 27.       | Uttar Pradesh              | 8540.00  | 5852.00  | 16947.74  | 17789.37  | 16223.80  |
| 28.       | West Bengal                | 4300.00  | 4485.00  | 7394.32   | 8243.11   | 7077.12   |
| 29.       | Andaman and Nicobar Island | 105.50   |          | NA        | NA        | 186.20    |
| 30.       | Chandigarh                 | 9.00     |          | NA        | NA        | 24.21     |
| 31.       | Dadra and Nagar Haveli     | 12.30    |          | NA        | NA        | 67.03     |
| 32.       | Daman and Diu              | 1350     |          | NA        | NA        | 39.10     |
| 33.       | Delhi                      | 21.00    | 30.00    | NA        | 37.25     | 59.00     |
| 34.       | Lakshadweep                | 10.50    |          | NA        | NA        | 26.07     |
| 35.       | Pondicherry                | 29.00    | 40.00    | 77.67     | 92.48     | 112.00    |
| All India |                            | 56450.80 | 62950.00 | 126412.37 | 125411.44 | 120259.61 |

NA : Not Available

**Statement-IV**  
**Major Civil Works**

**Statement Showing total Releases**

|                       | 1997-98 | 1998-99  | 1999-00 | 2000-01  | 2001-02  | 2002-03  | 2003-04   | 2004-05  | Total Release | Fig. In Crores |    |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|---------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|---------------|----------------|----|
| 1                     | 2       | 3        | 4       | 5        | 6        | 7        | 8         | 9        | 10            | 11             | 12 |
| 1. Andhra Pradesh     |         |          |         | 56284000 |          |          | 36989000  |          | 93273000      | 9.33           |    |
| 2. Arunachal Pradesh  |         | 13590622 |         |          |          |          | 9409278   | 13905795 | 36905695      | 3.7            |    |
| 3. Assam              |         |          |         |          | 47000000 |          |           | 38945000 | 85945000      | 8.59           |    |
| 4. Bihar              |         |          |         |          |          | 0        | 95855600  | 0        | 95855600      | 9.58           |    |
| 5. Chattisgarh        |         |          |         |          | 28710000 |          |           |          | 28710000      | 2.87           |    |
| 6. Goa                |         |          |         |          |          |          |           |          |               |                |    |
| 7. Gujarat            |         | 51019000 |         |          |          |          | 18665000  |          | 69684000      | 6.97           |    |
| 8. Haryana            |         |          |         |          | 19518031 |          |           | 30457835 | 49975866      | 5              |    |
| 9. Himachal Pradesh   |         | 17200000 |         |          |          |          | 14134000  | 27299000 | 58633000      | 5.86           |    |
| 10. Jammu and Kashmir |         |          |         |          | 30395000 | 19933945 | 16780655  |          | 67109600      | 6.71           |    |
| 11. Karnataka         |         |          |         |          | 88300000 | 20000000 | 151000000 |          | 259300000     | 25.93          |    |
| 12. Kerala            |         | 59240000 | 9389000 | 14800000 |          |          |           |          | 83429000      | 8.34           |    |
| 13. Madhya Pradesh    |         |          |         |          | 73062439 |          |           |          | 73062439      | 7.3            |    |
| 14. Maharashtra       |         | 11794000 |         |          | 16547000 | 36446157 | 126275909 |          | 191063066     | 19.11          |    |
| 15. Manipur           |         |          | 4000000 | 10000000 |          |          | 8000000   |          | 22000000      | 2.2            |    |
| 16. Meghalaya         |         | 3500000  |         |          |          |          |           |          | 3500000       | 0.35           |    |
| 17. Mizoram           |         |          | 9060000 |          | 940000   |          |           | 2000000  | 12000000      | 1.2            |    |

| 1                               | 2 | 3       | 4         | 5        | 6         | 7         | 8         | 9         | 10        | 11         | 12     |
|---------------------------------|---|---------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|--------|
| 18. Nagaland                    |   |         |           |          | 6000000   |           | 6000000   | 10000000  | 9000000   | 31000000   | 3.1    |
| 19. Orissa                      |   |         |           |          | 51775161  |           |           |           | 59037339  | 110812500  | 11.08  |
| 20. Punjab                      |   |         |           |          |           |           |           |           | 11415416  | 11415416   | 1.14   |
| 21. Rajasthan                   |   |         |           |          | 88947000  | 89982000  |           |           |           | 178929000  | 17.89  |
| 22. Sikkim                      |   |         | 4000000   |          |           |           | 2000000   |           | 2000000   | 8000000    | 0.8    |
| 23. Tamil Nadu                  |   |         |           |          | 40230000  |           | 53740000  |           | 50585000  | 144555000  | 14.46  |
| 24. Tripura                     |   |         | 8587000   |          |           |           | 4705000   |           |           | 11292000   | 1.13   |
| 25. Uttar Pradesh               |   |         |           | 27025000 |           |           | 142442000 |           |           | 169467000  | 16.95  |
| 26. Uttaranchal                 |   |         |           |          | 19159000  |           |           |           |           | 19159000   | 1.92   |
| 27. West Bengal                 |   |         |           |          | 3635674   | 68395655  |           |           |           | 72031329   | 7.2    |
| 28. Andaman and Nicobar Islands |   |         |           |          | 1915085   |           |           | 715875    |           | 2630960    | 0.26   |
| 29. Chandigarh                  |   |         |           |          |           |           |           |           |           |            |        |
| 30. Dadra and Nagar Haveli      |   |         |           |          |           |           |           |           |           |            |        |
| 31. Daman and Diu               |   |         |           |          |           |           | 2000000   |           |           | 2000000    | 0.2    |
| 32. Delhi                       |   |         |           |          |           |           |           |           |           |            |        |
| 33. Lakshadweep                 |   |         |           |          | 1359900   |           | 640100    |           |           | 2000000    | 0.2    |
| 34. Pondicherry                 |   |         |           |          | 1180000   |           |           |           | 5809600   | 6989600    | 0.7    |
| Total                           |   | 3500000 | 172490622 | 96696000 | 496474290 | 281757757 | 525371633 | 231737619 | 192698150 | 2000728071 | 200.07 |

\*Funds released under SIP

#Rupees 174 lakhs are under process for the states of Pondicherry and Kerala

[English]

### **New Medical Colleges in Assam**

3942. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Assam for setting up of New Medical Colleges in Assam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the decision of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) No such proposal has been received from Government of Assam. However, a proposal for grant of permission for establishment of new medical college at Panikhaiti, Kamrup in Assam by Down Town Charity Trust, Guwahati has been received. The proposal has been sent to Medical Council of India for evaluation. The clearance of the proposal depends on the fulfillment of qualifying criteria prescribed in the Regulations of Medical Council of India, availability of infrastructural facilities for running of MBBS course and recommendation of Medical Council of India thereon.

### **Junking of Tankers**

3943. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether an International Maritime Organisation has made it mandatory for shipping firms to junk tankers built before 1977;
- (b) if so, the number of Indian companies having tankers built before 1977;
- (c) the details of the capacity of ship breaking yards in the country;
- (d) the details of the orders received by the ship breaking yards so far; and
- (e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir. The amended International Maritime Organisation Regulation stipulates that single hull oil tankers built before 1982 are to be phased out, starting from 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2005, depending on size and category.

(b) There is no Indian shipping company having oil tankers built before 1977 in operation.

(c) The capacity of ship breaking yards is about 4 million tonnes per year.

(d) About 1.0 million tonnes of ships have been beached in various shipyards during 2004-05.

(e) The Government do not have any role in the commercial operations of ship breaking Yards.

### **Charges of fixed and Mobile Phones**

3944. DR. RAJESH MISHRA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether huge rise in the use of mobile telephones has overtaken the number of fixed phones;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether people subscribing the mobile phones have to pay a higher cost to buy handset and charges per minute for calls made from mobile phones are costlier; and
- (d) if so, the difference of cost between subscribing to a fixed phone and mobile phone at the initial stage and the exact difference between the per call minute charges of a fixed phone and mobile phone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The number of mobile phones were 129.80 lakh as on 31st March, 2003 against 416.30 lakh fixed phones. However, the mobile phones have overtaken the fixed phones which have increased to 508.06 lakh as against 463.35 lakh fixed phones, as on 28.2.2005.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. However, the subscription cost and per call charges for fixed phones and for cellular phones

vary from operator to operator under different schemes offered by them.

#### **Use of Wireless Fixed Phones**

3945 SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the use of wireless fixed phones in urban areas are cost effective and more convenient as compared to fixed line phones provided by the BSNL and the MTNL;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to promote the use of wireless fixed phones in urban areas and remote villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) There is no difference in tariff for use of fixed wireless services and wireline services. Wireless fixed phones are generally cost effective, however in urban areas cost effectiveness has to be viewed against availability of spare capacity of land lines, spectrum constraints and magnitude of demand etc. The subscriber unit needs charging by external power source in case of fixed wireless services which is not needed in wireline services.

(c) The fixed wireless services are being used chiefly to cater to such remote/farflung places in suburban and rural areas where the nearest telephone exchange is more than 5 Km. and laying of wireline infrastructure is cost prohibitive. In order to provide telephone connectivity to uncovered villages, it has been planned to install most of the remaining Village Public Telephones on WLL technology.

#### **Vacant Posts of Stenographers**

3946. SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts of Stenographers Grade 'C' and 'D' filled during the last three years in the Ministry category-wise and year-wise;

(b) the number of vacancies of Stenographer Grade 'C' and 'D' lying vacant in the Ministry, particularly of Scheduled Castes;

(c) the reasons for not filling up these vacancies; and

(d) the time-frame by which these vacancies are likely to be filled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH) : (a) 47 posts of Grade 'C' Stenographers and 6 posts of Grade 'D' Stenographers have been filled during the last 3 years as given below :

#### **Grade C Stenographers**

| Year    | General | SC | ST | OBC | Total |
|---------|---------|----|----|-----|-------|
| 2002-03 | 11      | 1  | 4  | —   | 16    |
| 2003-04 | 2       | 2  | —  | —   | 4     |
| 2004-05 | 24      | 2  | 1  | —   | 27    |

#### **Grade D Stenographers**

|         |   |   |   |   |   |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2002-03 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 2003-04 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 2004-05 | 6 | — | — | — | 6 |

(b) There are currently 23 unfilled vacancies in Grade 'C' Stenographers and 37 unfilled vacancies in Grade 'D' Stenographers. Of these vacancies, 2 vacancies of Grade 'C' Stenographers and 6 vacancies of Grade 'D' Stenographers are reserved for Scheduled Castes.

(c) and (d) For Grade 'C' Stenographers, Examination for Direct Recruitment has not been conducted for 2003 and 2004. For Grade 'D' Stenographers, posts remain vacant due to adequate number of clerks not qualifying the Limited Departmental Examination to become Grade D Stenographers. Ministry of External Affairs has indented all the vacancies in both Grade C and Grade D Stenographers and the vacancies will be filled as soon as suitable candidates are recommended by the Staff Selection Commission.

**Setting up of Second Container Terminal**

3947. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has any proposal for setting up a second container terminal at the Chennai Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the financial assistance given to Chennai Port Trust by the Union Government for its various developmental activities during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Government has conveyed on 31.3.2005 in-principle approval to Chennai Port Trust for setting up of second container terminal. The terminal will be developed at the modernized east quay and adjoining south quay having a length of 826 mtrs. About 28 hectare of land is available for development of parking yard/backup area. The terminal is estimated to cost Rs.495.00 crore and will be developed on Build Operator and Transfer (BOT) basis. Chennai Port will be contributing Rs.100 crores towards developmental works and remaining cost of the project will be met by the BOT operator.

(c) Development activities in ports are taken up by the major ports from the surpluses available from port operations. Government of India has not provided any financial assistance during the last three years to Chennai Port for developmental activities.

**Recovery of Uranium**

3948. SHRI BALASAHAB VIKHE PATIL :  
SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ :  
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA :  
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether police found radioactive uranium in possession of two persons arrested at Bareilly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the sources from which uranium reached into unauthorized hands; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The material seized by the police authorities at Bareilly was a small plate-shaped piece of Depleted Uranium(DU). The gamma radiation level on the surface of the piece is too small which reduces to background at short distance of 40 cm. Thus the seized piece cannot cause radiation or health hazard of any significance.

(c) The exact source of the DU piece seized is not known. DU being a high-density material, is used as a shielding material in the imported industrial radiography cameras and radiotherapy units in hospitals and as a counterweight in aircraft. From the shape and size of the seized piece, it appears that the piece could be part of a counterweight in an aircraft.

(d) In India, aircraft maintenance workshops are aware of the requirements for disposal of such DU counterweight material. Accordingly they contact Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) and Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), when there is need for safe disposal of such pieces.

**Amendments in Post Office Act, 1898**

3949. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO :  
SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has suggested the amendments of Indian Post Office Act, 1898 with a forward looking legislation that could take care of competitive and financially viable organization;

(b) if so, whether the Planning Commission has pointed out that in order to achieve the objectives of the 10th plan and the national common minimum programme, the department needs to initiate a host of action and ensure its implementation in a time-bound manner;

(c) if so, whether the Government has considered the view of the Planning commission; and

(d) if so, the time by which the Indian Post Office Act, 1898, is likely to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) to (c) Amendment of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898 is one of the various policy initiative under the 10<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan of the Government of India which the Department of Posts is required to address during the plan period to achieve the objectives of 10<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. The action taken on the policy initiatives are monitored by Planning Commission through regular review meetings held with the Department, to ensure that the objectives of the National Common Minimum Programme are duly reflected in the Plan programmes formulated by the Department, when seeking annual allocation, to ensure their timely implementation. The Planning Commission also reviews Plan programmes formulated by the Department, when seeking annual allocation to ensure their timely implementation.

(d) The Indian Post Office (Amendment) Bill was first introduced in the Lok Sabha in May, 2002. Thereafter, it was referred to the Standing Committee on Information Technology (SCOIT) for examination and report. The Standing Committee presented its report to the Lok Sabha on 22nd July, 2002. Thereafter though the Note for Cabinet was ready, the Indian Post Office Act (Amendment) Bill 2002 lapsed due to the dissolution of the Lok Sabha in February, 2004. The Amendment Bill 2005 is now proposed to be re-introduced in the Lok Sabha early.

[Translation]

#### Telephone Connections to TAC Members

†3950. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether telephone connections have been provided to all the members nominated in the Telephone Advisory Committee in different districts of various states including Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) No Sir, some members nominated in the Telephone Advisory Committee (TAC) have not yet been provided telephone connections.

(b) and (c) In BSNL, as on 28.02.2005, out of 4649 members nominated to the various TACs, only 4374 members have applied for telephone connections. Out of these, telephone connections have been provided to 3932 members with work in progress in another 52 cases. It has not been possible to provide telephone to the remaining 390 members due to the following reasons:-

- (i) Technical non-feasibility of the area (23 cases).
- (ii) Outstanding dues against some members/ spouses etc. (54 cases).
- (iii) Telephone connections requested to be installed out of the area of jurisdiction of the Secondary Switching Area (SSA) of a member. (16 cases).
- (iv) Other subscriber reasons such as members request not to provide telephone for the time being, installation address not given, request for conversion into TAC category of private telephone not working in the name of TAC member etc. (297 cases).

Telephone connections have been provided to all the nominated TAC members in MTNL, Delhi and Mumbai who have given their consent (Delhi 58 connections and Mumbai 47 connections).

In MTNL Mumbai :-

Telephone connections not provided to TAC members: 17 with the following reasons :-

Welcome letter sent but acceptance of nomination not received from TAC members : 14

Nomination on TAC refused : 01

TAC connection refused : 02

*[English]***Breast Cancer Risk In Men**

3951. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether men are also prone to breast cancer;
- (b) whether doctors are of the view that since men do not have much of breast tissue, the cancer is more aggressive and spreads faster;
- (c) whether there has been a perceptible increase in cases of breast cancer among men of late;
- (d) if so, the main causes of breast cancer among men;
- (e) whether the minimum age at which people develop breast cancer has come down; and
- (f) if so, the preventive steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (e) Men are also prone to Breast Cancer. However, the disease is rare among men. Due to small number and limited follow up it is not possible to assess the trends of breast cancer incidence among men. As reported by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), information from the National Cancer Institute of USA indicates that overall survival of males suffering from breast cancer is similar to that of women with breast cancer. The predisposing risk factors include radiation exposure, estrogen administration, and diseases associated with hyperestrogenism such as Cirrhosis or Klinefelter's syndrome. There are definite familial tendencies with an increased incidence seen in men, who have a number of female relatives with breast cancer. However, considering the very few number of male breast cancer cases occurring, it is not possible to conclusively comment on the trends of age at occurrence.

(f) All the schemes under the National Cancer Control Programme have since been revised. Special emphasis is now being laid on early detection of Cancer through screening, promoting health education, creating

awareness etc. under District Cancer Control Programme to be implemented through the nodal agencies in districts identified by State Governments.

**Exploitation of Atomic Grade Materials**

3952. SHRI P. MOHAN :

SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN :

SHRI M. SHIVANNA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether rare earth materials on the shores of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala are illegally mined and smuggled by small timers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether apart from local individuals, some private companies are also involved in the commercial exploitation of atomic grade materials;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to check exploitation of such materials from the national security point of view?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Only One instance of illegal mining was identified in the coast of Tamil Nadu. However, in this case the penalty levied by the Collector has been stayed by the Hon'ble High Court, Madras.

(c) and (d) Till 6.10.1998 mining/mineral separation for atomic minerals was reserved for the public sector. After the announcement of the revised Policy on Beach Sand Minerals on 6.10.1998, a few partnership firms and private companies, mostly erstwhile Garnet producers from the State of Tamil Nadu have entered the field of beach sand mining/minerals separation.

(e) For mining and handling prescribed substances found in the coast, besides a mining lease from the State Government concerned, a licence from the Department of Atomic Energy under the Atomic Energy (Working of Mines, Minerals and Handling of Prescribed Substances) Rules, 1984 is required. Further, the export of heavy minerals is allowed only after certification by the Atomic Minerals



Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), regarding the presence of Monazite content of less than 0.25%. When Monazite is produced in the process of exploitation, their disposal is done as per the directions of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board. Therefore adequate safeguards exist from the National Security point of view.

**Allocation of Funds under Poverty  
Alleviation Programmes**

3953. SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria for allocation of funds to the States under various Poverty Alleviation Programmes;

(b) whether as a result of the existing criteria, the progressive and performing States get lesser funds and are, thus, punished for their good work;

(c) if so, the facts thereof;

(d) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Ministry to evolve different criteria for progressive and not so progressive States to ensure equitable devolution of funds under the various Poverty Alleviation Programmes;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) : (a) to (c) In pursuance of a decision taken in the meeting of the National Development Council (NDC) held in February 1999, a NDC Committee on the Criterion for Allocation of Funds Under Major Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes was set up under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. Members of the committee included Union Minister for Rural Development, Union Minister of State for Planning and Chief Ministers of Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. The NDC Committee discussed various criteria for allocation of funds under major Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes. There was a consensus and agreement on continuation of the 15 per cent adjusted shares as approved by the full Planning Commission under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister as the criterion for allocation of funds under major

rural poverty alleviation programmes. These Adjusted Shares are presently being used as the criterion for allocation of funds under major rural poverty alleviation programmes

(d) to (f) An Expert Group on the criterion for allocation of funds under Major Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes was set up in July 2001 in the Planning Commission. The Report of the Expert Group recommended that a committee be set up to review the methodology of poverty estimation and till such time the existing criteria should continue.

[Translation]

**Persons below Poverty Line**

3954. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons brought above poverty line in various states including Maharashtra during the last three years till date alongwith the number of people still living below poverty line; and

(b) the number of people belonging to SC/STs among them, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) : (a) Planning Commission estimates the number of persons living below the poverty line using data from the quinquennial rounds of National Sample survey Organisation (NSSO) on household consumption expenditure. The last such survey was carried out in 1999-2000, and as such the data for the last three years are not available. Based on the last two such rounds of NSSO conducted in 1993-94 and 1999-2000, the total number of persons living below poverty line, in rural and urban areas and at all India level including Maharashtra is given below in table. Total number of persons living below poverty line (in lakhs).

| Years                  | Rural   | Urban  | Combined |
|------------------------|---------|--------|----------|
| 1                      | 2       | 3      | 4        |
| <b>All India level</b> |         |        |          |
| 1993-1994              | 2440.31 | 763.37 | 3203.68  |
| 1999-2000              | 1932.43 | 670.07 | 2602.50  |

| 1                  | 2      | 3      | 4      |
|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| <b>Maharashtra</b> |        |        |        |
| 1993-1994          | 193.33 | 111.90 | 305.22 |
| 1999-2000          | 125.12 | 102.87 | 227.99 |

The state-wise estimates of number of persons living below poverty line including Maharashtra for

1993-94 and 1999-2000 is given in enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The state-wise table on percentage of SC and ST population living below the poverty line using data from the quinquennial rounds of NSSO on household consumer expenditure for the year 1993-94 and 1999-2000 is given in the enclosed Statement-II and Statement-III.

**Statement-I**

*Number of Persons Living below Poverty Line.*

(in lakhs)

| S.No. | States/U.T.'s     | 1993-94 |        |          | 1999-2000 |        |          |
|-------|-------------------|---------|--------|----------|-----------|--------|----------|
|       |                   | Rural   | Urban  | Combined | Rural     | Urban  | Combined |
| 1     | 2                 | 3       | 5      | 7        | 3         | 5      | 7        |
| 1.    | Andhra Pradesh    | 79.49   | 74.47  | 153.97   | 58.13     | 60.88  | 119.01   |
| 2.    | Arunachal Pradesh | 3.62    | 0.11   | 3.73     | 3.80      | 0.18   | 3.98     |
| 3.    | Assam             | 94.33   | 2.03   | 96.36    | 92.17     | 2.38   | 94.55    |
| 4.    | Bihar             | 450.86  | 42.49  | 493.35   | 376.51    | 49.13  | 425.64   |
| 5.    | Goa               | 0.38    | 1.53   | 1.91     | 0.11      | 0.59   | 0.70     |
| 6.    | Gujarat           | 62.16   | 43.02  | 105.19   | 39.80     | 28.09  | 67.89    |
| 7.    | Haryana           | 36.56   | 7.31   | 43.88    | 11.94     | 5.39   | 17.34    |
| 8.    | Himachal Pradesh  | 15.40   | 0.46   | 15.86    | 4.84      | 0.29   | 5.12     |
| 9.    | Jammu and Kashmir | 19.05   | 1.86   | 20.92    | 2.97      | 0.49   | 3.46     |
| 10.   | Karnataka         | 95.99   | 60.46  | 156.46   | 59.91     | 44.49  | 104.40   |
| 11.   | Kerala            | 55.95   | 20.46  | 76.41    | 20.97     | 20.07  | 41.04    |
| 12.   | Madhya Pradesh    | 216.19  | 82.33  | 298.52   | 217.32    | 81.22  | 298.54   |
| 13.   | Maharashtra       | 193.33  | 111.90 | 305.22   | 125.12    | 102.87 | 227.99   |
| 14.   | Manipur           | 6.33    | 0.47   | 6.80     | 6.53      | 0.66   | 7.19     |
| 15.   | Meghalaya         | 7.09    | 0.29   | 7.38     | 7.89      | 0.34   | 8.23     |
| 16.   | Mizoram           | 1.64    | 0.30   | 1.94     | 1.40      | 0.45   | 1.85     |
| 17.   | Nagaland          | 4.85    | 0.20   | 5.05     | 5.21      | 0.28   | 5.49     |
| 18.   | Orissa            | 140.90  | 19.70  | 160.60   | 143.69    | 25.40  | 169.09   |
| 19.   | Punjab            | 17.76   | 7.35   | 25.11    | 10.20     | 4.29   | 14.49    |

| 1                               | 2    | 3       | 5      | 7       | 3       | 5      | 7       |
|---------------------------------|------|---------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| 20. Rajasthan                   |      | 94.68   | 33.82  | 128.50  | 55.06   | 26.78  | 81.83   |
| 21. Sikkim                      |      | 1.81    | 0.03   | 1.84    | 2.00    | 0.04   | 2.05    |
| 22. Tamil Nadu                  |      | 121.70  | 80.40  | 202.10  | 80.51   | 49.97  | 130.48  |
| 23. Tripura                     |      | 11.41   | 0.38   | 11.79   | 12.53   | 0.49   | 13.02   |
| 24. Uttar Pradesh               |      | 496.17  | 108.28 | 604.46  | 412.01  | 117.88 | 529.89  |
| 25. West Bengal                 |      | 209.90  | 44.66  | 254.56  | 180.11  | 33.38  | 213.49  |
| 26. Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0.73 |         | 0.33   | 1.06    | 0.58    | 0.24   | 0.82    |
| 27. Chandigarh                  |      | 0.07    | 0.73   | 0.80    | 0.06    | 0.45   | 0.51    |
| 28. Dadra and Nagar Haveli      |      | 0.72    | 0.06   | 0.77    | 0.30    | 0.03   | 0.33    |
| 29. Daman and Diu               |      | 0.03    | 0.15   | 0.18    | 0.01    | 0.05   | 0.06    |
| 30. Delhi                       |      | 0.19    | 15.32  | 15.51   | 0.07    | 11.42  | 11.49   |
| 31. Lakshadweep                 |      | 0.06    | 0.08   | 0.14    | 0.03    | 0.08   | 0.11    |
| 32. Pondicherry                 |      | 0.93    | 2.38   | 3.31    | 0.64    | 1.77   | 2.41    |
| All India                       |      | 2440.31 | 763.37 | 3203.68 | 1932.43 | 670.07 | 2602.50 |

**Statement-II***Percentage of SC and ST Population below Poverty Line by States for 1993-94*

| S.No.               | States | Rural           |                 |                | Urban           |                 |                |
|---------------------|--------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
|                     |        | Scheduled Caste | Scheduled Tribe | All Population | Scheduled Caste | Scheduled Tribe | All Population |
| 1                   | 2      | 3               | 4               | 5              | 6               | 7               | 8              |
| 1. Andhra Pradesh   |        | 26.02           | 25.66           | 15.92          | 43.82           | 46.68           | 38.33          |
| 2. Assam            |        | 45.38           | 41.44           | 45.01          | 14.34           | 7.11            | 7.73           |
| 3. Bihar            |        | 70.66           | 69.75           | 58.21          | 55.16           | 35.76           | 34.50          |
| 4. Gujarat          |        | 32.26           | 31.20           | 22.18          | 44.99           | 35.47           | 27.89          |
| 5. Haryana          |        | 46.56           | 41.55           | 28.02          | 23.58           | 0.00            | 16.38          |
| 6. Himachal Pradesh |        | 36.89           | 63.94           | 30.34          | 18.52           | 0.00            | 9.18           |
| 7. Karnataka        |        | 46.36           | 37.33           | 29.88          | 61.59           | 62.05           | 40.14          |
| 8. Kerala           |        | 36.43           | 37.34           | 25.76          | 31.59           | 1.08            | 24.55          |
| 9. Madhya Pradesh   |        | 45.83           | 56.69           | 40.64          | 65.00           | 65.28           | 48.38          |

| 1                 | 2 | 3     | 4     | 5     | 6     | 7     | 8     |
|-------------------|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 10. Maharashtra   |   | 51.64 | 50.38 | 37.93 | 52.56 | 61.06 | 35.15 |
| 11. Orissa        |   | 48.95 | 71.26 | 49.72 | 47.45 | 64.85 | 41.64 |
| 12. Punjab        |   | 22.08 | 27.00 | 11.95 | 27.96 | 0.00  | 11.35 |
| 13. Rajasthan     |   | 38.38 | 46.23 | 26.46 | 48.63 | 13.21 | 30.40 |
| 14. Tamil Nadu    |   | 44.05 | 44.37 | 32.48 | 61.50 | 30.08 | 39.77 |
| 15. Uttar Pradesh |   | 58.99 | 37.11 | 42.28 | 58.02 | 36.89 | 35.39 |
| 16. West Bengal   |   | 45.29 | 61.95 | 40.80 | 37.73 | 19.41 | 22.41 |
| All India         |   | 48.11 | 51.94 | 37.27 | 49.48 | 41.14 | 32.36 |

- N.B. : 1. The estimates are based on the methodology outlined in the Report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor.
2. The poverty line for all population is used for SC's and ST's.
3. All India poverty ratio is worked out from the NSS distribution of persons and (implicit) all - India poverty line.

**Statement-III**

**Percentage of SC and ST Population below Poverty Line by States for 1999-2000**

| S.No.               | States | Rural           |                 |       | Urban           |                 |       |
|---------------------|--------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|
|                     |        | Scheduled Caste | Scheduled Tribe | All   | Scheduled Caste | Scheduled Tribe | All   |
| 1                   | 2      | 3               | 4               | 5     | 6               | 7               | 8     |
| 1. Andhra Pradesh   |        | 16.49           | 23.82           | 11.14 | 41.42           | 44.99           | 26.53 |
| 2. Assam            |        | 44.00           | 38.73           | 40.20 | 19.99           | 2.70            | 7.47  |
| 3. Bihar            |        | 59.81           | 59.68           | 44.22 | 51.91           | 39.47           | 32.95 |
| 4. Gujarat          |        | 17.77           | 29.11           | 13.17 | 29.13           | 36.66           | 15.59 |
| 5. Haryana          |        | 19.03           | —               | 8.27  | 25.38           | —               | 9.99  |
| 6. Himachal Pradesh |        | 13.15           | 5.73            | 7.94  | 6.74            | —               | 4.63  |
| 7. Karnataka        |        | 26.22           | 25.49           | 17.36 | 47.01           | 51.37           | 25.25 |
| 8. Kerala           |        | 14.64           | 24.20           | 9.38  | 24.15           | —               | 20.27 |
| 9. Madhya Pradesh   |        | 41.29           | 56.26           | 37.09 | 54.24           | 52.59           | 38.54 |
| 10. Maharashtra     |        | 33.27           | 43.56           | 23.82 | 39.88           | 42.98           | 26.91 |
| 11. Orissa          |        | 51.83           | 73.93           | 48.13 | 70.59           | 59.59           | 43.13 |

| 1                 | 2 | 3     | 4     | 5     | 6     | 7     | 8     |
|-------------------|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 12. Punjab        |   | 12.39 | 17.99 | 6.44  | 11.30 | 12.95 | 5.80  |
| 13. Rajasthan     |   | 19.62 | 25.27 | 13.65 | 41.82 | 20.71 | 19.85 |
| 14. Tamil Nadu    |   | 32.59 | 43.20 | 20.55 | 44.94 | 5.22  | 22.17 |
| 15. Uttar Pradesh |   | 43.65 | 34.06 | 31.22 | 43.51 | 13.27 | 30.90 |
| 16. West Bengal   |   | 35.10 | 50.02 | 31.82 | 28.15 | 31.88 | 14.86 |
| All India         |   | 36.25 | 45.86 | 27.11 | 38.47 | 34.75 | 23.65 |

N.B.: (i) The Poverty Line for all population is used for SC's and ST's.

(ii) All India poverty ratio is worked out from the NSS distribution of persons and (implicit) all-India poverty line.

[English]

#### **Assistance received for Tsunami Disaster**

3955. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the nature and quantum of relief and assistance received from various foreign countries and organizations for the Tsunami affected States; and

(b) the details in this regard, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH) : (a) and (b) In the aftermath of the Tsunami disaster, a number of foreign Governments and non-official organizations made contributions to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, the Indian Red Cross and Crescent Societies and various non-Governmental organizations in the Tsunami affected States.

#### **Opening of Pharmacy Colleges**

3956. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal for opening of self financed pharmacy colleges at Dwarka, Veraval, Jamnagar, Vapi, Palanpur, Ahmedabad, Vadodara etc. in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) This Ministry has not received any proposal for opening self financed Pharmacy Colleges in Gujarat. However, Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) has informed that the four, institutes of Gujarat (list of the colleges alongwith the present status is given in the enclosed Statement have approached the PCI for approval of Bachelor of Pharmacy Courses under section 12 of the Pharmacy Act for the purpose of registration as Pharmacist.

#### **Statement**

*List of Pharmacy Institutions from Gujarat, which have approached the DCI for approval of Degree Courses for registration as Pharmacists*

1. Sigma Institute of Pharmacy at Bakrol, Vadodara: The Institution submitted application on 10-01-2005. The deficiencies have been communicated to the College and the compliance is awaited from the College.
2. Parul Institute of Pharmacy, Limda, Vadodara: The Institution submitted application on 18-12-2004. The deficiencies have been communicated to the College and the compliance is awaited from the College.
3. Indukala-Ipeowala College of Pharmacy, New Vallabh Vidya Nagar, Udyognagar: The Institution submitted the application on 24-01-2005. The deficiencies have been communicated to the College and the compliance is awaited from the College.

4. Maliba Pharmacy College, Gopal Vidyanagar Campus, Bardoli, Surat: The Institution submitted application on 18-05-2004. Inspection was conducted in August 2004. The College has been approved from the academic session 2000-2001 to 2004-2005 for 60 admissions.

[Translation]

#### Deaths due to Malnutrition

3957. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of the incidents of death occurred due to malnutrition in the country especially in different parts of Maharashtra during the last six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise ;

(c) whether a Central Team has visited the places where incidents have occurred;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (d) The details of number of deaths due to malnutrition is not being centrally maintained. However, malnutrition is a multifaceted problem and is not a direct cause of death. But it can increase morbidity and mortality by reducing the resistance to infections.

(e) The Government has initiated several measures to improve the nutritional status of vulnerable population, including children, in the country including the State of Maharashtra to overcome the problem of malnutrition, as under :-

- Increased Agricultural Production.
- Improving the purchasing power of the people through income generating schemes.
- Availability of essential food items at subsidized cost through Public Distribution System.

- Nutrition education to increase the awareness and bringing about the desired changes in the feeding practices including promotion of breast feeding.
- Supplementary feeding programmes such as :
  - (i) Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS).
  - (ii) Special Nutrition Programme (SNP).
  - (iii) Balwadi Nutrition Programme (BNP).
  - (iv) Wheat Based Supplementary Nutrition Programme.
  - (v) Pradhan Mantri Grameen Yojna (PMGY).
  - (vi) Mid-day Meal Programme.
- Programme for Prevention of Specific Nutrient Deficiency Disorders such as :
  - National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme.
  - Programme to prevent Blindness due to Vitamin 'A' deficiency and Nutritional Anaemia due to Iron deficiency as a part of Reproductive and Child Health Programme.
  - Pilot Project for control of Micronutrient Malnutrition.

[English]

#### High risk Multi-Hazard Zones

3958. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry in collaboration with UNDP has made a study and identified certain high risk multi-hazard zones and quake prone cities in the country; and

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Home Affairs, in collaboration with UNDP has undertaken a Disaster Risk Management Programme in 17 States (169 districts), which are prone to multi-hazard are given in enclosed Statement-I and Urban Earthquake Vulnerability Reduction Programme, covering 38 cities in seismic Zones III, IV and V and having a population of more than half a millions are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

The focus of this programme is mainly on awareness and education, training and capacity development for mitigation and better preparedness in terms of disaster risk management and recovery at community, district and state levels.

**Statement-I**

**Natural Disaster Risk Management Programme**

**List of most Hazard Prone Districts in Programme States**

| S.No. | State             | No. of Districts |
|-------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1.    | Assam             | 12               |
| 2.    | Bihar             | 14               |
| 3.    | Delhi             | 9                |
| 4.    | Gujarat           | 14               |
| 5.    | Maharashtra       | 14               |
| 6.    | Meghalaya         | 7                |
| 7.    | Orissa            | 14               |
| 8.    | Sikkim            | 4                |
| 9.    | Tamil Nadu        | 6                |
| 10.   | Uttar Pradesh     | 13               |
| 11.   | Uttaranchal       | 8                |
| 12.   | West Bengal       | 11               |
| 13.   | Tripura           | 3                |
| 14.   | Manipur           | 9                |
| 15.   | Mizoram           | 8                |
| 16.   | Arunachal Pradesh | 15               |
| 17.   | Nagaland          | 8                |
| Total |                   | 169              |

**Statement-II**

**List of 38 Cities with over half a million Population in Seismic Zones III, IV and V**

| S. No. | Name of City   | State         | Zone |
|--------|----------------|---------------|------|
| 1      | 2              | 3             | 4    |
| 1.     | Dehradun       | Uttaranchal   | IV   |
| 2.     | Delhi          | Delhi         | IV   |
| 3.     | Jamnagar       | Gujarat       | IV   |
| 4.     | Rajkot         | Gujarat       | III  |
| 5.     | Bhavnagar      | Gujarat       | III  |
| 6.     | Surat          | Gujarat       | III  |
| 7.     | Greater Mumbai | Maharashtra   | III  |
| 8.     | Bhiwandi       | Maharashtra   | III  |
| 9.     | Nashik         | Maharashtra   | III  |
| 10.    | Pune           | Maharashtra   | III  |
| 11.    | Bhubaneswar    | Orissa        | III  |
| 12.    | Cuttack        | Orissa        | III  |
| 13.    | Chennai        | Tamil Nadu    | III  |
| 14.    | Patna          | Bihar         | IV   |
| 15.    | Asansol        | West Bengal   | III  |
| 16.    | Guwahati       | Assam         | V    |
| 17.    | Vadodara       | Gujarat       | III  |
| 18.    | Ahmedabad      | Gujarat       | III  |
| 19.    | Coimbatore     | Tamil Nadu    | III  |
| 20.    | Agra           | Uttar Pradesh | III  |
| 21.    | Varanasi       | Uttar Pradesh | III  |
| 22.    | Breilly        | Uttar Pradesh | III  |
| 23.    | Meerut         | Uttar Pradesh | IV   |
| 24.    | Lucknow        | Uttar Pradesh | III  |
| 25.    | Kanpur         | Uttar Pradesh | III  |

| 1              | 2                 | 3   | 4 |
|----------------|-------------------|-----|---|
| 26. Kolkata    | West Bengal       | III |   |
| 27. Srinagar   | Jammu and Kashmir | V   |   |
| 28. Jammu      | Jammu and Kashmir | IV  |   |
| 29. Indore     | Madhya Pradesh    | III |   |
| 30. Jabalpur   | Madhya Pradesh    | III |   |
| 31. Amritsar   | Punjab            | IV  |   |
| 32. Jalandhar  | Punjab            | IV  |   |
| 33. Vijayawada | Andhra Pradesh    | III |   |
| 34. Dhanbad    | Jharkhand         | III |   |
| 35. Mangalore  | Karnataka         | III |   |
| 36. Kochi      | Kerala            | III |   |
| 37. Kozhikode  | Kerala            | III |   |
| 38. Trivandrum | Kerala            | III |   |

[Translation]

**Allocation for Old Age Pension and  
National Family Assistance**

3959. SHRI GANESH SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase the allocation for old age pension and national family assistance;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent any proposals for additional allocation for the said schemes; and

(c) if so, the action being taken in this regard and the amount of allocation proposed to be increased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) : (a) Recently in August, 2004, the total Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for National Social Assistance Programme (which includes National Old Age Pension Scheme and National Family Benefit Scheme) and Annapurna for

2004-05 has been enhanced from Rs. 679.87 cr. to Rs. 1189.87 cr.

(b) and (c) In 2002, the Planning Commission had received a communication from Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh to increase the ACA for NSAP from Rs. 54 cr. to Rs. 76 cr. Consequent to the overall enhancement of ACA for NSAP and Annapurna for 2004-05, the share of Madhya Pradesh has increased from Rs. 54.05 cr. to Rs. 76.45 cr in August 2004. In March, 2005, the State Government of Madhya Pradesh requested the Ministry of Rural Development (MORD) for an additionality of Rs. 11.695 cr. for 2004-05 for NSAP. For 2005-06, an ACA of Rs. 86.138 cr. was also requested for. In view of the request of the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, the Ministry of Rural Development (MORD) recommended an additionality of Rs. 23.39 cr. as one time ACA under NSAP during 2004-05 for Madhya Pradesh to the Ministry of Finance on 31.03.2005. But the same was not considered by the Ministry of Finance.

[English]

**Long waiting list of Patients**

3960. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a long waiting list of patients in the surgical unit/ward in the AIIMS, New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (b) It is a fact that there is a long waiting list of patients in the surgical unit/ward in the AIIMS, New Delhi. This is due to the increasingly large number of patients coming to AIIMS from different parts of the country. However, it is ensured that all surgical and medical emergency cases, including patients suffering from cancer are taken up on priority without any delay. The Government proposes to set up six AIIMS like institutions and upgrade seven existing medical institutes, under the PMSSY, in different parts of the country. The proposed creation/



upgradation of these institutes will help reduce the rush of patients to AIIMS, New Delhi.

[Translation]

### **Independent Drug Authority**

3961. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR :  
SHRIMATI ANURADHA CHOUDHARY :  
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :  
SHRI RATI LAL KALIDAS VARMA :

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

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to set up an independent drug authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the objectives thereof;

(d) by when a decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(e) the details of functioning and system of selection of the members of the authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (e) An expert Committee had been constituted under the chairmanship of Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, DG, CSIR and Secretary to the Government of India on drug regulatory issues including the problem of spurious drugs. In its final report submitted in November, 2003, the Committee has recommended the creation of a strong, professionally managed and efficient regulatory mechanism under the Ministry of Health and FW, Govt. of India which may be structured as Central Drug Administration (CDA). The matter is under consideration in this Ministry at present.

[English]

### **Construction of By-Pass and Bridge by NHAI**

3962. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH :  
SHRI ASHOK ARGAL :

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

(a) whether funds have been sanctioned by the National Highway Authority of India for construction of by-pass and Chambal Rajghat Bridge on NH-3 in Dholpur;

(b) if so, the detail thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether works pertaining to construction of expressway on NH-3 by the NHAI have not yet been completed;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the action taken /proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) to (c) The Dholpur – Madhya Pradesh Rajasthan Border Section of National Highway-3 will be four laned under National Highway Development Project Phase II. Detailed Project Report of the section including bridge on Chambal River and Dholpur bypass is under preparation.

(d) National Highways Authority of India is not constructing any Expressway on National Highway-3.

(e) and (f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### **Supply of Coal to Tea Gardens**

3963. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Ltd. has stopped supply of coal to tea gardens in the country especially located in Assam;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the discontinuation of the supply of coal has affected the production in tea gardens;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO) : (a) and (b) Coal India Limited has informed that the supplies of coal to some of the tea gardens has been discontinued due to the following reasons :-

- (i) non-drawal of coal by the units continuously for a period of more than 12 months, and (ii) due to non-submission of requisite documents, requisitioned by the coal companies for verification of their status.

(c) to (e) The Consultative Committee of Plantation Associations (CCPA) have been informed to advise their member tea gardens to source their requirement of coal by participating in the e-auction. In fact quite a few of them have done so during last e-auction at North Eastern Coalfields (NEC) held on 5.4.2005.

#### **Development and Maintenance of National Highways**

3964. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :  
SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA :  
DR. M. JAGANNATH :  
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK :  
SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA :  
SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA :  
SHRI RANEN BARMAN :  
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL :  
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :  
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :  
LT. COL. (RETD.) MANABENDRA SHAH :  
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :  
SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI :  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :  
SHRI ILYAS AZMI :  
SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA :  
SHRI MOHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be please to state :

(a) whether there is any Centrally sponsored scheme for maintenance, repairing, widening and development of various National Highways in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether proposals have been received from various State Governments for the said works;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) whether there is a need to increase the thickness of the surface of various highways according to IRC standards particularly Highways No. 11 and 12 passing through Jaipur in Rajasthan;

(f) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;

(g) the details of funds allocated for the various works on National Highways during the Ninth Five Year Plan, State-wise; and

(h) the details of funds utilised so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) There is no Centrally Sponsored Scheme for maintenance repairing widening and development of the National Highways. The development and maintenance of National Highways in the country are the responsibility of the Union Government.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) and (f) Improvement comprising, inter alia, increase of crust thickness of National Highways including those of National Highways No-11 and National Highway No-12 is a continuous process and action is taken depending on the traffic volume, condition of the roads, inter-se priority and availability of funds.

(g) and (h) State-wise details of funds allocated and utilized on National Highways during Ninth Five Year Plan is given in the enclosed Statement.

## Statement

Allocation and Utilization of Funds for various works on National Highways during the Ninth Five Year Plan

(Rs in lakhs)

| Sl. No. | Name of States/<br>UTS | 1997-1998  |             | 1998-1999  |             | 1999-2000  |             | 2000-2001  |             | 2001-2002  |             |
|---------|------------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
|         |                        | Allocation | Utilisation | Allocation | Utilisation | Allocation | Utilisation | Allocation | Utilisation | Allocation | Utilisation |
| 1       | 2                      | 3          | 4           | 5          | 6           | 7          | 8           | 9          | 10          | 11         | 12          |
| 1.      | Andhra Pradesh         | 5957.19    | 5200.16     | 4879.82    | 4273.04     | 5707.87    | 3736.50     | 11188.26   | 10792.54    | 10379.70   | 9455.81     |
| 2.      | Assam                  | 1860.80    | 1388.24     | 2661.10    | 1577.99     | 4239.32    | 2769.61     | 5253.64    | 4874.05     | 7605.19    | 7489.83     |
| 3.      | Bihar                  | 1952.00    | 2094.54     | 3417.35    | 3238.60     | 6117.52    | 5950.16     | 6927.56    | 6015.11     | 6532.00    | 4914.62     |
| 4.      | Chandigarh             | 30.00      | 29.20       | 82.00      | 79.82       | 100.00     | 73.93       | 144.00     | 139.57      | 150.00     | 144.62      |
| 5.      | Chhattisgarh           | 0.00       | 0.00        | 0.00       | 0.00        | 0.00       | 0.00        | 1227.80    | 472.08      | 3228.00    | 3228.00     |
| 6.      | Delhi                  | 800.00     | 858.21      | 1400.00    | 1225.54     | 700.00     | 422.13      | 483.00     | 483.00      | 600.00     | 482.25      |
| 7.      | Goa                    | 971.56     | 1003.02     | 1100.00    | 1172.54     | 1700.02    | 1670.19     | 2300.00    | 2138.45     | 2000.00    | 1975.05     |
| 8.      | Gujarat                | 4322.42    | 4916.93     | 6628.54    | 9332.70     | 8851.90    | 8683.39     | 9099.97    | 8675.49     | 7042.71    | 5396.60     |
| 9.      | Haryana                | 10040.00   | 10191.24    | 7588.50    | 6913.16     | 10000.00   | 9046.65     | 10100.00   | 9251.97     | 10388.47   | 10388.46    |
| 10.     | Himachal Pradesh.      | 1700.00    | 1664.94     | 2500.00    | 2500.00     | 4000.00    | 3502.72     | 4415.00    | 3893.44     | 5500.00    | 4415.72     |
| 11.     | Jammu and Kashmir      | 150.00     | 25.00       | 100.00     | 6.15        | 100.00     | 0.91        | 250.00     | 51.59       | 230.00     | 222.73      |
| 12.     | Jharkhand              | 0.00       | 0.00        | 0.00       | 0.00        | 0.00       | 0.00        | 2200.00    | 1188.78     | 3500.00    | 2670.15     |
| 13.     | Karnataka              | 4236.78    | 4085.65     | 3709.01    | 3772.04     | 6113.84    | 6846.09     | 8104.00    | 7553.96     | 10947.56   | 10607.17    |
| 14.     | Kerala                 | 8042.48    | 8182.48     | 7080.16    | 8820.63     | 12837.07   | 10808.59    | 8978.03    | 4390.91     | 9261.56    | 8225.23     |
| 15.     | Madhya Pradesh         | 4657.06    | 4215.68     | 8247.73    | 7932.47     | 12334.80   | 11547.45    | 13472.11   | 12649.59    | 9099.00    | 9242.20     |
| 16.     | Maharashtra            | 8062.43    | 8062.43     | 11382.63   | 11659.74    | 17808.08   | 16661.96    | 21236.20   | 19631.80    | 19371.95   | 17232.97    |

| 1                 | 2 | 3        | 4        | 5        | 6        | 7        | 8        | 9        | 10       | 11       | 12       |
|-------------------|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 17. Manipur       |   | 702.19   | 670.06   | 700.30   | 828.29   | 1014.15  | 894.90   | 851.31   | 535.22   | 1452.59  | 1046.71  |
| 18. Meghalaya     |   | 979.50   | 900.51   | 1060.50  | 911.03   | 1785.28  | 1372.61  | 1708.34  | 1563.01  | 2270.00  | 1694.47  |
| 19. Mizoram       |   | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 300.00   | 282.90   | 1000.00  | 994.51   | 2600.00  | 2167.15  |
| 20. Nagaland      |   | 100.00   | 134.77   | 200.00   | 210.87   | 800.00   | 886.17   | 1500.00  | 1489.52  | 1500.00  | 1496.94  |
| 21. Orissa        |   | 6475.20  | 6417.39  | 9726.82  | 8711.02  | 9228.02  | 9198.17  | 10046.89 | 8496.21  | 7912.70  | 5666.87  |
| 22. Pondicherry   |   | 70.00    | 15.38    | 100.81   | 86.30    | 319.46   | 281.27   | 200.00   | 146.65   | 212.00   | 199.26   |
| 23. Punjab        |   | 5378.88  | 4977.53  | 7148.88  | 7672.10  | 5300.10  | 4233.38  | 5366.00  | 3855.15  | 6413.00  | 5868.47  |
| 24. Rajasthan     |   | 4315.83  | 4521.80  | 4605.81  | 4620.18  | 5214.02  | 4311.94  | 8720.00  | 8403.34  | 8746.00  | 8367.82  |
| 25. Sikkim        |   | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     |
| 26. Tamil Nadu    |   | 2567.92  | 1948.93  | 3921.37  | 3652.38  | 6754.08  | 5348.20  | 10342.21 | 8264.40  | 9739.00  | 9679.28  |
| 27. Tripura       |   | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 50.00    | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     |
| 28. Uttar Pradesh |   | 12535.27 | 11899.20 | 12649.35 | 10722.86 | 12647.45 | 11776.30 | 14949.76 | 13938.81 | 14662.88 | 13368.60 |
| 29. Uttaranchal   |   | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     | 199.35   | 123.88   | 2500.00  | 2102.29  |
| 30. West Bengal   |   | 7335.00  | 7641.38  | 10150.94 | 8394.40  | 8818.02  | 8072.55  | 12800.00 | 10983.46 | 8422.04  | 7785.67  |

*[English]***Amendment in MCI Act**

3965. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to amend the MCI Act 1956; and

(b) if so, by when the bill to amend the Act is likely to be introduced in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (b) Yes Sir. The Government is considering certain amendments to IMC Act 1956 inter alia with a view to make the composition of the Council compact representative in character to improve accountability in its functioning etc. The bill is likely to be introduced shortly.

*[Translation]***Toll Tax on Roads**

3966. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals sent by Government of Rajasthan for construction of roads in Jodhpur District of the State;

(b) the number out of them that has been approved and by when the remaining proposals are likely to be approved;

(c) the details of roads constructed in the above district out of the Central Road Fund;

(d) the details of roads constructed by private companies where toll tax is being charged;

(e) whether the Government proposes to issue directions to do away with the said tax; and

(f) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI

K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) to (c) 17 proposals under Central Road Fund (CRF) Scheme and 7 proposals under National Highways original work were received from the Government of Rajasthan for Jodhpur District. Out of these 15 proposals of Central Road Fund and 4 proposals of National Highway have been approved. Remaining proposals may be taken up depending on the inter-se-priority and availability of funds in subsequent annual plans. 12 approved works of Central Road Fund have been completed.

(d) The work on Bar-Bilara road km 90/0 to 105/0 on State Highway-5 (now declared as National Highway-112) was undertaken on Built Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis by Private Company (M/S Chetak Enterprises Pvt.Ltd. Udaipur) where user fee (toll charge) is being collected.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise. This as per extant policy of the Government.

**Coal royalty**

3967. SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Chhattisgarh has sent any proposal to the Government regarding fixing the rate of royalty prescribed on the basis of rupees per tonne of coal as percentage of the market price of coal;

(b) whether the Planning Commission has also given the similar suggestion to the Government, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Chhattisgarh, the Planning Commission and various other States have recommended fixing the rate of royalty on coal on ad valorem basis.

(c) The Committee constituted in the Ministry in 2000 to consider revision of rates of royalty on coal did not recommend royalty on ad valorem basis. However, the

proposal to fix rates of royalty on ad valorem basis will be examined next at the time of revision of royalty.

#### **Local Call Dialling Facility**

3968. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA :

SHRI MUNSHI RAM :

MOHD. SHAHID :

SHRIMATI ANURADHA CHOUDHARY :

SHRI MOHD TAHIR :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme is under the consideration of the Government to make the telephone facility from metropolitan cities to States through local call dialling;

(b) if so, whether this facility is proposed to be made available in all the States;

(c) if so, by when it is likely to be done;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the States and metropolitan cities between which this facility is being provided; and

(f) the extent to which this facility is likely to benefit the general public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

(e) BSNL has permitted dialling of calls between its cellular subscribers of Tamil Nadu and Chennai and West Bengal and Kolkatta with or without prefixing '0' for the sake of customers' convenience on an experimental basis. These calls are treated as National Long Distance Calls for all purposes of Interconnect Usage Charge (IUC) and Access Deficit Charge (ADC).

(f) BSNL mobile subscribers not having STD facility are able to dial the other BSNL mobile subscribers with in the state.

\*The reply was subsequently corrected through a correcting statement which was laid on the Table of the

House on 24.8.05 and was also placed in Library under No. 2765/2005.

Replies given in respect of part (a) to (d) of the answer may be amended to read as under:

(a) to (d) Sir, Inter Service Area connectivity between access providers in the state of Maharashtra comprising of Mumbai Metro and Maharashtra Telecom Service areas, Tamil Nadu comprising of Chennai Metro and Tamil Nadu Telecom service areas, Kolkata comprising of Kolkata Metro and West Bengal Telecom service areas and Uttar Pradesh comprising of UP East and UP West service areas has been permitted with effect from 20th May 2005. This means that "fixed to mobile and mobile to mobile calls" within the same State will not need '0' to be dialled. Such calls between U.P. and Uttaranchal can also be made in the same way because Uttaranchal is part of U.P. (West) Service area.

#### **PCO at Panchayat Level**

†3969. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether public PCO at panchayat level is the rural areas of the Hayana is not available;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the quality of sets providing by the Government are of low standard;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Village Public Telephone (VPTs) are available in all the inhabited villages (including gram panchayats) having population more than 100 except at those places where VPTs are disconnected due to non-payment of bills by the custodians.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of (c) above.

[Translation]

[English]

#### **Committees for KBK Regions**

3970. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not constituting the committee at central, state and district levels to discuss the problems of the KBK regions since the inception of KBK long-term action plan in Orissa;

(b) whether state level and district level committees ever discussed or consulted the MPs, MLAs and Zilla Parishads of KBK regions,

(c) if not, the reasons for the same;

(d) whether the Government proposes to pursue this issue with the Orissa state to constitute the committees at state and district levels and to include the MPs, MLAs and Zilla Parishads in the said committees; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) : (a) At the Central level, there is an Empowered Committee on Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana headed by the Secretary, Planning Commission which discusses the Special Plan for the KBK districts submitted by the State Government for approval. At the State level, the State Government of Orissa had earlier constituted the State Level Committee, in September, 2000, with a view to monitoring and reviewing the implementation of Revised Long Term Action Plan (RLTAP) for the KBK districts and other developmental activities undertaken in these districts. In order to ensure effective monitoring and review of, as well as to further finetune implementation of RLTAP and developmental activities in the KBK districts, this committee has been reconstituted by the State Government in January, 2005.

(b) to (e) The reconstituted State Level Committee is headed by the Chief Minister of Orissa with Ministers of the State Government, Members of Parliament and MLAs of the KBK region as Members.

#### **Universal Service Obligation Fund**

†3971. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN" :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some years back the Government had set up a universal service obligation fund in order to set up communication system in rural areas in the country;

(b) if so, the sources from which the said fund was raised and the rate thereof;

(c) the average amount collected during each of the last three years under this fund;

(d) the total amount collected under this fund till March, 2005; and

(e) the amount withdrawn from this fund for spending during the years 2003-04 and 2004-05 respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) has been set up under the Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Act, 2003 to provide access to basic telegraph services to people in rural and remote areas at affordable and reasonable prices. The USOF is deemed to have come into effect from 01-04-2002.

(b) USOF has been provided funds from Consolidated Fund of India through Budgetary process on the basis of Universal Service Obligation Levy collected from Telecom Service Providers and deposited into the Consolidated Fund of India. At present, the rate of Universal Service Levy is 5% of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR).

(c) During the financial year 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 Rs. 1653 crore, Rs. 2144 crore and Rs. 3458 crore respectively were collected through USO Levy.

(d) Till March, 2005 Rs. 7255 crore have been collected through USO Levy.

(e) Rs. 200 crore and Rs. 1314.585 crore allocated to USOF have been fully utilized during 2003-04 and 2004-05 respectively.

[English]

#### **Indo-Japan Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement**

3972.SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal for renegotiating the Indo-Japan double taxation avoidance agreement to facilitate Indian IT companies to set up operations in Japan as reported in The Hindu dated January 11, 2005; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) The Central Government is authorised to enter into Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) by virtue of power vested under section 90 of the Income Tax Act, 1961, In exercise of this power a DTAA was entered into by the Government of India with the Government of Japan in 1989 which was notified vide GSR 101(R) dated 1.3.1990. The Government of India and the Government of Japan have decided to renegotiate this Treaty. The process of renegotiation has commenced.

#### **Legislation on AIDS Control**

3973.SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up 'Special treatment centres' for AIDS patients in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to enact legislation on AIDS control in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any other country has implemented such law that is in existence at present; and

(f) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) A total of 25 ART(Anti Retroviral Therapy) Centers are functional in the country as on March, 2005. The details of these Centers functional in the country is enclosed as Statement.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The Lawyers Collective is preparing draft legislation on HIV/AIDS. The same is likely to be submitted to the Ministry of Health by end of this month. After examination of the same, it will be referred to Ministry of Law and Justice before submitting to Parliament.

(e) and (f) HIV related Law exists in many countries such as South Africa, Tanzania, Ukraine, USA, Australia, Austria, Cambodia, Ghana, Namibia, Philippine, Russia, Indonesia etc.

#### **Statement**

##### **Name of ART Centres**

| S.No. | Name of the Centre                 | Name of State  | Effective from |
|-------|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1     | 2                                  | 3              | 4              |
| 1.    | GHTM, Tambaram, Chennai            | Tamil Nadu     | April, 04      |
| 2.    | JJ Hospital, Mumbai                | Maharashtra    | April, 04      |
| 3.    | RIMS, Imphal                       | Manipur        | April, 04      |
| 4.    | Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad | Andhra Pradesh | April, 04      |



| 1   | 2   | 3              | 4            |
|-----|---|----------------|--------------|
| 5.  | RML Hospital, New Delhi                     | Delhi          | April, 04    |
| 6.  | LNJP Hospital, New Delhi                    | Delhi          | April, 04    |
| 7.  | Bowring and Lady Curzon Hospital, Bangalore | Karnataka      | April, 04    |
| 8.  | Naga District Hospital, Kohima              | Nagaland       | April, 04    |
| 9.  | Mysore Medical College, Mysore              | Karnataka      | October, 04  |
| 10. | Karanataka Medical College, Hubli           | Karnataka      | October, 04  |
| 11. | Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital, Imphal           | Manipur        | October, 04  |
| 12. | Government Medical College, Guntur          | Andhra Pradesh | October, 04  |
| 13. | Madras Medical College, Chennai             | Tamil Nadu     | October, 04  |
| 14. | Government Medical College, Madurai         | Tamil Nadu     | January, 05  |
| 15. | Government Medical College, Sangli          | Maharashtra    | October, 04  |
| 16. | Government Medical College, Vizag           | Andhra Pradesh | October, 04  |
| 17. | B.J. Medical College, Pune                  | Maharashtra    | January, 05  |
| 18. | Government Medical College, Nagpur          | Maharashtra    | January, 05  |
| 19. | Government Hospital, Namakkal               | Tamilnadu      | October, 04  |
| 20. | B.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad             | Gujarat        | February, 05 |
| 21. | PGIMER, Chandigarh                          | Punjab         | February, 05 |
| 22. | SMS Hospital, Jaipur                        | Rajasthan      | February, 05 |
| 23. | Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi          | Uttar Pradesh  | March, 05    |
| 24. | Government Medical College, Panaji          | Goa            | March, 05    |
| 25. | School of Tropical Medicine, Kolkatta       | West Bengal    | March, 05    |

#### **International Telemedicine Conference**

3974. SHRI M. SHIVANNA :

SHRI D. VITTAL RAO :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ISRO held an international Telemedicine conference at Bangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Telemedicine is very effective in providing specialised treatment; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to promote Telemedicine in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The International Tele-medicine Conference was held during 17th to 19th of March 2005 at Bangalore. The Conference was attended by over 800 delegates including international delegates.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) ISRO is working with State Governments, speciality hospitals and NGOs to spread the benefits of Telemedicine in the country.

### **Assisted Reproductive Technology in Medical Curriculum**

3975. SHRI LONAPPAN NAMBADAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware that the ART does not form part of the medical curriculum anywhere in India; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or propose to be taken by the Government to include ART in medical curriculum of medical colleges in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### **Shortage of Doctors/Staff in Rural Hospitals**

3976. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware that there is shortage of doctors and staffs in many hospitals in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Government proposes to make it compulsory for doctors to work in rural areas for a minimum/limited period;

(d) if so, whether the Government is also considering to provide staff accommodation/quarters to the doctors and staff attached with Primary Health Centres in the rural areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government is aware of shortage of doctors and other health staff in rural health care institutions in some of the States but the posting and transfer of these health functionaries are done by respective State Governments. Main reasons for this shortage are uneven postings of staff, lack of proper incentives for the health staff posted in difficult terrain/remote areas and vacancies against the sanctioned posts. The vacancy position of doctors in Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Specialists in Community Health Centres (CHCs) and other health staff in these health institutions, is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) At present, Central Government have no proposal to make it mandatory for doctors to work in rural areas for a minimum specified period. However, State/UT Government have taken a number of steps in this regard. There include, first posting in rural areas for 3 years, contractual appointment of doctors, 3 years rural service mandatory for undertaking post-graduate study, incentives like rural area allowance, choice posting after rural tenure, rural posting, pre-requisite for promotion/foreign assignment/training abroad etc. The Government has been advising the State Governments to fill up the vacancies on priority basis.

(d) and (e) Under Reproductive and Child Health Programmes – Phase-II, it is proposed to provide the funds for upgradation and renovation of staff quarters, in a phased manner prioritising the Empowered Action Group (EAG) States i.e. Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal and Orissa.

### **Statement**

#### *Vacany Position at a Glance*

As on September, 2004

| S.No. | State/UT          | ANM | MPW [M] | HA[F]/LHV | HA [M] | MO[PHC] | Specialists | Pharmacists |
|-------|-------------------|-----|---------|-----------|--------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| 1     | 2                 | 3   | 4       | 5         | 6      | 7       | 8           | 9           |
| 1.    | Andhra Pradesh    | 337 | 1013    | 50        | 348    | 360     | 182         | 67          |
| 2.    | Arunachal Pradesh | 0   | 0       | 0         | 0      | 0       | 4           | 0           |
| 3.    | Assam             | 0   | 318     | 146       | 0      | 0       | 0           | 0           |
| 4.    | Bihar             | NA  | NA      | NA        | NA     | NA      | NA          | NA          |
| 5.    | Chhattisgarh      | 463 | 611     | *         | 611    | 56      | 56          | 250         |

| 1                               | 2 | 3    | 4     | 5    | 6    | 7    | 8    | 9    |
|---------------------------------|---|------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 6. Goa                          |   | 17   | 25    | 7    | 7    | 3    | 8    | 1    |
| 7. Gujarat                      |   | 624  | 3016  | 275  | 649  | 158  | 202  | 391  |
| 8. Haryana                      |   | 23   | 382   | 250  | 57   | 0    | 243  | 16   |
| 9. Himachal Pradesh             |   | 420  | 719   | 80   | 52   | *    | NA   | 150  |
| 10. Jammu and Kashmir           |   | 376  | 4     | 58   | 0    | 25   | 134  | 0    |
| 11. Jharkhand                   |   | NA   | NA    | NA   | NA   | NA   | NA   | NA   |
| 12. Karnataka                   |   | 1351 | 2665  | 39   | 465  | 175  | 147  | 545  |
| 13. Kerala                      |   | 0    | 184   | 0    | 18   | 0    | 280  | 32   |
| 14. Madhya Pradesh              |   | 469  | 748   | 128  | NA   | 247  | NA   | NA   |
| 15. Maharashtra                 |   | 333  | 1639  | 279  | 832  | *    | 888  | 201  |
| 16. Manipur                     |   | 0    | 0     | 24   | 28   | 28   | 21   | 23   |
| 17. Meghalaya                   |   | 0    | 0     | 0    | 0    | 10   | 0    | 38   |
| 18. Mizoram                     |   | 3    | 31    | 11   | 11   | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| 19. Nagaland                    |   | 0    | *     | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| 20. Orissa                      |   | 353  | 1519  | 25   | 8    | 0    | NA   | 56   |
| 21. Punjab                      |   | 315  | 1175  | 70   | 40   | 60   | 0    | 38   |
| 22. Rajasthan                   |   | 258  | 1440  | 10   | 224  | 199  | 223  | 20   |
| 23. Sikkim                      |   | 1    | *     | 3    | 0    | 10   | 16   | 4    |
| 24. Tamil Nadu                  |   | 273  | 830   | 455  | 651  | 632  | 0    | 153  |
| 25. Tripura                     |   | *    | 236   | *    | 35   | 11   | 0    | *    |
| 26. Uttaranchal                 |   | 31   | 155   | 4    | 135  | 464  | 32   | 0    |
| 27. Uttar Pradesh               |   | 1036 | 3348  | 407  | 1651 | NA   | NA   | NA   |
| 28. West Bengal                 |   | 1286 | 2523  | 499  | 946  | 241  | 177  | 207  |
| 29. Andaman and Nicobar Islands |   | 0    | 26    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 8    | 0    |
| 30. Chandigarh                  |   | 0    | 0     | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| 31. Dadra and Nagar Haveli      |   | 0    | 0     | 0    | 3    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| 32. Daman and Diu               |   | 0    | 0     | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| 33. Delhi                       |   | 13   | 8     | 4    | 7    | 0    | 0    | 1    |
| 34. Lakshadweep                 |   | 0    | 0     | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| 35. Pondicherry                 |   | 0    | 3     | 5    | 5    | 0    | *    | 5    |
| All India                       |   | 7982 | 22618 | 2829 | 6783 | 2679 | 2621 | 2198 |

Notes: Figures are provisional.

NA : Not Available.

\*: Surplus.

[Translation]

### **Alleged Suicides in AIIMS**

3977. SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA :  
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :  
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the increasing number of alleged suicides at the country's Premier Medical Institute, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of suicide cases during the last one year;

(c) whether the Government proposes to constitute a committee to look into the working conditions of doctors and research students in the Institute as reported in the Hindu dated March 15, 2005;

(d) if so, the facts thereof including the time by when the committee is likely to be constituted;

(e) the reasons behind the high suicide rate in the Institute;

(f) whether there was a proposal to expand the department of AIIMS under a mega project;

(g) if so, the present status thereof;

(h) whether the Government has received proposals with AIIMS authorities regarding counseling services and stress management workshops for doctors, working in the institute; and

(i) if so, the measure taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (i) In All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), during the last one year three suicide cases including one patient and one attempt to suicide have been reported. The Government has constituted an one man enquiry committee under Dr. S.P. Aggarwal, DGHS on 10.2.2005 to look into the circumstances leading to suicide/attempt to suicide and to submit its report within three months. In order to prevent recurrence of such incidents, the AIIMS has taken the following steps :

1. Names of two faculty members one senior and one junior to act as Counsellors for students and

resident doctors of the concerned department were invited.

2. The Departmental Counsellors for students/ resident doctors/Ph.D students have been circulated to all MBBS students and all Senior and Junior Residents (Academic) and Ph.D students on 9.4.2005.
3. To conduct the stress management workshops for MBBS students on the first day during August every year i.e. on the date of joining by new batch of MBBS students. Follow up after one month for the same.
4. The stress management workshop for MBBS for Junior Residents/Senior Residents (Academic) and Ph.D students in each academic semesters in July and January for the new Resident Doctors/Ph.D students.
5. Training or counselors nominated for each department by the Department of Psychiatry, AIIMS, New Delhi.
6. Inclusion of psychiatrists in Medical Boards from July session 2005 onwards for new batches.

### **Torture of Indians Abroad**

3978. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDEWAL :  
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :  
DR. M. JAGANNATH :

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Indian girl has been brutally tortured by her Malaysian employer as reported in the Hindustan Times dated March 15, 2005;

(b) if so, whether frequent reports of Indians being tortured and framed in false cases abroad have come to the notice of the Government;

(c) if so, the details of such cases reported during the last two years, country-wise;

(d) the steps taken by the Government for the safety of these workers;

(e) whether a large number of agricultural labourers are migrating to Iraq despite harsh conditions there;

(f) if so, the total number of such workers who have migrated so far; and

(g) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against agencies who engage in sending workers to Iraq illegally?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIANS AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) The report that had appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 15.03.2005 has been confirmed by the High Commission of India in Kuala Lumpur.

(b) From time to time complaints, including those relating to torture etc., are received.

(c) During 2003 and 2004, twenty-five and thirty-nine complaints were received respectively. Country-wise data is not maintained.

(d) The working conditions of Indian migrant labourers overseas have been under continuous review. Government is aware of ill treatment of migrant labourers in many cases. The steps taken and under consideration include;

- i. Interventions in individuals cases by/through our Missions and local community organisations;
- ii. Signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the concerned countries to enable Government authorities on both sides to intervene in cases of extreme hardship; and
- iii. Suggestion to provide legal aid to migrant workers.

(e) and (f) Government is not aware of any reports of agricultural labourers migrating to Iraq.

(g) In view of reports that Indian emigrants were entering Iraq illegally through Kuwait, Jordan etc., instructions were issued on 02.08.2004 for stamping the passports as -"NOT VALID FOR TRAVEL FOR IRAQ"- by the POEs while granting emigration clearance. In addition, advisories have been issued by the Government and the Indian Missions advising Indians from entering Iraq in view of the continuing unstable situation there.

#### **Irregularities in Purchase of Medicines**

3979.SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO :

SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV :

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

(a) whether large scale irregularities and administrative mismanagement have been found in the purchase of medicines of C.G.H.S. Dispensaries/Government Hospitals;

(b) if so, the number of case detected pertaining to

purchase of substandard medicines for the said dispensaries and hospitals during the last two years, till date and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to bring about improvement in functioning of the C.G.H.S. Dispensaries/Hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and would be laid on the table of the Sabha.

#### **Opening of Medical Universities in Tribal Areas**

3980.SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to open Medical Universities on priority basis in the tribal dominated districts in order to provide medical facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure proper implementation of health facilities in the tribal dominated areas;

(d) whether the work on the Ayurveda Sansthan near the tribal Garhchiroli district of Maharashtra is lying pending; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (b) There is no specific proposal to open medical university by the Central Government in the tribal dominated districts. It is for the State Government concerned to take the necessary action for establishment of Medical University in the State as well as provide the required medical facilities.

(c) Under the scheme of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana, Central Government has proposed to set up AIIMS-type institutions and also to upgrade the facilities available in the existing medical colleges in under-served areas in terms of availability of medical infrastructure, high incidence of mortality and morbidity, inadequate facilities for super speciality services etc. in the tribal dominated States of Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand.

(d) No such proposal is pending with the Central Government.

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

**Blindness Control Programme**

3981. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a country-wide programme is being implemented to control blindness;

(b) if so, the details of progress made under the said programme in various States of the country, especially in Bihar;

(c) the details of funds allocated by the Government to each State including Bihar and the amount spent by them for the said purpose, so far; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for proper implementation of the said programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of Cataract Operations performed during the last three years under National Programme for Control for Blindness in the country including the State of Bihar is enclosed as Statement-I.

(c) The details of funds released under National Programme for Control of Blindness State wise and

expenditure reported by the State Government is enclosed as Statement-II.

(d) For the proper implementation of the programme the following strategies have been adopted :-

1. Strengthening of District Blindness Control Society/State Blindness Control Society in each District/State.
2. Decentralization of recurring grant to Eye Banks/ Eye Donation Centres.
3. Imparting training to eye surgeons in modern cataract surgery and other specialized techniques.
4. Setting up of vision centers in rural areas of Primary Health Centres.
5. Enhancing capacities for eye care services in public sectors of providing assistance to hospital in various levels.
6. Screening of school children for detection of refractive errors and providing free glass to poor children.
7. Performing cataract operations with 80% IOL implantation.

**Statement-I****National Programme for Control of Blindness Performance of Cataract Surgery**

| Sl. No.             | State             | 2002-2003 |            | 2003-2004 |            | 2004-2005* |            |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
|                     |                   | Target    | Achivement | Target    | Achivement | Target     | Achivement |
| 1                   | 2                 | 3         | 4          | 5         | 6          | 7          | 8          |
| <b>Major States</b> |                   |           |            |           |            |            |            |
| 1.                  | Andhra Pradesh    | 350000    | 404002     | 350000    | 443091     | 400000     | 457069     |
| 2.                  | Bihar             | 140000    | 63927      | 140000    | 87876      | 100000     | 86182      |
| 3.                  | Chhattisgarh      | 80000     | 56451      | 80000     | 64196      | 80000      | 84388      |
| 4.                  | Goa               | 7000      | 5294       | 7000      | 5497       | 7000       | 5913       |
| 5.                  | Gujarat           | 400000    | 436740     | 400000    | 449234     | 450000     | 490205     |
| 6.                  | Haryana           | 110000    | 90665      | 110000    | 104375     | 110000     | 75239      |
| 7.                  | Himachal Pradesh  | 16000     | 16226      | 16000     | 18343      | 16000      | 14059      |
| 8.                  | Jammu and Kashmir | 13000     | 11553      | 13000     | 10712      | 13000      | 7663       |
| 9.                  | Jharkhand         | 70000     | 29544      | 70000     | 28054      | 70000      | 30000      |
| 10.                 | Karnataka         | 220000    | 244699     | 220000    | 263613     | 250000     | 239802     |
| 11.                 | Kerala            | 90000     | 83345      | 90000     | 79696      | 100000     | 74127      |

| 1                           | 2 | 3       | 4       | 5       | 6       | 7       | 8       |
|-----------------------------|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 12. Madhya Pradesh          |   | 240000  | 224049  | 240000  | 233870  | 250000  | 220646  |
| 13. Maharashtra             |   | 420000  | 480356  | 420000  | 519561  | 500000  | 537256  |
| 14. Orissa                  |   | 130000  | 81619   | 130000  | 82652   | 130000  | 80712   |
| 15. Punjab                  |   | 160000  | 122670  | 160000  | 133376  | 160000  | 137270  |
| 16. Rajasthan               |   | 220000  | 188747  | 220000  | 226829  | 230000  | 260033  |
| 17. Tamil Nadu              |   | 400000  | 371559  | 400000  | 452650  | 440000  | 478826  |
| 18. Uttar Pradesh           |   | 450000  | 551516  | 450000  | 567718  | 450000  | 466147  |
| 19. Uttranchal              |   | 100000  | 34703   | 100000  | 37105   | 60000   | 34641   |
| 20. West Bengal             |   | 220000  | 233382  | 220000  | 249895  | 220000  | 181028  |
| Total                       |   | 3836000 | 3731047 | 3836000 | 4058343 | 4036000 | 3961206 |
| <b>North Eastern States</b> |   |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| 1. Arunachal Pradesh        |   | 1000    | 532     | 10000   | 664     | 1000    | 776     |
| 2. Assam                    |   | 45000   | 20889   | 45000   | 23063   | 45000   | 9809    |
| 3. Manipur                  |   | 2000    | 722     | 2000    | 553     | 2000    | 604     |
| 4. Meghalaya                |   | 2000    | 824     | 2000    | 1283    | 2000    | 827     |
| 5. Mizoram                  |   | 800     | 733     | 800     | 796     | 800     | 859     |
| 6. Nagaland                 |   | 500     | 400     | 500     | 429     | 500     | 365     |
| 7. Sikkim                   |   | 1000    | 376     | 1000    | 253     | 1000    | 241     |
| 8. Tripura                  |   | 8000    | 8270    | 8000    | 8098    | 8000    | 5186    |
| Total                       |   | 60300   | 32746   | 60300   | 35139   | 60300   | 18667   |
| <b>UTs</b>                  |   |         |         |         |         |         |         |
| 1. Andaman and Nicobar      |   | 500     | 530     | 500     | 693     | 500     | 739     |
| 2. Chandigarh               |   | 5500    | 5560    | 5500    | 6320    | 5500    | 5748    |
| 3. Dadra and Nagar Haveli   |   | 330     | 500     | 330     | 250     | 330     | 2       |
| 4. Daman and Diu            |   | 350     | 372     | 350     | 372     | 350     | 305     |
| 5. Delhi                    |   | 80000   | 73391   | 80000   | 79994   | 80000   | 60764   |
| 6. Lakshadweep              |   | 20      | 8       | 20      | 87      | 20      | 1       |
| 7. Pondicherry              |   | 7000    | 7397    | 7000    | 9969    | 70000   | 9885    |
| Total                       |   | 93700   | 87758   | 93700   | 97685   | 93700   | 77444   |
| E.S.I., A.F., C.R.          |   | 10000   | 5582    | 10000   | 6442    | 10000   | 4950    |
| Grand Total                 |   | 4000000 | 3857133 | 4000000 | 4197609 | 4200000 | 4062267 |

\*Provisional

**Statement-****National Programme for****Expenditure of States/UTs as Cash.**

|              |                   | 2002-2003   |        |                           |         |        |               |            |             |       |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------|--------|---------------------------|---------|--------|---------------|------------|-------------|-------|
| Sl. No.      | States/UTs        | Cash Grants |        | GIA to DBCS/<br>SBCS/NGOs |         | Kind   | Total Release | Total Exp. | Cash Grants |       |
|              |                   | Release     | Exp.   | Release                   | Exp.    |        |               |            | Release     | Exp.  |
| 1            | 2                 | 3           | 4      | 5                         | 6       | 7      | 8             | 9          | 10          | 11    |
| Major States |                   |             |        |                           |         |        |               |            |             |       |
| 1.           | Andhra Pradesh    | 523.30      | 262.00 | 211.06                    | 244.43  | 100.46 | 834.82        | 606.89     | 261.30      | 15.00 |
| 2.           | Bihar             | 41.30       | 0.00   | 91.50                     | 32.53   | 25.17  | 157.97        | 57.70      | 41.30       | 10.00 |
| 3.           | Chhattisgarh      | 37.80       | 28.03  | 70.00                     | 102.45  | 57.43  | 165.23        | 187.91     | 9.77        | 10.00 |
| 4.           | Goa               | 5.00        | 7.80   | 0.00                      | 1.31    | 5.52   | 10.52         | 14.63      | -2.80       | 5.00  |
| 5.           | Gujarat           | 41.60       | 10.30  | 127.48                    | 155.67  | 62.37  | 231.45        | 228.34     | 31.30       | 15.00 |
| 6.           | Haryana           | 12.80       | 60.70  | 0.21                      | 49.80   | 32.35  | 45.36         | 142.85     | -47.90      | 10.00 |
| 7.           | Himachal Pradesh  | 8.00        | 1.14   | 23.22                     | 24.08   | 32.89  | 54.11         | 48.11      | 6.86        | 10.00 |
| 8.           | Jammu and Kashmir | 8.00        | 69.07  | 26.14                     | 9.89    | 32.65  | 66.79         | 111.61     | -61.07      | 10.00 |
| 9.           | Jharkhand         | 20.10       | 0.00   | 64.03                     | 16.19   | 34.44  | 118.57        | 50.63      | 20.10       | 10.00 |
| 10.          | Karnataka         | 42.90       | 27.63  | 308.53                    | 118.34  | 16.87  | 368.30        | 162.84     | 15.27       | 20.00 |
| 11.          | Kerala            | 10.00       | 9.67   | 93.12                     | 88.25   | 50.10  | 153.22        | 148.02     | 0.33        | 10.00 |
| 12.          | Madhya Pradesh    | 177.80      | 238.00 | 362.90                    | 145.04  | 126.59 | 667.29        | 509.63     | -60.20      | 15.00 |
| 13.          | Maharashtra       | 201.50      | 82.48  | 191.50                    | 94.00   | 234.15 | 627.15        | 410.63     | 119.02      | 15.00 |
| 14.          | Orissa            | 123.80      | 103.28 | 169.00                    | 148.26  | 32.00  | 324.80        | 283.54     | 20.52       | 15.00 |
| 15.          | Punjab            | 14.10       | 0.00   | 50.04                     | 8.17    | 125.11 | 189.25        | 133.28     | 14.10       | 10.00 |
| 16.          | Rajasthan         | 125.40      | 77.76  | 305.00                    | 188.81  | 96.53  | 526.93        | 363.10     | 47.64       | 15.00 |
| 17.          | Tamil Nadu        | 425.43      | 251.97 | 1076.48                   | 1385.86 | 151.12 | 1653.03       | 1788.95    | 173.46      | 15.00 |
| 18.          | Uttar Pradesh     | 383.57      | 185.37 | 494.94                    | 616.26  | 184.69 | 1063.20       | 986.32     | 198.20      | 15.00 |



#

*Control of Blindness**Kind GIA to DBCS/SBCS/NGOs*

| 2003-2004                  |         |        |                  |               | 2004-2005*  |       |                           |        |        |                  |               |
|----------------------------|---------|--------|------------------|---------------|-------------|-------|---------------------------|--------|--------|------------------|---------------|
| GIA/to DBCS/<br>SBC/S/NGOs |         | Kind   | Total<br>Release | Total<br>Exp. | Cash Grants |       | GIA/to DBCS/<br>SBCS/NGOs |        | Kind   | Total<br>Release | Total<br>Exp. |
| Release                    | Exp.    |        |                  |               | Release     | Exp.  | Release                   | Exp.   |        |                  |               |
| 12                         | 13      | 14     | 15               | 16            | 17          | 18    | 19                        | 20     | 21     | 22               | 23            |
| (Rs. in lakhs)             |         |        |                  |               |             |       |                           |        |        |                  |               |
| 335.92                     | 253.23  | 99.51  | 696.73           | 367.74        | 21.50       | -6.50 | 252.98                    | 312.94 | 37.67  | 312.15           | 344.11        |
| 220.12                     | 11.46   | 27.88  | 289.30           | 49.34         | 0.00        | 10.00 | 17.00                     | 2.87   | 16.62  | 33.62            | 29.49         |
| 116.00                     | 121.16  | 60.59  | 186.36           | 191.75        | 10.00       | 0.00  | 175.00                    | 141.93 | 35.24  | 220.24           | 177.17        |
| 13.25                      | 3.04    | 9.84   | 20.29            | 17.88         | 2.68        | 2.32  | 3.00                      | 0.00   | 2.79   | 8.47             | 5.11          |
| 279.07                     | 42.06   | 83.38  | 393.75           | 140.44        | 15.00       | 0.00  | 293.47                    | 303.00 | 110.26 | 418.73           | 413.26        |
| 77.76                      | 17.39   | 60.14  | 90.00            | 87.53         | 0.00        | 10.00 | 99.84                     | 32.63  | 47.41  | 147.25           | 90.04         |
| 66.25                      | 87.93   | 21.97  | 95.08            | 119.90        | 0.00        | 10.00 | 0.00                      | 3.22   | 91.64  | 91.64            | 104.86        |
| 59.25                      | 2.43    | 25.25  | 23.43            | 37.68         | 14.82       | -4.82 | 0.00                      | 0.51   | 38.95  | 53.77            | 34.64         |
| 128.75                     | 44.00   | 22.54  | 171.39           | 76.54         | 0.00        | 10.00 | 67.00                     | 32.29  | 1.35   | 68.35            | 43.64         |
| 411.89                     | 288.97  | 219.86 | 647.02           | 528.83        | 23.23       | -3.23 | 396.18                    | 425.32 | 5.51   | 424.92           | 427.60        |
| 167.98                     | 128.68  | 75.63  | 243.94           | 214.31        | 7.46        | 2.54  | 115.44                    | 114.54 | 14.38  | 137.28           | 131.46        |
| 386.82                     | 221.43  | 55.34  | 381.96           | 291.77        | 15.00       | 0.00  | 581.63                    | 706.50 | 33.29  | 629.92           | 739.79        |
| 404.50                     | 263.52  | 104.43 | 627.95           | 382.95        | 12.86       | 2.14  | 271.62                    | 165.68 | 32.60  | 317.08           | 200.42        |
| 248.25                     | 815.97  | 38.93  | 307.70           | 869.90        | 4.80        | 10.20 | 105.67                    | 246.60 | 68.19  | 178.66           | 324.69        |
| 103.50                     | 18.45   | 23.05  | 140.65           | 51.50         | 0.00        | 10.00 | 0.00                      | 1.06   | 11.63  | 11.63            | 22.69         |
| 238.75                     | 289.86  | 74.26  | 360.65           | 379.12        | 0.00        | 15.00 | 350.00                    | 386.61 | 16.51  | 366.51           | 418.12        |
| 1417.55                    | 1314.80 | 62.74  | 1653.75          | 1392.54       | 0.00        | 15.00 | 997.82                    | 988.31 | 16.82  | 1014.64          | 1020.13       |
| 759.83                     | 465.08  | 226.61 | 1184.64          | 706.69        | 0.00        | 15.00 | 406.18                    | 489.00 | 228.82 | 635.00           | 732.82        |

| 1               | 2 | 3       | 4       | 5       | 6       | 7       | 8       | 9       | 10     | 11     |
|-----------------|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| 19. Uttranchal  |   | 35.00   | 41.30   | 65.00   | 79.17   | 15.02   | 115.02  | 135.49  | -6.30  | 10.00  |
| 20. West Bengal |   | 40.30   | 13.60   | 182.27  | 45.12   | 82.55   | 305.12  | 141.27  | 26.70  | 15.00  |
| Total           |   | 2277.70 | 1470.10 | 3912.42 | 3553.63 | 1488.01 | 7678.13 | 6511.74 | 807.60 | 250.00 |

**North Eastern States**

|                      |       |       |        |       |       |        |        |        |       |
|----------------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
| 1. Arunachal Pradesh | 4.00  | 19.53 | 10.12  | 20.55 | 2.10  | 16.22  | 42.18  | -15.53 | 4.00  |
| 2. Assam             | 5.35  | 3.81  | 30.27  | 27.32 | 0.08  | 35.70  | 31.21  | 1.54   | 10.00 |
| 3. Manipur           | 4.00  | 0.00  | 11.85  | 0.17  | 4.28  | 20.13  | 4.45   | 4.00   | 4.00  |
| 4. Meghalaya         | 4.00  | 11.41 | 11.84  | 6.22  | 9.28  | 25.12  | 26.91  | -7.41  | 4.00  |
| 5. Mizoram           | 9.35  | 5.61  | 18.32  | 8.68  | 4.05  | 31.72  | 18.34  | 3.74   | 4.00  |
| 6. Nagaland          | 4.00  | 4.00  | 16.62  | 7.35  | 2.60  | 23.22  | 13.95  | 0.00   | 4.00  |
| 7. Sikkim            | 4.50  | 3.00  | 15.74  | 0.00  | 0.32  | 20.56  | 3.32   | 1.50   | 3.00  |
| 8. Tripura           | 6.00  | 23.34 | 21.51  | 18.27 | 12.37 | 39.88  | 53.98  | -17.34 | 6.00  |
| Total                | 41.20 | 70.70 | 136.27 | 88.56 | 35.09 | 212.56 | 194.35 | -29.50 | 39.00 |

**UTs**

|                                |       |       |       |       |      |       |       |        |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| 1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 1.50  | 0.00  | 0.00  | 1.90  | 0.09 | 1.59  | 1.99  | 1.50   | 3.00  |
| 2. Chandigarh                  | 1.50  | 2.28  | 5.00  | 4.06  | 3.57 | 10.07 | 9.91  | -0.78  | 3.00  |
| 3. Dadra and Nagar Haveli      | 1.50  | 0.38  | 1.50  | 3.34  | 1.16 | 4.16  | 4.88  | 1.12   | 2.00  |
| 4. Daman and Diu               | 3.00  | 0.00  | 1.00  | 1.60  | 0.97 | 4.97  | 2.57  | 3.00   | 2.00  |
| 5. Delhi                       | 0.00  | 20.51 | 21.34 | 18.74 | 0.96 | 22.30 | 40.21 | -20.51 | 10.00 |
| 6. Lakshadweep                 | 1.50  | 1.22  | 0.00  | 0.24  | 0.06 | 1.56  | 1.52  | 0.28   | 2.00  |
| 7. Pondicherry                 | 1.50  | 3.90  | 0.00  | 0.31  | 0.54 | 2.04  | 4.75  | -2.40  | 1.50  |
| Total                          | 10.50 | 28.29 | 28.84 | 30.19 | 7.35 | 46.69 | 65.83 | -17.79 | 23.50 |

Central Cell

525.06 525.06

|             |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |        |        |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| Grand Total | 2329.40 | 1569.09 | 4077.53 | 3672.38 | 1530.44 | 8462.43 | 7296.97 | 760.31 | 312.50 |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|

\*Provisional

| 12      | 13      | 14      | 15      | 16      | 17     | 18     | 19      | 20      | 21     | 22      | 23      |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|
| 87.50   | 54.17   | 41.13   | 122.33  | 105.30  | 42.74  | -32.74 | 32.00   | 29.73   | 2.14   | 78.88   | -0.87   |
| 303.75  | 45.22   | 67.24   | 397.69  | 127.46  | 0.00   | 15.00  | 11.49   | 142.38  | 73.14  | 84.63   | 230.52  |
| 5826.69 | 4488.85 | 1400.32 | 8034.61 | 6139.17 | 170.09 | 79.91  | 4176.32 | 4525.12 | 884.96 | 5231.37 | 5489.99 |

|        |       |       |        |        |       |        |       |        |       |        |        |
|--------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|--------|
| 10.63  | 6.54  | 19.41 | 14.51  | 29.95  | 10.05 | -6.05  | 37.50 | 34.72  | 4.15  | 51.70  | 32.82  |
| 89.50  | 26.48 | 7.59  | 98.63  | 44.07  | 0.00  | 10.00  | 17.52 | 8.35   | 19.53 | 37.05  | 37.88  |
| 21.15  | 0.00  | 2.69  | 27.84  | 6.69   | 0.00  | 4.00   | 0.00  | 0.00   | 3.94  | 3.94   | 7.94   |
| 14.90  | 8.68  | 14.49 | 21.98  | 27.17  | 10.20 | -6.20  | 35.00 | 20.44  | 1.89  | 47.09  | 16.13  |
| 13.38  | 14.03 | 7.75  | 24.87  | 25.78  | 9.35  | -5.35  | 0.00  | 24.29  | 1.88  | 11.23  | 20.82  |
| 10.50  | 11.89 | 0.68  | 11.18  | 16.57  | 30.18 | -26.18 | 0.00  | 0.00   | 4.75  | 34.93  | -21.43 |
| 6.25   | 0.00  | 7.11  | 14.86  | 10.11  | 2.06  | 0.94   | 0.00  | 0.00   | 1.35  | 3.41   | 2.29   |
| 36.50  | 16.19 | 12.21 | 31.37  | 34.40  | 28.03 | -22.03 | 0.00  | 18.97  | 12.44 | 40.47  | 9.38   |
| 202.81 | 83.81 | 71.93 | 245.24 | 194.74 | 89.87 | -50.87 | 90.02 | 106.77 | 49.93 | 229.82 | 105.83 |

**UTs**

|         |         |         |         |         |         |       |         |         |        |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|
| 3.50    | 0.00    | 0.80    | 5.80    | 3.80    | 0.00    | 3.00  | 1.00    | 1.20    | 0.33   | 1.33    | 4.53    |
| 6.38    | 1.23    | 10.20   | 15.80   | 14.43   | 0.00    | 3.00  | 4.05    | 4.30    | 0.53   | 4.58    | 7.83    |
| 3.50    | 3.25    | 2.37    | 6.99    | 7.62    | 0.09    | 1.91  | 0.00    | 0.00    | 0.00   | 0.09    | 1.91    |
| 3.50    | 0.23    | 0.21    | 6.71    | 2.44    | 2.23    | -0.23 | 0.00    | 0.00    | 0.19   | 2.42    | -0.04   |
| 22.77   | 2.48    | 16.09   | 18.35   | 28.57   | 2.33    | 7.67  | 32.43   | 5.97    | 1.96   | 36.72   | 15.60   |
| 3.50    | 2.28    | 0.54    | 4.32    | 4.82    | 0.00    | 2.00  | 3.00    | 0.00    | 0.45   | 3.45    | 2.45    |
| 6.38    | 2.03    | 5.22    | 9.20    | 8.75    | 4.10    | -2.60 | 3.00    | 8.72    | 0.01   | 7.11    | 6.13    |
| 49.53   | 11.50   | 35.43   | 67.17   | 70.43   | 8.75    | 14.75 | 43.48   | 20.19   | 3.47   | 55.70   | 38.41   |
| 214.70  |         |         |         | 214.70  | 3203.21 |       |         |         |        |         |         |
| 6079.03 | 4584.16 | 1507.68 | 8561.71 | 6619.03 | 268.71  | 43.79 | 4309.82 | 4652.08 | 938.36 | 8720.10 | 5634.23 |

*[English]***Decongestion of Major Ports**

3982.SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the various steps taken by the Government for de-congestion of the major ports in the country such as JNPT, Chennai Port Trust etc.;

(b) the total budgetary outlay/financial projects made for de-congestion of major ports during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(c) the total budgetary amount sanctioned *vis-à-vis* spent on the works for decongestion of major ports during the last three years; and

(d) the extent of success achieved in this regard, port-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Major Ports are on the whole well equipped to handle the export-import traffic. Instances of congestion were however witnessed at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust and Chennai Port Trust during the preceding year. Effective steps initiated by these ports to deal with congestion include mobilization of additional equipments like Reach Stackers, Tractor-Trailers, etc. Ports have also identified separate area for staking the containers and generated additional storage space. Steps for faster clearance of the cargo are initiated in consultation with private parties to ensure en-block movement of containers and clear the congestion.

(b) to (d) No amount is specifically earmarked for taking steps for decongestion in the major ports. Various steps are undertaken for enhancing the capacity of the ports, ensuring better connectivity with the rail and road, etc. Total budgetary allocation for the development of major ports and the actual expenditure made for the last three years are as under :—

|           | Budget Estimates<br>in Rs. crores | Actual Rs. in<br>cores |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2002-2003 | 902.12                            | 478.96                 |
| 2003-2004 | 914.89                            | 303.83                 |
| 2004-2005 | 735.91                            | 320.56                 |

Investment made by the major ports and Government in development of the infrastructure and augmentation of capacity of ports have contributed significantly to the increased efficiency of these ports.

**Projects under CRF in Karnataka**

3983.SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka had sent proposals/projects to be taken up in Davangere, Karnataka under the Central Road Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds sanctioned/released to Karnataka under the Central Road Fund to Davangere in 2004-05;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the funds for the projects are likely to be sanctioned/released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Six Central Road Fund (CRF) proposals for Davangere district costing Rs. 2.40 crore have been received from the State Government of Karnataka. These have been approved for Rs. 2.40 crore during the year 2004-05. Funds for sanctioned CRF works are released from time to time based upon Utilisation Certificates furnished by the State Government.

[Translation]

**Decline in development activities of UN**

3984. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH :

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of India has urged that the UN needs to bring more balance in tune with the requirements of the developing countries;

(b) if so, whether this suggestion was made by the Indian Foreign Secretary while delivering his keynote address on the report of the UN Secretary General's high level panel on threats, challenges and change;

(c) if so, the various other suggestions put forward by the Indian representative in his address;

(d) the extent to which they were accepted and incorporated in the UN Secretary's report;

(e) whether the Union Government has expressed its concern over the decline in the developmental activities of the UN;

(f) if so, whether India believes that attention should be focused on the entire gamut of UN institutional reforms including expansion of the Security Council; and

(g) if so, the reaction of the UN in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH) : (a) to (c) At the Panel Discussion on the report of the UN Secretary General's High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change, organized by the Indian Council of World Affairs on December 30, 2004 in his key note address, the Foreign secretary highlighted the need to bring greater balance in the UN's priorities in order to reflect the concerns of the majority of its membership. He also emphasized India's interest in all aspects of UN reform and touched upon a number of issues including the need for institutional

reforms, improvement in the working methods of the UN, democratization in decision making, effective multilateralism and according priority to development and universal nuclear disarmament.

(d) The UN Secretary General's report released on March 21, 2005 draws upon the reports of the High Level Panel on 'Threats, Challenges and Change', the United Nations Millennium Project, 2005 and the discussions on these reports in the UN among member States. India had actively participated in these discussions. The Secretary General's report, inter alia, recommends fixing a time-table for reaching the target of 0.7% of GDP for ODA, greater debt relief and completion of the Doha Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations by 2006.

(e) In the discussions at the UN, the Indian delegation has highlighted the diminishing of developmental activities of the UN over the recent years.

(f) and (g) India maintains that attention should be focused on the entire gamut of UN institutional reforms including expansion of the Security Council. Discussions on these issues are currently underway at the UN.

[English]

**Pending Proposal for Release of  
Commemorative Stamp**

3985. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for the release of a commemorative stamp in the name of Martyrs Sidhu and Kanu, the leaders of the great revolt of 1857, is pending before the Government; and

(b) if so, the time by when the said commemorative stamp will be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A commemorative postage stamp in honour of Sidhu and Kanu has already been released by the Department on 06-04-2002.

#### **Use of unsafe injections**

3986.SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether unsafe injections in India account for 50 percent of Hepatitis B and C cases and one-fourth HIV infections in the country each year; and

(b) if so, the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to stop the use of unsafe injections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) The unsafe injection practices increases the risk of blood borne diseases like Hepatitis B, Hep "C" HIV infection etc. As the INCLEN study the potential risk of blood borne disease is 31.6% because of unsafe injection practices.

(b) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have decided to introduce AD (Auto-disabled) syringes for the Universal Immunization programme in the country. These syringes cannot be reused and hence chances of transmission of Blood Borne Infections (viz. Hepatitis B, C and HIV) are minimized.

*[Translation]*

#### **Dropsy Cases**

3987.SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that during the last few years several children have lost their lives in the country due to dropsy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has taken any measures to prevent the dropsy cases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected from the State/UT Governments and would be supplied after receipt.

*[English]*

#### **Pay and Perks of Government Officials**

3988.SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been conducted to assess the pay and perks of Government officials vis-a-vis those in the comparable posts in private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government proposes to undertake such a study to rationalise and arrive at the realistic level pertaining to pay and perks for Government employees in SYNC with prevailing international trend and practice; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHAURI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Fifth Central Pay Commission has conducted a study through Management Development Institute (MDI) Gurgaon to assess the pay and perks of Government official vis-a-vis those in private sector.

(b) The details of the study undertaken in this regard are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

**Statement**

The conclusion of the study undertaken by the Management Development Institute are as under :

1. The Secretary to the Government of India, on an average, costs his employer around half of what a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) costs his employer in the private sector. The average cost of a CEO in the private sector is Rs. 1,02,255 p.m. For a Secretary, it comes to Rs. 44,817.
2. Besides an average basic salary (including DA + CCA) of Rs. 23,030, the CEO in the private sector draws an incentive pay of Rs. 14,752 which works out to 65% of the basis salary. The Secretary to the Government of India does not get any payment of this nature.
3. CEO's in the private sector enjoy a little more than their basic salaries in the form of housing and car benefits. These including house with furnishing allowance, house maintenance, telephone, driver, car maintenance, insurance, road tax, petrol, etc. In some cases portion of expenditure on housing and car is given in cash on reimbursement basis. The Secretary also enjoys housing and car benefits but not of commensurate value.
4. In addition, a CEO in the private sector draws sundry allowances such as books and periodicals, to memberships, credits cards, LTC, medical entertainment, services and amenities, servants etc. to the tune of Rs. 12645 p.m. which is nearly 50% of his basic salary. As regards the Secretary to the Government of India, he is entitled to some medical benefits and LTC by rail only, which may be valued at Rs. 2700 or 16% of the basic salary.
5. In the private sector, CEOs are increasingly being given superannuation benefits which are significantly better than the pension entitlements available to the Secretaries.
6. The annual increase in the compensation to a CEO in the private sector enterprise is 30 to 35%, while the increase permitted to the Secretary is marginal (in the range of 8-9%). If the trend continues, the gap between compensations allowed to CEOs and Secretaries will increase dramatically over time.
7. The structure of the compensation package of a Head of Department in the private sector is similar to that of his CEO, but the differential in the quantum of remuneration is wide. An HOD gets about 40% lesser than his CEO. However in Government the differential between the emoluments of a Secretary and a Joint Secretary is very little. At the HOD level, private organizations are very liberal with designations but conservative with regard to compensations. While an HOD has approximately 8-10 years of experience, a Joint Secretary has already spent 16 to 22 years in service.
8. Though the average compensation package of entry level executives in the private sector may be lower than in the Government, in some cases entry level executives reach a compensation level that is nearly two times the compensation at the highest level available in Government of India, within a short span of time. This is primarily because of performance-related rewards available in the private sector.
9. In the private sector, performance criteria are well laid down and salaries are revised annually. Those performing better than others are given accelerated increments and promotions.
10. Amongst the non-executives in the private sector it is observed that there is a high degree of

flexibility and multiple functionality. For instance, a typist also performs the role of a telephone operator, stenographer, a PA or an assistant. Similarly, a Peon/Messenger is asked to work as a driver as also attend to other errands like making and serving tea.

11. Annual pay is revised in such a manner for non-executives that the rate of increment includes both the components i.e. inflation adjustment and reward for performance.
12. In the private sector, there are many employee-friendly link parameters. For example, attendance/shift allowance, transport for family members, picnic, free gifts on the occasions of important festivals etc.
13. Salaries are deliberately structured in the private sector so that an employee is able to save on income tax. A significant component of the pay packet in the private sector is that of cash allowances, which are given to them on "reimbursement" basis in order to avoid payment of income tax. Some of these could also be termed as malpractices. Similar methods are not possible in the Government where there is more transparency and rigorous system of auditing. The study has suggested exemption of Government employees from income tax or reduction of their tax burden.
14. The number of holidays in the private sector is far less than that in the Government. But the duration of working hours and working days is much greater. In practice, there are no standard hours of work.
15. Government may consider introduction of a fast track for promotions. Some of the appointments could be made on contract basis.
16. In certain sectors in Government, linkage between performance and compensations could be easily established, as these are departmentally run commercial or service undertakings.

[Translation]

#### **New National Highways in Uttaranchal**

3989.SHRI K.C. SINGH "BABA" : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Uttaranchal has sent the proposals to the Union Government for construction of new National Highways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action being taken by the Union Government on these proposals; and
- (d) the time by which these proposals are likely to be given the clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI. K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) In February 2004, the Ministry had declared 7457 Kms. of State roads as National Highways for the country. Thereafter, no proposal for declaration of new National Highways has been received from the Government of Uttaranchal.

- (b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

#### **Collection of Toll Tax**

3990.SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Toll Bridge between Tumkur and Nelamangala National Highway is collecting Toll tax for both ways within 24 hours;
- (b) whether it is in violation of the guideline for collecting Toll tax for one way from a vehicle which is passing through within 24 hours;
- (c) whether there is any check in this regard;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;



(e) whether there is any plan to construct a separate lane for the slow moving vehicles to avoid accidents and congestion; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

(e) and (f) For local and slow moving vehicles there is a provision in this section, for construction of service road in 8.5 km length out of which 7.2 km length has already been constructed. Balance length of the service roads will be taken up at the earliest.

[Translation]

#### Scarcity of Coal in UP

3991.SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is scarcity of coal in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the demand made by the Uttar Pradesh Government; and

(c) the quantity of coal supplied in U.P. against the demand during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO) : (a) Government of Uttar Pradesh has projected scarcity of coal for Brick (BRK) Sector.

(b) Based on the demand made by Government of U.P., in addition to supplies already being made, 0.5 million tones of coal was agreed to be allocated for U.P. for the consumption of brick sector, to be lifted during February to May '05, before onset of monsoon season, i.e. June' 05. But, inspite of offer having been made by CIL, Government Agency, duly appointed by Government of U.P. has not yet approached for lifting the above allocated quantity.

(c) The quantity of coal supplied to U.P. to various consuming vectors during each of the last 3 years is as under :

(Fig. In '000 tonnes)

| Year    | Power | Cement | Fert/<br>Fert.<br>CPP | Brick<br>(Spon-<br>sored) | Others | Total |
|---------|-------|--------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------|-------|
| 2002-03 | 40273 | 7      | 316                   | 875                       | 10421  | 51892 |
| 2003-04 | 41187 | 72     | 362                   | 1054                      | 7886   | 50561 |
| 2004-05 | 42759 | 87     | 355                   | 125                       | 8403   | 51729 |

[English]

#### Land Acquisition for Road Sector

3992.DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received three proposals namely land acquisition for bypass at Tinsukia, survey of Dibrugarh by-pass as well as strengthenig and Geometric improvement at Km. 638 and Km. 689 at Dhola area of NH-37; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, showing date of receive of the proposal, total outlay, date of sanction and achievement made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) and (b) The details is respect of the proposals mentioned abvoe are given below:

- (i) The proposal for land acqisition for bypass at Tinsukia though received in June, 2004 could not be processed as it did not find place in Annual Plan 2004-05.
- (ii) Proposal for survey for Dibrugarh bypass, has not been received in the Ministry.
- (iii) Proposal for strengthening and geometric improvement at km 638 has not been received.
- (iv) Proposal in respect of strengthening and geometric improvement covering km 689 was

received in December, 2004 on which some clarification had been called for from the State PWD. Since the clarifications are yet to be received, it is difficult to indicate the outlay and other details at this stage.

#### **Homoeopathic Remedies for Treatment of Animals**

3993. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Homeopathic Colleges in the country impart knowledge of Homeopathic remedies for the treatment of animals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to include homeopathic treatment for animals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The Homoeopathic medicines are being proved on health human beings not for animals.

(d) Homoeopathic treatment is given both on subjective and objective symptoms. In case of animals, subjective symptoms cannot be recorded. However, legally there is no bar in using homoeopathic medicines for animals.

#### **Protocol for Prevention of Kidney Failure**

3994. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware that a Chennai based Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) has developed a replicable and effective low-cost affordable protocol for prevention of kidney failure;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to help the NGO and the kidney patients for easy and affordable treatment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) A Committee has been constituted by the Hon'ble Delhi High Court (as per the judgment dated 6.9.2004 in W.P. No. 813/2004) to review the provisions of the Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994 and the Transplantation of Human Organs Rules, 1995. The Hon'ble Delhi Court has since granted extension of time limit upto 30.4.2005 to the Committee to submit its report. The recommendations, of the said Committee, inter-alia, on the steps to be taken to help the kidney patients for easy and affordable treatment, are awaited.

#### **Fund for Telecom Services in West Bengal**

3995. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the fund allocated for providing telecom services in West Bengal for each of the last three years and the current financial year, district-wise;

(b) whether the telecom circles have achieved their targets;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the expenditure incurred thereon;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) time by which the target is likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) The details of the fund allocated, SSA-wise/District-wise for providing Telecom Services in West Bengal for last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-I. Budget Allotment for the current financial year is yet to be firmed up. However, the circle

has been authorised to incur upto 1/6<sup>th</sup> of the previous year allotment for the first two months.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The targets have been achieved in West Bengal for the two years ending 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2004 cumulatively. The year wise achievement of targets for the year 2004-05 is being firmed up and the provisional figures are indicated below :—

| Sl.No. | Year      | Target | Achievement | Exp. (cr)                     |
|--------|-----------|--------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| 1.     | 2202-03*  | 279000 | 356211      | 644.52                        |
| 2.     | 2003-04*  | 417000 | 371171      | 464.55                        |
| 3.     | 2004-05** | 883700 | 629609      | 368.22<br>(upto Feb.<br>2005) |

\* The cumulative achievement of 727382 Direct Exchange Lines (DELS) for the two years i.e. 2002-03 and 2003-04 have exceeded the targets of 696000 DELS.

\*\*The achievement shown for the year 2004-05 is provisional.

(d) There is a shortfall in achievement of Fixed lines and WLL Connections in the year 2004-05, due to disconnections and non availability of Fixed Wireless Terminals equipments owing to court case and stay granted by the court against procurement.

(e) Advance actinos for procureemnt of CMTS equipments have been taken and equipments would be made available during the year 2005-06 to achieve the targets.

#### **Statement**

*SSA/District/Year wise details of funds allocated for providing Telecom Services in West Bengal*

(Amount in Crores of Rupees)

| Sl. No. | Name of SSA/ District | Year 2002-03 | Year 2003-04 | Year 2004-05 |
|---------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1       | 2                     | 3            | 4            | 5            |
| 1.      | Asansol               | 9.64         | 4.11         | 9.31         |
| 2.      | Burdwan               | 9.64         | 14.82        | 17.11        |

| 1     | 2                | 3      | 4      | 5      |
|-------|------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 3.    | Berhampore       | 16.2   | 8.21   | 9.09   |
| 4.    | Bankura          | 14.23  | 8.13   | 10.27  |
| 5.    | Kolkata          | 54.8   | 39.14  | 74.19  |
| 6.    | Coochbehar       | 5.46   | 3.91   | 4.64   |
| 7.    | Durgapur         | 9.64   | 8.41   | 5.29   |
| 8.    | Gangtok          | 8.25   | 4.3    | 5.13   |
| 9.    | Jalpaiguri       | 11.77  | 5.61   | 4.55   |
| 10.   | Kharagpur        | 28.04  | 19.87  | 36.19  |
| 11.   | Krishnagar       | 19.17  | 13.57  | 12.33  |
| 12.   | Malda            | 6.23   | 7.6    | 8.55   |
| 13.   | Purulia          | 5.25   | 2.73   | 6.31   |
| 14.   | Raigunj          | 7.59   | 3.95   | 4.35   |
| 15.   | Siliguri         | 14.91  | 7.84   | 3.07   |
| 16.   | Suri             | 11.87  | 7      | 11.73  |
| 17.   | Kolkata City     | 212.24 | 174.95 | 267.89 |
| 18.   | CMTS and Others* | 125.77 | 83.62  | 164.81 |
| Total |                  | 570.7  | 417.77 | 654.81 |

\*Allotment under CMTS is for West Bengal Circle as a whole

#### **Modern Facilities of Treatment to Poor Patients**

3996.SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI :  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :

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

(a) whether Government is aware that poor people particularly from rural and distant places have to travel to capital cities of their respective States and also to Delhi for treatment of serious ailments;

(b) if so, whether the Government has any proposal to make special allocation for strengthening district and

State level hospitals with all modern facilities for the benefit of the poor patients;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government has taken any steps to pay special attention to provide medical facilities in rural areas;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether any steps have taken to modify the Primary Health Centres and the Community Health Centres in this regard; and

(h) if so, the efforts made by the Government to provide uniform medical facilities to urban and rural people during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government seeks to set up 6 AIIMS like institutions all over the country, and upgrade 7 existing State institutions to AIIMS like facility, to improve availability of tertiary healthcare services. District and State level hospitals are being strengthened under the State Health System Development Project and various Donor funded Programmes like Reproductive and Child Health Programme. NACO and National Programme for Control of Blindness.

(d) No applicable.

(e) to (g) Yes Sir, a National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) has been launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 12.4.2005 for the entire country, with special focus on 18 States. The NRHM aims at strengthening primary level health care facilities in rural areas. It proposes to upgrade 2000+ Community Health Centres to Indian Public Health Standard (IPHS) in a phased manner. It also seeks to provide Mobile Medical Units to improve outreach services in remote areas.

(h) A significant contribution has been made towards providing uniform facilities in urban and rural

areas through the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme. Under RCH an amount of Rs. 10.00 lakh per district has been released to all the States for undertaking minor repairs and maintenance of buildings, especially for operation theatre, labour room etc.

[Translation]

#### **Censor on Exchange of Information**

3997.SHRI SITA RAM YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to censor the exchange of information through e-mail, chat and websites since it is posing as a security threat to the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

[English]

#### **National Symposium on Chemical Sciences**

3998.SHRI D. VITTAL RAO : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has organized a national symposium on 'Future challenges in Chemical Sciences'; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

### **Implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes**

3999.SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for implementation of centrally sponsored schemes; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) : (a) and (b) Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) are formulated by the Central Ministries/Departments, in consultation with the State Governments/Union Territories and are implemented eventually by the State Governments/Union Territories/their agencies. The modality in respect in the implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes are worked out by the concerned implementing Ministries/Departments of Central Government. These schemes are monitored by the administrative Ministries concerned. The Planning Commission reviews the implementation of Plan Schemes through the system of Quarterly Performance Review and during the Annual Plan discussions with the State Governments/Union Territories.

[Translation]

### **Resources for Space Plans**

4000.SHRI SURAJ SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a decline in the selection of space scientists and research programmes during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, the number of scientists selected in space department and criteria prescribed for the same along with the number of scientists who participated in the World level research subjects/programmes during the last three years;

(d) whether lack of resources have affected space plans during the last two years; and

(e) if so, the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 659 Scientists/Engineers have been recruited in the Department of Space(DOS)/Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) during the last three years. Programmatic needs from time to time and suitability with regard to the relevant qualification for appointment such as B.Tech./M.Sc./M.Tech./Ph D are the essential criteria for selection. DOS/ISRO is involved in world class research and development of Launch Vehicles, Satellites and Applications, to which all the Scientists/Engineers contribute.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

### **Low Cost Access to Space**

4001.SHRI RAJENDER KUMAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ISRO is exploring methods of gaining low cost access to space for improving competitiveness in the area; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) ISRO has two operational launched viz., the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, PSLV for launching remote sensing satellites into Polar orbit and Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle, GSLV for launching communication satellites into Geosynchronous transfer orbit, which are cost competitive. Further, development of GSLV-MK III has been taken up targeting substantial reduction in cost of access to space.

### **Indian Institute of Biotechnology In Gujarat**

4002.SHRI HARILAL MADHAVAJI BHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received a proposal from the State Government of Gujarat to establish a Indian Institute of Biotechnology; and

(b) if so, the response of the Union Government in this regard and other details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Department of Biotechnology has not received any proposal from the Gujarat Government for establishment of an Indian Institute of Biotechnology. However, in the January, 2002 the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat had written to the then Hon'ble Minister for HRD and S and T for the same purpose. Hon'ble Minister of HRD and S and T in his reply had requested the State Government to organise a meeting between the officials and experts of the State Government and the Centre. The said meeting is yet to be organised.

#### **Renovation of Khadi Gramodyog Bhawans and Bhandars**

4003. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has proposed any plan for renovation of Khadi Gramodyog Bhawans and Bhandars throughout the country in a phased manner;

(b) if so, the details of major sales outlets of KVIC identified for upgradation and computerization; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the makeover the KVIC outlets so as to attract the customers?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The major sales outlets of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) identified for modernisation include the Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan, New Delhi; Gramshilpa, New Delhi and Khadi Gramodyog Bhawan, Kolkata.

(c) The steps taken include renovation/modernisation of selected Khadi Gramodyog Bhawans,

computerized billing and accounting, bar coding of products, new Khadi Bharat logo sign board, improved showcasing for product display, special counters for branded products and designer garments, training to selected salespersons, launching of "Khadi", "Desi Aahar" and "Sarvodaya" brands for village industries products, etc.

#### **Children the Newest Victims of HIV**

4004. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware that under the age of fourteen, children are the newest victim of HIV as reported in the latest sentinel surveillance report of the Andhra Pradesh AIDS control society as appeared in the 'Deccan Chronicle' dated March 3, 2005;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to generate awareness among the young folks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

The HIV sentinel surveillance in Andhra Pradesh was done by National AIDS Control Organization as part of National sentinel surveillance during July – September 2004. As such, children below 15 years age are not including in this sentinel surveillance.

(c) Under the National AIDS Control Programme-II, National AIDS Control Organisation through its State AIDS Control Societies conducts the School AIDS Education programme through its module 'Learning for Life' in a co-curricular manner in IX and XI classes for secondary and higher secondary schools. The module was designed in a consultative process by experts from NACO, NCERT, UNESCO, and UNICEF. The focus is on age and culture appropriate information such that apart from raising awareness on HIV, it also helps young people develop life skills such as resisting peer pressure, saying no, decision making, etc. towards a safe and responsible lifestyle. The activities at the school level include, Training of Teachers and Peer Educators, a nodal teacher – peer educator approach among students, participatory activities like role plays, discussions, debates, competitions, question box

and access to referral services, if necessary. Efforts are also made to integrate HIV/AIDS prevention education content into the regular curriculum (text books) and also in Pre-Service/In-Service Teachers training manual. All this is done in close collaboration with the education authorities under the leadership of Ministry of Human Resource Development.

#### **Expansion of Telecom Services**

4005.SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Internet has rendered Defence and Civil infrastructure susceptible to accidental and unintentional disruption;

(b) if so, the steps taken to prevent such eventuality;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up any mechanism to monitor security aspects resulting from the expansion of tele-communication services; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Assistance from Development Partners**

4006.SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to discontinue taking developmental assistance from bilateral development partners, other than Japan, UK, Germany, USA, EC and Russian Federation;

(b) if so, the NGOs, autonomous organizations and Universities in India which have been included/likely to be included for development assistance in the year 2005-2006; and

(c) the details of assistance received through UN and multilateral development agencies in the form of external assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH) : (a)

Government of India had reviewed the policy of bilateral development cooperation and decided that bilateral development assistance will be accepted from all G-8 countries, namely, United States of America, United Kingdom, Japan, Germany, France, Italy, Canada and Russian Federation as well as the European Commission. Bilateral development assistance from the countries of the European Union outside the G-8, which provide a minimum bilateral aid package (of US\$ 25 million per annum) to India, is also acceptable.

(b) Non-Governmental organizations (NGOs), autonomous organizations and Universities are eligible to receive development assistance. However, external assistance to these organizations will be covered by the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976.

(c) Details of the external assistance received through UN and multilateral development agencies during 2004-05 are as follows :

(Rs. in crores)

| S.No. | Name of the organisation   | 2004-05 |
|-------|--|---------|
| 1.    | International Development Agency (IDA) of the World Bank                       | 4549.51 |
| 2.    | International Bank for Reconstruction and Development of the World Bank (IBRD) | 3655.42 |
| 3.    | Asian Development Bank   | 2107.29 |
| 4.    | International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)                         | 24.89   |
| 5.    | United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)   | 32.96   |
| 6.    | United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)                                    | 42.74   |

[Translation]

#### **Post-Offices as Multi-Purpose Service Centres**

†4007.SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether post offices would soon start functioning as multi-purpose-services centres where people would be

able to deposit electricity bills, telephone bills and various taxes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said services are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) Post offices are already functioning as multi-purpose service centres where people can deposit electricity bills, telephone bills and various taxes provided a biller requires such facilities from the Post office and signs an agreement for collection of payment on their behalf on payment of service charges to the Post Office.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

[English]

#### **Science and Engineering Council R and D Programme**

4008.DR. K. DHANARAJU : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of projects under the Science and Engineering Research Council R and D Programmes

|  |   |     |          |   |                 |
|--|---|-----|----------|---|-----------------|
| Physical Sciences                            | – | 33  | Projects | – | Rs. 6.2 crores  |
| Chemical Sciences                            | – | 77  | Projects | – | Rs. 13.5 crores |
| Life Sciences                                | – | 100 | Projects | – | Rs. 16.5 crores |
| Engineering Sciences                         | – | 90  | Projects | – | Rs. 10.2 crores |
| Earth, Atmospheric and Mathematical Sciences | – | 30  | Projects | – | Rs. 4.7 crores  |
| Centres of Excellence                        | – | 12  | Projects | – | Rs. 23.0 crores |
| Nanoscience                                  | – | 35  | Projects | – | Rs. 20.0 crores |

SERC supports various types of activities which include project support to scientists, core groups and centres of excellence, national research facilities and programmes for quality manpower development.

The performance of the R and D activities is continuously monitored through various Programme Advisory Committees (PAC) and Monitoring Workshops. Major

sanctioned during the year 2003-04 and their details, discipline-wise and also allocation of fund made for each project;

(b) whether any monitoring has been done about the outcome of already sanctioned projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the achievements/outcomes of these projects has been brought to the benefit and knowledge of general public;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) to (f) The Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC) which is composed of eminent scientists, technologists drawn from various Universities/National Laboratories and industries is an apex body through which the Department of Science and Technology promotes R and D programmes in newly emerging and frontier areas of science and engineering. About 377 R and D project costing approximately Rs. 94.1 crores had been sanctioned as detailed below :

projects are evaluated through specially constituted Expert Committees including on-site monitoring. These rigorous monitoring mechanisms generate development of appropriate models of methodology for implementation of the R and D projects.

Significant achievements have been made in supporting these basic R and D projects. These are brought out



regularly in appropriate Publications covering research highlights and through News Letter.

#### **Genes Causing Obesity in Rats**

4009.SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian and U.S. scientists are working together to find genes that cause obesity specially in breed super fat sumo rats;

(b) if so, whether they have come to any conclusion in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (d) According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Indian and US scientists have

agreed to work together on an Indo-US collaborative study on "localization and cloning of obesity gene in WNIN mutant rat" (WININ/Ob). The said collaborative study is yet to be initiated.

#### **Road and Rail Connectivity to various Ports**

4010.SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to strengthen road and rail connectivity to various ports to ensure quick evacuation of cargoes etc.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Augmentation of road and rail connectivity to the Ports is an ongoing process depending on the traffic requirements. The details of road and rail connectivity projects are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### **Statement**

##### *Road Connectivity to Major Ports*

| S.No. | Name of Port  | Scope of Work   | Likely completion date   |
|-------|---|---|--|
| 1     | 2   | 3   | 4  |
| 1.    | Kandla NH-8A (Samakhlyali Gandhidham Road Project Pkg.-I) | Four laning of km 306-324   | Completed  |
|       | NH-8A (Samakhlyali Gandhidham Road Project Pkg.-II)       | Four laning of km 324-346   | Completed  |
|       | NH-8A (Samakhlyali Gandhidham Road Project Pkg.-III)      | Four laning of km 346-362.160   | Completed  |
| 2.    | Mumbai  | (A) 700 M port road at Wadala across salt pans to truck terminus road at a cost of Rs. 30 Crores. Port to contribute Rs. 15 crores and balance by State Government<br><br>(B) Anik Panjarpole Link-New road connecting the truck terminus road to the Eastern Express way. Total cost Rs. 140 crores and port's share @ 25%. Balance is to be borne by State Government | (A) Land acquisition is in progress<br><br>(B) Proposal to be completed by 2007. |

| 1                               | 2  | 3 | 4  |
|---------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 3. Jawaharlal Nehru Port        | Phase-I<br>Four laning of NH-4B from km 5/000 to km 26/987 and km 0/000 to km 4/440 and four laning of NH-4 from km 106/000 to km 109/500<br>Phase-II<br>Four laning of SH-54 from km 6.400 – 14.550 and construction of four lane Aamra Marg including six lane major bridge across Panvel Creek (Belapur-Gavanphata – 6.202 km) in Maharashtra State |   | April, 2005<br><br>May, 2007   |
| 4. Mormugao                     | Four laning of NH-17B from Verna Junction on NH-17 to Mormugao Port  |   | 13 km completed during June, 2004.   |
| 5. New Mangalore                | Four laning of NH-17 (Suratkal-Nantur section), NH-48 (Padil-Bantwal section) and a bypass from Nantur junction on NH-17 to Padil junction on NH-48  |   | Work is yet to be allotted. The anticipated completion time is 30 months from date of commencement                           |
| 6. Cochin                       | Four laning of NH-47 from km 348/382 to km 358/750   |   | August, 2006   |
| 7. Tuticorin                    | Four laning of NH-7A from km 4/000 to km 51/200  |   | August, 2006   |
| 8. Chennai and Ennore and<br>9. | Chennai – Ennore Port Connectivity Project – Chennai Ennore Expressway including sea protection work, TPP Road, Inner Ring Road, Manali Oil Refinery Road  |   | October, 2005 for Sea Projection work along Ennore Expressway only; likely completion for the entire project- December, 2007 |
| 10. Vishakapatnam               | Vishakhapatnam Port connectivity   |   | December, 2005   |
| 11. Paradip                     | Four laning of NH-5A from km 0/0 to km 77/0  |   | February, 2007   |
| 12. Kolkata Port                | Four laning of km 0/500 to km 52/700 of Kolaghat-Haldia section of NH-41 in the State of West Bengal   |   | June, 2006   |

#### *Rail Connectivity to Major Ports*

- Mumbai Port:** Connected to Indian Railways at Raoli Junction, Wadala. Feasibility study is being conducted for construction of 5.5 kms new line dedicated from Wadala to Kurla.
- Jawaharlal Nehru Port:** Connected to Panvel by a single line Railway track. Doubling of this track at a cost of Rs. 60 crores is in progress and likely to be completion by December, 2005.
- Cochin Port:** Connected to Southern Railway. Rail link to Vallarapadam is to be executed in time with commissioning of the terminal, by 2008, through establishment of Special Purpose Vehicle after approval of the appropriate authorities.
- New Mangalore Port:** Hassan-Mangalore Railway Development Co.Ltd, a Special Purpose Vehicle has been formed to undertake gauge conversion of the Hassan-Mangalore line.

5. **Paradip Port:** Port is connected to the Howrah-Chennai Trunk line by a single line section with Cuttack, which is being doubled. The work on Haridaspur-Paradip rail link is yet to commence. The work has been entrusted to Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL). Work on Jakhapur-Bansapani rail link is in progress and is likely to be completed by December, 2005. Second Mahanadi Bridge is also under construction to be completed by end 2007. Doubling of Cuttack-Paradip line to be completed by September, 2005.
6. **Kandla Port:** There is dual gauge rail connectivity upto the Port gates. Gandhidham-Palanpur gauge conversion is under progress through Kutch Railway Company Ltd. Port has signed MOU with Ministry of Railways for conversion of existing Samakhiali-Palanpur line.
7. **Ennore Port:** Feasibility study has been conducted for rail connectivity between Ennore Port and main line of railways. Proposal for Rail link between Puttur-Attipattu to facilitate iron-ore traffic from Bellari Hospet to Ennore Port is under consideration.
8. **Visakhapatnam Port:** Proposal for doubling of Rayagada-Titlagarh-Raipur line and electrification of Vizayanagram-Raipur line is being considered.
9. **Tuticorin Port:** Port is connected by BG with major cities like Tirunelveli in the west, Nagercoil and Trivendram in the south and Mudurai, Trichi, Chennai and Bangalore in the north.
10. **Kolkata Port:**  
  
Kolkata Dock System (KDS) : KDS is connected to main trunk line at Dankuni via Dankuni-Sealdah-Majerhat link.  
  
Haldia Dock Complex (HDC) : HDC is connected to South Eastern Railway via Panskura. Railways have undertaken doubling of Panskura-Rajgoda section in the first phase. Doubling of Rajgoda-Durgachak line is to be undertaken in the next phase.
11. **Mormugao Port:** Port is connected to the South Western Railway and the Konkan Railway Network. A

new line between Kulem-Gunji to eliminate bottle-neck for rail operation at Braganza Ghat section is being considered.

12. **Chennai Port:** Port is well connected with railway network and as per port the existing connectivity is adequate as substantial volume of coal has been shifted to Ennore and iron-ore handling will be transferred to Ennore in 2008.

#### **Violation of Human Rights for Labourers in Gulf Countries**

4011.SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that civil liberties and basic human rights of the Indian labourers in UAE are blatantly restricted under the guise of ensuring regular labour force for the employers;

(b) if so, whether the Government is also aware that an enactment to this effect is being made by UAE providing for punishment of the labourers who leave the sponsoring company's job before the agreed term;

(c) if so, whether complaints have been received by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard and the steps being taken to protect the basic human rights of the Indian labourers in Dubai and other such Gulf countries;

(e) Whether the Government is contemplating to take up this issue with any International Human Rights Forums; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) No, Sir. The recruitment and movement of labourers of all Nationalities in UAE is governed by the Labour and Immigration laws of the Government of UAE.

(b) No move to amend the existing laws has come to notice.

- (c) No such complaint has been received.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) No. Sir.
- (f) Does not arise.

#### **Import of Second Hand Capital Goods**

4012. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government has imported second hand capital goods;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the import of second hand telecom capital goods has affected quality of services;
- (d) if not, the logic behind it;
- (e) the value of second hand telecom capital goods imported during the last three years so far; and

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) to (f) Telecom capital goods including second hand telecom capital goods required for the provision of telecom services are imported by the telecom service providers and not by the Government. As per the Foreign Trade Policy, import of second hand capital goods, including refurbished/reconditioned spares have been allowed freely.

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has notified regulations on Quality of Service (QoS) for various services specifying the minimum standards of QoS parameters and the services provided by Telecom Service Operators are monitored by TRAI with reference to above parameters. TRAI brings out quarterly report regarding QoS rendered by various service providers. As per report of TRAI, there is no nexus between use of second hand capital goods and level of Quality of Service.

The data for the imported second and telecom capital goods is not separately maintained by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, who are responsible for maintenance of import data.

#### **Village Public Telephones**

4013. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

- (a) the state-wise number of village public telephones provided during each of the last two years;
- (b) the target fixed in this regard during the year 2005;
- (c) the district-wise number of VPTs provided in Chhattisgarh during each of the last two years; and
- (d) the assistance being provided by the Government to the private companies which have come forward for installing village public telephones in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) The circle wise number of Village Public Telephones Provided during each of the last two years is given in the enclosed Statement-I

(b) Village Public Telephone target for the year 2004-05 was fixed at 5980 for BSNL.

(c) The district wise number of VPTs provided in Chhattisgarh during each of the last two years is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) Agreements have been signed with the six private Service Providers for providing subsidy towards Operation and Maintenance of 9185 VPTs installed by them. So far a sum of Rs. 8.32 crores has been disbursed to these Service Providers from the Universal Service Obligation Fund.

#### **Statement-I**

*Circle-wise number of Village Public Telephones  
Provided by BSNL during the last two years*

| Sl.No. | Name of Circle      | 2002-03 | 2003-04 |
|--------|---------------------|---------|---------|
| 1      | 2                   | 3       | 4       |
| 1.     | Andaman and Nicobar | 1       | 0       |
| 2.     | Andhra Pradesh      | 0       | 0       |
| 3.     | Assam               | 1,007   | 1,354   |

| 1                     | 2      | 3     | 4 |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|---|
| 4. Bihar              | 9,061  | 0     |   |
| 5. Jharkhand          | 9,197  | 634   |   |
| 6. Gujarat            | 0      | 0     |   |
| 7. Haryana            | 0      | 0     |   |
| 8. Himachal Pradesh   | 205    | 2     |   |
| 9. Jammu and Kashmir  | 177    | 537   |   |
| 10. Karnataka         | 6      | 0     |   |
| 11. Kerala            | 0      | 0     |   |
| 12. Madhya Pradesh    | 0      | 4     |   |
| 13. Chhattisgarh      | 248    | 0     |   |
| 14. Maharashtra       | 0      | 0     |   |
| 15. North East-I      | 389    | 847   |   |
| 16. North East-II     | 135    | 907   |   |
| 17. Orissa            | 5,078  | 318   |   |
| 18. Punjab            | 0      | 0     |   |
| 19. Rajasthan         | 0      | 0     |   |
| 20. Tamil Nadu        | 0      | 0     |   |
| 21. Uttar Pradesh (E) | 6,651  | 35    |   |
| 22. Uttar Pradesh (W) | 0      | 0     |   |
| 23. Uttaranchal       | 1,627  | 99    |   |
| 24. West Bengal       | 3,147  | 0     |   |
| 25. Calcutta          | 0      | 0     |   |
| 26. Delhi             | 0      | 0     |   |
| Total                 | 36,929 | 4,737 |   |

**Statement-II**

*District-Wise VPTs Provided by BSNL in  
Chhattisgarh during the last two years*

| Sl. No. | Name of Circle | 2002-03 | 2003-04 |
|---------|----------------|---------|---------|
| 1       | 2              | 3       | 4       |
| 1.      | Baster         | 0       | 0       |

| 1     | 2            | 3   | 4 |
|-------|--------------|-----|---|
| 2.    | Dantewada    | 0   | 0 |
| 3.    | Banker       | 0   | 0 |
| 4.    | Bilaspur     | 86  | 0 |
| 5.    | Korba        | 12  | 0 |
| 6.    | Champa       | 25  | 0 |
| 7.    | Durg         | 0   | 0 |
| 8.    | Kawardha     | 0   | 0 |
| 9.    | Rajnandgaon  | 0   | 0 |
| 10.   | Raigarh      | 0   | 0 |
| 11.   | Jashpurnagar | 0   | 0 |
| 12.   | Raipur       | 78  | 0 |
| 13.   | Mahasamund   | 34  | 0 |
| 14.   | Dhamtari     | 13  | 0 |
| 15.   | Sarguja      | 0   | 0 |
| 16.   | Koria        | 0   | 0 |
| Total |              | 248 | 0 |

**Spread of Diseases**

4014.SHRI B. MAHTAB : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the States where diseases like Filaria, Malaria and Encephalitis are spreading rapidly;

(b) whether the Government has sent any team of experts for spot study of situation during the recent past;

(c) if so, the findings of the said team;

(d) the central assistance given to each State to combat these diseases during the last three years and the current year so far; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to control these diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) Filaria is a chronic disease endemic in 20 States and Union Territories. There is no report of rapid spread of filaria to newer areas in recent years.

As per the provisional reports received from State Health authorities, annual incidence of malaria for the country has declined in 2004 to 1.73 million cases as against 1.86 million in 2003. Incidence of Japanese encephalitis is also reported to have declined to 1695 in 2004 as against 2568 in 2003.

However, marginal increase in malaria incidence has been reported from Gujarat, Haryana, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tripura, Chandigarh and D and N Haveli. Increase in incidence of Japanese encephalitis was reported only in Assam, Bihar and West Bengal.

(b) and (c) Central teams visit different States to provide on the spot technical support to the States for effective control of vector borne diseases. In recent past, teams have visited Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Punjab. The teams have reviewed the situation and identified areas requiring priority actions which include :—

- Strengthening of surveillance which is inadequate mostly due to large number of vacancies among key functionaries like health workers, laboratory technicians and supervisors, to ensure early diagnosis and prompt treatment.
- Expansion and strengthening access to medicines through network of Drug Distribution Centres and Fever Treatment Depots.
- Strengthening integrated vector control through indoor insecticide spray, larvivorous fish, insecticide treated nets and environmental methods.

Strengthening intersectoral collaboration, IEC activities and social mobilization.

(d) The central assistance to States includes cash as well as commodities like medicines, insecticides etc. as

per approved policies. The programme implementation is the responsibility of the State Governments. The State-wise central assistance provided is given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) A National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) covering control programme for Malaria, Filaria, Kala-azar, Dengue, Japanese Encephalitis with 3 ongoing centrally sponsored schemes namely National Anti Malaria Programme, National Filaria Control Programme and Kala-azar Control Programme is being implemented since October, 2003. The Government of India provides assistance in the form of insecticides, larvicides, and drugs for treatment of these diseases to all the States. In addition, North Eastern States and UTs are also provided cash assistance to meet the operational cost for implementation of the programme. 100 Districts covering 1045 PHCs in 8 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Orissa and Gujarat are also being provided 100% cash assistance to meet the operational cost for implementation of the programme under World bank assisted Enhanced Malaria Control Project Under this project cash assistance is also provided to other states for training and IEC activities.

The strategies for prevention and control of these vector borne disease include :—

- Early diagnosis and prompt treatment
- Integrated vector control through indoor residual insecticide spray, anti-larval operations including use of larvivorous fish and environmental management and personal protection by use of insecticide treated nets.
- Epidemic preparedness and response.
- Information Education and Communication and social mobilization.
- Capacity building.

For Filaria elimination by the year 2015 as per National Health Policy goal, annual mass drug administration is being undertaken in filaria endemic districts.

**Statement**

*State-wise Expenditure for 2001-2002, 2002-03 and 2003-04 under NVBDCP*

| States/UTs        | 2001-02<br>Expenditure | 2002-03<br>Expenditure | 2003-04<br>Expenditure |
|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1                 | 2                      | 3                      | 4                      |
| Andhra Pradesh    | 954.64                 | 548.86                 | 534.73                 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 364.97                 | 377.08                 | 112.63                 |
| Assam             | 2377.47                | 1935.83                | 1364.15                |
| Bihar             | 873.90                 | 198.35                 | 2789.16                |
| Chhattisgarh      | 876.31                 | 3047.95                | 1739.99                |
| Goa               | 6.19                   | 7.97                   | 18.55                  |
| Gujarat           | 1353.89                | 767.99                 | 380.99                 |
| Haryana           | 18.43                  | 67.21                  | 37.35                  |
| Himachal Pradesh  | 36.78                  | 11.89                  | 4.90                   |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 69.62                  | 62.44                  | 72.30                  |
| Jharkhand         | 883.78                 | 1671.15                | 1296.86                |
| Karnataka         | 386.48                 | 227.36                 | 264.87                 |
| Kerala            | 67.75                  | 13.31                  | 214.55                 |
| Madhya Pradesh    | 2540.80                | 2408.15                | 1333.71                |
| Maharashtra       | 2289.20                | 947.11                 | 463.30                 |
| Manipur           | 275.27                 | 144.86                 | 69.71                  |
| Meghalaya         | 292.98                 | 301.70                 | 323.35                 |
| Mizoram           | 345.85                 | 190.50                 | 275.68                 |
| Nagaland          | 368.08                 | 372.14                 | 386.20                 |
| Orissa            | 1745.06                | 3030.80                | 2512.78                |
| Punjab            | 94.10                  | 65.75                  | 37.87                  |
| Rajasthan         | 924.92                 | 925.90                 | 1415.59                |
| Sikkim            | 0.14                   | 4.32                   | 2.42                   |
| Tamil Nadu        | 289.03                 | 187.39                 | 279.06                 |
| Tripura           | 505.76                 | 389.93                 | 428.63                 |

| 1                                | 2        | 3        | 4        |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Uttar Pradesh                    | 671.41   | 607.31   | 744.61   |
| Uttaranchal                      | 39.18    | 1.96     | 39.17    |
| West Bengal                      | 1140.73  | 518.97   | 616.94   |
| Delhi                            | 89.55    | 58.47    | 80.67    |
| Pondicherry                      | 8.30     | 13.18    | 11.12    |
| Andaman and<br>Nicobar Islands   | 220.75   | 230.07   | 203.33   |
| Chandigarh                       | 34.87    | 38.29    | 25.36    |
| Dadra and Nagar<br>Haveli        | 40.67    | 16.07    | 60.72    |
| Daman and Diu                    | 18.65    | 7.99     | 19.29    |
| Lakshadweep                      | 5.92     | 5.35     | 12.06    |
| Total                            | 20211.43 | 19403.60 | 18172.60 |
| Cash for States<br>other than NE | —        | 0.00     | 0.00     |
| Commnd. Misc.                    | 0        | 0.00     | 1928.31  |
| Estt./Res. Pub.                  | 1,767.16 | 1278.00  | —        |
| Delhi/HQ.buffer                  | —        | —        | —        |
| RTES(Fee)                        | 0.00     | 0.00     | 0.00     |
| Total                            | 1767.16  | 1278.00  | 1928.31  |
| Grand Total                      | 21978.59 | 20681.60 | 20100.91 |

**Community Information Centres**

4015.CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Information technology had signed MOU with State Government of Jammu and Kashmir in the year 2003 for setting up of 139 Community Information Centres (CICs) at Block Headquarters;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed on 16th February, 2004 between the Government of India and the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir in the matter of commissioning of Community Information Centres (CICs), maintenance, control, operations and transfer of management thereof. As per MOU, Department of Information Technology (DIT), Government of India has taken up setting up of 135 CICs at the block level in Jammu and Kashmir with an outlay of Rs. 40.67 crores for a period of five years. Project is being implemented by National Informatics Centre (NIC)/National Information Centre Services Inc. (NICS) in two phases i.e. 60 CICs in the first phase by October 2004 and remaining 75 CICs in the second phase by October 2005.

(c) 60 CICs of first phase have been made available to people of Jammu and Kashmir for providing citizen-centric services. Community Portals of all 60 CICs have been created and the CIC Operators have been trained to upload local content into these sites. Remaining 75 CICs are underway.

[Translation]

#### **Health Melas**

4016. SHRI RAMSEVAK SINGH :  
SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY :

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

(a) whether the Government is formulating any action plan to check the dreaded diseases like Cancer and HIV in the country; ,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of health-mela organized by the Government in the country particularly in Madhya Pradesh and Assam;

(d) the amount of money spent during the last three years till date for organising health-mela, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government proposes to continue and organize health-mela in Gwalior and other parts of the

country particularly in the capital cities of North-Eastern States;

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the outlay earmarked, State-wise;

(g) whether hospitals equipped with modern facilities on the lines of AIIMS are to be set up in each big town in the country;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) and (d) In all 46 Melas were organized during the year 2002-03, 515 Melas in 2003-04 and 233 Melas in 2004-05. The details of releases made to different State Governments in this connection is given in the enclosed statement-II.

(e) and (f) The scheme continues to be in operation. At present the Government is providing Rs. 8.00 lakhs per Parliamentary constituency for organizing Health Mela on the request of the local Member of Parliament.

(g) to (i) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-III.

#### **Statement-I**

#### **National Cancer Control Programme**

In order to control this problem, National Cancer Control Programme was launched in 1975 with the objectives of prevention, early detection and treatment of cancer in the country. The strategies under the programme are awareness generation in the community for prevention and early detection of cancer, and provision of comprehensive cancer treatment facilities across the country by way of supporting Regional Cancer Centres. Government Medical Colleges and Government Hospitals are also supported by Development of Oncology Wings.

#### **National AIDS Control Programme**

In order to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS in India, the Government has launched a comprehensive



National AIDS. Control Programme, currently under implementation throughout the country as a centrally sponsored scheme with following components :—

- \* Preventive interventions for high-risk populations through targeted interventions adopting a multi-pronged strategy including peer counseling and behaviour change communication.
- \* Preventive interventions for the general population through programmes for blood safety, voluntary counseling and testing services, Prevention of Parent to Child Transmission (PPTCT), Information Education and Communication (IEC) and awareness building among adolescents and sensitization for the AIDS Vaccine Initiative.
- \* Provision of low cost care and support services by providing community care services, treatment of opportunistic infections and prevention of occupational exposure.
- \* Collaborative efforts to promote inter-sectoral programme activities including workplace interventions and public-private partnerships.
- \* Build technical and managerial capacities for programme implementation through Surveillance, Training Monitoring and Evaluation, Technical resource groups, operational research and Programme management.

#### Statement-II

*State-wise funds released for Swasthya Mela*

(in Lakhs)

| Sl.No. | State             | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 |
|--------|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1      | 2                 | 3       | 4       | 5       |
| 1.     | Andhra Pradesh    | 0.00    | 320.00  | 0.00    |
| 2.     | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.00    | 16.00   | 0.00    |
| 3.     | Assam             | 10.00   | 112.00  | 0.00    |
| 4.     | Bihar             | 25.00   | 248.00  | 320.00  |
| 5.     | Chhattisgarh      | 0.00    | 56.00   | 88.00   |
| 6.     | Goa               | 0.00    | 16.00   | 0.00    |

| 1   | 2                           | 3      | 4       | 5       |
|-----|-----------------------------|--------|---------|---------|
| 7.  | Gujarat                     | 0.00   | 208.00  | 16.00   |
| 8.  | Haryana                     | 0.00   | 80.00   | 16.00   |
| 9.  | Himachal Pradesh            | 60.00  | 24.00   | 0.00    |
| 10. | Jammu and Kashmir           | 0.00   | 48.00   | 0.00    |
| 11. | Jharkhand                   | 0.00   | 104.00  | 112.00  |
| 12. | Karnataka                   | 10.00  | 208.00  | 0.00    |
| 13. | Kerala                      | 0.00   | 160.00  | 0.00    |
| 14. | Madhya Pradesh              | 50.00  | 224.00  | 232.00  |
| 15. | Maharashtra                 | 35.00  | 386.00  | 0.00    |
| 16. | Manipur                     | 10.00  | 16.00   | 0.00    |
| 17. | Meghalaya                   | 10.00  | 16.00   | 0.00    |
| 18. | Mizoram                     | 30.00  | 8.00    | 0.00    |
| 19. | Nagaland                    | 0.00   | 8.00    | 0.00    |
| 20. | Orissa                      | 10.00  | 168.00  | 168.00  |
| 21. | Punjab                      | 0.00   | 104.00  | 0.00    |
| 22. | Rajasthan                   | 40.00  | 200.00  | 200.00  |
| 23. | Sikkim                      | 0.00   | 8.00    | 0.00    |
| 24. | Tamil Nadu                  | 0.00   | 312.00  | 32.00   |
| 25. | Tripura                     | 10.00  | 16.00   | 0.00    |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh               | 0.00   | 600.00  | 624.00  |
| 27. | Uttaranchal                 | 14.12  | 40.00   | 40.00   |
| 28. | West Bengal                 | 0.00   | 320.00  | 16.00   |
| 29. | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0.00   | 8.00    | 0.00    |
| 30. | Chandigarh                  | 0.00   | 8.00    | 0.00    |
| 31. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli      | 0.00   | 8.00    | 0.00    |
| 32. | Daman and Diu               | 3.61   | 8.00    | 0.00    |
| 33. | Delhi                       | 11.00  | 48.00   | 0.00    |
| 34. | Lakshadweep                 | 0.00   | 8.00    | 0.00    |
| 35. | Pondicherry                 | 0.00   | 8.00    | 0.00    |
|     | Nominated Members           | 0.00   | 8.00    | 0.00    |
|     | Total                       | 328.73 | 4130.00 | 1864.00 |

**Statement-III****Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha  
Yojana (PMSSY)**

1. The Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) launched in 2003 envisages to offer all specialities and super-specialities medical care and quality medical education in under-served states. Under PMSSY, it is proposed to set up one AIIMS-like institution each in the states of Bihar (Patna), Chhattisgarh (Raipur), Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal), Orissa (Bhubaneswar) Rajasthan (Jodhpur) and Uttaranchal (Rishikesh) and to manage them. In addition, medical institutions namely, (i) Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow, (2) Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences, Ranchi (3) Government Medical College, Jammu (4) Kolkata Medical College, Kolkata (5) Government Medical College, Salem, Tamil Nadu (6) Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences, Hyderabad are proposed to be upgraded to the level of AIIMS. It is also proposed to upgrade Sri Venkateshwara Institute of Medical Sciences, Tirupati to the level of AIIMS like institution, subject to the condition that the Tirumaia Tirupati Devasthanam, Tirupati bear the 50% cost of upgradation. The capital cost of upgrading these institutions would be provided by Government of India.
2. The capital cost on setting-up of the six AIIMS-like institutions has been estimated at Rs. 1707.00 cr (at an average cost of Rs. 284.50 cr per Institute). An amount of Rs. 780.00 cr will be required for upgradation of six existing institutes approximately at the rate of Rs. 120.00 cr per institute and Rs. 60 cr for SVIMS, Tirupati.
3. The proposal for implementation of PMSSY has been cleared by the Expenditure Finance Committee.

*[English]***Abolition of CGHS Schemes**

4017. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA" : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission in the Mid-term Appraisal has recommended the abolition of the CGHS Schemes;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the alternative Health Scheme recommended by the Planning Commission for the Central Government employees; and

(d) the time by when the alternative Health Scheme would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (d) The Planning Commission has completed a Mid-Term Appraisal (MTA) of the Tenth Five Year Plan in respect of the major sectors of the Government. The Chapter on Health has drawn attention to several reports commissioned by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. These have reported on the low satisfaction levels with the CGHS particularly with reference to poor emergency services, non-availability of medicines and inconvenient timings. The MTA further suggests that Ministry of Health and Family Welfare could consider several options for reform of the Central Government Health Scheme. Any measure to address the shortcomings of the scheme must necessarily address the question of optimal utilisation of this infrastructure.

The MTA suggests that current and new CGHS subscribers may be given the option to shift to a system of Health insurance through which they may access the CGHS or other clinical healthcare providers (the public sector hospital networks of the Ministry of Railways, and of the Employees State Insurance Corporation could be included, together with other categories of providers deemed fit). The existing subscribers of the CGHS could exercise an option of continuing with the existing arrangement or alternatively, subscribing to a new system developed within the CGHS. The remaining two years of the Tenth Five Year Plan may be used by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to develop these options further, confer greater autonomy to CGHS in preparation of the new role and convert it into an appropriate organisational form like a registered society.

The MTA is recommendatory in nature and any reform to the CGHS will be brought about after appropriate consideration and stakeholder consultation by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

#### **Short Supply of TB Medicines in Hospitals**

4018.SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that Rifampicin and Isoniazid are the two essential drugs required all through the period for treatment of TB;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that in major hospitals of the capital as well as some of the State hospitals these two drugs are in short supply;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether under the revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme, these two drugs are essential for the success of this programme; and

(e) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government to ensure availability of these two drugs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No such report has been received.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Under the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme, full requirement of anti-TB drugs is provided by the Centre to the districts as commodity grant. The availability of drugs at the district level is monitored on regular basis. In the programme anti TB drugs for full course of treatment are provided free of cost to the TB patients in patient-wise boxes to ensure availability of all anti TB drugs for full course of treatment. Anti-TB drugs are provided under observation and the patients are monitored till completion of treatment.

#### **Janani Suraksha Yojana**

4019.SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch the Janani Suraksha Yojana to lower maternal and child deaths across the country;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme; and

(c) the time by when the scheme will come into force and the funds earmarked for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) are as under :

- Janani Suraksha Yojana under the overall umbrella of the National Rural Health Mission integrates the benefit of cash assistance with institutional care during delivery, preceded with antenatal care and immediate post-partum care.
- The scheme will be a 100% centrally sponsored Scheme.
- The benefit will be available to all women, both rural and urban areas, belonging to Below Poverty line (BPL) households and aged 19 years or above.
- Under the Scheme the benefit will be available upto the first two live births. However, in ten low performing States namely; Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Assam and Jammu and Kashmir, the benefit will be extended upto the third child if the mother of her own accord chooses to undergo sterilization in the health facility where she delivered, immediately after delivery.
- Under the scheme assistance to expectant mother in rural areas is of Rs. 700/- per delivery

whereas in urban areas of above-said Low Performing States, the expectant mother will receive an amount of Rs. 600/- per delivery. Under the Scheme. Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) would be working as a link between the poor expectant mother and the health provider in the village.

- For the services provided by ASHA, a package of Rs. 600/- has been provided in the rural areas of all the ten low performing states. This is towards meeting the transactional cost towards transport assistance for the pregnant women and the ASHA to reach the health centre, boarding and lodging expenses as she stays with the expectant mother in the health centre during delivery and a small amount of money as ASHA's incentive. However, in urban areas the package of assistance for ASHA will be restricted to Rs. 200/-.
- Where Government specialist are not available in health institutions, in cases developing complications and requiring cesarean sections, assistances upto Rs. 1500/- per case has been provided for hiring services of private experts to carryout the surgery either in a Government medical facility or in an accredited/recognised Private Hospital, Nursing Home etc.
- Acknowledging that infrastructural facilities in the public sector are not adequate, benefits under Janani Suraksha Yojana would also be available to eligible women delivering in the hospitals/ nursing homes/clinics from private sector duly accredited and recognised by the State/Union territories.
- The responsibility of implementation of the scheme will be with State Health Mission at the State Level and the District Health Mission at the District Level.

(c) The scheme has come into force with effect from 1.4.05. For the financial year 2005-06, there is a budgetary provision of Rs. 100.00 crores. Under the overall mechanism of release of grants under National Rural

Health Mission, grants for JSY will be part of flexi-pool of funds, which integrates allocation of a number of other Health and Family Welfare schemes.

*[Translation]*

#### **Export of Products of Cottage Industry**

4020.SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE : Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

- (a) the State-wise quantum of items produced by the cottage industry during the last year;
- (b) the steps taken to promote export of these products;
- (c) the details of products exported by Maharashtra during the last years; and
- (d) the details of the total export of the cottage sector?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD) : (a) The cottage industry sector consists essentially of handicrafts, Khadi, polyvastra and village industries. Data on quantum of production of handicrafts items are not maintained centrally. Details of production of khadi, polyvastra and village industry products during 2003-04 are given in the enclosed Statements I, II and III respectively.

(b) The steps taken to promote export of cottage industry products include financial assistance for participation in international fairs and exhibitions abroad, organising buyer-sellers meets, assistance for overseas publicity, organizing seminars/workshops on export procedures, organizing the Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair at New Delhi, setting up of Indian Exposition Mart in Greater NOIDA (Uttar Pradesh), establishment of new Handicrafts Special Economic Zones (SEZs), earmarking of specific funds under Market Access Initiative, etc.

(c) State-wise export data on handicrafts are not maintained centrally. However, the amounts of village industry products exported by village industry units located

in Maharashtra and registered with the Khadi and Village Industries Commission during 2003-04 are as under :—

| Sr.No. | Name of Product | Amount (Rs. crore) |
|--------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1.     | Papad           | 10.26              |
| 2.     | Handmade Paper  | 1.20               |

(d) The amounts of export of handicrafts, including hand knotted carpets, during the last three years is as under :

| Year    | Amount (Rs. crore) |
|---------|--------------------|
| 2002-03 | 10933.67           |
| 2003-04 | 12765.18           |
| 2004-05 | 15256.00           |

Further, during 2003-04, village industry products like papad, palm leaf products, fiber items and handmade paper worth Rs. 52 crore were exported.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise production of Khadi in 2003-2004*

(Rs. lakh)

| Sr.No. | State/Union Territories     | Cotton Khadi | Woollen Khadi | Silk Khadi | Muslin Khadi | Total Khadi |
|--------|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------|------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1      | 2                           | 3            | 4             | 5          | 6            | 7           |
| 1.     | Chandigarh                  | 0.34         | 0.00          | 0.00       | 0.00         | 0.34        |
| 2.     | Delhi                       | 145.02       | 6.63          | 0.00       | 0.00         | 151.65      |
| 3.     | Haryana                     | 1330.49      | 1263.07       | 0.00       | 0.00         | 2593.56     |
| 4.     | Himachal Pradesh            | 59.50        | 223.01        | 0.00       | 0.00         | 282.70      |
| 5.     | Jammu and Kashmir           | 9.53         | 844.85        | 0.18       | 0.00         | 854.56      |
| 6.     | Punjab                      | 862.99       | 194.07        | 0.00       | 0.00         | 1057.06     |
| 7.     | Rajasthan                   | 1303.83      | 1377.21       | 0.00       | 0.00         | 2681.04     |
| 8.     | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0.00         | 0.00          | 0.00       | 0.00         | 0.00        |
| 9.     | Bihar                       | 450.06       | 125.58        | 181.45     | 79.82        | 836.91      |
| 10.    | Jharkhand                   | 39.86        | 14.28         | 223.97     | 0.00         | 278.11      |
| 11.    | Orissa                      | 64.06        | 0.00          | 256.09     | 34.38        | 354.53      |
| 12.    | West Bengal                 | 106.73       | 0.00          | 4043.45    | 729.00       | 4879.18     |
| 13.    | Arunachal Pradesh           | 0.40         | 0.00          | 3.50       | 0.00         | 3.90        |
| 14.    | Assam                       | 37.76        | 0.00          | 357.62     | 0.00         | 395.38      |
| 15.    | Manipur                     | 17.54        | 0.00          | 28.76      | 0.00         | 46.30       |
| 16.    | Meghalaya                   | 1.24         | 2.75          | 0.46       | 0.00         | 4.45        |
| 17.    | Mizoram                     | 0.27         | 0.00          | 56.01      | 0.00         | 56.28       |
| 18.    | Nagaland                    | 0.00         | 0.00          | 40.59      | 0.00         | 40.59       |

| 1                          | 2 | 3        | 4       | 5        | 6       | 7        |
|----------------------------|---|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| 19. Tripura                |   | 3.90     | 0.00    | 0.00     | 0.00    | 3.90     |
| 20. Sikkim                 |   | 4.34     | 0.00    | 0.00     | 0.00    | 4.34     |
| 21. Andhra Pradesh         |   | 1084.37  | 44.58   | 364.93   | 78.60   | 1572.48  |
| 22. Karnataka              |   | 1759.19  | 830.40  | 747.38   | 0.00    | 3336.97  |
| 23. Kerala                 |   | 703.38   | 0.00    | 64.54    | 313.93  | 1081.85  |
| 24. Lakshadweep            |   | 0.00     | 0.00    | 0.00     | 0.00    | 0.00     |
| 25. Pondicherry            |   | 6.51     | 0.00    | 15.81    | 0.00    | 22.32    |
| 26. Tamil Nadu             |   | 1363.89  | 0.00    | 4118.91  | 0.00    | 5482.80  |
| 27. Dadra and Nagar Haveli |   | 0.00     | 0.00    | 0.00     | 0.00    | 0.00     |
| 28. Daman and Diu          |   | 0.00     | 0.00    | 0.00     | 0.00    | 0.00     |
| 29. Goa                    |   | 0.00     | 0.00    | 0.00     | 0.00    | 0.00     |
| 30. Gujarat                |   | 1746.90  | 169.03  | 741.39   | 0.00    | 2657.23  |
| 31. Maharashtra            |   | 255.39   | 0.00    | 3.79     | 0.00    | 259.18   |
| 32. Chhattisgarh           |   | 59.79    | 20.50   | 620.68   | 0.00    | 700.97   |
| 33. Madhya Pradesh         |   | 167.77   | 138.40  | 86.83    | 0.00    | 393.00   |
| 34. Uttaranchal            |   | 600.63   | 437.63  | 0.00     | 0.00    | 1038.26  |
| 35. Uttar Pradesh          |   | 12496.47 | 1676.60 | 107.56   | 0.00    | 14280.63 |
| Total                      |   | 24682.34 | 7368.59 | 12063.81 | 1235.73 | 45350.47 |

**Statement-II***State-wise production of Polyvastra in 2003-2004*

(Rs. lakh)

| Sr.No. | State/Union Territories | Production Value |
|--------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1      | 2                       | 3                |
| 1.     | Chandigarh              | 3.50             |
| 2.     | Delhi                   | 6.00             |
| 3.     | Haryana                 | 11.64            |
| 4.     | Himachal Pradesh        | 6.02             |
| 5.     | Jammu and Kashmir       | 0.06             |
| 6.     | Punjab                  | 3.50             |

| 1   | 2                           | 3      |
|-----|-----------------------------|--------|
| 7.  | Rajasthan                   | 296.72 |
| 8.  | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0.00   |
| 9.  | Bihar                       | 70.08  |
| 10. | Jharkhand                   | 7.08   |
| 11. | Orissa                      | 40.60  |
| 12. | West Bengal                 | 56.48  |
| 13. | Arunachal Pradesh           | 0.00   |
| 14. | Assam                       | 10.35  |
| 15. | Manipur                     | 1.03   |
| 16. | Meghalaya                   | 1.02   |

| 1   | 2              | 3      | 1     | 2                      | 3       |
|-----|----------------|--------|-------|------------------------|---------|
| 17. | Mizoram        | 0.00   | 27.   | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 0.00    |
| 18. | Nagaland       | 0.00   | 28.   | Daman and Diu          | 0.00    |
| 19. | Tripura        | 0.00   | 29.   | Goa                    | 0.00    |
| 20. | Sikkim         | 0.00   | 30.   | Gujarat                | 773.50  |
| 21. | Andhra Pradesh | 92.93  | 31.   | Maharashtra            | 19.70   |
| 22. | Karnataka      | 242.21 | 32.   | Chhattisgarh           | 84.42   |
| 23. | Kerala         | 105.78 | 33.   | Madhya Pradesh         | 101.86  |
| 24. | Lakshadweep    | 0.00   | 34.   | Uttaranchal            | 6.10    |
| 25. | Pondicherry    | 0.00   | 35.   | Uttar Pradesh          | 1092.64 |
| 26. | Tamil Nadu     | 939.46 | Total |                        | 3972.68 |

**Statement-III***State-wise production of Village Industries Products in 2003-2004*

(Rs. lakh)

| Sr. No. | States/Union Territories    | Mineral based Industry | Forest based Industry | Agro and Food Processing Industry | Polymer and Chemical Fibre Industry | Handmade Paper and Fibre Industry | Rural Engineering and Biotechnology Industry | Service Industry | Total Village Industries |
|---------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1       | 2                           | 3                      | 4                     | 5                                 | 6                                   | 7                                 | 8  | 9                | 10                       |
| 1.      | Chandigarh                  | 245.71                 | 119.53                | 452.51                            | 275.93                              | 78.93                             | 306.90                                       | 145.08           | 1624.59                  |
| 2.      | Delhi                       | 816.61                 | 423.18                | 1527.21                           | 892.52                              | 268.79                            | 1026.52                                      | 461.07           | 5415.90                  |
| 3.      | Haryana                     | 3963.74                | 2585.62               | 6067.10                           | 3658.20                             | 1185.74                           | 5295.06                                      | 830.78           | 23586.84                 |
| 4.      | Himachal Pradesh            | 4051.77                | 2529.96               | 7236.99                           | 4179.74                             | 1180.14                           | 5485.40                                      | 1554.21          | 26218.21                 |
| 5.      | Jammu and Kashmir           | 3052.33                | 1785.48               | 5426.01                           | 3239.81                             | 1043.07                           | 3973.63                                      | 1311.28          | 19831.61                 |
| 6.      | Punjab                      | 6937.82                | 5166.61               | 10725.33                          | 7332.51                             | 1773.04                           | 8784.91                                      | 2122.84          | 42843.06                 |
| 7.      | Rajasthan                   | 14908.55               | 7858.31               | 23569.85                          | 13672.32                            | 4396.13                           | 18219.31                                     | 5273.27          | 87897.74                 |
| 8.      | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 89.03                  | 73.61                 | 126.22                            | 89.45                               | 21.89                             | 129.96                                       | 79.60            | 609.76                   |
| 9.      | Bihar                       | 3251.89                | 1437.55               | 5097.47                           | 2974.86                             | 882.11                            | 3524.29                                      | 1513.10          | 18681.27                 |

| 1                             | 2 | 3         | 4        | 5         | 6         | 7        | 8         | 9        | 10        |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 10. Jharkhand                 |   | 1581.21   | 343.36   | 223.90    | 64.25     | 46.27    | 308.79    | 444.74   | 3012.52   |
| 11. Orissa                    |   | 2484.57   | 1427.81  | 4063.30   | 2369.39   | 781.21   | 3142.02   | 917.40   | 15185.70  |
| 12. West Bengal               |   | 4753.38   | 4353.68  | 7576.52   | 5174.20   | 1411.91  | 6302.84   | 1234.27  | 30806.80  |
| 13. Arunachal Pradesh         |   | 51.39     | 72.47    | 60.38     | 82.08     | 57.46    | 147.82    | 49.17    | 520.77    |
| 14. Assam                     |   | 1366.08   | 950.34   | 2136.70   | 1035.11   | 329.10   | 1658.72   | 497.12   | 7973.17   |
| 15. Manipur                   |   | 928.01    | 477.80   | 1674.89   | 988.56    | 430.80   | 1171.46   | 479.34   | 6150.86   |
| 16. Meghalaya                 |   | 673.85    | 505.74   | 939.89    | 545.76    | 129.99   | 729.59    | 180.30   | 3705.12   |
| 17. Mizoram                   |   | 531.83    | 372.90   | 835.82    | 611.84    | 170.87   | 683.04    | 673.44   | 3879.74   |
| 18. Nagaland                  |   | 839.02    | 441.81   | 1282.90   | 755.25    | 245.32   | 990.21    | 367.38   | 4921.89   |
| 19. Tripura                   |   | 688.49    | 216.88   | 823.44    | 406.33    | 223.66   | 659.04    | 123.37   | 3141.21   |
| 20. Sikkim                    |   | 92.96     | 101.31   | 190.28    | 80.96     | 130.15   | 142.61    | 24.65    | 762.92    |
| 21. Andhra Pradesh            |   | 7948.54   | 5225.84  | 10949.28  | 6702.93   | 1889.97  | 8155.66   | 2041.80  | 42914.02  |
| 22. Karnataka                 |   | 13144.07  | 5665.20  | 23591.70  | 12963.45  | 3849.21  | 14886.57  | 5079.42  | 79179.62  |
| 23. Kerala                    |   | 8500.84   | 4601.17  | 12947.18  | 7105.29   | 2444.85  | 9604.25   | 2477.21  | 47680.59  |
| 24. Lakshadweep               |   | 17.02     | 9.44     | 28.29     | 16.01     | 3.68     | 23.64     | 6.77     | 104.85    |
| 25. Pondicherry               |   | 67.02     | 36.55    | 181.02    | 59.78     | 28.89    | 89.24     | 85.34    | 547.84    |
| 26. Tamil Nadu                |   | 11201.28  | 5778.33  | 19792.31  | 11386.03  | 3614.27  | 14288.48  | 5305.76  | 71366.44  |
| 27. Dadra and Nagar<br>Haveli |   | 14.79     | 3.73     | 36.32     | 8.13      | 0.15     | 9.35      | 19.79    | 92.26     |
| 28. Daman and Diu             |   | 0.00      | 0.00     | 0.00      | 0.00      | 0.00     | 0.00      | 0.00     | 0.00      |
| 29. Goa                       |   | 468.29    | 323.63   | 778.72    | 499.04    | 146.06   | 600.87    | 186.69   | 3003.30   |
| 30. Gujarat                   |   | 6785.31   | 3406.25  | 12560.00  | 7355.23   | 2247.24  | 8515.63   | 3939.41  | 44809.07  |
| 31. Maharashtra               |   | 20499.09  | 11380.83 | 36544.26  | 21924.66  | 6482.50  | 25831.32  | 10275.61 | 132938.27 |
| 32. Chhattisgarh              |   | 2588.89   | 873.77   | 2216.11   | 1266.73   | 292.58   | 1720.56   | 272.61   | 9231.25   |
| 33. Madhya Pradesh            |   | 8464.92   | 4672.61  | 14266.84  | 8387.78   | 2667.02  | 11108.57  | 3738.16  | 53305.90  |
| 34. Uttaranchal               |   | 1487.19   | 1075.29  | 2050.31   | 1115.68   | 595.97   | 1901.26   | 303.60   | 8529.30   |
| 35. Uttar Pradesh             |   | 19066.68  | 11198.81 | 34406.93  | 19245.66  | 5682.20  | 24198.04  | 8556.45  | 122354.77 |
| Total                         |   | 151562.17 | 85495.40 | 250386.58 | 146465.47 | 44730.97 | 183615.54 | 60571.03 | 922827.16 |



[English]

### Setting up of CCH Inquiry Committee

4021. SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL :  
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :  
SHRI MUNAWAR HASSAN :  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

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

- (a) whether any Central Council of Homoeopathy Inquiry Committee has been set up;
- (b) if so, the terms of reference and composition thereof;
- (c) whether the Commission has submitted its report;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (e) In exercise of the powers conferred on the Central Government under Section 31 of the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973, a Commission of Enquiry was appointed under the Chairmanship of Ms. Justice Usha Mehra, Retired Justice of Delhi High Court, on 14.01.2004 to enquire into the alleged violations of the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 including any such other matters or irregularities as may be brought to its notice by the Central council of Homoeopathy. The Commission has completed the task of hearing and examination off allegations etc. and the Report is being finalized.

### US Reservation on Indo-Iran Gas Pipeline

4022. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY :  
SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY :  
SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA :  
SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in a recent visit to India, the Secretary of State of USA, had expressed her country's reservation about the proposed Indo-Iran Gas Pipeline Project; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH) : (a) During her visit to India, Secretary of State Dr. Condoleeza Rice stated at a press conference on March 16, 2005 "I think our views concerning Iran as well-known by this time and we have communicated to the Indian Government our concerns about the gas pipeline cooperation between Iran and India". The issue of the gas pipeline was *not* discussed a official talks during the visit of US Secretary of State.

(b) There are ongoing discussions between India, Pakistan and Iran on this matter, India's energy requirements are growing rapidly. We have traditionally good relations with Iran. Government would take decisions on the gas pipeline based on India's national interest.

### Setting up Automatic Weather Stations

4023. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :  
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation has entered into an agreement with some industries to set up automatic weather stations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the usage of these stations in remote areas; and
- (d) the efficacy of these stations in times of national calamities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Antrix Corporation of Department of Space has entered into an agreement with M/s. Astra Microwave Products Limited, Hyderabad for production and installation of Automatic Weather Stations.

(c) and (d) The Automatic Weather Station has capability to operate in remote areas and provide

meteorological data from data sparse regions. The weather data such as temperature, pressure, humidity, winds, rainfall, etc. from these locations could be utilized in the forecasting and monitoring of natural calamities.

**Waiting list for Telephone Connections  
in Gujarat**

4024. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of waiting list for telephone connections in all the major cities, district headquarters and rural areas of Gujarat as on date;

(b) the number of telephone connections provided during the last three years and the amount spent thereon; and

(c) the new Telecom schemes under the consideration of the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) The details of waiting list of

telephone connections in all the major cities, district headquarters and rural areas of Gujarat are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The details in regard to gross new telephone connections provided during the last three years and amount spent thereon are as under :—

| Year    | Telephone Connections Provided (Gross) | Amount Spent (Rs. in crores) |
|---------|--|------------------------------|
| 2002-03 | 584669                                 | 896.19                       |
| 2003-04 | 398840                                 | 337.21                       |
| 2004-05 | 465548 (Provisional)                   | 107.73                       |

- (c) (i) In order to expand its telecommunication network, BSNL has planned for a massive addition in its wireless customer base throughout the length and breadth of the country.
- (ii) BSNL infrastructure is being deployed to provide Broadband services throughout the country.

**Statement**

*Waiting list of Telephone Connections in all the Major Cities, District Headquarter and Rural Areas of Gujarat*

| Sl. No. | SSA       | Revenue Distt covered | Waiting List at Distt HQ | Waiting List of the SSA |       |       |
|---------|-----------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------|
|         |           |                       |                          | Urban#                  | Rural | Total |
| 1       | 2         | 3                     | 4                        | 5                       | 6     | 7     |
| 1.      | Ahmedabad | Ahmedabad             | 2937                     | 3006                    | 2021  | 5027  |
|         |           | Gandhinagar           | 69                       |                         |       |       |
| 2.      | Amreli    | Amreli                | 31                       | 31                      | 346   | 377   |
| 3.      | Bharuch   | Bharuch               | 0                        | 47                      | 3200  | 3247  |
|         |           | Narmada               | 13                       |                         |       |       |
| 4.      | Bhavnagar | Bhavnagar             | 138                      | 612                     | 2514  | 3126  |
| 5.      | Bhuj      | Kutch                 | 5                        | 47                      | 3583  | 3630  |
| 6.      | Godhra    | Godhra                | 0                        | 109                     | 1919  | 2028  |
|         |           | Dahod                 | 16                       |                         |       |       |

| 1     | 2             | 3                       | 4    | 5    | 6     | 7     |
|-------|---------------|-------------------------|------|------|-------|-------|
| 7.    | Himatnagar    | Sabarkantha             | 0    | 143  | 2011  | 2154  |
| 8.    | Jamnagar      | Jamnagar                | 0    | 191  | 3077  | 3308  |
| 9.    | Junagadh      | Junagadh                | 0    | 641  | 6176  | 6817  |
|       |               | Porbandar               | 150  |      |       |       |
|       |               | Diu (UT)                | 20   |      |       |       |
| 10.   | Mehsana       | Mehsana                 | 73   | 762  | 4162  | 4924  |
|       |               | Patan                   | 59   |      |       |       |
| 11.   | Nadiad        | Nadiad                  | 370  | 792  | 2592  | 3384  |
|       |               | Anand                   | 285  |      |       |       |
| 12.   | Palanpur      | Banaskantha             | 0    | 81   | 6959  | 7040  |
| 13.   | Rajkot        | Rajkot                  | 144  | 623  | 5848  | 6471  |
| 14.   | Suart         | Surat                   | 228  | 533  | 1286  | 1819  |
| 15.   | Surendranagar | Surendranagar           | 125  | 517  | 2800  | 3317  |
| 16.   | Vadodara      | Vadodara                | 130  | 130  | 1171  | 1301  |
| 17.   | Valsad        | Valsad                  | 24   | 838  | 2571  | 3409  |
|       |               | Navasari                | 339  |      |       |       |
|       |               | Dang                    | 20   |      |       |       |
|       |               | Daman (UT)              | 0    |      |       |       |
|       |               | Dadra Nagar Haveli (UT) | 114  |      |       |       |
| Total |               |                         | 5290 | 9103 | 52236 | 61379 |

#including waiting list at District Headquarter.

#### Strike by BSNL Employees

4025.SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) employees went on strike in March, 2005;

(b) if so, the details of their charter of demands; and

(c) the stand of the government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) A group of Executive employees of BSNL resorted to work-to-rule and lunch/ closing hour demonstration on few days during the month of March, 2005.

(b) (i) Implementation of non-post based time bound promotion;

(ii) Service weightage – To provide 100% weightage of service rendered in Depart-

ment of Telecom (DoT)/Department of Telecom Services (DTS)/including ad-hoc/in-situ/Assured Career Progression (ACP)/lateral grade;

- (iii) Date of effect of promotion shall be from 01.10.2000 onwards and shall be given on completion of specified eligibility period including the weightage of service;
- (iv) No parallel post based promotion;
- (v) No recruitment of Management Trainees;
- (vi) Date of effect of implementation of revised Industrial Dearness Allowance (IDA) pay scale for Junior Telecom Officers (JTOs)/Sub-Divisional Engineers (SDEs) of Civil/Electrical/Architecture/Telecom Factories (TFs) and Assistants, Section Officers (Sos) of Central Secretariat Services (CSSs) and Junior Accounts of Officers (JAOs) etc. including the proposed revised pay scale of Official Language Officers shall be 01-10-2000; and
- (vii) One time placement in the next higher grade for JTOs/SDEs Telecom.

(c) A High Level Committee has already been constituted by BSNL for discussing the demands with the concerned Associations and give suitable recommendations.

#### **Opening Central Government Hospitals**

4026. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether opening of Central Government Hospitals is restricted to New Delhi and the Government has so far not considered to set up such hospitals in other cities of the country;

(b) whether Central Government Employees working outside New Delhi have been deprived of this facility;

(c) if so, the reasons for not setting up the Central Government Hospitals in other parts of the country;

(d) whether the Government proposes to set up Central Government Hospital in other parts of the country too; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (e) Although "Health" is a state subject under the Constitution of India and opening of Hospitals in states falls within the Jurisdiction of respective State Government. The Central Government employees working out-side Delhi are provided medical treatment either through CGHS or under CS (MA) Rules, 1944. Central Government under the aegis of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, has set up some of the specialized and general hospitals/institutions in various states/union territories, such as Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) in Chandigarh, Jawaharlal Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER) in Pondicherry, National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) in Bangalore, North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Science, Shillong, Central Institute of Psychiatry (CIP), Ranchi etc.

Further, the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) launched in the year 2003 envisages setting up of one AIIMS-like institution each in the states of Bihar (Patna), Chattisgarh (Raipur), Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal), Orissa (Bhubneshwar), Rajasthan (Jodhpur) and Uttaranchal (Rishikesh). In addition, seven institutions in six states are also been upgraded to the level of AIIMS.

#### **Increase in Telephone Lines**

4027. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL :  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :  
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase capacity of telephone lines in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details of telephone lines increasing per month;

(c) the value of equipments required for such increase in the next three years; and

(d) the sources of funding to meet such requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) The creation of capacity of telephone lines is decided by the concerned telecom operators in their respective areas.

(b) During April, 2004 – February, 2005, the per month addition in phones by both public and private sector operators was 18.73 lakh. The month wise details of the phones provided are given below :

|                |         |
|----------------|---------|
| April 2004     | 1392524 |
| May 2004       | 1434785 |
| June 2004      | 1650147 |
| July 2004      | 1934248 |
| August 2004    | 1884272 |
| September 2004 | 2020594 |
| October 2004   | 1762939 |
| November 2004  | 1940088 |
| December 2004  | 2332632 |
| January 2005   | 2132136 |
| February 2005  | 2116209 |

(c) and (d) The value of the required equipment would depend on the prevailing market price and hence it will be premature to assess the value at this stage. However, the funding is done by the operators mainly through internal resource generation and extra budgetary resources.

[Translation]

#### **National Statistical Commission**

4028.SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA : Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to constitute National Statistical Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the main objectives behind constituting this Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposed National Statistical Commission would consist of eminent statisticians and social scientists as part time chairperson and members.

(c) The National Statistical Commission would serve as the nodal and empowered body for all core statistical activities of the country. It will identify the areas of core statistics which are of national importance, evolve national policies and priorities relating to the statistical system, evolve national strategies for the collection, tabulation and dissemination of core statistics apart from evolving standard statistical concepts, definitions classifications and methodologies in different areas of statistics, and exercise statistical coordination as well as statistical audit to ensure quality and integrity of statistical products.

#### **Setting up of Ayurvedic Colleges**

4029.SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Ayurvedic Colleges in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has received any proposal from the Government of Maharashtra for setting up of an Ayurvedic College in district Nasik; and

(c) if so, by when it is likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) There are 221 Ayurvedic colleges in the country as follows :— Andhra Pradesh-4, Assam-1, Bihar-11, Chhattisgarh-2, Delhi-1, Goa-1, Gujarat-10, Haryana-6, Himachal Pradesh-1, Jammu and Kashmir-1, Jharkhand-1, Karnataka-50, Kerala-12, Madhya Pradesh-14,

Maharashtra-56, Orissa-6, Punjab-11, Rajasthan-6, Tamilnadu-6, Uttar Pradesh-14, Uttaranchal-3, West Bengal-3, Chandigarh-1.

(b) No proposal in the prescribed format has been received from the Government of Maharashtra for setting up of an Ayurvedic College in District Nashik, Maharashtra.

(c) Question does not arise.

[English]

#### **Waiting list for Telephone Connections**

4030.SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of waiting list of land line, WLL, CDMA mobile phone and cellular mobile phone in each State of the country, till date;

(b) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is unable to provide telephone connections/mobile connections in cities and rural areas within two months;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that 18 lakhs applicants were in waiting list for telephone connections as on 31 March, 2004; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to liquidate the waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) The total waiting list of landline, WLL, CDMA mobile phones for BSNL in the country is 2535648 as on 31.03.2005. The cricle wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) BSNL is installing the required capacity to provide telephone connections at the earliest. Wherever the telecom infrastructure is available and the area is technically feasible, telephone connection are provided without delay.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) BSNL is committed to provide connections to its wait-listed customers, interalia, through the following measures.

(i) Large-scale deployment of WLL network in rural areas has been planned.

(ii) Relaxation of the outdoor cable from 2.5 Km to 5.0 km for Landline Exchanges has been given.

(iii) Mobile network in all the highways, important towns, pilgrim centers and State Highways are deployed to give coverage to more areas.

(iv) In addition to the efforts made by BSNL, the demand for telephones is also met by the private operators.

(v) Further, financial support is provided to the telecom operators through the mechanism of Universal Service Obligation Fund (USO Fund) to encourage them, interalia, to provide phones in rural areas.

#### **Statement**

##### *Details of Circle-wise Waiting List of Telephones*

| S.No. | Name of Circle      | Waiting List of Landline<br>WLL and CMTS<br>connections |
|-------|---------------------|---|
| 1     | 2                   | 3   |
| 1.    | Andaman and Nicobar | 449   |
| 2.    | Andhra Pradesh      | 40680   |
| 3.    | Assam               | 30306   |
| 4.    | Bihar               | 96871   |
| 5.    | Chhattisgarh        | 2809  |
| 6.    | Gujarat             | 57328   |
| 7.    | Haryana             | 89105   |
| 8.    | Himachal Pradesh    | 45207   |
| 9.    | Jammiu and Kashmir  | 67714   |
| 10.   | Jharkhand           | 210747  |
| 11.   | Karnataka           | 95742   |

| 1                        | 2 | 3       |
|--------------------------|---|---------|
| 12. Kerala               |   | 357004  |
| 13. Madhya Pradesh       |   | 10059   |
| 14. Maharashtra          |   | 180287  |
| 15. North East-I         |   | 4377    |
| 16. North East-II        |   | 4442    |
| 17. Orissa               |   | 40958   |
| 18. Punjab               |   | 44887   |
| 19. Rajasthan            |   | 137814  |
| 20. Tamil Nadu           |   | 99195   |
| 21. Uttranchal           |   | 8626    |
| 22. Uttar Pradesh (East) |   | 727179  |
| 23. Uttar Pradesh (West) |   | 52362   |
| 24. West Bengal          |   | 125447  |
| 25. Kolkatta             |   | 4609    |
| 26. Chennai              |   | 1444    |
| Total                    |   | 2535648 |

[Translation]

#### Towers in Rajasthan

†4031. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telecommunication towers constructed/under construction in Rajasthan, district-wise particularly Jodhpur; and

(b) by when these towers are likely to become functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) A total of 492 telecommunication towers are operational and 779 are under installation in various district of Rajasthan. The district wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

The towers under installation are to be utilized for various telecom services such as mobile. Wireless in Local Loop services and are expected to be available progressively from June, 2005 onwards.

#### Statement

#### *District-wise list of Operational and under Installation Towers*

| S. No. | Name of District           | Towers already constructed | Towers under construction |
|--------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1      | 2                          | 3                          | 4                         |
| 1.     | Ajmer                      | 29                         | 32                        |
| 2.     | Alwar                      | 22                         | 29                        |
| 3.     | Banswara+Dungarpur         | 10                         | 18                        |
| 4.     | Barmer                     | 16                         | 26                        |
| 5.     | Bharatpur+Dholpur          | 10                         | 24                        |
| 6.     | Bhilwara                   | 18                         | 25                        |
| 7.     | Bikaner                    | 19                         | 31                        |
| 8.     | Bundi                      | 08                         | 09                        |
| 9.     | Chittorgarh                | 16                         | 16                        |
| 10.    | Churu                      | 11                         | 30                        |
| 11.    | Jaipur+Dausa               | 86                         | 180                       |
| 12.    | Jaisalmer                  | 04                         | 14                        |
| 13.    | Jhalawar                   | 10                         | 08                        |
| 14.    | Jhunjhunu                  | 12                         | 21                        |
| 15.    | Jodhpur                    | 38                         | 55                        |
| 16.    | Kota+Baran                 | 36                         | 37                        |
| 17.    | Nagaur                     | 14                         | 23                        |
| 18.    | Pali                       | 17                         | 25                        |
| 19.    | Sikar                      | 15                         | 25                        |
| 20.    | Sirohi+Jalore              | 15                         | 24                        |
| 21.    | Sriganganagar+ Hanumangarh | 28                         | 27                        |

| 1     | 2                    | 3   | 4   |
|-------|----------------------|-----|-----|
| 22.   | Sawaimadhopur+Karoli | 09  | 23  |
| 23.   | Tonk                 | 08  | 14  |
| 24.   | Udaipur+Rajsamand    | 41  | 63  |
| Total |                      | 492 | 779 |

### **Change in Coal Linkage Policy**

4032. SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA :  
SHRI GANESH SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring about a change in the present policy of providing coal through coal linkage for captive use;

(b) if so, whether the coal would become more costlier for the small companies;

(c) if so, whether the new policy would also be applicable to the companies having already procured coal through coal linkage; and

(d) if so, the manner in which small companies would compete in the open market with the big companies which have procured the coal blocks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINERALS (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO) : (a) to (d) The policy in respect of distribution of coal amongst non-core sector consumers, following Kolkata High Court Judgement in Bijay Poddar Vs. Coal India Limited case is under formulation. E-auctions are being held by coal companies on a trial basis. Based on the feedback received, the policy on distribution of coal will be finalized.

[English]

### **Target for Reduction in Population Growth**

4033. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH :  
SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :

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

(a) whether in view of our limited and scarce natural resources, the Government proposes to lay down targets for each State in regard to reduction in the population growth rate;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether despite efforts of the Government the common man is not getting basic amenities such as food, clothing, shelter, health and education because of unabated increase in population;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check increasing population and the results thereof;

(e) whether the Government has also proposed to prescribe some incentives in the form of higher investment, etc. in those which have achieved the targets in reduction of population growth rate;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Family Welfare Programme is purely voluntary in nature. Since April 1996, fixing of Target in regard to demographic achievement has been abandoned in favour of decentralized participatory planning based on a Community Needs Assessment Approach (CNAAP).

(c) and (d) It is admitted that growing population causes a strain on natural and civic resources of the country.

Various steps have been taken to stabilize the population of the country. These include adoption of National Population Policy (NPP), constitution of the National Commission on Population, registration of the National Population Stabilization Fund and constitution of an Empowered Action Group (EAG) for focused attention on 8 demographically weaker States. The Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme was launched by Government in 1997 for provision of reproductive, maternal, child health and contraceptive services to the people. The Government has recently launched the National Rural Health Mission to provide comprehensive integrated primary health care services throughout the country.



As a result of the measures taken towards population stabilization, the demographic indicators of the country have improved considerably. The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) has declined from 6 in 1951 to 3.2 in 1999. The Infant Mortality Rate has declined from 146 in 1951 to 64 per thousand population. The Maternal Mortality Ratio has declined from 437 in 1982 to 407 per lakh live births. The decadal growth rate of population has declined from 24.6% (1981) to 1.93% (2001).

(e) to (g) National Family Welfare Programme continues to be a Centrally Sponsored Programme. Assistance given to States have nearly doubled over the last five years for maintenance of family welfare infrastructural units, supply of drugs, contraceptive and extending maternal and child health care services. The States, which show better performance in family welfare, receive higher allocation in the annual budget depending on the performance particularly in respect of supply of contraceptives, compensation for sterilization/IUD insertion and area specific programme.

#### **Life Insurance Policies for HIV People**

4034. SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to offer life insurance policies for people infected with HIV;

(b) if so, the guidelines worked out in this regard; and

(c) by when these guidelines are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Setting up of AIDS Hospital in Karnataka**

4035. SHRI M. SHIVANNA :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

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

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Karnataka Government for establishing a 100 bedded AIDS Hospital at Vijayanagar Institute of Medical Sciences, Bellary;

(b) if so, whether this request is pending for the last three years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when the proposal is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) Decision can be taken if/when a proposal is received.

[Translation]

#### **Manufacturing of Telecommunications Equipment**

†4036. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN :  
SHRI Y. G. MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether foreign companies have applied for manufacturing telecommunications equipments in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total investment likely to be made by the aforesaid companies on the manufacturing of the said equipments; and

(d) the names of the companies, applications of which have been accepted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) to (d) Manufacture of telecommunications equipment do not require specific permission from the Government. Further, 100 per cent Foreign Direct Investment is allowed under automatic route through Reserve Bank of India.

Some of the multi-national companies like Elcoteq, Nokia, LG, Ericsson, etc. have made certain announcement in the media showing their intent to manufacture telecom equipment in India. The likely amount of investment can not be estimated at this stage.

#### Condition of Roads in Bihar

4037. SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA :

SHRI SITA RAM YADAV :

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

(a) whether National Highway Numbers 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 98 and 28 in Bihar are in a very bad shape;

(b) if so, year-wise and road-wise scheme regarding construction of National Highways as per the laid down norms;

(c) whether the State Government has sent proposals demanding funds for the aforesaid purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these National Highways are likely to be repaired?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) and (b) The condition of these National Highways is being improved and made traffic worthy in a phased manner depending upon the *inter se* priority and availability of fund. Details of improvement works on these National Highways (Nos. 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 98 and 28) during the last four years are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) Every year programme for improvement of National Highways is prepared in consultation with the State Government and the proposal received from the State Government are considered for sanction. A budget provision of Rs. 70.00 crores has been made for the current financial year for the State of Bihar. The improvement works for various National Highways in Bihar including those mentioned above will be considered for implementation after approval of the budget for this year 2005-06

#### Statement

##### Road-wise and Year-wise details of the sanctioned scheme

Rupees in crores

| NH No. | 2001-02                         |                   | 2002-03            |                   | 2003-04   |                   | 2004-05   |                   |
|--------|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------|---|-------------------|
|        | Scheme and Stretch              | Sanctioned amount | Scheme and Stretch | Sanctioned amount | Scheme and Stretch  | Sanctioned amount | Scheme and Stretch  | Sanctioned amount |
| 1      | 2                               | 3                 | 4                  | 5                 | 6   | 7                 | 8   | 9                 |
| 102    | PR in km. 1 to 36               | 2.51              | —                  | —                 | PR in km. 42 to 44 and km. 61 to 69                         | 1.43              | —   | —                 |
| 103    | IRQP in Km. 1-5 and Km. 9 to 40 | 1.17              | —                  | —                 | Repairing and strengthening of Screw Pile bridge in km. 32. | 0.55              | i) IRQP in km. 7, 8, 15 to 44<br>ii) Rehabilitation of bridge in km. 45 | 6.30<br>0.77      |

| 1   | 2  | 3                     | 4  | 5                                     | 6  | 7            | 8  | 9             |
|-----|--|-----------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|--------------|--|---------------|
| 104 | —  | —                     | i) IRQP in km. 1 to 22.35<br>ii) IRQP in km. 133 to 142<br>iii) Widening in km. 69 to 96<br>iv) Reconstruction of Screw Pile bridge in km. 85, 96 and 106<br>v) Reconstruction of Screw Pile bridge in km. 178, 184, 187 and 191 | 2.99<br>1.69<br>14.88<br>0.79<br>1.25 | —  | —            | Construction of Screw Pile Bridge in km. 178 at the location of washed out bridge. | 1.46          |
| 105 | —  | —                     | IRQP in km. 12 to 234  | 3.82                                  | —  | —            | —  | —             |
| 106 | IRQP in km. 10 to 19, Km. 58 to 68, km. 89 to 98   | 4.73                  | PR in km. 69 to 76   | 1.18                                  | IRQP in km. 99 to 124  | 3.81         |  |               |
| 107 | i) IRQP in km. 9 to 20, km. 101 to 110, km. 117 to 126, km. 151 to 165<br>ii) Construction of Residual work of Bela bridge<br>iii) Construction of Box Culvert in km. 44 | 12.60<br>2.30<br>0.41 | i) IRQP in km. 141 to 150 and km. 166 to 180.<br>ii) Construction of Screw Pile bridge in km. 128<br>iii) Periodical renewal in km 99 and 100  | 4.75<br>0.63<br>0.29                  | i) Feasibility Study for ROB at Saharsa level crossing<br>ii) IRQP in km. 51 to 66 | 0.07<br>4.86 | IRQP in km 25.5 to 30.5  | 2.22          |
| 98  | IRQP in km 1 to 7, 65 to 89  | 5.31                  | IRQP in km 18 to 35  | 3.59                                  |  |              | i) Construction of HL bridge in km 7<br>ii) IRQP in km 53 to 64 and 90 to 127      | 0.86<br>10.72 |

| NH No. | 2001-02  |                    | 2002-03                                |                    | 2003-04  |                    | 2004-05                                    |                    |
|--------|--|--------------------|--|--------------------|--|--------------------|--|--------------------|
|        | Scheme and Stretch   | Sanc-tioned amount | Scheme and Strech                      | Sanc-tioned amount | Scheme and Strech  | Sanc-tioned amount | Scheme and Strech                          | Sanc-tioned amount |
| 28     | i) IRQP in km 476 to 487, 547 to 564, 582 to 608 (except 597, 600 and 603) | 14.37              | Periodical Re-newal in km. 597 and 600 | 0.24               | Periodical Re-newal in km 544, 566 to 568, 570 to 572, 584 | 2.40               | i) IRQP in km 534 to 543, 545, 546 and 565 | 3.66               |
|        | ii) Different stretch of length 76 kms from km 412 to 581                  | 9.80               |  |                    |  |                    | ii) IRQP in km 573 to 581                  | 3.54               |
|        |  |                    |  |                    |  |                    | iii) Periodical re-newal in km 609 to 627  | 2.96               |

IRQP = Improvement in riding quality programme

PR = Periodical Renewal

[English]

#### **Drug Testing Laboratories**

4038.SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

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

(a) whether the Government has drawn up a blueprint to set up more food and drug testing laboratories and upgrade existing ones;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the functions and number of labs to be set up;

(c) the estimated cost involved therein;

(d) whether these labs will be able to detect genetically modified food, contaminants and newer strains of pathogens in food entering Indian market;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether none of the existing labs is capable of detecting banned contaminants in edible items as per international standards;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor;

(h) whether the Government proposes to impart training of international standard to the laboratory staff; and

(i) if so, the concrete steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) Under the World Bank Assisted Capacity Building Project for food and drugs 17 existing food laboratories are being strenthened and 14 new food testing laboratories are being set up both in the Center and State sector. In case of drugs 13 existing laboratories are being upgraded and 1 new laboratory is being set up. In addition 5 new combined food and drug laboratory are being set up in the country. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 62.24 crores.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. At least one laboratory in each of the state will be able to detect contaminants and newer stains of pathogens in food and Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore and National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad will be able to detect Genetically Modified Food (GM) contaminants.

(f) and (g) Some of the existing laboratories are capable of detecting almost all contaminants as per International Standards.

(h) and (i) Yes, Sir. National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Mohali (Punjab) is conducting training for, inter-alia the staff of drug testing laboratories. Central Food Laboratories Kolkata, National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore and Food Research and Standardization Laboratory, Ghaziabad are conducting training Programmes for the laboratory staff of the food laboratories.

[Translation]

#### **Construction of By-Pass on N.H.-28**

4039. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction work of 16 kilometre by-pass National Highway No. 28 costing Rs. 100 crores has been stagnating for last two years in Bhagalpur, Bihar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether according to December, 2002 tender, Rs. 16 lakh 76 thousand is required to be paid to Constrama Company for preparing the DPR of the said road but the work could not be undertaken due to dispute between the Union Government and the Government of Bihar;

(d) if so, the facts thereof;

(e) whether the Government is willing to construct the said road; and

(f) if so, by when the work is likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) to (f) Presumably the Hon'ble Member of Parliament may be referring to the construction of Bhagalpur Bypass on NH-80. No such proposal for construction of Bhagalpur Bypass has been received from State Road Construction Department. The work of preparation of Detailed Project Report for Bhagalpur Bypass was sanctioned in October, 2004 for an amount of Rs. 15.20 lakhs. There is no dispute between Union

Government and the Government of Bihar on the issue. The construction of this bypass will depend on the outcome of Detailed Project Report.

#### **Illegal stay of Foreigners in India**

4040. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has raised the issue of illegal stay of foreigners in India with the various Foreign Governments during the last three years;

(b) if so, the names of those countries with whom such issues have been raised during the above period yearwise;

(c) the details of the response given by such countries, country-wise; and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bangladesh and Pakistan.

(c) and (d) (i) **Bangladesh**

Government of India has frequently taken up the problem with Government of Bangladesh at political and official levels including in the biannual Director General level talks between the Border Security Force (BSF) and the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR). The stand of Bangladesh Government is that there are no illegal Bangladesh immigrants in India as there is no economic rationale for large-scale migration from Bangladesh to India.

(ii) **Pakistan**

When Ministry of External Affairs is informed by Ministry of Home Affairs, consular access is provided to the Pakistani Government after Government of Pakistan confirms detinue nationality. Repatriated Pakistani detainees are accepted by the Pakistan Government. Arrested Pakistanis are allowed to complete their sen-

tence and thereafter released and repatriated. In the past three years, Government of India has released and repatriated 109 Pakistani civil prisoners.

[English]

#### **Encroachment of Surplus Land**

4041. SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there are instances of the encroachment of surplus land under the major ports in the country;
- (b) if so, the port-wise details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to evict the land encroached by the people?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The major ports of Mumbai, Tuticorin, Chennai, Paradip and Kandla have reported instances of encroachments on vacant land. In Mumbai Port Trust about 14,365 hutments in 25 pockets admeasuring 7.46 hectares comprising of 4 pockets of censused slum having 4960 hutments on 2.79 hectares and 21 pockets having 9405 hutments on 4.67 hectares of land have been identified under encroachment. The areas under censused slum are also earmarked for slum development in the city's development plan. In Tuticorin Port about 200 fishermen are staying on the encroached land. An area measuring 2.43 acres of land situated at Tirusoolam village under the control of Chennai Port has been encroached upon. A total number of 7566 households have encroached the land of Paradip Port Trust. In Kandla Port Trust the encroachment are in the form of hutments both temporary/permanent in nature.

- (c) The Port Trust initiate steps for removal of the encroachment from time to time with the help of State Government. Inspections are carried out by Port Trust Authorities and on detection of encroachment the matter is taken up with the Police Authorities. Steps are also initiated under the provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971 to evict the unauthorized occupants by following due process of law.

[Translation]

#### **Implementation of Central Health Schemes**

4042. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the Central Health Schemes implemented in Maharashtra during the last three years year-wise;
- (b) whether the State Government has demanded for higher fund allocations for better implementation and extension of the said health schemes; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) There are five major Centrally Sponsored Schemes/Programmes being implemented in Maharashtra during the last three years viz National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP), Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP), National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB), National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP) and National AIDS Control Programme (NACP).

- (b) and (c) Information is being collected.

[English]

#### **NGOs in Health related Programmes in Karnataka**

4043. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the non-Governmental organisations engaged in health related programmes in Karnataka;
- (b) the amount of funds that have been provided by the Union Government to each of these organisations during the last two years;
- (c) whether these funds have been utilized fully;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any misutilisation of funds has been noticed; and

(f) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against those found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

#### **Availability of Ayurvedic/Homoeopathic Medicines**

4044.SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has recently established a separate Department of Ayurvedic, Homoeopathic and other alternative medicines;

(b) if so, whether Ayurvedic medicines can be sold through retail chemists shops but restrictions have been placed on similar distribution of Homoeopathic remedies; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the easy availability of Homoeopathic remedies through chemists' shops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) The Department of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy (ISM and H) established in the year 1995 by the Government of India was renamed as the Department of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) in November, 2003.

(b) Under the existing legal provisions, no licence is required for retail sale of Ayurveda drugs. The Homoeopathic medicines are sold through license as per provisions under Rule-67-C of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules.

(c) The Government has amended Schedule-K to the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules to grant certain exemptions for sale of some of the commonly used Homoeopathic drugs.

#### **Protection to Kalpakkam Nuclear Reactor and Kudankulam Power Project**

4045.SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to make the area in and around Kalpakkam Nuclear Reactor and Kudankulam Power Project as Tsunami and Cyclone Proof area;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up Disaster Warning System at the township and in nearby fishing villages; and

(d) if so, its present status and the funds earmarked for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) No, Sir. Kalpakkam and Kudankulam plants have been designed to withstand events like Tsunamis and cyclones.

(b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

(c) Yes, Sir. Disaster warning system is being set-up at Kalpakkam Township.

(d) Funds earmarked for the disaster warning system in the Kalpakkam Township are Rs. 5 Lakh. The system is expected to be operational by June 2005.

#### **Modernization of Survey of India**

4046.SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Survey of India needs to be modernized to a large extent;

(b) if so, the present status of Survey of India vis-à-vis similar organizations of advanced countries;

(c) whether Government has any specific plans in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. With the advancement in technology and increased use of geographical information System(GIS), availability of upto date data has become

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a key factor for planning developmental activities. To meet this challenge, Survey of India needs to be modernized. The process has already been initiated and has gained considerable momentum.

(b) Survey of India was lagging behind similar organizations of advanced countries in all fields of surveying and mapping i.e.,

Spatial Data Acquisition,

Spatial Data Transformation,

Spatial Data Management and Dissemination.

But with the procurement of modern and sophisticated instruments, during the IXth and the Xth Plan, Survey of India will be well equipped with latest technology and state-of-the-art instruments comparable to any organization of advanced countries like the Ordnance Survey of U.K. or Australian Survey. Survey of India was producing maps in analogue form, but Survey of India is switching over to generate data in digital form. Adopting latest technology is an ongoing process, which when completed will make Survey of India to be at par with the survey and mapping agencies of other advanced countries.

(c) Yes, Sir. Government have specific plans for IXth Five-Year Plan (1998-2001) and Xth five-year plan (2002-2006) by allotting adequate funds on different schemes projected by Survey of India to build up infrastructure for state-of-the-art technology and cope with the present day needs. The process will continue to the XI<sup>th</sup> Plan also.

(d) Survey of India still needs to be provided with additional equipment and facilities for complete modernization as listed under :

- Aerial Digital Camera,
- ALTM Sensors
- Map Publishing System
- High Speed Connectivity between the State Centres and National Geo-Spatial Data Centre
- Laser Range Finders
- Mobility for Surveyors for field verification
- Vehical Mounted Digital Camera integrated with GPS

- Setting up Active Control Points Network for real-time connection of positional accuracies
- High End Servers for Data Management
- Technology for speedy dissemination of data such as heavy duty plotters for maps on demand.

Survey of India is procuring more and more sophisticated instruments/equipments in a phased manner to keep phase with latest trend of surveying and mapping existing with advanced countries.

[Translation]

#### **New Nuclear Reactors at Kaiga**

4047. SHRI SITA RAM YADAV :

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up three more atomic reactors at Kaiga in Karnataka;

(b) whether the Government is aware that Kaiga falls in the earthquake prone area;

(c) if so, the remedial steps being taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) the details of allocations made to Kaiga Atomic Energy Plant in Karnataka since its commissioning, year-wise;

(e) the details of the electricity it generated since its inception, year-wise;

(f) the details of supply of electricity from this plant to various States with special reference to Karnataka; and

(g) the details of the losses this plant incurred during the last three years from 2001-02 to 2004-05?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) There are two reactors in operation and two under construction at Kaiga, Karnataka. At present there is no proposal for setting up of additional reactors at Kaiga.

(b) The country has been classified in four Seismic Zones (II to V) in increasing order of seismicity. Kaiga is



in Zone III and is a suitable location for nuclear power plants.

(c) All structures, equipment and systems of the plants are designed to withstand the maximum probable impact of the earthquake that is likely to occur at the site during the life of the nuclear power plant.

(d) The station commenced commercial operations in the year 2000 and no allocation has been made after the commencement of commercial operation.

(e) The electricity generated by the station year wise in Million Units (MUs) is as follows :

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 2000-01 | 1900 (Kaiga-1 commenced operation in Nov. 2000) |
| 2001-02 | 2999  |
| 2002-03 | 3308  |
| 2003-04 | 3123  |
| 2004-05 | 2926  |

(f) The share of power amongst states is :

|             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| Karnataka   | 30% |
| Tamil Nadu  | 54% |
| Kerala      | 13% |
| Pondicherry | 3%  |

(g) The station has consistently made profit in the last three years from 2001-02 to 2004-05.

[English]

#### **Coal Supplies to NTPC and Other Projects**

4048.SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Limited is considering drastic reduction in Supplies of Coal to the central power utility, NTPC and other projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the coal shortage has already hit a large number of thermal power plants;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

(e) whether the Coal India Ltd. is also considering to make the regulations of coal supplies to NTPC, Singrauli and Korba Stations more stringent; and

(f) if so, the extent to which it has affected the NTPC and the State Electricity Boards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Coal India Limited supplied about 234 million tonnes of coal to power utilities and NTPC in 2003-04 while in 2004-05 it supplied 249 million tonnes. In 2005-06, a supply to about 257 million tonnes is envisaged.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Coal India Limited has been able to by and large meet the requirements of coal of the thermal power plants as per the Annual Action Plan targets although some loss of generation at certain individual units can not be ruled out. The Power Sector has further been advised to import about 10 million tonnes of coal during the current year to meet their increasing demand for coal due to increased generation.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

#### **Three-way agreement among DOT, MTNL and BSNL**

4049.SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the MTNL is not in favour of the idea that it should be made a subsidiary of BSNL;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a proposal has been mooted for a three-way agreement among DoT, MTNL and BSNL to merge the two companies alongwith the decision that BSNL be made to finalise its accounts for last year;

(d) if so, whether any final decision in this regard has been reached; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) The consultants in their report for restructuring of MTNL and BSNL have short listed four options which are under examination by MTNL and DOT.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) No final decision has been taken in this regard.

#### **Enhancement of plan size for Orissa**

4050.SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Orissa has requested for enhancement of plan size of State during current financial year and allocation of one time Additional Central Assistance;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the action taken by the Government so far; and

(d) the time by which the request of State Government will be acceded by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **US Study on Indian Herb**

4051.SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a US study endorses Indian Herb Salacia Oblonga for the treatment of diabetes, lower blood sugar and insulin levels in a manner similar to prescription drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the Government proposes to take benefit of the US study to control diabetes in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA

LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) A US study on the use of Indian herb Salacia Oblonga for treatment of the diabetes published by Heacock et al. in the January 2005 issue of the Journal of the American Diabetic Association reveals that Salacia Oblonga binds to intestinal enzymes which break down carbohydrates in the body. These enzyme turn carbohydrates into glucose, the sugar that circulates throughout the body. If the enzyme binds to the herbal extract rather than to a carbohydrate, less glucose gets into the bloodstream, resulting in lowered blood glucose and insulin levels.

(c) The herb is under trial. After completion of the study, India may also utilize the drug to control diabetic incidents, provided it is safe and without side effect.

#### **Development of Coastal Towns**

4052.SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received proposals from various States for developing coastal towns as full-fledged seaports;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether Ankola in Karnataka is also among such coastal towns which is under the consideration of the Government to be developed as a seaport; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by when this project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) No proposal for developing coastal towns as full-fledged seaports has been received in the Department of Shipping.

#### **Funds for Ayurvedic System of Treatment**

4053.SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has allotted less funds for Ayurvedic Systems of Treatment in Gujarat this year in comparison to last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a number of organisations/associations of State Government have requested for increasing the funds; and

(d) if so, the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Indians Lodged In Foreign Jails

4054. SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indians lodged in the various foreign jails, country wise; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to get them released at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF Ministry of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) A statement giving information on Indians in foreign jails is enclosed as Statement.

(b) Indian Missions/Posts abroad make all possible efforts to get Indian nationals in foreign jails released quickly, and provide assistance which includes requesting speedy trials, seeking remission of sentence, seeking consular access to the detainees and prisoners, providing advice/guidance in legal and other matters, interacting with their relatives in India, ensuring fair and humane treatment in foreign jails, and facilitating repatriation to India on their eventual release.

#### Statement

| Serial No. | Country | Number of Indians jailed abroad |
|------------|---------|---------------------------------|
| 1          | 2       | 3                               |
| 01.        | Algeria | 9                               |

| 1   | 2                        | 3   |
|-----|--------------------------|-----|
| 02. | Argentina                | 3   |
| 03. | Armenia                  | 1   |
| 04. | Austria                  | Nil |
| 05. | Azerbaijan               | Nil |
| 06. | Australia                | 1   |
| 07. | Bahrain                  | 163 |
| 08. | Bangladesh               | 738 |
| 09. | Belgium                  | 14  |
| 10. | Belize                   | Nil |
| 11. | Bhutan                   | 30  |
| 12. | Bolivia                  | Nil |
| 13. | Botswana                 | 5   |
| 14. | Brazil                   | Nil |
| 15. | Brunei                   | Nil |
| 16. | Bulgaria                 | Nil |
| 17. | Burkina Faso             | Nil |
| 18. | Canada                   | 1   |
| 19. | Central African Republic | Nil |
| 20. | Chile                    | Nil |
| 21. | China                    | 34  |
| 22. | Colombia                 | Nil |
| 23. | Cambodia                 | 1   |
| 24. | Cote d'Ivor              | Nil |
| 25. | Comoros                  | Nil |
| 26. | Croatia                  | Nil |
| 27. | Cuba                     | 4   |
| 28. | Cyprus                   | 49  |
| 29. | Czech Republic           | 1   |
| 30. | Denmark                  | 9   |
| 31. | Djibouti                 | Nil |

| 1               | 2 | 3   |
|-----------------|---|-----|
| 32. El Salvador |   | Nil |
| 33. Ethiopia    |   | Nil |
| 34. Fiji        |   | Nil |
| 35. Finland     |   | 1   |
| 36. France      |   | 190 |
| 37. Germany     |   | Nil |
| 38. Ghana       |   | Nil |
| 39. Greece      |   | 198 |
| 40. Guatemala   |   | Nil |
| 41. Guinea      |   | Nil |
| 42. Guyana      |   | Nil |
| 43. Honduras    |   | Nil |
| 44. Hong Kong   |   | 39  |
| 45. Hungary     |   | 3   |
| 46. Indonesia   |   | 3   |
| 47. Iran        |   | 4   |
| 48. Ireland     |   | Nil |
| 49. Israel      |   | 170 |
| 50. Italy       |   | 39  |
| 51. Jamaica     |   | 2   |
| 52. Japan       |   | 2   |
| 53. Jordan      |   | 4   |
| 54. Kuwait      |   | 49  |
| 55. Latvia      |   | Nil |
| 56. Lebanon     |   | 160 |
| 57. Liberia     |   | 11  |
| 58. Libya       |   | Nil |
| 59. Macedonia   |   | Nil |
| 60. Madagascar  |   | 2   |
| 61. Malaysia    |   | 568 |

| 1                         | 2 | 3   |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| 62. Maldives              |   | 12  |
| 63. Mexico                |   | Nil   |
| 64. Mongolia              |   | Nil   |
| 65. Mozambique            |   | Nil   |
| 66. Myanmar               |   | 50  |
| 67. Namibia               |   | Nil   |
| 68. Netherlands           |   | 152   |
| 69. Nicaragua             |   | Nil   |
| 70. Niger                 |   | Nil   |
| 71. Oman                  |   | 22  |
| 72. Pakistan              |   | Approx. 900; however<br>Pakistan has acknowl-<br>edged only 182 |
| 73. Panama                |   | 3   |
| 74. Papua New Guinea      |   | Nil   |
| 75. Peru                  |   | Nil   |
| 76. Poland                |   | 1   |
| 77. Portugal              |   | 5   |
| 78. Qatar                 |   | 21  |
| 79. Russian Federation    |   | 120   |
| 80. Saudi Arabia          |   | 1160  |
| 81. Serbia and Montenegro |   | 5   |
| 82. Seychelles            |   | Nil   |
| 83. Sierra Leone          |   | Nil   |
| 84. Singapore             |   | 345   |
| 85. Slovak Republic       |   | 12  |
| 86. Solomon Islands       |   | Nil   |
| 87. South Africa          |   | 3   |
| 88. Sri Lanka             |   | 3   |
| 89. Sudan                 |   | Nil   |

| 1               | 2 | 3    |
|-----------------|---|------|
| 90. Swaziland   |   | Nil  |
| 91. Sweden      |   | Nil  |
| 92. Switzerland |   | 4    |
| 93. Syria       |   | 10   |
| 94. Tajikistan  |   | 1    |
| 95. Tanzania    |   | 2    |
| 96. Thailand    |   | 31   |
| 97. Togo        |   | Nil  |
| 98. Tunisia     |   | Nil  |
| 99. Turkey      |   | 45   |
| 100. UAE        |   | 750  |
| 101. UK         |   | 233  |
| 102. USA        |   | 101  |
| 103. Uganda     |   | Nil  |
| 104. Ukraine    |   | 231  |
| 105. Uzbekistan |   | Nil  |
| 106. Vanuatu    |   | Nil  |
| 107. Vietnam    |   | Nil  |
| 108. Yemen      |   | Nil  |
| 109. Zimbabwe   |   | Nil  |
| Total           |   | 6730 |

[English]

**Launching of Communication  
Satellite for Health Care**

4055. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch a communication satellite exclusively for health care to enable the patients and doctors to consult specialists in cities;

(b) if so, the time by which this satellite is likely to be launched and the total cost involved in this; and

(c) the main benefits likely to be derived by the rural masses as a result of launching of this satellite?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

**Surrender of Landline Connections**

4056. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :

SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN" :

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to a survey conducted by the BSNL, a number of land line connections have been surrendered in some of its largest circles in the basic service sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise;

(c) the amount of revenue loss as a result thereof; and

(d) the manner in which the Government proposes to deal with the situation and compete with private operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Following are major reasons of surrender in major cities :-

(i) Economical factors related to telephone users.

(ii) Due to increase in reliability of landline connections, second telephone connection is not required by some of the customers.

(iii) Surrender of landline in favour of mobile services.

(iv) Shift/transfer of customers to other places or the other service providers.

(c) In spite of the surrender of some telephones, the net revenue of the company has increased.

(d) Following initiatives have been taken by BSNL to increase number of landlines and to stop the surrender of land lines :-

- (i) Providing phone plus services free of cost.
- (ii) Sulabh plan is introduced to cater low-end demand.
- (iii) Second B-fone connection for Internet purpose is offered at connectational rate.
- (iv) Rent waiver scheme was introduced to attract lost customers in BSNL back. In this scheme rent was waived off for non-service period.
- (v) Special promotional schemes like free registration in on demand area, free installation etc. were introduced time to time basis.
- (vi) Launch of Broadband services at very attractive tariffs.

#### **Non-Governmental Organisations in Health Programmes**

4057. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the non-Governmental organisations engaged in health related programmes in Gujarat;

(b) the amount of funds provided by the Union Government to each organisation during the last two years;

(c) whether these funds have been fully utilized;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any misutilisation has been noticed; and

(f) if so, the action being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

#### **Integrated Disease Surveillance Project**

4058. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a World Bank aided Integrated Disease Surveillance Project was launched in Simla recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its impact on health services;

(c) whether the Union Government has any proposal to establish such Project in other States also;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(e) by when these projects are likely to be started in other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government of Himachal Pradesh organized State launch of Integrated Disease Surveillance Project on 25th March 2005.

(b) A World Bank aided Integrated Disease Surveillance Project was launched by Government of India on 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 2004 with the objective of establishing a decentralized State based system of surveillance for communicable and non-communicable diseases for timely and effective public health action.

(c) to (e) All States/UTs will be covered under the project in a phased manner as per details given in the enclosed Statement. Phase I States were advised to organize State level launch of the Project before June 2005. Government of Himachal Pradesh and Mizoram have launched the Project at the State level and remaining 7 States covered in Phase I are in the process of organizing State launch of IDSP.

#### **Statement**

##### *Integrated Diseases Surveillance Project*

##### *Project Phasing*

*Phase I (2004-05)*: Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, and Mizoram and all the 101 districts covered under Pilot Project

"National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases."

*Phase II (2005-06)* : Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan Orissa, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Delhi, Goa, Chandigarh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura.

*Phase III (2006-07)* : Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Punjab, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Sikkim, Andaman and Nicobar, Dadar and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Lakshadweep.

#### **Upgradation of State Roads in Rajasthan**

4059. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposals relating to some State Highways of Rajasthan and some sections of some State roads of the State are pending with the Government for their upgradation and conversion into National Highways;

(b) if so, the number of such proposals considered during 2004-05; and

(c) the steps taken to implement those proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) to (c) In February, 2004, the Ministry had declared 7457 Kms of State roads including 988 Kms in Rajasthan as National Highways. Thereafter, the Government of Rajasthan submitted proposals for conversion 17 States roads as National Highways. The Rajasthan Government has been informed that due to financial and other constraints, at present emphasis is being given for development of existing National Highways instead of declaring more roads as National Highways.

#### **Amendment of Formula for Allocation of Central Assistance**

4060. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was wide divergence in the views expressed by States in respect of amendment of existing

formula for allocating normal Central assistance to State plans;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government has considered the matter in the National Development Council (NDC);

(d) if so, the decision taken by the NDC;

(e) whether the decision of NDC has been made effective; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) : (a) and (b) Consequent upon the formation of the new UPA Government, the Planning Commission initiated Regional Meetings with Chief Minister of States under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission covering the entire 6 (six) regions of the country i.e. North, South, East, West, Central and North East. However, except Rajasthan, none of the States raised the issue of amendment of the existing formula of allocating Normal Central Assistance (NCA) to State Plans. In this context, the State of Rajasthan suggested that Gadgil Formula may be revised by giving weightage to the geographic area, index of infrastructure development and percentage of SC/ST population.

(c) to (f) Does not arise.

#### **Completion of North-South Corridor**

4061. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH :  
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL :

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

(a) whether the work for construction of the Dholpur-Gwalior stretch of the North-South Corridor which connects Srinagar to Kanyakumari has currently been held up;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the period since when the construction work is held up;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken for early completion of the North-South corridor;

(d) the details of the stretches of East-West corridor of Golden Quadrilateral project that are under construction; and

(e) the reasons for the delay alongwith the time by when both the East-West and North-South corridors are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The following actions are taken for early completion of North-South Corridor.

(i) Provision of bonus for early completion.

(ii) Provision of penalty for late completion.

(iii) Multi layer monitoring of the contracts.

(iv) Close coordination with the State Government Authorities for land acquisition and removal of utilities obstruction etc.

(v) Close coordination with Railway Authorities for construction of ROBs/RUBs.

(d) The East-West corridor is not part of Golden Quadrilateral Project. The details of stretches of East West corridor which are under construction are enclosed as Statement.

(e) The targeted date of substantial completion of North-South and East-West Corridors is December 2007. It is expected that targets would be substantially adhered to.

### **Statement**

#### *Details of North-South and East West Contracts under Implementation*

| Sl.No. | Contracts Stretch  | NH          | Length |
|--------|--|-------------|--------|
| 1.     | Silchar-Udardband Km 309 to Km to Km 275.00  | 54          | 34.00  |
| 2.     | Sonapur to Guwahati Km 183 to Km 183.895   | 37          | 19.00  |
| 3.     | Nalbari to Bijni Km 1065.00 to Km 1040.3   | 31          | 25.00  |
| 4.     | Daikola Islampur Sub section 2 (EW/6) km 500 to 476.15                                       | 31          | 23.85  |
| 5.     | Purnea - Gayakota (EW/4) Km 476.15 - Km 470 and Km 419 - Km 410                              | 31          | 15.15  |
| 6.     | Purnea - Gayakota (EW-12/BR) Km 447 - Km 419   | 31          | 28.00  |
| 7.     | Lucknow Bypass (EW-15/UP) Connecting NH-25 and NH-28 via NH-56 Passing through Lucknow City. | 5, 28 and 6 | 22.85  |
| 8.     | Lucknow Kanpur section (EW-8/UP) Km 21.80 to Km 44.00  | 25          | 22.20  |
| 9.     | Lucknow Kanpur (KW/3) Km 59.5 - 75.5   | 25          | 16.00  |
| 10.    | Deesa to Radhanpur Km 372.60 to Km 458.0   | 14          | 85.40  |
| 11.    | Radhanpur to Gagodhar Km 138.80 to Km 245.00   | 15          | 106.20 |
| 12.    | Gagodhar to Garamore Km 245.0 to Km 281.3  | 15 and 8A   | 90.30  |
| 13.    | Garamore to Bamanbore Km 254.00 to Km 182.60   | 8A          | 71.40  |
| 14.    | Rajkot Bypass and Gondal Jetput Km 185.00 to Km 175.00                                       | 8B          | 10.00  |
| 15.    | Jetpur to Bhiladi km 117 to Km 52.50   | 8B          | 64.50  |
| 16.    | Bhiladi to Porbander Km 52.50 to Km 2.00   | 8B          | 50.50  |



**Strengthening of Diagnostic Facilities**

4062. SHRI M. SHIVANNA :

SHRI VANKATESHA NAIK :

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

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal/pilot project from the Karnataka Government for financial assistance to improve quality of Medical education, physical infrastructure of Government Medical Colleges and attached hospitals for strengthening of diagnostic facilities;

(b) if so, whether the said proposals/project is pending with the Government for the past so many years; and

(c) if so, the time by when the proposal is likely to be approved by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) A proposal was received from Government of Karnataka vide their letter dated 5.1.2002 seeking financial assistance for strengthening of diagnostic facilities at Bangalore Medical College, Bangalore under the Pilot Project for providing financial assistance to the selected Government Medical Colleges for strengthening of diagnostic facilities. The proposal was proposed and certain additional information was called for from Government of Karnataka vide letter dated 30.4.2002. The required additional information was received from Government of Karnataka only in April 2003 by which time the scheme was discontinued and as such no grant could be released.

[Translation]

**Fake Institutions/Doctors**

4063. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA :

SHRI RAJENDER KUMAR :

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

(a) whether Government is aware that Fake doctors have registered themselves in medical colleges in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; college-wise;

(c) whether the Government is also aware that several fake institutions are operating in the country which provide degree in medical sciences;

(d) if so, whether the Government has made any investigation in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken/proposed to be taken against such doctors and institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (f) Only those institutions which are recognized/permitted under IMC Act, 1956 by the Government can provide education in Medical Sciences and only those who fulfil the required qualification and experience as prescribed under IMC Act can be employed as teacher in these institutions. No instance of any fake institutions operating or fake doctor employed in medical colleges have been brought to our notice.

**Grant-in-aid for Eradication of Blindness and AIDS**

4064. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the amount of Central grant-in-aid provided during the current year to Uttar Pradesh and other States for eradication of blindness and leprosy;

(b) the amount released so far for this purpose, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has issued any guidelines regarding utilization of the central grant-in-aid; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) Under National Programme for Control of Blindness and National Leprosy Eradication Programme no fund has been released to Uttar Pradesh and other States during the current financial year, i.e. 2005-06.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A copy of the revised pattern of assistance for National Programme for Control of Blindness for 10th Plan is enclosed as Statement-I and pattern of funding of National Leprosy Eradication Programme is enclosed as Statement-II.

**Statement-I**

**G.20015/1/97-Ophth.BC  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
(Blindness Control Section)**

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi

Dated: 12 October 2004

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**Subject: Revised Pattern of Assistance for National Programme for Control of Blindness during the 10<sup>th</sup> Plan**

National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) was launched in the year 1976 as a 100% centrally sponsored scheme with the goal of reducing the prevalence of blindness. The goal set for the terminal year of the 10<sup>th</sup> Plan is to reduce the prevalence of blindness of 0.8% by 2007.

2. The main **Objectives** of the Programme are :

- (a) To provide high quality of eye care to the affected population;
- (b) To expand coverage of eye care services to the underserved areas;
- (c) To reduce the backlog of blindness by identifying and providing services to the affected population; and
- (d) To develop institutional capacity for eye care services by providing support for equipment and material and training personnel.

3. The Programme Objectives are to be achieved by adopting the following strategy :

Decentralized implementation of the scheme through District Blindness Control Societies;

- Reduction in the backlog of blind persons by active screening of population above 50 years, organizing screening eye camps and transporting operable cases to eye care facilities;
- Involvement of voluntary organization in various eye care activities;
- Participation of community and Panchayat Raj Institutions in organizing services in rural areas.
- Development of eye care services and improvement in quality of eye care by training of personnel, supply of high tech equipments, strengthening follow up services and monitoring of services;
- Screening of school going children for identification and treatment of Refractive Errors; with special attention in under served areas.
- Public awareness about prevention and timely treatment of eye ailments.
- Special focus on illiterate women in rural areas. For this purpose, there should be convergence with various ongoing schemes for development of women and children.
- To make eye care comprehensive, besides surgery other Intra Ocular surgical operations for treatment of Glaucoma, Diabetic Retinopathy etc. may also be provided free of cost to the poor patients through government as well as qualified non government organizations.

4. **Targets for the 10<sup>th</sup> Plan:**

During the 10<sup>th</sup> Plan the scheme would consolidate gains in controlling cataract blindness and also initiate activities to prevent and control blindness due to other causes particularly in children and the aged. This would be done by further increasing cataract surgery rates, increasing coverage, developing infrastructure and human resources for other causes of blindness and involvement of community including Panchayats and voluntary organizations. The scheme would be uniformly implemented throughout the country. Funds available under the scheme would be utilized on the following activities :

- a. Performing 2.11 crore cataract operations with more than 80% being IOL implantation;
- b. Screening of school children for detection of refractive errors and providing 3.1 lakh free spectacles to poor children;
- c. Collection of 1.75 lakh donated eyes (after death) for transplantation in persons with corneal blindness;
- d. Training of 1200 eye surgeons in modern cataract surgery and other specialized procedures;
- e. Enhancing capacities for eye care services in public sector by providing assistance to hospitals at various levels;
- f. Setting up 2000 vision centers in rural areas at Primary Health centers and NGO facilities for providing basic services to rural population;
- g. Developing network of 25 eye banks and eye donation centers to facilitate collection and processing of donated eyes;
- h. Providing non-recurring assistance to 50 voluntary organizations for strengthening/expanding eye care services for rural population.

The year-wise targets are given in Annexure-I

5. **Pattern of Assistance:** It has been decided to make some amendments in the existing pattern of assistance. The main features of revised pattern of assistance are given below :

- a. Support for salaries of key technical staff (Eye Surgeons, Ophthalmic Assistants and State Ophthalmic Cell) on posts created during the 9<sup>th</sup> Plan has been continued up to the 10<sup>th</sup> Plan (March 2007).
- b. Support of State Blindness Control Society enhanced for better management and monitoring capacity.
- c. Increase in commodity assistance to various facilities to increase their capacity for treatment of all type of eye ailments including those required for restoration of vision in blind children;

- d. Facilities for Intra-ocular Lens (IOL) implantation expanded up to Taluka level;
- e. Marginal increase in grant-in-aid to NGOs due to escalation of costs and better quality of corrective spectacles;
- f. To enhance utilization of eye care facilities available in the Government Sector, a scheme would be evolved where Panchayats would be involved in the programme. They would organize identification, motivation and transport of persons requiring eye care services including cataract surgery to government fixed facilities. Panchayats can use services of PHCs/sub centre staff, ICDS functionaries (Anganwadi workers) and voluntary groups like Mahila Mandals etc. This scheme would aim at utilizing existing facilities and reduction in backlog particularly in underserved areas. District Blindness Control Societies would pay a sum not exceeding Rs. 175 per operated case to Panchayats for meeting expenditure on this activity.
- g. Assistance for construction of new eye wards and operation theatres in Government sector has been discontinued.

Revised Pattern of Assistance as approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs are given at Annexure-II. Norms for financial assistance for various components are given at Annexure-III.

Grant-in-aid for cataract operations performed before 1st October 2004 would be paid as per old pattern of assistance. The Revised Pattern of Assistance will be effective w.e.f. 1st October 2004.

(Raj Kumar)

Under Secretary to Government of India

1. **Secretary (Health) (All States)**
2. **Directors of Health Services (All States)**
3. **Joint Directors (NPCB) (All States)**
4. **District Collector and Chairperson, District Blindness Control Societies (All Districts by NIC Mail)**

**Annexure-I**

**National Programme for Control of Blindness**  
**Physical Targets during the X Plan (2002-2007)**

|  | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | Total |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|
| <b>STRENGTHENING CARE INFRASTRUCTURE</b>                             |         |         |         |         |         |       |
| Regional Institutes of Ophthalmology (Strengthen existing and 5 new) | 0       | 3       | 4       | 4       | 4       | 15    |
| Medical Colleges (Paediatric Units/Low Vision Center)                | 10      | 10      | 10      | 10      | 10      | 50    |
| District Hospitals for IOL Surgery                                   | 50      | 50      | 50      | 50      | 50      | 250   |
| Sub-District Hospitals for IOL Surgery                               | 0       | 25      | 25      | 25      | 25      | 100   |
| Primary Health Centres (Vision Centres)                              | 0       | 500     | 500     | 500     | 500     | 2000  |
| Eye Banks  | 0       | 6       | 6       | 6       | 7       | 25    |
| Eye Donation Centres   | 0       | 24      | 24      | 24      | 28      | 100   |
| Non-recurring GIA to NGOs for setting up/expanding eye care facility | 5       | 12      | 12      | 12      | 9       | 50    |
| <b>PHYSICAL TARGETS</b>  |         |         |         |         |         |       |
| Cataract Operations (in Lakhs)                                       | 40      | 41      | 42      | 43      | 43      | 211   |
| Spects to School children (In Thousand)                              | 50      | 60      | 60      | 70      | 70      | 310   |
| Collection of Donated Eyes (In Thousand)                             | 25      | 30      | 35      | 40      | 45      | 175   |
| <b>TRAINING</b>  |         |         |         |         |         |       |
| Eye Surgeons in IOL/SICS/PHACO                                       | 200     | 200     | 200     | 200     | 200     | 1000  |
| Eye Surgeons in Ophthalmic Sub-specialty                             | 0       | 50      | 50      | 50      | 50      | 200   |
| Nurses in Ophthalmic techniques                                      | 200     | 200     | 200     | 200     | 200     | 1000  |
| Refresher for Ophthalmic Assistants                                  | 500     | 500     | 500     | 500     | 500     | 2500  |

**Annexure-II**

**Revised Pattern of Assistance under NPCB Approved for 10<sup>th</sup> Plan**

| Component                 | Revised Pattern of Assistance  |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1                         | 2  |
| 1A. State Ophthalmic Cell | <b>(a) For Major States (21)</b><br>Recurring assistance (Cash Grant) of Rs. 7.00 lakhs per annum to meet the cost on salary of the following staff, TA/DA, organizing review meetings, operating and maintenance of office equipments and contingencies |

| 1   | 2   |
|---|---|
|   | Joint/Dy. Director 1<br>Accountant 1<br>Computer Operator/Statistical Assistant 1<br>Stenographer/LDC 1<br>Group D 1  |
|   | <b>(b) For Small States/UTs (14)</b><br>Recurring assistance (Cash Grants) of Rs. 3.00 lakhs per annum to meet the cost on salary of the following staff, TA/DA, organizing review meetings and contingencies :<br>Dy. Director 1<br>Stat. Asstt. Or Stenographer/ 1<br>Computer Operatory 1<br>Group D 1<br><i>Note: The above staff may be engaged deputation/on contract</i>   |
| 1B. State Blindness Control Society                                 | <b>Non-recurring grant-in-aid</b> to Rs. 3 lakhs towards purchase of computer, printer, fax, Xerox machine, office furniture, fixtures.<br><b>Recurring grant-in-aid</b> : For Major States Rs. 9 lakhs; for Small States/UTs Rs. 4 lakhs towards TA/DA, organizing review meetings, maintenance and operational costs, furnishing of State Ophthalmic Cell and remuneration to support staff on contract. Details are at Annexure III (G). |
| 2. Strengthening/setting up of Regional Institutes of Ophthalmology | <b>Non-recurring commodity assistance</b> up to Rs. 50 lakhs for new RIOs and Rs. 30 lakh for existing RIOs for providing ophthalmic equipments for development of paediatric eye units/low vision units/retina units and training infrastructure. List of Equipment is at Annexure III (A).  |
| 3. Strengthening of Medical Colleges                                | <b>Non-recurring commodity assistance</b> up to Rs. 30 lakhs for providing ophthalmic equipments as commodity assistance for development of paediatric eye units/low vision units/retina units. List of Equipment is at Annexure III (A).   |
| 4. Strengthening of District Hospitals                              | <b>Non-recurring commodity assistance</b> up to Rs. 12 lakhs for Ophthalmic equipments for IOL Surgery. List of Equipment is at Annexure III (B).   |
| 5. Upgradation of Subdist. Hosp/CHCs                                | <b>Non-recurring commodity assistance</b> up to Rs. 3 lakhs for ophthalmic equipments for IOL Surgery. List of Equipment is at Annexure III (B).  |
| 6. District Mobile Unit'  | Staff available under Mobile Unit to be re-deployed against vacant posts. Vehicle available for Mobile Units will be allotted to District Blindness Control Society for conducting screening camps/surgical eye camps in underserved areas.   |
| 7. Vision Centres at PHCs/ in Vol. Sector                           | <b>Non-recurring assistance</b> up to Rs. 25,000 for basic equipments, furniture nad fixtures. GIA to DBCS would be used for Vision Centres at PHCs. For Voluntary Sector, assistance would be provided as GIA. Details are at Annexure III (F).  |

| 1  | 2  |
|--|--|
| 8. Support to Eye Bank in Government/Voluntary Sectors   | <p><b>Non-recurring assistance</b> up to Rs. 10 lakh for equipments and furnishing towards strengthening/developing Eye Bank by GOI as per Annexure III C.</p> <p><b>Recurring assistance</b> Rs. 1000 per pair of eyes towards honorarium of eye bank staff, consumables including preservation material and media, transportation/POL and contingencies. Recurring GIA would be paid through DBCS.</p>   |
| 9. Support to Eye Donation Centres                       | <p><b>Non-recurring assistance</b> up to Rs. 1 lakh for strengthening/developing Eye Donation Centre.</p> <p><b>Recurring assistance</b> of Rs. 500 per pair of eyes collected towards honorarium of eye bank staff, consumables including preservation material and media, transportation/travel cost/POL and contingencies. Recurring GIA would be paid through affiliated Eye Bank.</p>   |
| 10. Grant-in-aid to District Blindness Control Societies | <p><b>Recurring assistance</b> in installment of Rs. 5 lakh of more will be released to DBCSs through SBCS. More than 1 installment can be given to a DBCS in a financial year. The DBCS can be sanctioned 50% of GIA of budget required in FY as 1st installment. GIA will be utilized towards cost of consumables, minor equipments/instruments as per approved list (Annexure II F), spectacles, POL and maintenance of vehicles and equipments, IEC activities, village blind registry, remuneration to District Programme Manager and support staff, grant-in-aid to NGOs for performing free cataract operations, assistance to Panchayats for screening, motivation and transportation of cataract patients, recurring grant-in-aid to eye banks, School Eye Screening, eye donation activities, training within the district and other contingent expenditure as per guidelines. GIA can also be utilized for treatment of poor patients suffering from other eye problems like Glaucoma, Diabetic. Retinopathy etc. at government or qualified NGOS.</p> <p><b>Commodity Assistance</b> : Bulk consumables like sutures and IOLs will continue to be given as commodity assistance to DBCSs and will be distributed to RIOs, Medical Colleges, District and Sub-district hospitals, NGOs and upgraded PHCs.</p> |

11. Grant-in-aid for free cataract operations by voluntary organizations/PRI etc. in camps/fixed facilities

**Recurring Grant-in-aid to NGOs** for performing free cataract operation and other Intra-ocular Surgeries determined by following table

|  | ICCE       | ECCE/IOL   | Phaco      |
|--|------------|------------|------------|
| a. Drugs and consumables               | 150        | 200        | 200        |
| b. Sutures                             | 50         | 50         | 0          |
| c. Spectacles                          | 125        | 125        | 125        |
| d. Transport/POL                       | 100        | 100        | 100        |
| e. Organization and Publicity          | 75         | 75         | 75         |
| f. IOL, Viscoelastics and addl consum. | 0          | 200        | 250        |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>500</b> | <b>750</b> | <b>750</b> |

For identifying blind persons (blind registry), organizing and motivating identified persons and transporting them to Government/VO fixed facilities, primary health center,

| 1  | 2  |
|--|--|
|  | <p>panchayats, ICDS functionaries and other voluntary groups like mahila mandals would be identified and involved by the District Blindness Control Societies. They would be eligible for support not exceeding Rs. 175 per operated case (d and e component in the table given above).</p>  |
| 12. Nonrecurring GIA for strengthening/expansion of Eye Care units | <p><b>Non-recurring GIA</b> up to Rs. 25 lakhs on a 1:1 sharing basis. Recurring assistance would be on the basis of scheme 11. Details of support are given at Annexure III (D).</p>  |
| 13. Information Education Communication                            | <p><b>Central Level:</b> planning, monitoring and evaluation of IEC, guidelines to States and DBCSs for strategies related to IEC. Guidelines, training, manuals and other prototype material produced, tested and circulated. Publication of newsletters, Operations research related to IEC.</p> <p><b>State Level:</b> IEC strategy developed in various regions of the State, replication of effective prototype, monitoring of district level IEC activities.</p> <p><b>District Level:</b> Local IEC suitable to target population, use of folk methods and other indigenous mean of communication. Orientation of local leaders.</p>  |
| 14. Training of Ophthalmic and Support manpower                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training of eye surgeons in identified institutions in following areas: ECCE/IOL Implantation Surgery, Small Incision Cataract Surgery, Phaco-emulsification, Low Vision Services, Glaucoma, Pediatric Ophthalmology, Indirect Ophthalmology and Laser Techniques, Vitreoretinal Surgery, Eye Banking and Corneal Transplantation Surgery etc. Support for training of eye surgeons would not exceed Rs. 45000 per trainee.</li> <li>• Training of District Programme Managers organized by Central Cell.</li> <li>• Training of ophthalmic nursing and refresher training of MOs and PMOAs will be organized of state level. Basic training of ophthalmic assistants will be revamped and initiated in selected institutions of the country.</li> <li>• Guidelines and curriculum for various training courses would be organized by the Central Cell.</li> </ul>  |
| 15. Management Information System, monitoring and evaluation       | <p><b>Central Level:</b> Guidelines and standard formats produced and circulated. Development of software, training of MIS staff and conduct of beneficiary assessment and evaluation surveys. Monitoring of performance and expenditure by States and DBCSs.</p> <p><b>State Level:</b> Supply of hardware and software of States as commodity assistance. Maintenance and operational expenses out of recurring assistance to SBCS. Data entry and analysis of performance and expenditure on various components</p> <p><b>District Level:</b> Compilation of data from various performing units in standard records, reporting of performance and expenditure to States and Central Cell, monitoring of performance in various blocks.</p> <p><b>Support of Sentinel Surveillance</b> Units for monitoring of ocular morbidity, studying profile of beneficiaries and undertaking Rapid Survey.</p> <p><b>Evaluation:</b> A plan of action would be prepared to evaluate schemes for school</p> |

1

2

children, rural woman and under served areas. The survey will also evaluate functioning of Government fixed facilities, grantee NGOs and trends in prevalence blindness

16. Support towards salaries of Key Personnel to States **Cash Grants for Salaries** of Eye Surgeons and Ophthalmic Assistants against posts created during the 10th Plan will be paid by GOI to States up to the end of 10th Plan (March 2007).

### **Annexure-III**

#### *Norms for Assistance during 10th Plan under NPCB*

#### **A. Commodity Assistance for Regional Institutes of Ophthalmology and Medical Colleges**

| S.No. | Equipment   |
|-------|---|
| 1.    | Operating Microscope with Assistance and Camera attachments |
| 2.    | A-Scan Biometer   |
| 3.    | Keratometer   |
| 4.    | Slit Lamp   |
| 5.    | Yag Laser   |
| 6.    | Applanation Tonometer                                       |
| 7.    | Auto Refractometer  |
| 8.    | Vitrectomy Unit complete with endolaser photo-coagulator    |
| 9.    | Flash Autoclave   |
| 10.   | Automated Perimeter with field analyser                     |
| 11.   | Phacoemulsifier   |
| 12.   | Double Frequency Yag Laser/Argon Green Laser                |
| 13.   | Fundus Fluorescein Angiography                              |
| 14.   | Streak Retinoscope  |
| 15.   | Tonometers (Schiotz)  |
| 16.   | Direct Ophthalmoscope                                       |

Maximum Assistance for Regional Institute of Ophthalmology Existing RIOs = Rs. 30 Lakh; New RIOs = Rs. 50 Lakh

Maximum Assistance for Medical Colleges = Rs. 30 Lakh

#### **B. Commodity Assistance to equip District and Sub-district Hospitals for IOL Surgery**

| S.No. | District Hospital     | Sub-district Hospital |
|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1.    | Operating Microscope  | Operating Microscope  |
| 2.    | A-Scan Biometer       | A-Scan Biometer'      |
| 3.    | Keratometer           | Keratometer           |
| 4.    | Slit Lamp             | Slit Lamp             |
| 5.    | Auto Refractometer    | Auto Refractometer    |
| 6.    | Flash Autoclave       | Flash Autoclave       |
| 7.    | Streak Retinoscope    | Streak Retinoscope    |
| 8.    | Tonometers (Schiotz)  | Tonometers (Schiotz)  |
| 9.    | Direct Ophthalmoscope | Direct Ophthalmoscope |
| 10.   | Yag Laser             |                       |
| 11.   | Applanation Tonometer |                       |

Maximum Assistance =  
Rs. 12 lakh

Maximum Assistance =  
Rs. 3 lakh

#### **C. Non-Recurring Assistance for Eye Banks in Government/Voluntary Sector**

| S.No. | Equipment/Furnishing                        |
|-------|---|
| 1     | 2   |
| 1.    | Slit Lamp Microscope                        |
| 2.    | Operating Microscope with camera attachment |
| 3.    | Specular Microscope                         |
| 4.    | Laminar Flow                                |
| 5.    | Serology Equipment                          |



| 1   | 2   |
|-----|---|
| 6.  | Instruments for corneal excision and enucleation including containers |
| 7.  | Autoclave   |
| 8.  | Transport Facility (One 4 Wheeler and One 2 Wheeler)                  |
| 9.  | Refrigerator  |
| 10. | Computer and Accessories  |
| 11. | Telephone Line  |
| 12. | Air-Conditioner   |
| 13. | Renovation, Repair, Furniture and Fixtures                            |

Maximum Assistance = Rs. 10 Lakh

**D. Non-Recurring GIA to NGOs for Strengthening/ Expanding Eye Care Facility**

| S.No. | Component |
|-------|-----------|
| 1     | 2         |

**A. Ophthalmic Equipment**

|     |  |
|-----|--|
| 1.  | Operating Microscope with Assistant'scope and Camera attachments |
| 2.  | A-Scan Biometer  |
| 3.  | Keratometer  |
| 4.  | Slit Lamp  |
| 5.  | Yag Laser  |
| 6.  | Applanation Tonometer  |
| 7.  | Auto Refractometer   |
| 8.  | Vitrectomy Unit complete with endolaser photocoagulator          |
| 9.  | Flash Autoclave  |
| 10. | Automated Perimeter with field analyser                          |
| 11. | Phacoemulsifier  |
| 12. | Double Frequency Yag Laser/Argon Green Laser                     |
| 13. | Fundus Fluorescein Angiography Camera                            |

| 1         | 2  |
|-----------|--|
| <b>B.</b> | <b>Construction of eye ward/Operation Theatres</b>           |
| <b>C.</b> | <b>Furniture and Fixtures of Operation Theatres and Ward</b> |
| <b>D.</b> | <b>Vehicle for Transportation</b>                            |

Maximum Assistance = Rs. 25 Lakh

**E. Assistance for development of Vision Centres at PHCs/in Voluntary Sector**

| S.No. | Equipment/Furnishing              |
|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 1.    | Tonometers (Schiotz)              |
| 2.    | Direct Ophthalmoscope             |
| 3.    | Illuminated Vision Testing Drum   |
| 4.    | Trial Lens Sets with Trial Frames |
| 5.    | Snellen and Near Vision Charts    |
| 6.    | Battery Operated Torch (2)        |
| 7.    | Furnishing and Fixtures           |

Maximum Assistance = Rs. 25,000

**F. List of Items for Procurement at District Level by DBCS/SBCS**

| S.No. | Items |
|-------|-------|
| 1     | 2     |

**A. Minor Equipment and Instruments**

|    |  |
|----|--|
| 1. | Binomags   |
| 2. | Cataract Set including ECCE/Intra Ocular Lens implementation and Small Incision Cataract Surgery |
| 3. | Cryo Unit  |
| 4. | Distant vision Charts  |
| 5. | Foreign Body Spud and Needle   |
| 6. | Lacrimal Cannula and Probes  |
| 7. | Lid retractors (Desmarres)   |
| 8. | Near Vision Charts   |

| 1  | 2 |
|--|---|
| 9. Punctum Dialator                                |   |
| 10. Retinoscopic Mirror                            |   |
| 11. Rotating Visual Acuity Drum                    |   |
| 12. Torch  |   |
| 13. Trial Frame Adult/Children                     |   |
| 14. Trial Lens Set                                 |   |
| <b>B. Eye Ointments</b>                            |   |
| 1. Atropine (1%)                                   |   |
| 2. Local antibiotic: Framycetin/Gentamicin etc.    |   |
| 3. Local antibiotic steroid ointment               |   |
| <b>C. Ophthalmic Drops</b>                         |   |
| 1. Xylocaine 4% (30ml)                             |   |
| 2. Local antibiotic: Framycetin/Gentamicin etc.    |   |
| 3. Local antibiotic steroid drops                  |   |
| 4. Pilocarpine Nitrate 2%                          |   |
| 5. Timolol 0.5%                                    |   |
| 6. Homatropine 2%                                  |   |
| 7. Tropicamide 1%                                  |   |
| 8. Cyclomide 1%                                    |   |
| <b>D. Injections</b>                               |   |
| 1. Inj. Xylocaine 2% (30 ml)                       |   |
| 2. Inj. Hyalase (Hyaluronidase)                    |   |
| 3. Inj. Gentamycin                                 |   |
| 4. Inj. Betamethasone/Dexamethasone                |   |
| 5. Inj. Maracaine (0.5%) (For regional anesthesia) |   |
| 6. Inj. Adrenaline                                 |   |
| 7. Inj. Ringer Lacate (540 ml) from reputed firm   |   |
| <b>E Surgical Accessories</b>                      |   |
| 1. Gauze   |   |

| 1   | 2   |                 |           |
|---|---|-----------------|-----------|
| 2.  | Green Shades  |                 |           |
| 3.  | Blades (Carbon Steel)   |                 |           |
| 4.  | Opsite surgical gauze (10x14 c.m.)                            |                 |           |
| 5.  | 8-0 and 10-0 double needle Suture (commodity asstt. from GOI) |                 |           |
| 6.  | Visco-elastics from reputed firms                             |                 |           |
| F.  | Spectacles  |                 |           |
| 1.  | For Operated Cataract Cases (after refraction)                |                 |           |
| 2.  | For poor school-age children with refractive errors           |                 |           |
|   |   |                 |           |
| SLS – State Laprosy Societies                                 |   |                 |           |
| G. Recurring Assistance for State Blindness Control Societies |   |                 |           |
| (i)   | Major states (Rs.)  |                 |           |
| S.No.   | Post  | Remuneration pm | Cost p.a. |
| A Staff Support   |   |                 |           |
| 1.  | Budget and Finance Officer                                    | 13000           | 156000    |
| 2.  | Administrative Officer  | 11000           | 132000    |
| 3.  | Computer Programmer   | 9000            | 108000    |
| 4.  | Data Entry Operator   | 6500            | 78000     |
| 5.  | Administrative Assistant                                      | 5500            | 66000     |
| 6.  | Driver  | 3500            | 42000     |
| 7.  | Peon  | 3000            | 36000     |
| Subtotal  |   |                 | 618000    |
| B   | TA/DA to Staff  | 8000            | 96000     |
| C   | POL and vehicle maintenance                                   | 5000            | 60000     |
| D   | Stationery and Consumables                                    | 5500            | 66000     |
| E   | Quarterly Review Meetings                                     | 15000           | 60000     |
| Total   |   |                 | 900000    |

(ii) *Minor States/UTs.*

(Rs.)

| S.No.                                | Post                     | Remuneration<br>pm | Cost p.a. |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| <b>A Staff Support</b>               |                          |                    |           |
| 1.                                   | Account Officer          | 13000              | 156000    |
| 2.                                   | Data Entry Operator      | 6500               | 78000     |
| 3.                                   | Administrative Assistant | 5500               | 66000     |
| Subtotal                             |                          |                    | 300000    |
| <b>B TA/DA to Staff</b>              |                          |                    |           |
|                                      |                          | 3000               | 36000     |
| <b>C POL and vehicle maintenance</b> |                          |                    |           |
|                                      |                          | 3000               | 36000     |
| <b>D Stationary and Consumables</b>  |                          |                    |           |
|                                      |                          | 1500               | 18000     |
| <b>E Quarterly Review Meetings</b>   |                          |                    |           |
|                                      |                          | 2500               | 10000     |
| Total                                |                          |                    | 400000    |

**Statement-II***Funding Pattern Under NLEP*

NLEP is a 100% centrally sponsored scheme. The States/UTs are provided requisite assistance as per details given below :

1. **Grant-In-aid** — This is released by Central Leprosy Division as approved by the MoH and FW to the State Leprosy Societies directly. The SLS in turn releases money to the District Leprosy Societies for carrying out all the activities related to Supportive Drugs and Material and Supplies, Training and Workshop, IEC activities, Contractual Services, Research and Studies, Case Detection, Campaign, POL Office Operation etc. Allocation is made as per states approved annual plan of action.

Grant-in-aid is for plan expenditure and utilized by the State Leprosy Society with the approval from chairman of the state Leprosy Society. State finance department is not involved.

2. **Case Assistance** — This is released by the MoH and FW to the State Government in Cash

and therefore goes to the states revenue department. It is meant for TA/DA of regular vertical staff, maintenance/purchase of vehicle, IEC and Training of vertical staff. Expenditure on salary of regular vertical staff is now borne by the States as non-plan expenditure.

State Leprosy Cell can use this money only with sanction from the State Government with approval from the State Finance Department. In many cases the SLS is not aware about fund received by State Government as NLEP cash assistance. The amount allocated is proportionate to the size of the State (population) and endemicity of disease.

3. **Kind** — Under this all necessary MDT drug requirements of State are met. Drugs are received by GOI as free supply from WHO. Allocation is made as per requirement received from State/UT.

**Audit and Accounts**

The States societies are submitting consolidated monthly Statement of Expenditure (SoE's) and annual consolidated audited statements for the SLS and DLS towards the Grant-in-aid received by them.

Utilization certificates are sent for cash assistance and MDT drugs separately.

**NOTE :—**

- NLEP — National Leprosy Fradication Programme.
- MoH and FW — Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- SLS — State Leprosy Societies

**Changes in the Mental Health Policy**

4065.SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is considering to bring about major changes in the country's Mental Health policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the mechanism formulated for the implementation of the said policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal to change the present strategy which is to diagnose the mentally ill patients at the early stage and treat them through the general health delivery system.

[English]

#### **Safe Loading/Unloading at Anchorage Ports**

4066.SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recent oil spillage in Goa following a collision between an iron ore carrier and a barge at Panaji Port has raised concerns over the increasing barge operations in Indian Ports without adequate safety measures;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the safety measures taken by the Government to prevent such incidents;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to bring some strictures to ensure safe loading and unloading at the anchorage ports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Movement of barges in the ports other than major ports is controlled and regulated by the respective State Governments. As far as major ports are concerned, the barges are inspected by the designated port authority for safe manning and condition of equipments. The Masters are required to have adequate qualifications. The barges are also required to have adequate communication equipments. The subject matter of safety measures in operation of barges is under active consideration of the Directorate General of Shipping. These measures are aimed at enhancing safety in the operation of barges.

[Translation]

#### **Special Scheme to Check Population**

4067.SHRI RAMSEVAK SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to formulate any special scheme to check continuous rise in population of the country;

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to create awareness particularly among women in rural areas about the rise in population;

(c) the steps taken in this regard in Madhya Pradesh particularly in Gwalior and other high fertility States;

(d) whether the help of Gram Panchayat is also being taken in this regard;

(e) if so, the percentage of contraceptive pills/drugs being distributed by the Government in rural areas, State-wise;

(f) whether the above medicines are available to every couple particularly in rural areas; and

(g) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) A National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) has been launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 12.4.2005 for provision of comprehensive integrated primary healthcare which would among other goals, also assist in achieving population stabilization in the country.

(b) Government has been creating awareness through the ANMs, Anganwari Workers, Mahila Swasthya Sanghs, Self Help Groups and NGOs at Village level. The NRHM aims at engaging volunteer female Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) at village level to create health awareness.

(c) An Empowered Action Group was constituted in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 2001-02 for focused attention on eight demographically weaker States,

including Madhya Pradesh. Funds have been released under EAG mechanism for upgrading 2 CHCs per district to 24 hour First Referral Unit, strengthening Cold Chain, provision of contraceptives etc.

Social Marketing initiatives were undertaken in 1998 in three districts of Madhya Pradesh viz Gwalior, Bhind and Morena through Hindustan Latex Family Planning Promotion Trust of M/S HLL.

(d) Yes, Sir. Under NRHM, Gram Panchayat will be involved in preparation of Village Health Plans and also to provide suitable guidance to ASHA in discharging her duties for the village community.

(e) Statement-I is enclosed. The Ministry provides Kit A and Kit B, Contraceptives, condoms etc. to all State Governments as per demand projected by them. Separate information is not available for rural areas.

(f) These medicines and contraceptives are available under free supply and social marketing programme from public health facilities.

(g) Statement II enclosed.

**Statement-I**

*Mala-N (Oral Pili) contraceptive tablet under free supply scheme and supplied to State during 2004-05*

| State/UTs      | Quantity in Lakh cycles | % to total supply |
|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1              | 2                       | 3                 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 44                      | 8.24              |
| Chhattisgarh   | 15.75                   | 2.949             |
| Gujarat        | 20                      | 3.746             |
| Haryana        | 7                       | 1.311             |
| Jharkhand      | 9                       | 1.685             |
| Karnataka      | 13                      | 2.435             |
| Kerala         | 5                       | 0.936             |
| Madhya Pradesh | 89.75                   | 16.81             |

| 1                           | 2      | 3      |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|
| Maharashtra                 | 40     | 7.491  |
| Orissa                      | 25     | 4.682  |
| Punjab                      | 9      | 1.686  |
| Rajasthan                   | 99.54  | 18.642 |
| Tamil Nadu                  | 10     | 1.873  |
| Uttar Pradesh               | 77.33  | 14.482 |
| Uttaranchal                 | 3.64   | 0.682  |
| West Bengal                 | 50     | 9.364  |
| Himachal Pradesh            | 3.5    | 0.655  |
| Jammu and Kashmir           | 2      | 0.375  |
| Bihar                       | 0      | 0      |
| Goa                         | 0.03   | 0      |
| Assam                       | 0      | 0      |
| Manipur                     | 0.2    | 0.37   |
| Meghalaya                   | 0.5    | 0.094  |
| Nagaland                    | 0.4    | 0.075  |
| Sikkim                      | 0.5    | 0.094  |
| Tripura                     | 4      | 0.749  |
| Arunachal Pradesh           | 0.5    | 0.094  |
| Mizoram                     | 1      | 0.187  |
| Pondicherry                 | 0.27   | 0.051  |
| Delhi                       | 2.5    | 0.468  |
| Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0.24   | 0.045  |
| Chandigarh                  | 0.1    | 0.019  |
| Dadra and Nagar Haveli      | 0.14   | 0.026  |
| Daman and Diu               | 0.05   | 0.009  |
| Lakshadweep                 | 0.02   | 0.004  |
| Total                       | 533.96 | 99.996 |

**Statement-II**

*Statewise supply of drug kits A and B  
during 2004-05*

| State/UTs         | Number of Kits supplied |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1                 | 2                       |
| Andhra Pradesh    | 23188                   |
| Chhattisgarh      | 7258                    |
| Gujarat           | 14998                   |
| Haryana           | 5267                    |
| Jharkhand         | 7230                    |
| Karnataka         | 17842                   |
| Kerala            | 10168                   |
| Madhya Pradesh    | 20980                   |
| Maharashtra       | 26010                   |
| Orissa            | 13554                   |
| Punjab            | 6396                    |
| Rajasthan         | 20644                   |
| Tamil Nadu        | 0                       |
| Uttar Pradesh     | 42006                   |
| Uttaranchal       | 3050                    |
| West Bengal       | 17641                   |
| Himachal Pradesh  | 4138                    |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 2990                    |
| Bihar             | 22270                   |
| Goa               | 362                     |
| Assam             | 10292                   |
| Manipur           | 1140                    |
| Meghalaya         | 1034                    |
| Nagaland          | 794                     |
| Sikkim            | 380                     |

| 1                           | 2      |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Tripura                     | 1644   |
| Arunachal Pradesh           | 900    |
| Mizoram                     | 782    |
| Pondicherry                 | 168    |
| Delhi                       | 1104   |
| Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 220    |
| Chandigarh                  | 114    |
| Dadra and Nagar Haveli      | 72     |
| Daman and Diu               | 42     |
| Lakshadweep                 | 43     |
| Total                       | 284721 |

[English]

**VRS in BSNL**

4068.SHRI JUAL ORAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has introduced Voluntary Retirement Scheme in the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited;

(b) if so, whether any date was fixed for the closure of the scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of employees of BSNL who opted for VRS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[Translation]

**Disability Cases**

4069.SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the cases of disability are on the rise in the country;
- (b) if so, the measures taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) the number of such cases which came to the notice particularly in Rajasthan from August 2004, till date;
- (d) whether proper treatment is being given to the disable persons in the hospitals;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether proper facilities are available in the hospitals in this regard; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Family Welfare Programmes in Villages**

4070.SHRI AJIT JOGI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of family welfare programmes running at village level of creating awareness among common masses in the country during the last three years;
- (b) the amount of funds spent for these programmes in each State during the said period; and
- (c) the progress made in reducing birth rate in each State during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) States are provided funds for taking up IEC activities including specific programmes for involving the community for promoting health and family welfare through Mahila Swasthya Sanghs (MSS) at village level which have been constituted in 79,512 villages for creation of awareness about the reproductive and child health and family welfare issues through interpersonal interactions. Apart from this, the services of DAVP, Song and Drama Division and Directorate of Field Publicity of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting are utilized to carry out

grass-root level publicity in rural and far flung areas through various activities including press advertisements, exhibitions, film shows, cultural shows and folks programmes. Health providers themselves are also trained in counseling and advocacy. Further, health and family welfare messages are regularly telecast/broadcast through Doordarshan and All India Radio. Local channels of television and radio in the States are also being used for promoting health awareness.

In addition, the NGOs are engaged in advocacy and awareness generation on various programmes.

(b) A statement showing State-wise releases for information, education and communication activities during the last three years is enclosed as Statement-I

(c) A statement showing the latest State-wise SRS (Sample Registration System) estimates of Crude Birth Rate during 2000 to 2002 is enclosed as Statement-II.

#### **Statement-I**

*Release of funds for Information Education and Communication activities in States/UTs during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05*

(Amount in Rs.)

| States/UTs        | Amount Released<br>2002-03 | Amount Released<br>2003-04 | Amount Released<br>2004-05 |
|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1                 | 2                          | 3                          | 4                          |
| Andhra Pradesh    | 11761000                   | 21228400                   | 3000000                    |
| Goa               | 1264000                    | 2958200                    | 1964000                    |
| Gujarat           | 11982000                   | 19063400                   | 8780555                    |
| Haryana           | 8978000                    | 12604000                   | 2895000                    |
| Himachal Pradesh  | 4786000                    | 1828800                    | 2810000                    |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 3313000                    | 5585200                    | 2510000                    |
| Karnataka         | 10578000                   | 19420400                   | 20336000                   |
| Kerala            | 7689000                    | 11405000                   | 2457164                    |
| Maharashtra       | 14011000                   | 25032600                   | 21353000                   |
| Punjab            | 9757000                    | 16549400                   | 16008000                   |

| 1            | 2               | 3                | 4               |
|--------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Tamil Nadu   | 7119000         | 19274800         | 14184000        |
| West Bengal  | 4005000         | 11650400         | 0               |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>95263000</b> | <b>166600600</b> | <b>96297719</b> |

|                |                  |                  |                  |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Bihar          | 0                | 21800000         | 0                |
| Chhattisgarh   | 0                | 30000000         | 28042000         |
| Jharkhand      | 0                | 0                | 28000000         |
| Madhya Pradesh | 55404000         | 21314000         | 21392000         |
| Orissa         | 10631000         | 19153000         | 25372000         |
| Rajasthan      | 18006000         | 50638000         | 0                |
| Uttaranchal    | 9864000          | 4763000          | 0                |
| Uttar Pradesh  | 45542000         | 0                | 0                |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>139447000</b> | <b>147668000</b> | <b>102806000</b> |

**U.Ts.**

|                 |                 |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| A and N Islands | 1298000         | 1521000         | 1542000         |
| Chandigarh      | 1278000         | 1443800         | 870000          |
| Daman and Diu   | 1488000         | 1096600         | 1445140         |
| D and N Haveli  | 1160000         | 1081800         | 666000          |
| Delhi           | 6470000         | 10341800        | 5000000         |
| Lakshadweep     | 0               | 1761200         | 1000000         |
| Pondicherry     | 1468000         | 2036400         | 708000          |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>13162000</b> | <b>19282600</b> | <b>11231140</b> |

**N.E. States**

|                    |         |         |         |
|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Arunachal Pradesh# | 1828000 | 4995400 | 1252000 |
| Assam              | 0       | 4640000 | 3000000 |
| Manipur            | 0       | 5268000 | 4768000 |
| Meghalaya          | 3340000 | 5490600 | 2085000 |
| Mizoram            | 4200000 | 5727600 | 5228000 |
| Nagaland           | 4200000 | 5785200 | 5286000 |
| Sikkim             | 1667000 | 4375400 | 2912000 |

| 1                  | 2                | 3                | 4                |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Tripura            | 3618000          | 5254400          | 2819000          |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>18853000</b>  | <b>41536600</b>  | <b>27350000</b>  |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>266725000</b> | <b>375087800</b> | <b>237684859</b> |

**Statement-II****Crude Birth Rate (CBR)**

(Amount in Rs.)

| Sl. No. | States/Union Territories | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
|---------|--------------------------|------|------|------|
| 1       | 2                        | 3    | 4    |      |
| 1.      | Andhra Pradesh           | 21.3 | 21.0 | 20.7 |
| 2.      | Assam                    | 26.9 | 27.0 | 26.6 |
| 3.      | Bihar                    | 31.9 | 31.2 | 30.9 |
| 4.      | Chhattisgarh             | 26.7 | 26.5 | 25.0 |
| 5.      | Gujarat                  | 25.2 | 25.0 | 24.7 |
| 6.      | Haryana                  | 26.9 | 26.8 | 26.6 |
| 7.      | Jharkhand                | 26.5 | 26.2 | 26.4 |
| 8.      | Karnataka                | 22.0 | 22.2 | 22.1 |
| 9.      | Kerala                   | 17.9 | 17.3 | 16.9 |
| 10.     | Madhya Pradesh           | 31.4 | 31.0 | 30.4 |
| 11.     | Maharashtra              | 21.0 | 20.7 | 20.3 |
| 12.     | Orissa                   | 24.3 | 23.5 | 23.2 |
| 13.     | Punjab                   | 21.6 | 21.2 | 20.8 |
| 14.     | Rajasthan                | 31.4 | 31.1 | 30.6 |
| 15.     | Tamil Nadu               | 18.3 | 18.1 | 18.5 |
| 16.     | Uttar Pradesh            | 32.8 | 32.1 | 31.6 |
| 17.     | West Bengal              | 20.7 | 20.6 | 20.5 |
| 18.     | Arunachal Pradesh        | 22.3 | 22.2 | 20.2 |
| 19.     | Delhi                    | 20.3 | 18.9 | 17.2 |
| 20.     | Goa                      | 14.3 | 14.2 | 14.0 |



| 1                     | 2    | 3    | 4    |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|
| 21. Himachal Pradesh  | 22.1 | 21.2 | 20.7 |
| 22. Jammu and Kashmir | 19.7 | 20.2 | 19.2 |
| 23. Manipur           | 18.3 | 18.3 | 16.8 |
| 24. Meghalaya         | 28.5 | 28.3 | 25.8 |
| 25. Mizoram           | 16.0 | 15.7 | 16.9 |
| 26. Nagaland          | NA   | NA   | NA   |
| 27. Sikkim            | 21.8 | 21.6 | 21.9 |
| 28. Tripura           | 16.5 | 16.1 | 14.9 |
| 29. Uttaranchal       | 20.2 | 18.5 | 17.0 |
| 30. A and N Islands   | 19.1 | 16.8 | 16.8 |
| 31. Chandigarh        | 17.5 | 16.3 | 14.6 |
| 32. D and N Haveli    | 34.9 | 29.5 | 30.4 |
| 33. Daman and Diu     | 23.7 | 22.3 | 22.4 |
| 34. Lakshadweep       | 26.1 | 20.4 | 19.3 |
| 35. Pondicherry       | 17.8 | 17.9 | 17.9 |
| All India             | 25.8 | 25.4 | 25.0 |

Source: SRS, RGI

[English]

#### **Tenders for Purchasing Imported Equipments**

4071. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware that Safdarjung Hospital invited tenders sometime in the past for purchasing imported equipments but the tenders have not yet been finalised even after two years;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and the steps taken to expedite the finalisation of the tenders giving details of the equipments to be purchased;

(c) whether Safdarjung Hospital has surrendered crores of rupees which remained unutilized with it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (d) Purchase of costly equipments including imported equipments for the Central Government hospitals is done after following all codal formalities as laid down in the rules.

In case of the Safdarjung Hospital, after following all codal formalities, orders have already been placed for the procurement of MRI (Rs. 6.24 crores), Cobalt Therapy Machine (Unit-I) (Rs. 2.10 crores), Cobalt Therapy Machine (Unit-II) (Rs. 2.20 crores), Brach Therapy (Rs. 1.00 crores) and Back Alert 3-D System (Rs. 0.28 crores). Out of these, Back Alert 3-D System has already been installed in the Hospital in March 2005. Cobalt Therapy Machine (Unit-I) is in the process of being installed. Other equipments are likely to be received shortly. As the financial year ended on 31.03.2005, funds kept for these equipments could not be utilized and as such, Safdarjung Hospital had to surrender Rs. 12.07 crores. This amount will be utilized during the current financial year.

#### **Charitable Hospitals**

4072. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether financial assistance/facilities have not been given by the charitable hospital to the poor and concessional/free rates particularly in Mumbai;

(b) Whether the Government has received any complaints in the regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to take action against such charitable hospitals;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether these hospitals are exempted from the income tax and other taxes like customs duty; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (g) Health being a State subject under the Constitution of India, it is for the respective State Governments to formulate procedures and regulate the functioning of the charitable hospitals in regard to provision of free/concessional rate treatment to the poor and to take appropriate action against defaulting hospitals. Facilities extended to the Institutes, information relating to violation of the procedures and regulations by the charitable hospitals in the States is not maintained Centrally.

#### **Visit of Prince of Saudi Arabia**

4073. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Prince Al Waleed bin Talal Al Saud of Saudi Arabia visited India recently to evaluate investment opportunities in the Indian hotel industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether he met the top leaders of Indian Government during his visit;

(d) if so, the details of the discussions held and outcome thereof;

(e) whether the Prince has shown keen interest in investment and increase in bilateral relations in regard to tourism; and

(f) if so, the details of agreements, if any signed during the occasion and the future strategy chalked out in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) and (b) Yes, Prince Al Waleed Bin Talal Al Saud of Saudi Arabia visited India on March 14 - 15, 2005 to evaluate the climate for foreign investment in India, including in the hotel industry.

(c) During his visit, Prince Al Waleed held discussions with Rashtrapati, Prime Minister, Finance Minister and Minister of State for External Affairs.

(d) The discussions focused on the state of the Indian economy and the opportunities for foreign investment in India, including in the hotel industry.

(e) The Prince showed interest in investment in the hotel and hospitality industry in India.

(f) No agreement was signed during the visit. Prince Al Waleed proposes to send a team of experts of India to conduct a detailed study and evaluation of investment possibilities.

[Translation]

#### **Atomic Plants**

4074. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA :

SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of atomic plants in the country at present;

(b) whether an indigenously designed atomic plant has been set-up recently;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total amount spent on setting up of the above indigenous atomic plant;

(e) whether any target for atomic energy generation from the said plant has been fixed; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) The details of nuclear power reactors in operation are as under :

| Unit - Location                                      | Reactor Type | Present Capacity (MWe) | Commercial Operation date |
|--|--------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1  | 2            | 3                      | 4                         |
| Tarapur Atomic Power Station-1, Tarapur, Maharashtra | BWR          | 160                    | 28-Oct-1969               |
| Tarapur Atomic Power Station-2, Tarapur, Maharashtra | BWR          | 160                    | 28-Oct-1969               |

| 1  | 2    | 3    | 4            |
|--|------|------|--------------|
| Rajasthan Atomic Power Station-1 Rawatbhata, Rajasthan | PHWR | 100  | 16-Dec-1973  |
| Rajasthan Atomic Power Station-1 Rawatbhata, Rajasthan | PHWR | 200  | 01-Apr-1981  |
| Madras Atomic Power Station-1 Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu    | PHWR | 170  | 27-Jan-1984  |
| Madras Atomic Power Station-2 Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu    | PHWR | 220  | 21-Mar-1986  |
| Narora Atomic Power Station-1 Narora, Uttar Pradesh    | PHWR | 220  | 01-Jan-1991  |
| Narora Atomic Power Station-2 Narora, Uttar Pradesh    | PHWR | 220  | 01-Jul-1992  |
| Kakrapar Atomic Power Station-1 Kakrapar, Gujarat      | PHWR | 220  | 06-May-1993  |
| Kakrapar Atomic Power Station-1 Kakrapar, Gujarat      | PHWR | 220  | 01-Sept-1995 |
| KAIGA-2 Kaiga, Karnataka                               | PHWR | 220  | 16-Mar-2000  |
| Rajasthan Atomic Power Station-3 Rawatbhata, Rajasthan | PHWR | 220  | 01-June-2000 |
| KAIGA-1 Kaiga, Karnataka                               | PHWR | 220  | 16-Nov-2000  |
| Rajasthan Atomic Power Station-4 Rawatbhata, Rajasthan | PHWR | 220  | 23-Dec-2000  |
| Total  |      | 2770 |              |

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) TAPP-4 (540 MWe- one unit of twin reactors of Tarapur Atomic Power Project-3 and 4) attained criticality on 6.3.2005. The commencement of commercial operation of this unit is expected by August 2005. The completion of the Unit-3 (second unit of TAPP-3 and 4) is planned during the year 2006-07.

(d) Out of approved completion cost of Rs. 6525 crore, the expenditure incurred so far is about Rs. 5000 crore.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) On completion of both the units, annual generation of electricity of about 6500 Million Units (MUs) is targeted. However, during the year 2005-06, a target of 3105 MUs is fixed in respect of TAPP-4.

[English]

#### **Dental Colleges in Karnataka**

4075.SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the

Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Karnataka for setting up of three more dental colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) Three applications for establishment of three new dental Colleges at Mysore, Hubli and Bellary were received from the Government of Karnataka. These proposals were examined from the point of view of DCI Regulations of establishment of new dental colleges and certain deficiencies were found in the schemes. Hence, the schemes have been returned to the State Government on account of the deficiencies therein.

[Translation]

**Aid/Assistance Programmes for  
Technical and Economic Collaboration\***

4076. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether allocation of fund is made by the Government after determining the multilateral and bilateral aid and assistance programmes for technical and economic collaboration with other countries;

(b) if so, the year-wise and country-wise details of technical and economic collaboration determined for the aid and assistance programmes during the tenth five year plan;

(c) whether funds have been released for disbursement to the other countries for humanitarian aid and assistance;

(d) if so, the details of the expenditure incurred therefor during the tenth five year plan;

(e) whether any special plan component has been incorporated for giving aid/assistance to Bhutan; and

(f) is so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir.

India's development assistance to fellow developing nations represents an important dimension of India's diplomatic outreach. Through technical and economic co-operation with these nations, India has been able to share with them, its rich developmental experience and expertise, as also appropriate technologies. India has been implementing several programmes and schemes, to contribute to the development of friendly nations. India's assistance is an expression of our solidarity and goodwill towards these countries, and has generated a large measure of understanding and support for India in the International Community.

India extends assistance, through bilateral mechanisms, as well as through regional and multilateral arrangements. Bilaterally, India's assistance of our neighbours has been the most significant. Bilateral aid to Bhutan, Nepal,

Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Afghanistan has been noteworthy. India's aid also goes to the African nations, and the Central Asian countries. Under the ITEC Programme, India's developmental aid encompasses virtually the entire developing community of nations. India has also provided prompt Disaster Relief, the Tsunami Assistance provided to Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Indonesia was an outstanding example.

India's developmental assistance has taken, diverse forms, such as, establishment of capacity building institutions, execution of economic and industrial projects, establishment of industrial estates, SME centers, gifting of equipment, provision of consultancy services, deputation of experts, and above all provision of training both civil and military.

A statement showing the year-wise details of development assistance disbursed during the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 (RE) of the Tenth Five Year Plan is enclosed.

(e) There are two components to India's assistance to Bhutan. Plan assistance for large projects particularly hydro-electric projects. The Hydro-electric projects are currently financed on a 60% Grant, 40% Loan basis. In addition, India provides Non-Plan grant assistance to Bhutan.

(f) The details of assistance provided during the last three financial years are given below:

**[PLAN]**

| Sl. No. | Financial Year | Actual expenditure in crores (Rs.) |
|---------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| 1.      | 2002-2003      | 650.00                             |
| 2.      | 2003-2004      | 783.17                             |
| 3.      | 2004-2005      | 760.71                             |

**[NON-PLAN]**

| Sl. No. | Financial Year | Actual expenditure in crores (Rs.) |
|---------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| 1.      | 2002-2003      | 231.44                             |
| 2.      | 2003-2004      | 245.02                             |
| 3.      | 2004-2005      | 432.52                             |

**Statement***Expenditure under Aid/Assistance Programmes for Technical and Economic Co-operation  
with other Countries and Advances to Foreign Governments*

(Rs. in crores)

| Technical and Economic Co-operation<br>with Other Countries       |          | 2002-03<br>Actuals | 2003-2004<br>Actuals | 2004-05<br>R.E. |
|---|----------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| 1   |          | 2                  | 3                    | 4               |
| Aid to Bangladesh   |          | 0.50               | 0.54                 | 3.30            |
| Aid to Bhutan   | Non-Plan | 232.54             | 245.34               | 313.65          |
|   | Plan     | 375.25             | 456.00               | 455.00          |
| Aid to Nepal  |          | 45.93              | 57.91                | 66.17           |
| Sri Lanka - Other Aid Programmes                                  |          | 14.08              | 5.65                 | 15.30           |
| Aid to Maldives   |          | 1.71               | 3.20                 | 3.20            |
| Aid to Myanmar  |          | 1.51               | 2.57                 | 6.21            |
| Aid to Other Developing Countries                                 |          | 157.11             | 96.22                | 285.55          |
| Aid for Disaster Relief   |          | 17.81              | 7.22                 | 5.10            |
| ITEC Programme  |          | 37.18              | 45.13                | 49.00           |
| SAARC Programme   |          | 0.76               | 0.17                 | 0.79            |
| SCAAP Programme   |          | 6.40               | 6.71                 | 5.50            |
| Aid to African Countries  |          | 4.87               | 81.41                | 106.84          |
| Multilateral Economic Relation Programme                          |          | 12.52              | 1.00                 | 1.90            |
| Investment Promotion and Publicity Programme                      |          | 0.13               | 0.59                 | 0.38            |
| Aid to Central Asia   |          | 1.93               | 5.76                 | 8.50            |
| Grants in Aid to Tajikistan                                       |          | 22.55              | 0.00                 | 0.00            |
| Grants in Aid to Nigeria  |          | 7.19               | 8.80                 | 0.00            |
| Total   | Plan     | 375.25             | 456.00               | 455.00          |
|   | Non-Plan | 564.72             | 568.22               | 871.39          |
| Total Technical and Economic Co-operation<br>with other Countries |          | 939.97             | 1024.22              | 1326.39         |
| Advances to Foreign Government                                    |          |                    |                      |                 |
| Loans to Government of Bangladesh                                 |          | 13.35              | 20.00                | 18.87           |

| 1                                    | 2        | 3       | 4       |         |
|--------------------------------------|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| Loans to Government of Bhutan        | Plan     | 272.89  | 327.15  | 280.00  |
| Loans to Government of Nepal         |          | 0       | 0.00    | 0.01    |
| Total                                | Plan     | 272.89  | 327.15  | 280.00  |
|                                      | Non-Plan | 13.35   | 20.00   | 18.88   |
| Total Advances to Foreign Government | 286.24   | 347.15  | 298.88  |         |
| Total Aid and Advances               |          | 1226.21 | 1371.37 | 1625.27 |

[English]

**Pending Cases of PCO/ISD/STD  
Booths in Uttar Pradesh**

4077. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some applications regarding opening of STD/ISD telephone and PCO booths in Uttar Pradesh are pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government for early clearance of these applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the pending applications for Local and STD/ISD/PCOs are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The steps taken/proposed for early clearance of the pending applications are :

- (i) Making technical non-feasible (TNF) areas feasible by laying under ground cables.
- (ii) Procurement of required hardware (CCM cards) for exchanges.
- (iii) Planning of WLL systems and expansion of existing systems in areas where it is not feasible to lay under ground cable.

(iv) Planning of additional WLL-Towers (BTSs) to cover areas with weak signals.

(v) Procurement of Fixed Wireless Terminals (FWTs).

**Statement**

**Details of the Pending Applications for  
Local and STD/ISD PCOs**

| Circle    | Name of District            | No. of applications pending for allotment of PCOs as on 31.03.2005 |         |
|-----------|-----------------------------|--|---------|
|           |                             | Local  | STD/ISD |
| 1         | 2                           | 3  | 4       |
| UP (West) | 1. Agra and Ferozabad       | 0  | 0       |
|           | 2. Aligarh and Hathras      | 0  | 0       |
|           | 3. Bareilly                 | 0  | 0       |
|           | 4. Bijnore                  | 0  | 255     |
|           | 5. Bulandshahr              | 0  | 0       |
|           | 6. Ghaziabad                | 54   | 121     |
|           | 7. Mathura                  | 0  | 0       |
|           | 8. Meerut and Baghpat       | 1  | 9       |
|           | 9. Moradabad and J.P. Nagar | 4  | 2       |
|           | 10. Muzaffarnagar           | 2  | 37      |
|           | 11. Noida                   | 0  | 0       |
|           | 12. Saharanpur              | 54   | 179     |

| 1         | 2               | 3 | 4   |
|-----------|-----------------|---|-----|
|           | 13. Badaun      | 0 | 0   |
|           | 14. Etah        | 0 | 0   |
|           | 15. Pilibhit    | 0 | 0   |
|           | 16. Rampur      | 0 | 0   |
| UP (East) | 1. Allahabad    | 0 | 103 |
|           | 2. Azamgarh     | 7 | 67  |
|           | 3. Behraich     | 0 | 0   |
|           | 4. Ballia       | 0 | 142 |
|           | 5. Banda        | 0 | 0   |
|           | 6. Barabanki    | 0 | 0   |
|           | 7. Basti        | 0 | 0   |
|           | 8. Deoria       | 0 | 0   |
|           | 9. Etawah       | 0 | 0   |
|           | 10. Faizabad    | 0 | 3   |
|           | 11. Farrukhabad | 7 | 193 |
|           | 12. Fatehpur    | 0 | 0   |
|           | 13. Ghazipur    | 2 | 57  |
|           | 14. Gonda       | 0 | 0   |
|           | 15. Gorakhpur   | 0 | 0   |
|           | 16. Hamipur     | 0 | 0   |
|           | 17. Hardoi      | 0 | 0   |
|           | 18. Jaunpur     | 0 | 12  |
|           | 19. Jhansi      | 0 | 0   |
|           | 20. Kanpur      | 0 | 82  |
|           | 21. Lakhimpur   | 0 | 7   |
|           | 22. Lucknow     | 0 | 0   |
|           | 23. Mainpuri    | 0 | 0   |
|           | 24. Mau         | 0 | 82  |
|           | 25. Mirzapur    | 0 | 0   |
|           | 26. Orai        | 0 | 0   |

| 1 | 2                | 3  | 4   |
|---|------------------|----|-----|
|   | 27. Partapgarh   | 0  | 0   |
|   | 28. Raebareli    | 0  | 7   |
|   | 29. Shahjahanpur | 0  | 0   |
|   | 30. Sitapur      | 0  | 0   |
|   | 31. Sultanpur    | 5  | 27  |
|   | 32. Unnao        | 7  | 15  |
|   | 33. Varanasi     | 36 | 273 |

[Translation]

#### Opening of Post Offices in Maharashtra

†4078. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of post offices opened in Maharashtra so far as also those opened in the Pune parliamentary constituency;

(b) whether the Government has received any representations regarding opening of post offices in Pune parliamentary constituency during the last 5 years; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) As on date there are 12721 post offices opened in Maharashtra, of which 2658 post offices are located in Pune Region.

(b) and (c) The Government has received 52 representations during the last 5 years for opening post offices in Pune Parliamentary Constituency. Of these, so far, 28 proposals were not found to be justified while post offices have been opened in respect of 15 justified proposals.

#### Life Insurance cover to Labourers

4079. SHRIMATI KALPANA RAMESH NARHIRE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal with the Government to provide life insurance cover to the labourers working in coal mines;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done; and

(c) the amount of life insurance cover likely to be provided by the Government to each labourer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. Government has no proposal to provide life insurance cover to Labourers working in Coal Mines. However as reported by Coal India Limited, a life cover Scheme is in vogue for workers as per clause No. 9.1.0 of National Coal Wage Agreement-VI (NCWA-VI) under which an amount of Rs. 30,000/- is paid to the legal heir of the deceased worker by the management of Coal Company.

[English]

#### **Ban on Sale of Non-iodised Salt**

4080.SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI :  
SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI :  
SHRI UDAY SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Union Government had banned the sale of non-iodised salt;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government has lifted the ban on the sale of non-iodised salt in the year 2000;

(d) if so, the reasons for the same;

(e) whether the Government is aware that the use of non-iodised salt has effected mental development of children as reported in the "Hindu" dated March 23, 2005;

(f) if so, the fact of the number reported therein;

(g) whether the Government has received representations to ban sale and use of non-iodised salt in the country;

(h) if so, whether the Government proposes to impose a national ban on the sale of non-iodised salt; and

(i) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) A notification GSR 670(E) dated 27.11.97 was issued under PFA Rules, 1955 w.e.f. 27.5.98 restricting the sale of edible common salt for direct human consumption unless the same was iodized.

The measure was taken in the interest of public health and on the technical advice of health experts.

(c) and (d) A notification was issued vide GSR No. 716(E) dated 13.9.2000 withdrawing, with effect from 30.9.2000, the restrictions which were imposed on sale on common salt for direct human consumption vide GSR No. 670(E) dated 27.11.1997.

This decision was taken in the wake of sustained representations received from various sections of public, to the effect that matter of public health should be left of the 'informed' choice and not enforced through compulsion.

(e) and (f) It has been reported in 'The Hindu' dated 23.3.2005 that in most of the States, consumption of iodized salt has come down since the lifting of the ban on iodized salt. Further it has been stated that over 90% of the population must consume iodized salt to eliminate iodine deficiency as a public health problem.

(g) the UNICEF has expressed concern over the decline in consumptions of iodized salt after the withdrawal of restriction on sale of edible common salt in the year 2000 under the PFA Rules, 1955.

(h) and (i) The Government is proposing to restrict the sale of edible common salt for direct human consumption unless the same is iodized. Accordingly, there is a proposal to amend the relevant provisions of the PFA Rules, 1955.

[Translation]

#### **Modernisation of State Roads**

4081.SHRI MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :



(a) whether the Union Government has any project to modernise the State roads on the lines of the golden quadrilateral road project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has decided to provide assistance to the State Governments with a view to strengthen the State highways; and

(d) if so, the nature of assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) The Government of India is responsible only for National Highways and the State Governments concerned are responsible for the development of the State roads.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Ministry provides funds for improvement of State highways from Central Road Fund including for centrally sponsored schemes of economic importance and inter-state connectivity.

[English]

#### **Long Term Impact of Tsunami on Ocean Eco System**

4082.SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY : Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has set up a panel to study long term impact of Tsunami on ocean eco system;

(b) if so, the terms of reference and subject matter proposed to be reviewed;

(c) the time by which the report is likely to be submitted; and

(d) the manner in which it is likely to be helpful to the inhabitants of the coastal areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### **Major Overhaul of Senior Civil Service**

4083.SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has approved a major overhaul of the Senior Civil Service as reported in the "Hindu" dated April 5, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to organize periodical training and reorientation programme in view of the fast changing global environment; and

(d) if so, the details of the orientation programme chalked out by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHAURI) : (a) to (d) The Government has decided to introduce mandatory mid career training programme for IAS officers at three different levels in their career. These will be between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> year of service of 8 weeks, between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> year of service of 8 weeks and between the 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> year of service of 4 weeks. The programmes will broadly focus on project formulation, policy analysis, perspective building, public-private partnership, responsive government and service delivery, macro economic policies, financial management etc.

#### **Teledensity Level in the Country**

4084.SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the teledensity level in the country has crossed 9 as per the statistics available with the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI);

(b) whether this teledensity level includes the multiple phones viz. land-line WLL and mobile phones;

(c) if so, the details of teledensity in terms of landline, mobile and WLL phones in the country;

(d) whether phone lines installed in offices and commercial establishments are also taken into account while calculating teledensity by the TRAI; and

(e) if not, the method used or the procedure followed for calculating teledensity by the TRAI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) As per the available

information, the teledensity was 8.98 on February 28, 2005.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) Yes, Sir. Such phones are also taken into account.

(e) Does not arise, in view of (d) above.

### **Statement**

#### *Circlewise Teledensity as on 28.2.2005*

| S. No. | Name of Circle      | Total Phones<br>(Fixed +<br>WLL FWT) | Fixed +<br>WLL FWT<br>Teledensity | Mobile<br>GSM and<br>WLL (M) | Mobile GSM<br>and WLL(M)<br>Teledensity | Total<br>Telephones<br>(Fixed +<br>Mobiles) | Overall<br>Teledensity |
|--------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|------------------------|
| 1      | 2                   | 3                                    | 4                                 | 5                            | 6                                       | 7   | 8                      |
| 1.     | Andaman and Nicobar | 40131                                | 10.62                             | 9188                         | 2.43                                    | 49319                                       | 13.05                  |
| 2.     | Andhra Pradesh      | 3686784                              | 4.69                              | 3823292                      | 4.86                                    | 7510076                                     | 9.55                   |
| 3.     | Assam               | 532879                               | 1.90                              | 250605                       | 0.89                                    | 783484                                      | 2.79                   |
| 4.     | Bihar               | 1054351                              | 1.20                              | 917108                       | 1.04                                    | 1971459                                     | 2.24                   |
| 5.     | Chhattisgarh        | 341846                               | 1.55                              | 32958                        | 0.15                                    | 374804                                      | 1.70                   |
| 6.     | Gujarat             | 3123752                              | 5.82                              | 3705934                      | 6.91                                    | 6829686                                     | 12.73                  |
| 7.     | Haryana             | 1277999                              | 5.72                              | 1126327                      | 5.04                                    | 2404326                                     | 10.77                  |
| 8.     | Himachal Pradesh    | 488164                               | 7.75                              | 330513                       | 5.25                                    | 818677                                      | 13.00                  |
| 9.     | Jammu and Kashmir   | 310148                               | 2.83                              | 232400                       | 2.12                                    | 542548                                      | 4.95                   |
| 10.    | Jharkhand           | 488191                               | 1.72                              | 165394                       | 0.58                                    | 653585                                      | 2.31                   |
| 11.    | Karnataka           | 3218414                              | 5.86                              | 3550720                      | 6.47                                    | 6769134                                     | 12.33                  |
| 12.    | Kerala              | 3658242                              | 11.10                             | 2525897                      | 7.66                                    | 6184139                                     | 18.76                  |
| 13.    | Madhya Pradesh      | 1726043                              | 2.68                              | 1537274                      | 2.39                                    | 3263317                                     | 5.07                   |
| 14.    | Maharashtra         | 4403745                              | 5.17                              | 4001209                      | 4.70                                    | 8404954                                     | 9.87                   |
| 15.    | North East          | 375917                               | 3.03                              | 109691                       | 0.88                                    | 485608                                      | 3.91                   |
| 16.    | Orissa              | 842465                               | 2.21                              | 662888                       | 1.74                                    | 1505353                                     | 3.94                   |

| 1                        | 2 | 3        | 4     | 5        | 6     | 7        | 8     |
|--------------------------|---|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
| 17. Punjab               |   | 2350279  | 8.93  | 3549203  | 13.48 | 5899482  | 22.40 |
| 18. Rajasthan            |   | 2091599  | 3.47  | 1597413  | 2.65  | 3689012  | 6.13  |
| 19. Tamilnadu            |   | 3278865  | 5.62  | 3330407  | 5.71  | 6609272  | 11.33 |
| 20. Uttaranchal          |   | 385256   | 4.31  | 131461   | 1.47  | 516717   | 5.78  |
| 21. Uttar Pradesh        |   | 3152906  | 1.78  | 4035002  | 2.28  | 7187908  | 4.06  |
| 22. West Bengal-Kolkatta |   | 1289894  | 1.84  | 778707   | 1.11  | 2068601  | 2.94  |
| 23. Kolkatta             |   | 1498372  | 10.72 | 1881544  | 13.47 | 3379916  | 24.19 |
| 24. Chennai              |   | 1207377  | 17.84 | 2028823  | 29.98 | 3236200  | 47.82 |
| 25. Delhi                |   | 2519987  | 16.62 | 5488253  | 36.19 | 8008240  | 52.80 |
| 26. Mumbai               |   | 2990933  | 16.87 | 5003332  | 28.22 | 7994265  | 45.09 |
| Overall                  |   | 46334539 | 4.29  | 50805543 | 4.70  | 97140082 | 8.98  |

[Translation]

#### Working of CBI

4085. SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL :

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the CBI has not been able to check corruption effectively;

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

(c) the objectives behind setting up of the CBI and the extent to which these objectives have been realised alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether it is a fact that whistle blowers are being harassed by their respective departments and investigating agencies;

(e) if so, the number of cases that has come to the notice of the Government; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for their safety?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHAURI) :  
(a) to (f) The Government of India set up Central Bureau of Investigation by a Resolution dated 1<sup>st</sup> April 1963 with an objective to create a Central Police Agency at the disposal of the Central Government which would investigate not only cases of bribery and corruption but also cases of breaches of Central fiscal laws, major frauds relating to Government of India departments public joint stock companies, passport frauds, crimes on the high seas, crimes on the Airlines and serious crimes committed by organised gangs and profession criminals. During the last five years, the CBI had a high success rate in seeking convictions in over 66% of cases forwarded for trial to various courts along with a fast pace of disposal with more than 1100 investigations completed each year out of over 1000 cases registered which show that the objective has been largely achieved. The Central Vigilance Commission has formulated its policy for handling complaints under Government of India Resolutions with respect of Whistle Blower/Scam Busters which is available on its website. The fact of harassment/victimization can be established only after the investigations are over.

### Recruitment Drive to fill Vacancies

4086. SHRI THAWARCHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposes to conduct a recruitment drive by formulating a special action plan to fill up the post lying vacant in different departments and institutions of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof any by when the recruitment drive is likely to be conducted; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHAURI) :

(a) to (c) Filling of vacancies is a continuous exercise handled by the various administrative Ministries/Department/offices/institutions, based on the Recruitment Rules/Service Rules framed for the posts, keeping in view the functional requirement for filling the posts and the extent policy of the Government.

[English]

### CBI Investigation

4087. SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL : Will the Minister of PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases assigned to the CBI for investigation by the Government of Assam during the last three years including the current year as on date, date-wise and subject-wise;

(b) the number of cases in which CBI has completed its inquiry;

(c) the details of number of cases submitted before the courts; and

(d) the number of cases in which the CBI has recommended for exoneration after completing its inquiry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHAURI) :

(a) The State Government of Assam has assigned the cases for CBI investigation during the last three years as detailed below:-

- (i) During 2002, one case regarding financial irregularities in sanctioning of loan by Assam Co-operative Apex Bank Ltd., from 1992 to 1996 to M/s Brahmaputra Sugar Manufacturing Company Pvt. Ltd. was taken over by the CBI and is at the final stage of investigation.
- (ii) During 2003, there was no request from the State Government of Assam.
- (iii) During 2004 two cases regarding pilferage/ theft/illegal sale /trading of crude oil from trunk pipe and in 2005 a case of kidnapping of a private person were referred by the State Government of Assam.

(b) and (c) In none of these cases has CBI completed its inquiry.

(d) Doesn't arise.

### Visit of Indian and Foreign Delegations

4088. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD :

SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI :

SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH :

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH :

SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE :

SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA :

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU :

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :

SHRI MOHD. MUKEEM :

SHRI MUNAWAR HASSAN :

SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD :

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the President of Maldives and Prime Minister of Mauritius visited India recently;

(b) if so, the details of talks held and the agreements signed on the occasion;

(c) whether the PM and the External Affairs Minister visited various countries in the past two months for improving ties with them;

(d) if so, the details thereof, country-wise;

(e) the details of foreign dignitaries who visited India in the past three months along with the agreements signed with them;

(f) the benefit likely to accrue to India from the above agreements;

(g) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen ties with Sri Lanka and Myanmar;

(h) whether Myanmar has agreed to expedite the work of Multi Model transport and Tamati Hydro Project; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) and (b) The President of Maldives paid an official visit to India from March 27 to April 1, 2005. The Prime Minister of Mauritius has not visited India this year. The President of Maldives held talks with the President, Prime Minister, External Affairs Minister and the Minister of Defence. The President of Maldives also met the Chairperson, National Advisory Council, and the Leader of the Opposition. The whole range of bilateral issues was discussed during this visit

including economic co-operation and the implementation of Indian-aided projects in the Maldives. Regional and international matters of interest were also discussed. No agreement were signed during the visit.

(c) and (d) 1. The Prime Minister of India visited Mauritius from 30 March to 2nd April 2005. During this visit he inaugurated the Cyber tower, which has been constructed by the Indian company M/s Larsen & Toubro and M/s Shapoorji Palonji utilizing a line of credit extended by India. He addressed a special session of the Mauritian National Assembly. During the delegation level talks held in Mauritius various issues of bilateral and multilateral interest were discussed. It was decided that a high-powered committee would be appointed by both the governments to process and finalise the recommendations of the report on Comprehensive Economic Co-operation and Partnership Agreement. India also assured Mauritius of all possible assistance to promote its socio-economic development; in particular India agreed to help Mauritius to improve the quality of their educational institutions at the middle and higher levels. It was also decided that India would carry out a comprehensive survey of their EEZ.

2. The External Affairs Minister (EAM) visited the following countries in the past two months for improving ties with them. Details of the visit, country-wise, are given below:-

#### PAKISTAN

The External Affairs Minister, K. Natwar Singh visited Islamabad, February 15-17, 2005. This was the first bilateral visit of the External Affairs Minister of India to Pakistan since 1989. The India Pakistan process was taken significantly forward during the visit. EAM met Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf, Prime Minister Shokat Aziz and held talks with his counterpart, FM Khurshid Kasuri. Agreements were reached to start bus services between Srinaga and

Muzaffarabad and between Lahore and Amritsar, including to religious places such as Nankara Sahib, Pakistan also agreed to work towards early restoration of the Khokrapar Munabao rail link. It was also decided that agreements would be concluded in the coming months, on Pre-notification of Missile Tests, and between Coast Guards and Pakistan's Maritime Security Agency, as well as between the narcotics control authorities of the two countries. Discussions would begin on agreements on Preventing Incidents at Sea and Reducing the Risk of Nuclear Accident or Unauthorised use of Nuclear Weapons.

#### **AFGHANISTAN**

External Affairs Minister visited Kabul on February 2005. He met President Karzai, Babae-millat and former King Zahir Shah, and Foreign Minister Dr. Abdullah. During the visit, he inaugurated the new surgical block of Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health (IGICH), which has been reconstructed with Indian assistance and handed over 45 vehicles to the Afghan National Army. A package of support to IGICH was also announced, including training of doctors and paramedics in India and setting up of a diagnostic centre at IGICH.

#### **MYANMAR**

EAM paid an official visit to Myanmar, 24-27 March 2005 at the invitation of Myanmar's Minister of Foreign Affairs, U. Nyan Win. EAM's visit took place against the backdrop of the State visit to India by Myanmar's Head of State, Senior General Than Shwe in October 2004, and was aimed at carrying forward the on-going high-level dialogue between India and Myanmar. During his visit, EAM called on the Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council,

Senior General Than Shwe and Prime Minister Lt. General Soe Win. He also held wide-ranging discussions with his counterpart U. Nyan Win, spanning the entire gamut of bilateral issues. India's security concerns in the Northeast, cross-border infrastructure development projects, in particular the Kaladan multi-modal transport project and the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway, and energy co-operation including the proposed India-Bangladesh-Myanmar gas pipeline and the Tamanthi Hydro-electric Power project figured on the agenda. Apart from a review of bilateral relations, the visit provided an opportunity to discuss regional and global issues of mutual interest.

#### **SOUTH AFRICA**

EAM visited South Africa March 9-11, 2005 to participate in the Trilateral Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the IBSA (India, Brazil, South Africa) Dialogue Forum. A Cape Town communique was issued at the conclusion of this meeting.

#### **UK**

EAM visited UK 9-10 March 2005. He held bilateral talks with foreign Secretary Jack Straw. They also exchanged views on regional & international issues of mutual concern.

(e) and (f) The details of the foreign dignitaries who visited India in the past three months are given below. Details of the agreement signed with them, and their likely benefits to India are also outlined below:-

#### **BHUTAN**

(i) At the invitation of the President of India, His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuck, King of Bhutan, paid a six-day State Visit to India from January 24 to 29, 2005 as Chief Guest for the

Republic Day. During the State Visit, the following three Memoranda of Understanding were signed on January 25, 2005:

- (i) Preparation of Detailed Project Report for:
  - (a) Punatshangchhu (Stage-II) Hydro-power Project;
  - (b) Mangdechhu Hydropower Project;
- (ii) Establishment of Railway Links between bordering towns of India and Bhutan;
- (iii) Co-operation in the field of Agriculture and allied sectors.

The MOUs in the above fields are expected to contribute towards (i) enhanced power generation in Bhutan to meet India's energy needs, (ii) enhanced trade through improved border infrastructure, (iii) widening the scope of bilateral co-operation.

- (II) Her Majesty Ashi Sangay Choden Wangchuck, the Queen of Bhutan in her capacity as UNFPA's Goodwill Ambassador paid a goodwill visit to India, February 6-12, 2005. During her stay in India, the Queen met Smt. Meira Kumar, Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment. She also visited Jaipur, Mumbai and Ahmedabad and interacted with several organizations engaged with issues such as population matters, HIV AIDS and women's welfare.

## NEPAL

The Foreign Minister of Nepal, Ramesh Nath Pandey visited India March 7-9, 2005. The visiting FM called on EAM and discussed internal matters, current political and security situation in Nepal.

## AFGHANISTAN

President Karzai came on a "working" visit to India from 23-25 February, 2005. He called on the President and had delegation level talks with the Prime Minister. Two MOUs were signed during the visit: (a) MOU on Co-operation in the field of Media and Information and (b) MOU on Co-operation in the field of Civil Aviation. While the MOU in the field of Media and Information calls for greater interaction between media persons and radio and TV organizations of the two countries, the MOU in the field of Civil Aviation is aimed at building capacity and strengthening institutional structure of Afghan civil aviation sector. These MOUs will further strengthen the bilateral relations between the two countries.

## IRAN

Iranian Foreign Minister Dr. Kamal Kharrazi visited New Delhi on 21-22 February, 2005 for the 14th session of the India-Iran Joint Commission Meeting. Two MOUs were signed during the visit: (a) MOU promoting and preserving the Common Cultural Heritage of India and Iran and (b) MOU on outcome of 14th Joint Commission Meeting.

## NEW ZEALAND

The Minister of Foreign Affairs & Trade, Government of New Zealand, Phil Goff visited India 2-5 March, 2005. He called on the Minister of External Affairs and held discussions on bilateral issues pertaining to trade and economic matters, agriculture, people to people contacts and education. Both the Ministers expressed satisfaction on increasing interaction in areas of education, tourism and the entertainment industry.

**VIETNAM**

The Foreign Minister of Vietnam, Nguyen Dy. Nien, visited India March 31 to April 4, 2005. He had discussions with EAM and other leaders for strengthening India-Vietnam ties.

**INDONESIA**

Indonesian Foreign Minister, Dr. Hassan Wirajuda led a delegation which included Health Minister Siti Fadils Supari, to India to attend the Second Joint Commission Meeting on 1 March, 2005. The Indian delegation was led by External Affairs Minister K. Natwar Singh. The meeting expressed concern and sympathy for the victims of the Tsunami that struck both countries on 26 December, 2004, agreed to strengthen and deepen bilateral engagement. The Joint Commission also reviewed the relations between the two countries. The meeting identified a range of areas for bilateral co-operation including economic and trade relations, defence and security ties, pharmaceuticals and health, banking sector, investment, agriculture, transportation, tourism and culture, education, technical co-operation, promotion of women's welfare, science and technology, space technology and application, biotechnology, energy and mineral resources, legal co-operation and consular matters. The Agreed Minutes were signed by the two Foreign Ministers.

**THAILAND**

Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of the Kingdom of Thailand paid an official visit to India from 27.2.05 to 10.3.05

**ITALY**

The President of Italy Carlos Azeglio Ciampi

visited India February 12-16, 2005. Seven MOUs in the field of science & technology were signed during the visit. These MoUs are expected to result in the creation of capacity building in the field of science & technology.

**UK**

UK Foreign Secretary Jack Straw visited India February 16-18, 2005. An Agreement on Transfer of Prisoners and an MOU on Return of Failed Asylum Seekers were signed during the visit. The agreements are expected to result in an improvement in the management and regulation of cases coming within these categories.

**BELGIUM**

Crown Prince Philippe visited India from 13 to 19 March, 2005. An MoU for Co-operation in Preservation of Historical Monuments and five MoUs in the field of trade & investment between industry bodies on either side were signed during the visit. These MOUs are expected to result in the strengthening of the capacity for preservation of historical monuments and creating a better environment for promotion of trade and investment.

**AUSTRIA**

President of Austria, Dr. Heinz Fischer paid a State visit to India, February 16-21, 2005. The Austrian President was accompanied by a high level delegation including Federal Minister for Economics and Labour, Martin Bartenstein, Chief Minister of Tyrol, Herwig Van Staa and the Chief Minister of Salzburg, Gabriele Burgstaller and President of Austrian Federal Economic Chamber, Christoph Leitl. Dr. Fischer called on the President of India Dr. Abdul Kalam and held



talks with the Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh. President Fischer held separate meetings with the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, the External Affairs Minister and the Defence Minister. President Fischer also had a meeting with the Chairperson, UPA. President Fischer and the accompanying delegation visited Mumbai, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Mysore. In Delhi and Mumbai, President Fischer addressed captains of Indian business and industry, under the auspices of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). The visit provided a fillip to the traditionally warm and substantial bilateral ties.

The following bilateral agreements were signed during the visit:

- (i) An Agreement on Infrastructure Co-operation in Health Sector.
- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding on Development of Collaboration between the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh and the Medical University Innsbruck.

The agreements signed are likely to benefit both sides in the economic and health spheres, where expertise of both sides can be shared for the common benefit.

#### **CZECH REPUBLIC**

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Transport, Milan Simonovsky visited India February 8-12, 2005. He attended the IETF, 2005, New Delhi. He also met the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, and the Minister of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises. No agreement was signed during the visit.

#### **FINLAND**

Finish Foreign Minister, Erkki Tuomioja visited India to participate in the Helsinki Process meeting in New Delhi February 6-10, 2005. During the visit, he held talks with EAM. A reception was hosted by MOS E. Ahamad. No agreement was signed during the visit.

#### **ICELAND**

President of Iceland, Olafur Ragnar Grimsson paid a visit to India February 3-9, 2005 to participate in the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit organized by TERI. During the visit, he called on the President. He held separate meetings with the Prime Minister, the Chairperson UPA, EAM and MOS (Civil Aviation). No agreement was signed during the visit.

#### **MALTA**

Dr. Michael Frendo, Maltese Foreign Minister visited India during 7-12 March, 2005 and met EAM. Bilateral relations and regional developments were discussed during the meeting. During the visit the Agreement on Protocol of Consultations between the Ministry of External Affairs of Government of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malta was signed on 7 March 2005. The Protocol signed would increase interactions at the official level between the two countries.

#### **VENEZUELA**

On the invitation of the President of India, President Hugo Chavez of Venezuela paid a State Visit to India from 4th-7th March 2005 leading a delegation of Cabinet Ministers, senior bureaucrats and leading business executives. This is the first State Visit by a Venezuelan

President to India. President Chavez had meetings with our President and Prime Minister, EAM and Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas called on President Chavez. The President also visited Kolkata and Bangalore. In Kolkata he addressed a public meeting and also visited a Gram Panchayat to study its working.

2. The following agreements were signed during the visit:-
  - (i) MOU on India-Venezuela Joint Commission
  - (ii) MOU on Co-operation in the field of Space
  - (iii) Agreement on co-operation in the field of Hydrocarbons
  - (iv) MOU in the Area of Biotechnology
  - (v) MOU between ONGC Videsh Ltd. and PDVSA, the Venezuelan State Petroleum Company
  - (vi) MOU between IRCON and IAFE, the Venezuelan Railway Authority
3. The two sides agreed on the urgent need for reforms of the United Nations and expansion of the Security Council to reflect the new realities of the international situation. The Venezuelan side expressed support to India's candidature for permanent membership of the United Nations Security Council.

#### PARAGUAY

Dr. (Mrs.) Leila Rachid, Minister of External Relations of Paraguay visited India 18-23 March, 2005 to attend the G-20 meeting as well as to hold bilateral talks. During her visit she had a meeting with EAM and delegation level talks

with MOS Rao Inderjit Singh on issues of mutual interest, in the context of the MoU on Consultation Mechanism signed on 2 October, 2002. No agreement was signed during the visit.

#### UZBEKISTAN

The Uzbek President, Islam Karimov visited India from 4-6 March, 2005. He was accompanied by the Uzbek First Deputy Prime Minister, Uzbek Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, Minister of Defence and Chairman of the Committee for Foreign Policy of the Senate of Uzbekistan. The following bilateral Agreements between India and Uzbekistan were signed during the visit:

1. Agreement on co-operation in Military and Military-Technical areas between the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of India.
2. Exchange Programme between the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Government of the Republic of India on co-operation in the field of Education.
3. Programme of Co-operation between the Ministry of Culture of the Government of Republic of India and the Ministry of Culture and Sports of the Government of Republic of Uzbekistan for the period 2005-2007.
4. Agreement between the Government of Republic of India and the Government of Republic of Uzbekistan on Co-operation in the sphere of Support of Small and Private Entrepreneurship.

In addition to the above, 8 Agreements/MOUs were signed between the organizations of the two countries which are as follows:

1. Agreement on co-operation between the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Uzbekistan.
2. Agreement on co-operation between the Federations of Indian Export Organizations and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Uzbekistan.
3. Memorandum of Understanding between the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. and the Agency for Foreign Economic Relations of the Republic of Uzbekistan.
4. Protocol of Understanding between Ghalib Institute (India) and Tashkent State Institute of Oriental Studies (Uzbekistan).
5. Memorandum of Understanding between Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and the University of World Economy and Diplomacy, Tashkent.
6. Protocol of Intention for co-operation in Tourism between the Tourism Development Corporation of India and the National Company of Uzbekistan "Uzbektourism".
7. Memorandum of Understanding on Co-operation between the Export-Import Bank of India and the National Bank for Foreign Economic Relations of Uzbekistan.
8. Memorandum of Understanding on Co-operation between the State Bank of India and the National Bank for Foreign Economic Relations of Uzbekistan.

These Agreements are likely to lead to strengthening bilateral co-operation in diverse fields.

#### CANADA

Prime Minister of Canada, Paul Martin visited India at the invitation of Prime Minister 17-18 January, 2005. During the visit no agreement was signed.

He held discussions with the Prime Minister that focused around the expansion of bilateral cooperation between India and Canada. Both leaders agreed to direct designated scientific advisers on each side to report on advancing S&T collaboration. They agreed to support a CEO Roundtable that would make recommendations for expanding economic ties. It was also decided to strengthen environmental co-operation. Both sides agreed on the need for improved visa and consular services as part of the efforts to strengthen people-to-people links.

#### USA

Secretary of State of USA, Dr. Condoleezza Rice visited India 15-16 March, 2005 at the invitation of External Affairs Minister. During the visit no agreement was signed.

Dr. Rich had meetings with PM, EAM and the Chairperson of the UPA. Both sides discussed the entire range of issues of bilateral, regional and global importance. There was forward movement on starting an energy dialogue in all its dimensions, on advancing our defence relationship, and in imparting our relationship a larger strategic framework. In the context of UN reform, the need to accommodate major rising powers like India in international institutions was recognized.

**GAMBIA**

- (i) Minister of Foreign Affairs of Gambia, Sidi Morro Sanneh visited India January 11-13, 2005. This was the first visit by a high-level delegation from Gambia. He discussed issues of bilateral and multilateral concern with the EAM. It has resulted in establishing close links between the two countries. Both sides agreed to work together in multilateral fora. No agreement was signed during the visit.
- (ii) Foreign Minister of the Gambia, Sidi Morro Sanneh visited India March 5-10, 2005. He held discussions on bilateral issues to strengthen the bilateral cooperation. No agreement was signed during the visit.

**SENEGAL**

Dr. Cheikh Tidiane Gadio, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Senegal visited India from 23-24 January, 2005. The Minister conveyed his government's condolences at the Tsunami disaster and the passing away of Shri Narasimha Rao & Shri J.N. Dixit. The visit resulted in the reiteration of the close ties between India and Senegal. No agreement was signed during the visit.

**CONGO**

- (i) Foreign Minister of Democratic Republic of Congo, Raymond Ramazani Baya visited India February 1-4, 2005. He discussed issues of bilateral and multilateral concern. The visit resulted in establishing close links between both countries. Both sides agreed to work together in establishing stronger economic linkages. No agreement was signed during the visit.
- (ii) Vice President of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Jean Pierre Bemba visited India March

1-4, 2005. He attended the Conclave on India-Africa Project Partnership. The visit has resulted in strengthening of bilateral relations. No agreement was signed during the visit.

**CHAD**

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Chad, Nagoum Yamasson visited India March 1-4, 2005. He attended the Conclave on India-Africa Project Partnership and discussed bilateral issues. It has resulted in establishing close bilateral relations. No agreement was signed during the visit.

**NIGER**

Madame Aichtou Mindaoudou, Minister for Foreign Affairs and African Integration & Co-operation of the Republic of Niger and Mohamed Abdoulahi, Minister of Mines & Energy visited India March 1-4, 2005. They attended the Conclave on India-Africa Project Partnership. The visit has resulted in establishing close bilateral relations. No agreement was signed during the visit.

**GHANA**

Prof. Mike Oquaye, Minister of Energy of Ghana visited India from 1-4 March, 2005. He attended the Conclave on India-Africa Project Partnership. The visit has resulted in establishing close bilateral relations. No agreement was signed during the visit.

**NIGERIA**

Foreign Minister of Nigeria, Oluyemi Adeniji visited India March 21-23, 2005. He held discussions with EAM on issues relating to UNSC, bilateral relations. The visit has resulted

in strengthening and reaffirming our close relations. No agreement was signed during the visit.

#### **MADAGASCAR**

Foreign Minister of Madagascar General Marcel Ranjeva visited India from 21-25 March, 2005. No agreement was signed during the visit.

(g) There is a regular exchange of high-level visits and institutionalized interaction at the official level in the case of both Sri Lanka and Myanmar. The Sri Lankan President, Prime Minister, Speaker, Foreign Minister and Leader of Opposition have all visited India in the past year. Myanmar Head of State Senior General Than Shwe visited India in October 2004 and EAM visited Myanmar in March, 2005.

In the case of Sri Lanka, negotiations to deepen and widen the Free Trade Agreement into a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement are underway; a Joint Working Group on Fisheries has been constituted; funds are being disbursed from three credit lines; a number of tsunami relief measures and projects have been and are under implementation; and infrastructural and communication linkages have been augmented.

In the case of Myanmar, India is also undertaking a variety of economic and developmental initiatives. These include projects in diverse fields such as roads, railways, power, telecommunications, information technology, science and technology and higher education. India and Myanmar are also working together to enhance cooperation in the hydrocarbon sector.

(h) and (i) Government of India and the Government of Myanmar are keen to expedite progress on the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transport Project and the Tamanthi Hydro-electric Power Project. Negotiations are underway between the two Governments to finalize all Agreement pertaining to the construction, maintenance and financing

of the Kaladan project. After the Agreements are concluded, construction would begin. The pre-Feasibility Report on the Tamanthi Project is under examination. If accepted, a Detailed Project Report would be commissioned.

#### **Village Public Telephone In Gujarat**

4089. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD :  
SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

- (a) the total number of Village Public Telephone (VPT) installed in Gujarat, District-wise;
- (b) the target set for the purpose during the Tenth Five Year Plan;
- (c) the steps taken to achieve the target;
- (d) the extent to which this target has been achieved so far; and
- (e) by when each village in the country is likely to be provided with VPT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) 15,855 Village Public Telephones (VPTs) have been provided in Gujarat Telecom Circle. The Secondary Switching Area (SSA) wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) to (d) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has entered into an agreement with the office of the Administrator Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund to provide VPTs in remaining 4,144 inhabited villages having population more than 100. These VPTs are planned to be provided in a phased manner by November, 2007. Out of these 4,144 VPTs, 1,130 VPTs have been provided in Gujarat Telecom Circle so far.

- (e) BSNL has entered into an agreement with the

office of the Administrator USO Fund to provide PVTs in remaining 66,822 villages in phased manner over a period of three years i.e. by November, 2007. This excludes villages which are depopulated, naxalite/insurgency infested, having population of less than hundred persons and those lying in deep forest areas.

### Statement

*Secondary Switching Area (SSA) wise details  
of village Public Telephone provided in  
Gujarat Telecom Circle*

| S. No. | Name of SSA | Number of VPTs provided by |     | Total No. of VPTs provided |
|--------|-------------|----------------------------|-----|----------------------------|
|        |             | BSNL                       | RIL |                            |
| 1      | 2           | 3                          | 4   | 5                          |
| 1.     | Ahmedabad   | 564                        | 158 | 722                        |
| 2.     | Amreli      | 565                        | 52  | 617                        |
| 3.     | Bhavnagar   | 587                        | 150 | 737                        |
| 4.     | Bharuch     | 723                        | 151 | 874                        |
| 5.     | Bhuj        | 446                        | 153 | 599                        |
| 6.     | Godhra      | 1,180                      | 322 | 1,502                      |
| 7.     | Himatnagar  | 879                        | 398 | 1,277                      |
| 8.     | Jamnagar    | 493                        | 105 | 598                        |
| 9.     | Junagarh    | 899                        | 41  | 940                        |
| 10.    | Mehsana     | 601                        | 465 | 1,066                      |
| 11.    | Nadiad      | 735                        | 354 | 1,089                      |
| 12.    | Palanpur    | 985                        | 351 | 1,336                      |
| 13.    | Rajkot      | 805                        | 3   | 808                        |
| 14.    | Surat       | 788                        | 208 | 996                        |

| 1     | 2             | 3      | 4     | 5      |
|-------|---------------|--------|-------|--------|
| 15.   | Surendranagar | 565    | 51    | 616    |
| 16.   | Vadodara      | 818    | 433   | 1,251  |
| 17.   | Valsad        | 623    | 204   | 827    |
| Total |               | 12,256 | 3,599 | 15,855 |

### Per Capita Investment

4090. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA : Will the Minister of PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the per capita investment made by the Government vis-à-vis plan outlay during 2001-2002, 2002-2003 and 2003-2004;

(b) the details of ranking of the various States of the country as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the per capita investment in the plan outlay in the entire country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) : (a) and (b) A statement showing per capita investment made by Central Government in States vis-à-vis their Plan Outlays during 2001-2002, 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 arranged in descending order of per capita Central investment for 2003-04 is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The plans of States are financed through Central Assistance and States' Own Resources. In order to increase the plan outlays, the Government have been trying to augment public savings, enhance tax collection through introduction of better tax system, and also contain inflation. States have also been requested to generate higher level of their own resources inter-alia by improving the performance of State Level Enterprises, increasing tax and non-tax revenue collection and also by curtailing their non-plan expenditure.

**Statement***Per capita investment made by Government vis-à-vis Plan Outlay*

| Sl. No. | States            | 2001-02<br>Per Capita<br>Central<br>Investment<br>(in Rs.) | 2001-02<br>Plan Outlay<br>(in crore) | 2002-03<br>Per Capita<br>Central<br>Investment<br>(in Rs.) | 2002-03<br>Plan Outlay<br>(in crore) | 2003-04<br>Per Capita<br>Central<br>Investment<br>(in Rs.) | 2003-04<br>Plan Outlay<br>(in crore) |
|---------|-------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1       | 2                 | 3  | 4                                    | 5  | 6                                    | 7  | 8                                    |
| 1.      | Sikkim            | 5678   | 300.22                               | 6400   | 350.00                               | 7248   | 405.00                               |
| 2.      | Arunachal Pradesh | 5614   | 661.00                               | 5938   | 676.00                               | 6323   | 708.00                               |
| 3.      | Mizoram           | 4847   | 410.00                               | 5236   | 430.00                               | 6171   | 480.00                               |
| 4.      | Jammu and Kashmir | 2244   | 2050.00                              | 2018   | 2265.15                              | 3070   | 2500.00                              |
| 5.      | Manipur           | 2441   | 520.00                               | 2541   | 550.00                               | 2787   | 590.00                               |
| 6.      | Nagaland          | 2359   | 405.00                               | 2487   | 424.00                               | 2732   | 500.00                               |
| 7.      | Himachal Pradesh  | 2051   | 1720.00                              | 1953   | 1840.00                              | 2369   | 1335.00                              |
| 8.      | Tripura           | 2046   | 560.00                               | 2142   | 625.00                               | 2366   | 650.00                               |
| 9.      | Meghalaya         | 1836   | 487.00                               | 1968   | 545.00                               | 2140   | 555.00                               |
| 10.     | Uttaranchal       | 1632   | 1050.00                              | 1729   | 1533.13                              | 1917   | 1575.00                              |
| 11.     | Orissa            | 653  | 3000.00                              | 740  | 3100.00                              | 1039   | 3200.00                              |
| 12.     | Goa               | 1056   | 460.00                               | 1177   | 586.00                               | 899  | 650.00                               |
| 13.     | Andhra Pradesh    | 700  | 8378.00                              | 795  | 10100.00                             | 857  | 10970.46                             |
| 14.     | Gujarat           | 1196   | 7267.85                              | 1039   | 7600.00                              | 831  | 7860.00                              |
| 15.     | Assam             | 651  | 1710.00                              | 738  | 1750.00                              | 768  | 1780.00                              |
| 16.     | Karnataka         | 587  | 8941.56                              | 659  | 8610.61                              | 751  | 9620.00                              |
| 17.     | Kerala            | 273  | 3015.00                              | 582  | 4026.00                              | 580  | 4430.00                              |
| 18.     | Tamil Nadu        | 296  | 6040.00                              | 289  | 5750.00                              | 492  | 7000.00                              |

| 1   | 2              | 3   | 4        | 5   | 6        | 7   | 8        |
|-----|----------------|-----|----------|-----|----------|-----|----------|
| 19. | Madhya Pradesh | 306 | 3630.00  | 366 | 4821.00  | 448 | 5703.00  |
| 20. | Rajasthan      | 282 | 5031.00  | 380 | 5160.00  | 444 | 4258.00  |
| 21. | Chhattisgarh   | 283 | 1312.00  | 358 | 1757.00  | 413 | 2335.00  |
| 22. | West Bengal    | 350 | 7186.13  | 424 | 6307.00  | 410 | 3894.00  |
| 23. | Punjab         | 374 | 3021.00  | 397 | 2793.00  | 368 | 2822.00  |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh  | 359 | 8400.00  | 368 | 7250.00  | 350 | 7728.00  |
| 25. | Jharkhand      | 272 | 2650.00  | 318 | 2651.94  | 347 | 2935.85  |
| 26. | Bihar          | 242 | 2644.00  | 265 | 2964.40  | 331 | 3320.00  |
| 27. | Maharashtra    | 224 | 10834.00 | 258 | 11562.00 | 285 | 12050.00 |
| 28. | Haryana        | 300 | 2150.00  | 281 | 2034.00  | 273 | 206800   |

**Note:**

1. Per capital Central Assistance for State Plans is taken as per capita Central investment.
2. Population of 2001 census is used for calculation of per capita Central investment.

*[Translation]***Mobile Service in Rural Areas**

4091. SHRI SUBHASH SURESHCHANDRA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOG be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has directed the private mobile-service operators to provide their services in rural areas at concessional rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to ensure better mobile service in rural areas; and

(c) the details regarding percentage of subscribers in rural areas in comparison to the total number of subscribers of private mobile-service operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) In terms of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) Act 1997, the Government has mandated TRAI to fix up the tariff for telecom services including cellular mobile services. With regard to tariff for mobile services, TRAI has forborne tariff for mobile service except for national roaming service and mobile operators are free to offer their tariff in rural areas. As such mobile operators have not been directed to provide mobile services in rural areas at concessional rates.

As per terms and conditions of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) and Unified Access Services Licence (UASL) Agreement, the roll out obligation of mobile service providers covers 50% District Headquarters (DHQs) and expansion beyond 50% DHQs/town totally



depends on the business decision of mobile service providers. Further, there is no requirement of mandatory coverage of rural areas.

However, wherever mobile service is provided by the licensee, TRAI has been mandated to monitor QoS. In this regard, TRAI has set benchmarks for assessing QoS provided by mobile service providers and continuously monitors the same through surveys conducted from time to time.

(c) The Government does not maintain the information regarding number of mobile subscribers in rural areas separately. The total number of subscribers of private mobile operators as on 28.02.2005 is 41.20 Millions.

#### **Lax Security In Government Hospitals**

4092. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware of the lax security in Government hospitals in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(c) the effective steps being taken by the Government to beef up the security system in Government hospitals in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) Adequate security measures are in place in the Central Government Hospitals in Delhi and no incidence of lax security in these hospitals has come to the notice of the Government.

[English]

#### **Amendment of TRAI Act**

4093. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : Will the Minister

of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has proposed amendment of its Act with a view to have more powers in order to impose penalty on operators that offer services below the prescribed quality norms; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

[Translation]

#### **Survey on Non-Governmental Organisation**

4094. SHRI NÍTISH KUMAR :

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK :

Will the Minister of PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey on the working of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in the country;

(b) if so, the number of NGOs working in the country;

(c) whether a number of NGOs functioning in the country have managed to get assistance from some Ministries in spite of their being blacklisted by many Ministries;

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

(e) the details of steps the Government has taken to check the misuse of the Government funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The exact number is not known, as no survey has been conducted by Government. However, a study conducted in 2002 by the Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), a Non-Governmental Organisation, has estimated their number to be approximately 12 lakh.

(c) to (e) The list of blacklisted NGOs is given wide publicity among the Ministries/Departments and other Government agencies. Care is taken to ensure that blacklisted NGOs do not get assistance from Ministries/Departments.

[English]

#### Telephone Connections in Urban and Rural Areas

4095. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has set any target in providing telephone connections both in the urban and rural areas in the country during the Tenth Plan period;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof and the actual achievement made thereto;

(c) the main reasons for gap between target set and actual achievement in the country particularly in Rajasthan in providing telephone connections; and

(d) the steps taken to provide the telephone connections in the country expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir. A target of

650 lakh telephones was fixed for the entire country to achieve a teledensity of 9.91% by the end of March, 2007. Similarly, to achieve the teledensity target of 3% by the end of the Plan, 147.2 lakh phones were required to be provided in the rural areas. Against this target upto February 28, 2005, 522.69 lakh additional phones have been provided in the country by both public and private operators of which 41.18 lakh phones are in the rural areas. The statewide targets were not fixed. However, BSNL and MTNL fix their targets each year keeping in view the demand and availability of funds. The details of these targets and achievements are given in the enclosed statement. Although there has been lower net contribution by BSNL as compared to the targets in Rajasthan mainly due to surrender of fixed phones, the overall addition in phones by both public and private operators has been 19.53 lakh during 1st April, 2002 to 28th February, 2005.

(d) Since most of the waiting list is in rural areas, following steps have been taken to expedite the telephone connections in such areas:

- (i) Large scale deployment of WLL network in rural areas has been planned.
- (ii) Relaxation of the outdoor cable from 2.5 kms to 5.0 kms for Landline Exchanges has been given.
- (iii) Mobile network in all the highways, important towns, pilgrim centers and State Highways are deployed to give coverage to more areas.
- (iv) In addition to the efforts made by BSNL, the demand for telephones is also met by the private operators.
- (v) Further, financial support is provided to the telecom operators through the mechanism of Universal Service Obligation Fund (USO Fund) to encourage them, inter alia, to provide phones in rural areas.

**Statement**

*Telephone connection Targets and Achievement for 2002-2003, 2003-2004,  
2004-05 & target for 2005-06 (BSNL and MTNL)*

| S. No. | Circle            | Target 2002-03 | Achievement 2002-03 | Target 2003-04 | Achievement 2003-04 | Target 2004-05 | Net Ach. 2004-05* | Target 2005-06 |
|--------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1      | 2                 | 3              | 4                   | 5              | 6                   | 7              | 8                 | 9              |
| 1.     | Andaman & Nicobar | 4000           | 4946                | 3500           | 6313                | 9900           | 4407              | 23000          |
| 2.     | Andhra Pradesh    | 399000         | 332331              | 449000         | 309625              | 639700         | 295671            | 730000         |
| 3.     | Assam             | 75000          | 64750               | 83000          | 49771               | 213600         | 154894            | 1248000        |
| 4.     | Bihar             | 215800         | 161075              | 255000         | 143599              | 438300         | 179635            | 816000         |
| 5.     | Chhattisgarh      | 39500          | 50052               | 58000          | 41793               | 102900         | 47969             | 165000         |
| 6.     | Gujarat           | 502700         | 404152              | 424000         | 3306                | 663000         | 127918            | 839000         |
| 7.     | Haryana           | 187000         | 180219              | 223000         | 164704              | 375000         | 114344            | 792000         |
| 8.     | Himachal Pradesh  | 74000          | 55495               | 75000          | 53525               | 147700         | 45838             | 804000         |
| 9.     | Jammu and Kashmir | 49000          | 41266               | 79500          | 64673               | 102100         | 136716            | 1451000        |
| 10.    | Jharkhand         | 93200          | 90414               | 96000          | 101347              | 151000         | 87053             | 1575000        |
| 11.    | Karnataka         | 430000         | 362151              | 385000         | 128552              | 434400         | 412887            | 710000         |
| 12.    | Kerala            | 664000         | 530452              | 800000         | 407074              | 1018000        | 710685            | 2055000        |
| 13.    | Madhya Pradesh    | 167500         | 167874              | 176000         | 157134              | 332200         | 202668            | 1259000        |
| 14.    | Maharashtra       | 593000         | 565043              | 596000         | 343365              | 965500         | 384831            | 752000         |
| 15.    | North Eastern-1   | 22300          | 21306               | 69500          | 26096               | 78800          | 49317             | 813000         |
| 16.    | North Eastern-2   | 15500          | 18204               | 14500          | 26518               | 61000          | 47858             | 1717000        |
| 17.    | Orissa            | 147000         | 151395              | 137000         | 139421              | 319200         | 181940            | 620000         |
| 18.    | Punjab            | 387000         | 282909              | 389000         | 106112              | 548000         | 97884             | 473000         |
| 19.    | Rajasthan         | 249000         | 213986              | 297000         | 214920              | 641700         | 234226            | 664000         |

| 1                      | 2 | 3       | 4       | 5       | 6       | 7        | 8       | 9        |
|------------------------|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| 20. Tamil Nadu         |   | 318000  | 269127  | 305000  | 217247  | 548600   | 581741  | 841000   |
| 21. Uttaranchal        |   | 57000   | 58698   | 73000   | 82806   | 139900   | 64944   | 1317000  |
| 22. Uttar Pradesh East |   | 270000  | 232839  | 271000  | 173139  | 586600   | 388035  | 2014000  |
| 23. Uttar Pradesh West |   | 215500  | 203454  | 245000  | 211836  | 362500   | 121802  | 866000   |
| 24. West Bengal        |   | 217000  | 217236  | 285000  | 165730  | 532000   | 195046  | 581000   |
| 25. Kolkata            |   | 62000   | 42810   | 132000  | 40360   | 351700   | 222111  | 1410000  |
| 26. Chennai            |   | 136000  | 48116   | 140000  | 80415   | 236700   | 197101  | 165000   |
| 27. Delhi and Mumbai   |   | 549000  | 238000  | 350000  | 148000  | 500000   | 24000   | 800000   |
| Total                  |   | 6139000 | 5008300 | 6411000 | 3311381 | 10500000 | 5311521 | 25500000 |

[Translation]

#### **Earthquake Tremors**

4096. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU :

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :

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

(a) whether earthquake tremors were felt recently in Mumbai, Pune and Andaman and Nicobar and other places in the country and a meeting of Central Disaster Management Group was held in New Delhi in March, 2005 after getting information about it;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether meteorological department or any other department had forecasted these earthquake tremors; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An earthquake of magnitude of 5.1, occurred in Koyana region on 14th March 2005, was felt in Mumbai, Pune and other parts of Maharashtra. Also, the Andaman & Nicobar Islands region has been experiencing aftershock activity due to the recent two Great earthquakes in Sumatra Island (Indonesia). A total of 304 aftershocks of magnitude 5.0 and above have been recorded so far. No specific meeting of Central Disaster Management Group was held in March 2005 after the Koyana earthquake.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) At present there is no scientific method available all over the world to forecast earthquakes in terms of time, space and magnitude.

[English]

#### **Employment on Compassionate Ground**

4097. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that compassionate appointments to the dependents of deceased and invalid Government servants under the scheme of Recruitment in relaxation of Normal Rules, restricted now to 5% of the total vacancies made by direct recruitment, are practically denied to all the applicants, especially in the Department of Posts on flimsy or non-existent grounds;

(b) if so, whether the Government would consider removing all the curbs and provide employment to all deserving cases; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS. (SHRI SURESH PACHAURI) : (a) to (c) As per the Government policy, compassionate appointments are to be made by the Administrative Departments in deserving cases subject to availability of vacancies in Group 'C' and 'D' category of posts within 5% of the direct recruitment vacancies to be filled in each year. Compassionate appointments in the Department of Posts are governed as per the extant norms and conditions laid down by the Government.

[Translation]

#### **Punctuality Report of CGHS Doctors and Staffs**

4098. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN : Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware that doctors and other staff frequently report late for their morning shift duties in several CGHS dispensaries in Delhi, particularly in Gole Market and Arambagh Dispensaries causing a great deal of inconvenience to the beneficiaries;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received any complaints in this regard alongwith the names of the CGHS dispensaries to which these complaints relate to; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the services being rendered by the aforesaid dispensaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) By and large, the CGHS doctors and staff are punctual in attending to their duties at the dispensaries and as such beneficiaries are not inconvenienced. However, five (5) complaints have been received regarding unsatisfactory attendance of Medical Officers and other staff under CGHS Delhi during the last one year. The dispensary-wise complaints received are as under:-

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Gole Market-I  | 2 complaints   |
| 2. Aram Bagh<br>(Chitragupta Road)                      | 1 complaint  |
| 3. R.K. Puram<br>dispensary, Sector-<br>12 (Homeopathy) | 1 complaint  |
| 4. West Patel Nagar<br>Dispensary                       | 1 complaint which was<br>found to be pseudony-<br>mous |

(c) There is an inbuilt mechanism to improve the functioning of CGHS dispensaries by way of inspection, supervision and guidance by the Senior Officers of CGHS. The complaints of the beneficiaries are regularly monitored at CGHS dispensary, Zonal level and at the Headquarters level. Necessary instruction are also issued from time to time to improve the punctuality and behaviour of officers. Eight special inspection teams have also been constituted to monitor the functioning of CGHS dispensaries in Delhi.

[English]

#### **Study on Rural and Urban Telecom Service**

4099. SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has made any study on the rural and urban requirement of telephone and mobile connectivity and the quality of service being provided by the BSNL and the MTNL in the country, State-wise;

(b) if so, the estimated annual requirement of telephone and mobile in each State of the country in rural and urban areas, State-wise, particularly in Assam;

(c) the number of telephone connections allotted to the customers in each State of urban/rural area of the country by the BSNL and private telephone operators; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide telephone and mobile connections within specific time period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) Sir, although the Government has not conducted any study on rural and urban telephone requirement, BSNL maintains waiting list of customers who intend to take telephone connection. Waiting list of telephones provided during the previous year and growth rate over the years is used to extrapolate future demand. As regards the Quality of Service (QoS), Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) conducts circle-wise QoS of all telecom operators including BSNL and MTNL through an independent agency namely IMRB International.

(b) Circle-wise requirement of telephones estimated by BSNL is given in enclosed Statement-I.

(c) List of Fixed Line connections provided by BSNL and private operators in rural and urban areas is given in the enclosed statement-II Cellular Subscriber base of public and private operators as on 28.2.2005 is given in the enclosed statement-III.

(d) As per TRAI Regulation on Quality of Service of Basic and Cellular Mobile Telephone Services 2000 for

Basic Service in exchange areas where the telephone is available on demand, the operator should provide telephone connection within 7 (seven) days. Compliance of operators to this guidelines is being monitored through Quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports. TRAI periodically discusses the action plan with defaulters so as to ensure compliance of the QoS parameters. For mobile connections, MTNL has already commissioned 400 K line GSM capacity each in Delhi and Mumbai. 400 K line CDMA capacity is likely to be commissioned shortly in the two cities. MTNL plans to add 1 million lines of GSM during the year 2005-06. As regards BSNL most of its waiting list in rural remote areas, BSNL is taking several steps including vast deployment of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) network in rural areas to clear the waiting list.

#### **Statement-I**

#### *Circlewise Target of Rural/Urban DELs for the year 2005-06*

| S. No. | Name of the Circle          | Rural Telephones | Urban Basic+ Mobile | Total Telephones |
|--------|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 1      | 2                           | 3                | 4                   | 5                |
| 1.     | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 260              | 22,740              | 23,000           |
| 2.     | Andhra Pradesh              | 26600            | 1,673,400           | 1,700,000        |
| 3.     | Assam                       | 30600            | 447,100             | 478,000          |
| 4.     | Bihar                       | 88300            | 1,402,700           | 1,491,000        |
| 5.     | Jharkhand                   | 7800             | 542,200             | 550,000          |
| 6.     | Gujarat                     | 59000            | 1,155,000           | 1,214,000        |
| 7.     | Himachal Pradesh            | 43000            | 336,000             | 379,000          |
| 8.     | Haryana                     | 71000            | 671,000             | 742,000          |
| 9.     | Jammu and Kashmir           | 21400            | 379,600             | 401,000          |

| 1                  | 2 | 3      | 4         | 5         | 1                      | 2 | 3       | 4          | 5          |
|--------------------|---|--------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|---|---------|------------|------------|
| 10. Karnataka      |   | 77200  | 1,732,800 | 1,810,000 | 19. Rajasthan          |   | 128900  | 1,485,100  | 1,614,000  |
| 11. Kerala         |   | 337500 | 1,717,500 | 2,055,000 | 20. Tamil Nadu         |   | 69800   | 1,271,200  | 1,341,000  |
| 12. Madhya Pradesh |   | 14100  | 944,900   | 959,000   | 21. Uttar Pradesh East |   | 68500   | 1,945,500  | 2,014,000  |
| 13. Chhattisgarh   |   | 1670   | 413,330   | 415,000   | 22. Uttar Pradesh West |   | 26100   | 839,900    | 866,000    |
| 14. Maharashtra    |   | 149000 | 1,903,000 | 2,052,000 | 23. Uttaranchal        |   | 2470    | 239,530    | 242,000    |
| 15. North East-I   |   | 4200   | 158,800   | 163,000   | 24. West Bengal        |   | 107200  | 948,800    | 1,056,000  |
| 16. North East-II  |   | 4600   | 182,400   | 167,000   | 25. Chennai            |   | 0       | 465,000    | 465,000    |
| 17. Orissa         |   | 18900  | 776,100   | 795,000   | 26. Kolkata            |   | 0       | 810,000    | 810,000    |
| 18. Punjab         |   | 41600  | 856,400   | 898,000   | Total                  |   | 1400000 | 23,300,000 | 24,700,000 |

**Statement-II**

*List of Fixed Line Phones provided by BSNL and Private Operators*

**Subscriber base [Fixed + WLL(F)] as on 31st December 2004**

| Sl. No. | Name of the Circle/<br>Service Area | Service Provider | No. of DELs as on 31st December 2004 |         |         |         |         |         | Total DELs<br>as on<br>31.12.2004 |
|---------|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------------------|
|         |                                     |                  | Urban                                |         |         | Rural   |         |         |                                   |
|         |                                     |                  | Fixed                                | WLL (F) | Total   | Fixed   | WLL (F) | Total   |                                   |
| 1       | 2                                   | 3                | 4                                    | 5       | 6       | 7       | 8       | 9       | 10                                |
| 1.      | Andaman and Nicobar Islands         | BSNL             | 1774                                 | 0       | 17474   | 20799   | 394     | 21193   | 36667                             |
|         |                                     | Reliance         | 0                                    | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0                                 |
| 2.      | Andhra Pradesh                      | BSNL             | 1864266                              | 4575    | 1868841 | 1301572 | 28534   | 1330106 | 3198947                           |
|         |                                     | TATA             | 131688                               | 242164  | 373852  | 0       | 1343    | 1343    | 375195                            |
|         |                                     | Reliance         | 2820                                 | 54198   | 57018   | 3       | 370     | 373     | 57391                             |
| 3.      | Assam                               | BSNL             | 379866                               | 1099    | 380965  | 123335  | 17437   | 140772  | 521737                            |

| 1   | 2  | 3        | 4       | 5      | 6       | 7       | 8      | 9       | 10      |
|-----|--|----------|---------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|
| 4.  | Bihar<br>(including Jharkhand)             | BSNL     | 937132  | 5871   | 943003  | 392100  | 121743 | 513843  | 1456846 |
|     |  | Reliance | 35      | 18019  | 18054   | 0       | 0      | 0       | 18054   |
|     |  | TATA     | 0       | 8085   | 8085    | 0       | 0      | 0       | 8085    |
| 5.  | Delhi                                      | Bharti   | 131564  | 0      | 131564  | 0       | 0      | 0       | 131564  |
|     |  | MTNL     | 1725309 | 7330   | 1732639 | 191     | 0      | 191     | 1732830 |
|     |  | TATA     | 9552    | 291546 | 301098  | 0       | 0      | 0       | 301098  |
|     |  | Reliance | 3735    | 162508 | 166243  | 0       | 0      | 0       | 166243  |
| 6.  | Gujarat                                    | BSNL     | 1838940 | 9358   | 1848298 | 840596  | 31041  | 871637  | 2719935 |
|     |  | Reliance | 6253    | 95398  | 101651  | 0       | 4847   | 4847    | 106498  |
|     |  | TATA     | 23458   | 218897 | 242355  | 0       | 0      | 0       | 242355  |
| 7.  | Haryana                                    | BSNL     | 686992  | 14006  | 700998  | 381996  | 31836  | 413832  | 1114830 |
|     |  | Bharti   | 106658  | 0      | 106658  | 0       | 0      | 0       | 106658  |
|     |  | Reliance | 197     | 24636  | 24833   | 0       | 43     | 43      | 24876   |
| 8.  | Himachal Pradesh                           | BSNL     | 103047  | 312    | 103359  | 369183  | 11228  | 380411  | 483770  |
|     |  | Reliance | 0       | 542    | 542     | 0       | 0      | 0       | 542     |
| 9.  | Jammu and Kashmir                          | BSNL     | 244780  | 1564   | 246344  | 51260   | 6888   | 58148   | 304492  |
| 10. | Karnataka                                  | BSNL     | 1859227 | 14223  | 1873450 | 840448  | 38751  | 879199  | 2752649 |
|     |  | Bharti   | 132520  | 0      | 132520  | 0       | 0      | 0       | 132520  |
|     |  | TATA     | 4759    | 204313 | 209072  | 0       | 0      | 0       | 209072  |
|     |  | Reliance | 5273    | 42829  | 48102   | 0       | 0      | 0       | 48102   |
| 11. | Kerala                                     | BSNL     | 1099965 | 5299   | 1105264 | 2215562 | 80946  | 2296508 | 3401772 |
|     |  | Reliance | 1192    | 101155 | 102347  | 5       | 2057   | 2062    | 194409  |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh<br>(including Chhattisgarh) | BSNL     | 1265241 | 11340  | 1276581 | 319093  | 63237  | 382330  | 1658911 |



| 1                                     | 2 | 3                | 4       | 5      | 6       | 7       | 8     | 9       | 10      |
|---------------------------------------|---|------------------|---------|--------|---------|---------|-------|---------|---------|
|                                       |   | Bharti           | 226551  | 25302  | 251853  | 607     | 0     | 607     | 252460  |
|                                       |   | Reliance         | 545     | 25404  | 25949   | 0       | 0     | 0       | 25949   |
| 13. Maharashtra<br>(including Mumbai) |   | BSNL and<br>MTNL | 4824316 | 58614  | 4882930 | 1321732 | 77962 | 1399694 | 6282624 |
|                                       |   | Reliance         | 7637    | 223950 | 231587  | 0       | 119   | 119     | 231706  |
|                                       |   | TATA             | 217282  | 393659 | 610941  | 0       | 2653  | 2653    | 613594  |
| Mumbai                                |   | MTNL             | 2299903 | 42390  | 2342293 | 0       | 0     | 0       | 2342293 |
|                                       |   | Reliance         | 5606    | 136634 | 142240  | 0       | 0     | 0       | 142240  |
|                                       |   | TATA             | 184004  | 215607 | 399611  | 0       | 399   | 399     | 400010  |
| Maharashtra<br>(excluding Mumbai)     |   | BSNL             | 2524413 | 16224  | 2540637 | 1321732 | 77962 | 1399694 | 3940331 |
|                                       |   | Reliance         | 2031    | 87316  | 89347   | 0       | 119   | 119     | 89466   |
|                                       |   | TATA             | 33278   | 178052 | 211330  | 0       | 2254  | 2254    | 213584  |
| 14. North East                        |   | BSNL             | 257398  | 1113   | 258511  | 90171   | 21195 | 111366  | 369877  |
| 15. Orissa                            |   | BSNL             | 485510  | 0      | 485510  | 270443  | 55769 | 326212  | 811722  |
|                                       |   | Reliance         | 115     | 14035  | 14150   | 0       | 3     | 3       | 14153   |
|                                       |   | TATA             | 0       | 24     | 24      | 0       | 0     | 0       | 24      |
| 16. Punjab                            |   | BSNL             | 1151772 | 9837   | 1161609 | 816810  | 56386 | 873196  | 2034805 |
|                                       |   | HFCL             | 133041  | 47971  | 181012  | 0       | 725   | 725     | 181737  |
|                                       |   | Reliance         | 2258    | 89257  | 91515   | 0       | 0     | 0       | 91515   |
| 17. Rajasthan                         |   | BSNL             | 1150038 | 10603  | 1160641 | 612998  | 36313 | 649311  | 1809952 |
|                                       |   | STL              | 104104  | 21241  | 125345  | 4415    | 636   | 5051    | 130396  |
|                                       |   | Reliance         | 757     | 40750  | 41507   | 0       | 0     | 0       | 41507   |
|                                       |   | TATA             | 0       | 468    | 468     | 0       | 0     | 0       | 468     |

| 1   | 2        | 3        | 4       | 5        | 6        | 7      | 8        | 9       | 10 |
|---|----------|----------|---------|----------|----------|--------|----------|---------|----|
| 18. Tamil Nadu<br>(including Chennai)               | BSNL     | 2998231  | 14644   | 3012875  | 853058   | 33816  | 886874   | 3899749 |    |
|   | TATA     | 547      | 253973  | 254520   | 0        | 0      | 0        | 254520  |    |
|   | Bharti   | 180457   | 0       | 180457   | 0        | 0      | 0        | 180457  |    |
|   | Reliance | 2920     | 57025   | 59945    | 0        | 0      | 0        | 59945   |    |
| Chennai   | BSNL     | 993777   | 7399    | 1001176  | 0        | 0      | 0        | 1001176 |    |
|   | Reliance | 2028     | 27656   | 29684    | 0        | 0      | 0        | 29684   |    |
|   | TATA     | 469      | 154520  | 154989   | 0        | 0      | 0        | 154989  |    |
|   | Bharti   | 122759   | 0       | 122759   | 0        | 0      | 0        | 122759  |    |
| Tamil Nadu<br>(excluding Chennai)                   | BSNL     | 2004454  | 7245    | 2011899  | 853058   | 33816  | 886874   | 2898573 |    |
|   | TATA     | 78       | 99453   | 99531    | 0        | 0      | 0        | 99531   |    |
|   | Bharti   | 57698    | 0       | 57698    | 0        | 0      | 0        | 57698   |    |
|   | Reliance | 892      | 29369   | 30261    | 0        | 0      | 0        | 30261   |    |
| 19. Uttar Pradesh (East)                            | BSNL     | 1225428  | 11375   | 1236803  | 158107   | 73653  | 231760   | 1468563 |    |
|   | Reliance | 1293     | 45169   | 46462    | 0        | 0      | 0        | 46462   |    |
| 20. Uttar Pradesh (West)<br>(including Uttaranchal) | BSNL     | 1335044  | 9089    | 1344133  | 500071   | 51693  | 551764   | 1895897 |    |
|   | Reliance | 137      | 45980   | 46117    | 0        | 0      | 0        | 46117   |    |
| 21. West Bengal<br>(including Kolkata)              | BSNL     | 1998952  | 9073    | 2008025  | 559023   | 43892  | 602915   | 2610940 |    |
|   | Reliance | 4422     | 94498   | 98920    | 0        | 0      | 0        | 98920   |    |
| Kolkata   | BSNL     | 1354753  | 5670    | 1360423  | 0        | 0      | 0        | 1360423 |    |
|   | Reliance | 4377     | 82179   | 86556    | 0        | 0      | 0        | 86556   |    |
| West Bengal<br>(excluding Kolkata)                  | BSNL     | 644199   | 3403    | 647602   | 559023   | 43892  | 602915   | 1250517 |    |
|   | Reliance | 45       | 12319   | 12364    | 0        | 0      | 0        | 12364   |    |
| TOTAL   |          | 28890698 | 3042321 | 31933019 | 12043578 | 895510 | 12939088 | 4872107 |    |

**Statement-III**

**Cellular Subscriber Figure in Telecom Circles and Metro Cities including MTNL and BSNL as on 28.02.2005**

| Sl. No. | Name of service Area                  | Number of Cellular Service providers | Number of Subscribers (February, 05) |
|---------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1       | 2                                     | 3                                    | 4                                    |
| 1.      | Delhi                                 | 4                                    | 4024909                              |
| 2.      | Mumbai                                | 4                                    | 3846120                              |
| 3.      | Kolkata                               | 4                                    | 1386240                              |
| 4.      | Chennai                               | 4                                    | 1511750                              |
|         | <b>Metro Total</b>                    | <b>16</b>                            | <b>10769019</b>                      |
| 1.      | Andhra Pradesh                        | 4                                    | 2758416                              |
| 2.      | Andaman and Nicobar or West Bengal    | 2                                    | 666415                               |
| 3.      | Assam                                 | 2                                    | 250605                               |
| 4.      | Bihar including Jharkhand             | 2                                    | 870617                               |
| 5.      | Gujarat                               | 4                                    | 2911059                              |
| 6.      | Haryana                               | 4                                    | 899879                               |
| 7.      | Himachal Pradesh                      | 4                                    | 326080                               |
| 8.      | Jammu and Kashmir                     | 1                                    | 232400                               |
| 9.      | Karnataka                             | 4                                    | 2778252                              |
| 10.     | Kerala                                | 4                                    | 2064847                              |
| 11.     | Madhya Pradesh including Chhattisgarh | 4                                    | 1205152                              |

| 1   | 2  | 3         | 4               |
|-----|--|-----------|-----------------|
| 12. | Maharashtra                              | 4         | 3115120         |
| 13. | North East                               | 3         | 109691          |
| 14. | Orissa                                   | 2         | 537072          |
| 15. | Punjab                                   | 4         | 2971540         |
| 16. | Rajasthan                                | 4         | 1188418         |
| 17. | Tamil Nadu                               | 4         | 2780631         |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh East                       | 3         | 1712879         |
| 19. | Uttar Pradesh West including Uttaranchal | 3         | 1635439         |
|     | <b>Total</b>                             | <b>62</b> | <b>29014512</b> |
|     | <b>Grand Total</b>                       | <b>78</b> | <b>39783531</b> |

**Slow Pace of fore laning work on NHDP Project**

4100. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN :  
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

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

(a) whether the work of four laning under various phases of NHDP has slowed down;

(b) if so, whether this has adversely affected the construction sector;

(c) if so, the details in this regard;

(d) the number of contracts for the above projects awarded from May 22, 2004 to February 20, 2005 length and location-wise;

(e) the number of tenders received for the above contracts;

(f) the amount for which the contracts have been awarded;

(g) the cost of contract as worked out by the NHAI; and

(h) the target date fixed for these contractual works to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA) : (a) The target date of substantial

completion of NHDP Phase I and NHDP Phase II is December, 2007. Though there are delays in some contracts due to problems associated with acquisition of land, shifting of utilities, bad performances of contractors etc., it is expected that the targets will be substantially adhered to.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) to (h) The details are given in the enclosed statement.

### **Statement**

*Details of Contracts awarded between May 22, 2004 to February 20, 2005 by NHAI*

| Sl. No | Stretch/Contract   | Length (Km) | No of tenders received | Cost of award (Rs. Cr.) | Cost as per NHAI (Rs. Cr.) | Start Date | Scheduled Date of Completion |
|--------|--|-------------|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| 1      | 2  | 3           | 4                      | 5                       | 6                          | 7          | 8                            |
| 1.     | Omalur to Thumpipadi from km. 163.4 to 180.0 of NH-7 in Tamil Nadu                   | 17          | 11                     | 49.702                  | 70                         | May'05     | Oct'07                       |
| 2.     | Borkhedi to Jam from km. 36.6 to km. 64.0 of NH-7 in Maharashtra                     | 27.4        | 12                     | 89.387                  | 110                        | Apr'05     | Sept'07                      |
| 3.     | Butibori ROB of NH-7 in Maharashtra  | 2           | 11                     | 24.268                  | 26                         | Apr'05     | Sept'06                      |
| 4.     | Allahabad Bypass Contract II km. 158 to 198 on NH-2 in Uttar Pradesh                 | 39          | 5                      | 446.99                  | 440.93                     | Jun'04     | Dec'06                       |
| 5.     | Allahabad Bypass Contract III km. 198 to 242.27 on NH-2 in Uttar Pradesh             | 44          | 4                      | 505.27                  | 481.43                     | Nov'04     | May'07                       |
| 6.     | Porbandar-Bhiladi Road Section of NH-8B (km. 2.00 to km. 52.50)-Package-I in Gujarat | 50.50       | 7                      | 193.23                  | 217.05                     | Feb'05     | Nov'07                       |

| 1   | 2   | 3      | 4  | 5  | 6      | 7      | 8      |
|-----|---|--------|----|--|--------|--------|--------|
| 7.  | Bhiladi-Jetpur Road section of NH-8B (km. 52.50 to km. 117.00)-Package-II in Gujarat  | 64.50  | 6  | 299.84   | 342.38 | Feb'05 | Nov'07 |
| 8.  | Bamanbore-Garamore road section of NH-8A (km. 182.60 to km. 254.00) package-III in Gujarat  | 71.40  | 8  | 289.92   | 313.39 | Feb'05 | Nov'07 |
| 9.  | Garamore-Gagodhar Road Section of NH-8A and HN-15 (km. 254.00 to km. 308.00 and km. 281.30 to km. 245.00)-Package-IV in Gujarat                 | 90.30  | 7  | 339.02   | 357.30 | Feb'05 | Nov'07 |
| 10. | Gagodhar-Radhanpur Road Section of NH-15 (km. 245.00 to km. 138.80) Package-V in Gujarat  | 106.20 | 6  | 288.54   | 370.09 | Feb'05 | Nov'07 |
| 11. | Radhanpur-Deesa Road Section of NH-14 (km.458.00 to km.372.60)-Package-VI in Gujarat  | 85.40  | 6  | 326.04   | 341.71 | Feb'05 | Nov'07 |
| 12. | Jetpur to Gondal and Rajkot Bypass (BOT Section) (km.117.00 to 143.00 and 175.00 to 185.00) Package-VII on NH-8B in Gujarat                     | 36.00  | 4  | Contractor has quoted negative grant of Rs. 240 crores against estimated cost of Rs. 265 crores. Agreement signed on 22.03.2005. Financial close yet to be done. |        |        | Dec'07 |
| 13. | Guna Bypass (NHDP Phase-IIIA) on NH-3 in Madhya Pradesh   | 14     | 6  | The Contract was awarded on BOT basis with a negative grant of Rs. 19.0283 crore.  |        | Oct'05 | Apr'07 |
| 14. | Construction of Chennai Bypass Phase-II connecting NH-4 and NH-5 and widening of Chennai Bypass Phase-I connecting NH-45 and NH-4 in Tamil Nadu | 32     | 11 | 405  | 449    | Feb'05 | Aug'07 |

| 1   | 2   | 3     | 4  | 5      | 6      | 7      | 8       |
|-----|---|-------|----|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 15. | Jawaharlal Nehru Port<br>Connectivity Phase-II on SH-<br>54 in Maharashtra                            | 14.35 | 8  | 127.21 | 143.00 | Ju.'04 | May'07  |
| 16. | Upgradation of Hapur to<br>Garhmukteshwar on NH-24<br>(km. 58.00 to km. 93.00) in<br>Uttar Pradesh    | 35    | 13 | 195.91 | 220.00 | Jul'04 | Sept'07 |
| 17. | Upgradation of<br>Garhmukteshwar to<br>Moradabad on NH-24<br>(km.93.00 to 149.25) in<br>Uttar Pradesh | 56.25 | 14 | 221.42 | 275.00 | Nov'04 | Sept'07 |
| 18. | Silchar-Udargand km. 306.54<br>to km. 275.00 on NH-54 in<br>Assam                                     | 31.54 | 12 | 115.86 | 130.00 | Sep'04 | Sep'07  |

[Translation]

**Shortage of BSNL Cash Cards  
in Rajasthan**

4101. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware of the shortage of cash cards of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited in Rajasthan;

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

(c) whether instances of black marketing of cash cards of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited have come to the notice of the Government in the State particularly in Jodhpur district; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) Release of pre-paid connections has been temporarily controlled due to capacity constraints. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is already in the process of expanding the network in the state by 8,50,000 lines capacity. Subject to the availability of capacity, new pre-paid connections are expected to be released from June, 2005.

(c) and (d) Some instances of black marketing were reported in the media and through public complaints in Jodhpur/Jaipur for pre-paid cards. The remedial action taken to counter the same are as below:

- (i) Purchase of Recharge coupons of Rs. 2000/Rs. 1000 was made compulsory for getting new cash cards.
- (ii) Vigilance Cell of Rajasthan circle conducted surprise inspection of the distributor/Franchise network and customer service centers for smooth selling of pre-paid cash cards.

- (iii) Customer's documents are being thoroughly verified before registration of new connection.

#### Applications for coal Linkages

4102. SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications pending for providing coal linkages to private companies in core sectors like iron, steel, cement and captive power plants in Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether the Ministry is considering applications received before June, 28, 2004 only;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has reviewed its decision and proposes to provide coal linkages to these core sector industries which have applied after June 28, 2004 through auction;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the final decision of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINERALS : (a) Number of applications under examination for coal linkage to private companies in core sectors in Chhattisgarh are as under:

|                                 |         |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| (i) Captive Power Plants (CPPs) | 25 nos. |
| (ii) Sponge iron                | 44 nos. |
| (iii) Iron & Steel              | NIL     |
| (iv) Cement                     | NIL     |

(b) No, sir.

(c) to (f) Does not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

#### Reforming of Postal System In Rural Areas

4103. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA :  
SHRI MUNSHI RAM :  
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to reform the postal system in rural areas as reported in the Hindi Daily Rashtriya Sahara dated March 23, 2005;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether a number of post offices in the rural areas, particularly in Uttar Pradesh are functioning with temporary Dak Sevaks, and operating from rented buildings/private houses;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the number of districts, particularly in Uttar Pradesh, where post offices have been opened in 2004-05;

(f) the number of districts where post offices have been computerized, State-wise; and

(g) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for expansion of postal services in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) The report in Rashtriya Sahara dated 23.3.05 focuses on the need for better Postal facilities in the suburbs of Modi Nagar, to cater to the increasing needs due to the growth of new urban centres, new educational institutions etc. Post Offices are opened subject to compliance of distance, population and income norms and availability of resources, and this is an ongoing process.

(c) and (d) Extra Departmental Post Offices (EDBOs) function from the premises provided by the Branch Postmaster. This is one of the conditions of his service and appointment, and for which he is paid an allowance.

(e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(f) So far computers have been provided to 2372 large post offices. State-wise details are given in the enclosed statement.

(g) Post Offices will continue to be provided in locations that justify the three norms, subject to availability of resources. The Department is also engaged in exploring more cost-effective options for providing access to Postal services in consonance with the policy initiatives under the 10th Plan.

#### **Statement**

*State-wise number of post offices where computers have been provided till 2004-05*

| S.No. | Circles           | No. of post offices |
|-------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1     | 2                 | 3                   |
| 1.    | Andhra Pradesh    | 170                 |
| 2.    | Assam             | 110                 |
| 3.    | Bihar             | 57                  |
| 4.    | Chhattisgarh      | 44                  |
| 5.    | Delhi             | 150                 |
| 6.    | Gujarat           | 131                 |
| 7.    | Haryana           | 48                  |
| 8.    | Himachal Pradesh  | 40                  |
| 9.    | Jammu and Kashmir | 68                  |

| 1     | 2              | 3    |
|-------|----------------|------|
| 10.   | Jharkhand      | 33   |
| 11.   | Kerala         | 173  |
| 12.   | Karnataka      | 137  |
| 13.   | Madhya Pradesh | 61   |
| 14.   | Maharashtra*   | 252  |
| 15.   | North East**   | 65   |
| 16.   | Orissa         | 60   |
| 17.   | Punjab         | 54   |
| 18.   | Rajasthan      | 163  |
| 19.   | Tamil Nadu     | 225  |
| 20.   | Uttar Pradesh  | 114  |
| 21.   | Uttaranchal    | 31   |
| 22.   | West Bengal    | 186  |
| Total |                | 2372 |

\*Includes Goa

\*\*Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram & Manipur.

#### **Verdict on Kanishka Air Crash**

4104. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV :

SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has examined the verdict given recently by the Supreme Court of Canada wherein all the accused of the Kanishka air crash have been exonerated;



(b) if so, whether the Union Government has requested the Government of Canada to get the above verdict reviewed;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of Indians who perished in the above crash; and

(e) the details of compensation paid, if any, to the kin of the deceased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (RAOINDERJIT SINGH) : (a) Government has noted the judgment delivered on March 16, 2004 by the British Columbia Court regarding the Air India Kanishka bombing case.

(b) and (c) In response to a question, the Official Spokesperson of Ministry of External Affairs said on March 17, 2005 that "the Kanishka bombing has been the most heinous terrorist attack in civil aviation history". Government "share the sense of outrage among the relatives and friends of those who lost their lives in that attack that after almost two decades, the culprits have not been brought to account. Terrorism is recognised today as an action for which there can be no justification under any circumstances. It cannot have a rationale or context and the vast majority of nations and people reject it outrightly". Government share "the hopes of all those affected by this tragedy that one day, justice may yet be done". During the 7th Meeting of the India-Canada Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism on April 11-12, 2005, India again shared the sense of disappointment and outrage among the relatives of the victims of the Air India Kanishka bombing case.

Public Security Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of Canada Ms. Anne McLellan has announced that she would appoint an independent advisor to examine the matter of a broader investigation. British Columbia Court of Appeal has given 30 days extension to the Prosecutors

to appeal the acquittals of the two accused. The Canadian House of Commons passed a resolution with a vote of 172-124 on April 12, 2005 calling for a public enquiry into the investigation of the Air India bombing.

(d) Of the total number of victims in the Air India crash, there were 159 Canadian citizens, a majority of whom were of Indian origin, 148 Indians including 22 members of crew, 20 American and 2 British nationals.

(e) Compensation paid included about \$ 75,000 to non-earning adults, \$25,000 to children. Family members of the victims signed waiver agreements at the time of receiving the compensation.

[English]

#### Opening of New Telephone Exchanges in Tamil Nadu

4105. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID :

SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal for opening of new telephone exchanges in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise during the last three years;

(c) the details of connections provided and waiting list during the said period; and

(d) the time by when the waiting list is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are given in the enclosed Statement-I

(c) The details of connections provided and waiting

list during the said period are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) The waiting list is likely to be cleared by 31-03-2006.

**Statement-I**

*District-wise details of new telephone exchanges opened during the last three years in Tamil Nadu*

| Name of District | No. of Exchanges Provided |         |         |
|------------------|---------------------------|---------|---------|
|                  | 2002-03                   | 2003-04 | 2004-05 |
| 1                | 2                         | 3       | 4       |
| Chennai          | 27                        | 19      | 05      |
| Coimbatore       | 05                        | 01      | 04      |
| Cuddalore        | 05                        | 05      | 02      |
| Dharmapuri       | 06                        | NIL     | NIL     |
| Dindigul         | 02                        | 01      | 02      |
| Erode            | 04                        | NIL     | NIL     |
| Kancheepuram     | 05                        | 02      | 01      |
| Kanyakumari      | 02                        | 02      | 01      |
| Karur            | NIL                       | NIL     | NIL     |
| Krishnagiri      | NIL                       | 03      | NIL     |
| Madurai          | 02                        | 01      | 03      |
| Nagapattinam     | 07                        | NIL     | NIL     |
| Namakkal         | NIL                       | NIL     | NIL     |
| Perambalur       | 09                        | NIL     | NIL     |
| Pududkottai      | 27                        | NIL     | NIL     |

| 1               | 2   | 3   | 4   |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Ramanathapuram  | 03  | NIL | NIL |
| Salem           | 04  | NIL | NIL |
| Sivaganga       | 06  | NIL | NIL |
| Thanjavur       | 05  | 01  | NIL |
| The Nilgiris    | 03  | 03  | NIL |
| Theni           | NIL | NIL | NIL |
| Thiruvavur      | 01  | NIL | NIL |
| Thirunelveli    | 02  | 01  | NIL |
| Thiruvannamalai | 02  | NIL | NIL |
| Thiruvellore    | NIL | 02  | NIL |
| Trichy          | 03  | NIL | NIL |
| Tuticorin       | 01  | NIL | NIL |
| Vellore         | 01  | NIL | NIL |
| Villupuram      | 15  | 08  | NIL |
| Virudhunagar    | 06  | 01  | NIL |
| Pondicherry     | NIL | NIL | 01  |

**Statement-II**

*Connections provided and waiting list for the last Three Years*

| Year    | Net Connections provided | Waiting List |
|---------|--------------------------|--------------|
| 2002-03 | 413370                   | 161317       |
| 2003-04 | 122521                   | 176911       |
| 2004-05 | 465363                   | 297378       |

### Formation of National Road Safety Board

4106. SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR :  
SHRI HARIN PATHAK :  
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR :

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

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal for the formation of a National Road Safety Board to coordinate, monitor and guide all road safety efforts in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon;

(d) whether any scheme is being contemplated to increase the number of subways or over-bridges on national highways passing through urban areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Planning Commission had Set up a Working Group on Road Accidents, Injury Prevention and Control under the Chairmanship of Shri Prakash Narain, former Chairman, Railway Board. One of the recommendations of the said Working Group, which submitted its report in July 2001, pertained to Setting up of a National Road Safety Board.

(c) The matter was examined in detail in consultation with Planning Commission and it was felt that if at all a separate agency is to be created, the same has to necessarily consult this Ministry in all matters and, therefore, from the point of synergy and to have benefit of holistic and integrated approach, such organization should ideally exist within the Ministry itself.

Accordingly, an Inter Ministerial Group consisting of

representatives of concerned Ministry and a few State Govts. was constituted to prepare a plan of action. The report of the said Group which was finalized in December 2002 was subsequently endorsed by the National Road Safety Council in its 7th meeting held on 15.1.2004.

The need for formation of a separate National Road Safety Board has not been felt and instead a decision taken to strengthen the existing machinery and programmes dealing with various issues related to road safety.

(d) and (e) The proposals for construction of Subways or Over-bridges on the National Highways, are taken up based on the site requirement, traffic, inter-se-priority and availability of funds.

### Change in the Ratio of Financial Assistance

4107. SHRI M. SHIVANNA :  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government particularly Karnataka have urged the Planning Commission to switch over to the old ratio of share 85:15 between Centre and States from the existing ratio of 50:50 while implementing Sarva Sikshana Abhiyan; and

(b) if so, the response of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the Annual plan (2005-06) meeting in the Planning Commission, the Government of Karnataka has sought for restoration of the funding pattern of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) to 85:15 from existing ratio of 75:25. The funding pattern imder SSA during the Tenth Plan is 75:25 between the Centre and the States and, 50:50 for the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The proposal of the

State Government of Karnataka is not under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

#### Manufacture and Launch of Satellites

4108. SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN :  
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation has received proposals from the Foreign Agencies for manufacture and launch of Satellites;

(b) if so, the details of such proposals; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has not received proposals from foreign agencies to manufacture satellites. The following three proposals were received from foreign agencies for the launch of satellites:

- (i) from Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, for launching a technological satellite called X-SAT on the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle in a piggy back mode.
- (ii) from COSMOS International Satellitenstart GmbH, Germany for launch of a 350 kgs. Scientific satellite "AGILE" on the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle.
- (iii) from Aerospace Electronics Technology Centre (LAPAN) of Indonesia for launch of its small satellite called LAPAN-TUBSAT on the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle.

(c) The Government, through Antrix Corporation, which is the commercial arm of Department Space, has entered into contracts to carry out the above launches.

[English]

#### Policy of Zero Tolerance of Corruption

4109. SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has formulated any policy of 'Zero Tolerance' of corruption in the various Government Departments/other agencies to eradicate corruption;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government including revamping the vigilance agencies set up for this purpose in various Government offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHAURI) : (a) to (c) The Government is fully alive to the need to eradicate corruption and effectively implement its policy of 'Zero Tolerance' to corruption. To achieve this goal, the Government has adopted short term and long-term measures. The Government has devised Annual Action Plan to monitor anti-Corruption and vigilance activities of various Ministries/Departments. Annual Action Plan has three main features i.e. preventive vigilance, surveillance and detection and punitive deterrent action. As regards long-term strategy, the Government endeavors to bring more transparency into the system by various Administrative and legislative measures.

#### Discovery of a Ripening Enzyme

4110. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Centre for Plant Genome Research has identified a gene that produces a ripening-enzyme;

(b) if so, whether the said gene would make tomatoes free of oxalic acid which causes kidney stones;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the other such areas of research conducted by the Government on other vegetables relevant to human health?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The National Centre for Plant Genome Research (NCPGR) New Delhi, has identified a gene that produces a - mannosidase, a fruit ripening enzyme.

(b) and (c) It is expected to make use of the gene in increasing the shelf life of tomato and not for making it free of oxalic acid. However, the NCPGR, has isolated another gene for Oxalate Decarboxylase (OXDC) which is expected to reduce the kidney stone causing oxalate contents in tomato.

(d) Research efforts are also being made to introduce the OXDC gene in leafy vegetables like spinach and other crops viz. groundnut, soybean to reduce the oxalate contents. In addition, potato is being developed with high protein contents including essential amino acids.

[Translation]

#### Combating Diseases

4111. SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV :  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the threat posed by emergence of new diseases like AIDS and the return of old diseases like Malaria, Cholera, Dengue, Tuberculosis and Plague;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to put a check on these diseases; and

(c) the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The steps proposed to be taken and the present status in regard to each of these diseases is as follows:

#### AIDS

In order to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS in India, Government of India has launched a comprehensive National AIDS Control Programme, currently under implementation throughout the country as a centrally sponsored scheme under following components:-

- Preventive interventions for high-risk populations through targeted interventions adopting a multi-pronged strategy including peer counseling and behaviour change communication.
- Preventive interventions for the general population through programmes for blood safety, voluntary counseling and testing services, Prevention of Parent to Child Transmission (PPTCT), Information Education and Communication (IEC).
- Provision of low cost care and support services by providing community care services, treatment of opportunistic infections and prevention of occupational exposure.
- Collaborative efforts to promote inter-sectoral programme activities including workplace interventions and public-private partnerships.
- Build technical and managerial capacities for programme implementation through

Surveillance, Training, Monitoring and Evaluation, Technical resource groups, operational research and Programme management.

#### **MALARIA, DENGUE AND OTHER VECTOR BORNE DISEASES**

A centrally sponsored national Vector Borne Disease Control Programme is operative throughout the country for prevention and control of Malaria, Dengue, and other Vector Borne Diseases. The various steps taken to check these diseases are as follows:

- Early diagnosis, proper treatment and appropriate case management.
- Integrated vector control including selective indoor residual insecticidal spraying and introduction of larvivorous fishes;
- Epidemic preparedness & early response;
- Information, Education and Communication for generating awareness about prevention and control of malaria;
- Capacity building by training of health care workers, NGOs in prevention and control activities of malaria;
- Development of appropriate information system for active case detection and reporting.

#### **CHOLERA**

- The laboratory based surveillance for Cholera is undertaken throughout the year in collaboration with Infectious Disease Hospital, Delhi.
- Regular monitoring of Cholera is done through active case detection and treatment of the cases.
- Necessary quality control measures including

water quality monitoring is undertaken with active participation of Government of NCT of Delhi.

#### **TUBERCULOSIS**

- The Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme is being implemented since 1997 with the objective of achieving cure rate of 85% of new sputum positive cases and to detect at least 70% of such cases.
- Facilities for diagnosis by sputum microscopy have been strengthened to help in detection and cure of infectious cases.
- Anti-tuberculosis drugs are provided free of cost under observation and patients are monitored so that they complete their treatment.
- To make the programme more accessible and supplement the government efforts, emphasis is given to involve medical colleges, all general hospitals, private practitioners and NGOs in the programme.
- Presently more than one billion population in 564 districts has been covered who have reported a cure rate of more than 85%. The entire country will be covered under this strategy during the current year 2005.

#### **PLAGUE**

- National Surveillance Programme for communicable diseases including Plague have been launched covering 101 districts.
- The Central Plague Laboratory with facilities for safe culture, isolation, fluorescent etc. has been established.
- For development of trained man-power regular training courses are conducted for different medical and para-medical personnel.

- Inter-state Plague coordination committee meetings are being held to assess the current status, availability of diagnosis facilities, and review of uniform surveillance system are being held annually.

- To create awareness about Plague, a technical document (CD-Alert) has been developed and circulated to all states.

**Development of Roads by  
Central Agencies**

4112. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has allotted development and repair works of 2382.48 kms. road of Bihar to central agencies;

(b) if so, the details of the roads and the schemes under which construction of roads are being done;

(c) the scheme-wise details thereof; and

(d) the agency which is constructing the Bhagalpur-Hansdiha road in Bihar and the time by which the same is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A total length of 2382.48 km. roads in the state of Bihar will be developed under Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY). The Central implementing agencies were identified by Planning Commission, in consultation with the Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways and the State Government of Bihar. The details of roads and schemes under RSVY are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The Bhagalpur-Hansdiha road is assigned to the Central Public Works Department. It is too early to indicate the time by which the same will be completed, as the work can be taken up only after the completion of Detailed Project report.

**Statement**

*Details of roads & schemes under Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY)*

| Name of implementing agency                          | Module No. | District covered   | Length of SH (km.) | Cost (Rs.in crore) |
|--|------------|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1  | 2          | 3  | 4                  | 5                  |
| IRCON International Ltd.                             | I          | Vaishali, Muzaffarpur, Samastipur, Darbhanga and Madhubani                   | 337.85             | 126.84             |
| Central Public Works Department, Government of India | II         | Saran, Sowam Gopalganj, East Champaran, West Champaran, Sitamarhi and Shohar | 380.04             | 129.06             |
|  | III        | Patna, Nalanda, Rohtas, Kaimur, Bhojpur and Buxar                            | 606.85             | 214.44             |
|  | IV         | Koshi, Supaul, Madhepura, Purnea, Araria, Kishanganj and Katihar             | 321.45             | 84.43              |

| 1 | 2     | 3   | 4       | 5      |
|---|-------|---|---------|--------|
|   | V     | Jamui, Lakhisarai, Munger, Sheikhpura, Khagaria, Begusarai, Banka and Bhagalpur | 527.74  | 203.19 |
|   | VI    | Gaya, Jehanabad, Nawada, Aurangabad and Arwal                                   | 208.55  | 88.32  |
|   | Total |   | 2382.48 | 846.28 |

**Science and Research Institutes**

4113. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Science and Research Institutes in the country at present and the State-wise details thereof;

(b) whether the Government proposes any scheme to bring these Institutes at a par with international standard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount likely to be spent by the Government on implementation of this scheme;

(e) the funds allocated to these institutes;

(f) whether some institutes have not utilized these funds; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana in UP**

4114. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK : Will the Minister of PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether fund has been allocated to the Unnao district of Uttar Pradesh under the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the complaints have been received from the public representatives especially in Unnao district by the Union Government in connection with alleged irregularities at district level under the above scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof as on date; and

(e) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The District Plan of Unnao district of Uttar Pradesh covered under the Backward Districts Initiative of the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana was approved in January, 2003 and first instalment of Rs. 7.50 crore was released for this district in September, 2003 after approval to the scheme. Keeping in view the progress of expenditure, the second instalment of Rs. 7.50 crore has been recently recommended for release.



(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Shri Brajesh Pathak, Hon'ble Member of Parliament complained in October, 2004 that the works under the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana in Unnao district had been allotted to NGOs belonging to senior officials of the State Government or the MLAs of the ruling party. He had desired that these works should be got executed through the Government agencies. Subsequently, he raised this matter in the Lok Sabha in December, 2004 under Rule 377 and also through a Motion under Rule 184 emphasizing the need to execute the works under the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana in Unnao district through Government agencies.

(e) On receipt of the complaint, the State Government was requested to get this matter investigated. While conveying the approval of the Planning Commission to the modified District Plan of Unnao district, the State Government was directed that all civil/construction works under the District Plan may be got executed only departmentally and no such work should be allotted to any NGO. The State Government informed that seven NGOs had been selected by a Committee of Officers through an interview conducted as per the Government guidelines and based on their experience and that no NGO was related to any senior officer or the MLA of the ruling party. They further informed that two of these NGOs were initially allotted construction activity. However, this activity has not been started due to the direction of the State Government that civil/construction works should not be given to any NGO.

[English]

#### **National Biotechnology Regulatory Authority**

4115. SHRI JUAL ORAM :

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY :

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO :

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

(a) whether the Government has proposed 100% FDI in biotech through direct route and setting up of a new centre of excellence as reported in the Times of India dated 04-04-2005; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up a National Biotechnology Regulatory Authority; and

(d) if so, the objectives and other details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the Department of Biotechnology has recommended to Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Industry and Commerce which is the nodal Department for framing Policy Formulation on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) for permitting 100% FDI in the Biotech sector through automatic route. In the draft 'National Biotechnology Development Strategy' document, Department has stated that new national institutions and centres for excellence shall be promoted in the areas of translational research in public health; marine biotechnology; animal biotechnology; nutritional genomics and food biotechnology; herbal medicine; molecular medicine; bio-materials and devices and bioinformatics.

(c) and (d) In the draft 'National Biotechnology Development Strategy' document the Department has stated that competent single "National Biotechnology Regulatory Authority" be established to provide an effective clearance mechanism for all biotech products.

[Translation]

#### **Complaints against Indian Missions**

4116. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number and nature of complaints received

against Indian Missions from the people of Indian origin during the last three years, mission-wise;

(b) the steps taken for redressal of such complaints; and

(c) the country-wise complaint redressal mechanism available in the Indian Missions for providing assistance to the people of Indian origin visiting/working there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) About 150 complaints have been received by our Missions/Posts abroad from the people of Indian origin during the last three years. Most of these complaints pertained to delay in consular services, particularly the issue of duplicate passports in lieu of lost passports.

(b) On receipt of complaints, the Mission takes up

the matter with concerned authorities and follows it up till the resolution of the matter.

(c) The mechanism available for redressal of complaints in the Indian Missions/Posts for provision of assistance to the people of Indian origin visiting/working there include availability of complaint/suggestion box and/or register, "open house" sessions, regular review of functioning of the Consular Wing by senior officers including HOM/HOP of the Mission/Post, regular contacts with Indian community through Indian Associations, display of information on consular matters at access points and through Mission's website for the convenience of the general public, maintenance of 24-hour helplines in some of our Missions in the Gulf, visit of consular teams to distant areas, conduct of community welfare committee meetings, etc. Country-wise details may be seen in the enclosed statement.

#### **Statement**

#### **Regarding "Complaints against Indian Missions"**

| S.No. Mission/Post |           | (a) | (b)            | (c)   |
|--------------------|-----------|-----|----------------|---|
| 1                  | 2         | 3   | 4              | 5   |
| 1.                 | Ankara    | NIL | Not Applicable | A Complaint Register is being maintained to register the complaints of PIOs which is checked by senior officers including HOM.  |
| 2.                 | Abu Dhabi | NIL | Not Applicable | Functioning of Consular Wing of the Embassy is kept constantly under review. An "Open House" session is held every month. Constructive suggestions/proposals are taken on board. PIOs & NRIs have expressed appreciation of the Embassy's services. |
| 3.                 | Accra     | NIL | Not Applicable | If a complaint is received in future, it will be dealt with at the highest level.   |

| 1               | 2   | 3  | 4 | 5  |
|-----------------|---|--|---|--|
|                 |   |  |   | A complaint box has been installed in the Reception area of Chancery where PIOs and NRIs can give their complaints.  |
| 4. Addis Ababa  | NIL   | Not Applicable   |   | Complaints are looked into promptly at appropriate levels, including Ambassador.   |
| 5. Almaty       | 2. Both complaints related to normal consular matters   | While one complainant did not specify what assistance he needed, the second complainant was given the required assistance. |   | All consular assistance is given to Indians. A complaint/suggestion box has been installed in the Embassy. Complaints can also be sent on Mission's website. |
| 6. Antananarivo | NIL   | Not Applicable   |   | Contact telephone numbers of the Consular Office have been displayed at the entrance for use by the general public who may require any assistance.           |
| 7. Baghdad      | NIL   | NIL  |   | NIL  |
| 8. Bangkok      | NIL   | NIL  |   | NIL  |
| 9. Beijing      | A few complaints of routine nature are received from time to time                                   | —  |   | All complaints are examined by the Mission and addressed to the satisfaction of the complainant.   |
| 10. Beirut      | NIL. However, some complaints from Indians regarding non-payment of wages, etc. have been received. | Matter is taken up with local Foreign office for redressal of grievances.  |   | Regular contacts with Indian community maintained through their Associations. Necessary assistance is given as required.                                     |
| 11. Belgrade    | NIL   | NIL  |   | NIL  |
| 12. Berlin      | Stray cases of complaints received; mostly pertained to delay in issue of passports                 | Services provided by the Mission has been increased  |   | All complaints are immediately attended to and remedial action taken.  |

| 1                | 2   | 3              | 4  | 5 |
|------------------|-----|----------------|--|---|
| 13. Berne        | NIL | NIL            | NIL  |   |
| 14. Birgunj      | NIL | NIL            | NIL  |   |
| 15. Bishkek      | NIL | Not Applicable | Required assistance is given on a case-by-case basis   |   |
| 16. Bogota       | NIL | Not Applicable | All possible help is given to persons of Indian origin. Names and telephone numbers of HOM and head of the Consular Section are posted on Mission's website and also displayed in the Visitors' Hall |   |
| 17. Brasilia     | NIL | Not Applicable | Redressal of complaints, if any, is handled by senior officers under the guidance of HOM.  |   |
| 18. Brunei       | NIL | Does not arise | HOM regularly interacts with the local Indian community. All officers are easily accessible. A complaint box has been installed at the reception.  |   |
| 19. Brussels     | NIL | Not Applicable | All grievances of PIOs are attended to at a senior level, including at the level of HOM  |   |
| 20. Bucharest    | NIL | Not Applicable | All complaints are attended to by the First Secretary/HOC. Ambassador is kept informed and his instructions taken, if required.  |   |
| 21. Budapest     | NIL | Not Applicable | Complainant can approach the concerned officer. Appointments with HOM are readily granted.   |   |
| 22. Buenos Aires | NIL | Not Applicable | A mechanism to attend the complaints is in place.  |   |
| 23. Cairo        | NIL | NIL            | NIL  |   |

| 1                 | 2   | 3  | 4  | 5 |
|-------------------|---|--|--|---|
| 24. Canberra      | Very few complaints pertaining to delay in passports and visas received   | Complaints were redressed.   | All complaints are redressed by the First Secretary under the overall direction of HOM.  |   |
| 25. Caracas       | NIL   | NIL  | NIL  |   |
| 26. Chicago       | No major complaint, except one in which one US national of Indian origin objected to the practice of selective entry to Consular Hall | Matter was resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant. Basic amenities and normal facilities like photocopying etc. provided in the Consular Hall | A complaint box has been installed which is opened regularly. All complaints are promptly attended to. A senior officer has been designated to as Consul (Community Affairs) for redressal of such grievances and implementation of proposals. |   |
| 27. Colombo       | NIL   | Not Applicable   | Senior Officers of Mission are in touch with PIOs and immediate action is taken for redressal of their problems, if any.   |   |
| 28. Copenhagen    | NIL (Indian community very small; most of them have acquired Danish nationality   | Not Applicable   | Full assistance is provided to persons of Indian origin. Matter is brought directly to the notice of HOM.  |   |
| 29. Dakar         | NIL   | Does not arise   | NRIs/PIOs can approach the concerned officers in the Mission, including Ambassador.  |   |
| 30. Dar-es-Salaam | NIL   | NIL  | NIL  |   |
| 31. Dhaka         | NIL   | Does not arise   | A senior officer designated to look into complaints; a complaint box available in Mission; an Indian Association formed under the auspices of the Mission.   |   |
| 32. Doha          | Nil   | Not Applicable   | Not Applicable   |   |
| 33. Dubai         | 8; complaints related mostly to long time taken in rendering the services   | Mission has been able to cut down on time taken to rende the services within the existing staff  | Consular teams visit all Emirates on holidays to provide consular services to NRIs/PIOs, A 24-hour helpline installed in the Consulate. Indian   |   |

| 1              | 2   | 3  | 4   | 5  |
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|                |   |  | strength. Mission has projected requirement of 10 local clerks; | community welfare committee meetings held every month. An "Open House" is held every month; A suggestion box installed. Complaints/suggestions are monitored by HOP himself. |
| 34. Dublin     | NIL   | NIL  |   | A complaint box has been installed in the Consular Section which is checked on daily basis and suggestions/complaints taken into account.                                    |
| 35. Durban     | NIL   | Not Applicable   |   | Consul General and Consular Officer are always available to redress grievances, if any.  |
| 36. Dushanbe   | NIL   | Not Applicable   |   | Indians can address their complaints to the HOM/Consular officer who interact with Tajik authorities to resolve the matter.  |
| 37. Edinburgh  | NIL   | Not Applicable   |   | All complaints are attended to as per Ministry's instructions  |
| 38. Frankfurt  | Six complaints relating to consular services received | Complaints were attended to the satisfaction of the complainants |   | A complaint box at the entrance of Consulate has been installed. All complaints are brought to the notice of HOP and attended to by the concerned officers.                  |
| 39. Gaborone   | NIL   | NIL  |   | NIL  |
| 40. Geneva     | NIL   | NIL  |   | NIL  |
| 41. Georgetown | NIL   | NIL  |   | NIL  |
| 42. Hamburg    | No serious complaint received                         | Not Applicable   |   | Consulate tries to redress the complaints on the spot through a direct approach.   |
| 43. Hanoi      | NIL   | Not Applicable   |   | Consular Section headed by First Secretary fully geared to assis the PIOs and redress their grivances, if any.   |

| 1                    | 2  | 3  | 4   | 5 |
|----------------------|--|--|---|---|
| 44. Harare           | NIL  | Not Applicable   | All complaints are attended to by senior officers, including the Ambassador.  |   |
| 45. Havana           | NIL  | Not Applicable   | All possible assistance is being given to visiting Indians/PIOs   |   |
| 46. Ho Chi Minh City | NIL  | Not Applicable   | Consular Officer can be approached at any time during office hours and even on weekends by Indian nationals.  |   |
| 47. Hong Kong        | A few verbal complaints about delay in issue of passports                            | —  | Complaints are promptly attended.   |   |
| 48. Houston          | One complaint in 2001 was received alleging improper practices in the issue of visas | A team from Embassy of India Washington looked into the allegation but no evidence was found | A complaint box has been placed in the Consular Hall. Any request for consular assistance is met expeditiously. Besides, the Consul General is always available to meet the Persons of Indian Origin in case of need. |   |
| 49. Islamabad        | NIL  | Not Applicable   | Services are rendered promptly as and when any PIO approaches the Mission.  |   |
| 50. Istanbul         | NIL  | Does not arise   | Complainant is given a hearing at appropriate level and matter sorted out without prejudice to Government interest.   |   |
| 51. Jalalabad        | NIL  | NIL  | NIL   |   |
| 52. Johannesburg     | NIL  | NIL  | NIL   |   |
| 53. Kampala          | NIL  | NIL  | NIL   |   |
| 54. Kandy            | NIL  | Not Applicable   | Concerned officers of the Mission including HOP attend to the problems of PIOs.   |   |

| 1             | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5 |
|---------------|--|--|--|---|
| 55. Kathmandu | One complaint pertaining to failure of E/I Kathmandu to arrange compensation to Shahnaz Hussain beauty saloon for loss suffered in the riots in 2004 | Matter has been taken up with the Government of Nepal. Several reminders have also been sent | The consular Division of the Mission deals with all such complants and takes them up with concerned authorities of the Government of Nepal.                      |   |
| 56. Khartoum  | NIL  | —  | Complaints are looked into by high officers and brought to the notice of HOM. Matter is resolved with the help of local Foreign Office and Labour Office.        |   |
| 57. Kuwait    | NIL  | NIL  | NIL  |   |
| 58. Kyiv      | NIL  | Not Applicable   | First Secretary (Consular) is the designated officer to look into complaints and their redressal.  |   |
| 59. Lima      | NIL  | Not Applicable   | All complaints from PIOs are looked into perdsonally by HOC and put up to HOM for his consideration.   |   |
| 60. Lisbon    | NIL  | Not Applicable   | A complaint box has been installed. A notice has also been put up informing the public that senior officers can be approached for redressal of their grievances. |   |
| 61. Luanda    | NIL  | NIL  | NIL  |   |
| 62. Lusaka    | NIL  | Not Applicable   | High Commissioner and other senior officers regularly meet the members of Indian community and their grievances are resolved immediately.                        |   |
| 63. Madrid    | Occasion verbal complaints about non-issue of duplicate passports  | —  | All complaints are looked into, verified and appropriate action taken.   |   |



| 1                 | 2   | 3  | 4 | 5  |
|-------------------|---|--|---|--|
| 64. Male          | NIL   | NIL  |   | A suggestion box installed; an officer designated to look into complaints; all officers in charge of various sections instructed to help resolve the problems of Indian nationals. |
| 65. Mahe          | NIL   | NIL  |   | NIL  |
| 66. Mandalay      | NIL   | Does not arise   |   | Grievances to be decided on case-by-case basis.  |
| 67. Manila        | One case of PIO relating to placing him on Negative List of MHA | Mission recommended removal of his name from Negative List which was accepted by the MHA |   | Grievances of NRIs/PIOs are attended to promptly. FS (Consular) meets the Indian community regularly. Ambassador also meets the NRIs/PIOs to listen to their grievances.           |
| 68. Maputo        | NIL   | NIL  |   | Officers at various levels accessible to PIOs for any assistance.  |
| 69. Mazar-e-Sharf | NIL   | Does not arise   |   | Assistance to be provided in consultation with E/I Kabul or MEA.   |
| 70. Medan         | NIL   | Does not arise   |   | All grievances of PIOs are attended to immediately.  |
| 71. Milan         | NIL   | NIL  |   | Staff at the Consular counter tries to resolve the problem. Serious problems are brought to the notice of Consul General. A complaint box is maintained.                           |
| 72. Minsk         | NIL   | NIL  |   | NIL  |
| 73. Mombasa       | NIL   | Not Applicable   |   | Not Applicable   |
| 74. Moscow        | One complaints received which on enquiry was found baseless.    | Any grievance is attended to at once and remedial action taken                           |   | Concerned wings of the Indian Embassy provide immediate care and attention of NRIs/PIOs. Ambassador & DCM are regularly informed.  |

| 1              | 2  | 3   | 4   | 5 |
|----------------|--|---|---|---|
| 75. Munich     | NIL  | Not Applicable  | Consulate follows an "Open door" policy and PIOs are free to address their complaints at the highest level.   |   |
| 76. Muscat     | NIL  | Not Applicable  | Consular wing and Community Welfare Wing provide assistance to Indian citizens and Persons of Indian origin.  |   |
| 77. Nairobi    | 6 (approx); most of the complaints relate to delay in grant of visa or issue of documents  | —   | Necessary action is taken to resolve the matter. A complaint box has also been installed which is opened every day and complaints attended to immediately.  |   |
| 78. New York   | 24. Most of the cases related to delay in renewal of passports of Indians belonging to J and K; issue of new passports in lieu of lost passports | —   | A register and a separate file for each case is maintained for all serious complaints. Regular brainstorming sessions are held in the Consular wing with a view to devise means to improve the services. Visa camps are organized within the territorial jurisdiction of the Consulate. |   |
| 79. Osaka-Kobe | NIL  | Does not arise  | PIOs can approach the Vice Consular or Consul General directly for redressal of their grievances.   |   |
| 80. Oslo       | NIL  | NIL   | NIL   |   |
| 81. Ottawa     | 15 complaints every year; most of them relate to delay in issue of passports and police clearance certificates                                   | Matter is pursued regularly with the concerned State Government authorities | All complaints of Indians are attended by a senior officer of the Mission and if that does not help, the matter is brought directly to the notice of HOM.   |   |
| 82. Panama     | NIL  | Not Applicable  | HOM and officials of the Mission are accessible to all PIOs and meetings are granted wherever requested.  |   |
| 83. Paramaribo | NIL  | Does not arise  | A senior officer of the Mission attends to the problems of PIOs.  |   |

| 1                     | 2   | 3 | 4              | 5   |
|-----------------------|-----|---|----------------|---|
| 84. Phnom Penh        | NIL |   | Not Applicable | The aggrieved person can approach the officers of the Mission.  |
| 85. Port of Spain     | NIL |   | NIL            | NIL   |
| 86. Prague            | NIL |   | Does not arise | All grievances are attended promptly. The aggrieved person can also meet senior officers. Advice by e-mail or telephone also given.   |
| 87. Pretoria          | NIL |   | Not Applicable | Consular Officers are available to Indian community for redressal of their grievances, including assistance to PIOs.  |
| 88. Pyongyang         | NIL |   | NIL            | NIL   |
| 89. Riyadh and Jeddah | NIL |   | Not Applicable | <p>(1) All grievances of Indians are looked into by concerned officers. They can meet them without prior appointment.</p> <p>(2) All such grievances are taken up with local authorities.</p> <p>(3) Consular services are provided to 700-800 visitors daily. Normal passport services given the same day.</p> <p>(4) Consular tours to various parts of Saudi Arabia undertaken regularly to render on-the-spot consular services.</p> <p>(5) Indian Workers Welfare Fund established to provide relief and assistance to needy Indian workers and their families.</p> <p>(6) visits to jails and labour camps undertaken regularly.</p> <p>(7) A 24-hour helpline installed in the Embassy to assist and advise Indians.</p> |

| 1                  | 2   | 3              | 4 | 5  |
|--------------------|---|----------------|---|--|
|                    |   |                |   | <p>(8) An Open House session is held every 2nd Thursday of the month.</p> <p>(9) Officers of the Mission and Post meet Indians without prior appointment.</p>  |
| 90. Sana's         | NIL   | —              |   | PIOs can freely approach the Embassy for redressal of their grievances. Senior officers including HOM can be approached freely. Periodical meetings are also held at the chancery to redress the grievances of PIOs. |
| 91. Shanghai       | NIL   | —              |   | Complaints to be looked into by the HOP for necessary action.  |
| 92. Singapore      | 75 complaints received. Most of them related to lack of facilities at the Mission and long time taken in processing of services | —              |   | Immediate action is taken on all complaints. Facilities at the Mission have been improved. Proposal for enhancement of manpower and computerization of the Consular Wing are under consideration.                    |
| 93. Sofia          | NIL   | —              |   | Any complaint from PIO sent to CPV Division of the MEA for action.   |
| 94. Stockholm      | NIL   | Not Applicable |   | Prompt action is taken and every possible assistance given whenever any PIO approaches the Mission.  |
| 95. St. Petersburg | NIL   | Not Applicable |   | PIOs can meet the Consul and the Consul General without any appointment.   |
| 96. Suva           | NIL   | NIL            |   | NIL  |
| 97. Tashkent       | NIL   | NIL            |   | Consular Officer is responsible for providing assistance to PIOs.  |
| 98. Tehran         | NIL   | NIL            |   | A complaint box is maintained. Complaints/suggestion promptly looked into. Regular contact with Indian community maintained.   |

| 1                | 2  | 3   | 4   | 5 |
|------------------|--|---|---|---|
| 99. The Hague    | Only one complaint of impolite behaviour received  | Embassy staff is regularly advised to be polite with public. Situation is constantly monitored  | All grievances are looked at appropriate levels, including HOM. Any written suggestion is duly considered.  |   |
| 100. Thimphu     | NIL  | Not Applicable  | Any PIO can approach the Mission for assistance.  |   |
| 101. Toronto     | 13. Most of the complaints were of trivial nature, e.g. behaviour of staff, delay in services, preference to senior citizens and ladies etc. | Consular staff has been instructed to remain polite; preference given to ladies and senior citizens; directions have been displayed prominently | The officers dealing with consular matters are accessible to the public to assist them for redressal of their grievances.   |   |
| 102. Tripoli     | NIL  | Prompt action is taken on all complaints  | Complaint is brought to the notice of HOM who then gives appropriate directions for its disposal in the shortest time.  |   |
| 103. Tunis       | NIL  | NIL   | NIL   |   |
| 104. Ulaanbaatar | NIL  | Not Applicable  | Consular complaints are attended by senior officers of the Mission under the guidance of HOM.   |   |
| 105. Vancouver   | No written complaints; only some verbal complaints have been received  | —   | Mission has a facilitation counter to listen to the grievances of PIOs. First Secretary and Consul General can also be approached. Interactive radio/TV talk shows are conducted to clarify matters pertaining to Indian community. |   |
| 106. Vientiane   | NIL  | —   | A complaint box has been installed in the Consular Section which is checked regularly.  |   |
| 107. Vladivostok | NIL  | Not Applicable  | A committee of two persons consisting of Consul General and Vice Consul has been constituted to redress the grievances of PIOs.   |   |

| 1               | 2  | 3  | 4   | 5 |
|-----------------|--|--|---|---|
| 108. Wellington | Some complaints received in end 2004; most of them related to delay in issue of passports, police clearance certificates | Additional contingency-paid staff hired. | Complaints redressal mechanism operates at the level of Attache (Consular), Counsellor and finally at the level of High Commissioner. |   |
| 109. Windhoek   | NIL  | Does not arise                           | All possible assistance is given expeditiously to all NRIs and PIOs. All diplomatic officers are easily accessible to the NRIs/PIOs.  |   |
| 110. Yangon     | NIL  | —  | A complaint register is being maintained which is regularly supervised by the HOC.  |   |
| 111. Yerevan    | NIL  | NIL                                      | NIL   |   |
| 112. Zagreb     | NIL  | Not Applicable                           | HOM personally looks into the complaints of PIOs.   |   |

#### **Concession in Tariff by MTNL**

4117. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of concession in tariff and other facilities provided to consumers by the MTNL recently;

(b) the percentage of consumers likely to be benefited by the reduction in tariff rates of STD;

(c) whether the Government proposes to make local calls free or reduce the tariff rate of calls and rental for the expansion of telephone network; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) MTNL has been continuously reviewing rental call charges, registration charges etc. for various types of telephone connection (GSM-mobile, Landline, CDMA-mobile etc.) to make them as user friendly as possible to meet the aspiration of various segments of society. MTNL is also announcing various attractive plans, schemes etc. for the benefit of its customers. The details of some concession available on landlines are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Reduction in tariff rates of STD are beneficial to all sections of the consumers.

(c) and (d) Revision of tariff is being done from time to time by TRAI and the operators have to forebear these tariffs.

**Statement***Details of Concession Available on Landlines*

| Sl. No. | Subs Category | Entitled persons/ organizations  | Concession available  | Documents to be attached (duly attested by Central State Govt. Gazetted Officer) |
|---------|---------------|--|---|--|
| 1       | 2             | 3  | 4   | 5  |
| 1.      | 01            | Business   | Nil   |  |
| 2.      | 02            | Residential  | Nil   |  |
| 3.      | 03            | Non-Residential Telephones in Schools/Universities/Colleges/ institutions/Homes for ages/ orphanage etc. recognized by Govt. | 25%<br>Concession in Rental                                       | Recognition Certificate  |
| 4.      | 04            | Blind Persons  | 50%<br>Concession in Rental                                       | Visually blind certificate from CMO of Govt. Hospital                            |
| 5.      | 05            | War Widows/Disabled Soldiers   | 50%<br>Concession in Rental and no installation charges           | Documentary evidence copy of PPO (for war widows)                                |
| 6.      | 06            | Freedom Fighters   | 50%<br>Concession in Rental and no installation charges           | Copy of PPO and identity card.   |
| 7.      | 07            | Gallantry/President's Police Medal for Gallantry Awardees  | No rental and no installation charges                             | Copy of Award letter.  |
| 8.      | 08            | Serving DOT employee   | Rent free with free calls as available to normal subscribers      | Service Certificate, Service Book entry proof.                                   |
| 9.      | 09            | Retired DOT employee   | No rental and free calls as below<br>Gr. A=1000+Normal free calls | Copy of PPO and other documentary proof.   |

| 1   | 2  | 3              | 4   | 5                                |
|-----|----|----------------|---|----------------------------------|
|     |    |                | Gr. B=500+Normal<br>free calls                                      |                                  |
|     |    |                | Gr. C=300+Normal<br>free calls                                      |                                  |
|     |    |                | Gr. D=200+Normal<br>free calls                                      |                                  |
| 10. | 10 | Senior Citizen | Rental Rs. 187.50<br>Required 25% rebate<br>in installation charges | Ageabove 65 years.<br>Age proof. |

[English]

#### Post Offices in Rural Areas

4118. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY :  
KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH :  
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that there are fewer post offices in the rural areas of Kamataka, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number of Gram Panchayats in these States where post and telegraph facilities are not available; district-wise;

(c) whether the Government has set up Panchayat Communication Service and telegraph office in these States;

(d) if so, the details thereof, district-wise during the last two years;

(e) if not, the details of time-bound programme formulated by the Government in this regard; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government for speedy delivery of posts in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) No. Sir. There are 8761 Post Offices in the rural areas of Kamataka, catering to 5692 Gram Panchayat villages and 7572 Post Offices in the rural areas of Orissa, catering to 5254 Gram Panchayat villages, while 15693 Post Offices in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh, cater to 55537 Gram Panchayat villages. The opening of Post Offices is an ongoing process. Post offices are opened in rural areas subject to fulfillment of population, distance and income norms and availability of resources.

(b) Postal facilities for delivery of Dak, collection of mails and sale of postal stamps and stationery through postmen are available to Gram Panchayats in these states. However, the district-wise number of Gram Panchayats in Kamataka, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh not having Post Offices are given in enclosed statement-I, II and III respectively. The information regarding the district-wise number of Gram Panchayats in Kamataka, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh not having telegraph facilities is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) to (e) The information regarding the setting up of Panchayat Communication Service and telegraph office in



these States district-wise, during the last two years and the details of time-bound programme formulated by the Government in this regard is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(f) To ensure speedy delivery of mails in the country, including the states of Kamataka, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh, mail arrangements are formulated taking into account the facilities available through Railways, Road transport and manual modes, so that transmission occurs through the fastest means. Mail lines are, mechanized, wherever possible, with a view to speed up transmission. Mail arrangements are also monitored regularly through test letters etc. to rectify any hitches that may arise in mail transmission from time to time.

**Statement-I**

*District-wise Number of Gram Panchayats in  
Karnataka Without Post Office*

| Sl. No. | Name of District | No. of GP Villages without PO |
|---------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1       | 2                | 3                             |
| 1.      | Bagalkot         | 6                             |
| 2.      | Banaglore (R)    | 27                            |
| 3.      | Bangalore (U)    | 54                            |
| 4.      | Belgaum          | 11                            |
| 5.      | Bellary          | 0                             |
| 6.      | Bidar            | 1                             |
| 7.      | Bijapur          | 0                             |
| 8.      | Chamraj Nagar    | 2                             |
| 9.      | Chikmgalur       | 1                             |
| 10.     | Chitradurga      | 8                             |
| 11.     | Dakshina Kannada | 18                            |

| 1     | 2              | 3   |
|-------|----------------|-----|
| 12.   | Davangere      | 5   |
| 13.   | Dharwad        | 9   |
| 14.   | Gadag          | 0   |
| 15.   | Gulbarga       | 5   |
| 16.   | Hassan         | 43  |
| 17.   | Haveri         | 8   |
| 18.   | Kodagu         | 7   |
| 19.   | Kolar          | 73  |
| 20.   | Koppal         | 4   |
| 21.   | Mandya         | 33  |
| 22.   | Mysore         | 15  |
| 23.   | Raichur        | 1   |
| 24.   | Shimoga        | 64  |
| 25.   | Tumkur         | 49  |
| 26.   | Udupi          | 6   |
| 27.   | Uttara Kannada | 17  |
| Total |                | 467 |

**Statement-II**

*District wise Number of Gram Panchayats in  
Orissa without Post Office*

| Sl. No. | Name of District | No. of GP Villages without PO |
|---------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1       | 2                | 3                             |
| 1.      | Angul            | 10                            |

| 1   | 2           | 3  |
|-----|-------------|----|
| 2.  | Balasore    | 10 |
| 3.  | Baragarh    | 1  |
| 4.  | Bhadrak     | 2  |
| 5.  | Bolangir    | 16 |
| 6.  | Boudh       | 3  |
| 7.  | Cuttack     | 11 |
| 8.  | Deogarh     | 7  |
| 9.  | Dhenkanal   | 6  |
| 10. | Gajapati    | 10 |
| 11. | Ganjam      | 23 |
| 12. | Jag. S. Pur | 10 |
| 13. | Jaipur      | 0  |
| 14. | Jharsuguda  | 3  |
| 15. | Kalahandi   | 0  |
| 16. | Kendrapara  | 1  |
| 17. | Keonjhar    | 0  |
| 18. | Khurda      | 0  |
| 19. | Koraput     | 3  |
| 20. | Malkangiri  | 0  |
| 21. | Mayurbanj   | 4  |
| 22. | Nayagarh    | 0  |
| 23. | Nowrangpur  | 5  |
| 24. | Nuapada     | 4  |

| 1     | 2          | 3   |
|-------|------------|-----|
| 25.   | Phulbani   | 0   |
| 26.   | Puri       | 16  |
| 27.   | Rayagada   | 2   |
| 28.   | Sambalpur  | 2   |
| 29.   | Sonepur    | 3   |
| 30.   | Sundargarh | 5   |
| Total |            | 157 |

**Statement-III**

*District-Wise details of Gram Panchayats in Uttar Pradesh which do not have Post Office*

| Sl. No. | Name of District | No. of Gram Panchayats without PO |
|---------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1       | 2                | 3                                 |
| 1.      | Agra             | 637                               |
| 2.      | Aligarh          | 910                               |
| 3.      | Allahabad        | 1446                              |
| 4.      | Ambedkar Nagar   | 705                               |
| 5.      | Auraiya          | 290                               |
| 6.      | Azamgarh         | 803                               |
| 7.      | Bagpat           | 94                                |
| 8.      | Bahraich         | 849                               |
| 9.      | Ballia           | 504                               |
| 10.     | Balrampur        | 520                               |

| 1   | 2                        | 3    |
|-----|--------------------------|------|
| 11. | Banda                    | 293  |
| 12. | Barabanki                | 662  |
| 13. | Bareilly                 | 1178 |
| 14. | Basti                    | 1334 |
| 15. | Santravidsnagar (Bhadoi) | 382  |
| 16. | Bijnore                  | 731  |
| 17. | Budaun                   | 785  |
| 18. | Bulandshahar             | 634  |
| 19. | Chandauli                | 992  |
| 20. | Deoria                   | 750  |
| 21. | Etah                     | 660  |
| 22. | Etawah                   | 266  |
| 23. | Faizabad                 | 510  |
| 24. | Farrukhabad              | 389  |
| 25. | Fatehpur                 | 548  |
| 26. | Firozabad                | 478  |
| 27. | G.B. Nagar               | 257  |
| 28. | Ghaziabad                | 243  |
| 29. | Ghazipur                 | 692  |
| 30. | Gonda                    | 700  |
| 31. | Gorakhpur                | 903  |
| 32. | Hamirpur                 | 208  |
| 33. | Hardoi                   | 838  |

| 1   | 2            | 3    |
|-----|--------------|------|
| 34. | Hathras      | 71   |
| 35. | Jalaun       | 453  |
| 36. | Jaunpur      | 1134 |
| 37. | Jhansi       | 442  |
| 38. | JP Nagar     | 447  |
| 39. | Kannauj      | 307  |
| 40. | Kanpur (D)   | 1144 |
| 41. | Kanpur City  | 80   |
| 42. | Kaushambi    | 327  |
| 43. | Kheri        | 673  |
| 44. | Khusinagar   | 752  |
| 45. | Lalitpur     | 295  |
| 46. | Lucknow      | 55   |
| 47. | Maharajganj  | 581  |
| 48. | Mahoba       | 134  |
| 49. | Mainpuri     | 494  |
| 50. | Mathura      | 304  |
| 51. | Mau          | 450  |
| 52. | Meerut       | 305  |
| 53. | Mirzapur     | 659  |
| 54. | Moradabad    | 735  |
| 55. | Muzaffamagar | 416  |
| 56. | Pratapgarh   | 757  |

| 1     | 2                    | 3     |
|-------|----------------------|-------|
| 57.   | Pilibhit             | 461   |
| 58.   | Raebareli            | 542   |
| 59.   | Rampur               | 471   |
| 60..  | Sidhartha Nagar      | 833   |
| 61.   | Sant Kabir Nagar     | 529   |
| 62.   | Saharanpur           | 762   |
| 63.   | Chitrakoot           | 181   |
| 64.   | Shajahanpur          | 691   |
| 65.   | Sitapur              | 944   |
| 66.   | Sonbhadra            | 292   |
| 67.   | Srawasti             | 325   |
| 68.   | Sultanpur            | 819   |
| 69.   | Unnao                | 908   |
| 70.   | Varanasi (East)      | 356   |
| 71.   | Varanasi (West)      | 424   |
| 72.   | G.V. Nagar (Bar'l'y) | 131   |
| Total |                      | 40875 |

**Election of Central Council of  
Homoeopathy**

4119. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI : Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is responsible for conducting elections in the State and UTs for Central Council for Homeopathy; and

(b) if so, when the elections were last held in the States and Union Territories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) The Central Council of Homoeopathy (CCH) is constituted in accordance with the provisions under Section 3(1) (a) of the Homoeopathy Central Council (HCC) Act, 1973. As per procedure laid down in HCC Election Rules, 1975, the elections are conducted by Returning Officers appointed by the Central Government on the recommendations of State Governments from the Homoeopathic practitioners registered in State Registers of Homoeopathy.

(b) The last elections of CCH were held in 1997-98 in all the States and Union Territories except in Maharashtra and Bihar.

**Breast Cancer**

4120. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE :

Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware that Breast Cancer has been found to be the number one cancer amongst women and fastest rising cancer among women in urban India as reported in the Hindustan Times dated March 10, 2005;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether passive smoking enhances the risk of breast cancer amongst women;

(d) if so, the details of other reasons for breast cancer among women; and

(e) measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for spreading the awareness about breast cancer amongst women and prevention of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Breast cancer among women is one of the leading cancers in urban areas in India. The information on incidence rate of cancer is available from the data of Population Based Cancer Registries (PBCR) functioning under National Cancer Registry Programme of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). As per this data, breast cancer is the commonest cancer among women in urban PBCRs of Bangalore, Mumbai, Bhopal and Delhi, while it is 2nd commonest in PBCR Chennai.

(c) and (d) The study mentioned in the news item under reference mention about association of passive smoking with breast cancer. But studies linking smoking and breast cancer are not available in India. The known risk factors associated with development of breast cancer include, high-fat diet, lack of physical activity, menarche at early age, late onset of menopause, first pregnancy after 30 years of age and possible high estrogen levels.

(e) All the schemes under the National Cancer Control Programme have since been revised. Special emphasis is now being laid on early detection of Cancer through screening, promoting health education, creating awareness etc. under District Cancer Control Programme to be implemented through the nodal agencies in districts identified by State Government.

#### **Argemone Mexicana in Edible Oils**

4121. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI : Will the MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Argemone Mexicana has been found in edible oils in some parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the adverse impact of its consumption;

(c) whether many deaths have taken place due to its consumption in some parts of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) There have been reports of presence of Argemone mexicana in edible oils in the State of Uttar Pradesh. The regions effected are district Lucknow, in Lucknow region, District Kanpur in Kanpur region, District Gonda in Devi Pattan region, District Gorkhpur in Gorakpur region, District Firozabad in Agra region, District Bareilly in Bareilly region.

Three deaths have occurred in recent past in Lucknow city due to outbreak of dropsy resulting from consumption of edible oils adulterated with Argemone Mexicana.

(d) and (e) The State Government has intimated that strict surveillance is being undertaken and measures have been initiated to control the situation. A task force of specialist has been constituted to treat the patients effectively consisting of specialists of medicine, pathology and preventive medicine.

Under the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Rules, 1955, the standards of mustard oil already provide that it shall be free from argemone oil. The State/UTs Governments have been advised from time to time to keep a strict vigil on the quality of mustard oil and to take action as per PFA Rules, 1955, and to alert the public regarding the dangers of consuming adulterated mustard oil.

[Translation]

#### **Dumping of Nuclear Plants Waste**

4122. SHRI SITA RAM YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to fill the abandoned land of Kolar goldmine in Karnataka with nuclear plants waste; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by the Government to check the ill effects of radiation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

#### **Demands of NRIs**

4123. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NRIs have made a series of demands to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the demands include granting of voting rights establishing special courts for them, greater vigilance regarding the activities of recruitment agencies and protecting the interests of NRIs abroad; and

(d) if so, the current status of these demands the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that all their demands are fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIANS AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) :

(a) Yes, Sir, particularly NRIs from the Gulf.

(b) and (c) Their demands include better supervision over recruitment agencies, insurance for workers, admission of the their wards in educational institutions, welfare & rehabilitation measures for workers returning to India, release of innocent victims from prisons abroad, voting rights and Budget airlines. Government is not aware of any demand to establish Special Courts for NRIs.

(d) The following action has been initiated on some of the above demands:

(i) Complaints against registered recruitment agencies are examined by the Protector General of Emigrants and action is taken to suspend/cancel their registration. In the case of unregistered agencies, complaints are filed with the State Police authorities. In the last two years, 27 registrations have been suspended and 4 cancelled. 64 complaints have been filed with the Police and 20 prosecutions sanctioned.

(ii) A Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana Scheme has been implemented w.e.f. 25 December, 2003. This scheme has since become more competitive and affordable to Gulf workers for whom it is primarily meant.

(iii) 1/3 of the 15% supernumerary seats in educational institutions have been earmarked for children of NRIs in Gulf and South East Asia at fees applicable to resident Indians.

(iv) The Government takes up the release of innocent victims from prisons whenever necessary.

(v) The Government of Kerala has made a proposal to grant voting rights to NRIs by including them in the electoral rolls as a special category.

(vi) Air India has announced the starting of their Budget airline 'Air India Express' from April 29, 2005.

(vii) The Government of Kerala has devised several welfare schemes for the welfare of NRIs in the Gulf. The Government of India has been pursuing establishment of a welfare fund for Overseas Indian workers as well as Central Council for Promotion of Overseas Employment.

[Translation]

**New Science and Technology Centres  
In Backward States**

4124. SHRI SURAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is an scheme to open new Science and Technology Centres in backward states during the current financial year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons thereof;
- (d) the details of policy of the Government for opening of Technology Institutes and their development in backward and North-eastern states;
- (e) whether there is any scheme to open a new Technology Institutes in Bihar;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) if not the reasons therefor; and
- (h) the scheme of the Government for modernization and upgradation of Technology Institutes in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KABIL SIBAL) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. The Government believes that adequate funds are essential to fund the existing institutes to enable them to provide good facilities for teaching and research for producing quality students rather than starting new institutes and spreading the available resources thinly.

(e) No Sir.

(f) to (h) The Government has no proposals at present for consideration. However if any new proposals based on their strength and need are received, they will be considered. The Government has programmes for

strengthening of infrastructure in the academic institutes with critical mass of faculty. This scheme offers funds for upgradation of teaching and research facilities including internet, modern equipment, etc.

**Telephone Exchanges in Uttar Pradesh and  
Uttaranchal**

4125. DR. RAJESH MISHRA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of telephone exchanges functional at present in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal alongwith the capacity thereof, district-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up new telephone exchanges during the year 2005-06 and increase the capacity of the existing exchanges;
- (c) if so, the place-wise details thereof;
- (d) the estimated expenditure thereon; and
- (e) the names of the places in the States where telephone exchange buildings have been constructed and the number of them presently in use?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) Total number of telephone exchanges functional at present in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal are 3265 and 450 respectively. The District-wise details are given in the enclosed statement-I

(b) Yes, Sir. BSNL has proposed to set up ten and one new telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal respectively during 2005-06. BSNL has no proposal for expansion of existing telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh and there are proposal for expansion of four existing telephone exchanges in Uttaranchal.

(c) The place-wise details are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(d) The estimated expenditure thereof is Rs.4,53,73,128/- and Rs. 4,00,00,000/- in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal respectively.

(e) There are 627 telephone exchanges building in Uttar Pradesh out of which 576 are in use and there are 49 telephone exchange buildings in Uttaranchal and all of them are in use. The details are given in the enclosed statement-III.

**Statement-I**

| Sl. No. | Circle        | District     | Number of Exchanges | Capacity |
|---------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|----------|
| 1       | 2             | 3            | 4                   | 5        |
| 1.      | Uttar Pradesh | Agra         | 81                  | 170052   |
| 2.      | Uttar Pradesh | Aligarh      | 48                  | 71128    |
| 3.      | Uttar Pradesh | Badaun       | 46                  | 34092    |
| 4.      | Uttar Pradesh | Baghpat      | 21                  | 36464    |
| 5.      | Uttar Pradesh | Bareilly     | 78                  | 105284   |
| 6.      | Uttar Pradesh | Bijnore      | 68                  | 86768    |
| 7.      | Uttar Pradesh | Bulandshahar | 52                  | 73120    |
| 8.      | Uttar Pradesh | Etah         | 44                  | 39052    |
| 9.      | Uttar Pradesh | Firozabad    | 15                  | 29632    |
| 10.     | Uttar Pradesh | GB Nagar     | 36                  | 160520   |
| 11.     | Uttar Pradesh | Ghaziabad    | 68                  | 268304   |
| 12.     | Uttar Pradesh | Hathras      | 22                  | 20744    |
| 13.     | Uttar Pradesh | JP Nagar     | 34                  | 36176    |
| 14.     | Uttar Pradesh | Mathura      | 60                  | 82788    |
| 15.     | Uttar Pradesh | Meerut       | 48                  | 152004   |

| 1   | 2             | 3             | 4   | 5      |
|-----|---------------|---------------|-----|--------|
| 16. | Uttar Pradesh | Muradabad     | 49  | 95476  |
| 17. | Uttar Pradesh | Muaffamagar   | 70  | 117516 |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | Piliphit      | 35  | 24588  |
| 19. | Uttar Pradesh | Rampur        | 32  | 44352  |
| 20. | Uttar Pradesh | Saharanpur    | 48  | 103320 |
| 21. | Uttar Pradesh | Allahabad     | 101 | 162522 |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh | Ambedkarnagar | 34  | 21948  |
| 23. | Uttar Pradesh | Auraiya       | 23  | 18336  |
| 24. | Uttar Pradesh | Azamgarh      | 77  | 73580  |
| 25. | Uttar Pradesh | Ballia        | 46  | 36900  |
| 26. | Uttar Pradesh | Balrampur     | 19  | 14168  |
| 27. | Uttar Pradesh | Banda         | 75  | 29552  |
| 28. | Uttar Pradesh | Barabanki     | 73  | 46204  |
| 29. | Uttar Pradesh | Basti         | 28  | 23768  |
| 30. | Uttar Pradesh | Bhadohi       | 28  | 28176  |
| 31. | Uttar Pradesh | Bharaich      | 55  | 34004  |
| 32. | Uttar Pradesh | Chandauli     | 26  | 20760  |
| 33. | Uttar Pradesh | CKT           | 28  | 10536  |
| 34. | Uttar Pradesh | Deoria        | 43  | 35792  |
| 35. | Uttar Pradesh | Etawah        | 22  | 26160  |
| 36. | Uttar Pradesh | Faizabad      | 41  | 37988  |
| 37. | Uttar Pradesh | Farrukhabad   | 28  | 30460  |
| 38. | Uttar Pradesh | Fatehpur      | 49  | 26888  |



| 1   | 2             | 3            | 4   | 5      |
|-----|---------------|--------------|-----|--------|
| 39. | Uttar Pradesh | Firozabad    | 14  | 14560  |
| 40. | Uttar Pradesh | Gazipur      | 46  | 25722  |
| 41. | Uttar Pradesh | Gonda        | 47  | 34660  |
| 42. | Uttar Pradesh | GR           | 59  | 105655 |
| 43. | Uttar Pradesh | HDI          | 43  | 28088  |
| 44. | Uttar Pradesh | HMP          | 36  | 21176  |
| 45. | Uttar Pradesh | Jalaun       | 44  | 25532  |
| 46. | Uttar Pradesh | Jaunpur      | 68  | 55068  |
| 47. | Uttar Pradesh | Jhansi       | 47  | 63156  |
| 48. | Uttar Pradesh | Kannauj      | 27  | 20616  |
| 49. | Uttar Pradesh | Kanpur Dehat | 49  | 29584  |
| 50. | Uttar Pradesh | Kanpur Nagar | 77  | 119940 |
| 51. | Uttar Pradesh | Kaushambhi   | 12  | 6166   |
| 52. | Uttar Pradesh | Kushinagar   | 36  | 25756  |
| 53. | Uttar Pradesh | Lakhimpur    | 103 | 55848  |
| 54. | Uttar Pradesh | Lalitpur     | 27  | 11756  |
| 55. | Uttar Pradesh | Lucknow      | 97  | 311882 |
| 56. | Uttar Pradesh | Mahoba       | 12  | 9808   |
| 57. | Uttar Pradesh | Mainpur      | 27  | 25544  |
| 58. | Uttar Pradesh | Mau          | 43  | 49664  |
| 59. | Uttar Pradesh | Mirzapur     | 45  | 39580  |
| 60. | Uttar Pradesh | Mirj         | 29  | 22468  |
| 61. | Uttar Pradesh | Pratapgarh   | 62  | 36360  |

| 1   | 2             | 3            | 4  | 5      |
|-----|---------------|--------------|----|--------|
| 62. | Uttar Pradesh | Raebareli    | 63 | 45942  |
| 63. | Uttar Pradesh | SDR          | 29 | 14416  |
| 64. | Uttar Pradesh | Shahjahanpur | 43 | 37404  |
| 65. | Uttar Pradesh | Sitapur      | 64 | 41448  |
| 66. | Uttar Pradesh | SK Nagar     | 19 | 7586   |
| 67. | Uttar Pradesh | Sonbhadra    | 33 | 36980  |
| 68. | Uttar Pradesh | Srawasti     | 10 | 5032   |
| 69. | Uttar Pradesh | Sultanpur    | 77 | 49716  |
| 70. | Uttar Pradesh | Unnao        | 69 | 42452  |
| 71. | Uttar Pradesh | Varanasi     | 57 | 162840 |
| 72. | Uttaranchal   | Almora       | 50 | 23840  |
| 73. | Uttaranchal   | Bageshwar    | 9  | 4692   |
| 74. | Uttaranchal   | Champawat    | 15 | 9928   |
| 75. | Uttaranchal   | Pithoragarh  | 34 | 19860  |
| 76. | Uttaranchal   | Dehradun     | 61 | 157968 |
| 77. | Uttaranchal   | Haridwar     | 29 | 72052  |
| 78. | Uttaranchal   | Nainital     | 37 | 62428  |
| 79. | Uttaranchal   | U.S. Nagar   | 38 | 60128  |
| 80. | Uttaranchal   | New Tehri    | 47 | 21500  |
| 81. | Uttaranchal   | Uttarkashi   | 24 | 14500  |
| 82. | Uttaranchal   | Chamolipauri | 32 | 14688  |
| 83. | Uttaranchal   | Pauri        | 53 | 28952  |
| 84. | Uttaranchal   | Rudraprayag  | 21 | 6800   |

**Statement-II**

*(A) Details of New Telephone Exchanges proposed to be set up in the State of Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal during the year 2005-06*

| S. No. | Circle        | Name of Exchange            |
|--------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| 1.     | Uttar Pradesh | Dhema, Sultanpur            |
| 2.     | Uttar Pradesh | Kalyanpur, Sultanpur        |
| 3.     | Uttar Pradesh | Bishesharganj, Sultanpur    |
| 4.     | Uttar Pradesh | Chanduaki, Sultanpur        |
| 5.     | Uttar Pradesh | Nandmahar, Sultanpur        |
| 6.     | Uttar Pradesh | Shadipur, Sultanpur         |
| 7.     | Uttar Pradesh | Chiranjeev Vihar, Ghaziabad |
| 8.     | Uttar Pradesh | Shalimar Garden, Ghaziabad  |
| 9.     | Uttar Pradesh | Brij Vihar, Ghaziabad       |
| 10.    | Uttar Pradesh | Baghpat Road, Meerut        |
| 11.    | Uttaranchal   | Chaubatiya                  |

*(B) Details of Existing Telephone Exchanges proposed for Expansion in the State of Uttaranchal during the year 2005-06*

| Sl. No. | Circle      | Name of Exchange      |
|---------|-------------|-----------------------|
| 1.      | Uttaranchal | Chiliyananla, Almora  |
| 2.      | -do-        | GIC Road, Pithoragarh |
| 3.      | -do-        | Kichha, Nainital      |
| 4.      | -do-        | Ramnagar, Nainital    |

**Statement-III**

| Sl. No. | Name of the SSA | Name of the T.E. Building constructed | Building utilized/unutilized |
|---------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1       | 2               | 3                                     | 4                            |
| 1.      | Allahabad       | 1. Handia                             | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 2. Manjhanpur                         | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 3. Bisara                             | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 4. Shankargarh                        | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 5. Bara                               | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 6. Lal Gopalganj                      | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 7. Meja                               | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 8. Karchhana                          | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 9. Sirathu                            | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 10. Phaphamau                         | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 11. Civil Lines Allahabad             | Utilized                     |
| 2.      | Azamgarh        | 1. Jeanpur                            | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 2. Kandhrapur                         | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 3. Nanijore                           | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 4. Amuwari                            | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 5. Bardeeha                           | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 6. Ramgarh                            | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 7. Chapra Sultanpur                   | Utilized                     |
|         |                 | 8. Kaptanganj                         | Utilized                     |

| 1 | 2 | 3               | 4          |
|---|---|-----------------|------------|
|   |   | 9. Koilsa       | Utilized   |
|   |   | 10. Harriya     | Utilized   |
|   |   | 11. Phoolpur    | Utilized   |
|   |   | 12. Lahideeh    | Utilized   |
|   |   | 13. Lalganj     | Utilized   |
|   |   | 14. Devgoun     | Utilized   |
|   |   | 15. Mehnagr     | Utilized   |
|   |   | 16. Mubarakpur  | Utilized   |
|   |   | 17. Jahanaganj  | Utilized   |
|   |   | 18. C-DOT       | Utilized   |
|   |   | 19. Microwave   | Utilized   |
|   |   | 20. Maharajganj | Utilized   |
|   |   | 21. Bardah      | Utilized   |
|   |   | 22. Faiha       | Utilized   |
|   |   | 23. Sanjarpur   | Utilized   |
|   |   | 24. Nirambad    | Utilized   |
|   |   | 25. Dewait      | Unutilized |
|   |   | 26. Babura      | Unutilized |
|   |   | 27. Didarganj   | Unutilized |
|   |   | 28. Hetuganj    | Unutilized |
|   |   | 29. Tarwa       | Unutilized |
|   |   | 30. Singhpur    | Unutilized |

| 1           | 2                 | 3 | 4        |
|-------------|-------------------|---|----------|
| 3. Bahraich | 1. Jamunaha       |   | Utilized |
|             | 2. Bhuja          |   | Utilized |
|             | 3. Bhanga         |   | Utilized |
|             | 4. Mahasi         |   | Utilized |
|             | 5. Jaitapur Bazar |   | Utilized |
|             | 6. Behra          |   | Utilized |
|             | 7. Nouqla         |   | Utilized |
|             | 8. Naupara        |   | Utilized |
|             | 9. Babaganj       |   | Utilized |
|             | 10. Imamganj      |   | Utilized |
|             | 11. Mahera        |   | Utilized |
|             | 12. Mihinpurwa    |   | Utilized |
|             | 13. Srawasti      |   | Utilized |
|             | 14. Ekona         |   | Utilized |
|             | 15. Payagapur     |   | Utilized |
|             | 16. Risia         |   | Utilized |
|             | 17. Kaiserganj    |   | Utilized |
|             | 18. Rukunapur     |   | Utilized |
|             | 19. Jarwalroad    |   | Utilized |
|             | 20. Jarwal Kasba  |   | Utilized |
|             | 21. Fakarpur      |   | Utilized |
|             | 22. Huzurpur      |   | Utilized |
|             | 23. Wazirganj     |   | Utilized |

| 1         | 2                  | 3                    | 4          |
|-----------|--------------------|----------------------|------------|
|           |                    | 24. Bhauch           | Utilized   |
|           |                    | 25. Urda             | Unutilized |
|           |                    | 26. Gour             | Unutilized |
|           |                    | 27. Gangapur         | Unutilized |
|           |                    | 28. Chhapra          | Unutilized |
|           |                    | 29. Nawabganj        | Unutilized |
|           |                    | 30. Rupadhia (Shaba) | Unutilized |
|           |                    | 31. Laxmapur         | Unutilized |
|           |                    | 32. Sirsa            | Unutilized |
| 4. Ballia | 1. Attarasua       | Utilized             |            |
|           | 2. Athilapur       | Utilized             |            |
|           | 3. Baijpur         | Utilized             |            |
|           | 4.(A) Ballia C DOT | Utilized             |            |
|           | (B) Ballia OCB     | Utilized             |            |
|           | 5. Bansdih         | Utilized             |            |
|           | 6. Maniyar         | Utilized             |            |
|           | 7. Nagra           | Utilized             |            |
|           | 8. Pradhanpur      | Utilized             |            |
|           | 9. Pur             | Utilized             |            |
|           | 10. Rasra          | Utilized             |            |
|           | 11. Navratanpur    | Unutilized           |            |
|           | 12. Maldah         | Unutilized           |            |
|           | 13. Tikadeori      | Unutilized           |            |

| 1            | 2                      | 3                          | 4          |
|--------------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
|              |                        | 14. Ibrahimpatti           | Unutilized |
|              |                        | 15. Dokati (Dalan Chhapra) | Unutilized |
|              |                        | 16. Kazipur                | Unutilized |
|              |                        | 17. Salempur               | Unutilized |
| 5. Banda     | 1. Manikpur            | Utilized                   |            |
|              | 2. Karwi               | Utilized                   |            |
|              | 3. Bharatkoop          | Utilized                   |            |
|              | 4. Atarra              | Utilized                   |            |
|              | 5. Mardanaka Banda     | Utilized                   |            |
|              | 6. Indiranagar         | Utilized                   |            |
|              | 7. Baberu              | Utilized                   |            |
|              | 8. Khaptiha            | Utilized                   |            |
| 6. Barabanki | 1. Barabanki           | Utilized                   |            |
|              | 2. Barabanki Old Bldg. | Utilized                   |            |
|              | 3. Barethi             | Utilized                   |            |
|              | 4. Bhanmau             | Utilized                   |            |
|              | 5. Jhangirabad         | Utilized                   |            |
|              | 6. Kola                | Utilized                   |            |
|              | 7. Sadargunj           | Utilized                   |            |
|              | 8. Satrikh             | Utilized                   |            |
|              | 9. Tera                | Utilized                   |            |
|              | 10. Saddipur           | Utilized                   |            |

| 1 | 2 | 3              | 4        |
|---|---|----------------|----------|
|   |   | 11. Udhauri    | Utilized |
|   |   | 12. Zakariya   | Utilized |
|   |   | 13. Badanpur   | Utilized |
|   |   | 14. Baddupur   | Utilized |
|   |   | 15. Bishunpur  | Utilized |
|   |   | 16. Fatehpur   | Utilized |
|   |   | 17. Hetmapur   | Utilized |
|   |   | 18. Kursi      | Utilized |
|   |   | 19. Madadewa   | Utilized |
|   |   | 20. Mohd. Pur  | Utilized |
|   |   | 21. Khala      | Utilized |
|   |   | 22. Ramnagar   | Utilized |
|   |   | 23. Ranibazar  | Utilized |
|   |   | 24. Sihali     | Utilized |
|   |   | 25. Suratganj  | Utilized |
|   |   | 26. Tilokpur   | Utilized |
|   |   | 27. Tilwari    | Utilized |
|   |   | 28. Bhiwal     | Utilized |
|   |   | 29. Haidergarh | Utilized |
|   |   | 30. Kothi      | Utilized |
|   |   | 31. Sidhaur    | Utilized |
|   |   | 32. Subeha     | Utilized |
|   |   | 33. Aliabad    | Utilized |

| 1        | 2 | 3                       | 4        |
|----------|---|-------------------------|----------|
|          |   | 34. Daryabad            | Utilized |
|          |   | 35. Kullapur            | Utilized |
|          |   | 36. lehauri             | Utilized |
|          |   | 37. Khajuri             | Utilized |
|          |   | 38. Mugaunpur           | Utilized |
|          |   | 39. Mehmoodabad         | Utilized |
|          |   | 40. Puredalai           | Utilized |
|          |   | 41. Ramsnehighat        | Utilized |
|          |   | 42. Rudauri             | Utilized |
|          |   | 43. Saadatganj          | Utilized |
|          |   | 44. Saidkhanpur Sarai   | Utilized |
|          |   | 45. Barai Sirauligaupur | Utilized |
| 7. Basti |   | 1. Dumariaganj          | Utilized |
|          |   | 2. Itwa                 | Utilized |
|          |   | 3. Barni                | Utilized |
|          |   | 4. Shohratgarh          | Utilized |
|          |   | 5. Siddharth Nagar      | Utilized |
|          |   | 6. Bansi                | Utilized |
|          |   | 7. Tilauri              | Utilized |
|          |   | 8. Basti                | Utilized |
|          |   | 9. Captainganj          | Utilized |
|          |   | 10. Babhnan             | Utilized |
|          |   | 11. Khalilabad          | Utilized |

| 1            | 2                     | 3          | 4 |
|--------------|-----------------------|------------|---|
|              | 12. Vishvanathpur     | Utilized   |   |
| 8. Deoria    | 1. Deoria CDOT        | Utilized   |   |
|              | 2. Deoria OCB         | Utilized   |   |
|              | 3. Bhatani Dadan      | Utilized   |   |
|              | 4. Ram Laxan          | Utilized   |   |
|              | 5. Salempur           | Utilized   |   |
|              | 6. Bhatani            | Utilized   |   |
|              | 7. Padrauna CDOT      | Utilized   |   |
|              | 8. Ravindra Nagar     | Utilized   |   |
|              | 9. Sakhopar           | Utilized   |   |
|              | 10. Sukrauli Bazar    | Utilized   |   |
|              | 11. Mathauli Bazar    | Utilized   |   |
|              | 12. Sonhaura Ramnagar | Utilized   |   |
|              | 13. Bariyarpur        | Utilized   |   |
|              | 14. Hata MW Repeater  | Utilized   |   |
|              | 15. Pakari Bazar      | Unutilized |   |
|              | 16. Khukhundoo        | Unutilized |   |
| 9. Etawah    | 1. Etawah             | Utilized   |   |
|              | 2. Auraiya            | Utilized   |   |
|              | 3. Jaswant Nagar      | Utilized   |   |
|              | 4. Saifai             | Utilized   |   |
| 10. Faizabad | 1. Jalalpur           | Unutilized |   |

| 1               | 2                | 3          | 4 |
|-----------------|------------------|------------|---|
|                 | 2. Baskhari      | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 3. Garhwal       | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 4. Tanda         | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 5. Akbarpur      | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 6. Gosainganj    | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 7. Maya          | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 8. Darshan Nagar | Unutilized |   |
|                 | 9. Bikapur       | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 10. Milkpur      | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 11. Ayadhya      | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 12. Faizabad     | Utilized   |   |
| 11. Farrukhabad | 1. Kaimganj      | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 2. Chhibramau    | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 3. Gursahaiganj  | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 4. Farrukhabad   | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 5. Siroli        | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 6. Fatehgarh     | Utilized   |   |
| 12. Fatehpur    | 1. Fatehpur      | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 2. Khaga         | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 3. Bindki        | Utilized   |   |
| 13. Ghazipur    | 1. Barsara       | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 2. Ghazipur      | Utilized   |   |
|                 | 3. Jakhania      | Utilized   |   |

| 1             | 2              | 3               | 4        |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|----------|
|               |                | 4. Khardiha     | Utilized |
|               |                | 5. Mainpuri     | Utilized |
|               |                | 6. Mohammadabad | Utilized |
|               |                | 7. Nandganj     | Utilized |
|               |                | 8. Raipur       | Utilized |
|               |                | 9. Reotipur     | Utilized |
|               |                | 10. Saidpur     | Utilized |
|               |                | 11. Zamania     | Utilized |
| 14. Gonda     | 1. Gonda       | Utilized        |          |
|               | 2. Balrampur   | Utilized        |          |
|               | 3. Tulsipur    | Utilized        |          |
|               | 4. Utraula     | Utilized        |          |
|               | 5. Tarabganj   | Utilized        |          |
|               | 6. Arya Nagar  | Utilized        |          |
|               | 7. Bankatwa    | Utilized        |          |
| 15. Gorakhpur | 1. Gorakhpur   | Utilized        |          |
|               | 2. Raptinagar  | Utilized        |          |
|               | 3. Bansaon     | Utilized        |          |
|               | 4. Anandnagar  | Utilized        |          |
|               | 5. Maharajganj | Utilized        |          |
| 16. Hamirpur  | 1. Kurara      | Utilized        |          |
|               | 2. Hamirpur    | Utilized        |          |
|               | 3. Chauni      | Utilized        |          |

| 1           | 2               | 3             | 4        |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------|----------|
|             |                 | 4. Biwar      | Utilized |
|             |                 | 5. Ragaul     | Utilized |
|             |                 | 6. Iccauli    | Utilized |
|             |                 | 7. Imiliya    | Utilized |
|             |                 | 8. Rath       | Utilized |
|             |                 | 9. Gohaud     | Utilized |
|             |                 | 10. Charleari | Utilized |
|             |                 | 11. Kulphar   | Utilized |
|             |                 | 12. Mahobe    | Utilized |
| 17. Hardoi  | 1. Shahabad     | Utilized      |          |
|             | 2. Bilgram      | Utilized      |          |
|             | 3. Sandila      | Utilized      |          |
|             | 4. Kachchauna   | Utilized      |          |
|             | 5. Harpalpur    | Utilized      |          |
|             | 6. Behtagokul   | Utilized      |          |
|             | 7. Civil Line   | Utilized      |          |
|             | Exchange Hardoi |               |          |
|             | 8. Lucknow Road | Utilized      |          |
|             | Exchange Hardoi |               |          |
| 18. Jaunpur | 1. Jaunpur Main | Utilized      |          |
|             | 2. Jaunpur KTY  | Utilized      |          |
|             | 3. Shahganj     | Utilized      |          |
|             | 4. Exchange PU  | Utilized      |          |

| 1          | 2                               | 3          | 4 |
|------------|---------------------------------|------------|---|
|            | 5. Mariahu                      | Utilized   |   |
|            | 6. Badlapur                     | Utilized   |   |
|            | 7. Sigramau                     | Utilized   |   |
|            | 8. Sitamsarai                   | Utilized   |   |
|            | 9. Shekhupur                    | Utilized   |   |
|            | 10. Ghanshyampur                | Utilized   |   |
|            | 11. Sathariya                   | Utilized   |   |
|            | 12. Barethi                     | Utilized   |   |
|            | 13. Kachgaon                    | Utilized   |   |
|            | 14. Tarti                       | Utilized   |   |
|            | 15. Mugarabadshahpur            | Utilized   |   |
|            | 16. Rampur                      | Unutilized |   |
|            | 17. Suitha Kalan                | Unutilized |   |
| 19. Jhansi | 1. Gwalior Road Jhansi          | Utilized   |   |
|            | 2. Lalitpur Road Jhansi         | Utilized   |   |
|            | 3. Pichhore, Kanpur Road Jhansi | Utilized   |   |
|            | 4. Moth                         | Utilized   |   |
|            | 5. Chirgaon                     | Utilized   |   |
|            | 6. Hati                         | Utilized   |   |
|            | 7. Mauranipur                   | Utilized   |   |
|            | 8. Lalitpur                     | Utilized   |   |
|            | 9. Talbehat                     | Utilized   |   |

| 1          | 2                          | 3        | 4 |
|------------|----------------------------|----------|---|
|            | 10. Vijaypura              | Utilized |   |
|            | 11. Jakhaura               | Utilized |   |
|            | 12. Mehrauni               | Utilized |   |
|            | 13. Dailwari               | Utilized |   |
|            | 14. Bansi                  | Utilized |   |
|            | 15. Pali                   | Utilized |   |
|            | 16. Madawara               | Utilized |   |
| 20. Kanpur | 1. Door Sanchar Bhawan     | Utilized |   |
|            | 2. CTO Building            | Utilized |   |
|            | 3. Coaxial Building        | Utilized |   |
|            | 4. Telephone Bhawan        | Utilized |   |
|            | 5. Benazhabar Exchange     | Utilized |   |
|            | 6. Lakhanpur Exchange      | Utilized |   |
|            | 7. Kalyanpur Exchange      | Utilized |   |
|            | 8. Naramau Exchange        | Utilized |   |
|            | 9. Microwave Sarvodyanagar | Utilized |   |
|            | 10. Lajpat Nagar           | Utilized |   |
|            | 11. Ratan Lal Nagar        | Utilized |   |
|            | 12. Panki Power House      | Utilized |   |
|            | 13. Panki Industrial Area  | Utilized |   |
|            | 14. Yashoda Nagar          | Utilized |   |
|            | 15. Shyamnagar             | Utilized |   |
|            | 16. Krishna Nagar          | Utilized |   |



| 1 | 2 | 3               | 4        |
|---|---|-----------------|----------|
|   |   | 17. Jaj Mau     | Utilized |
|   |   | 18. Chakeri     | Utilized |
|   |   | 19. Rooma       | Utilized |
|   |   | 20. Maharajpur  | Utilized |
|   |   | 21. Sirsaul     | Utilized |
|   |   | 22. Akbarpur    | Utilized |
|   |   | 23. Bhauti      | Utilized |
|   |   | 24. Bidhnoo     | Utilized |
|   |   | 25. Chaubey Pur | Utilized |
|   |   | 26. Bilhaur     | Utilized |
|   |   | 27. Derapur     | Utilized |
|   |   | 28. Ghatampur   | Utilized |
|   |   | 29. Hansemau    | Utilized |
|   |   | 30. Jainpur     | Utilized |
|   |   | 31. Jhinhak     | Utilized |
|   |   | 32. Kairzar     | Utilized |
|   |   | 33. Mandhana    | Utilized |
|   |   | 34. Narwal      | Utilized |
|   |   | 35. Pukharayan  | Utilized |
|   |   | 36. Rania       | Utilized |
|   |   | 37. Rasoolabad  | Utilized |
|   |   | 38. Roora       | Utilized |
|   |   | 39. Sachendi    | Utilized |

| 1             | 2                           | 3                        | 4        |
|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
|               |                             | 40. Shiv Raj Pur         | Utilized |
|               |                             | 41. Sikandara            | Utilized |
|               |                             | 42. Uttri Pooa           | Utilized |
|               |                             | 43. Kaka Deo             | Utilized |
|               |                             | 44. Mati                 | Utilized |
|               |                             | 45. DTO Cantt.<br>Kanpur | Utilized |
|               |                             | 46. Saketnagar           | Utilized |
| 21. Lakhimpur | 1. Keerat Nagar             |                          | Utilized |
|               | 2. Civil Lines<br>Lakhimpur |                          | Utilized |
|               | 3. Hidayat Nagar            |                          | Utilized |
|               | 4. Dhanrahra                |                          | Utilized |
|               | 5. Nighasan                 |                          | Utilized |
|               | 6. Palia                    |                          | Utilized |
|               | 7. Sampurnagar              |                          | Utilized |
|               | 8. Mohammadi                |                          | Utilized |
|               | 9. J.B. (Ganj)              |                          | Utilized |
| 22. Lucknow   | 1. Alambagh                 |                          | Utilized |
|               | 2. Transportnagar           |                          | Utilized |
|               | 3. Banthara                 |                          | Utilized |
|               | 4. Rajajipuram              |                          | Utilized |
|               | 5. Badhewan                 |                          | Utilized |

| 1            | 2                              | 3        | 4 |
|--------------|--------------------------------|----------|---|
|              | 6. Mohanlal Ganj               | Utilized |   |
|              | 7. Malihabad                   | Utilized |   |
|              | 8. Itaunja                     | Utilized |   |
|              | 9. Kaiserbagh                  | Utilized |   |
|              | 10. Talkatora                  | Utilized |   |
|              | 11. Dilkusha                   | Utilized |   |
|              | 12. Mahanagar                  | Utilized |   |
|              | 13. Aliganj                    | Utilized |   |
|              | 14. Gomatinagar                | Utilized |   |
|              | 15. Viramkhand                 | Utilized |   |
|              | 16. Vibhutikhand               | Utilized |   |
|              | 17. Indiranagar                | Utilized |   |
| 23. Mainpuri | 1. Mainpuri OCB<br>(New Bldg.) | Utilized |   |
|              | 2. Mainpuri RSU<br>(Old Bldg.) | Utilized |   |
|              | 3. Shikohabad                  | Utilized |   |
|              | 4. Sirsaganj                   | Utilized |   |
|              | 5. Karhal                      | Utilized |   |
| 24. Mau      | 1. Adari                       | Utilized |   |
|              | 2. Ailakh                      | Utilized |   |
|              | 3. Amila                       | Utilized |   |
|              | 4. Atarsawan                   | Utilized |   |

| 1 | 2                   | 3        | 4 |
|---|---------------------|----------|---|
|   | 5. Badhua Godem     | Utilized |   |
|   | 6. Bojhi            | Utilized |   |
|   | 7. Chakara          | Utilized |   |
|   | 8. Chiraiкот        | Utilized |   |
|   | 9. Doharighat       | Utilized |   |
|   | 10. Dubari          | Utilized |   |
|   | 11. Ghosi           | Utilized |   |
|   | 12. Haldharpur      | Utilized |   |
|   | 13. Kalyanpur       | Utilized |   |
|   | 14. Kopaganj        | Utilized |   |
|   | 15. Kurthizafarpur  | Utilized |   |
|   | 16. Kushmaur        | Utilized |   |
|   | 17. Madhuban        | Utilized |   |
|   | 18. Aaryadpur       | Utilized |   |
|   | 19. Mau Civil Lines | Utilized |   |
|   | 20. Mourbojj        | Utilized |   |
|   | 21. Mohammadabad    | Utilized |   |
|   | 22. Nadwasarai      | Utilized |   |
|   | 23. Pipridih        | Utilized |   |
|   | 24. Piparasath      | Utilized |   |
|   | 25. Ranipur         | Utilized |   |
|   | 26. Ratanpura       | Utilized |   |
|   | 27. Shahadatpura    | Utilized |   |

| 1            | 2                     | 3                   | 4        |
|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------|
|              |                       | 28. Semari Jalalpur | Utilized |
|              |                       | 29. Sipah           | Utilized |
|              |                       | 30. Saggichauri     | Utilized |
|              |                       | 31. Sultanpur       | Utilized |
|              |                       | 32. Surajp          | Utilized |
| 25. Mirzapur | 1. Angarh             | Utilized            |          |
|              | 2. Fataha (T/E Bldg.) | Utilized            |          |
|              | 3. Fataha (M/W Bldg.) | Utilized            |          |
|              | 4. Garpura            | Utilized            |          |
|              | 5. Lalganj            | Utilized            |          |
|              | 6. Hatia              | Utilized            |          |
|              | 7. Patihara           | Utilized            |          |
|              | 8. Bahuti             | Utilized            |          |
|              | 9. Manihar            | Utilized            |          |
|              | 10. Rajgarh           | Utilized            |          |
|              | 11. Ahraura           | Utilized            |          |
|              | 12. Chawkia           | Utilized            |          |
|              | 13. Chunae            | Utilized            |          |
|              | 14. Robertsganj       | Utilized            |          |
|              | 15. Churk             | Utilized            |          |
|              | 16. Chopan            | Utilized            |          |
|              | 17. Dala              | Utilized            |          |

| 1              | 2                             | 3                | 4        |
|----------------|-------------------------------|------------------|----------|
|                |                               | 18. Shaktinagar  | Utilized |
|                |                               | 19. Rihandnagar  | Utilized |
|                |                               | 20. Pipari (M/W) | Utilized |
|                |                               | 21. Duddhi       | Utilized |
|                |                               | 22. Seekharh     | Utilized |
| 26. Orai       | 1. Kalpi                      | Utilized         |          |
|                | 2. Jalaun                     | Utilized         |          |
|                | 3. Kuthond                    | Utilized         |          |
|                | 4. Konch                      | Utilized         |          |
|                | 5. Orai                       | Utilized         |          |
| 27. Pratapgarh | 1. Pratapgarh                 | Utilized         |          |
|                | 2. Kunda                      | Utilized         |          |
|                | 3. Lalganj                    | Utilized         |          |
|                | 4. Antoo                      | Utilized         |          |
| 28. Raebareli  | 1. Feroz Gandhi Nagar         | Utilized         |          |
|                | 2. Devendapur,<br>Amawan Road | Utilized         |          |
|                | 3. HPO Compound               | Utilized         |          |
|                | 4. Salon                      | Utilized         |          |
|                | 5. Tiloi                      | Utilized         |          |
|                | 6. Dalmau                     | Utilized         |          |
|                | 7. Jais                       | Utilized         |          |
|                | 8. Lalganj                    | Utilized         |          |

| 1                | 2                        | 3        | 4 |
|------------------|--------------------------|----------|---|
| 29. Shahjahanpur | 1. Tilhar                | Utilized |   |
|                  | 2. Powayan               | Utilized |   |
|                  | 3. Rosa                  | Utilized |   |
|                  | 4. Shahjahanpur          | Utilized |   |
|                  | 5. Sindhauli             | Utilized |   |
| 30. Sitapur      | 1. Sitapur               | Utilized |   |
|                  | 2. Mishrikh              | Utilized |   |
|                  | 3. Mohali                | Utilized |   |
|                  | 4. Sidhauli              | Utilized |   |
|                  | 5. Mahmoodabad           | Utilized |   |
|                  | 6. Laharpur              | Utilized |   |
|                  | 7. Neemsar               | Utilized |   |
| 31. Sultanpur    | 1. Sultanpur             | Utilized |   |
|                  | 2. Amethi                | Utilized |   |
|                  | 3. Musafirkhana          | Utilized |   |
|                  | 4. Jagdishpur Indl. Area | Utilized |   |
|                  | 5. Gauriganj             | Utilized |   |
|                  | 6. Ramganj               | Utilized |   |
|                  | 7. Hanumanganj           | Utilized |   |
|                  | 8. Rawania               | Utilized |   |
|                  | 9. Kaipur                | Utilized |   |
| 32. Unnao        | 1. Civil Line            | Utilized |   |

| 1            | 2                                  | 3        | 4 |
|--------------|------------------------------------|----------|---|
|              | 2. Shuklaganj                      | Utilized |   |
|              | 3. Hasanganj                       | Utilized |   |
|              | 4. Purwa                           | Utilized |   |
|              | 5. Bighapur                        | Utilized |   |
|              | 6. Nawalganj                       | Utilized |   |
|              | 7. Indl. Area                      | Utilized |   |
|              | 8. Safipur                         | Utilized |   |
|              | 9. P.D. Nagar                      | Utilized |   |
| 33. Varanasi | 1. Beniya Bagh                     | Utilized |   |
|              | 2. Cantt.                          | Utilized |   |
|              | 3. Pahariya II                     | Utilized |   |
|              | 4. Pahariya I                      | Utilized |   |
|              | 5. Shivpur                         | Utilized |   |
|              | 6. Shivpurwa                       | Utilized |   |
|              | 7. Durgakund                       | Utilized |   |
|              | 8. Lalpur                          | Utilized |   |
|              | 9. DLW Varanasi                    | Utilized |   |
|              | 10. Hartirath                      | Utilized |   |
|              | 11. M.A. Road                      | Utilized |   |
|              | 12. Ashok Vihar<br>Paharia Phase-I | Utilized |   |
|              | 13. Sanjai Gandhi<br>Nagar         | Utilized |   |
|              | 14. Kabir Nagar<br>Durgakund       | Utilized |   |

| 1 | 2                 | 3 | 4        |
|---|-------------------|---|----------|
|   | 15. Tikri         |   | Utilized |
|   | 16. Rajatalab     |   | Utilized |
|   | 17. Gopiganj Town |   | Utilized |
|   | 18. Bhadohi       |   | Utilized |
|   | 19. Gyanpur Town  |   | Utilized |
|   | 20. Khamaria      |   | Utilized |
|   | 21. Chakia        |   | Utilized |
|   | 22. Chandauli     |   | Utilized |
|   | 23. Mughal Sarai  |   | Utilized |
|   | 24. Naugarh       |   | Utilized |
|   | 25. Ramnagar (I)  |   | Utilized |
|   | 26. Sakaldiha     |   | Utilized |
|   | 27. Vishnupurwa   |   | Utilized |

*Uttar Pradesh West Circle*

| Sl. No. | Name of SSA | No. of Const. Deptt. TE Building | No. of Telephone Exchange Building utilised/ Unutilised |
|---------|-------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 1       | 2           | 3                                | 4   |
| 1.      | Noida       | 1. Sector-19                     | Utilized  |
|         |             | 2. Sector-62                     | Utilized  |
|         |             | 3. Sector-39                     | Utilized  |
|         |             | 4. Sector-58                     | Utilized  |

| 1            | 2                   | 3  | 4        |
|--------------|---------------------|----|----------|
|              | 5. Sector-24        |    | Utilized |
|              | 6. NEPZ             |    | Utilized |
|              | 7. Surajpur         |    | Utilized |
|              | 8. Kasna            |    | Utilized |
|              | 9. Tilpatta         |    | Utilized |
|              | 10. Delta           |    | Utilized |
|              | 11. Dadri           | 11 | Utilized |
| 2. Ghaziabad | 1. Rajnagar         |    | Utilized |
|              | 2. Nehrunagar       |    | Utilized |
|              | 3. Sanjay Nagar     |    | Utilized |
|              | 4. Nandgram         |    | Utilized |
|              | 5. Patel Nagar      |    | Utilized |
|              | 6. Pratap Vihar     |    | Utilized |
|              | 7. Indrapuram       |    | Utilized |
|              | 8. Vasundhra        |    | Utilized |
|              | 9. Kaushambi        |    | Utilized |
|              | 10. Rajendranagar   |    | Utilized |
|              | 11. Shahdra East    |    | Utilized |
|              | 12. Modinagar       |    | Utilized |
|              | 13. Muradnagar      |    | Utilized |
|              | 14. Loni            |    | Utilized |
|              | 15. Pilukhwa        |    | Utilized |
|              | 16. Hapur Old Exch. |    | Utilized |

| 1              | 2                        | 3                      | 4        |
|----------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------|
|                |                          | 17. Garh               | Utilized |
|                |                          | 18. Hapur New Exchange | Utilized |
|                |                          | 19. Govind Puram       | Utilized |
| 3. Bulandsahar | 1. Bhoor                 |                        | Utilized |
|                | 2. Motibagh              |                        | Utilized |
|                | 3. Khurja                |                        | Utilized |
|                | 4. Sikandrabad           |                        | Utilized |
|                | 5. Satellite Sikandrabad |                        | Utilized |
|                | 6. Debai                 |                        | Utilized |
|                | 7. Jahangirabad          |                        | Utilized |
|                | 8. Narora                |                        | Utilized |
| 4. Mathura     | 1. Chatta                |                        | Utilized |
|                | 2. Chetanyavihar         |                        | Utilized |
|                | 3. Goverdhan             |                        | Utilized |
|                | 4. Kosi                  |                        | Utilized |
|                | 5. Dampiermagar          |                        | Utilized |
|                | 6. Radhapuram            |                        | Utilized |
|                | 7. Sadabad               |                        | Utilized |
|                | 8. Township              |                        | Utilized |
|                | 9. Vrindavan             |                        | Utilized |
| 5. Bareilly    | 1. T.P. Nagar            |                        | Utilized |
|                | 2. Pitambarpur           |                        | Utilized |

| 1             | 2                   | 3                | 4        |
|---------------|---------------------|------------------|----------|
|               |                     | 3. IFFCO         | Utilized |
|               |                     | 4. Richna        | Utilized |
|               |                     | 5. Baheri        | Utilized |
|               |                     | 6. Choupla       | Utilized |
|               |                     | 7. Rajendranagar | Utilized |
|               |                     | 8. CTO Compound  | Utilized |
| 6. Saharanpur | 1. Gurudwara Road   |                  | Utilized |
|               | 2. Mission Compound |                  | Utilized |
|               | 3. Taharpur         |                  | Utilized |
|               | 4. Behat            |                  | Utilized |
|               | 5. Deoband          |                  | Utilized |
|               | 6. Jandhera         |                  | Utilized |
|               | 7. Talheri Bujurg   |                  | Utilized |
|               | 8. Fandpuri         |                  | Utilized |
|               | 9. Gangoh           |                  | Utilized |
| 7. Badaun     | 1. Badaun           |                  | Utilized |
|               | 2. Ujhani           |                  | Utilized |
| 8. Moradabad  | 1. Civil Lines      |                  | Utilized |
|               | 2. Chandausi        |                  | Utilized |
|               | 3. Sambhal          |                  | Utilized |
|               | 4. Amroha           |                  | Utilized |
|               | 5. Gajraula         |                  | Utilized |
|               | 6. Bilari           |                  | Utilized |

| 1         | 2                         | 3                    | 4          |
|-----------|---------------------------|----------------------|------------|
|           |                           | 7. Kailsa            | Utilized   |
|           |                           | 8. Pakbara           | Utilized   |
|           |                           | 9. Sonakpur          | Utilized   |
|           |                           | 10. Singhpur Sahani# | Unutilized |
|           |                           | 11. Behjoi#          | Unutilized |
|           |                           | 12. Mansarovar#      | Unutilized |
| 9. Meerut | 1. Doghat (BPT)           | Utilized             |            |
|           | 2. Aminagar Sarai (BPT)   | Utilized             |            |
|           | 3. Khekra (BPT)           | Utilized             |            |
|           | 4. Baghpat                | Utilized             |            |
|           | 5. Baraut                 | Utilized             |            |
|           | 6. Sardhna (Meerut)       | Utilized             |            |
|           | 7. Brahampuri             | Utilized             |            |
|           | 8. Udyogpuram             | Utilized             |            |
|           | 9. Ghantaghar             | Utilized             |            |
|           | 10. Shardhapuri New Exch. | Utilized             |            |
|           | 11. Shardhapuri Old Exch. | Utilized             |            |
|           | 12. Boundary Road         | Utilized             |            |
|           | 13. Shastrinagar          | Utilized             |            |
|           | 14. Pallavpuram           | Utilized             |            |
|           | 15. Ganganagar            | Utilized             |            |

| 1                | 2                      | 3                | 4        |
|------------------|------------------------|------------------|----------|
|                  |                        | 16. RSU GPO      | Utilized |
|                  |                        | 17. Mawana       | Utilized |
|                  |                        | 18. Pariksitgarh | Utilized |
|                  |                        | 19. Falawda      | Utilized |
|                  |                        | 20. Kithore      | Utilized |
|                  |                        | 21. Hastinapur   | Utilized |
|                  |                        | 22. Kharkhanda   | Utilized |
| 10. Muzaffamagar | 1. Patel Nagar         | Utilized         |          |
|                  | 2. Almaspur            | Utilized         |          |
|                  | 3. Khatauli            | Utilized         |          |
|                  | 4. Shamli              | Utilized         |          |
|                  | 5. Kairana             | Utilized         |          |
|                  | 6. Unn                 | Utilized         |          |
|                  | 7. Babri               | Utilized         |          |
|                  | 8. Jhinhana            | Utilized         |          |
|                  | 9. Mohd. Pur Rai Singh | Utilized         |          |
|                  | 10. Nirmana            | Utilized         |          |
|                  | 11. Sisauli            | Utilized         |          |
|                  | 12. Ghatiyan           | Utilized         |          |
|                  | 13. Ratanpuri          | Utilized         |          |
|                  | 14. Thanabhawan        | Utilized         |          |
|                  | 15. Lank               | Utilized         |          |
|                  | 16. Kharad             | Utilized         |          |

| 1            | 2                          | 3                  | 4        |
|--------------|----------------------------|--------------------|----------|
|              |                            | 17. Hasnpur Lohari | Utilized |
|              |                            | 18. Jasoi          | Utilized |
|              |                            | 19. Garhi Abdulla  | Utilized |
|              |                            | 20. Sota           | Utilized |
|              |                            | 21. Dungar         | Utilized |
| 11. Pilibhit | 1. Old TE Pilibhit         | Utilized           |          |
|              | 2. New TE Pilibhit         | Utilized           |          |
|              | 3. Puranpur                | Utilized           |          |
|              | 4. Bisalpur                | Utilized           |          |
|              | 5. Itgaon                  | Utilized           |          |
|              | 6. Madho Tanda#            | Utilized           |          |
| 12. Rampur   | 1. Civil Line<br>Rampur    | Utilized           |          |
|              | 2. City Exchange<br>Rampur | Utilized           |          |
|              | 3. Milak                   | Utilized           |          |
|              | 4. Sahabad                 | Utilized           |          |
|              | 5. Tanda                   | Utilized           |          |
|              | 6. Swar                    | Utilized           |          |
|              | 7. Kemri                   | Utilized           |          |
|              | 8. Bilaspur                | Utilized           |          |
| 13. Etah     | 1. Etah                    | Utilized           |          |
|              | 2. Kasgang                 | Utilized           |          |
|              | 3. Jalesar                 | Utilized           |          |

| 1           | 2                             | 3          | 4 |
|-------------|-------------------------------|------------|---|
| 14. Agra    | 1. Taxbhavan Agra             | Utilized   |   |
|             | 2. Foundarynagar              | Utilized   |   |
|             | 3. Sanjay Place               | Utilized   |   |
|             | 4. Transport Nagar            | Utilized   |   |
|             | 5. Taj Nagri Exch.<br>(Qtr.)  | Utilized   |   |
|             | 6. Tora                       | Utilized   |   |
|             | 7. Bodia                      | Utilized   |   |
|             | 8. Samsabad                   | Utilized   |   |
|             | 9. Sikandra                   | Utilized   |   |
|             | 10. Suhagnagri FZB            | Utilized   |   |
|             | 11. Nai Basti FZB             | Utilized   |   |
|             | 12. Tundla                    | Utilized   |   |
|             | 13. Shaganj                   | Utilized   |   |
|             | 14. Achnera                   | Utilized   |   |
|             | 15. Microwave<br>Compound FZB | Utilized   |   |
|             | 16. CTO Comp.<br>Agra         | Utilized   |   |
|             | 17. Taj Nagar#                | Unutilized |   |
|             | 18. Etmadpur#                 | Unutilized |   |
|             | 19. Jaidpurkala#              | Unutilized |   |
| 15. Aligarh | 1. Civil Line                 | Unutilized |   |
|             | 2. Talanagri                  | Utilized   |   |



| 1           | 2 | 3                             | 4          |
|-------------|---|-------------------------------|------------|
|             |   | 3. Bhukrawali                 | Utilized   |
|             |   | 4. Nai Ka Nagia<br>(Hathras)  | Utilized   |
|             |   | 5. Mathura Road<br>Hathras    | Utilized   |
|             |   | 6. Sasni                      | Utilized   |
|             |   | 7. Gabhana                    | Utilized   |
|             |   | 8. Bijoli#                    | Unutilized |
| 16. Bijnore |   | 1. TE Building<br>Meerut Road | Utilized   |
|             |   | 2. Nazibabad                  | Unutilized |
|             |   | 3. Pheen#                     | Unutilized |
|             |   | 4. Purani#                    | Unutilized |
|             |   | 5. Sherkot#                   | Unutilized |
|             |   | 6. Barahapur#                 | Unutilized |
|             |   | 7. Basta#                     | Unutilized |
|             |   | 8. Pipalsana#                 | Unutilized |
| Total       |   |                               | 173        |

(E) The names of place in the state where telephone buildings have been constructed all of them are utilized (Uttaranchal)

| Sl. No. | Name of SSA | Name of the places |
|---------|-------------|--------------------|
| 1       | 2           | 3                  |
| 1.      | Almora      | Almora             |

| 1   | 2        | 3                  |
|-----|----------|--------------------|
| 2.  | Almora   | Pithoragarh        |
| 3.  |          | Ranikhet           |
| 4.  |          | Kasardevi          |
| 5.  |          | Lohaghat           |
| 6.  | Dehradun | Mussorie           |
| 7.  |          | Rajpur             |
| 8.  |          | Cross Road         |
| 9.  |          | Laxmi Road         |
| 10. |          | Vidhan Sabha       |
| 11. |          | Clement Town       |
| 12. |          | Patel Nagar        |
| 13. |          | Indra Nagar        |
| 14. |          | Vikas Nagar        |
| 15. |          | Chakrata           |
| 16. |          | Rishikesh          |
| 17. |          | Prem Nagar         |
| 18. | Haridwar | Haridwar           |
| 19. |          | Bhimguda           |
| 20. |          | Laksar             |
| 21. |          | Roorkee Civil Line |
| 22. |          | Jwalapur           |
| 23. |          | Shiwalik Nagar     |
| 24. |          | Dheerwali          |

| 1   | 2         | 3                |
|-----|-----------|------------------|
| 25. |           | Dhandhera        |
| 26. |           | Bhawanpur        |
| 27. |           | Roorkee Ramnagar |
| 28. |           | Gurukul Narsan   |
| 29. | Nainital  | Nainital         |
| 30. |           | Bhimtal A        |
| 31. |           | Bhimtal B        |
| 32. |           | Bhowali          |
| 33. |           | Kaladungi        |
| 34. |           | Ramnagar         |
| 35. |           | Haldwani A       |
| 36. |           | Haldwani B       |
| 37. |           | Rudrapur A       |
| 38. |           | Rudrapur B       |
| 39. |           | Kichha A         |
| 40. |           | Kichha B         |
| 41. |           | Sitarganj        |
| 42. |           | Tanakpur         |
| 43. |           | Kashipur A       |
| 44. |           | Kashipur A       |
| 45. | New Tehri | New Tehri        |
| 46. |           | Narendra Nagar   |
| 47. |           | Uttarkashi       |

| 1   | 2        | 3         |
|-----|----------|-----------|
| 48. | Srinagar | Srinagar  |
| 49. |          | Pauri     |
| 50. |          | Kotdwar   |
| 51. |          | Lansdown  |
| 52. |          | Gopeshwar |
| 53. |          | Joshimath |
| 54. |          | Chamoli   |

[English]

**Construction of Indian Embassy  
Building in Brazil**

4126. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Brazil had gifted a plot in 1965 for construction of Indian Embassy there;

(b) if so, the reasons for the inordinate delay in construction of Indian Embassy Building in Brazil;

(c) the total amount spent so far by the Union Government as rent on the Indian Embassy Building in Brazil; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to get the construction of Indian Embassy Building completed in Brazil at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (RAOINDERJIT SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Action on this project was initiated right in the year 1965 by identifying an architect, but the project got repeatedly delayed because of unavoidable circumstances. In the 1970s, the Government introduced an

economic austerity drive in view of the 1971 conflict followed by the oil crisis. Efforts were renewed in the 80s. However, because of the inflationary situation in Brazil, the project was found to be economically unviable, especially in view of the exorbitantly high cost of construction and relatively lower rentals. Thereafter, the Gulf war in 1990 resulted in projects abroad being put on hold. Efforts were revived in the mid 90s but economic viability of the project could still not be established. Downward trend in cost of construction was noted starting the year 2000. However, the economic situation took some more time to settle down following which the process of selection of a new architect was put in motion resulting in a formal appointment in the year 2004.

(c) Records are available since 1982 and, so far, a sum of Rs. 17.158 crore has been spent towards rentals for the Chancery, Embassy Residence and other residences.

(d) Now that the situation has stabilized, action on the projects has already been initiated. The Government is making all efforts to expedite the construction project. A local architect has been selected and drawings and estimates for the construction project have been prepared.

#### **Bio-Tech Park In Orissa**

4127. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Orissa regarding setting up of Bio-Technology Park in the State;

(b) if so, whether the Bio-Technology Park is proposed to be set up in Kalahandi district of Orissa;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the said park is likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) : (a) to (d) The Department of Bio-technology has not received any request so far from the Government of Orissa for assistance to set up a Bio-Technology Park in the State.

#### **Non-Availability of Books on Indian Culture in Missions Abroad**

4128. DR. K. DHANARAJU : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that Indian Missions/Embassies abroad, particularly France, are not having sufficient books on Indian Culture and Indian Values;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government is also aware that a large number of Indians, mostly Tamils, particularly from Pondicherry, which is known to be a Window of French Culture, as defined by Late Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru, are residing in France; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide sufficient books on Tamil Culture and Literature in the Embassy Library for the benefit of the large number of Tamils in France?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED) : (a) and (b) Indian Missions and Posts abroad have an adequate supply and variety of books on Indian culture and literature from different regions of the country. The Indian Embassy in Paris has about 7,000 books including those on Indian culture and literature.

(c) It is estimated that in France there are about 55,000 PIOs belonging to Tamil community, the majority of whom are French nationals.

(d) Several Tamil publications are available in the Indian Embassy Library in Paris.

[Translation]

### Hepatitis-B Vaccine

4129. DR. COL. (RETD.) DHANI RAM SHANDIL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware that Hepatitis-B vaccine is not available in the Government hospitals and CGHS dispensaries in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has entrusted the work of Hepatitis-B vaccination in Delhi to private agencies;

(d) if so, the names of the agencies;

(e) from where the private agencies are procuring this vaccine which costs Rs. 50 for an adult and Rs. 30 for children and administering them in each colony of Delhi for organising camps; and

(f) if not, whether the Government provides this facility to the public through dispensaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) The Hepatitis-B vaccine is available in all central government hospitals as well as CGHS dispensaries in Delhi.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

(f) The hepatitis-B programme is being implemented on a pilot basis with the support of Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) in 15 cities and 33 districts in the country which include Delhi. Under the project, Hepatitis-B Vaccine and Auto disable syringes are provided to Delhi as part of Central Supply. The Hepatitis-B Vaccine is procured by UNICEF as per the

arrangement made by GAVI at the rate of Rs. 15.36 per dose. Further, Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that they provide the immunization against Hepatitis-B in routine immunization schedule of State of Delhi for the children below one year of age, and it is available to the public through all government health outlets including dispensaries.

[English]

### Funds to NGOs

4130. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the funds provided to NGOs working for eradication and control of AIDS during the last three years and for the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether such NGOs have fully utilized such funds and are drawing up any specific packages for the purpose of eradication and control of AIDS;

(c) whether on the basis of such packages of NGOs the Government has come out with any constructive programmes for the control of AIDS; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) Under the National AIDS Control Programme-II, the Funding of NGOs has been decentralized to the respective State AIDS Control Societies (SACS). NACO does not fund any NGO directly but provides detailed Operational and Costing Guidelines to SACS. A statement containing the information about the funds approved for NGOs in annual action plans of SACS for undertaking Targeted Interventions and Community Care Centres during last 3 years is enclosed.

(b) to (d) The funds to the NGOs are allocated by respective SACS to undertake Targeted Interventions

among groups which are highly vulnerable to HIV such as Commercial Sex Workers (CSWs), Men who have sex with men (MSMs), Injecting Drug Users (IDUs), Truckers, Migrant Workers; and providing care and out reach services for people living with HIV/AIDS. The funds so allocated, are utilized by NGOs as per the approved budget by SACS based on NACO guidelines. The funds are released to the NGOs on the basis of the progress report in terms of utilization of funds by them for first six months and their capacity to utilize the funds for next 6

months. In case it is found that the utilization of funds is not satisfactory and there is shortfall in achievement of targets, SACS can withdraw the project and stop further funding. As such proper care is being taken by SACS for complete and proper utilization of funds by NGOs. There is a continuous interaction between SACS and NGOs with regard to progress of the programme. The feed back provided by NGOs are taken into consideration while formulating the guidelines for implementation of the interventions.

### Statement

#### Approved Annual Action Plans for Targeted Interventions and Community Care Centres

| S. No. | State                     | 2002-03<br>(Rs. in Lacs) |                        | 2003-04<br>(Rs. in Lacs) |                        | 2004-05<br>(Rs. in Lacs) |                        |
|--------|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
|        |                           | NGO Support for TIs      | Community Care Centres | NGO Support for TIs      | Community Care Centres | NGO Support for TIs      | Community Care Centres |
| 1      | 2                         | 3                        | 4                      | 5                        | 6                      | 7                        | 8                      |
| 1.     | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 15.82                    |                        | 20.00                    |                        | 35.00                    | 15.00                  |
| 2.     | Ahmedabad                 | 6.25                     |                        | 170.00                   | 10.00                  | 195.00                   | 20.00                  |
| 3.     | Andhra Pradesh            | 151.76                   | 67.40                  | 1000.00                  | 84.00                  | 1100.00                  | 85.00                  |
| 4.     | Arunachal Pradesh         | 15.51                    |                        | 40.00                    |                        | 50.00                    | 15.00                  |
| 5.     | Assam                     | 172.00                   |                        | 225.00                   | 30.00                  | 300.00                   | 30.00                  |
| 6.     | Bihar                     | 95.51                    |                        | 100.00                   | 20.00                  | 200.00                   | 20.00                  |
| 7.     | Chandigarh                | 35.00                    |                        | 50.00                    | 10.00                  | 80.00                    | 15.00                  |
| 8.     | Chhattisgarh              | 40.00                    |                        | 60.00                    |                        | 80.00                    | 20.00                  |
| 9.     | Chennai                   | 95.00                    | 35.00                  | 105.00                   | 45.00                  | 110.00                   | 30.00                  |
| 10.    | Dadra and Nagar Haveli    | 8.28                     |                        | 15.00                    |                        | 20.00                    | 15.00                  |

| 1                     | 2      | 3      | 4 | 5      | 6      | 7      | 8      |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 11. Daman and Diu     | 10.00  |        |   | 15.00  |        | 25.00  | 15.00  |
| 12. Delhi             | 126.18 |        |   | 150.00 | 45.00  | 240.00 | 45.00  |
| 13. Goa               | 57.00  |        |   | 63.00  | 20.00  | 75.00  | 30.00  |
| 14. Gujarat           | 38.10  |        |   | 900.00 | 15.00  | 850.00 | 30.00  |
| 15. Haryana           | 110.00 |        |   | 150.00 |        | 100.00 | 20.00  |
| 16. Himachal Pradesh  | 40.00  |        |   |        | 20.00  | 85.00  | 15.00  |
| 17. Jammu and Kashmir | 40.00  |        |   | 30.00  |        | 40.00  | 20.00  |
| 18. Jharkhand         | 40.00  |        |   | 50.00  |        | 90.00  | 10.00  |
| 19. Karnataka         | 165.00 | 87.65  |   | 280.00 | 100.00 | 400.00 | 100.00 |
| 20. Kerala            | 66.58  |        |   | 95.00  | 40.00  | 100.00 | 50.00  |
| 21. Lakshadweep       | 9.00   |        |   | 15.00  |        | 15.00  | 10.00  |
| 22. Madhya Pradesh    | 144.92 |        |   | 180.00 | 20.00  | 150.00 | 20.00  |
| 23. Maharashtra       | 150.00 | 75.00  |   | 250.00 | 40.00  | 300.00 | 50.00  |
| 24. Mumbai (MC)       | 200.00 | 47.00  |   | 170.00 | 47.00  | 200.00 | 60.00  |
| 25. Manipur           | 234.75 | 112.65 |   | 325.00 | 115.00 | 380.00 | 115.00 |
| 26. Meghalaya         | 26.00  |        |   | 35.00  |        | 50.00  | 15.00  |
| 27. Mizoram           | 92.00  |        |   | 115.00 | 20.00  | 135.00 | 15.00  |
| 28. Nagaland          | 165.00 | 62.50  |   | 170.00 | 20.00  | 250.00 | 50.00  |
| 29. Orissa            | 17.00  |        |   | 250.00 |        | 220.00 | 15.00  |
| 30. Pondicherry       | 16.00  |        |   | 20.00  | 20.00  | 9.00   | 15.00  |
| 31. Punjab            | 16.00  |        |   | 170.00 |        | 150.00 | 20.00  |
| 32. Rajasthan         | 99.81  |        |   |        | 20.00  | 160.00 | 30.00  |
| 33. Sikkim            | 15.00  |        |   | 25.00  |        | 30.00  | 15.00  |
| 34. Tamil Nadu        | 400.00 | 100.00 |   | 400.00 | 100.00 | 400.00 | 100.00 |

| 1                 | 2 | 3       | 4     | 5       | 6      | 7       | 8       |
|-------------------|---|---------|-------|---------|--------|---------|---------|
| 35. Tripura       |   | 36.00   |       | 40.00   |        | 40.00   | 15.00   |
| 36. Uttaranchal   |   | 15.26   |       | 50.00   |        | 37.00   | 20.00   |
| 37. Uttar Pradesh |   | 259.21  |       | 500.00  | 20.00  | 400.00  | 20.00   |
| 38. West Bengal   |   | 160.00  |       | 700.00  | 35.00  | 800.00  | 35.00   |
| Total             |   | 3383.94 | 587.2 | 6933.00 | 896.00 | 7901.00 | 1220.00 |

**Performance of National Population  
Stabilisation Fund**

4131. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the performance of National Population Stabilisation Fund (NPSF);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has provided funds to the State Government for implementation of National Family Welfare Programme (NFWP) from this Fund;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) whether despite providing funds, the State Government have failed to implement NFWP in their States;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps proposed to be taken for effective implementation of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) The National Population Stabilisation Fund i.e. Jansankhya Sthirata Kosh (JSK) was registered as a body under the Societies Registration Act,

1860 on 12th June, 2003 canalise resources from Government as well as voluntary organisations, corporate sector, industry, trade organizations, individuals etc. to aid projects of population stabilization. The functioning of the Kosh was reviewed twice by the Governing Board under the Chairmanship of the Minister for Health & Family Welfare. In the last meeting of the Board held on 22.03.2005. It has been decided to reconstitute the General Body as well the Government Board of the Kosh.

While Government has made a contribution of Rs. 100 crore towards the corpus fund of Kosh, no contribution has so far been received from the corporate sector, industry, trade organizations etc.

(c) to (g) The Jansankhya Sthirata Kosh has not so far released any fund to any agency including State Governments.

**Shifting of Farm Subsidies**

4132. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :  
SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission proposes to shift farm subsidies in water, power and fertilizer to infrastructure and land use;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for withdrawal of farm subsidies;

(d) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government for restructuring of farm and water sector;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) : (a) and (b) There is no specific proposal under consideration of the Planning Commission at present to shift farm subsidies in water, power and fertilizer to infrastructure and land use. There is, however, a need to review certain aspects of subsidies that tend to distort cropping patterns and could also have damaging effects on natural resources.

(c) There is no proposal under consideration of the Planning Commission to discontinue the farm subsidies.

(d) to (f) The areas identified for development of farm and water sector are increasing public investment in irrigation and water resources management, watershed development and reforming and rejuvenating agricultural research and extension.

#### **Promotion of Indian System of Medicines**

4133. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Systems of Medicine viz. Ayurveda, Unani and Sidha are gaining popularity in western countries and more people are attracted to them because of the side effects and shortcomings of the modern system of medicines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any step to promote the Indian System of Medicines;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has any proposal to promote new hospitals/dispensaries/clinics based on the Indian systems of medicines by giving them fiscal incentives; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) Ayurveda has been gaining popularity in some parts of the world including in the Western countries and requests have been received in the Department of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani Siddha and Homeopathy (AYUSH) for deputation of experts for teaching Ayurveda. One Ayurveda expert has been deputed for giving exposure to medical students of university of Connecticut in USA. Reports from certain non-Government Organisations (NGOs) operating in UK, Germany, Hungary etc. are also showing that the demand for Ayurveda as an alternative system of healing is picking up.

(c) and (d) In order to promote the Indian Systems of Medicine, Government have introduced a number of Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Financial assistance is given under these schemes for strengthening of educational infrastructure, promotion of research activities, cultivation of medicinal plants, upgradation of educational facilities, strengthening of Drugs Testing Laboratories and Pharmacies, opening of ISM&H wings in the district hospitals, speciality clinics/polyclinics, supply of essential ISM&H drugs, etc.

(e) and (f) Primary health being a State subject under the Constitution, it is for the State Governments to establish hospitals, dispensaries and clinics of Indian Systems of Medicine. The Central Government provides financial support to the State Govts. for supply of essential drugs to the dispensaries of Indian Systems of Medicine located in the remote and backward areas. Provisions are also there to establish new dispensaries of Indian Systems of



medicine under the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS).

### **Harnessing of Nuclear Energy**

4134. SHRI SITA RAM YADAV :

SHRI K.S. RAO :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether nuclear energy is costly as compared to other energy sources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether we are capable to tap this resource fully;

(d) if so, whether any special emphasis is being given to generate nuclear power for industrial use;

(e) if so, the target set for generation of nuclear power in the coming five years;

(f) whether the Government has any proposal to set up nuclear power projects in public or private sector; and

(g) if so, the details thereof particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) No. Sir. The cost of electricity from nuclear power is comparable to that of thermal power at locations away from coal mines.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Electricity generated by NPCIL is supplied to the beneficiary State Electricity Boards for further supply to the different consumers including industrial use.

(e) The target of nuclear power generation for the

coming five years (2005-2006 to 2009-2010) are yet to be finalised. However, the expected generation of nuclear power for the said period is about 1,40,000 Million Units (MUs). The target set for the year 2005-2006 is 16,800 MUs.

(f) More nuclear power projects are planned to be set up by the two government companies of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) in the public sector.

(g) The sites for nuclear power projects to be commenced in the X and early XI plan are under consideration of the Government. However, no decision has so far been taken regarding the locations of these projects.

[Translation]

### **Closure of PCOs**

4135. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of share of PCOs in terms of countrywide revenue earned by the MTNL and the BSNL per year;

(b) whether a number of MTNL & BSNL PCOs have been closed during the last one year;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise;

(d) the loss likely to be incurred by both these companies thereby; and

(e) the details of action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check this recurring loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

### Telephone Connectivity in J&K

4136. CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the districts of Jammu & Kashmir have still not been connected with telephone connectivity;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide complete telephone connectivity particularly in the hilly areas of Districts Doda, Udhampur and Kathua;

(d) whether there is any proposal pending with the Government to provide WLL facilities in J&K particularly in the remote hilly areas of the above Districts; and

(e) if so, the time by when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The status as on 31-03-2005 in respect of Exchange Capacity, Direct Exchange Lines (DELs), Waiting List (W/L) and Number of Exchanges for the Districts of Doda, Udhampur and Kathua is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) Yes, Sir. The district-wise locations identified for the installation of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) Base Terminal Stations (BTSs) is as under:

District Doda: Gool, Mahore, Ramban, Doda, Thatri, Bhaderwah, Bankot and Kishtwar.

District Udhampur: Salal, Pouni, Katra, Udhampur, Kud Mand, Ramnagar, Thail, Manswar and Manwal.

District Kathua: Basholi, Mahanpur, Billawar, Gujru, Nagrota, Kathua, Lakhanpur, Barnoti, Chadwal, Gagwal, Marheen, Janglote, Barwal, Gainthia, Dingamba, Nagriparole and Hiranagar.

After the installation of BTS at the above stations, almost whole area of these three districts will be covered.

(e) The pending proposals are likely to be cleared by 2006-07.

### Statement

*Exchange capacity, Direct Exchange Lines (DELs), Waiting List (W/L) and Number of Exchanges for the Districts of Doda, Udhampur and Kathua*

| S. No. | Name of the District | Exchange Capacity<br>(In lines) | DELs  | W/L  | No. of<br>Exchanges |
|--------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-------|------|---------------------|
| 1.     | Doda                 | 14296                           | 9509  | 835  | 20                  |
| 2.     | Udhampur             | 28100                           | 29772 | 978  | 43                  |
| 3.     | Kathua               | 22628                           | 14309 | 2188 | 37                  |

### Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme

4137. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of cases under the Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS) pertaining to the small scale pharma units where due to procedural inadequacy between prime lending institutions and Small Industries Development Bank of India, eligible borrowers are being deprived of financial assistance under the scheme;

(b) the details in this regard during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to remove the difficulties of small scale units?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD) : (a) According to the information provided by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), which is one of the two nodal agencies for implementing the Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS) at the national level, as on April 13, 2005 there are no pending claims pertaining to the small scale pharma units due to procedural inadequacies between Primary Lending Institutions (PLIS) and SIDBI under the CLCSS.

(b) The year-wise details of sanction of subsidy under CLCSS including pharma sector, since the inception of the scheme and up to March 31, 2005 are given in the table below:

| Year    | No. of Units |        | Term Loan<br>(Rs. lakh) |        | Subsidy<br>(Rs. lakh) |        |
|---------|--------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|-----------------------|--------|
|         | All Sectors  | Pharma | All Sectors             | Pharma | All Sectors           | Pharma |
| 2001-02 | 9            | 0      | 158.15                  | 0.00   | 21.36                 | 0.00   |
| 2002-03 | 47           | 3      | 1127.05                 | 61.69  | 93.97                 | 1.69   |
| 2003-04 | 150          | 1      | 3707.96                 | 10.47  | 374.90                | 1.00   |
| 2004-05 | 512          | 17     | 16537.90                | 655.00 | 1348.08               | 56.98  |
| Total   | 718          | 21     | 21531.06                | 727.16 | 1838.31               | 59.67  |

(c) With a view to assisting small scale industries (SSI) to overcome difficulties arising out of technological obsolescence, new sub-sectors/products and related technologies are added from time to time to the 'approved list' under the CLCSS guidelines.

Increase in the rate of subsidy and the ceiling of loans under the CLCSS, as announced in the Union Budget, 2004-05, constitutes a part of the promotional package for the SSI, which is in the final stages of formulation.

[Translation]

### Campaign Against Companies Manufacturing Spurious Drugs

4138. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a campaign has been launched in the country to identify the companies manufacturing spurious drugs;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether these spurious drugs are mostly prescribed by quacks practicing in rural and urban areas as they get huge commission on these drugs; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to effectively check the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (d) Being a clandestine activity, it is difficult to assess the actual quantum of spurious drugs. However, as per the information available from the State Drug Controllers, 38824, 43138 and 40862 drugs samples were tested during the period 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 out of which 96, 129 and 118 samples respectively were found spurious which is 0.33%, 0.29% and 0.288% of the samples reported spurious.

The figures quoted by media range from 10% to 25% of drugs in the country being spurious/counterfeit drugs. These seem to be unsubstantiated reports. On the basis of an alleged WHO report, the media frequently reports that 35% of fake drugs produced in the world come from India. however, when enquired, the WHO has neither confirmed its authenticity nor the source of such figures.

No such study has been carried out through which it may be substantiated that quacks practicing in rural and urban areas mostly prescribe spurious drugs as they get huge commission on these drugs.

Under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules thereunder, it is the responsibility of State Governments through their respective Drug Control organizations to regulate manufacture and sale of drugs as well as to keep a surveillance over possible movement of spurious/counterfeit drugs.

Trading in counterfeit product including drugs is reported world over. However, keeping in view the serious implications of spurious drugs on public health as well as the loss to genuine industry, the Govt. has taken various

measures to combat this menace.

(i) Detailed guidelines have been issued to the State Govts. to undertake focused surveillance over possible movement of spurious drugs.

(ii) A Capacity Building Project through World Bank assistance has been taken up to provide substantial assistance to State Govts. to up-grade drug testing facilities or to establish new drug testing laboratories.

It is expected to increase the number of samples tested in the country from about 36,000 samples to 10,00,000 samples per year and to reduce the reporting time to less than a month as against the present period from 3 to 6 months.

(iii) Specific training programme for regulatory officials of State Govts. on logistics of intelligence work, prosecutions etc. has been conducted with the assistance of FDA, Maharashtra. This activity is proposed to be continued.

(iv) In order to ensure efficient information exchange between drug regulatory officers in the country, in respect of licensing, sampling, prosecution, etc., a countrywide computer networking project has been undertaken by the Central Govt. This will enable the Central Govt. to regularly monitor the enforcement activities and recommend corrective measures.

(v) Pharma industry and trade has been motivated to fight menace of spurious drugs as a shared responsibility. No. of cases could be successfully detected through the initiative taken by Pharma industry involving hiring of retired intelligence officers.

(vi) Since the success of eradicating the menace of spurious drugs depends upon adequate mea-

sures taken by State Govts., HFM took up this issue in October 2002 in detail with all Chief Ministers.

- a. A meeting of Health Ministers of all major States was especially convened in November 2002 to ensure the action to check the menace of spurious drugs. The views emerged in the meeting have been communicated to all State Govts. in January 2003 for implementation.

- (vii) The recommendation of Mashekar Committee which was constituted by the Government in 2003, to examine all aspects relating to the drug regulatory system in the country including the problem of spurious/sub standard drugs, are being followed for necessary change in legislation as well as improvement of enforcement activities.

A Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha in December 2003, to amend the said Act to provide stricter penalties to the offenders including a maximum penalty of capital punishment. It also provided for making the offences non-bailable and cognizable and for designated courts for speedy trial of cases. The Bill lapsed with the dissolution of the 13th Lok Sabha and is in the process of being re-introduced in Parliament with some modifications.

[English]

#### **Increase In Number of Mobile Phone Users**

4139. SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether mobile phones in the country have registered huge growth during the last two years;

- (b) if so, the facts thereof;

- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for growth of wireless fixed line phones which are more affordable to the masses;

- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;

- (e) whether significant number of BSNL and MTNL subscribers have shifted to Mobile Phones during the last one year; and

- (f) if so, the initiatives taken or proposed to be taken by the TRAI, DOT, BSNL and private operators to promote the use of fixed phones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) The total number of mobile subscribers in March 2005 stands at four times the total number in March 2003 as per the figures given below:

| March 2003 | March 2004    | March 2005    |
|------------|---------------|---------------|
| 13 million | 33.58 million | 52.17 million |

- (c) There is no distinction between Fixed Wireless and land line phones in rural area. Landline connections including fixed wireless connections in rural areas, in so far as tariff is concerned, get support from Universal Service Obligation Fund.

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

- (e) There is churning of subscribers from fixed lines to mobiles due to flexibility of mobile phones and multiplicity of fixed line connections in many households in urban areas and around 3% fixed line phones have been surrendered.

- (f) The major initiatives taken/proposed to be taken to promote the use of fixed phones by BSNL/MTNL are as follows:

- (i) Special promotional schemes like free registration in 'on demand area' free installation etc.

have been introduced from time to time for fixed line customers.

- (ii) Launch of Broadband services at very attractive tariffs for land line subscribers.
- (iii) Provision of 'phone plus services' free of cost to landline customers.

#### **Production of Mobile Phone Handsets**

4140. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the mobile phone handsets are manufactured indigenously;

(b) if so, the details of production and imports for the last three years;

(c) whether the indigenous production is sufficient to meet the demand; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to increase production within the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) to (c) Manufacture of mobile phone handsets in India has begun recently and, therefore, production of the same is insignificant. Most of the demand of mobile phone handsets is being met through imports. Import of these handsets during last three and a half years is as under:

| Period              | Quantity (in million) |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| April 04–October 04 | 10.23                 |
| April 03–March 04   | 15.96                 |
| April 02–March 03   | 4.16                  |
| April 01–March 02   | 0.32                  |

(d) The Government has taken a number of steps for encouraging indigenous manufacture of mobile phone handsets viz. exemption of customs and additional duty on import of goods (raw material, components, and capital goods) required for the manufacture, exemption of excise duty, Electronic Hardware Technology Park (EHTP) scheme modified to allow 100% sale in the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) for the purpose of meeting export obligations, etc.

#### **Recognition of Regional Cancer Centres**

4141. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTAN :

SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL :

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

(a) whether Government is aware that there is continuous increase in the number of detection of new cases of cancer;

(b) if so, the number of such cases and reasons therefor;

(c) the criteria for recognition of Regional Cancer Centres in the country;

(d) whether private and charitable hospitals run by trusts are eligible to apply for RCC facility;

(e) if so, the total number of such applications pending with the Ministry for clearance;

(f) the time by which the Government is likely to give its clearance;

(g) the details of comparative rates of medicines and therapies used for the treatment of cancer patients;

(h) whether the Government proposes to provide financial assistance or inexpensive treatment to cancer patients;

(i) whether the Government propose to open more centres on the lines of Tata Memorial Cancer Research Centre and Hospital, Mumbai;

(j) if so, the details thereof; and

(k) the achievement made with regard to the Targeted Cancer Control Programmes during Tenth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) According to the National Cancer Registry Programme (NCRP) of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), it is estimated that about 7-9 lakh new cancer cases occur in the country every year. It is also estimated that at any given point of time there are about 20-25 lakh cancer patients in the country.

(c) to (f) Criteria for recognition of Regional Cancer Centre is given in the enclosed statement-I. As per the revised National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) being implemented since 2004-05, Regional Cancer Centres (RCCs) are to be recognized in uncovered areas. Second RCC can also be recognized in populous States. However, only Government Institutions are eligible for recognition as Regional Cancer Centres.

(g) This information is not centrally maintained.

(h) The treatment facilities for the Cancer are available in Central, State Government Hospitals and the Regional Cancer Centres recognised under NCCP for poor patients at nominal charges. In addition to above this Ministry has a scheme namely "Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi" under which financial assistance is provided to poor people suffering from serious diseases including cancer for meeting treatment expenses.

(i) to (k) At present there are 22 Regional Cancer Centres recognized under the National Cancer

Control Programme as per details are given in the enclosed statement-II. Out of the targeted five new RCCs to be recognized under NCCP during the 10th Five Year Plan, two have already been recognized in 2004-05.

#### **Statement-I**

##### *Criteria for recognition of new RCCs*

The new RCCs will be recognized based on the following criteria:-

- (a) The institute should be well equipped to provide radiotherapy facilities. For this purpose they must be having well developed departments of surgery, gynecology, ENT and radiation oncology with support departments of anesthesiology, pathology, cytopathology, haematology, biochemistry and radio diagnosis with appropriate equipments and staff.
- (b) Hospital facilities with at least 300 general bedded with 50 beds exclusively for cancer patients or the institution with 100 bedded hospital exclusively for treatment of cancer patients. The institute should have 3 years direct track record with cancer treatment.
- (c) It should be Government Medical College Hospital or Government Hospital providing radiotherapy treatment.

The RCCs would be recognized based on the recommendation of the State Government and after evaluating the availability of the cancer treatment facilities by a team of experts. New RCCs would also be required to give an undertaking that they would be involved and would continue to be involved in the out reach activities of DCCP even after the discontinuation of financial grant to RCCs.

**Statement-II****List of RCCs**

Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad,  
Uttar Pradesh.

Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute,  
Kolkata, West Bengal

Kidwai Memorial Instt. of Oncology,  
Bangalore, Karnataka.

Regional Cancer Institute (WIA),  
Adyar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Acharya Harihar Regional Cancer,  
Centre for Cancer Research & Treatment,  
Cuttack, Orissa

Regional Cancer Control Society  
Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

Cancer Hospital & Research Centre,  
Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.

Indian Rotary Cancer Institute,  
(A.I.I.M.S), New Delhi

R.S.T. Hospital & Research Centre,  
Nagpur, Maharashtra

Pt. J.N.M. Medical College, Raipur,  
Chhatisgarh.

Post Graduate Institute of Medical  
Education and Research (PGIMER),  
Chandigarh

Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram

Gujarat Cancer Research Institute, Ahmedabad,  
Gujarat.

MNJ Institute of Oncology, Hyderabad,  
Andhra Pradesh

Pondicherry Regional Cancer Society,  
JIPMER, Pondicherry.

Dr. B.B. Cancer Institute,  
Guwahati, Assam

Tata Memorial Hospital  
Mumbai, Maharashtra

Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences,  
Patna, Bihar.

Acharya Tulsi Regional Cancer Trust and Research  
Institute (RCC) Bikaner, Rajasthan

Regional Cancer Centre,  
Pt. B.D. Sharma Post Graduate  
Institute of Medical Sciences,  
Rohtak, Haryana

Civil Hospital, Aizawl, Mizoram.

Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute  
of Medical Sciences, Lucknow

**Enhancing Road cess on National Highways**

4142. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY : Will  
the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND  
HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

. (a) the length in kms. of N.H.D.P. II that has been  
made 6 lane alongwith the length in kms. in different states  
that have been completed and the target date fixed to  
complete the rest of them;



(b) the total cost thereof alongwith the cost of per km. road widening work;

(c) whether there is any proposal to enhance the road cess on the National Highways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the cess charged for different vehicles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) No length in National Highways Development Project Phase II (NHDP II) has yet been made six lane.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, the Finance Minister has proposed, in his budget speech of 2005-06, levy of an additional cess of Rs. 0.50, exclusively for National Highways. This cess is uniform on fuel and is not based on category of vehicles.

#### **Application of Nuclear Energy for Development of rural areas**

4143. PROF. M. RAMADASS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details os application of nuclear energy for the development of rural areas;

(b) the objectives realized by the Breeder Test Reactor;

(c) the progress made by Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) in the design and development of advanced heavy water reactor; and

(d) the contribution made by BARC towards development of several control and instrumentation system for the nuclear power plants being set up by Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) : (a) Nuclear

energy has been applied in the following areas for rural development.

(i) Crop improvement

(ii) Food preservation

(iii) Desalination of water

(iv) Health care and

(v) Diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

(b) Fast Breeder Test Reactor (FBTR) has provided valuable experience in mastering sodium technology and operation of fast reactors. It has served as an excellent facility for research and development of fuel and structural materials. Feedback from the operating experience of FBTR has provided valuable inputs for design of 500 MWe Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) project, now under construction at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu.

(c) The design of Advanced Heavy Water Reactor (AHWR) has been completed. A peer review of AHWR has been conducted by the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL). Further optimization and validation of AHWR design is continuing. An integral test facility for the validation of thermal hydraulics and safety aspects of AHWR design has been commissioned in BARC. A critical facility for validation of physics design is in an advanced stage of construction. Work is in progress for pre-licensing appraisal by Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB).

(d) For Tarapur Atomic Power Project unit-4, a 540 MWe reactor, which went critical in March 2005, BARC has developed many control and instrumentation systems such as Reactor Regulating System (RRS, which is safety related system), computer based reactor protection system no. 1 (the primary safety system of the reactor), primary heat transport control system, steam generator control system (combined known as DPHS-PCS), Coolant Channel Outlet Temperature Monitoring System (CCOTMS),

neutron Flux Mapping System (FMS) and amplifiers for self powered neutron detectors.

Many other Control and Instrumentation (C&I) systems, which are similar to those as in previous reactors, have been manufactured by the Electronics Corporation of India Limited (ECIL) based on BARC designs.

However, prior to the commissioning of the 540 MWe reactor at Tarapur, BARC has developed C&I systems for NPCIL's power reactor at Madras Atomic Power Station (MAPS), Kakrapar Atomic Power Station (KAPS), Kaiga Atomic Power Station and Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS). Many C&I systems were developed as replacement for Tarapur 1 & 2 Boiling Water Reactors (BWR), the most notable being the Rod Worth Minimiser (RWM) system that ensured safe operational adjustments of the control rods avoiding rapid excursion of reactor power output.

#### Telephone Connections in the Country

4144. SHRI RANEN BARMAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of telephone connections sanctioned and released during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the position of waiting list during this period, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to clear the waiting list at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) The details of telephone connections provided and waiting list State-wise for the last three years are given in the enclosed statement-I and II.

(c) Since most of the waiting list is in rural areas, following steps have been taken to expedite the telephone connections in such areas:

- (i) Large scale deployment of WLL network in rural areas has been planned.
- (ii) Relaxation of the outdoor cable from 2.5 kms to 5.0 kms for landline Exchanges has been given.
- (iii) Mobile network in all the highways, important towns, pilgrim centers and State Highways are deployed to give coverage to more areas.
- (iv) Further, financial support is provided to the telecom operators through the mechanism of Universal Service Obligation Fund (USO Fund) to encourage them, inter-alia, to provide phones in rural areas.

In addition to the efforts made by BSNL, the demand for telephones is also met by the private operators.

#### Statement-I

*State-wise details of Telephone Connections provided during the last three years*

| Sl. No. | Name of Circle              | Telephone connection provided during |         |                                |
|---------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|
|         |                             | 2002-03                              | 2003-04 | 2004-05<br>(Pro-<br>visional)* |
| 1       | 2                           | 3                                    | 4       | 5                              |
| 1.      | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 2863                                 | 2309    | 5026                           |
| 2.      | Andhra Pradesh              | 625758                               | 1784690 | 1321207                        |
| 3.      | Assam                       | 84470                                | 62659   | 183993                         |
| 4.      | Bihar                       | 261275                               | 409790  | 482159                         |
| 5.      | Chhattisgarh                | 41757                                | 25214   | 17565                          |

| 1     | 2                 | 3       | 4        | 5         |
|-------|-------------------|---------|----------|-----------|
| 6.    | Gujarat           | 813715  | 1370435  | 1327903   |
| 7.    | Haryana           | 282826  | 528255   | 498375    |
| 8.    | Himachal Pradesh  | 76636   | 113072   | 171296    |
| 9.    | Jammu and Kashmir | 41266   | 64673    | 213789    |
| 10.   | Jharkhand         | 58764   | 30622    | 78889     |
| 11.   | Karnataka         | 648000  | 1603569  | 1530677   |
| 12.   | Kerala            | 621571  | 1194523  | 1308311   |
| 13.   | Madhya Pradesh    | 384835  | 686309   | 685962    |
| 14.   | Maharashtra       | 939245  | 1760023  | 1474063   |
| 15.   | North East        | 43796   | 45289    | 93430     |
| 16.   | Orissa            | 174893  | 267614   | 371858    |
| 17.   | Punjab            | 741887  | 1540997  | 1279660   |
| 18.   | Rajasthan         | 328467  | 677676   | 946393    |
| 19.   | Tamil Nadu        | 523632  | 1388692  | 1620677   |
| 20.   | Uttaranchal       | 607528  | 23799    | 60472     |
| 21.   | Uttar Pradesh     | 3426823 | 1585338  | 1914841   |
| 22.   | West Bengal       | 256855  | 259172   | 522773    |
| 23.   | Kolkata           | 265884  | 894832   | 637467    |
| 24.   | Chennai           | 238885  | 998519   | 709610    |
| 25.   | Delhi             | 921913  | 2384099  | 1545237   |
| 26.   | Mumbai            | 723857  | 2211076  | 1598932   |
| Total |                   | 9744846 | 21922236 | 20600574* |

\*Up to 28.2.2005

**Statement-II***State-wise details of waiting list of  
Telephone Connection*

| Sl. No. | Name of Circle              | As on 31.3.03 | As on 31.3.05 | As on 31.3.05<br>(Pro-<br>visional) |
|---------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1       | 2                           | 3             | 4             | 5                                   |
| 1.      | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 70            | 151           | 449                                 |
| 2.      | Andhra Pradesh              | 56765         | 51934         | 40680                               |
| 3.      | Assam                       | 12476         | 15797         | 30306                               |
| 4.      | Bihar                       | 101154        | 112465        | 96871                               |
| 5.      | Chhattisgarh                | 1630          | 2118          | 2809                                |
| 6.      | Gujarat                     | 53207         | 58847         | 57328                               |
| 7.      | Haryana                     | 86633         | 81657         | 89105                               |
| 8.      | Himachal Pradesh            | 39084         | 44935         | 45207                               |
| 9.      | Jammu & Kashmir             | 43969         | 39704         | 67714                               |
| 10.     | Jharkhand                   | 8307          | 8143          | 210747                              |
| 11.     | Karnataka                   | 104506        | 89730         | 95742                               |
| 12.     | Kerala                      | 487499        | 419762        | 357004                              |
| 13.     | Madhya Pradesh              | 15350         | 17300         | 10059                               |
| 14.     | Maharashtra                 | 159583        | 159004        | 180287                              |
| 15.     | North East-I                | 7300          | 5975          | 4377                                |
| 16.     | North East-II               | 8325          | 5387          | 4442                                |
| 17.     | Orissa                      | 10509         | 27713         | 40958                               |

| 1                        | 2       | 3       | 4        | 5      |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|----------|--------|
| 18. Punjab               |         | 103371  | 92284    | 44887  |
| 19. Rajasthan            |         | 130673  | 138019   | 137814 |
| 20. Tamil Nadu           |         | 53778   | 58995    | 99195  |
| 21. Uttaranchal          |         | 7465    | 5729     | 8626   |
| 22. Uttar Pradesh (East) | 107119  | 101771  | 727179   |        |
| 23. Uttar Pradesh (West) | 54961   | 43670   | 52362    |        |
| 24. West Bengal          | 148239  | 144226  | 125447   |        |
| 25. Kolkata              | 3445    | 22720   | 4609     |        |
| 26. Chennai              | 1159    | 6929    | 1444     |        |
| Total                    | 1806577 | 1754965 | 2535648* |        |

\*It includes waiting list for WLL & GSM also.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Prime Minister will make a statement.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Sir, Shri Advani would like to say something.

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow him after his statement.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai-South-Central) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like the hon. Prime Minister clarify about the incident in which the aircraft carrying the President of Pakistan Indian national flag was fixed in upside down position.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will be recorded.

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : There were two flags in that aircraft. One was Indian and another was Pakistani, In Indian Flag, the green colour was on top and saffron colour was at the bottom...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : After this, I will listen to you. Except the hon. Prime Minister's statement nothing else will be recorded.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER : Please show courtesy to each other. We are entitled to hear the hon. Prime Minister. I will allow Shri Geete later. You may express your views later on.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have received some notices. I will accommodate you. It has been agreed that the Prime Minister will make a statement. I will allow you later.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Hon. Prime Minister should clarify in this regard...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please let us not do this. Please co-operate. You are very senior and sincere Members. Let

\*Not recorded.

us show respect to the hon. Prime Minister. It is a very important matter.

12.03 hrs.

# STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER\*

## Recent visits of the Chinese premier and the President of Pakistan to India

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH) :  
Mr. Speaker Sir, I rise to inform the hon. Members of two important visits of our country in the last few weeks.

Premier Wen Jiabao of China paid a State visit to India from 9th April to 12th April, 2005. The visit was substantive in its outcome. Premier Wen has himself described it as 'historic'.

Sir, my meeting with the Chinese Premier on 11th April was most warm and productive. We signed a Joint Statement which contains a vision of where India-China relations are headed and an Action Plan for co-operation in bilateral, regional and global domains. A copy of the Joint Statement is placed on the Table of the House. Eleven other Agreements were signed and the Report of the India-China Joint Study Group on comprehensive trade and economic co-operation released. The range of agreements concluded reflects the rapid strides made in our relations with China in recent years. Premier Wen and I agreed that India-China relations have entered a new phase of comprehensive development.

In the Joint Statement, we have agreed to establish a "Strategic and Co-operative Partnership for Peace and Prosperity". It codifies the consensus between us that India-China relations transcend bilateral issues and have now acquired a global and strategic character. The partnership also reflects our desire to proactively resolve outstanding differences, while not letting them come in the way of continued development of relations. This is not in the nature of a military pact or alliance but reflects a

congruence of purpose apart from a common perception of world events.

A major outcome of the visit was the Agreement on the Political Parameters and Guiding Principles for the Settlement of the India-China Boundary Question. A copy of the Agreement is placed on the Table of this august House. This understanding has been possible as a result of deliberations between the Special Representatives of India and China on the boundary question. The institution of Special Representatives was created during my distinguished predecessor's visit to China in June 2003. The Agreement is truly a major milestone on the way to the settlement of the boundary question. It provides for a "political settlement" of the boundary question in the context of the "overall and long term interests" of the two countries. Both sides have agreed that an early boundary settlement should be pursued as a "strategic objective".

The Agreement sets out for the first time ever, principles for an overall settlement of the India-China boundary question. While this understanding is of great significance, we do acknowledge that we are still quite some distance away from a final boundary settlement.

We have agreed that in the meanwhile, the two sides will strictly respect and observe the Line of Actual Control, maintain peace and tranquillity in the border areas and expedite the work of clarification and confirmation of the Line of Actual Control. The Protocol on the Modalities for the implementation of Confidence Building Measures in the Military Field in the Border Areas, signed during the Chinese Premier's visit, will help in maintaining peace along the Line of Actual Control.

During my meeting with Premier Wen, he stated that China regarded Sikkim as an "inalienable part of India", and that Sikkim was no longer an issue in India-China relations. The Joint Statement signed by us explicitly

\*Also Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1918/2005.

[Dr. Manmohan Singh]

refers to "Sikkim State of the Republic of India". The Chinese side has officially handed over to us a revised map showing Sikkim as within the international boundaries of India.

The understandings reached during the visit will also give a major fillip to the economic dimension of the relationship, to which both sides are attaching a great deal of importance. Bilateral trade has been growing rapidly and crossed the US \$13 billion mark last year. A target of US \$20 billion by 2008 is envisaged. Mr. Speaker, Sir, during my meeting with Premier Wen, an India-China Joint Economic Group, chaired by the two Commerce Ministers, will oversee facilitation and expansion of trade in goods and services, investment flows and other areas of economic co-operation. Premier Wen and I agreed to set up a Joint Task Force as well to examine the feasibility and benefits of Trading Arrangements.

Sir, the Chinese Premier and I also had a useful exchange of views on regional and multilateral issues. Among other things, we agreed on the importance of comprehensive reforms in the UN system. China conveyed that it attached great importance to the status of India in international affairs and understood and supported India's desire to play an active role in the UN and international affairs.

Sir, I believe the Chinese Premier's visit to India will give a significant boost to the all-round development of India-China relations. Our policy towards China is characterised by continuity and consensus.

Sir, I now come to the visit of the President of Pakistan...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not interrupt him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI TAPIR GAO (Arunachal East) : The Prime Minister has not highlighted anything about Chinese claim of Arunachal Pradesh during his speech. ...(Interruptions) Today, Arunachal wants clarification on the stand of the Government of India.

MR. SPEAKER : But this is not the first time that you have raised it. Hon. Member, I have allowed you during the Question Hour also. I am sure, hon. Prime Minister, at an appropriate occasion, will deal with it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Do not record anything more.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed you too.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Do not record it.

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker. Sir, the issue of Arunachal Pradesh is very serious. So the hon. Member wants to draw the attention of the Prime Minister towards it...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am earnestly requesting you. I know such an important matter has been raised by the hon. Member. The Prime Minister is here. He has listened to him. I have also allowed him during the Question Hour. I am not minimising the importance, but do not disturb the hon. Prime Minister while making the statement.

(Interruptions)

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\*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : Very well. You have had a discussion on it. You can always have a discussion on it. Please co-operate. If you go on interrupting, it does not look nice.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TAPIR GAO : This is the voice of the people of Arunachal Pradesh...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am requesting you. This is the last time, I am requesting you to sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am requesting you for the last time to sit down. Do not compel me to do anything. You have made your point.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You have made your point. You cannot go on interrupting him. You have made your point, and I am not minimising it. Then, why are you interrupting? I have said that more than once. I appreciate your feelings.

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the President of Pakistan, General Pervez Musharraf visited India from April 16 to 18, 2005. I had invited him to the cricket match in New Delhi and we used the opportunity of his presence here to hold substantive discussions on a wide range of bilateral issues. We also issued a Joint Statement which takes stock of our relations and outlines the ideas and activities agreed upon between us to move our bilateral relationship forward. A copy of the Joint Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Sir, during our talks, President Musharraf and I reviewed the progress made in our bilateral relations. We assessed positively the progress that had been made through Confidence-Building Measures (CBMs), people-to-

people contacts and enhancing areas of interaction and expressed our Joint determination to build on the momentum already achieved. I also conveyed to President Musharraf the great importance we attach to enhanced bilateral economic and commercial co-operation. I underlined the need to multiply beneficial linkages of trade and transit, including the gas pipeline. We agreed that greater co-operation between the two largest economies of South Asia would not only contribute to the well-being of the peoples of the two countries but also bring a higher level of prosperity for the entire region.

We agreed on several forward-looking measures to increase interaction between the countries, among them being the restoration of the rail link between Khokhrapar and Munnabao. Each of these are reflected in the Joint Statement.

Earlier this month, we started the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus service despite terrorist threats and a dastardly suicide attack on the Srinagar Tourist Reception Centre. The courage and determination of our peoples and the condemnation by our two Governments as contained in the Joint Statement, of attempts to disrupt this important initiative, give us confidence for its continued and successful operation with even greater frequency in the future...*(Interruptions)* I am convinced the bus service has tapped a latent reservoir of public support for greater people to people contact, especially among people living on either side of the Line of Control...*(Interruptions)*

The issue of Jammu and Kashmir was also discussed in a positive atmosphere. I emphasized that while the redrawing of boundaries was not possible, all measures that could bring the peoples on both sides together, including increased transportation linkages to facilitate greater traffic of people and trade across the border and the Line of Control, would help the process and create an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence. President Musharraf and I agreed to continue our discussions in a

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sincere, purposeful and forward-looking manner. We have agreed to work together to carry forward the process and to bring the benefit of peace to the people of our two countries, and in particular, the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

President Musharraf stressed the importance of addressing the Jammu and Kashmir issue. However, he also agreed that the confidence building process between the two countries had made significant progress. We both felt that this process would contribute to promoting a general sense of trust and understanding in our two countries, which in turn would be conducive to creating the environment for a just, fair and mutually acceptable solution to all outstanding issues. Consequently, we have agreed to pursue further measures to enhance interaction and co-operation across the Line of Control including agreed meeting points for divided families, trade, pilgrimages and cultural interaction.

The Joint Statement specifically re-affirmed the commitments made in the Joint Press Statement of January 6, 2004, and the Joint Statement issued after the meeting of the Indian Prime Minister and the Pakistani President in New York on September 24, 2004. This re-affirmation addresses our concerns relating to terrorism from across the border. The Joint Statement also contained a pledge that terrorism would not be allowed to impede the peace process. It also underlines the importance of the peace process and the degree of improvement in relations between the two countries.

While I am satisfied with the progress achieved in our talks during the visit, we should remain conscious of the difficulties ahead. The difficult issues that divide us have bedeviled relations between India and Pakistan for far too long to hope for an immediate resolution. The threat to the peace process from extremist forces and terrorist organisations has not been eliminated. Therefore, I

mentioned to President Musharraf that the whole process of serious and sustained dialogue hinges on building an atmosphere of trust and confidence, free from violence and terror. We look forward to Pakistan implementing their assurances in letter and spirit.

Sir, as hon. Members are aware, the past year has been quite a remarkable one for our relation with Pakistan. The two countries successfully concluded one round of the Composite Dialogue and have already commenced the next round. Diplomatic and other links have been normalised and restored to the pre-December 13, 2001 level. People-to-people exchanges are taking place across the spectrum in overwhelming numbers. The ceasefire being observed along international Border, the Line of Control and the Actual Ground Position Line in Siachen has, with the exception of a few stray incidents, held since November, 2003.

Sir, India is committed to peace and friendship with Pakistan. We sincerely seek a co-operative and constructive relationship with Pakistan. I am heartened to see that this desire is reciprocated by the Pakistan side, and that there is considerable popular support for an improved relationship in both countries. To create such a durable co-operative and constructive relationship, we need to invest in the ongoing process of engagement and confidence building and ensure that recent positive trends are sustained. We have chalked out a detailed schedule and agenda for round of the composite dialogue that has commenced. Sir, we believe that persistent and purposeful engagement will show us the way to peace and enable us to fulfil the promise of friendship and co-operation that we have made to our people.

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[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Can I get the papers laid?

(Interruptions)



[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai-South-Central) : Sir, the Indian National flag was upside down, but Pakistani national flag was in correct position...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you. I have promised.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri) : The facts should be brought before the house...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Geete, I have promised. I will allow you at the appropriate time.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : That aircraft had come from Pakistan and the entire cabinet was present there. The officers were also present and they knew it. It was done deliberately...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mohan Rawale, I have said that I will allow you.

(Interruptions)

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH : May I respond? ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Prime Minister will respond.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He wants to respond now.

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH) :

This matter was brought to the notice of the members of the Pakistan Delegation, and they have expressed regret that this thing should not have happened. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : That aircraft had come from Pakistan and the flag was fixed upside down in Pakistan. Has the Pakistani government of expressed regret for that. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Papers to be laid on the Table. They have expressed regret. I think, as a country, we should accept that.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Papers to be laid on the Table.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You have raised a point. Realising the importance of it, the hon. Prime Minister has responded, and he has mentioned that regret was expressed by them.

(Interruptions)

12.23 hrs.

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rajghat Samadhi Committee, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rajghat Samadhi Committee, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1904/2005]

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
  - (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.
  - (ii) Annual Report of the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1905/2005]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) a copy of the Review (Hindi and English

versions) by the Government of the working of the Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1906/2005]

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.182 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th March, 2005 under sub-section (3) of section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1907/2005]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO) : Sir, on behalf of Shri Kamal Nath, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Foreign Trade Policy and Handbook of Procedures (Vol. I) (Hindi and English versions) for the year 2004-2009 (Updated as on 31st March, 2005).

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1908/2005]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Betwa River Board, Jhansi, for the year 2003-2004, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of

the working of the Betwa River Board, Jhansi, for the year 2003-2004.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1909/2005]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Water Development Agency, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Water Development Agency, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1910/2005]

- (5) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing

reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1911/2005]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Use of low power Equipment in the frequency band 865-867 MHz for (RFID) Radio Frequency Identification Devices (Exemption from Licensing Requirement) Rules, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in the Notification No. 168 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th March, 2005 under sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1912/2005]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1913/2005]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956:-

- (i) S.O. 18 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th January, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 810 (E) dated the 13th July, 2004.
- (ii) S.O. 1383 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th December, 2004 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (iii) S.O. 1384 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th December, 2004 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) including construction of by-passes of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (iv) S.O. 1385 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th December, 2004 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) and including construction of by-passes of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (v) S.O. 1386 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th December, 2004 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) and including construction of by-passes of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (vi) S.O. 1387 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th December, 2004 regarding

acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 7 (Bangalore-Salem-Madurai-section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.

- (vii) S.O. 349 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th March, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1457 (E) dated the 20th December, 2003.
- (viii) S.O. 245 (E) and S.O. 246 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd February, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 including construction of by-passe in the District Seoni in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (ix) S.O. 285 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th March, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning and widening) of National Highway No. 45 (Tindivanam-Villupuram-Trichy section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (x) S.O. 292 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th March, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 54 (Silchar-Harangajo section) in the State of Assam.
- (xi) S.O. 293 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th March, 2005 regarding levy of fee from the user of four-laned stretch on Satara-Khandal section of National Highway No. 4 in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xii) S.O. 51 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th January, 2005 authorizing

officers mentioned therein to acquire land for widening of existing National Highway in various districts in the State of Tamil Nadu.

- (xiii) S.O. 109 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st February, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xiv) S.O. 111 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st February, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanyakumar section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xv) S.O. 113 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st February, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning and widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Bangalore-Salem-Madurai-Kanyakumari section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xvi) S.O. 218 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 28 (Lucknow to UP/Bihar Border) in District Sant Kabir Nagar in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (xvii) S.O. 219 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for construction (widening) of National Highway No. 28 (UP/Bihar Border-Muzaffarnagar) in District East

Champanan (Motihari) in the State of Bihar.

- (xviii) S.O. 206 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 2005 authorizing the Extra Assistant Commissioner and Land Acquisition Officer, district Kamrup, Assam to acquire land on National Highway No. 31 in the State of Assam.
- (xix) S.O. 207 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th February, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of development, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 31.
- (xx) S.O. 220 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of development, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 31.
- (xxi) S.O. 221 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 2005 authorizing Additional Deputy Commissioner, district Barpeta, Assam to acquire land on National Highway No. 31.
- (xxii) S.O. 222 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for the public purpose of development, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 31 in the State of Assam.
- (xxiii) S.O. 223 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 2005 authorizing Additional Deputy Commissioner, district Nalbari, Assam to acquire land on National Highway No. 31.

(xxiv) S.O. 224 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 2005 regarding acquisition, of land for the public purpose of development, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 31 in the State of Assam.

(xxv) S.O. 225 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 2005 authorizing Additional Deputy Commissioner (Revenue), district Bongaigaon, Assam to acquire land on National Highway No. 31.

(xxvi) S.O. 234 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st February, 2005 authorizing officers mentioned therein to acquire land for building (widening) of various National Highways, including construction of by-passes or realignments in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

(2) Six statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (i to vi) of (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1914/2005]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Presidential Special Order (Hindi and English versions) authorizing Governor of Goa for additional expenses under 'Tour Expenses' of Schedule-II to the Governors (Allowances and Privileges) Rules, 1987, under sub-section (3) of section 12 of the Governor (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Act, 1982.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1915/2005]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT) : Sir,

on the behalf of Shri SriPrakash Jaiswal I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, together with Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 34 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1916/2005]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

(1) A copy of the Draft Notification No F. No. 7(3)/99-IP (Hindi and English versions) containing Order regarding additions to the list of items for which the SSI limit of investment in plant and machinery would be upto rupees five crore under sub-section (3) of section 11B of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

(2) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 420 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th March, 2005 making certain amendments in Notification No. S.O. 477 (E) dated the 25th July, 1991 so as to delete 99 items from the list of items reserved for exclusive manufacture in the SSI sector under sub-section (2H) of section 29B of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 1917/2005]

12.26 hrs.

## ASSENT TO BILLS

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I lay on the Table the following nine Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament

during the first part of First part of Fourth Session of Fourth Session of Fourteenth Lok Sabha and assented to President since a report was last made to the House on the 26th February, 2005.

1. The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Bill, 2005;
2. The Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 2005;
3. The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2005;
4. The Appropriation Bill, 2005;
5. The Goa Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2005;
6. The Goa Appropriation Bill, 2005;
7. The Bihar Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2005;
8. The Bihar Appropriation Bill, 2005;
9. The Parel Investments and Trading Private Limited and Domestic Gas Private Limited (Taking Over of Management) Repeal Bill, 2005.

12.26½ hrs.

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

##### Fourth Report

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly) : Sir, I beg to present the Fourth Action Taken Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings on Air India Ltd.-Undue favour to General Sales Agent.

12.27 hrs.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

##### Ninth to Twelfth Report

[Translation]

PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV (Sambhal) : Sir, I beg to present a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English Versions) of the Standing Committee on Agriculture:-

- (1) Ninth Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Co-operative);
- (2) Tenth Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agricultural Research and Education);
- (3) Eleventh Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying); and
- (4) Twelfth Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

12.27¼ hrs.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

##### Sixteenth to Twentieth Reports

[English]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD). B.C. KHANDURI (Garhwal) : Sir, I beg to present a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Finance:-

- (1) 16th Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Ministry of Finance (Departments

[Maj. Gen. (Retd). B.C. Khanduri]

of Economic Affairs, Expenditure and Disinvestment);

- (2) 17th Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue);
- (3) 18th Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Ministry of Planning;
- (4) 19th Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation; and
- (5) 20th Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Ministry of Company Affairs.

12.27½ hrs.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

##### Fifth Report

[English]

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY (Visakhapatnam) : Sir, I beg to present a copy of the Fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Petroleum & Natural Gas on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas.

12.27¾ hrs.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS

##### Eighth Report

[Translation]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, I beg to present a copy of the Eighth Report (Hindi and English

versions) of Standing Committee on Railways on the "Demands for Grants for the year 2005-2006 of the Ministry of Railways.

12.28 hrs.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT

##### Ninth to Twelfth Reports

[English]

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Parvatipuram) : Sir, I beg to present a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of Standing Committee on Rural Development:-

- (1) Ninth Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development);
- (2) Tenth Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development);
- (3) Eleventh Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Department of Drinking Water Supply (Ministry of Rural Development); and
- (4) Twelfth Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.

12.28½ hrs

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES

##### Third Report

[English]

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagar Kurnool) : Sir, I beg to present a copy of the Third Report (Hindi and English



versions) of the Standing Committee on Water Resources on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Ministry of Water Resources.

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12.28½ hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE**

**Seventieth and Seventy-first Reports**

*[English]*

SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE (Canara) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Commerce:

- (1) 70th Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Department of Commerce (Ministry of Commerce and Industry); and
- (2) 71st Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (Ministry of Commerce and Industry).

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12.29 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOME AFFAIRS**

**One Hundred Twelfth and One Hundred Thirteenth Reports**

*[English]*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs:

- (1) One hundred Twelfth Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Ministry of Home Affairs; and

- (2) One Hundred Thirteenth Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region.

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12.29½ hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL,  
PUBLIC GRIEVANCES, LAW AND JUSTICE**

**Fifth and Sixth Reports**

*[English]*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law & Justice:

- (1) Fifth Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; and
- (2) Sixth Report on Demands for Grants (2005-06) of the Ministry of Law & Justice.

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12.30 hrs.

**OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER**

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, for your information, I want to briefly recapitulate the main items of business transacted by the House during the week from 21st to 24th March, 2005.

Out of the 80 Starred Questions admitted, 15 were answered orally. Replies to the remaining Starred Questions along with the replies to 867 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table.

During the period, as many as 95 matters of urgent public importance were raised after the Question Hour. Also, 58 matters were raised under Rule 377.

The House devoted about five hours to the passing of the Patents (Amendment) Bill, 2005; and the Parel Investments and Trading Private Limited and Domestic Gas Private Limited (Taking over of Management) Repeal Bill, 2005, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

During the period, the House had fairly long discussions on two matters of urgent public importance under Rule 193. They were, on the Statement laid on the Table on 9 March, 2005, by the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs on developments in Nepal and visits of the Minister of External Affairs to Afghanistan and Pakistan which took 4 hours 27 minutes; and on Natural Calamities in the country which took 7 hours 05 minutes.

As many as seven Private Member's Bills were introduced. The discussions on the Compulsory Voting Bill, 2004 and a Private Member's Resolution on Relief Measures for Workers in the Agrarian Sector, remained inconclusive.

The Departmentally Related Standing Committees presented 11 Reports to the House.

Hon. Members, I express my sincere appreciation for the co-operation extended by hon. Members in transacting the business by sitting late and working extra for as many as 7 hours and 27 minutes. This is the glory of this Institution for which I thank every hon. Member of the House for their co-operation.

I am sure, I shall continue to have the whole-hearted support and co-operation of Members for ensuring smooth transaction of business during the second phase of the Session of this House, which belongs to all hon. Members.

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[Translation]

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the information about the number of hours wasted has not been given...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It has not been wasted. I used to point it out when ever the time of the House was, wasted. Now please do not waste time.

(Interruptions)

12.32 hrs.

## SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

**Re: Affidavits filed in Supreme Court on Action Taken by the Govt. on the CAG Report relating to procurement made for Operation Vijay (Kargil) and laying of Reports of Justice Phukan Commission and the Central Vigilance Commission**

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the objections were raised by the opposition yesterday on the affidavits filed by the Government in the court with regard to the defence deals, the Minister of Defence, the leader of the House, immediately stated that the Government was ready to have complete discussion on the issue. He has stated that the Government are ready to discuss as and when the House desires so and the hon. Speaker Sir, gives the permission in this regard. I welcome his proposal. Because of this, I have advised all of my colleagues today to adopt the approach that if the Government is ready to have discussions, we would also take part in it. However, these defence deals are related to the transactions which took place during the Kargil war, there is an another issue which has also been talked discussed. I would like to have a meaningful debate on this issue but before that I would like to say that so far as the Kargil deals are concerned, a Commission of Inquiry was set up to look into the matter. The Phukan Commission had also submitted its report in February 2004. A meaningful debate on this will take place only when the report of Phukan Commission is placed in the House. You have yourself stated and as per the law also, it should be done within six months...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : May I respond?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Therefore, the report of Phukan Commission should be placed in the house at the earliest...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You sit down. This is not correct.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will be recorded. We are having it in a very beautiful atmosphere. Let us do it.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER : No interruptions please. They have heard the Prime Minister.

Let us do it. These are important matters.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Lal Singh, I am requesting you to please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing is being recorded.

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : This tradition is not correct. When the Leaders speak,

[English]

We should pay proper respect to everybody.

(Interruptions)

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\*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : Do not record anything.

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You are seeing that we are trying.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Do not complicate the matter.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is not being recorded. Why are you saying something, which is not being recorded?

(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is another issue related to defence deals...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ram Kripal Yadav. I am requesting you to please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I request you to sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Lal Singh, it will have its repercussions.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Speaker Sir, there is in another issue of defence deals that the Delhi High Court...(Interruptions)

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\*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : Not now opportunity be given according to the turn. Everybody will be given the time according to the rule.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Mr. Speaker Sir, Rear Admiral Shri S.P. Purohit had filed it and then the matter was referred to the Vigilance Commission and according to our information, the Central Vigilance Commission has also submitted its complete report on the issue. I would like both these reports viz. the Phukan Commission report and the Central Vigilance Commission report be presented in the House by the Government before the discussion so that the meaningful discussion can take place. Today, the Defence Minister himself is going to make a statement which is in connection with an affidavit. I would request that this statement should be made on the same day, when the discussion takes place in the House. Now it is to be decided by the Business Advisory Committee, Mr. Speaker Sir and the Committee of the House as to when this discussion should be taken place. Therefore, I have two suggestions. The first one is that the statement which the Defence Minister is going to make today, should be placed that day...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : That is between you. I cannot intervene in that. That is for the Defence Minister. Now, you have made your suggestion.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : And the second point is that...*(Interruptions)* these two Reports, firstly the Phukan Commission Report and secondly the CVC Report, should be placed on the Table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER : After all, the Leader of the Opposition has said it. As he has correctly mentioned the Phukan Commission Report was filed in February 2004. I am thankful to Mr. George Fernandez for bringing it to my

notice. It is because it was done before my time, I have referred the matter to the Government. I have already heard from them and I have already said they must lay the Interim Report of the Phukan Commission.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi) : Sir, it is final because Phukan Commission is not there.

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER : If it is not correct they will speak.

*[English]*

Interim Report with the Action Taken Report also should be filed in the House as soon as possible, definitely during this part of the Session.

Shri Pranab Mukherjee, would you like to make a statement?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : I would like to make a statement. Before that if you permit me, I would like to make one small submission to the Leader of the Opposition. It is because the Leader of the Opposition has mentioned two points that two documents should be made available to the House so that the House can meaningfully discuss the issues arising out of the affidavit and the statement which I am going to make. One issue is the submission of the Phukan Commission Report on which you have given the direction to the Government and the Government will have to comply with it.

In respect of the Vigilance Commission's Report, most respectfully I would like to submit to the House – and perhaps the Leader of the Opposition can throw light on it – on this very Report itself, a piquant situation was created when the Public Accounts Committee had to submit a Report that they could not complete their job which was entrusted to them to scrutinise the CAG Report 7 (a) of 2001 because they wanted to have a document which is CVC Report. At that point of time that Government

claimed privilege and as a result the document was not made available to the Public Accounts Committee, which is the creation of this House.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to appeal to the Leader of the Opposition, through you, to explain what prevented them at that point of time to give that Report to the Public Accounts Committee. I am not talking of any individual, and when the Public Accounts Committee insisted on it that without this Report they cannot complete their job, what prompted them not to give that Report to the PAC? What has now urged them to demand this Report? Is it simply because of change of seats from this side to that side, they have changed the very basic objective and approach in respect of patent, in respect of VAT and in respect of CVC Report?

I think the Leader of the Opposition can kindly explain.

MR. SPEAKER : The Chair is not concerned with this. You have made your point. The only thing I want to know from the hon. Leader of the House is this. Will you be making the statement now? Or, will you wait for some time?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : No, I would like to make my statement...*(Interruptions)* Just one second please. Let me complete. I have no problem because the Leader of the Opposition appealed to me. My point is that certain things are being said outside the House. As Minister in charge of the Department and more so as Leader of the House, I cannot speak outside when the House is in Session. My most respectful submission would be that I would like to make the statement now.

MR. SPEAKER : I have already permitted you.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : After that, whenever it is decided to discuss, this can be taken as a matter for discussion. Or, it can be discussed on a substantive motion. Whichever way you will decide, we will go by it but please allow me to make my statement... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, in the last few days, various statements have been carried in the media in respect of the affidavits filed on behalf of the Union of India. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, just a minute.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER : Okay, you sit down. We people should work properly. Let him speak, wherever want to. I don't compel anybody. I am requesting you all.

*[English]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, eight people have given notice. All the leaders of the NDA partners have given notice. Can you listen to them?

MR. SPEAKER : I have called the Leader of the Opposition who has also signed. His signature is there. Therefore I had called him with respect to his position as the Leader of the Opposition. If you want to associate him, you may associate with him. Do you want to say again on this? The same thing has been said.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar) : Mr. Speaker Sir, Shri George Fernandes wants to say something, he should also be heard. He is not being given the opportunity to speak. Mr. Speaker Sir, this has been the tradition of the House...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : If you want to say, you associate.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You have given notice. That is not the procedure we follow. You associate with that. He is associating. You associate. Thank you.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am obliged to you. We are bringing a beautiful atmosphere. You associate with this. This is the Procedure.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot follow it.

*[Translation]*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to make some comment on the point which the Minister of Defence who is also Leader of the House, has mentioned and I want to do so because I was the Defence Minister then...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : About the statement, let him make the statement. After that, you make your submission.

*[Translation]*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : This is not a matter of statement, I want to speak about whatever he has stated just now.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not the time to have a discussion here.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I don't want to discuss...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : No, he has not completed.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Give me that paper. Where is that paper?

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Just a minute please. Very well, you are aware that this is not the Procedure.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : After I have allowed the hon. Leader of the Opposition, this is not good.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Members have to say different things on this.

MR. SPEAKER : Why different things? It is the same and identical notice that you have given and I have called the hon. Leader of the Opposition. You do not want to accept his statement also. Then, what would you add to that?

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Pranab Mukherjee has asked specifically about the CVC Report.

MR. SPEAKER : I am giving one minute to each.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Mr. Speaker Sir, Shri Pranab Mukherjee has just now stated that the CVC's report had been kept confidential at that time and it was not referred to the PAC.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Your notice is on the Phukan Commission. I am sorry.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : No, it is on the CVC also.

MR. SPEAKER : I am sorry. I stand corrected.

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Sir, the very first affidavit which was filed by the Government had the reference to CVC's report. It has been stated thereon that since those things have been stated in the CVC's report, we are sending it to CBI as well as to other agencies. Earlier, something was stated in the Supreme Court and an affidavit to this effect was submitted and then it was

changed and there was the mention of CVC. When the whole country knows it, what is the objection of the Government to place the CVC's report in the House? Can there be more clearcut case of denial than this one wherein through the CVC's report has been ruled in the Supreme Court while it has been denied in the house. Our demand is that both the Phukan Commission's report and CVC's report should be placed in both the Houses... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You people, please take your seats.

*[English]*

It will be over in five minutes.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing else except Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy.

*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. You are interrupting.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri) : There is a statutory provision in Section 4 of the Commission of Inquiries Act, 1952 that the Government should place any report of the commission, it may be part Report, may be interim Report or may be full Report, in the Parliament within six months. If it is state constituted commission, the report should be placed in the state assembly. But six months have passed, however the report has not been placed in the Parliament till now. You have rightly given the direction to the Government.

MR. SPEAKER : I have given the direction. Now, why

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\*Not recorded.

are you repeating the whole thing. Please come to the point.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : The Minister has told that the CVC's Report was not given to the PAC at that time when its chairman belonged to his party. Now he, himself is in the Government, so what problem he has in placing the report in the house. The report should be placed on the table of the house. What the CVC's report contains, will be known to the whole country... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : ....\*....\*

MR. SPEAKER : What's happening.

*[English]*

That will be deleted.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am appealing to all of you, and I am also requesting.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : These people are speaking. Please control them.

MR. SPEAKER : I know that. I control them more than you do.

*[English]*

I am requesting you that we are following the usual procedure. You are associating with similar issues. But if you feel very strongly, I do not want to give an impression that I am stopping anybody. Therefore I am allowing you. You raise the issue, but do not interrupt. The hon. Leader of the House has made his observations. If there is a

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\*....\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

discussion on this, full opportunity will be given. But please do not do this.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You have finished.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : The Government should place the report in the House...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to speak on a very important issue...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : One day, you are going to force me to take very unpleasant action.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : If you challenge me, then you have to face the consequence. This is not the way to behave in the House.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : I am very happy that the Government has agreed to discuss this issue concerning the filing of the second affidavit.

MR. SPEAKER : Someone is throwing a challenge to the Chair. Is this the tradition of this House?

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Before that discussion, it is mandatory obligation under the Commission of Inquiries Act, 1952 that the Government should place on the Table of the House the Report of the Phukan Commission, and the CVC Report to have a free and fair discussion. The country should know what was happening at the time of Kargil war. You should not blame the NDA Government that they have not placed before the Public Accounts Committee, and that is why this Government is not placing. That is not correct at all. You have to place

the Report of the Phukan Commission, and the CVC Report on the Table of the House.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : It is not a mere change of the Government that has taken place. There was another Government which was not in the habit of filing contradictory affidavits. Now, a Government has come which has a contradictory affidavit, which is too shameful to the country. Now, moreover...  
*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Do not be too touchy.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : The second affidavit refers to CVC Report. In detail, the CVC Report has been dealt with.

MR. SPEAKER : He is going to make a statement now.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Even without any statement, even without any request from the Opposition, and even without a direction from the Speaker, they can place it on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER : You have said your point, you now please take your seat.

*[English]*

Do not repeat the same thing.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will be recorded except Shri George Fernandes.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Thomas, why are you speaking? Nothing is being recorded.

*(Interruptions)\**

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\*Not recorded.



[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever the leader of the House has said here...  
(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Topdar, please do not interrupt.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I again say that I am not to speak a lot on whatever discussion is going on in the House. But, the leader of the House has said many things on CVC report. He has asked why the Report was not made public when there was an opportunity to do so. This is not a new question to me. I was asked the same question even when I was the Minister of Defence. At that time, I told that the Report was not one that could be made public. On this, these people created a lot of uproar in the House and also accused me of being a thief and looter...(Interruptions). Their treatment of mine me is not commendable...(Interruptions). These people were not read to listen to my view point despite the repetitions of the same by me. That's why I have taken up this point that the Report should be made public. Both you and I very well know what the Report contains. He who uses that Report know it well why the Report has not been made public. But those who don't know the significance of security\*...  
(Interruptions) we do expect nothing from such people...  
(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have made your statement. Please take your seat.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI) : Sir, he should withdraw that

\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

statement. He has alleged that this Government does not have any sense of national security. He should withdraw it...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Members from both the sides may please take their seat.

[English]

If there is anything objectionable that will be deleted.

[Translation]

I appeal to all of you to please take your seats. Hon. Minister please take your seat. Mr. Geete, do you want to speak anything?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the entire country that people of ruling party have different views but their views alter when other people there are in the ruling party...(Interruptions).

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri) : As Hon. Advaniji has paid...(Interruptions) The CVC Report should be presented...(Interruptions).

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I want to present before the country their real image and so I had urged upon that. But, whatever is your decision, we'll accept that because I know how much they or are concerned about mean security.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I shall look into the record. If there is anything unparliamentary, it would be deleted. I shall look into it. Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, please sit down. I am on my legs.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am also asking them. Why are you saying this?

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats. This is very unfortunate. Everybody should sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am requesting everybody to please sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Kanti Lal Bhuria, you are a Minister. You must sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You all go to your seats. Do not follow bad examples.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER : Whatever you are saying is not audible.

*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : One Cabinet Minister is insulating all...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Kanti Lal Bhuria, you please take your seat.

*[English]*

Shri Bhuria, as a Minister, you should not do that. You are a Minister. Ministers should not do this.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am extremely surprised. I have allowed you.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER : You please go to your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I appeal to the people from both sides.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You please go to your seat.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have scolded these as well as those people. What are you doing?

*(Interruptions)*

12.57 hrs.

#### STATEMENTS BY THE MINISTER\*

**(I) Affidavit filed in Supreme Court on CAG Report relating to procurement made for Operation Vijay (Kargil)**

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Pranab Mukharjee, do you want to lay the statement on the Table of the house?

*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : Yes, Sir. I am laying the statement on the Table of house: ...*(Interruptions)*

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\*Also placed in Library, See No. LT 1919/2005.

Sir, in the last few days, various statements have been carried in the media in respect of the affidavits filed on behalf of the Union of India (UOI) in the Writ petition (C) 270 of 2004 filed by K.G. Dhananjay Chauhan versus Union of India and others. I would like to place the facts on records.

The Writ petition had been filed in the Supreme Court on 15th June, 2004 as a Public Interest Litigation. The Writ Petition is primarily based on the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) No. 7A of 2001 which deals with the special Audit of cases of procurement done for 'Operation Vijay' (Kargil). The CAG examined 123 cases of procurement of defence equipment and has pointed out deficiencies in 35 cases. It has concluded that 'the excuse of Kargil was cited to push through procurements that would otherwise have been scrutinized more closely.

The Petitioner has, inter-alia, prayed that an appropriate writ may be issued to conduct an inquiry and fix responsibility for procurements made for 'Operation Vijay'.

When the case came up for hearing in the Supreme Court on 25th October, 2004 the H'ble Court directed the Union of India (UOI) 'to file an affidavit by way of response showing the details of the action, if any, taken on the report of the CAG, Public Accounts Committee (PAC) 54th Report and report of Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), referred to in Paragraph 5.11 of the 54th Report of the PAC'.

Pursuant to the directions of the H'ble supreme court dated 25th October, 04, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) had forwarded a brief to the Learned Attorney General on 26th November, 04 explaining the action taken by the Government on the CAG & CVC report. A draft affidavit was received from the Learned attorney General on 2nd December, 04. On 28th December, 04 a modified draft, consistent with the orders of the Supreme court dated 25th October, 04 and highlighting the details of the action taken

was forwarded to the Learned Attorney General for taking further necessary action. On 21st February, 05 the Learned Attorney general discussed this modified draft with officers of the MOD and suggested amendments which were incorporated and sent back on 9th March, 05.

This affidavit was filed on behalf of the UOI on 10th March, 2005 in the H'ble Supreme Court. The affidavit is in two parts.

The first part deals with procedures. The affidavit clarified that the modified procedure dated 21st June, 1999 was meant to shorten the time frame particularly for imports of items specifically required for 'Op Vijay'. This modified procedure was issued without relaxing the requirement of the Defence Procurement Procedure, 1992. This is also reflected in the comments of the CAG. However, this part of the affidavit did not comment on whether this procedure was correctly followed while affecting procurement.

The second part of the affidavit deals with the action taken by the Government on the CAG and CVC report and the status of the PAC report. The affidavit points out.

- (a) The Government has continued to make efforts to address issues raised in the CAG report. Eleven out of 35 paras contained in the CAG report have been vetted by CAG and the remaining are at various stages of examination.
- (b) After expiry of the term of the Tehelka Commission, the transactions, two of which (Hand held Thermal Imager and Terminally Guided Munition (Krasnopol) formed part of the CAG report also, stand referred to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).
- (c) The observations made by the CVC regarding involvement of the middle-men and the need for making procurement procedures more transparent are being addressed by the Government.

[Shri Pranab Mukherjee]

- (d) In so far as the individual cases examined by the CVC are concerned, in three cases, administrative action has been taken against the guilty officials, 12 cases have been closed by the CVC and 21 cases are still under examination in the Ministry or under correspondence with the CVC.
- (e) Three cases referred in the CVC report which also find mention in the Tehelka tapes (T-90S tanks, Armored Recovery Vehicle and Up-gunning of 130 mm M-46 Field Gun to 155 mm caliber) now stand referred to the CBI.

During the hearing of the Writ Petition on 14th March, 2005 the H'ble Supreme Court ordered the Learned Amicus Curiae points out that the counter affidavit filed seems to be evasive and not complete in all respects. The Ld. Attorney General assures to look into the matter and file and additional affidavit, if required.'

On 5th April, 05 a press conference was held by a Political leader claiming that a 'clean chit' had been given to him in the affidavit filed on behalf of the UOI in the Supreme Court. On 5th April, 05 the Learned Attorney General communicated the order of the H'ble Supreme Court dated 14th March, 05 along with a copy of the same. On 6th April, 05 the Learned Attorney General sent another letter enclosing a copy of the draft additional affidavit to be filed in the H'ble Supreme Court. Both these letters were received on 6th April, 05 in the MoD.

In compliance of the Supreme Court order dated 14th March, 05 the additional affidavit was filed on behalf of the UOI on 13th April, 2005. This stressed on the future course of action to be taken on the CAG report. The affidavit points out that five cases of procurement were again scrutinized in detail with a view to fix responsibility.

The affidavit also states that since the CAG report has

brought out that the 'excuse of Kargil was cited to push through procurements that would otherwise have been scrutinized more closely', thereby, suggesting serious misconduct on the part of officials/authorities in the government, including the then Defence Minister, the Government has decided to refer 23 cases included in the CAG report to the CBI for investigation.

On 13th April, 05 the Department of Personnel and Training has been informed of the decision of the Government to hand over the aforesaid cases to the CBI.

An impression has been sought to be created that some kind of a 'clean chit' has been given to certain individuals and that there is a 'U' turn between the first and the second affidavits. A reading of the affidavits makes it amply clear that no 'clean chit' was given to anyone in the first affidavit filed by the UOI on 10th March, 05 nor has there been any 'U' turn between the first and the second affidavits. While the first affidavit explains the procedure of procurement and details the action taken by the Government, the second affidavit charts out the future course of action contemplated by the Government.

I would like to assure the H'ble Members that the Government is committed to take strict action against officers/authorities, including the former Defence Minister, if it is found that the excuse of Kargil was taken to make purchases with the motive of personal benefit in violation of rules and regulations.

[English]

12.58 hrs.

**(ii) Status of implementation of recommendations  
in the Reports of Standing Committee on  
Information Technology\***

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Dayanidhi Maran, you also lay your statement on the Table of the House.

(Interruptions)

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\*Also placed in Library, See No. LT 1920/2005.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN) :  
Yes, Sir, I am laying the statement on the Table of the House...(Interruptions)

Sir, In pursuance of Direction 73 A of the H'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part II dated September 01, 2004, I am making this statement on the status of the implementation of the recommendations contained in the 1st, 2nd & 3rd reports of the standing Committee on IT in respect of three Departments under the Ministry of Communications & Information Technology.

**REPORT NO. 1 IN RESPECT OF DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:**

- (i) Standing Committee on Information Technology examined the Demands for Grants for the year 2004-05 of the Department of Information Technology in its meeting held on 18.8.2004. The report was presented in Lok Sabha on 23.8.2004. the report contains 16 recommendations.
- (ii) These recommendations of the said Committee mainly relate to need for additional funds, allocation of 2-3 percent of their Plan Budget for IT, requirement of additional funds for national Action Plan on E-Governance, establishment of National e-Governance Fund, apprehension in utilizing funds by Media Lab Asia and to make efforts and take steps to attract more sponsorship in Media Lab Asia Projects, enhancement of outlays of C-DAC, similar efforts be made for setting up of CICs in other States of the country as has been done in J & K, better utilisation of funds provided for Manpower development for Application Specific Integrated Circuit (ASIC) Design, recognition of DOEACC 'B' level course by IGNOU and to give serious thought to the functioning, manpower requirement, preserving

talent, congenial environment in NIC by utilizing modern management techniques and attracting fresh talents as adopted by multinational companies.

- (iii) Government has accepted all the 16 Recommendations and taken all possible steps towards implementation. Planning Commission appreciated additional funds requirement of DIT and allocated Rs. 929.30 crore for the year 2005-06. All State Governments have been advised to allocate at least 3% for e-Governance Funds is under active consideration.
- (iv) Eleventh Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations of the Committee contained in its First Report on Demands for Grants for the year 2004-05 relating to the Department of Information Technology was presented to Lok Sabha on 9.3.2005.

**REPORT NO.2 IN RESPECT OF DEPARTMENT OF POSTS:**

- (i) Committee examined Demands for Grants of the Department of Posts for the year 2004-05 on 10.08.2004 and presented its 2nd Report in this regard to the Lok Sabha on 23.08.2004. The Report contains 12 recommendations.
- (ii) These recommendations of the Committee mainly related to the need for expansion of Postal network to serve the people at large; to increase share of Speed Post in express mail market by adopting commercial approach; to achieve the target of computerizing 5616 post offices within 10th Plan period; to chalk out detailed policy for construction of department's own buildings; to take up with Ministry of Finance to enhance the per account/per certificate remuneration for saving bank agency work and to treat pension payments on common head

[Shri Dayanidhi Maran]

as in the case of other Ministries to reduce working expenses of the Department; the need for increasing Plan expenditure for North East; the need for full utilisation of allocation under 10th Plan; to overcome recurring losses and optimize the bouquet of services/products of the Department; and the need for imparting proper and qualitative training for staff.

- (iii) All the 12 recommendations of the Committee have been considered in the Department of Posts. The action proposed by the Committee has already been taken/initiated on all recommendations.
- (iv) The Standing Committee vide its 12th Report presented to Lok Sabha on 9.3.2005 has accepted the observations made by the Government in respect of 5 recommendations. In respect of 4 recommendations, the Committee does not desire to pursue in view of the reply of the Government. Recommendations/observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and reiterated their recommendations, action has been initiated to comply with these recommendations of the Committee.

#### REPORT NO. 3 IN RESPECT OF DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS:

- (i) The Committee for examining the Demands for Grants for the year 2004-05 of the Department of Telecommunications met on 10th August, 2004 and presented its 3rd Report in this regard to Lok Sabha on 23.08.2004. There are altogether 22 recommendations.
- (ii) These recommendations mainly relate to reimbursement of Licence fee and Spectrum charges to BSNL, Higher allocation of funds for replace-

ment of MARR VPTs, Checking erosion of customer base of BSNL, Timely procurement of material/equipments, Fulfillment of targets for North-Eastern Region, Enforcement of Licence Agreements on operators, Reductions of waiting list and fault rate, Recovery of outstanding arrears, Improving marketing strategies by BSNL, Improving the quality of services by MTNL & minimizing fault rate, Revival of ITI Ltd., Ensuring generation of required revenue by C-DOT, Updating of Research by C-DOT, Strengthening institutional capabilities of TRAI & upgrading the knowledge base, Utilisation of budget provision by Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal, Wireless Planning & Cordination Wing and Wireless Monitoring Organisation.

- (iii) All the above recommendations have been considered and accepted by the Government. Action has been initiated for implementation of all the recommendations.
- (iv) Thirteenth Report on the Action Taken by the government on the Recommendations/Observations of the Committee contained in its Third Report on Demands for Grants for the year 2004-05 relating to the department of Telecommunications was presented to Lok Sabha on 9.3.2005.

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*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 o' clock.

**12.59 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till  
Fourteen of the Clock.*

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14.06 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at  
Six minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

# MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, we will take item no. 26, matters under Rule 377.

## (I) Need to expedite setting up of a F.M. radio station in Paralakhemundi in Orissa

SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU (Berhampur-Orissa) : Sir, in my parliamentary constituency of Berhampur, three Assembly segments are in Gajapati district, which is very remote and backward having 70 per cent of Scheduled Tribe population. This area is also affected by naxalite movement. In 2003, Information and Broadcasting Ministry had approved a five k.w. F.M. radio station in Paralakhemundi, the district headquarters. Accordingly, the district administration also agreed in principle to provide two acres of land on usual Government price as required by the information and Broadcasting Ministry. But no action has been taken till now to acquire the land and to start the work by the Ministry.

So, through you, Sir, I request the hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting to take immediate action and start the work of setting up F.M. radio station at Paralakhemundi.

[Translation]

## (ii) Need to review the decision to prematurely Curtail the special category status accorded to Uttaranchal for enabling industrial promotion in the State

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (Almora) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, earlier, after the creation of Uttaranchal State, the Government had placed this newly created state in a special category for its accelerated

growth and since 1 April, 2002, this state started getting benefits of being placed in special category.

The Government have provided a number of incentives and concessions alongwith hundred per cent rebate in excise duty and income tax for a period of ten years i.e. upto (6.1.2013) since 7.1.2003 to the industries being established and making production in the state with an objective of providing employment to the youth as well as rapid industrial growth in the state for the overall progress of the state.

These rebates and incentives have been issued by the Ministry of Finance as well as Ministry of Commerce and Industry in the interest of Uttaranchal State. The present government have reduced the period of this special industrial promotion package to four years from an earlier period of ten years. It means that this package has been decided to be continued till 2007 only, thereby affecting adversely the setting up of industries in Uttaranchal. Enterprenous willing to set up their meduim and large scale in Uttaranchal, have now decided not to do so.

As a result of reducing the above mentioned period from 10 to 4 years, hundreds of industries would not be set up in that state and as a result thousands of unemployed youth have lost the only opportunity of getting employment.

Therefore, keeping in view the backwardness and severe unemployment in the state of Uttaranchal, I urge upon the Government to immediately withdraw the curtailment of 6 years period in the special industrial promotion package period fixed by the earlier government till 2013 so as to address the problem of industrial as well as severe unemployment in Uttaranchal.

## (iii) Need to provide special economic package for all-round development of Ajmer and Pushkar cities in Rajasthan with a view to promote tourism in the region

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Sir, Ajmer and Pushkar are the places of utmost importance from the

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

tourism point of view. These tourist places are easily accessible because they are situated just in the middle of Rajasthan. Every tourist visiting Rajasthan remains eager to go to Ajmer and Pushkar also. These places have specific significance from the period of view of ancient history and archaeology as well as pilgrimage, which is an important part of tourism itself. A lot of sand has gathered into the Pushkar pond. Natural sources have got restrained. Hence, there is an urgent need to carry out dredging and cleaning activities at Pushkar pond as also to keep it pollution-free and maintain smooth water supply therein. The roads also in Ajmer are in very dilapidated condition.

Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to provide special financial assistance for the development of basic infrastructure in both of these cities of historical, religious, educational and archaeological and cultural significance so as to give importance to them on the world tourism map so that their all round development could be made.

**(iv) Need to enhance the wages of Head Loaders working in Food Corporation of India in Kerala**

[English]

SHRI ABDULLAKUTTY (Cannanore) : The Food Corporation of India (FCI) has been mandated primarily to serve the social sector through procurement of food grains, its storage and movement, and as a key functionary in the Public Distribution System (PDS).

For all ills afflicting FCI, the blue-collar workforce of its head loaders has been keeping the PDS channel fully operational day and night. FCI depots at West Hill (Calicut), Mavelikkara and Chalakkudi in Kerala are still to be brought under the Direct Payment system to ensure parity in wages for the loaders working at these depots. An upward revision of Rs. 50 in daily wages for the loaders was awarded by the Bombay High Court and a tribunal

in Chennai, which has yet to be given effect to by the FCI management.

The Central Government has been generous in declaring a hike in DA for its staff at the rate of 3 per cent recently, which works out to an annual cost of more than Rs. 1,600 crore to the exchequer. The likely outgo on account of enhanced wages to the FCI loaders will not exceed Rs. 95 crore a year. I urge the Government to be equally generous to the blue-collar workforce of its public undertaking--FCI--serving the social sector.

**(v) Need to formulate a policy permitting practice by private medical practitioners registered with State/Central Medical Councils.**

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN (Firozabad) : Sir, every member of private medical practitioners association is registered/enlisted member of other State Medical Councils in addition to U.P. A member, enlisted in the medical council of any State, under Section 17(3)(a)(b) of Central Medical Council Act, can do medical practice anywhere in India. Hon. Supreme Court has also endorsed this fact. Presently, approximately 4 lakh registered practitioners are there in U.P. only who are providing cheaper, accessible health services to crores of poor people. These private practitioners actively contribute in many of the Government National Programs like family planning, pulse polio, AIDS seminars, leprosy survey etc. Government in the name of taking action against quacks takes penal action against these medical practitioners only, though they have every right to do such medical practice. Particularly in rural areas where there is poverty these are the people who provide medical/health services. Any type of harassment against these practitioners is not justifiable. Central Government may direct all the State Governments that in future any such action should not be taken against these practitioners. If any criminal cases have been registered against these registered medical practitioners,



the State Governments should immediately withdraw these cases.

**(vi) Need to accord the status of a Central University to Patna University in Bihar.**

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Patna University, established in Patna, the capital of Bihar, is the first historical University of the State. The studies being undertaken in its Economics and other Departments are a matter of fame even abroad. Patna University has a unique identity in terms of quality education. If Patna University is accorded the status of a Central University, then it will be an addition to its specialities and at the same time it will enrich the dignity of Bihar.

Therefore, I wish to draw the attention of Hon. Human Resource Development Minister that Patna University be accorded the status of Central University, so that this ancient University is elevated.

**(vii) Need to increase the amount under 'Sam Vikas Yojana' for construction and repair of roads leading to historical palaces in Gopa Mau town in Hardoi district, Uttar Pradesh.**

*[Translation]*

SHRI ILYAS AZMI (Shahabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Gopa Mau Town under my constituency Shahabad is a place of historical importance. The wonderful palaces made up of Lakhori bricks at this town show its historic importance and these palaces have been attracting the people interested in construction work. The famous Nawab of Kamataka Mohammad Ali Valaya was born in this town itself. Today these palaces are in dilapidated condition. The cultural heritage of these palaces is vanishing slowly day by day. Minorities have great respect for these palaces.

I request the Government through the House that the funds under "Sam Vikas Yojana" being implemented in Hardoi district be increased and the district administration should be directed to construct and repair the roads leading to these palaces in the first phase and this heart should not be left for municipalities.

**(viii) Need to Include Krishnagiri district in Tamil Nadu under 'National Food for Work Programme'**

*[English]*

SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM (Krishnagiri) : Sir, the new Krishnagiri district in Tamil Nadu has been created by bifurcating the Dharmapuri district and it is functioning with effect from 9.2.2004. Krishnagiri district is predominantly agriculture based. It is affected by drought conditions continuously for the past many years. Most of the agricultural labourers find no work and migrate to nearby cities in search of work.

Around 30 per cent area in Krishnagiri district comes under forest with traditional tribal villages. In the absence of any work for these unskilled tribal people, the migration level is reaching 30 per cent and more these days. The district shares a long border with Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. Many areas particularly the backward areas of Thally, Uthangarai and Mathur Blocks are poverty ridden and the naxalite elements take advantage of the illiteracy and innocence of the tribal people and have made inroads in these areas. Non-availability of employment opportunities is the major factor for growth of radical elements.

If the 'National Food for Work Programme' is implemented in this district, it will definitely provide livelihood to poor unskilled labourers and the tribal people. It will also help in checking naxalite activities in this district.

Hence, I urge upon the hon. Minister of Rural Development that Krishnagiri district may be included under the 'National Food for Work Programme'.

**(ix) Need to take suitable steps to develop irrigation facilities with a view to boost agricultural production in the country.**

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' (Begusarai) : Mr. deputy Speaker, Sir, the facts starting emerging during the mid-term appraisal of Tenth-Five Year Plan do not augur well for the country. Our Hon. Prime Minister admitted himself that the growth rate in Tenth Five Year Plan is likely to be around seven per cent, which is less than the target. It means that the Government will find it very difficult to meet its employment generation target which will ultimately result in the rise of unemployment. The biggest reason for the country not being able to achieve the annual growth rate is shortfall in production in agricultural sector. The production, envisaged to be increased at the rate of 4 per cent, has increased @ 1.5% only. India is an agrarian country where 60% population still depends on agriculture. The growth in agricultural sector is the parameter of the development of our country. Irrigation plays an important role in the development of agriculture. Unfortunately, irrigation sector does not find place in the Government recognized infrastructure meant for the development of country. Neglecting irrigation has resulted in downward trend in the agricultural production.

I urge the Government that if the targeted rate of growth is to be achieved in this country, the agricultural sector should not be neglected and we should provide irrigation top most. Priority in our infrastructural set-up so that the focus of Government is concentrated towards this sector.

**(x) Need to give Environmental clearance for construction of Metalled road on Amereli-Junagarh-Kodinar Route falling in Gir Forest Area in Gujarat.**

SHRI V.K. THUMMAR (Amereli) : Sir, Kodinar Taluka is located on the route of Junagarh from my parliamentary

constituency, Amereli where there is a road in the Gir Forest area which has not been metalled so far in absence of the environmental clearance from the Ministry of Forests. Consequently, people have to take other route to reach Junagarh and Kodinar leading to wastage of time and a great deal of inconvenience to the people. The district administration has sent a proposal regarding construction of a road for clearance which is still pending with the while road an Amreli-Una route falling under Gir Forest area has been constructed, the route mentioned above also comes under the same forest area.

Therefore I, through this House, would request the Union Government to give clearance at the earliest to the construction of a road on Amreli-Junagarh-Kodinar route like the construction of road on Amreli-Una route in Gir Forest Area which is still pending with the Ministry of Forests.

*[English]*

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up item Nos. 27 and 28 together.

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY (Dhanbad) : Sir, I would also like to speak under Rule 377.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You were not present when your name was called.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY : Sir, I am just two minute late.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It can not be.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY : My point is very important.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can lay it on the table. That will form part of the record.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY : I start speaking if you permit,

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : As a special case you are permitted to speak.

[English]

This may not be treated as a precedent.

**(xi) Need to fill up backlog reserve vacancies for class IV posts in Bokaro Steel Plant through local employment exchange with a view to rehabilitate displaced persons.**

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY (Dhanbad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, an agreement was signed between the Bokaro Steel Management and the representatives of the displaced scheduled castes that the appointment of Class IV employees will be made calling the names of the candidates through the local Employment Exchange. Contrary to this, 75,000 applications have been invited by the management from all over the country the internet to fill up the 95 backlog vacancies of the scheduled castes for appointing them as Class IV employees. The interview for this purpose is going to be held in Kolkata. This act of the management is not only going to cause losses worth crores of rupees to the company but it is also against the local agreements and contrary to the rules and orders of the Union Government. Due to that local displaced persons are agitated which can create a volatile situation.

I, therefore, request the Union Government to ban it without delay and demand appointment of displaced persons after calling names from the local Employment Exchanges.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Only the approved text will go on record. The speech will not go on record.

14.24 hrs.

## RAILWAY BUDGET-DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—2005-06\*

AND

### RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE FIRST REPORT OF RAILWAY CONVENTION COMMITTEE

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for the year 2005-2006.

Hon. Members present in the House whose Cut Motions to the Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for the year 2005-2006 have been circulated may, if they desire to move their Cut Motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the Cut Motions they would like to move. Those Cut Motions only will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of the Cut Motions treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly thereafter. In case any Member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the officer at the Table immediately.

Motion moved:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2006 in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 16."

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\*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

**Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2005-06 submitted to the  
Vote of the Lok Sabha (Vide List of Business for...)**

| No. of<br>Demand | Name of Demand   | Amount of Demand<br>for Grants on Account<br>voted by the House<br>on 15.3.2005<br>(Rs.) | Amount of Demand<br>for Grants<br>submitted to the Vote<br>of the House.<br>(Rs.) |
|------------------|--|--|---|
| 1                | 2  | 3  | 4   |
| 1.               | Railway Board  | 13,21,69,000   | 66,08,47,000  |
| 2.               | Miscellaneous Expenditure (General)                      | 43,33,47,000   | 216,67,37,000   |
| 3.               | General Superintendence and Services on<br>Railways      | 317,04,48,000  | 1585,22,39,000  |
| 4.               | Repairs and Maintenance of Permanent<br>Way and Work     | 600,90,72,000  | 3004,53,60,000  |
| 5.               | Repairs and Maintenance of Motive Power                  | 314,44,50,000  | 1572,22,51,000  |
| 6.               | Repairs and Maintenance of<br>Carriages and Wagons       | 629,47,29,000  | 3147,36,45,000  |
| 7.               | Repairs and Maintenance of Plant and<br>Equipment        | 340,36,75,000  | 1701,83,72,000  |
| 8.               | Operating Expenses-Rolling Stock and<br>Equipment        | 500,36,82,000  | 2501,84,10,000  |
| 9.               | Operating Expenses—Traffic                               | 2445,70,12,000   | 4884,30,41,000  |
| 10.              | Operating Expenses—Fuel                                  | 1529,19,59,000   | 7645,97,97,000  |
| 11.              | Staff Welfare and Amenities                              | 253,98,89,000  | 1269,94,43,000  |
| 12.              | Miscellaneous Working Expenses                           | 298,70,04,000  | 1439,50,18,000  |
| 13.              | Provident Fund, Pension and Other<br>Retirement Benefits | 1200,11,75,000   | 6000,58,72,000  |
| 14.              | Appropriation to Funds                                   | 2212,91,33,000   | 11084,56,67,000   |

| 1   | 2  | 3                      | 4                      |
|-----|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| 15. | Dividend to General Revenues, Repayment of loans taken from General Revenues and Amortization of Over-Capitalisation | 12,22,61,000           | 3973,27,39,000         |
| 16. | Assets-Acquisition, Construction and Replacement   |                        |                        |
|     | Revenue  | 7,50,00,000            | 37,50,00,000           |
|     | <b>Other Expenditure</b>   |                        |                        |
|     | Capital  | 3520,80,51,000         | 17604,02,55,000        |
|     | Railway Funds  | 773,61,50,000          | 3868,07,50,000         |
|     | Railway Safety Fund  | 118,46,17,000          | 592,30,83,000          |
|     | Special Railway Safety Fund  | 638,83,33,000          | 3194,16,67,000         |
|     | <b>Total</b>   | <b>15771,21,56,000</b> | <b>75424,01,93,000</b> |

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Lalu Prasad to have the Resolution.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD) :  
I beg to move:

"That this House approves the recommendations contained in Paras 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51 and 53 of the First Report of Railway Convention Committee (2004) appointed to review the rate of dividend payable by the Railway Undertaking to General Revenues etc., which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 21st December, 2004."

[Translation]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we shall not listen to Shri Lalu Prasad Ji. We on behalf of the N.D.A. have decided that we shall not listen to Shri Lalu Prasad ji when he reads the Railway

Budget and the Demands for Grants. Therefore, we raise objection against it...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Not to be recorded.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved:

"That this House approves the recommendations contained in Paras 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51 and 53 of the First Report of Railway Convention Committee (2004) appointed to review the rate of dividend payable by the Railway Undertaking to General Revenues etc., which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 21st December, 2004."

Now, I request Shri Ratilal Kalidas Varma to speak.

\*Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister of Railways had also referred to many things while presenting the Railway Budget and now he has brought the Demands for Grants for approval. First of all, I would like to begin with my own constituency. It is my sixth tenure in the Lok Sabha. I have all along been demanding several necessary railway facilities for my parliamentary constituency. But I regret to say that whosoever becomes the Railway Minister he pays all attention to his own State and constituency. For instance when an 'Ojha' distributes coconuts he throws them in the direction where his family members are standing. Such 'ojhas' can not remain in reckoning for long.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have been elected from Dhandhuka Parliamentary Constituency. For long, I have been demanding to convert the Botat-Ahmedabad Railway line into broad gauge line, but the Ministry is not paying any attention to that. Due to this the whole of Saurashtra gets isolated from Gujarat. I have been demanding it time and again and this time also I had made a request to the Railway Minister, but no action has been taken in this regard. Though a railway line, however, was converted into broad-gauge during the NDA Government. That is the Surat Nagar-Bhavnagar rail line, but the platform remained low and it was not lifted along the railway line. Consequently, everyday aged persons and students slip away while getting down from the rail coaches due to low level of platform and meet with accidents. I am not able to understand why the level of platforms was not raised or they were extended at the time of broad gauge Conversion. At that time why did it not come into the notice of the Ministry of Railways that the platforms should have been raised alongwith the railway line. If there has been any corruption or scam here too, it should be investigated...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Can you name the station of which the platform level is sought to be raised?

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : The Hon. Minister, I am talking of Bhavnagar-Suratnagar broad-gauge railway line which was converted into broad-gauge during the tenure of the NDA Government, but its railway platform is small and low in level due to which aged persons and students slip away and fall while getting down the trains and accidents are taking place. Platforms of that line should be enlarged and their heights should be raised.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, along with it I would also like to submit that the cost of to and fro Saurashtra journey is high. Therefore, I request the Government that a new railway line from Dasa to Botat be laid so that people of Amreli and Kutch could get an easy route. It would reduce the journey time and the fare also and rail-facility could be provided for the entire state.

Sir, alongwith it I would like to say that we have to perform a long journey of six hours from Dhanduka to Bhavnagar. The route is also circuitous. A survey was conducted long time ago. Dhanduka to Bhavnagar direct line survey has already been conducted and the said survey should be inquired into. Railway as well as the general public would be very much benefited from it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, new railway lines are laid and the existing lines are converted into broad gauge but the village side level crossing are closed. Even the opinion of the villagers are not sought in this regard. Due to it the farmers have to travel upto 10 kilometres to cross the railway line. Old level-crossing of the villages should be restored. Sometimes, the level crossing (Railway Phatak) is closed and its key is kept at the railway station. The farmer has to travel 3 kilometres to get the key of the level crossing and then the level-crossing is opened. My request is that those level crossings should remain open during the day time and arrangement for gate-keeper should be made on them. Besides, the platforms are in dilapidated condition. They should be repaired. There should be arrangement for seating and drinking water for the passengers. There should be computerized reservation

system on each station. Police should be deployed in the trains running at night so that scoundrels may not harass or loot ladies and ordinary persons. There should be separate coaches for ladies on the lines of the trains of Mumbai. There should be separate coaches for the senior citizens also.

I have been demanding for increasing the reservation quota on the Dholka, Sanand, Davala, Botat etc. stations of my constituency. Businessmen visit all these areas. Botat is a big market of cumin and cotton. I have been demanding for increasing reservation quota for the people who want to travel to Mumbai or Delhi. Gauge-conversion of Viramgaon-Mehsana sector has already been completed but train is yet to be introduced on this route. 50 villages have been adversely affected by it. Today, six months have elapsed but the train has not been introduced on this route. Train should be introduced on this route. Sites should be allotted to the old traders. At some places culverts below rail-track get closed resulting which its water enter into the nearby 'bastis'. If sanitation staff of the municipality goes there to clean the culvert, the railway officers say that it is outside their premises. You cannot come here to clean the culvert. Water enters into these 'bastis' resulting which the people are falling sick. But, the railway authority prevent the municipality from cleaning the culvert. Permission is to be taken from the DRM for laying water pipe line and cable in the railway zone. When the DRM gives permission only then work would be started. As a result of which there is delay in the implementation of the work. I demand that the Ministry of Railways issue order that permission should be granted immediately for laying electricity, water on telephone cables or lines. Thereafter, permission could be sought from the railway authority or the DRM.

I request the hon. Minister that the coaches of Bhavnagar-Ahmedabad intercity Express are not fully occupied. Its four coaches go to Rajkot and other four coaches go to Bhavnagar but the train do not stop at the important stations falling between both the stations. All these points should be kept in mind. You have told during

the budget speech that there has been increase in freight but you have stopped freight at small stations. People are very much distressed by it. You have talked about electrification of diesel siding. Unelectrified lines should be electrified in Gujarat.

Gujarat has big salt industry. You have said that the Government would provide more loan to the salt industry. But, the salt industry is going on the verge of closure due to non-availability of loan at time. Loan should be provided to the salt industry for transportation of coal. The railways have removed the railway tracks at many places in Gujarat. The above land should be returned to the original owners.

The hon. Minister in his item No. 22 has told that metropolitan railway stations would be developed as modern stations. Ahmedabad station is a big station. You have forgotten that one. You have done nothing about its extension. Sabarmati station is adjacent to it. It was to be developed. During the regime of the NDA Government it was said that the trains originating from Delhi would stop there but till date no train stops there...*(Interruptions)*

You undertook Dandi Yatra from Gandhi Ashram and you are insulting that Gandhi Nagar. Gandhi Nagar is the capital of Gujarat. You have talked about laying a new railway line of 25 kilometers.

You have made six proposals in which the proposal for Gandhinagar was the last one. If a new rail line is laid between Kalon and Gandhinagar, it can facilitate Rajdhani to Rajdhani link. You made five of those proposals in the beginning and added it as the last proposal. I hope you will complete it as soon as possible.

You talked about promoting public-private participation. Gujarat is a state of businessmen. There is not a single country in the world where there are no Gujaratis. Please come to Gujarat with the businessmen from that state and invite the Gujarat Chamber of Commerce. I have assured to provide facilities like handling, warehousing and road link etc. at every station but the work relating

[Shri Ratilal Kalidas Varma]

to providing such facilities in Gujarat can be done in a very good manner. You have to do only the work and meet the Chamber of Commerce...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Not to be recorded. No comments please.

(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : It is my request that you should take the local passenger association in confidence while make separate time-table or changing the existing one to avoid our frequent meeting with you in that connection.

The position of wait-listed passengers becomes clear only half an hour before the scheduled departure of trains. It creates a lot of problems for those passengers when they find their tickets not confirmed on reaching the station...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Not to be recorded

(Interruptions)\*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : First you should address the Chair otherwise that will not be recorded. If you say anything in the House without my permission, that will not be recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Unaccounted assets of railway departure are spread all over the

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\*Not recorded.

country. You do not know about the goods worth crores of rupees lying idle in various stations. It is being pilferaged or getting rusted. In auctions, those goods are sold which are in functional state. You do not bother about those things. The assets of the country should not be misused.

Goods and machines in workable condition are sold as scrap and it causes huge deficit for railway department. It should be managed efficiently.

You have adopted contract system in petty jobs. People belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are employed by the contractors but they are not give their full wages. The contract system should be abolished and the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and Backward communities working under those contractors should be made railway employees. You talk about the backward castes. I hope that you will provide them proper justice by absorbing them in railway department.

There are a great number of train accidents. Sometimes there is head-on-collision; sometimes trains get derailed, sometimes it falls in river and at other times it collides with goods train. Innocent persons are killed in these accidents. You promise to give them a compensation of one lac rupees but they can not get their deceased kith and kin back. So, it is better to save their lives than giving them a compensation of one lac rupees.

The concessions announced by the hon. Minister is worth appreciation. But, you have to ensure that these concessions are received by deserving people.

I would like to make another demand. It is for the stoppage of Ahmedabad-Bhavnagar Inter-city, computerization of Bakaner junction and stoppage of trains coming from Mumbai at Viswamitra station.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister had recited two couplets at the end of his speech. I would conclude my



speech by mentioning those couplets. The hon. Minister had said,

"Uthna hai aur bhee upar, hai Uchaeyan pukarti,

"Hai appar Kshmtayen. aashayen tumhe niharti.

"I would like to respond with the following poem:-

"Pukarte pukarte Unchaeyan thak gayee,

Rail budget ko sunkar as niraas bhae,

Dakshin Bharat ko chhorkar sari rail Bihar chali gayee

Hai apaar Kshmtayen phir bhee kaam purna kame mein akshamta dikhai gayee."

The second couplet quoted by the hon. Minister was-

"Sirf hangama khara karma mera maksad nahin

Meri koshish hai ki yah surat badalni chahiye."

"Sirf Hangama khada karana he Rail Bhashan ka Maksad Hai, Agar Dil Aur Dimag se Koshish kai To Rail Ki Surat to Kya, Sara Desh Khoobsurat ho jayega"

In reply to this, I would like to say that-

In the end, about the broad-gauge I would like to say that it should be completed. The broad-gauge conversion work of Godhra-Indore Devas is held up. I would like to ask as to why it is held up and by when it would be completed...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This will not go on record.

[Translation]

Vermaji, now your speech is not going on record... (Interruptions)

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Injustice has been done to Gujarat. No doubt the BJP is ruling there, but half of the Members of Parliament there have been elected

from congress. They are also not heard. The Gujarat Minister of Railway is also displeased. Like him we are also distressed.

### CUT MOTIONS

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Hoshiarpur) : I beg to move:

**That bold the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rupees 100.**

147. Need to set up industries for manufacturing spare parts for Railways in Hoshiarpur.

**"That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs. 100/-**

166. Need to start (a) direct train between Hoshiarpur and Delhi.

167. Need to connect Amritsar and Shri Anandpur Sahib by rail line.

168. Need to attach a Pantry car to Jammu Tawi Express.

169. Need to increase reservation quota in the trains Starting from Hoshiarpur.

**"That the demand under the Head assets - acquisition, construction and replacement be reduced by Rupees 100.**

177. Need to construct a new rail line between Jejo and Una Railway stations.

178. Need to construct more platforms at Hoshiarpur Railway station.

[English]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (Aimora) : I beg to move:

**That the demand under the Head Railway Board be reduced by Rs.100.**

[Shri Bachi Singh Rawat 'Bachda']

- 241. Need to run more trains from Delhi to Kathgodam via Moradabad with AC 1st class compartment.
- 242. Need to run daily Shatabdi trains from New Delhi to Ram Nagar and New Delhi to Kathgodam.
- 243. Need to run as express train between Kathgodam and Jammu Tawi via Ambala.

**That the Demand under the Head General Superintendence and Services on Railways be reduced by Rs. 100.**

- 244. Need to transfer the Ramnagar Railway Station and surrounding area from the jurisdiction of North-Eastern Railway, Moradabad to Northern Railway, Izatnagar, Bareilly.

**That the Demand under the Head Staff Welfare and amenities be reduced by Rs. 100.**

- 245. Need to establish a 100-bed Railway Hospital at Kathgodam for the welfare of railway employees.

**That the Demand under the Head Assets Acquisition, Construction and Replacement be reduced by Rs.100.**

- 246. Need to convert all narrow gauge lines into broad gauge lines in the State of Uttaranchal.
- 247. Need to provide computerized reservation facilities at all railway stations in the State of Uttaranchal.
- 248. Need to make adequate arrangements for drinking water, refreshment rooms and to maintain cleanliness at all the railway stations in the State of Uttaranchal.
- 249. Need to construct new rail line between Lalkuan and Khatima.

- 250. Need to introduce computerized reservation system in Almora, Gangolihat, Berinag, Didihat, Bhikiyasain, Chaukhutia, Dharuchula, Munsyari, Kapakote, Tehsil Headquarters in the Kumaon Division of Uttaranchal.

- 251. Need to construct railway line from Ram Nagar to Chaukhutia via Marehula Distt. Almora.

- 252. Need to construct railway line between Kathgodam and Mumbai and between Kathgodam and Ahmedabad.

- 253. Need to construct railway line from Tanakpur to Champawat and Bageshwar.

- 254. Need to construct new rail line connecting Tanakpur-Kathgodam-Ramnagar-Kotdwar-Hardwar-Dehradun.

- 255. Need to construct over-bridge between Rampur and Moradabad railway crossing for smooth traffic.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajanj, Bihar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I don't want to deliver a speech. Since the Minister of Railways can't speak about his constituency himself, so I would like to speak about his constituency. I believe that he would respond to it...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : First of all, you consult him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Through you, I would like to tell the Minister that from the bridge, which is being constructed over the Ganga River in Patna, the Railway station there extends to Parmanand. From the constituency of the Hon'ble Minister, the railway track straightway goes to Masrak via Taraiyan. I had also written a letter to the hon. Minister in this regard asking him to get a survey conducted from Masrak to Parmanand bridge because

there are a lot of problems in the rural areas due to it. It has to pass through the four assembly constituencies of Taraiyan, Parsa, Gadkhia and Sonpur of your constituency. I would like you to take action in this regard after getting its survey conducted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am not making a speech. I am only talking about the Minister's constituency. During the tenure of Shri Nitish Kumarji as the Railway Minister's a railway project from Masrak to Maharajganj was sanctioned. The project found mention in the budget also. The approval of the Planning Commission was also received and its foundation stone was also laid. When I wrote a letter to you in this regard recently, I received the reply that Rupees two crores have been released for this. However, your Ministry has not included the same in the priority list. I would like that the sanctioned project be completed by making arrangement of the land there. I would not like to say anything else. Hon'ble Minister, I believe that in the case of your constituency you will definitely discuss these two points in your reply. You will at least sort out the problem of your own constituency.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will be recorded except the speech of Shri Madan Lal Sharma.

(Interruptions)\*

SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA (Jammu) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the grants of railways.

First of all, I would like to thank the U.P.A. Government, Hon. Prime Minister and specially Hon. Minister of Railways Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav on behalf of myself and also the people of state for materializing the dream of Late Mrs. Indira Gandhi on the festival of Baisakhi by flagging off the train from there. In addition to that during his speech

\*Not recorded.

there on the occasion of inaugural function he promised to extend rail from Udhampur to Kajikund and Kajikund to Baramulla in Jammu Kashmir state and the work there is in progress. He had also made the commitment to start running train there by 2007. I understand that during past 15 years the state was facing militancy but now in every department particularly the department of railways the development work there is going on fast. It provides employment to people and it appears that Indian Government and the department of railways wish to link cut off areas of Jammu Kashmir with the rest of the country. I want to thank Lalaji for that.

Our state Jammu Kashmir is an important state from tourism point of view and it is correct that people did not go there during the last years because of the fear of militancy but once the train will be introduced and people from different corners of the country could be in a position to reach there easily, than it will be very beneficial for all. 60 lakh pilgrims visit Jammu to have a sight of the goddess Vaishno Devi. The Government have decided to take the train to Katra by 2006. I request that the same link be extended to the next two districts Rajouri and Puncch. It is necessary also for the reason that a large number of our army divisions are deployed there, the line of control, the actual line of control with Pakistan borders is there and Army away from every corner of the country are posted there. They face great difficulty in commuting from there. Not only this, last year while going to Jammu Railway station by buses and Trucks they often met accidents on the way and many of them lost their lives.

14.49 hrs.

[SHRI ARJUN SETHI in the Chair]

I would like to submit that department of railways had conducted a survey a very long time ago for extending the train facilities to Rajouri and Puncch but last year while answering to my question in this regard they replied that they did not have any such scheme as yet. But the zest

[Shri Madan Lal Sharma]

shown by department of Railways and particularly Hon. Minister of Railways has boosted the morale of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. I submit that it is feasible to link the two big districts of Rajouri and Puncch and it will generate the employment opportunities for the people of the area because they do not have any source of income.

They depend on their yield from their land if the rail track work is started there, on the one hand it will give employment to people on the other hand, it will provide a means of transport to people and our soldiers posted there from different corners of the country will also find it easy to commute. There are many a pilgrim places in this area where lakhs of pilgrims come every year and for them also it will be convenient. In this very House last time I had said that there are no reservation counters at our district head quarters e.g. Puncch and Rajouri. I am thankful to Railway Minister for his declaration while presenting Railway budget grants where in he had said that the youth will get rebates in the rail fare while going to other states in search of employment or for interview etc. I think the youth of our state can utilize the facility outside the state but in our own state they cannot avail the benefits because they have to go to Jammu covering a distance of 300 kilometers to get the reservation. Therefore, I demand that computerised reservation centres would be opened at every district headquarters so that alongwith the people, army soldiers also get the benefits there.

Sir, Rajdhani Express in our area goes upto Jammu but only once in a week. I will request the honourable Minister that it will be a great favour to the pilgrims coming for having a glimpse of Vaishno Devi if the Rajdhani Express is run daily. It this step will be very beneficial to people. I hope that Rajdhani Express will be run all the seven days.

Sir, Hon. Minister of Railways and Government of

Jammu and Kashmir are doing a great job in the state of Jammu Kashmir. At the same time I wish to request the Hon. Minister that a railway division should be set up in Jammu which is also our winter capital because our railway division is Ferozepur and you are aware of the distance between Ferozpur and Kashmir Baramula. It will be convenient for railways also to monitor their work from a close location and the development of Jammu city will take place alongwith the availability of employment to people. It will be a great relief to people from the department of railways. Today the people of my state are grateful to the present UPA Government, Hon. Prime Minister and Hon. Minister of railways who had been there recently. I do not want to take more time. I appreciate the works done by Hon. Minister of railway and his department. I hope that hon. Minister will consider my suggestions and will introduce a train in my state, particularly my constituency—Jammu, Puncch and Rajouri.

[English]

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Birbhum) : Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants in respect of Railways for the year 2005-06. I must congratulate the Railway Minister for presenting a people-friendly Railway Budget.

The first phase discussion of the Budget was over already and now, in the second phase, a detailed discussion on the Demands for Grants is being taken up. Here, I have some specific submissions and suggestions to make. In the list of Demands, the total number of Heads is sixteen.

The major problem today in our country, particularly in the backward areas, is expansion of new railway projects. For the past few years we have seen that the budgetary support for expansion of railway network in the country, particularly in the backward areas, has been neglected. This year also, though hon. Railway Minister has tried his level best, yet the budgetary support for taking

up the new projects, particularly in the backward areas, is not satisfactory.

The second and the most important part is, maintenance and repair of old railway lines, that is modernisation of the railway tracks. It is not satisfactory at all. There are a number of old bridges and the railway accidents are the order of the day. Though our Minister claims that particularly in the last one year the number of accidents has been minimised, yet he should not be complacent because many of the rail accidents are due to poor maintenance of tracks and bridges. So, this should be attended adequately. Adequate funds should be allocated for this. Otherwise, an important part of our Railway services is neglected. The negative fall out of this is, derailment, accidents and damage to both life and property.

Similarly, our Railway Safety Programme is also being neglected. Though a Special Railway Safety Fund has been created yet for the past few years we have seen that this fund has not been utilised and the programme of safety network is not progressing satisfactorily. My humble request to the Railway Minister is that the safety part should be given top priority and funds should not be any constraint in that.

Our operating expenses, particularly fuel expenses, are also increasing every year because of the rise in prices of fuel in the international market. So, the immediate substitute for fuel, that is electrification of railway tracks, should be taken up. But that also is not satisfactory.

15.00 hrs.

The major parts of the Railway network are uncovered with electrification programme. As long as we delay our electrification programme, our fuel expenses will go high. It will go beyond our control which would result in cutting down our expenses on new developmental programmes.

As regards gauge conversion programme, in every

Railway Budget, we see that surveys are going on. These sorts of surveys are endless. These are not done on the basis of a time-bound programme. These programmes are like consolation prizes. That is why, my suggestion is that gauge conversion programme should be taken up seriously. In the case of new projects for conversion where survey works are going on, that should be done in a time-bound manner.

With regard to passenger amenities and facilities, I must say that this part is also neglected, particularly in the passenger trains people are not getting proper facilities. Only the old bogies are there. Light is not there; window panes are not closed; toilet facilities are not maintained; and adequate drinking water facilities are not there at the stations. The toilet facility should be introduced in the DMU and EMU services. On-going projects particularly in the backward and north-eastern parts of our country should be taken up on priority. Guwahati-Lumding and Guwahati-Dharamnagar Railway projects are long pending projects. The work is going on at snails pace. That should be taken up on top priority. Our Prime Minister has said that the Railway projects in the north-east will be taken up as national projects. I must congratulate him but this should be implemented in a time-bound manner.

The wagon factories are being neglected, particularly in West Bengal. Our wagon factories are sick even though they are in the public sector. More orders for wagons are needed. Day-by-day, orders for wagons are reducing. This should be looked into. Our locomotive factory at Chittaranjan is a nice factory. It is producing so many nice engines but the orders are getting reduced. These types of plants should be protected and no privatisation and commercialisation should be given priority. I must mention here a few on-going projects and a few services. One of the important railway services is Andal-Palasthali Railway Service. That is under suspension for more than two and half years now. This Railway line connects the most backward areas, namely, Bardhaman, Birbhum and nearby

[Dr. Ram Chandra Dome]

Jharkhand areas. Unfortunately, in spite of repeated representations, this service has not been restored.

There was only one train service on this line. That service has now been suspended for two and a half years. I would specially like to request the hon. Railway Minister to restore the train service in the Andal-Palasthali railway route. This is one of the most backward areas in the State. The toiling masses used this service to go to their work places. I would like to once again request him to do something for the restoration of train service on this route.

My next point is about the water-logging problem at Bendel station. That is a perennial problem. This issue has been raised by the Member of Parliament representing the area. But the matter has not been taken up seriously by the Railway authorities. Remedial measures to remove water-logging in Bandel station should be initiated immediately.

The other point is about construction of a railway flyover at Durgapur station. This is a very important area. But that project has not been taken up. Construction of railway flyovers at many other such stations should be taken up exclusively by the Railway Department.

Sir, I would also like to mention here about the Dumka-Rampurhat railway line. This railway line connects backward areas of Dumka in Jharkhand and Birbhum in West Bengal. That project is also pending for a long time. Due consideration has not been given to this project. This project should be implemented in a time-bound manner. Similarly, the electrification of the Andal-Sainthia railway track should also be taken up at the earliest.

The proposed *Janshatabdi* express that runs from Howrah to New Jalpaiguri should be run via Siuri. The Azimganj-Andal railway service should also be restored immediately. The narrow gauge conversion programme

between Amodpur-Katwa and Katwa-Bardhaman is long pending. Survey work is nearly complete. I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister to take up the conversion programme of this route immediately.

My next point is about terminal facilities at Siuri. Siuri is an important district headquarter and also is an industrial town but there are no terminal facilities at Siuri. There should be terminal facilities at Siuri. The Kolkata metro project extension programme should be implemented in a time-bound manner.

The last point that I would like to mention is about giving licences to the railway hawkers. Though the hon. Minister has made a commitment about giving licences to the railway hawkers, yet it needs to be implemented immediately. It is because in the absence of a proper licence our railway hawkers are being harassed by the railway police everyday. This harassment by the police should be checked and a proper licence should be issued to them.

Sir, with these few words, I once again support the Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Railways for the year 2005-06.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the House is discussing the Demands for Grants of the Railway Budget, 2005-2006. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to a few specific points. If one were to compare the present year's budget with the past year's budgets, it would be clear that He has prepared this budget taking into account the stock of the situation emerging after studying those budgets. An Action Plan has to be formulated carefully with regard to the demands he is going to approve. If he will not formulate the Action Plan, this budget would also prove futile as compared to the last year's budget.

I am of the opinion that this Budget would not usher in any development for railways. I would like to draw the

attention of the hon. Minister of Railways to certain item numbers of the budget, 2003-04. If he pays any attention to it, it would certainly come to his notice that still there is scope of some improvement in it. In the demand number pertaining to miscellaneous receipts there has been decline in the year, 2004-05 as against the year, 2003-04. The Miscellaneous receipts comprise only i.e. four per cent of the total revenue receipts of Railways during this period. Similarly, there has been decline in the Rail Development Fund Appropriation.

The present Budget has made the provision of only two per cent for the development of Railways which is very meagre sum in view of the fact that our country is so vast and there is a great need of development of railways infrastructure in it. Besides, road-routes, the entire traffic movement depends on rail route. But if only two paisas are earmarked for the development head under it, then, we can imagine how the Ministry of Railways would make progress. There is a need to enhance it. We and the hon. Minister of Railways also express concern on Railways safety every time inside and outside the House. But there has been a decline in the appropriation of Railways Safety Fund. A provision of three per cent has been made under the rail safety head. I admit that this fund is very meagre and without increasing it, the rail safety cannot be improved.

I belong to Madhya Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh is a densely state and is also important from the view point of traffic movement. Madhya Pradesh is situated in the middle of the country. There is a great need to connect it with railway line from all the four directions of the country so as to move easily from one corner to other corner of the country. It is a matter of coincidence that since independence only twice Ministers of Railways have been appointed from Madhya Pradesh till now. Firstly, Shri Prakash Chandra Sethi served as Minister of Railways around the year 1972 thereafter Shri Madhav Rao Scindiaji were appointed as the Minister of Railways. They had made some efforts for the development of

Railways in Madhya Pradesh. Besides them, it is only Shri Nitish Kumarji who has furthered this development process.

The hon. Minister of Railways, Shri Lalu Prasadji has presented the Railways Budget. The budget does contain the earlier approved schemes, but the adequate budgetary provisions have not been made for the completion of those scheme. For example, I would like to say that last year a budgetary provision of Rs. 25 to 30 crore was made for the construction of Makvi-Dewas and Indore-Godhra railway lines. There has been a decline in the budgetary provisions for Indore-Godhra railway line this year. Last year, a budgetary provision of approximately Rs. 25 crore was made, but the same was not utilized at all. Trees were felled for clearing the space for laying railway track but those funds remained unutilized. Similarly, the work of gauge conversion of Ajmer-Khandawa narrow gauge railway line is going on. More budgetary provision was made last year for this purpose. Earlier to it some work was also carried out, but the budgetary provision made last year was not utilized at all. Bridges have been constructed. The work of linking Ratlam by procuring and laying the railway line and sleepers etc. has not been completed so far. It is still pending. Before independence, there was a narrow gauge railway line from Ujjain to Agra. At the time of imposition of emergency in the country, nobody was having right to make an appeal in the court. Under such a situation, the said railway line from Ujjain to Agra was dismantled. After this, when the public representatives demanded for laying this railway line again, they were assured that this railway line would again be laid down. During the NDA Government's regime, we had requested Shri Nitish Kumarji as well as Shri Ramvilas Paswanji for this. Shri Ramvilas Paswanji had given approval for that and Shri Nitish Kumarji had made budgetary provisions for conducting surveys thereof.

The survey has been completed and its report is available with the Ministry of Railways since April, 2000.

[Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot]

I had personally visited and met the hon. Minister of Railways and requested him to accord approval for this railway line but instead of it he granted approval for the latest survey in the last year budget. As per my knowledge, this work has been completed. I had hoped that in the present budget the funds will be provided for the construction work by according approval for the said railway line but nothing has happened. I would like to request him to give approval for laying a new railway line on Ujjain-Agra-Ramganjmandi-Jhalawad Road route and sanction funds for this propose in the supplementary budget.

In the same way I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Railways towards the fact that for namesake there are 250 superfast trains in Hindustan and superfast express fare is being charged from the passengers who travel by these trains. The Ministry of Railways have accepted the fact that out of the 250 superfast trains, only 70 trains are running as per superfast norms but superfast fare is being charged for all these trains. It means that 180 superfast trains are not running as per superfast norms. My submission is that either all the superfast trains should run as per prescribed norms or the passengers should not be charged the superfast train fare.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Paschim Express, previously known as Deluxe Express has been running between Mumbai and Amritsar for years together.. This train reaches Mathura at 7.00 A.M. and its scheduled arrival at Delhi is 10.30 A.M. All the Express trains running between Mathura to Delhi take time of one hour and forty five minutes or two hours but this train reaches Delhi in three and half hour. Since it is a superfast train, myself, Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya, Dr. Laxmi Narayan Pandeya and Shri Kanti Lal Bhuria wrote to the Railway Authorities that this train should reach Delhi at 9.00 A.M. One hour margin is given to this train for covering a distance of 42 KM. My submission is that its timing should be reationalised.

Mr. Chairman,, Sir, submission has already been made to the hon. Minister of Railways for sanction of Lalitpur-Singrauli railway line. The hon. Minister had announced in this regard in the last budget. Introduction of 46 new trains have been announced in this budget but out of these trains, 14 trains require gauge conversion of their track which is yet to be done. I may please be informed that by when the gauge conversion would take place. If the gauge conversion work is not completed as per the target fixed for the current year, then how will it be possible to run these new trains?

The railway official should be asked to conduct an inquiry as to when the gauge conversion work could be completed. They just submitted the file and the hon. Minister put his signature thereon. How the work will be done in this manner.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister of Railways used to create a media hype for making use of Kulhad (earthen pot) for taking tea. Kulhad will be used in the trains. Using of Kulhad at Agra station was made a big issue. But today, neither the tea nor the water is served in the Kulhad. Today tea is being served in the plastic or paper glass. I know that not only he but Shri Nitish Kumarji had also made such announcement.

The then Minister of Railways has also announced that the railways would purchase only khadi bedrolls and bedsheets. But, it is not being implemented. You make announcements but you should give them practical shape. You should have information about the fact on how many stations kulhads are being used. No kulhad is being used at the stations. I would like to say that if you do not believe then get it inquired.

I would like to draw your attention towards two-three problems of my constituency. There is single line from Maxi to Guna-Bina. My submission is that the said line should be doubled and electrified...(Interruptions)



SHRI LALU PRASAD : When you will speak all these things, how would any work take place in your constituency?

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Railway route between Ujjain and Indore is single line route, it has not been electrified. My submission is that it should be doubled and electrified because there is heavy density of population in Ujjain and Indore. Indore is considered as the commercial capital of Madhya Pradesh. Many people visit Indore. Electric engine goes upto Ujjain but due to non-electrification of onwards rail line, rail engine is changed which takes time of 30 to 45 minutes. Due to this change the goods trains have to halt for a long period. You are deeply concerned about the railway and the public. My submission is that this track should be electrified and doubled.

One other submission is that trains with 21 and 24 coaches halt at Dewas, Ujjain and Nagda. 15 to 17 coaches of these trains remain on the platform but 9-10 coaches of these trains remain beyond the platform resulting which the passengers face difficulty while alighting. Someone's leg is fractured, some one loses his leg and someone is injured. My submission is that the railway stations where trains having 21 and 24 coaches arrive, the length of platforms should be extended. I have a lot of points to express. You have said that freight charge has not been increased, you have categorized goods traffic. You have categorized them into 100. Earlier these were 100 to 190 categories. But it would definitely increase the freight and affect the entire countrymen. You should also reconsider this issue. You should formulate a phased action plan of the provisions made in the budget and review its implementation. Otherwise there will be provision of the fund on the papers and it would not be spent on the project and in the next year budget you would talk about the same things. Therefore, my submission is that formulate a phased action plan for utilization of the budget provisions and you should review it yourself. If you feel that there is need of the Members of the Parliament

in this regard, their valuable suggestion can also be taken. With these words I conclude.

SHRI V.K. THUMMAR (Amreli) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to participate in the discussions on the Demands for Grants of the Railways for the year 2005-2006. The Minister of Railways, Shri Lalaji, the Ministers of State in the Ministry of Railways, Shri Rathwaji and Shri Veluji have presented a very good Rail Budget. Therefore, I congratulate them for this. The Minister of Railways has paid great attention to the short distance trains. Therefore, I would like to thank the Minister of Railways as well as the U.P.A. Government for this. Shri Rathwaji, elected from Gujarat for the first time has got an opportunity to work in the Ministry of Railways for which I thank Smt. Sonlaji and the hon. Prime Minister that they have paid so much attention to Gujarat. This Government has made great efforts in paying attention to the Gujarat Railways.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, now I would talk about my parliamentary constituency. A joint venture was started with Pipava Port for Mahua Rajuladhola Railway station and it was for goods trains. The NDA Government has demanded that rail service should be introduced there. There-after, they said that the joint venture with the Pipava Port has been started for goods trains only and passengers trains can't be introduced here. I would like to thank Shri Rathwaji, as he has provided facility to the people of Amreli by introducing this train the very next day after the introduction of train to Kashmir. If this type of work continuous for five years more in the country, then it can make good progress.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit two-three points about Saurashtra. During the tenure of Gaikwad Government under the British regime in Saurashtra, where there was a Governor state, even then there were small distance trains. Even today, there are so big stations which can be utilized for this purpose. If the narrow gauge railway line is converted into the broad gauge line and the train-services are introduced from there, then the same can also

[Shri V.K. Thummar]

be beneficial. Two-three works could be undertaken on Jaitalsar-Dasha railway line, which passes through my Saurashtra area. I had also put a question for the gauge conversion of this railway line and reply to that has also been given by the railways that the survey work has been started. The survey for that should be completed at the earliest. The construction of railway stations constructed during the British rule is so good those can also be utilized even now. Passengers trains should be introduced there by gauge conversion. Only then Gujarat can make any progress. For this, the Ministry of Railways should pay special attention towards it.

In Gujarat, Surat is famous for diamonds. Today, Surat has become the hub of textiles. Many people had written for providing a stoppage of Rajdhani Express at Surat operating presently on that route. But it was not being provided. This time, the Ministry of Railways has paid attention to Surat by providing a stoppage to Rajdhani Express there. Earlier, there was no stoppage of Rajdhani Express at Mehsana also. By providing its stoppage at Mehsana, the Ministry of Railways has done yet another good work for the people of Gujarat. For this, I would like to thank them. Presently, meter gauge train is running on the Botak-Ahmedabad railway line. Pipava is such a port, which, if developed, could become another port like Kandla. If Bota-Ahmedabad metre gauge railway line is converted into broad gauge railway line, Pipava could be connected to Ahmedabad. The Somnath temple is a very beautiful temple and some of my colleagues from this Lok Sabha sitting on the other side before me had organized a rally from there. This rally was organized to draw the attention of the people to the point that they would do something for this place. But no train was provided there. The present Government has introduced a train there converting Somnath railway line into broad gauge railway line. For this also, I would like to thank the hon. Minister.

Sir, nearly five lakhs people from Gujarat live in

Hyderabad city of Andhra Pradesh. A train is running from Hyderabad to Ahmedabad three days a week. I would request Shri Rathwaji and Shri Veluji to introduce the trains on daily basis. Recently, I visited Hyderabad. The Gujarati society there requested me to get it done as the people would be highly benefited from it. The said train, which is at present being operated three days a week from Hyderabad to Ahmedabad, should be operated on daily basis.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are several minor points with regard to railway crossings. All the three Ministers of this Ministry have performed very well. Wherever the Members of Parliament have demanded for small railway crossings, some facility should certainly be provided for that also. I would also like to draw the attention of the Ministry to the fact that if any Member of Parliament visits a big railway station like Mumbai and asks about a particular place where he intends to go, the officers there pay no attention to him. The Bureaucrats also need to bring some improvement in their behaviour. I would like to request the Minister of Railways to instruct the officers to give respect to the Members of Parliament whenever they visit there.

Necessary directions should be issued to the officers as to how to talk and give respect to a Member of Parliament. Even there is no arrangement of any room at railway stations for us. The waiting room at Delhi railway station should be in good condition. There should be the facility of a good waiting room. When the outsiders visit Delhi, they have to face difficulty while going out of the railway station due to encroachment of space. The rickshaw pullers as well as other people have encroached the space. It is very difficult even to go outside the station on foot. Arrangements should also be made to remove this difficulty so as to enable the passengers to go out of the station at the earliest.

People come to Delhi with great expectations but they face a lot of inconvenience when they come out of the station premises. The Ministry of Railways should provide

facilities to the commuters. I appreciate the efforts made by the hon. Railway Minister to run Rajdhani Express trains in all the states of the country.

Shri Rathwaji has started a new trend of computerized booking in my parliamentary constituency. It should be started also in Rajuladhola and Sarvkundla and Mahua-Rajuladhola. The people expressed great happiness when Shri Rathwaji introduced a special train. This train should be connected to Bandra, Delhi, Velgana and Maisana. Broad gauge conversion is taking place between these places and it should be extended from Amreli to Delhi. The railway budget presented by the hon. Minister is very good budget and the UPA Government and Mr. Sonia Gandhi are considerate enough to Gujarat and Gujarat is being given importance for the first time. I would like to congratulate Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and hon. Prime Minister for presenting such a good budget.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Raghunath Jha. First of all, please take your seat.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah) : Sir, please treat it as a special case and give me chance to speak.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not a precedent.

[Translation]

You are allowed to speak.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak in support of the budget presented by the hon. Railway Minister and I would like to express my views on a few points. In both the budget presented by the hon. Railway Minister, the most noteworthy point is that he has enhanced neither passenger fare nor freight, still the earning of railway department has increased and it is the most praiseworthy act for which I congratulate the hon. Railway Minister. Sir, Saptakranti Express runs

between Muzaffarpur and Delhi and the inner areas of North Bihar have not been connected to its capital, Patna. I would like that Patna should be connected to Sonapur by train. It can provide immense benefit to the people of North Bihar. You may take the bus operators in confidence for that purpose. The train fare for Patna should include bus fare also. The departure time of the train should be extended for an hour in the morning for Patna, Sonapur or Hazipur.

The second point which I want to raise is the issue of wait-listed persons in two-tier or three tiers of various express trains. Normally, there are 250-300 persons in waiting list in second class and third class and in peak season their number rises upto 700-800. I would like to address the officers sitting in visitor's gallery of the House and would like to reiterate that in those trains two coaches each of 2-AC and 3-AC coaches and four coaches of general class should be attached to these trains to ease the pressure of persons figuring in the waiting list. In this regard, I have already written to the hon. Minister.

Sir, the second point which I want to raise is the frequency of three Rajdhani Express trains coming to Patna. Patna Rajdhani Express is being run two days a week, Kolkata Rajdhani on two days in a week and Guwahati Rajdhani on three days. Guwahati Rajdhani passes through Patna and goes through Hazipur in North Bihar. It is my request that Patna Rajdhani Express should be run daily from Patna and Delhi. Guwahati Rajdhani passes through Chhapra and Balia on five days. It should continue in that fashion. But, it should be run via Muzaffarpur and Gorakhpur on the remaining two days so that the people from North Bihar can also avail themselves of its facility. In this way, I am not making a demand for a new Rajdhani Express, but want a slight change in its route and frequency. It will be very beneficial for the people of Bihar.

Sir, in my state, there is no major railway connection between North and South Bihar. Mokamah is very far.

[Shri Raghunath Jha]

Bridges are being constructed at Patna and Munger on the Ganges. But, its progress is very slow. Adequate funds should be allocated to facilitate their speedy construction. It will be immensely beneficial for our region.

Sir, the third issue which I would like to mention is the slow progress made in gauge conversion of Jainagar-Darbhang-Narkatiaganj narrow gauge rail line, on which work was started 10 years ago. Both Darbhanga and Narkatiaganj are on broad gauge line from where one can go anywhere in the country. But, they are connected with narrow gauge line. Its conversion into broad gauge line will be very beneficial for the people of this area. The work was started when Shri Ram Vilas Paswan was the Minister of Railways, 10 or 11 years have passed since then but, soil work has not been completed between Jainagar-Darbhang and Darbhanga-Sitamarhi. The construction of both big and small bridges is still incomplete. At this pace, the work will be completed in 20-25 years. Then it will not be so beneficial and the costs will also get escalated.

So, I request that its construction work should be completed within the prescribed schedule. Similarly, the distance between Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi is 38-40 kms. There also, new railway line is not being constructed with the prescribed time. So, I request that it should be completed in time. A period of more than ten years has elapsed since the start of work on it.

Sir, the construction of rail over bridge (ROB) has already been sanctioned in my constituency. The construction of R.O.B. at Sugoli, Raxaul, Motihari, Bettiah, Narkatiaganj, Bagha has already been announced and sanctioned. Thirty two Rail over bridges in total are to be constructed in Bihar but the work on the two R.O.Bs, the foundation stone of which has recently been laid by the hon. Minister, has also not been started as yet. The hon. Minister has recently laid down the foundation stone of R.O.B. in Raxaul, but the work on that has also not been

started as yet. Sugoli is an important place. A treaty during the British rule was signed there. That's why that place is very important. But there is no over bridge there also. This results into usual traffic Jam there for atleast an hour and a half. There are two N.Hs. there. Trains from two i.e. from Raxaul side and the other from Motihari side arrive there. But there is generally a traffic jam for an hour and half to two hours because no rail over bridge exists there. The same is the situation with regard to Narkatiaganj. Sugoli is a historical place. A treaty was signed there. That place is known as 'Sugoli', but it has been spelt as 'Sagoli' at the railway station by the railways authority. It would be better if it is corrected as 'Sugoli'. The people living there are desirous of getting that place spelt as 'Sugoli' instead of 'Sagoli'. There are two trains from Raxaul to Muzaffarpur and Hazipur within a difference of mere half an hour are running. The departure time of the train from Raxaul to Muzaffarpur is 6.00 in the morning. It would be convenient for the people to commute from the Motihari distt. Headquarters, if the Departure time of this train is rescheduled at 8.00 in the morning from Raxaul. With these words, I conclude my speech thanking you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK (Unnao) : Hon. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you on behalf of the Bahujan Samaj Party for giving me an opportunity to speak on such an important issue so as to enable me to participate in the discussions on cut motions on Railway Budget. The Hon. Minister for Railways has presented two budgets.

On behalf of the Bahujan Samaj Party, I would like to thank him whok-heartedly as, he has neither increased the freight-charges nor the passenger fares. Sir, the Hon. Minister had made very tall claims while presenting his first Railway Budget. A mention of butter-milk, milk, khadi and kulharh was made therein. Since then a period of one year has gone by but neither butter milk nor kulharh are seen anywhere. Let alone Khadi, the condition of bed sheets provided in the train in which we travel, is not unknown

to anyone. The dirty bed-sheets are provided after packing them again. The Hon. Minister of Railways has emerged out of the student politics and the student leader never tells a lie, it may, of course take more time to execute that particular work. After passing out from the Patna University, the Hon'ble Minister of Railways has attained his position by carving a niche for himself. I would like to appeal him to properly implement the announcements which he has made in his budget. He may not prove himself like other Railway Ministers and fulfil whatever he has said, be it about corruption in Railway or bureaucrats not punctual in discharging their duties or the recommendations of the Khanna Committee. Had the recommendations of the Khanna Committee been implemented timely, the accidents could have been avoided. Recently, an accident took place in the constituency of Hon. Member Shri Vinod Khannaji. So far as the Railway property is concerned, it is still under the illegal possession of the Mafia. I had informed the Minister of Railways in writing about it several times and even orders were also issued in this regard, but the officers sitting in Lucknow or the Railway Board seem to be paying no attention to it. The Mafia people have constructed a complex on the Railway land at the gunpoint but nobody has the time to get it evacuated. The DRM there has reported that everything is being done as per the rules. You must be knowing that I had informed in my complaint that the names of the people illegally occupying the Railway land or colony have their names in the voter list. They are also having telephone connections. In response to my query as to how these people are living there, I am informed by the Government that they have written to the Election Office as to how their names appeared in the Electoral Roll. The Railway reservation office is located in Charbagh. A generator has been installed there for uninterrupted supply of electricity. However, a thick wire of the generator is also connected at their premises. A shed has also been constructed for the police at the premises of these people living there illegally. Except Charbagh, the whole colony is under illegal possession. I have given the written information

about this to all the three Ministers of Railways several times. But, no attention has been paid to it at any quarter. It seems to me that the officers of the Ministry of Railways are full involved in getting the Railway property squandered away. No efforts are being made anywhere.

There is a Chaitpur Railway Station in our Unnao District. The repair work of tracks had been going on there for the last 15 days. The railway track measuring two and a half feet was found missing. It was around 7.00-7.30 in the evening and some children of the age group of seven-eight years while playing noticed that the Railway tracks were missing there, they acted wisely and set the rubbish on fire on the railway track. The driver saw it and stopped the train. The missing track was repaired thereafter and the traffic could only be resorted on it again after three-four hours. I visited the spot and awarded the children. But no railway officer or the District Magistrate visited the spot. On talking to the DRM, he told me that if they were awarded, such incidents would take place again and again and the people would ask for claim to them. Sir, how the people of India will be saved. These children have born up in the poor and Dalit families. All these five children belong to Passi Community. However, no officer, visited their houses, as they belong to Dalit Community. I, through you, would like to make an appeal to get this whole incident investigated to ascertain as to whether the tracks there were missing or deliberately made off with. These Children should be nominated for the bravery awards which is given to the Children by the President on 26th January every year. I would also like to urge you to honour them by recommending their names. The people who have committed this blunder should be punished.

Whenever the Department of Railways have held discussions from time to time, we have demanded the stoppage of various trains at the Unnao district headquarter. Several Express trains be it Pushpak Express or Gomti Express or Marudhar Express or Lucknow-Bhopal Express

[Shri Brajesh Pathak]

or the Chennai Express passes through it without taking a halt there. Since these trains stop at small stations, therefore we had demanded that there was going to be no harm in allowing the stoppage of one or two minutes at Unnao which is the district headquarter of Uttar Pradesh and situated between Kanpur and Lucknow which are the respective industrial Capital and the Capital of Uttar Pradesh. This will only lead to an increase in your revenue. It is now being stated that the signal work on Platform No. 2 is complete, whereas on Platform No.1, it is yet to be completed. The Hon. Minister of Railways had also written about this giving instructions for providing a stoppage of trains at this station however, the Railway Officers are not following even his orders. They are turning a deaf ear as we are not capable of making them to work.

Through you I would like to draw the attention of hon'ble Minister towards the need for tightening his control on his officials to ensure the compliance of the orders. Achalgarh is a very old station in my parliamentary constituency. Some incidents of theft and dacoity had taken place there around 20-25 years ago due to which that station was disbanded. This act is tantamount to throwing the baby with the bathwater. It is certainly not a good practice. If there was a case of theft and dacoity in the train then security measures should have been beefed up. Not a single railway employee is working there.

My second important question relates to the passenger train which has been running between Kanpur and Balaman since the British times. These trains run at such a slow speed that even a cyclist can overtake it. We have written to the Railway Department a number of times to increase the speed of Kanpur-Balaman Express train. Similarly one more train Abida Express starting from Kanpur to Delhi via Balaman, Sitapur, was introduced but it is unfortunate for the country that the route of the train

was diverted to their respective constituencies by some of the leaders. Now not a single express train runs on our track. I would like to request him to introduce an Express Train on that track be it Abida Express or any other new train. There was a railway track connecting Hardoi Unnao and Kanpur during the British times. At present there is a railway track upto Kanpur. Unnao and Madhogarh but nobody knows what happened to the train and the railway track connecting Madhogarh to Hardoi, though the railway land and railway track are still there. Through you I would like to request the hon'ble Minister that a railway track should be laid to connect Hardoi Headquarters and a new train should be introduced there.

Hon'ble Minister of State for Home is not present in the House. There is station at Unnao. Its name is Kanpur Pul Baya Kinara whereas it is situated in Shuklagarh. Its divisional Headquarter is Unnao and it is called as Kanpur. Through you I would like to request Minister of Railways that the name of Shuklagarh should be reverted back to Shuklagarh in place of Kanpur Pul Baya Kinara, which is the heart of Unnao Division. Hon'ble Minister is not present in the House right now. We have moved a number of cut motions. I have presented the drawbacks of Railway Department before you. I would request you consider those and study them deeply. I am willing to support you if I am wrong anywhere. I support the Government. But we want that the wrong policies of the officials should not tarnish the name of our Government. Efforts should be made to save the Government. They should penalize the people who are trying to malign the reputation and dignity of the Government. With these words, I would like to conclude and request him once again to issue instructions to the officials of Railways Department to halt the trains we have mentioned at the Unnao Divisional Headquarters and to remove the illegal encroachments from the railway property. I would like to know as to what happened to Lalaji's promises of providing kullhad, khadi and milk. At the time of presenting the Rail-Budget in the House hon'ble Minister of Railways, had said a very important

thing that there would not be any filth lying around over the tracks. I have to say that the practice is going to unchecked, I do not think it would be appropriate to explain it at length in the House. This practice should be checked or else Lalaji should admit that the system cannot be followed completely. With these words, I would like to conclude and assure that Bahujan Samajwadi Party always be supportive and helpful towards every step taken by the Government and Minister of Railways.

15.50 hrs.

[English]

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (Sriperumbudur) : Sir, every year we are participating in the discussion on the Railway Budget and the Demands for Grants for Railways. For the last six years, I have been watching here the speakers who are participating in the discussion on the Railway Budget but I do not think their effort has been fulfilled.

Sir, I just want to mention two or three points briefly about our long-pending demands and about Salem Division of Tamil Nadu. For the past 50 years, after the bifurcation of the State, our people have been agitating to have a divisional office in Salem which is very much an industrial and an agricultural area. Our people from eight districts in Tamil Nadu have to go to Palghat district in the State of Kerala. We met our hon. Railway Minister, Shri Lalu Prasad and we met Veluji also regarding this. Before the Budget, they told that our need would be fulfilled. But we did not get any response from the Treasury Benches. Our hon. Leaders, Dr. Kalignar and Dr. Ayya Ramadoss have also written a letter to the Railway Minister to have a Railway Division in Salem. Hence, we request the hon. Minister, though our hon. Minister of State for Railways is from our State, that he may look into the matter and expedite the creation of Salem Division.

Salem-Karur new line should be taken up speedily on a fast track with adequate allotment of fund. This new line

is highly remunerative with rate of return exceeding 14 per cent. So, I request the hon. Minister to bring a new line from Salem to Karur.

Then I request the restoration of Mettur-Salem line which has been closed for passenger traffic about 15 years back. This area is developing fast. So many colleges and so many factories are coming there. So, I request the hon. Minister to restore the Mettur-Salem new line. Also, I request electrification of Trichy and Madurai sections and conversion of Dindigul-Madurai section from meter-gauge to broad-gauge.

Tamil Nadu is one of the States which is making so much of profits in the Railway Department. Also, it has got so many kilometres of meter-gauges. These should be converted into broad-gauge. Not only Dindigul-Madurai but also Villupuram to Katpadi, Villupuram to Kumbakonam and Tirunelveli to Thiruchendur sections should be converted into broad-gauge from meter-gauge.

One thing I want to say in this year our State has got only Rs.450 crore. Our State is one of the States which has formed the Government at the Centre. We have got 40 MPs out of 40 seats from Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry. That is the reason to have a UPA Government here. But our State has been ignored and only Rs.400 crore has been sanctioned in the Railway Budget. We seek from the Ministry that if Rs.2,500 crore has been sanctioned to our State, 50 per cent of the work will be fulfilled in our State. Only four or five years back, the Ministry of Surface Transport started laying roads from the Golden Quadrilateral Scheme from North to South and from East to West. They had done a miraculous job. They had finished all the work very speedily. People are very happy. But for the past 100 years, we are fighting to have bridges. We are agitating to have basic amenities in the railways. Even for providing drinking water in the railway platform, Member of Parliament has to speak on the floor of the House. The basic amenities are very poor. They had only laid the shelter now. In the past two or three years, they had made the shelter but public announcement system has not been

[Shri A. Krishnaswamy]

placed. Most of the railway platforms are under low level. So accident occurs and so many young and old men used to lose their lives.

Particularly, in my constituency at Senchi Panapakdam-Sevvapet, year after year, when they put railway track, automatically, the platform goes down. So, the platform should be raised. In this regard, so many times, I have written letters to the General Manager, and to the Ministry but no action has been taken. The hon. Minister also visited my constituency, particularly the Annanoor. In that area, for two days, the lift bearer gate was not lifted. There was some technical fault. So many vehicles were not able to move from this side to that side. I spoke to a Railway official, Dr. D.R. Jayaraman, and informed him about the fault and the situation there. But no action was taken. There is no respect of the MPs before the Railway officers. This is very poor.

For the past one year, no meeting with the MPs has been conducted. The Railway Department used to conduct such meetings wherein they received grievances from the MPs. They used to rectify those grievances. For the past one year, I am waiting for that meeting. At least in Southern Railway, they have not conducted any meeting. The Minister should look into this.

In Chennai, there is a MRTS Scheme. From my college days, I am watching this scheme. It is progressing very slowly. Right now, it is from Chennai Beach to Velachery. For the past 15 to 20 years, they are working on this Scheme. Immediately, funds should be sanctioned for this Scheme. This should be connected to the St. Thomas Mount. Then only we can clear the traffic. From St. Thomas Mount also, there was a scheme to connect Villivakkam. If it comes through one circle, we can clear the maximum traffic. The Minister has to take keen interest in this MRTS Scheme.

In the Budgets 2004-05 and 2005-06, for Tamil Nadu,

no ROB and RUB has been sanctioned. Whatever were sanctioned 3 or 4 years back, have not been constructed. Till today, they have not started any work. More than 20 to 30 bridges are to be constructed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (Sriperumbudur) : A lot of injustice is caused to Tamil Nadu for the past 2 to 3 years by not sanctioning any ROB and RUB to the State. Even if it is sanctioned, for every year, they sanction only Rs. 50 lakh or Rs. 30 lakh only. The estimated cost of a bridge is approximately Rs. 12 crore or Rs. 15 crore. What is the use of sanctioning Rs. 50 lakh or Rs. 40 lakh? There should be some application of mind while sanctioning the amount.

When the Minister of Surface Transport can construct 8 kms. of road per day, why cannot the Railway do the same? Hon. Minister of Finance has proudly spoken about this in his Budget speech. Shri T.R. Baalu, the hon. Minister has also spoken about their performance.

15.58 hrs.

[DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY *in the Chair*]

I urge the hon. Minister to concentrate on the conversion of Metre gauge to broad gauge in Tamil Nadu. He should also concentrate on doubling the Chennai-Arakkonam section, which is a very important section. It leads to Bangalore and Mumbai. Till Chennai Tiruvallur, we have a four track. Arakkonam comes under the constituency of the hon. Minister. I request the Minister to take keen interest in putting third and fourth track, which will clear the traffic in the suburban area. I also request him to have a Railway Station in Nemilicherry. It is a long pending demand.

I would also request to have a stoppage at Avadi or at least at Tiruvallur for the express and passenger trains so that the passengers may get down at Avadi and to go to the city. By doing that, traffic congestion can be



minimised. So, I request the hon. Minister to give more funds to our State which will be beneficial for all round development.

16.00 hrs.

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (Tripura-West) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak in support of the Railway Budget, 2005-06 but I am constrained to say that our reaction to the proposals in the Budget is not an unmixed one.

While broadly welcoming the Budget, I could say that it lacks any innovative measures to address the requirements of the railway system. The lack of adequate budgetary support would result in a failure to address the concerns and aspirations of a large number of regions and the people of the country.

It was also feared that the rationalisation of freight would only lead to further inflation but in spite of that the new initiatives attempted by the hon. Minister of Railways are commendable.

Due to paucity of time, I am confining myself to the conditions of the North-Eastern States. All hon. Members of the House know very well that the North-Eastern region has for long been neglected, for years together. The region is isolated from the rest of the country. Even after 57 years of Independence, six of the seven State capitals of the region are not connected by rail. So, I strongly demand allocation of more funds so that the various on-going projects could be completed, survey for new projects could be taken up, new railway lines could be laid, existing single lines could be converted into double lines, gauge conversion could be speeded up and renewal of tracks and electrification could be undertaken.

The people of the North-Eastern States are dependent on railway. All the essential commodities and construction materials are to be brought from different parts of the country. So, it is urgently necessary to provide adequate rakes for movement of these essential commodities and materials.

Coming to the State of Tripura in particular, I am constrained to mention that the progress of the on-going Kumarghat-Agartala project is not up to the expectation. Here, I would like to thank the hon. Prime Minister for declaring three projects, namely, Lumding-Silchar gauge conversion work, Kumarghat-Agartala project and Jiribum-Imphal project, as national projects and making provision for additional funding. I would request the hon. Minister of Railways to direct the appropriate authorities to ensure timely completion of these projects. The milestone schedule submitted to the hon. Prime Minister is not being strictly adhered to.

In the Kumarghat-Agartala project, work for one tunnel, namely, Tunnel No. 1, is yet to be started. This might delay the project. This has to be seriously looked into. The gauge conversion survey between Kumarghat and Badarpur has been completed and the report is pending with the Railway Board awaiting sanction of work since 1999. In 1998-99, the Agartala-Subroom new BG line survey had been sanctioned.

For economic development of the region and for easy connectivity to Chittagong Port in Bangladesh, preliminary survey has been completed. Updating of survey has also been probably completed. It is strongly demanded that works relating to Agartala-Subroom Project should be sanctioned and funds should be allocated for the year 2005-06. Finally, I would urge the Railway Minister to address the important issues raised by me and take suitable measures in the interest of the people of North-Eastern Region and the country as a whole.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants for 2005-06.

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Hoshiarpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have spoken at least three times on railways. I had given some suggestions to the Hon'ble Minister of Railways about some projects that involved comparatively less funds with maximum utilisation for the general public not know why the Railways

[Shri Avinash Rai Khanna]

have not paid any attention to those suggestions. I would like to thank the hon'ble Railway Minister for providing the stoppage of Amritsar-Delhi Swarna-Shatabdi at Fagwara from where four Members of Parliament used to board it. But the Shatabdi Express which comes to Delhi from Amritsar and goes back is boarded by at least 8-9 Members of Parliament. It is 11 or 11-15 A.M. as the train arrives at New Delhi leading to considerable delay in attending the session of Parliament. If the time of arrival of the train at Delhi is rescheduled as 15-20 minutes early we can come in the morning by that train instead of coming at night and other people can also be benefited. Secondly at which ever station the train stops, announcement is made about the history of the place. Sarhind town has an important place in the history of the country. Two sons of the Tenth Guru Sahib were buried alive in a wall at there. The announcement made at the arrival of the Sarhind station only mentions the name of the stations and welcomes the new passengers. If some brief reference of the history of Sarhind is made, the Railways are not going to lose anything and our sentiments will also be honoured.

Hon'ble Railway Minister, I went through the text of the Rail Budget speech very carefully and I had also noted some couplets but hon'ble Vermaji recited them. I am of the view that all Ministries show indifference when it comes to allocating funds to Punjab. I have to say about computerized enquiry that computers go out of operation because their timing is from 8 O'clock to 2 O'clock and the computer remains out of order. In such a situation form where can tickets be booked? In order to ensure booking of tickets beyond 2 p.m., Please make provision for this in these demands for Grants. The people desirous of getting tickets booked cannot do so when computers are not functioning. They have to wait and see when the system will be restored and they will get tickets and it is not certain that they will get confirmed tickets or will be placed in waiting list. Therefore, there should be an

alternative system so as to avoid any obstacles to enquiry or booking of tickets.

I would like to cite a small example. There is a station Desuva in my constituency. The booking for tickets takes place there from 8 A.M. to 2 P.M.

A train passes from Jammu Tawi to Delhi but people of that area do not get the benefit provided by the Government. Booking timing through Computer may kindly be rescheduled from eight O' clock in the morning to eight O'clock in the evening so that the people could get maximum benefit.

I have been elected from Hoshiarpur Constituency and DMU train comes to that railway station but its stairs are so much elevated that if an old or a sick person has to get down then the two persons should be required to get him down so that we may not be injured. That platform should be renovated in such a way that the train may be stopped in line with the platform and passengers do not put for inconvenience while getting on or getting down from train.

Anandpur Sahib has an important role in Punjab. There is a village named Akhrata. I had said in my first budget speech that railway gate opens only for VIP's Common citizens have to walk fifteen kilometers to reach their village. The farmer's fields are also on the one side of the railways gate. Their houses are on other side. If they have to bring their crops to their homes then they have to walk fifteen or twenty kilometers if that level crossing is opened then children will have to walk only one or two kilometers but due to closure of crossing they have to walk fifteen kilometers to reach school. Level crossing is there and railway staff are sitting there. Why that crossing is opened only for VIP's? There is no need to build a new crossing there. If that crossing is opened for the people the hon. Minister would draw the appreciation of the people and I will also be motivated to raise few demand in the next budget. Even ordinary pieces of work are also not being done. It does not look nice that we should repeat these things time and again.

Fortunately I am a member of Lok Sabha and have been elected from Hoshiarpur Constituency and three Rajya Sabha Members belong to that Constituency. One of the them belongs to over ally party, the Akali Dal and the other two Members belong to the Congress Party. The VIP Quota of that areas is called HQ Quota and it is only for two tickets. There are four MPs and quota of ticket reservation is for two tickets. If four MPs try to oblige anybody, then they cannot do so. The Quota may kindly be increased at least up to ten or twelve tickets so that we could provide benefit of that quota to maximum people.

Similarly, there is an important place Phagwara-Traffic has become congested there. Fly over was approved there during the NDA regime but fly over has not been constructed due to unavoidable reasons. Some parts of the work have been completed but construction works has been stopped. As we delay the work, the cost of construction will escalate. I request you to find out the reasons due to which construction of fly over is withheld. It is my request that you should try to complete it.

Similarly, Tanda and Dasua are the two cities where Traffic has increased substantially. All the four wheelers plying between Amritsar and Delhi pass through these towns but such traffic causes a lot of inconvenience. A large number of vehicles are plying between Jammu and Delhi. All the time level-crossing is found closed which results if traffic jam causing a lot of difficulties to the people. If fly overs are provided at these two places it will facilitate the movements of the traffic becoming convenient for people and a lot of problems in my constituency will be sorted out.

Through you I would like to make another request. 133 districts were selected as most backward districts of the country which included Hoshiarpur too. The most backward district Hoshiarpur is a hilly area having shortage of drinking as well as irrigation water. I demand you to set up some industries in Hoshiarpur in order to provide

employment to the local people there and to check the migration of trained persons to foreign countries. Now without taking much time I thank Hon. Chairman and hope that my demands which do not involve much expenses will be considered.

Sir, I will conclude with just one more thing. A train probably Saharanpur Express starts from Jalandhar station at 4.00 A.M. Hoshiarpur is only 40 kms from Jalandhar and a proper rail track is also there. Hoshiarpur is an Industrial area. It has Sonalika tractor factory, Howkins Cooker factory, JCT and Mahavir Spinning Mills. If this train is run from Hoshiarpur to Delhi many employess will be benefited from that train. You just need to start the train from Hoshiarpur instead of Jalandhar. I have gone through the list of the trains. Some trains have been extended and many new trains have been introduced by the Hon. Minister of railways. I hope that Hon. Railway Minister will in his speech include this train in extension list. It will be a great favour to Hoshiarpur and we all will be thankful to you for this favour. I once again thank Hon. Chairman for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI K.S. RAO (Eluru) : Sir, we have a Railway Minister who is supposed to be the common man's leader. At least, he has presented himself as a common man's leader. We have the Minister of State, Shri Velu who has come from Services, is supposed to be a very sharp and a disciplined administrator. We have also got the Railway Board which is very interesting and about which we are proud. Unlike in other Ministries, most of the Railway Board is filled with professionals, not like other Ministries. Naturally, with this background, we expect something fantastic in the Railways. As my other colleague said, we do not find anything innovative. It has become a routine affair. It has become so routine that from my childhood days I have been seeing that whenever I go to any major platform, repairs are being carrying out and if they are breaking something here, they will be constructing something somewhere in the very platform. Most of the

[Shri K.S. Rao]

money is being spent only for breaking something or carrying out some repair here or replacing something there. Nothing is permanent as far as platforms are concerned.

We are very happy that in the Railway Budget, you have contained the fares. We appreciate and admire that. Similar is the case with passenger fares and freight rates also where you have only rationalised; not increased. Naturally, we admire you for these two things. But when we ask as to what will be the new lines you are planning, as to what are the additions you are making; and as to what are the extra assets you are bringing into the Railways, you say that there is a constraint of resources.

If the hon. Minister and the Railway Board were to have a dedication, a determination, then they do not require any budgetary support. We all agree that Railways are the means of transport of the common man. Sir, 80 per cent of its revenue comes from passenger fares, more particularly from the second-class passengers and only 20 per cent comes from the upper class passengers as also the goods traffic. When Shri Praful Patel, the Minister of State for Civil Aviation could think of purchasing aeroplanes costing Rs. 50,000 crore, what is it that is coming in the way of the Railways? Is it a question of Budget allocation or finding a revenue of Rs. 50,000 crore for meeting the transport needs of the richer sections of society? If he does not find any problem in this, what is the problem they are having in this? What does it require for laying an extra line? Do you have to import technology from anywhere? It is just a question of acquisition of land, utilizing the manpower and the natural resources which are available there like stones or cement and construct a bridge by using iron ore, convert it into rails and putting it there. This way, they can provide employment; they can create assets and convert the natural resources into a finished product. In that process, only some currency is

required for recycling purpose. It does not burden anybody and they can get it.

Now, at a time when the country was limiting itself only to the frontiers, when it was not exposed to the multinationals or globalization, this thinking might be difficult. When the globalization is setting in, soft loan is available in the world at two per cent rate of interest. We are proud that the country is rated very high in international financial sector. They are prepared to give us loan at two per cent rate of interest and we can raise Rs. 50,000 crore. I was told that 240 on-going projects requiring about Rs. 46,000 crore are pending because of delay. By the time these railway lines are completed, our grandsons will come.

Today, you please think of road transport. Do they have funds? Having realised that traffic has increased in the country, the Government have decided to widen the road by making it four-lanes, six-lanes or eight-lanes. They have increased the price of diesel by Re.1 and allocated it to the road sector. When they found that it was not sufficient, we, as Members of the Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways, suggested to them that if they could not find money, then they should take it as loan. Even then if they are not able to find it, they could go in for BOT. There are umpteen number of companies, domestic companies and corporate sector which are ready to invest money. They increased their toll collection to raise their assets.

Similarly, let the Railway Board Members think in an analytical manner to find out in what way they can attract private funds. There is no dearth of money. All that is required is planning, dedication and determination to create assets in this country, to help the common man. A rich man can reach a place in one hour, whereas a common man who has to travel a distance of 60 kilometres in a passenger train that passes between mofussil stations, it takes six hours. They do not know at what time, the train comes, at what time the train reaches and

they do not know where the train will be stuck up in between. The poor man has to suffer everywhere. Why should we not help the rural people, the poor man, the common man by creating these assets? It is not difficult. It is only a question of application of mind or planning. I am of the definite opinion that there has not been a proper planning in Railways at any time and more particularly after globalization.

Please think of it. If the present Board Members were to be traditional, if they cannot think in terms of modern things in a changing atmosphere, in a changing climate, how would we have improvements in the Railways?

Sir, if you see, even small countries are growing like anything.. But a big country like ours is still stagnating in the same old way. We say that we started with 34 kilometres in 1853 and now we have covered 61,000 kilometres of the railway lines. All right. But how many kilometres have we added in the last one or two decades? It is nothing. Why? The reason cited is that the Railways are short of money. What do we mean by short of money? It means, currency. How does it come? It comes by converting the human sweat into money, into an asset. But we are not converting the human sweat into money because there is no employment opportunity. We are not motivating people to work. We are not allowing them to sweat. We are not planning. We are not giving them the opportunity.

Sir, I would humbly ask the hon. Railway Minister as to how many people are employed in the country. Why do they not plan and utilise the services of people and make a route? A railway line between Hyderabad and Vizag can cut the distance of travelling by 300 kilometres. By doing this, how much saving will be there? It would save a lot of time and money.

Sir, how much money we are wasting by importing oil? It is Rs. 70,000 crore. Now, internationally, it is accepted that the Indians are the most intelligent, capable and

respected all over the world. Even the Germans and Americans have agreed that we are superiors. I am happy to know this. While 10 to 15 years back, people thought that India was the poorest country with 200 to 300 dollars *per capita* income. Their concept was wrong. Now, their *per capita* income is Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 15,000. With the changed thinking, the purchasing power is taken as a basic unit.

Sir, three days back, I read in the newspaper that this country is the fourth richest in the entire world.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

SHRI K.S. RAO : Sir, I am just concluding.

Sir, my main point here to you, Mr. Railway Minister is please think of improvements in the railways. If necessary, you may call for some Advisors. You convene some Conference. You take suggestions from different walks of life including persons from Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and Federation of Indian Industries, where ample number of brilliance would be there to advise you to improve the Railways. I do not want to find fault with this Ministry.

But unless proper checks and motivations are there, unless right people are recognised for their work, and culprits are punished without delay, you would not be creating a right culture in the Railways, and thereby leading to insufficiency and corruption.

When a woman member of a Self-Help Group were to take Rs. 1,000 as loan, she was asked to pay an interest of 8 per cent in addition to the principal amount, whereas we have given you assets worth more than Rs. 3 lakh crore, and should you not generate wealth of your own, and construct new lines and capital assets, Mr. Railway Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Rao, please conclude. There are still 25 speakers to participate in the debate, and we have time constraint.

SHRI K.S. RAO : So, here, I humbly request the hon. Minister to adopt an innovative approach instead of continuing in the same traditional and routine manner. I wish history would call his name and recognise him as a Minister who has brought in a substantial change in the working of the Ministry of Railways. We all want his name to be recorded in the history to be remembered forever.

With these few words I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me as opportunity to speak on the demands of grants for Ministry of Railways. I would like to say through you that there is no exaggeration in saying that Laluji is the most successful Minister of Railway of the country.

It is a praiseworthy step of honourable Minister of Railways in this rail budget that he has tried to reduce the burden on public by increasing railways income and making better use of railway assets. It is a better initiative which sets a trend and also for the days to come and we can also set a good example for future through self revenue generation and reducing burden on public.

In this budget, decentralisation model of development of railways has been adopted. Efforts have been made to have a ray of hope for development in different parts of the country. I would like to thank honourable Minister of Railways for this purpose. The people defame Bihar in vain. The Members who spoke just before me have also towed on the same line. Due to such exposition Bihar could get more but today I am happy if Bihar has got more in the Railway budget and I would like to thank our honourable minister of railways.

Efforts have been made to connect remote areas of the country to Delhi through Sampark Kranti and honourable Minister of Railway deserves to be thanked for that. The Sampark Kranti was introduced from Darbhanga

and inaugurated from there by displaying green signal. The whole Darbhanga commissionerary and the public of our constituency Samastipur is thankful to him.

The residents of Samastipur express gratitude to you for starting Lichhawi Express and request to start it as soon as possible. The honourable Minister of Railways had made announcement regarding modernization and extension of railway workshop built in nineteenth century near Samastipur station but progress made in this regard is not known yet. I would like to putforth the sentiments of the public of that area to remind you that it may be started at the earliest.

Whenever matter of Kulhad (eastern cup) and Khadi is raised, the opinions of Nitish Kumarji and George Sahab come under discussion. It was announced first time in the Railway history which was brought into practice. It is said again and again that Nitishji and George Sahab announced to take this initiative. It is totally hypocritical to deny this fact. Do you want implementation of the initiatives as announced by you on our party? You should expect like this. It was totally UPA Government announcement and first time it was implemented. Successful effort was made to fulfil the dreams of Gandhiji and I would like to thank the honourable Minister of Railways for it who strongly pursued the matter. It is clear that first time it has been implemented and first time it is a combination of policy and intention and that's why it has been implementing. Therefore, some hindrances are also coming up in the way.

Purchasing process of Kulhad and Khadi may be simplified so that labourious entrepreneurs of cottage and small scale industries could get an opportunity to sell their articles directly to the public. The process of setting up stall to sell milk-curd and other products may be simplified. Rajdhani Express train may be run on daily basis from Patna. Two over-bridges must be constructed near Bhaula Talkies and DMR chowk in Samastipur. A big problem will be solved there by this and it is necessary to construct a bridge on thirty two number guarantee because people

had to wait hours together to go across the roads which converts in heavy traffic jam in a long que.

A historical and religious place Vidyapati is there. The importance of that place is known by this fact that he was a great poet and Shiva devotee and many tales and stories are in vogue about his devotion and faith at the end of his life. The office of the Department of tourism is also there and this place keeps its own importance from historical and archaeological point of view. In addition to it the name of Vidyapati Nagar station should be changed as Vidyapatidham station. The honourable Minister had announced this thing in last sitting. So I would like to remind him this point. There has been a great demand for DMU train. A DMU train may be introduced passing from Hazipur, Patauri, Mehadinagar, Bachhuara, Samastipur to Darbhanga. There is a great demand for this train. There has been a demand to lay new railway line in Samastipur, Tajpur, Mahua and Hazipur. Modernization and extension of Ujaipur, Vidyapatinagar, Patauri stations may be started. Honourable Minister, there has been a long standing demand of a halt at Bathua and Basaria. Process for this purpose may be started at the earliest.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now you conclude in brief please.

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA : Application has also been submitted that halt may be provided there. There is an urgent need of railway Gumati in Samastipur and Janakpur. Therefore action may be taken at the earliest in this direction. The people have to walk eight-ten kilometers extra to reach there.

With these words I would like to say that Honourable Railways Minister has presented a good budget in public interest and made good announcements too. I appreciate it on behalf of all parties and public and support this rail budget.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : My submission to the honourable Members is that there is a cabinet meeting at

six O'clock and there is marriage of the son of Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, if honourable Members do not have objection then they may give written suggestion. It has been a practice earlier also.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Bhanwar Singh, you are not on your seat. You concede your point in minimum seat.

[Translation]

SHRI BHANWAR SINGH DANGAWAS (Nagaur) : Sir, with your leave I would like to speak. By taking part in the discussion of Railway Budget, I would like to remind the hon. Railway Minister that survey work on the railway project has been conducted by the department for the third time for a stretch of 50-55 km. and it was surveyed even during the English regime. It was stated clearly in the previous budget that it has been included in the budget for update survey.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, instead of starting work on this project, this project has not been mentioned in present budget. You have sanctioned Ajmer to Puskar line and work has been started on this project. Pushkar, Ajmer and Merta are very important places. Ajmer is famous for the dargah of Khawaja Saheb, Pushkar is a very important pilgrimage for Hindus and Merta is the birth place of Mirabai. From Merta, Cumin and mustard are sent to west and South Indian centres. Merta is also a very big agricultural market as well as cattle-fair centre. Cattle are sent to every part of India from Merta via Pushkar. If Merta and Pushkar are linked, it will provide direct link for South India from Northern India and Western Rajasthan through Ajmer. It will be beneficial for the public as well as the Railway department. At present, people desirous of going to Ajmer have to travel through Phulera from Merta Road or through Jodhpur-Luni-Marwar junction. It is my earnest request that this line should be constructed on a priority basis.

Sir, the platform of Merta Road is very long. The passengers have to face a lot of difficulties in crossing the

[Shri Bhanwar Singh Dangawas]

platform from platform number 3 and 4, because there is only one overbridge. In the beginning, there was an old bridge which was perhaps removed by the Railways due to its short height in comparison to the increased height of the platform. It is OK, but an additional bridge should be constructed to facilitate the movement of passengers. In addition to that, telephone facility should be provided at platform nos. 3&4 also.

Sir, I had requested for gauge conversion in the budget discussion of last year and current year also. There is a religious place in Maharaja kaa Rain. But, there is no stoppage of any Express train at Rain. So, I request that provision of two minute's stoppage of any Express train at Rain station should be made. I conclude my speech with that and thank the Chair for allowing me to express my views.

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very thankful to you for allowing me to express my views on this occasion. I stand in support of the Railway Budget and strongly oppose cut motions on Railway Budget. This is second budget presented by hon. Railway Minister. The most noteworthy aspect of both these budgets was that no increase was made in passengers fare and freight charges. It will have far-reaching effect. Increase in train fare causes increase in the prices of all commodities. The Railway Minister has acted in a very courageous manner by not increasing the fares and freight charges. It will have far-reaching effect. I express my hearty congratulations to the Minister of Railways, the Ministers of State, Shri R. Velu and Shri Naranbhai Rathwa and other Railway officials on behalf of the people of the country for not increasing passenger fare and freight charges. He has presented a very good budget. For the first time, many unique facilities have been provided in this budget. Provision has been made to grant permission for travelling in second class compartment to those persons who are travelling to appear in interviews

being conducted for jobs in Central Government departments and 50 per cent concession for those farmers and milk producers who are travelling to get training. In addition to that, the facilities provided for students and accident-affected people is also very praise worthy.

Moreover, the intended special drive to ensure the representation of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Castes in services is both unique and praiseworthy for which I would like to specially thank the hon. Minister of Railways. The move to provide reservation ranging from 25% to 49.5% to the poor or to war-widows at all the book-stalls and catering centres in the country is a very praiseworthy step. Our hon. friend, Shri Rao has just mentioned about lack of funds for development of Railways. I associate myself with his feelings and proposals. Every step should be taken to develop Railways by getting funds from various other resources of Railways. Mathura is the birth place of Lord Radha Krishna and I am fortunate that I am representing that region. Hon. Minister is from that lineage and he has said that Mathura is his 'Gurudwara' and he has his origins there. I had asked for running of a train from Mathura to Allahabad and am thankful to him for fulfilling my demand by starting that train. I had also demanded a train for Kolkata as a train, named *Joofan Mail* used to run before independence.

Therefore, I specially request you to introduce a train from Delhi via Mathura-Alahabad-Patna to Kolkata so as to provide travelling facility to the people there, because Mathura is a pilgrim place and nearly one crore passengers commute there. You should take care of their convenience. There was a demand from the people of my constituency that a stoppage of Taj Express be provided at Kosi station and two new stations be established, one at the religious place of Semri Devi where a temporary station is established during Navratras. I demand that a permanent station should be established there and the second is chourna. There also a permanent station should be set up. Three flyovers have been



proposed at Mathura-Delhi-Kolkata highway. Approximately 180 trains pass through this route. Hundreds of farmers and pilgrims who visit Barsana or Goverdhan of Radhakund or Nandgaun have to go via this route only. Therefore construction of a flyover for them is very essential. Chhatapur is the main route to go to Nandgaun, Barsana, Goverdhan. Chhatikara is another route which links Vrindavan, Radhakund, Goverdhan, Barsana and Nandgaun with Delhi. Third is Macchli Market in Mathura which is the main route to link Delhi via Mathura to Aligarh and Hathras passing through Bharatpur of Rajasthan. All the educational institutions, our core headquarter and courts are located there. It is the main route to link them.

I would like to urge upon you to make a provision for construction of flyover at all these three places. A stoppage of all the trains passing through that station shall be provided so as to provide travelling facility to the passengers visiting there, as 2 crore pilgrims visit these places. Particularly a stoppage of A.P. Express, Shatabdi Express and recently introduced Habibganj train should be powered there. Many times I have asked for introduction EMU trains from Agra to Delhi. A Suburban division should be set up nearby Delhi for introduction of EMU services in 200 kms. area around Delhi so that the rush of people coming to stay in Delhi can be alleviated. Population has increased very much in the western side of Mathura station. All the facilities viz. Platform, booking office, retiring room, parking and road etc. should be provided there. Mathura is a pilgrim place and as I have said last now that crores of passengers visit this place every year. I had talked about upgradation of Mathura station. I had also made this demand when late Shri Madhav Rao Scindia was the Minister of railways and Shri Bansi Lalji was the cabinet Minister. Even today Mathura...

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH : I am concluding my speech with in two minutes...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Much time has already been taken by you by asking for more-more time. Many Hon. Members have yet to speak.

*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH : Platforms are also incomplete there. These should be completed and Mathura station should be upgraded. I had requested for construction of new railway line also...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Minister of Railways has yet to speak. He also has to give reply and in addition to that other Hon. Members are there to speak. So you please conclude now.

*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH : We have also requested you for provision of a new railway line For Chhata, Shergarh, Naujheel, Baajna, Tetigaun, Maant, Raya, Mehaban, Gokul, Baldev, Saadabaad, Haathras etc. I urge upon the Hon. Minister of Railways to accede to my request with these words, I thank you very much.

\*SHRI M. SHIVANNA (Chamarajanagar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset I would like to congratulate hon. Railway Ministers Shri Lalu Prasad Yadavji, Shri Veluji and Shri Rathwaji for presenting an excellent Railway Budget this year. I am happy to support the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Railways for the year 2004-05.

16.53 hrs.

[SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV *in the Chair*]

Karnataka has been neglected by the Railway Ministry for a long time. Therefore, I request the hon. Shri Laluji to do some favour to Kamataka.

\*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

[Shri M. Shivanna]

Chamarajapet-Mettupalyam is the railway line which has to be completed immediately. Hon. Shri Lalaji has promised to come to my constituency and inaugurate this railway line. He would be visiting Chamundi Hills and Mysore city also. The Budget allocation should be increased from rupees one crore to at least two crore to complete it early.

Another important railway line which has to be doubled is Mysore-Bangalore line.

From Bangalore to Ramanagaram the work is almost completed. Now from Ramanagaram to Mysore it should be expedited. This line should be electrified as these two are very important cities.

Bangalore is the Silicon city of India. The roads are very narrow and accidents are taking place everyday. Hence Metro Rail for Bangalore should be taken up immediately.

Sir, there are two railway lines that are being considered by this Ministry. Bangalore-Chamarajanagar railway line-(1) Bangalore via Kanakapura, Malavalli, T. Narasipura Bannur and Chamarajanagar-Mettupalyam, (2) Bangalore via Kanakapura, Malavalli Kollegel, Yalandur-Chamarajanagar Mettupalyam. Out of these two lines it is for the hon. Minister and his Ministry to choose the best one.

Sir, I wish the hon. Railway Ministers all the best in their ventures particularly for encourage village industry and handicrafts. I thank you once again and with these words I conclude my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If any of the Hon. Members like to lay his speech, he can do so.

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA (Patan) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I rise to oppose the Railway budget presented by the Hon.

Minister of Railways. I have requested many times for broad gauging of the railway track in my parliamentary constituency Patan in Gujarat. I am opposing this budget as it is merely a plethora of words and lies. The biggest example of it is in justice done with Gujarat in regard to development of railway. Veeramagav-Bhilri broad gauging project sanction by Shri Nitish Kumarji in the year 1990. From Mehsada to Veeramagav Bhilri is yet to be completed. In your budget only Veeramagav to Mehsada has been referred but no mention has been made with regard to Mehsada-Patan to Bhilri. That matter has been cancelled. When it has been sanctioned and the funds have also been allocated for this in the budget, then why they have cancelled it and why this work is not being done? Patan is a historical and religious city. There has been great historic events like Jasma, Udar, Shitraj. There is a pond that used to remain dry due to the curse of a Sati, a weaver name Veermaya sacrificed his had at that time owing to it that pond was filled with water.

17.00 hrs.

Even today people from far away places visit to see this place. Although, you had promised to complete this project yet it has not been included in the current year's budget. A promise is a promise and it must be fulfilled.

"Raghukul reet sada chali aaye, prana jaye par vachan na jaye"

Sir, now the people are aware and they understand everything.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Now your work will be done.

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : The Hon. Minister, Sir, thank you very much. But the people of country are very conscious now and won't forgive us for not fulfilling the promise. I earnestly request Hon. Minister, if you complete this pending project, whenever you invite me to Bihar I will sing in different voices to please everyone.

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack) : \*Sir, I rise to participate in the discussion on the Demands for Grants of Railways for 2005-06. On earlier occasions I have drawn the attention of this House towards the Lakadeisical attitude of the Railway Ministry towards Orissa and today again I would draw the attention towards the neglect of the Railway Ministry and UPA Government shown to Orissa.

We have repeatedly appealed before the Railway Minister to create a special corpus of funds to expedite the implementation of rail projects which are considered vital for the State. Interestingly, atleast three of the rail projects identified by the Orissa Government are Daitari-Banspani which is 155 km, Haridaspur-Paradeep, which is 82 km. stretch and doubling of Cuttack-Baranga line which is only 10 kms. and the second rail bridge over river Mahanadi. All these projects have been taken up for implementation by the Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL).

As the Government is aware that some parts of the work between Banaspani and Keonjhar, around 50 kilometers, on the Daitari-Banaspani project has been completed. However, these being single line project, I emphasise the need for upgrading them into double-line networks.

What has also been upsetting us is that the 90 km. long Angul-Duburi-Sukinda Road single line project was sanctioned several years ago but there has been hardly any progress so far.

Another project of interest to us is to clear the bottleneck between Cuttack-Baranga rail line because of the want of construction of rail bridge over Kuakhai and Kathjodi river. This should be taken up with top priority.

The extension of the Naupada-Gunupur rail line of 90

kms. currently undergoing gauge conversion be extended to Thuruvali, of another 70 kms.

Orissa is now poised for an industrial resolution. To be more specific, a steel making revolution is in the offing. Several big names, both national and international, have shown definite interest in launching projects in the State's iron ore belt, the largest in the country. Some of them already have signed MOUs. As many as 25 MOUs have been signed. The implementation of these projects will require movement of an additional 50 million tonnes of traffic, both raw materials and finished projects. If the projects being contemplated by the Tatas, Essar, Sterlite and Posco are taken into account, the figure it is estimated, will jump to 100 million tonnes. Therefore, my anxiety is to have better connectivity to move larger volumes of freight which will bring in more revenue to the Railway. Therefore it is necessary to form a corpus fund of the size of atleast Rs. 3000 crore which can be invested periodically for the development of connectivity in Orissa.

Recently Orissa Government has identified there belts in the State where iron and steel and sponge iron units are to come up in a big way. These include the Barbil-Duburi belt, the Cuttack-Dhenkanal belt and the Sambalpur-Jharsuguda-Rourkela belt. The Kalahandi-Bolangir belt, rich in bauxite deposits, holds out the promise of major aluminium projects. Big names such as LandT, Aditya Birla Group, Vedanta and BHP Billiton are already floating tenders in this connection.

I am aware that Railways generally prefer to pursue a cautious and conservative approach in matter of new projects. It will not be interested in projects unless convinced of their traffic potential. Very understandably so. However, inquiries with the East-Coast Railways reveal that work on several projects is ongoing though the levels of progress vary widely, from land acquisition to near commissioning.

The construction of new broad gauge lines including

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\*The Speech was laid on the Table.

[Shri B. Mahtab]

Daitari-Banaspani of 155 kms. with an estimated cost of Rs. 590 crore, Lanjigarh-Junagarh of 56 kms. with an estimated cost of Rs. 67 crores, Haridaspur-Paradeep line of 82 kms. with an estimated cost of Rs. 340 crores, Sukinda Road-Angul line of 90 kms. with a cost of estimate of Rs. 415 crores, Talcher-Bimlagarh line of 154 km. with a cost of Rs. 727 crore and Khurda Road-Bolangir line of 290 kms. with an estimate of Rs. 700 crores are of importance. Save the Talcher-Bimlagarh and Khurda Road-Bolangir lines, which are to facilitate passenger movement, primarily, all other projects are designed to boost freight movement.

The doubling projects are of importance. The most critical is the construction of the second bridge on the Mahanadi, Kathajodi and Kuakhai river connecting Cuttack from all sides.

Paradeep needs free connectivity. Unless this major port is connected by Haridaspur-Paradeep rail line, freight traffic will not improve. Dhamra Port is coming up. So also Gopalpur minor port is in the process of developing into a major port. Therefore, connecting Gopalpur directly with Talcher via Narasinghpur has become essential. Steps should be taken in this regard.

I would repeat again that as Orissa is poised for an industrial revolution of sorts, especially in steel and a huge spurt in freight movement likely in the next couple of years, Railway Ministry should come up with special central funding for some of this vital connectivity in a time bound manner.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH (Kanakapura) :  
Mr. Chairman, Thank you. I rise to support the UPA Government's Supplementary Demands for Grants on Railways. I would like to compliment the UPA's Chairperson, Shrimati Sonia Gandhiji, our humble Prime Minister,

Dr. Manmohan Singhji, the champion of downtrodden, the Railway Minister, Shri Lalu Prasad Yadavji and the humble Minister of State for Railways, Shri Velu, who comes from the cultured down South. They all made this Railway Budget very meaningful. This Budget keeps the common people's interests in view.

I would like to make some observations to make to more meaningful. To me the Indian Railways is like a wide screen which reflects the Indian National Movement. We can recall how Gandhiji used to travel by train and inspiring lakhs of common people to participate in the freedom struggle. Trains also became the target of the enemy forces when the country was divided into two. A lot of atrocities occurred in the same trains when this great nation was divided into India and Pakistan.

Many films were made drawing inspiration from trains. Dr. Rajkumar and Kamala Hassan have acted in many such films. Railway is the symbol of lovers, it is the symbol of culture and civilization. It is the common mode of transport of the true Indians. There is no meaning in simply talking about the Railways without understanding the importance of the Railways. It is the common people's mode of transport. We should give a lot of importance and make observations towards making it more efficient and safe. Today, there is a need to improve the safety measures of the railway stations. Women and children love to travel by trains, which is the most comfortable mode of transport. Common people, from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, can travel by train. Elite people can travel by air, but common people cannot travel by air. So, we must improve and increase the efficiency of the Railway staff, right from Coolie to the Station Master. We must protect women, children and physically challenged from the eve teasers and gangsters.

I hope the Ministry is competent enough to deal with such situations. Laluji and Veluji are very brave names and they are very much committed to this cause. I request them to make it more efficient.

There is a need to increase wagons and goods trains. It is because I heard these days even loaded trucks are made to travel by trains because of the hike in diesel prices, road toll and bridge toll. Travelling by trains is cheaper even for the loaded trucks. So, there is a great need to increase goods trains and wagons. ...(*Interruptions*)

As far as the new lines are concerned, though our Minister has given a lot of importance to my State, Karnataka, we need more. You can go through the list. Lalaji is kind enough to give us more facilities. I can go through all the projects. There is Kottur-Ariyar-Arpanahalli new line.

This facility my State will have only after getting new lines and doubling of the lines. If there is a shortage of money in the Ministry, please raise some Soft Loans. You cannot neglect the Indian Railways. So, do not hesitate to raise some Soft Loans from the international financial institutions to construct the new lines and all that.

I come from Kanakpura Constituency. My people are very downtrodden. There is no irrigation facility, and farmers are suffering due to continuous drought since the last four years. If you introduce the new line from Bangalore-Mettupalayam via Kanakpura and Malavally, it will be a great support for our people for introducing new industrial venues. This will also help the farmers to transport the crops and agricultural products. Please give importance to Karnataka and help complete all our pending projects with the Central Ministry.

\*Sir, I would like to lay down the list of Rail Projects for Karnataka State.

First of all, I wish to take up some of the important Railway Projects which have cost sharing with Government of Karnataka. These include Kotturu to Harihar via Harpanahalli (New Line), Bangalore to Kengeri with

electrification (Doubling), Kengeri to Ramanagaram (Doubling), Bijapur to Gadag (Gauge Conversion) and Hassan to Mangalore (Gauge Conversion).

The project for Hassan to Mangalore (Gauge Conversion) is through equity participation.

Soft loan can be raised for some other important projects. These include important projects like Hassan to Bangalore via Shravanabelagola (New Line), Kadur-Cikmagalur-Sakleshpur (New Line), Bangalore-Satyamangalam via Kanakpura (New Line), Hubli to Ankola (New Line), Chamarajnagar to Mettupalayam (New Line), Munirabad to Mahboobnagar via Raichur (New Line), Bidar to Gulbarga (New Line), Mysore to Chamarajnagar (Gauge Conversion), Shimoga to Talguppa (Gauge Conversion), Yashwanthpur to Tumkur (Doubling), Hospet to Toranagallu (Doubling) and Bangalore-Whitefield-KR Puram (Quadrupling Bangalore).

I would like to request, through you, Mr. Chairman, to the hon. Railway Minister to introduce a new line as a gift to my constituency people who basically belong to the farming community. This new line is Bangalore to Mettupalayam via Kanakpura-Malavally-Chamarajnagar.

Now, I would like to say a few words about Karnataka in Railway Budget 2005-06. Two new lines are to be completed during the year 2005-06. They are Hassan-Shravanabelagola of Bangalore-Hassan and Bangalore-Nelamangala of Bangalore-Hassan.

A few new trains were announced in this year's Railway Budget. These include Madgaon-Mangalore Jan Shatabdi Express (6 days a week), Chennai-Bangalore Shatabdi Express (6 days a week), Mangalore-Shravanabelagola Passenger (after completion of line), Yashwantpur-Mangalore Express (via Mysore) after gauge conversion, Yashwantpur-Mangalore Express (via Arsikere) after gauge conversion, Hubli-Chikjajur Passenger (daily) and Belgaum-Miraz Passenger-2 Pairs (5 days a week).

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\*...This portion of the speech was laid on the Table.

[Shrimati Tejaswini Seeramesh]

There are some trains, which need to be extended during the year 2005-06. These include Mysore-Thanjavur Express to Kumbakonnam (after gauge conversion), Kacheguda-Shri Sathyasai Prashnathi Nilayam Expresses to Yashwantpur, Jaipure-Bangalore Express to Mysore (after doubling) and Sanghamitra Express from Rajendranagar, Patna to Bangalore City.

Frequency for Howrah-Yashwantpur Express should be increased from bi-weekly to daily with diversion via Tirupati.

New surveys may be carried out about Gauge conversion of Kolar-Chickballapur, Kotturu-Chitradurg via Jagalur, Bangalore-Mettupalayam and Kanakpura-Malavally.

A new concrete sleeper plant at Harihar has been announced and the project, namely, doubling of lines—Mangalore to Shoranpur have been expedited. Some doubling lines are near completion like Thomagallu-Hospet, Hagari-Bellary and Bangalore-Bidadi. Gauge conversion lines like Bijapur-Basavanabagewadi of Sholapur-Gadag and Saklesh-Subramania Road of Hassan-Bangalore are nearing completion.

With humble thanks, I would like to conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Buldhana) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister of Railways and his two colleagues the Ministers of State in the Ministry of Railways are also sitting here. When I was elected for the first time to the Eleventh Lok Sabha I put forth my demands keeping in mind the feelings and requirements of the people of my constituency as and when I got an opportunity to speak on the Rail budget even at very late hours of the night. Unfortunately, I have not got any credit so far. I hail from Vidarbha, region of Maharashtra which is extremely backward. There is neither industrial

development nor means of irrigation and neither there are good roads. So, it has been a long standing demand of the people that there should be a Railway line in that area. A survey was conducted during the British regime in 1926. That route is Jalana-Segaon. Jalana is a prominent station of the South Central Railways while Segaoon is a station under the Central Railways. There is a distance of 150 kilometres between these two stations. If this track is constructed, 9 districts of Marathwada and 11 districts of Vidarbha will be connected. The people will get the facility and it will promote mutual exchange and interaction. As there goes a saying which comes first seed or tree, similarly which comes first Railway or development. Wherever Railway network spreads it is automatically followed by development as it leads to industrialization. It is, therefore, the demand of our people of Vidarbha and Marathwada that the above Railway line be constructed there. I have also raised this demand during discussions on several Rail Budgets and additional demands of Railways but I have not got its credit so far.

If you want to raise funds, an amount of over Rs. 100 crore can be mobilised on the lines of the Konkan Railway for which funds were mobilised through Bonds. My request is that this railway line should be constructed.

I expect from the Minister of Railways and from both his colleagues—the Ministers of State in the Ministry of Railways to fulfill this demand. I had also put forth this demand under Rule 377 in the House. But I was told that this railway route was not viable. I wondered whether the Railways was a service industry or the income industry. The Railways should be service industry. Development takes place through the Railways. That is why this Rail line is a must. The Minister of Railways had replied a short while ago immediately after the speech of an Hon'ble Member that they would complete it.

I hope that you will do this keeping in mind this rail line.

I would like to mention two little things. Segaon is considered the pilgrimage of Gojanand Maharaj and lakhs of people throng for pilgrimage. But a half kilometre long queue is formed there due to the railway track because no over-bridge has been constructed thereon. I demand that an over bridge be constructed there at the earliest. Similar is the case of Nandura Taluka area which falls on the Highway and there too people have to face a great deal of inconvenience due to non-existence of an over bridge. An over-bridge is required at that place also. I live in Mumbai and Kandivali is under my constituency. Half of the bridge has been constructed at Kandivali for the last four five years, but half of that still remains to be constructed. It is not understandable. The cost has already been incurred there. Therefore, the people will be thankful to you if you other half is also constructed.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA (Jalaun) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I had put some demands earlier also but no attention was paid to them. Now, I am putting again some demands before the hon. Minister. In our area a shuttle runs from '8-junction' to Konchi station under the Jhansi division of the North Central Railways. But some days ago time table of that shuttle has been changed. The rationale of the change in the time table is not understandable. It is okay, if the time table is changed keeping in view the convenience of the passengers. But who is responsible for the inconvenience suffered by the passengers when they get train after waiting for three-four hours at the junction due to change of time table? Earlier the passengers used to get train in half an hour and they used to leave for Mumbai, Lucknow and Allahabad. But now they have to wait for two-three hours. I would like to ask as to why the time table was changed by the officials. I had also given in writing in this regard to the hon. Minister also to retain the earlier time-table. If the status quo is maintained, it will be convenient to the people and the

revenue will also increase. Still the earlier time table has not been retained. I would request the hon. Minister to restore the earlier time table so as to avoid inconvenience to the passengers. I apprehend lest the officials should be planning to discontinue the shuttle by proving it non-profitable. As the mafias are eyeing the land around the 'Konch Station' and are in collusion with the officers and with the change in time table the Railways would lose revenue thereby leaving the land to be grabbed by the land mafia. People are highly agitated due to change in time table and are ready for staging dharmas and raising protests. I have talked to the DRM also in this regard but the officials have not paid any attention to what I said.

Always it is observed that the number of accidents is going up and they take place between 12 O'clock at night and 5 AM. What is its reason? The main reason is that the station master who is on duty...(Interruptions) I am raising an important issue.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI PREMCHAND GUPTA) : You can give it in writing.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have spoken, you can also speak when Demands for Grants come up for discussion. Today we are running short of time.

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA : I have not concluded yet. \*Sir, under Jhansi Division of North Central Railway an Intercity Express starts at about 6 AM from Jhansi. It reaches Kanpur around 10 AM. It has a long halt from 10 AM to 6 PM at the Kanpur station. I demand from the Minister of Railways that this Intercity Express should be extended upto Allahabad and kept halted at Moth Station.

Sir, I, through you demand from the Minister of Railways that a shuttle train has been running from Ettah Junction to Kounch station under Jhansi division for the

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\*This portion of the speech was laid on the Table.

[Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma]

last more than 100 years. But its timing has been changed for the last six months due to which the number of passengers has declined. It seems to me that in case it starts running in loss a plan to discontinue this shuttle is being formulated. At present, an officer of Jhansi Division, who is a resident of Madari village near Kounch station, has managed to get its time changed. My apprehension is that this officer is in connivance with the land mafias of Kounch in which he may be trying to occupy the railway land by discontinuing this train from the Kounch station showing it unremunerative.

My demand from you is that the earlier timings of this shuttle should be restored so that it could be beneficial for the passengers and the revenue earnings of the department of Railways could also be increased. Hon'ble Minister of Railways, Sir, halt of Kochin and Puspak Express should be provided at Ettah Junction. Also a halt of Kushinagar and Intercity Express should be provided at Moth station. Out of the total trains which run from Delhi to North East, 4-5 up and down trains should be run via Jhansi-Kanpur. With this the passengers of Gwalior, Agra, Jhansi, Urai would have a direct linkage to North-East and Delhi.

Hon'ble Minister of Railways, Sir, Kounch station should be computerized so that the passengers of about 300 villages could get its benefit. Sir, under my Lok Sabha constituency, Kalpi is a pilgrimage, the place where Maharishi Vyas has performed his religious ascetic activities and lakhs of pilgrims visit there. Therefore, I demand from the Hon. Minister that a stoppage of Kochin and Pushpak Express should be provided at Kalpi station, so that the passengers could get down at Kalpi station for visiting the above pilgrimage.

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV (Faizabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views. I understand that there is shortage of time. Therefore, I will not take more time. I will conclude

by giving some suggestions. However, Railways is the largest department of the Government of India. There is no other means for transportation of billions of people of the country from one place to the other. Therefore, this department should not have any concern with regard to the budget. It pains me very much when any discussions are held on the budget of this department. Can there be any shortage of fund for the department to whom the population of the country is crowded at the stations to give money? If there is any lack of means of transportation to ferry the people of country from one place to the other, then you should provide adequate means of transportation. The people of the country are ready to pay billions of rupees to the Department of Railways. Therefore, the hon. Minister should not have shortage of budget. It is meaningless to have a discussion on the budget of the department which have a such a huge source of revenue generation in that crores of people who can contribute billions of rupees in form of passenger fares have to return empty handed due to non availability of tickets to them.

Ayodhya-Faizabad is a pilgrim place. All the trains originating from Bihar depart to the west directly via Gorakhpur. A bridge was constructed on the river Saryu incurring cost of worth crores of rupees, but no train passes through that route. My demand and suggestion is that some of the trains bound for Bihar, Haryana, Punjab and Delhi should be diverted through Faizabad-Ayodhya which would be beneficial for the people as well as for the Department of Railways. Nothing would be better than it.

Faizabad is situated hardly at a distance of about one hundred kilometers from Barabanki. It will be very beneficial if doubling and electrification of that railway line is done. Many people from Poorvanchal visit industrial cities Ahmedabad, Surat, Nosari, Bharuch and Mumbai to earn bread for their family. They travel on the roof of the trains. My submission is that Lucknow bound train from



Ayodhya-Faizabad should be extended up to Faizabad. It would be convenient for the commuter of Poorvanchal who go to Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Surat, Nosari, Bharuch and Vadodara. At present, they are facing lot of inconvenience in going there. You are operating a train via Allahabad. It would be beneficial for the people of the area if the time of that train is changed.

Efforts should be made to do away with the inconveniences being caused to the people. Theft, snatching and looting at stations are major problems. Even the vendors supplying tea and water in the trains have to face these problems. Alongwith it, major accidents also take place. Attention should be paid on all these things. The life of many people are directly linked with the train.

Many people have put their attention on the 'kulhad'. You have also put attention on it. But you should also pay due attention on water pitchers etc...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your allotted time is over. Now, take your seat please.

DR. RAJESH MISHRA (Varanasi) : Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me a chance to speak on the demand for grants of Rail budget. I rise to speak in favour of it I wish to congratulate Shri Lalu Prasadji, Shri Rathwaji and Shri Veluji.

Sir, the members on the opposition benches frequently complain regarding nonfulfilment of promises of the Ministry of railways. I wish to submit that development works cannot be completed in a year or in a day or two. It is an incessant process. When you say that what we had promised in the 11th Lok Sabha also and in 12th also, has not been fulfilled, you should introspect which party was in power during 11th, 12th and 13th Lok Sabha and why your Ministers did not fulfill them. I congratulate Hon. Minister of Railway for atleast providing free tickets for handicapped, unemployed youth, while going for appearing in interviews.

Sir, they talk about Kulhars (the earthen cups). We can see Kulhars whenever we travel by a train. God knows why those people can only see glasses. While we only find Kulhars we wish to congratulate Hon. Minister that he has not increased passenger fares or freight charges. You have increased the income of railways with internal resources and certainly the income of Railways has increased.

Sir, I wish to congratulate the Hon. Minister of Railways for starting the process of introducing train in Jammu and Kashmir also. The greatest thing is that the process for introducing train to Pakistan will also be started soon which is a very strong step. It is helpful in improving the relationship between India and Pakistan. Hon. Minister of Railways has made a special contribution to it.

Through you I would like to give some suggestions to Hon. Minister of Railways Kashi is a renowned place of pilgrimage in India and Prayag is around 125 Kilometers from it. Even today there is a single line and it takes 5 to 6 hours for a train to cover distance between Prayag and Kashi. If the track is converted into double line...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please mind the time.

DR. RAJESH MISHRA : I wish to submit that if Prayag and Kashi are linked by double line then the four hours distance will be covered within one and a half or two hours. Besides, there should be a direct train for Bangalore and Kolkata from Varanasi, which is the biggest textile industrial centre of North India. There should be a direct train from Varanasi to Bangalore. The Train from Varanasi to Kolkata is indirect which takes 5 to 6 hours extra time. We request for a direct train from Varanasi to Kolkata.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

[Translation]

DR. RAJESH MISHRA : Sir, there is a sleeper factory in Varanasi, I request that this factory should be upgraded....(Interruptions) Mr. Chairman, Sir I thank you very much for giving me a chance to speak here.

SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD (Yavatmal) : Sir, I had demanded Shri Lalu Prasadji that the Gitanjali Express should be given a stoppage at Sahgaun. He met my demand and I thank him very much with all respect. For providing this stoppage and he has got quite a lot of appreciation for that. In the leading daily the *Trarun Bharat*. Complete story was given alongwith his photograph and a picture of the train thereon and thus it was made a historic event. The train was started here 27 years back and a versatile personality Gajanan Maharaj in Maharashtra, had said that the train had come to give a glimpse to Sahgaun people. Hon. Lalaji being a member of the consultative committee, I remember you had said that you wanted to take Indian train at number one position. How can the train be at number one until the train comes to my district?

Sir, I had given a suggestion regarding a track line of Poosar-Vardha-Nanded.

The Hon. Minister might be remembering that it was said that the project will cost Rs. 460 crores. Hon. Railway Minister is telling us that it is very difficult. If we wish to secure the position of number one in the world then please see the example of Vidarbha and Marathwada. In the history of railways Rail Minister have been from U.P., South India but Maharashtra has never been covered under the target it merits attention.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I have suggested for Railway Station Poosar which is a venerable place for meeting of Toradevi Saints. People from all over the country come here. People will go to Nanded in Maharashtra to celebrate 300th birth anniversary of Guru Govind Singh in the year 2007 and Maharashtra Government have given

Rs. 700 crores for beautification of Nanded. Therefore, I request Shri Lalu Prasad, Shri Rathwa, Shri Velu to pay attention to it.

The Maharashtra Government has increased bus fare while the train fares are less. It has enhanced the importance of train. Shakuntala railway station in Maharashtra is yet under the British mindset, kindly set it free from this mindset. Lalaji has reduced the train fares, we thank him for that.

SHRI MUNSHI RAM (Bijnor)\* : Sir, I raise to support the Rail Budget on behalf of Choudhary Ajit Singh Party's Rashtriya Lok Dal and through you I would like to request to the hon'ble Minister of Railways. I represent Bijnor Lok Sabha Constituency of Western Uttar Pradesh and I have requested to the hon'ble Minister through many correspondence to provide diversion on Majampur junction at Jammu Tawi-Hawra rail line which connect Gajraula Junction of Moradabad Delhi lines but no reply was given with regard to any letter by hon'ble Minister.

There is a single line of British rule between Maujampur junction and Gajraula junction which requires doubling at the earliest. The construction of hydraulic chanda gate in place of manned railway crossing on both sides of Bijnor and Chandpur railway stations will end the traffic congestion.

I have already demanded an additional train from Bijnor to Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh because passengers of Meerut and Muzaffarnagar districts also want to go Lucknow from Bijnore Railway station. Therefore, a new train may be introduced from Bijnore to Lucknow. There is no direct train from Uttaranchal and Western Uttar Pradesh for Western and northern side of the country. Therefore, a train may be introduced from this side Haridwar to Chennai, Andhra and Mumbai.

I have already demanded to construct flyover on railway crossing nearby railway station at Nagina,

\*The speech was laid on the Table.

Nazibabad on national highways numbers 74 which connects Dehradun, the capital of Uttaranchal to Nanital. But hon'ble Minister has ignored the above said demands whereas these demands should be fulfilled with urgent basis.

I would request to the hon'ble Minister through you to fulfil above-said demands.

SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL (Daman and Diu) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to express my thanks to the Minister of Railways for presenting the Railway Budget to Shri Velluji and Shri Rathwaji.

I would like to draw your attention towards some points regarding railways. 'A' Grade status has been accorded to Vapi Railway Station of Southern Gujarat but no facilities have been provided. No retiring room is available there and there is no overbridge to go from platform No. 1 to another platform. Daily collected at vapi railway station is around seven to twelve lakh rupees but these facilities have not been provided there. Secondly there is urgent need of providing stoppage for fast trains there. Awantika, Awadh, Swaraj and Janta Express do not stop there. My submission is that stoppage of these fast trains may be provided.

Vapi, Daman and Diu and Dadra are number one industrial towns of Asia where a lot of industries are there. Lakhs of workers come there. The number of "MEMU" trains should be increased. My submission is that a new rail line should be constructed from Daman to Nasik via vapi Silvasa.

Mr. Chairman, there is different dresses of railway staff in Mumbai, Rajdhani and August Kranti Express trains. I suggest that dress should be similar. In addition to it, there is Balitha Railway Crossing ahead of vapi where traffic is congested. Therefore, there has been demand of rail over bridge on this crossing.

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL (Hamirpur, H.P.) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me an

opportunity to speak on the demand for grants of Railways. The Honourable Minister of Railways had made an announcement to introduce 46 new trains, extend the route of 27 trains and raise the frequency of 10 trains of the country in the budget speech. The Honourable Minister of Railways has tried to give relief by not increasing rail fare. I would like to thank him for this. Since there is paucity of time, I won't like to mention any background and would like to draw the attention of the honourable Minister to the state of Himachal Pradesh.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may give suggestions only.

SHRI SURESH CHANDEL : Sir, today Himachal Pradesh is backward so far as railways development is concerned even after fifty seven years. I would like to draw the attention of the honourable Minister towards the fact that railway. Map of the entire country was prepared sitting in Rikangpio of Himachal Pradesh. But it is unfortunate that today that place is most ignored one from point of view of railway services even though the railways map of entire India was sitting on that place. I would like to give two or three examples in this regard. Construction for one broad-gauge line had been started in my constituency in 1973. It was announced in the year 1973 that it will be completed in five years. But today only 32 kilometres line have been constructed upto 2005. Except this, no new railway line has been constructed in Himachal Pradesh. Therefore, I request to the honourable Minister of Railways that there is need to pay specific attention towards Himachal Pradesh and especially of my constituency.

Three Sahkti peeths out of 52 shaktipeeths of the country namely Naina Devi, Jawala Devi and Maa Chintapoomi Devi come under my constituency. Where lakhs of people come every year. These passengers face a lot of difficulties for visiting there by buses. I would like to submit that there is no need to make a very long track to connect these places. Only a stretch of 18-20 kilometres long track need to be constructed to connect Anadpur Sahab to Naina Devi. Similarly only 16 kilometres track

[Shri Suresh Chandel]

is required to be constructed to connect Raaitae to Jwalaheri. I would like to request the Government to connect it to Diyotsidha ahead of that place because lakhs of people across the country also visit that place. So I request the honourable Minister that arrangement should be made to construct these new lines at the earliest in view of religious importance of these shaktipeeths.

At last I would like to make one more request that a Janshatabadi train should be introduced from Una because one Shatabadi train runs from Chandigarh and Janshatabadi train also runs from there. So one Janshatabadi train may please be introduced from our constituency. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID (Periyakulam) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Railway Budget. Our hon. Railway Minister, Shri Laluji has brought a very good Railway Budget to suit the common and poor commuters and small traders by not raising the passenger fare and goods fare and by giving free passes to students who attend the Government interviews. One good thing that our hon. Railway Minister has done to avoid demurrage and other things is that 24 hour railway booking counter has been opened to take the luggages. In my constituency Bodinaickanur-Madurai, broad gauge was announced by the hon. Railway Minister but work has not yet started. Bodinaickanur, Cumbum, Gudalore are the main places for spices particularly pepper, cardamom, cotton, mangoes, coconut, tea, coffee etc. I have already requested the hon. Railway Minister to a booking counter for small spice traders. Otherwise, they have transport the same to Madurai or Coimbatore for their booking. They are facing a lot of hurdles from sales tax, road tax, enforcement and other officials. To avoid these hurdles...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude your speech. There is time constraint.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID : Should I lay my speech, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, please conclude.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID : So, I request the hon. Railway Minister Laluji to open a spices booking counter at Bodinaickanur. The pilgrims to Ayyappan Temple are suffering a lot. Lakhs and lakhs of pilgrims are coming here from the whole of India. They are going round more than 150 km. in jungles and up hills. It is a difficult task for them.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Rashid, please conclude.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID : Should I lay my speech, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID : \*If the hon. Railway Minister extends this line to Theni, Bodinaickanur, Gudalore to Appayyan Temple, it will give lot of relief to the commuters, particularly pilgrims from all over India. I request Bodinaickanur-Madurai meter gauge to be converted immediately into broad gauge. More than 1800 km. MG route is there in Tamil Nadu alone. I request the hon. Minister to convert the same into Broad Gauge.

India is number one iron ore exporting country to China, Japan, Korea and other countries. As the demand goes up, the *dalals* of the exporters are exploiting the situation of the railway rake box bookings.

The exporters are placing the Box-N wagons indents in block and creating artificial demands. The genuine and actual mine owners, small exporters are not able to get box-N and rakes to move their iron ore to the loading ports by rail. They have to pay big price to advance booking Box-N rakes. They have to pay a sum of Rs. 500 only for booking of rail rakes. This is being a small amount in Southern Railway/South Western Railway, the *dalals* and the so-called exporters create artificial indent. The parties

and the middlemen are minting money by creating artificial demand of Box-N rakes at the Railway Division at Chennai Port. If the party wants to place an indent, he has to pay full deposit as the entire freight is to be paid in advance. Sir, if this procedure is adopted in all the Railway Zones, the artificial demand for Box-N rakes could be reduced immediately. All over India the Railway will be able to create the genuine demands. Please give attention to this to avoid artificial Box-N rakes demands and middlemen's interference.\*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodara) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I would like to thank the hon. Minister for presenting a budget which provides relief to common people. I would like to present some issues concerning Vadodara, my parliamentary constituency. While moving towards Ahmedabad, the first station en route is Vajwa. I.P.C.L. refinery and many P.S.U. are located at this place. Loading of goods manufactured by the public sector companies takes place here. The level crossing at that place is closed for twenty minutes at a stretch after every ten minutes. Big containers pass through it causing a great deal of inconvenience to people. This project has been included in the list of pending projects by the Ministry of Railways. I would request you to expedite it. I want to bring it to the notice that the present practice of sharing the expenses in the ratio of 50-50 per cent by the State Government and the Central Government should be entirely borne by the Central Government.

Shayaji Nagri train used to carry passengers to Surat and Balsad for the last many years. Problems have cropped up after it has been extended upto Kutch. I have been receiving letters from many people requesting to stick to its past schedule and for starting a new train for Kutch...(Interruptions)

The third point which I want to mention is that

\*...This portion if the speech was laid on the Table.

Vadodara-Ahmedabad-Mumbai route is the highest utility track on railway-map and it needs an additional track. Viswamitri, which has already been extended, is a good railway station. It can also be utilised properly. Vajwa can also be utilized to ease loading pressure. Hazira port is such a port, where four PSUs including IOC are functioning. That line should be extended upto hinterland.

SHRI GANESH PRASAD SINGH (Jehanabad) : \*While wholly supporting the Demands for Grants of Railway Budget, 2005-06 presented by the Minister of Railway as per the directions of the Chairman, I lay my written speech on the Table of the House because of time constraint.

In my parliamentary constituency, Jehanabad, there is a urgent need of a halt at Niazipur between Teheta and Jehanabad on Patna-Gaya-Rail section. Teheta is 10 kilometers form Jehanabad and the poor people, farmers and the general public are demanding for that for many years. Hundreds of villages of this are will be benefited if halt at Niazipur is created.

An overbridge at the railway line of Jehabanad-Arwat Road at Jehanabad on Patna-Gaya rail section is required. There is a very old bridge below the line where accidents take place frequently.

So, through this august House, I urge upon the Minister of Railways to approve of the above mentioned proposals in wider public interest and give instructions to expedite its implementation.

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA (Faridabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of hon. Minister of Railways to a very big problem of my parliamentary constituency. Lacs of people commute between Delhi from Faridabad. I have repeatedly requested the hon. Minister to extend GDP-4 passenger shuttle running from Delhi to Palwal upto Hodal Kosikalan.

\*The speech was laid on the Table.

[Shri Avtar Singh Bhadana]

Till date, no attention has been paid towards any of my requests...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please make your request in writing to the hon. Minister.

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA : I request to the hon. Minister that the above mentioned shuttle should be extended upto Hodal-Kosikalan. The train starts at about 12.00 a.m. and reaches Palwal at 1 P.M. In the same way, Agra passenger train should be extended upto Delhi instead of SNP-3 train. It will be more beneficial for the commuters. It is my request that both these demands should be taken care of.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI (Jodhpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for the opportunity you have given me to make a speech. Firstly, I would like to thank the Minister of State for Railways Shri Rathwajee for the Jansampark Kranti Express he has introduced from Jodhpur. I would like to give three or four suggestions particularly with regard to my Lok Sabha constituency of Jodhpur.

The length of railway line from Fulera to Jodhpur is 240 km. on which one and a half hour more time is spent during the journey due to the lack of auto signal system. The facility of auto signal system may kindly be made available over there. Jodhpur with a population of about 25 lacs is a very big city of Rajasthan. Demand for setting up reservation centres at the Basni railway station, Bhagat ki kothi railway station, Pratap Nagar, Chaupasani Housing Board railway station and at BJS is being made for a very long time Reservation Centres may kindly be set up over there.

\*There are two gates at the Jodhpur railway station located in my Lok Sabha parliamentary constituency. But at the second gate, there is no facility for reservation. That

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\*This portion of the speech was laid on the Table.

facility may kindly be made available. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister with regard to the reopening of the unmanned level crossing. I also request him for the approval of the Biladabar railway-line. Besides, I want to request for the sanction of the Falauri, Pokharan, Shergadh, Barmer new railway line survey for which has been completed. I want to submit that the timing of the Rajasthan Jan Sampark Kranti Express be got changed and should be got introduced from the Delhi railway station. I demand the introduction of a new train service between Jodhpur and Pune. The Mandor Express running between Jodhpur and Delhi has got a stoppage at Rawari which should be scrapped.

Sir, these are my suggestions meant for the benefit of the general public and the Ministry of Railways. I hope that the hon. Minister of Railways would certainly take action thereon\*.

SHRI RAVINDER NAIK DHARAVATH (Warangal) : Sir, I would not take much time. I had taken up the issue of the Warangal area with the hon. Minister for Railways during the last meeting of the consultative Committee. It is a very backward area of Telengana having quite a lot of problems. Sir, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards the proposal submitted by me during the meeting of the consultative Committee and hope that he would accept them to get them solved.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ramkripal Yadavjee you give it in writing.

SHRI LALU PRASAD : You want to give something.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : I would like to request the hon. Minister of Railways to provide for a one minute stoppage of the Ashram Express from Delhi to Ahmedabad at Bayabar Nagar near Ajmer which is having a population of about 1.25 lacs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister of Railways, now speak up. The hon. Member was not present at that time. As such, time cannot be allotted for him. This is not

the convention. He should be attentive towards the timings of the House. Now, the hon. Minister, you may deliver your speech.

[English]

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (Dhenkanal) : Hon. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak. I would request the hon. Railway Minister to consider the case of Orissa with responsibility and care. Orissa needs a Rajdhani Express starting from Bhubaneshwar to Delhi via Dhenkanal and Sambalpur. We have an average of 15.03 kms. per thousand kms. of Railway line whereas all over the country, it is above 19 kms. Orissa is a rich State with a lot of minerala. Railways can make a lot of money from the State of Orissa. I would request the Minister to consider the case of Orissa separately to ensure that it gets its dues and the rightful place on the Railway map.

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (Gulbarga)\* : Sir, I would like to compliment the UPA Government and the Railway Ministry for concessions being given to the farmers, milk producers, rural-based people and for the unemployed youth. This is a pro-common man Budget wherein fares have not been increased.

Sir, my Constituency Gulbarga is centrally located from Bombay, Bangalore, Chennai and Hyderabad Railway Lines. There is a long pending demand of Hyderabad Karnataka region to set up a Divisional Railway Headquarters (DRM Office) at Gulbarga. About 21 hon. Members of Parliament have given a representation in this regard. There is a considerable incoming and outgoing railway traffic from Gulbarga Railway Station. Hence, I would like to request to set up a DRM Office at Gulbarga.

Sir, ongoing railway line from Bidar to Gulbarga is a very important project. It connects Hyderabad Karnataka region to Delhi. This new railway line reduces five hours

\*The speech was laid on the Table.

journey from Gulbarga to New Delhi. The Budget allocation for this ongoing project is earmarked only Rs. 4.5 crore, whereas during the last year Budget, Rs. 15 crore have been allotted. I want to request the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, to allot Rs. 50 crore to get the project completed expeditiously.

Sir, I want to request the hon. Railway Minister to set up a Railway workshop at Gulbarga which would be very helpful to provide employment to youths and for the development of Hyderabad Karnataka backward area.

I again humbly request the hon. Railway Minister, through you, Sir, to include Sedam, Chitapur, Wadi and Nahwar Railway stations for renovation.

Once again, I whole-heartedly support the Railway Budget and compliment the hon. Railway Minister for the presentation of pro-common man Railway Budget. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to express my views.

[Translation]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore) : We wont listen to tainted Minister therefore we walk out of the House.

17.43 hrs.

(At this stage Shri Kharbela Swain and some Hon. Members left the House)

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Sir, first of all I would like to thank all those Hon Members who took part in the discussion on Demands for Grants in the Rail Budget 2005-06 presented in the House and apprised us with their valuable views. I am happy that most of the members have appreciated the Budget and given many valuable suggestions also. I would like to assure the House that whatever suggestions have been given by Hon. Members, they will considered seriously.

[Shri Lahu Prasad]

Sir, the Standing Parliamentary Committee seriously reviewed the Railway Budget 2005-06. The Committee has presented its report in the House. The Standing Committee has given many valuable suggestions. These suggestions will be considered upon seriously and quick action will be taken accordingly. The Committee will be apprised of the same.

As the Hon. Members are aware that Railway Convention Committee 2004 has in its first report recommended that the dividend payable by the Ministry of Railway to the general exchequer for the year 2004-05 be reduced from 7 per cent to 6.5 per cent. I am thankful to Railway Convention Committee for its recommendation to the Ministry of Finance too for supporting this recommendation. I am pleased to inform the House that keeping in view the good financial condition of Railways, Ministry of Railways will be able to pay its deferred dividend liabilities within eight years instead of the originally sanctioned for 9 years.

Sir, while presenting the budget for the current financial year. I had informed the House of the excellent achievements of Railways made during 2004-05.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I feel happy to inform the House that during 2004-05 the Indian Railways transported approximately 602 million tones of goods which exceeded by 22 million against the targets as fixed in the budget estimates. This transportation of goods is 45 million tonnes more i.e. 8% more than that of the year 2003-04. Thus railway's contribution in the goods transportation sector has increased after many years. Though the financial results of the year 2004-05 are yet to come, according to the actual data of February 2005 the income from transportation of goods has registered an increase of Rs. 187 crore more than the revised budget estimates. An increase of 6% has been registered in the number of passengers and revised target of passenger income is also expected to be achieved. Hence total traffic earnings are

expected to be Rs. 200 crores in excess of targets fixed in the revised estimates which is 3970 crore i.e. 9% more than the total earnings registered in the year 2003-04. I am sure that we will be able to achieve the operating ratio target of 91.2% fixed in revised estimates. Thus in the recently ended year 2004-05, Railways has made excellent achievements and I extend my heartiest congratulations and thanks to all the Railway staff and rail users for this progress.

Sir, we the achievements of 2004-05 are not going to make us complacent. We have to take railways to greater heights so that it can be counted as one of the best railway systems of the world. Actually we may say"

"Pratham Charan hai nai swarg ka hai majil ka chhor  
Is jan-manthan se uth aai paheli rattan hilor"

In the past 25-30 years heavy investment has been made in the Indian Railways for strengthening and modernising the track structure. Last year approximately Rs. 3850 crores were spent at gross level and thus an amount of Rs. 34250 crores has been spent on this work during the last 20 years. The 90 pound rail, cast iron sleepers have almost been replaced on the golden quadrilateral and its diagonal routes. We had enhanced the loading capacity of the most of the wagons by 2 tonnes in the last year so that full benefit of rolling stock capacity could be obtained by the railways. The tracks from which iron ore and other mineral material ore transported to ports and factories are being strengthened and modernized. Very few passenger trains pass through the routes on which iron ore minerals are transported. Therefore we have decided under a pilot project to increase loading capacity of wagons by increasing axle load of all goods trains from 21.32 tonnes to 22.32 tonnes on some selected routes. Loading capacity of B.C.N. and BCNA wagons has also been decided to be increased to 60 and 62.8 tonnes per wagon respectively in order to transport gunny packed goods. This decision will increase



the loading capacity of Indian Railways by 2% and additional net income of Rs. 500 crores is expected to be generated the reform. This decision reminds me of the lines written by Sarveshwar Dayal Saxena where in he has said-

"Ham Asamarthtaon se nahin Sambhavnao se ghire hain,

Har deedar par dwar ban sakta hai and har dwar se, pura ka pura pahar gujar sakta hai,"

Sir, Railways are world widely recognized as the cheap and eco-friendly means of transport from the energy-consumption point of view. The energy-consumption in rail transport is even less than one-fourth of the energy-consumption in a truck. During the last few years, we have paid special attention to all round development of road transport and have made a huge investment therein. But the investment in Rail transport is not commensurate with what is necessary to meet the increasing demands of transport.

The implementation of the announcements made in budget speech for the year, 2004-05 was closely monitored during the year and most of the announcements have been implemented and the remaining are at the last stages of fulfilment. Except two trains, all the trains have been introduced. One of these two trains would be introduced till end of July after gauge conversion and the other would be introduced after clearance from the Chief Railway Safety Commissioner.

Sir, the hon. Prime Minister, on thirteenth of this month has himself inaugurated 55 k.m. Jammu Tawi-Udhampur railway line by showing green flag to Uttar Sampark Kranti Express from Udhampur railway station. Thus, the UPA Government have made the dream of Late Smt. Indira Gandhi, come true. The construction of Udhampur-Baramulla railway line is also going on vigorously and this also would be completed as per the fixed target. In the words of the poet Ram Naresh Tripathy—

"Jab tak pahunch na lenge tab tak sans na lenge vah lakshya samne hai peeche nahi talenge".

Honouring the demand of the people of Mithilanchal, we have now decided to operate the Sampark Kranti Express, which runs from Darbhanga to Delhi, as a Super fast train and to run it on daily basis instead of two days a week. While presenting the budget, I had announced that 'Sapt Kranti Express', being operated between Delhi-Muzaffarpur, would be extended upto Darbhanga. Since it has been decided to run the Sampark Kranti Express introduced between Delhi-Darbhanga on daily basis as a super fast train, the 'Sapt Kranti Express' shall not be now extended to Darbhanga. Process has also been started to implement the announcements made in the budget speech, 2005-06. And it gives me immense pleasure in telling to the hon. Members that the directions have been issued to materialise a number of announcements. A close monitoring is being done to implement all the announcements at the earliest.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I fully agree with the concern expressed by the hon. Members with regard to early completion of the ongoing projects in their constituencies. Sir, an amount of approximately Rs. 46000 Crore is required to complete the ongoing projects. Out of these, every possible efforts are being made to complete all the pending projects pertaining to doubling and electrification of railway track, metropolitan transport project, gauge conversion, strategically important as well as pending national projects and pending thru-put growth schemes with the budgetary support, post-budgetary initiatives and internal resources. To complete the other projects undertaken with the objective of socio-economic development of the concerned areas, the comprehensive proposal on 'Sudur Kshetra Rail Sampark Yojana' has almost been prepared and very soon we are going to submit it to the Government for their consideration. We are also determining the order of priority to complete all pending projects in a time-bound manner. Since the completion of these projects would help in all-round development of the

[Shri Lalu Prasad]

concerned areas and states, I have therefore, also requested the concerned state Chief Ministers to provide financial assistance for the implementation thereof. I would like to assure the hon. Members that with these efforts, we would try to complete all the ongoing projects at the earliest so that the Railways could keep its pace of growth and progress in accordance with the expectations of the public.

Though, in my reply I have tried to cover all the points raised by the hon. Members yet some points might have been left. About such points, I would soon apprise them of the factual position in writing. I conclude my speech thanking once again the hon. Members for giving their wide support to the Railway Budget. I also request this August House to approve the Demands for Grants of the Railways for the year 2005-2006 and the Appropriation Bill related thereto.

*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : You have stopped, So, you will get your work done.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : A number of cut motions have been moved by Members for the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2005-2006. Shall I put all the cut motions to the vote of the House together or does any hon. Member want any particular cut motion to be put separately?

*The cut motions were put and negatived.*

\*Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put the Demands for Grants (Railways) for 2005-2006 to vote.

The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in the course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2006, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 16."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put the resolution moved by Shri Lalu Prasad to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That this House approves the recommendations contained in Paras 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51 and 53 of the First Report of Railway Convention Committee (2004) appointed to review the rate of dividend payable by the Railway Undertaking to General Revenues etc., which was presented to the Lok Sabha on 21st December, 2004."

*The resolution was adopted.*

17.59 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) NO. 2 BILL, 2005\*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD) :  
Mr. Chairman. Sir, I beg to move that leave be granted

\*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 20.4.2005

to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2005-2006 for the Railways.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2005-2006 for the purposes of Railways."

*The motion was adopted.*

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I introduce \*the Bill.

18.00 hrs.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Minister may now move for consideration of the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2005-2006 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2005-

2006 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill"

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.*

*The Schedule was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the Minister may move that the Bill be passed.

[Translation]

SHRI LALU PRASAD : Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House stands adjourned to meet again on Thursday, April 21, 2005 at 11 A.M.

18.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, April 21, 2005/  
Vaisakha 1, 1927 (Saka)*

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