

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Ninth Session**  
**(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)**



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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

*Wednesday, December 6, 2006/Agrahayana 15, 1928 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

### OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of two of our former colleagues, Shri Gokaran Prasad and Shri K.B.K. Deb Burman.

Shri Gokaran Prasad was a Member of the Third Lok Sabha from 1962 to 1967, representing Misrikh Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Prasad was a Member of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly from 1977 to 1980.

Shri Prasad was a member of Gram Panchayat, Pichaura, Uttar Pradesh.

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Prasad was actively involved in cottage industries, cattle rearing and dairy farming. He took keen interest in the study of cultural, social and historical literature and in the rural uplift.

Shri Gokaran Prasad passed away on 21st November, 2006 at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh at the age of 79, after a brief illness.

Shri K.B.K. Deb Burman was a Member of the Fourth, Sixth and Ninth Lok Sabhas from 1967 to 1970, 1977 to 1979 and 1989 to 1991, representing Tripura East Parliamentary Constituency of Tripura.

A devoted parliamentarian, Shri Burman was a Member, Consultative Committee, Ministry of Environment and Forests during 1990.

Shri Burman was a Life Member of the Preservation of Wild Life Society of India. He was also a member of the Tea Board during 1990.

A sports enthusiast, Shri Burman worked hard for promotion of sports. He was also office bearer of several

clubs and sports associations. He had keen interest in photography, painting and gardening.

Shri K.B.K. Deb Burman passed away on 27th November, 2006 at Kolkata, West Bengal at the age of 73, after a brief illness.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

11.02 hrs.

*The Members then stood in silence  
for a short while.*

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not show placards.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please allow me to speak for a second.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### Utilisation of Funds for National Highways

\*202. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the funds released for maintenance and repair of National Highways have been allegedly unused/diverted for other purposes during the last three years;

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

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against those found guilty for the lapses; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure proper utilisation of funds released/allocated for National Highways in the country?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R.BAALU): (a) to (c) The funds allocated for maintenance and repairs of National

Highways have been used only for maintenance and repair works and the unused funds stand surrendered. Some of the States have not been able to fully utilize the funds allocated to them for maintenance and repairs during the last three years. The State-wise details of allocation and expenditure of funds for the last 3 years for maintenance and repairs of National Highways are given in the statement enclosed.

(d) The physical and financial progress of maintenance and repairs works is monitored regularly to ensure full utilization of funds.

**Statement**

*Statewise Allocation and Expenditure for Maintenance & Repairs of National Highways during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06*

(Rs. crore)

Sl.No.	States	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
		Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure	Allocation	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	37.42	35.39	34.67	25.81	39.07	39.09
2.	Arunchal Pradesh	0.31	0.16	0.41	0.26	0.21	0.1
3.	Assam	23.27	22.37	22.42	18.3	30.84	27.52
4.	Bihar	29.48	36.52	36.96	36.61	47.66	44.46
5.	Chandigarh	0.28	0.31	0.8	0.72	0.52	0.12
6.	Chhatisgarh	15.34	17.43	26.99	19.75	20.55	20.12
7.	Delhi	0.42	0.00	0.75	0	0.44	0.04
8.	Goa	5.03	5.01	3.8	1.76	4.66	3.87
9.	Gujarat	22.47	20.88	37.39	33.73	38.62	38.08
10.	Haryana	11.19	11.66	7.09	6.42	15.43	14.12
11.	Himachal Pradesh	13.45	10.77	16.1	14.66	23.27	18.19
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.54	0.46	0.44	0.04	0.12	0.03
13.	Jharkhand	15.46	13.66	12.5	12.42	21.37	14.79
14.	Karnataka	38.73	39.35	37.4	36.62	42.44	41.87



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15.	Kerala	20.81	23.66	30.7	30.23	34.59	53.07
16.	Madhya Pradesh	57.50	68.80	59.49	54.21	56.48	53.51
17.	Maharashtra	49.85	48.71	48.48	47.34	52.6	52.36
18.	Manipur	6.96	7.33	7.02	5.09	10.87	8.98
19.	Meghalaya	9.41	9.20	12.24	11.7	10.69	8.5
20.	Mizoram	5.55	5.44	4.56	4.32	5.52	5.28
21.	Nagaland	1.98	1.97	2.31	2.14	4.01	3.85
22.	Orissa	42.51	40.53	33.83	32.82	40.92	41.22
23.	Pondicherry	0.83	0.84	1.06	0.83	0.77	0.76
24.	Punjab	20.09	18.80	19.03	16.48	21.76	19.3
25.	Rajasthan	27.93	25.81	53.11	42.74	54.99	53.91
26.	Tamil Nadu	41.36	31.11	36.18	34.56	54.3	49.94
27.	Uttar Pradesh	55.68	55.19	54.92	52.1	51.18	50.01
28.	Uttaranchal	3.66	2.62	10.6	10.2	16.1	15.87
29.	West Bengal	23.57	27.07	26.22	22.94	29.87	28.05

### Approach Paper to Eleventh Plan

\*203. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:  
SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has finalised the Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012);

(b) if so, the broad features thereof;

(c) the names of priority sectors and the targets fixed thereunder; and

(d) the estimated budget for achieving these targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The draft Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012), has been approved by the Full Planning Commission for consideration of the National Development Council. The draft Approach Paper to the

Eleventh Plan as finalized by the Planning Commission aims at faster and more inclusive growth. It targets faster growth in all productive sectors, agriculture, industry and services, with suitable interventions in policy, infrastructure and technology. It seeks to achieve inclusiveness through significant improvements in literacy/education and health, greater employment opportunities and more focus on various socio-economic groups.

(c) The monitorable Socio-Economic Targets proposed in the draft Approach Paper are enclosed as Statement.

(d) The budget estimates for achieving the targets have not been decided.

### Statement

#### Monitorable Socio-Economic Targets of the 11th Plan

#### Income and Poverty

- Accelerate growth rate of GDP from 8% to 10% and then maintain at 10% in the 12th Plan in order to double per capita income by 2016-17;

- Increase agricultural GDP growth rate to 4% per year to ensure a broader spread of benefits;
- Create 70 million new work opportunities;
- Reduce educated unemployment to below 5%;
- Raise real wage rate of unskilled workers by 20 per cent;
- Reduce the headcount ratio of consumption poverty by 10 percentage points.

#### Education

- Reduce drop out rates of children from elementary school from 52.2% in 2003-04 to 20% by 2011-12;
- Develop minimum standards of educational attainment in elementary school, and by regular testing monitor effectiveness of education to ensure quality;
- Increase literacy rate for persons of age 7 years or more to 85%;
- Lower gender gap in literacy to 10 percentage points;
- Increase the percentage of each cohort going to higher education from the present 10% to 15% by the end of the 11th Plan.

#### Health

- Reduce infant mortality rate (IMR) to 28 and maternal mortality ratio (MMR) to 1 per 1000 live births;
- Reduce Total Fertility Rate to 2.1;
- Provide clean drinking water for all by 2009 and ensure that there are no slip-backs by the end of the 11th Plan;
- Reduce malnutrition among children of age group 0-3 to half its present level;
- Reduce anemia among women and girls by 50% by the end of the 11th Plan.

#### Women and Children

- Raise the sex ratio for age group 0-6 to 935 by 2011-12 and to 950 by 2016-17;

- Ensure that at least 33 per cent of the direct and indirect beneficiaries of all government schemes are women and girl children;
- Ensure that all children enjoy a safe childhood, without any compulsion to work.

#### Infrastructure

- Ensure electricity connection to all villages and BPL households by 2009 and round-the-clock power by the end of the Plan;
- Ensure all weather road connection to all habitation with population 1000 and above (500 in hilly and tribal areas) by 2009, and ensure coverage of all significant habitation by 2015;
- Connect every village by telephone by November 2007 and provide broadband connectivity to all villages by 2012;
- Provide homestead sites to all by 2012 and step up the pace of house construction for rural poor to cover all the poor by 2016-17.

#### Environment

- Increase forest and tree cover by 5 percentage points;
- Attain WHO standards of air quality in all major cities by 2011-12;
- Treat all urban waste water by 2011-12 to clean river waters;
- Increase energy efficiency by 20 percentage points by 2016-17.

*[Translation]*

#### Ceiling on Call Charges

\*204. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:  
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

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

(a) the per call charges, local, STD, ISD and roaming, collected by various cellular operators in the country;

(b) the extent to which these charges can be compared with those at international level;

(c) whether the Government imposes any ceiling on call charges at the time of giving licence to cellular operators; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) to (d) As per the terms and conditions of the licence, tariff for Telecommunication services shall be as per the Tariff Orders/Regulations/directions issued by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) from time to time. The Telecommunication Tariff Order (TTO) notified by TRAI provides flexibility to cellular telephone operators to fix tariffs including call charges.

The cellular operators are offering various tariff plans for their subscribers and these plans vary in terms of combination of monthly rentals, call charges and free call allowance. There are quite a large number of alternative tariff plans in each service area. Since these plans are offered as a package, comparison of call charges alone may not be meaningful.

No ceiling on call charges have been prescribed for mobile services by TRAI except for national roaming. For national roaming service, ceiling monthly access charge of Rs. 100, ceiling airtime charge of Rs. 3 per minute, surcharge of 15% on airtime and Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) charges as applicable, has been specified.

International comparison of tariff for telecom services would be rendered difficult because of multiplicity of tariff packages, varying exchange rates, differences in purchasing power and tele-density across countries. However, telecom tariff in India, in general, is amongst the lowest internationally.

#### Construction of National Highways

\*205. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of National Highways constructed in various States under the National Highways Development Programme and the Golden Quadrilateral Project during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06, State-wise;

(b) the total amount released during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06 for the said projects, State-wise;

(c) the total amount proposed to be allocated for the projects during the year 2006-07;

(d) whether there is any criteria for the State-wise allocation of funds; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The details are given in Statement-I and Statement-II respectively.

(c) to (e) National Highways Development Project (NHDP) is implemented by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). The NHAI does not allocate funds State-wise. The funds are released as per requirement of projects.

#### Statement I

##### State-wise completed Length of NHDP

Sl. No.	State	Length Completed (in km)	
		2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	473.74	58.99
2.	Bihar	92.00	82.46
3.	Delhi	—	6.00
4.	Gujarat	105.79	29.21
5.	Haryana	—	—
6.	Jharkhand	66.30	67.22
7.	Karnataka	227.52	128.16
8.	Maharashtra	137.53	84.72
9.	Orissa	87.09	54.45
10.	Rajasthan	245.46	—
11.	Tamil Nadu	286.26	25.08
12.	Uttar Pradesh	284.00	154.13

1	2	3	4
13.	Punjab	36.00	—
14.	Kerala	16.60	—
15.	Madhya Pradesh	15.00	19.00
16.	Assam	10.50	—
17.	Goa	13.00	—
18.	Chattisgarh	—	—
19.	West Bengal	254.71	43.45
Total		2351.50	752.87

**Statement II**

*Statement showing State-wise project expenditure on NHDP during 2004-05 and 2005-06*

Sl. No.	States	Status of actual expenditure (Rupees in crore)	
		2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	790.16	219.95
2.	Assam	15.82	98.77
3.	Bihar	351.90	556.48
4.	Chattisgarh	—	—
5.	Delhi	75.48	72.75
6.	Goa	—	25.52
7.	Gujarat	305.76	741.99
8.	Haryana	112.39	97.87
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	20.81	117.91
10.	Jharkhand	169.68	210.13
11.	Karnataka	586.17	524.80
12.	Kerala	31.45	24.05
13.	Madhya Pradesh	7.58	124.36
14.	Maharashtra	356.34	186.82

1	2	3	4
15.	Orissa	296.82	362.37
16.	Punjab	12.54	42.45
17.	Rajasthan	522.27	310.55
18.	Tamil Nadu	745.64	694.52
19.	Uttar Pradesh	890.81	1,297.49
20.	West Bengal	990.77	576.02
21.	Others/common	32.18	20.36
Total		6,314.56	6,305.15

*[English]***Oral Cancer**

\*206. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cases of oral cancer reported during the last three years alongwith the amount of expenditure incurred on medical treatment of those affected, year-wise;

(b) whether reasons have been ascertained for the increase in such cases;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to spread awareness among masses in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) The details regarding number of persons suffering from cancer including oral cancer and the expenditure involved in the treatment of cancer is not maintained centrally. However, as per information collected by Population Based Cancer Registry functioning under the National Cancer Registry Programme of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), it has been estimated that at any given point of time, there are 25 lakh cancer patients in the country and about 7-9 lakh new cancer cases are detected every year. Tobacco is one of the main causes of cancer including oral cancer. Nearly 50% of the cancer deaths is attributable to tobacco consumption.

Treatment for cancer is provided in Government hospitals at secondary and tertiary level. In addition, 25 Regional Cancer Centres provide comprehensive cancer treatment to the patients. The treatment is either free or at subsidized rate in Government Hospitals. Financial assistance is also provided to cancer patients living below poverty line under the Rastriya Arogya Nidhi. Public awareness about the hazards of tobacco use and its association with cancer including the oral cancer is being carried out through the print and electronic media.

#### UNDP Report

\*207. MS. INGRID MCLEOD:  
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has been placed at 126th position on Human Development Index among 177 countries as per the findings of the UNDP's Human Development Report 2006 as reported in the *Times of India* dated November 10, 2006;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the said report has mentioned the areas of concern like health care, water distribution and sanitation in particular; and

(e) if so, the corrective measures being taken by the Government in this regard including plan to increase allocation for these sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) According to the Human Development Report 2006—“Beyond Scarcity: Power, poverty and the global water crisis”, released by the UNDP, India is placed at 126 position on Human Development Index (HDI) amongst 177 countries. The value of India's HDI in 2004 was 0.611 on a scale of 0 to 1 and India is placed in the 'Medium Human Development' category of countries.

(c) The HDIs reported by UNDP are independent estimates of UNDP, using their own methodology, norms and dataset.

(d) Yes, Sir. The Report mentions areas of concern like health care, water distribution and sanitation at the global level. The Report highlights the crucial need to reduce the health costs of the low income groups by addressing the vast deficits in water and sanitation. The Report explains the 'water-sanitation-hygiene benefits loop', wherein provision of clean water and sanitation, with emphasis on personal hygiene, form the foundation for any strategy to enhance public health. Regarding water distribution, the Report mentions the need to reduce inequalities, which exist between the rural and urban areas, between various ethnic groups and regions. The deep disparities in distribution of water within and across countries arise due to the interaction of price and locational disadvantages whereby the poor people pay more than the rich.

(e) The Government has been implementing several programmes in order to extend access to essential public services such as health, clean drinking water, sanitation, etc. for improving the standard of living of people, in general, and for people living below the poverty line, in particular. Important among these are National Rural Health Mission, Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, Swajal Dhara, Total Sanitation Campaign for improving basic services and infrastructure. The Plan allocations for these sectors have also been raised considerably during the last few years. The allocations for the Eleventh Plan have not been finalised.

[*Translation*]

#### Teaching of Hindi Abroad

\*208. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:  
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons taught Hindi by the Indian missions abroad during each of the last three years;

(b) the efforts being made by the Government to promote use of Hindi abroad; and

(c) the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The information is being collected.

The Government proposes to further strengthen the Panchayati Raj Institutions through a series of measures some of which are as follows:

- **Constitution of a Group of Ministers**

The Government has constituted a Group of Ministers headed by the Minister of Human Resource Development Shri Arjun Singh to strengthen the Panchayati Raj Institutions. The terms of reference of the GOM included, inter-alia, rationalization of CSS Policy in accordance with the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution. The GoM had met on 24th August, 2005 and as per its directions, 22 key Central Ministries are carrying out an Activity Mapping exercise delineating what is to be done at the Central, State and Panchayat levels in respect of functional areas of the Ministries and the Centrally Sponsored Schemes being handled by them.

- **Empowered Sub-Committee on Financial and Administrative Empowerment of Panchayati Raj Institutions**

An Empowered Sub-Committee on Financial and Administrative Empowerment of Panchayati Raj Institutions under the Chairmanship of Minister for Rural Development was set up in March 2003 by the Planning Commission, in pursuance of a decision taken in the National Development Council. The members of the Committee are Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Minister of Finance and Company Affairs, Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment, Minister of Tribal Affairs and Chief Ministers of Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Rajasthan. The Terms of Reference of the Sub-Committee include, inter alia, working out the modalities for strengthening the financial domain of the PRIs through transfer of resources from the Centre and State Governments; assessing the capacity of the PRIs to raise revenues and other resources and to develop an action plan in this regard; analyzing the capability of PRIs at different levels to absorb the financial allocation made to the PRIs under different schemes; and to develop a framework to ensure fiscal discipline and financial accountability at different levels of PRIs. The Empowered Sub-Committee held two meetings before it was reconstituted on 14th September 2005, with the Union Minister of Panchayati Raj as the Chairperson and the Union Minister of Rural Development added as a member of the Sub-Committee. The reconstituted Committee has held two meetings on 12.6.2006 and 13.9.2006.

- **Planning at the Grassroots level**

The Government had appointed an Expert Group under the chairmanship of Shri V. Ramachandran to recommend concrete steps for making planning at grass roots level a reality, since planning for economic development and social justice is a mandated function of Panchayats and other local governments bodies in the Constitution. The Group has submitted its report. It has suggested a practical action programme for local level planning in the Eleventh Plan which is to start in April 2007. It has also suggested in detail the manner in which national programmes of importance in education, health, employment, poverty alleviation, housing and rural infrastructure could achieve their objectives better if centrality is given to Panchayats in working out details and in implementation. Based on the recommendations of the Expert Group, the Planning Commission has sent out guidelines to all State Governments/UT Administrations, for preparation of District Plans and their incorporation into the Annual Plans of States for 2006-07 onwards. The ultimate objective of this exercise is to make integrated local level planning for area development a reality by the end of the 11th Five Year Plan.

- **Electronic tagging and transfer of funds to Panchayats**

One of the goals set by the Government in the NCMP was to ensure that the funds going to the Panchayats are neither delayed nor diverted. In pursuance of this goal, a Committee in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj went into this issue in detail and submitted its report in May, 2005. Recommendations of this Committee are being put in to operation for transfer of 12th Finance Commission grants to PRIs from Consolidated Fund of the States to the Panchayats at the three levels.

- **Empowerment of Gram Sabhas**

Schedule XI of the Constitution provides for the devolution of powers to Gram Panchayats and Panchayati Raj Institutions with regard to subjects that have a bearing on economic development and social justice in rural areas. A joint programme of action was chalked out at the seven Round Tables held during July to December, 2004 between the Union Ministry of Panchayati Raj and State Ministers of Panchayati Raj to ensure that on the basis of Activity Mapping, Panchayats at various levels are empowered by devolution of funds, functions and functionaries to enable them to emerge as institutions of

self-government. Efforts are also being made to institutionalize social audit measures through Gram Sabhas so that Gram Panchayats are to take responsibility for the Village Community as a whole.

• **Implementation of the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA)**

On the basis of the recommendations of a Committee of Experts known as the Bhuria Committee, the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA) was passed and came into effect on 24th December, 1996. This law extends Panchayati Raj to Fifth Schedule areas only. The law applies to the following nine States which have Fifth Schedule Areas viz., Andhra Pradesh, Chhatisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Rajasthan.

The matter was discussed in the Third Round Table of Panchayati Raj Ministers in September, 2004 where State Ministers agreed to enforce the provisions of PESA and also to undertake wider consultations with other Govt. departments so as to harmonize the provisions of laws concerned with the aims and objectives of PESA. Progress in this regard is being continually reviewed. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has also entrusted to Indian law Institute, the formulation of appropriate amendments in the Central laws concerned with a view to assist the State Govts. to carry out a similar exercise. The first report has been received from the Indian law Institute and has been circulated to the State Govt. concerned for comments. Action is also being taken to harmonise the relevant Central legislations, policies and schemes with the provisions of PESA. All the major central legislations are being examined with the help of Ministry of Law and Justice to identify their conflicting provisions with PESA, if any, and to introduce desired changes therein. Some of the important legislations being examined are the following;

- (i) The Land Acquisition Act, 1894
- (ii) Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957
- (iii) The Indian Forest Act, 1927
- (iv) The Forest Conservation Act, 1980
- (v) The Indian Registration Act.

Central Policies and CSSs/Central Schemes pertaining to wastelands, water resources and extraction of minerals from lands in Schedule V Areas are also the focus of the harmonization exercise at the Central level. The National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation of Project Affected Persons, 2003, National Water Policy, 2002, National Minerals Policy, 2003, National Forest Policy, 1988, Wild Life Conservation Strategy 2002 and National Draft Environment Policy, 2004 are also being examined. A National level meet of Secretaries of Panchayati Raj and Tribal Affairs of all PESA States was convened by the Ministry on 14th July, 2006 at New Delhi to give a further push to the process of implementation of the provisions of PESA in letter and spirit.

• **Twelfth Finance Commission Grants**

The Twelfth Finance Commission (TFC) has recommended grants amounting to Rs. 20,000 crores payable during the period 2005-10 to augment the Consolidated Funds of the States to supplement the resources of the Panchayati Raj Institutions. The Finance Commission has also recommended the *inter-se* allocation amongst States, based on certain factors and weights assigned by the TFC. The allocation amongst various Panchayati Raj Institutions at all the three levels would be made by the States. The grants are to be released in two equal instalments in July and January each year. Given the much higher quantum of grants and large number of Panchayats, as per the TFC guidelines, a Monitoring Committee has been formed in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj with Secretary (Panchayati Raj) as its Chairperson, to monitor the mode of release of local body grants to Panchayats and to bring out the points for intervention by Government of India in Ministries of Panchayati Raj and Finance to ensure smooth and uninterrupted flow of funds to PRIs. This Committee has met on 2nd September, 2005, 28th October, 2005, 21st February, and 7th August, 2006 and deliberated on ways and means to ensure that all the State Governments provide the details on allocation and release of funds to the Ministry of Finance so that all instalments are released to them as soon as they are due. The Ministry had also organized a Video Conference on 7th December, 2005 in which Finance Secretaries and Secretaries of Panchayat and Rural Development Departments of various States were invited to showcase a software developed by the NIC Unit of the Ministry, which can be utilized for allocation release of grants to Panchayats, through

banking channels, without delay or diversion. 14 States have agreed to adopt the software.

- **Panchayat Mahiia Shakti Abhiyan**

The Panchayat Mahiia Shakti Abhiyan—a movement to strengthen the elected women of PRIs has been initiated under the aegis of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj with the objective to set up a state level organization of Elected Women Representative of PRIs. So, far, conferences of elected women representatives, activists, NGOs, eminent personalities have been held in Udaipur (Rajasthan) on 24th & 25th April, 2006, Patiala (Punjab) on 17th & 18th July, 2006, Manipur on 4th & 5th October, 2006 and in Goa on 19th October, 2006. Such conferences will be held in other states also.

- **Panchayat Yuva Shakti Abhiyan**

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj & Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports had jointly launched a nation wide campaign called the Panchayat Yuva Shakti Abhiyan to synergize with youth and grass root leaders to strengthen the grass root democracy in Panchayati Raj Institutions.

To involve youth in the functioning of the Panchayats, Youth in Panchayats Campaign was launched on the initiative of the Hon'ble Minister on his visit to Sriperambadur on 8th Feb. 2006. The campaign envisages provision of platform for interaction and sensitization of youth in Panchayati Raj democracy by bringing together the organizations, institutions committed to work in the field of youth development and training.

Besides, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, with which we are coordinating, has an initiative to organize a series of PYSA. The first of these events was held at Faridabad on 18-19 June 2006 and second at Ludhiana in September, 2006.

- **Rural Business Hubs**

Rural Business Hub is a concept introduced by Hon'ble Prime Minister and actively pursued by Ministry of Panchayati Raj aiming at the extension of fruits of economic prosperity to the rural areas of the country. It works on the platform of 4 Ps *i.e.* Public-Private-Panchayat Partnership and has been conceived as a very flexible programme with implementation models open to

imagination but also meeting the following essential criteria: must be actively facilitated by the Panchayati Raj institutions; must be a business activity; must be carried out in Rural areas; should create productive livelihood and incomes, and should generate employment. So far more than 50 MOUs have been signed by various States for Bio-diesel, Power distribution Bio-mass & Agro-food processing etc.

(b) and (c) States and parts of States covered by the Sixth Schedule are not subject to the provision of Part IX of the Constitution. Thus, in the North-East, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Mizoram and parts of Manipur, Tripura and Assam are exempted from Panchayati Raj. In the other States/areas of the North-East, devolution of powers to the Panchayati Raj Institutions is a continuous on-going process as in other parts of the country. Panchayati Raj being a State subject, no directions can be issued by the Union Government for devolving powers to the Panchayats. However, as the Ministry of Panchayati Raj has been mandated to oversee the implementation of Part IX of the Constitution, efforts are being made to persuade the State Governments to effectively devolve functions, finances and functionaries to the Panchayats, bearing in mind the provisions of the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution. Towards this end, the Minister of Panchayati Raj has so far undertaken Panchayati Raj tours in the North-Eastern Region to Assam, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur to interact with the elected representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions in these States and to pursue greater empowerment of the PRIs with the State Governments. At the end of these visits, a Joint Statement of Conclusions has been signed by the Minister of Panchayati Raj and the Chief Minister of the State concerned, laying down a clear road map for further empowerment of the PRIs. The texts of these Statements may be found in Volume II of the Report on "The State of the Panchayats" laid on the table of the House on 23 November 2006. Visits to the remaining States of the North East are also proposed to be undertaken during the current year.

(d) No, Sir, not to the knowledge of the Government of India. The National Common Minimum Programme stipulates that funds earmarked for Panchayati Raj Institutions shall be channeled to them "without delay or diversion". The Ministry of Panchayati Raj would welcome any information or any alleged diversion.

(e) Not applicable.



[Translation]

**Clinical Trials on Patients**

\*211. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:  
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:

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

(a) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding clinical trials on patients without their consent;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard and the outcome thereof;

(d) whether the Government is contemplating to enact a law in regard to the trial of medicines and compensation to be given due to the harm caused as a result thereof; 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) An Anonymous complaint was received in the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation on 22.11.2006 wherein it was alleged that two Medical institutions at Salem, namely Sheron Cancer Research Institution, Yercaud Adivaram and S.K.S. Hospital, Brindavan Road, Salem, have conducted clinical trials on more than 400 healthy individuals and they were misled as if the exercise is a medical check up. These clinical trials are stated to have been done under the banner of Lotus Laboratory, a branch of Sheron Cancer Centre. It also alleged that some of the subjects for this clinical trial are suffering with problem of pain in the legs of recurrent nature and loss of sexual desire. The Deputy Drugs Controller (I), South Zone, CDSCO, Chennai, has been directed to conduct an investigation into the complaint in association with Drug Controller of Tamil Nadu and Subject Experts and submit a report to this Ministry.

The Drugs and Cosmetics Rules have a provision for monitoring the clinical trials for new drugs as defined under Rule 122 A to 122 E. Also in Schedule-Y of the Drugs and Cosmetic Act specifies the requirements and guidelines for clinical trials. One of the requirements of

Schedule-Y is compliance with Good Clinical Practices (GCP). The point 2.4.7 of GCP guidelines recommends compensation for accidental injuries and makes it obligatory for the sponsors to pay compensation to the victims.

A proposal to amend the Drug and Cosmetic Act to provide that no person shall conduct clinical trials in respect of any drug or cosmetic except under, and in accordance with, the permission granted by the Central Drugs Authority and also to specify the penal action in term of imprisonment and or fine, which may extend to Twenty Lakh rupees in case of contravention by any person, is under consideration.

**Alleged violation of Vienna Convention**

212. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan is allegedly violating the Vienna Convention of 1961 while dealing with Indian diplomats;

(b) if so, the details of alleged misbehaviour by Pakistan with the Indian diplomats reported during the last three years till date;

(c) whether the Government has registered its protest to Pakistan in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of Pakistan thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Officers and Staff Members of the High Commission of India, Islamabad, are subjected to constant surveillance by intelligence and security personnel of the Government of Pakistan. There has often been close, visible and occasionally even aggressive tailing of officers of the Mission and their spouses. There have also been other forms of maltreatment and intimidatory tactics. In October 2006 there was an attempted break-in into the residence of an official. In August 2006 an official was illegally detained and interrogated. In March 2005 an official was intercepted and assaulted. In February 2005 the residence of an official was broken into. Such actions are in violation of obligations under the Vienna Convention of 1961 and the bilateral 'Code of Conduct for Treatment of Diplomatic/ Consular Personnel in India and Pakistan', signed by the two countries in 1992.

(c) to (e) These incidents have been taken up with the Government of Pakistan at various levels and protests lodged. Government of Pakistan has stated that it concurs with the position that there should be no intimidation of diplomats of either country. However, the surveillance of our officers continues.

#### **Shipping Protocol with Pakistan**

\*213. SHRI GANESH SINGH:  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has assessed the security scenario in view of the agreement to sign the revised shipping protocol with Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has also surveyed the impact of the said protocol on Indian Shipping companies;

(d) if so, the details in this regard;

(e) whether requests have been received for similar protocols from other countries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (f) Revised Shipping Protocol to be signed with Pakistan seeks to remove restrictions on lifting of third country cargo by Indian and Pakistani vessels from each others' ports. It also seeks to lift the restriction that the cargo destined for the other country can be carried only by an Indian or Pakistani vessel. These changes will help Shipping Companies of both countries. Such restrictions are not there with other countries. Security implications of the revised Protocol have been considered by the concerned agencies.

#### **Launch of IPTV Service**

\*214. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:  
SHRI SUBODH MOHITE:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to launch Internet Protocol Television (IPTV) service in the country;

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

(c) whether TRAI has made any recommendations in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) is empowered to provide this service;

(f) if not, the reasons for launching of this service;

(g) whether the Government has received any requests from private telephone service providers in this regard; and

(h) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) and (b) MTNL has launched IPTV Service in Mumbai on 14.10.2006 and in Delhi on 17.10.2006 BSNL is in process of launching this service.

(c) and (d) At present, there exists no recommendations from TRAI on IPTV.

(e) and (f) MTNL is empowered to provide all types of Access Services including Broadband in Delhi & Mumbai. IPTV is being provided as a Value Added Service over broadband.

(g) and (h) The Government has not received any request from other private telephone service providers in this regard.

*[English]*

#### **Permanent Seat in UNSC**

\*215. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:  
SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the stage at which the matter regarding permanent membership of India in the United Nations Security Council stands at present;

(b) the efforts made by the Union Government in this regard; and

(c) the outcome of the efforts?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The reform and expansion of the UN Security Council is considered by the Government as central to the process of United Nations reform, which has been ongoing for some years. This reform of the UN Security Council should encompass its expansion, both in permanent and non-permanent categories, as well as the improvement of its working methods. The Government continues to actively pursue this issue, including through coordination and engagement with Brazil, Germany and Japan, otherwise known as the G-4 group. India is next participating in a debate in the plenary of United Nations General Assembly on December 11, 2006 on the issue of UN Security Council reform.

The object is to keep the focus at the United Nations on this vital issue, while developing a model of UNSC reform that has wide support and acceptance. So far the progress in this direction has been satisfactory.

#### **Subsidy to Cellular Operators**

\*216. PROF. M. RAMADASS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide subsidy to cellular operators\* for providing services in rural, remote and inaccessible areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the provision of landline phones in the rural, remote and inaccessible areas would be affected if subsidy from the Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund is extended to the cellular service providers;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) to (c) An Ordinance has been promulgated

on 30.10.2006 to amend the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 to enable support for mobile services in rural and remote areas of the country. Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) will provide subsidy support for creation of infrastructure and for provision of mobile services by sharing this infrastructure in specified rural and remote areas of the country. A draft tender document for setting up and managing infrastructure sites and provision of mobile services in rural and remote areas of the country has been placed on the Department of Telecommunications website www.dot.gov.in on 21.11.2006 for inviting comments/suggestions from stakeholders.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise in view of (d) above.

#### **Import of Coal**

\*217. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether large quantity of coal is imported every year for consumption by the thermal power plants in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantity of coal supplied by the Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries to the thermal power plants and the quantity of coal imported by them during the last three year, year-wise; and

(d) the measures taken by CIL for washing of coal with a view to enhancing its purity and calorific value for the use of power generation units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) The quantity of coal imported during the last five years for consumption by the thermal power plants in the country is as follows:

S. No.	Year	Quantity (Million Tonnes)
1.	2001-02	3.56
2.	2002-03	3.07
3.	2003-04	3.37
4.	2004-05	4.53
5.	2005-06	10.44

(c) Quantity of coal and coal products supplied by Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries to the thermal power plants vis-a-vis imports for last three years is as follows:

(Figures in Million Tonnes)

Year	Supply from CIL	Receipt through Imports
2003-04	234.04	3.37
2004-05	249.26	4.53
2005-06	256.44	10.44

(d) The measures taken by Coal India Limited (CIL) for washing of coal with a view to enhancing its purity and calorific value for the use of power generation units are as follows:

- (a) CIL has set up non-coking coal washeries and also converted a few coking coal washeries for washing non-coking coal.
- (b) CIL has also initiated action to set up few non-coking coal washeries under Build-Own-Operate scheme (BOO).
- (c) CIL has offered land and other infrastructural facilities to its linked consumers and private sector companies to set up washeries.

[Translation]

#### Banking Facilities in Post Offices

\*218. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:  
SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make various banking facilities including ATM available in Post Offices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the aforesaid facilities are likely to be made available to the public?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to provide Anytime-Anywhere Banking facility to Post Office Savings Bank customers, which *inter-alia* would envisage transactions across ATMs through Debit Cards.

(b) It is only in a conceptual stage now and no details have been firmed up.

(c) In view of (b) above it is not possible to indicate an exact time frame.

[English]

#### Rise in Silicosis Cases

\*219. SHRI K.C. SINGH "BABA": Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Silicosis is increasing at an alarming rate in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any survey to ascertain the number of people affected by this disease during the last three years; and
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Silicosis is a notifiable disease under the Factories Act. Indian Council of Medical Research's (ICMR) Institute of Desert Medicine Research Centre, Jodhpur (DMRC), carried out a cross sectional survey in Jodhpur during 1992-95 which indicated the prevalence of silicosis to be 9.9% in Sandstone Quarry workers. The main reason of silicosis was due to dry mechanical drilling in sandstone quarries which generate clouds of silica rich dust. Another survey done in Karauli during 2002-03 showed the prevalence of silicosis to be 37.3%.

ICMR's National Institute of Occupational Health (NIOH), Ahmedabad, has recently conducted a study in 2005 among slate pencil workers of Mandasaur, Madhya Pradesh. Among the occupationally exposed group, the prevalence of silicosis was 21%; among para-occupationally exposed, it was 12.6% and among non-occupationally exposed, nearly 2% had silicosis. In a study

conducted in 2000 amongst agate grinding workers in Khambhat, Gujarat, the prevalence of silicosis was found to be 38.11% in past grinders, 29.2% in present grinders, 11.0% in household members and 6.8% in neighbours.

No longitudinal studies have been done by ICMR to assess increase in the incidence of silicosis over time.

Desert Medicine Research Centre, Jodhpur, has devised a method of Wet drilling and crushing in order to reduce the respirable dust levels and the technique & results have been conveyed to Director General, Mine's Safety. National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad, has also developed technologies for dust control which show reduction of 75%-85% of air borne dust which are now being put to use in quartz grinding units of Gujarat. NIOH (National Institute of Occupational Health) scientists at Ahmedabad are making efforts to improve the technology for complete control of the silica dust.

#### **Money Order Charges**

\*220. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the charges for sending money orders are high;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to rationalise these charges;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government would examine the feasibility of finding out cost-effective ways of sending money orders; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) No, Sir. As per 2004-05 the unit cost of the service is Rs. 56.16 whereas it is average revenue is Rs. 26.14 per unit.

(b) to (e) Re-engineering of domestic money order service for cost-effective and more efficient service is at a conceptual stage.

#### **Test on Use of Cryogenic Technology**

\*221. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISRO has successfully conducted a test on the use of cryogenic technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the test was conducted without any foreign assistance; and

(d) if so, the time by which India will be in a position to use this indigenous cryogenic technology in our space and missile programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 28th October 2006, ISRO has successfully carried out the ground hot test of the indigenous Cryogenic Upper Stage at the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre test complex, Mahendragiri. The indigenous stage used the cryogenic engine which produced a thrust of 69.5 Kilo Newton. During the test, a number of stage elements like engine, insulated propellant tanks, booster pumps, fill and drain systems, pressurization systems, interstage structures, etc as per flight standards worked in unison. The test was for a duration of 50 seconds and the performance was as predicted.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) While the recent stage level hot test has demonstrated the design adequacy and performance of the integrated flight system, further qualification test for this flight unit is planned for flight duration of 720 seconds. After completion of the qualification test, the indigenous cryogenic stage is planned to be flight tested in the Geo-Synchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV-D3) mission next year.

#### **Neutrino Observatory Lab**

2014 SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to set up neutrino observatory lab in Mysore;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the estimated expenditure thereof;

(d) whether the Government has plans to set up similar labs in other parts of the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government is contemplating to set up Neutrino Observatory Lab at Singara village near Masinagudi in Tamilnadu, which is about 100 km south of Mysore city.

(b) The salient features of the lab are as under:

- (i) The primary goal of the laboratory is the study of neutrinos from various natural and laboratory sources.
- (ii) It will be located under 1 kilometer of rock overburden in a cavern underground to shield cosmic rays.
- (iii) The size of the cavern will be 120 meters long, 22 meters wide and 30 meters in height.
- (iv) The experiment will involve detection of neutrinos coming from earth's atmosphere and through their energy and direction measurements, finding exciting properties of the fundamental particle, neutrino. In future, this can also be used for more precise measurements using neutrinos coming from distant accelerators.
- (v) It will also act as the detector Research and Development centre for particle nuclear physics.
- (vi) It will also help in generating scientific manpower for future scientific projects.

(c) Rs. 320 crores in the XI plan followed up by Rs. 350 crores in the XII plan amounting to a total cost of Rs. 670 crores.

(d) No, Sir.

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

### National Family Welfare Programme

2015. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has released funds under the National Family Welfare Programme to the poor in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features of this programme;

(c) the funds allocated to the State Government of Karnataka during the last three years;

(d) the total number of cases pending under the said programme; and

(e) the time by which all the pending cases are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. To provide accessible, affordable, accountable, effective and reliable primary health care especially to the poor and vulnerable section of the population, the Government has launched a National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in April, 2005. The Mission seeks to provide effective health care services for all by improving access, enabling community ownership and demand for services, strengthening public health system for efficient services delivery, enhancing equity and accountability and promoting decentralization. The goals under the Mission are to reduce Maternal and Child Mortality, stabilize the population and reduce the disease burden.

The core strategies of the Mission are:

- \* Train and enhance capacity of Panchayati Raj Institutions to own, control and manage public health services.
- \* Promote access to improved healthcare at household level through the Female Health Activist (ASHA).
- \* Health Plan for each village through Village Health Committee of the Panchayat.
- \* Strengthening Sub-Centres to enable the local planning & action and providing more Multi-purpose Workers

- \* Strengthening existing PHCs to enable the local management committee to achieve quality standards
- \* Provision of 30-50 bedded CHC per lakh population for improved curative care to normative standards
- \* Preparation and implementation of an inter sector District Health Plan including drinking water, sanitation, hygiene and nutrition
- \* Developing capacities for preventive healthcare at all levels for promoting healthy life style
- \* Integrating vertical Health and Family Welfare programmes at National, State, District and Block levels
- \* The Reproductive and Child Health Programme (RCH-II) is one of the programmes under the Mission for improving the health status of women and children.

(c) The funds allocated to the State of Karnataka during last 3 years 2003-04 to 2005-06 are as under:

2003-04	— Rs. 14407.64 lakhs	} Under the RCH II Under Family Welfare Programmes Under NRHM
2004-05	— Rs. 19907.22 lakhs	
2005-06	— Rs. 22312.20 lakhs	

(d) Nil.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Existing Regulation for NRIs**

2016. SHRI GURJEET SINGH RANA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing regulation for NRIs to execute special or general powers of attorney and other legal documents for production in courts in India is inconvenient and cumbersome;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to allow registration/execution of such legal documents with the local authorities of the countries where they reside; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Certificates of Indian Consular Officers exercising notarial functions abroad are accepted in view of the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Diplomatic and Consular Officers (Oaths & Fees) Act, 1948.

*[Translation]*

#### **Telecom Facilities in Gram Panchayats**

2017. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Gram Panchayats in Chhattisgarh, location-wise, where STD/ISD/Internet and fax facilities have been provided during the year 2005-2006 and likely to be provided during the year 2006-07; and

(b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) This Department maintains data in respect of villages covered by rural telephony. District-wise number of Village Public Telephones (VPTs), where STD facilities have been provided during the year 2005-06 and likely to be provided with these facilities during 2006-07 is given in the enclosed Statement.

ISD facility is provided on request from custodians of VPTs. For Internet, custodian has to provide his own equipment and can obtain Internet connection from Internet Service Provider (ISP). Similarly for Fax also, the custodian has to provide his own personal computer/Fax equipment, as the case may be.

(b) Village Public Telephones (VPTs) shall be provided progressively by November, 2007 in all the remaining unconnected 5,013 villages in Chhattisgarh. This excludes villages having population less than 100 and lying in thick forests/naxalite infested areas etc.

State of the art wireless technologies are also being deployed for increased access for rural areas.

**Statement**

*District-wise Number of Village Public Telephones (VPTs) Provided with STD Facilities during the year 2005-06 and Likely to be provided during 2006-07*

Sl. No.	Name of District	VPTs provided with STD during 2005-06	VPTs likely to be provided with STD during 2006-07
1.	Bustar	161	67
2.	Bilaspur	9	233
3.	Durg	256	246
4.	Raigarh	52	236
5.	Raipur	118	195
6.	Sarguja	955	453
<b>Total</b>		<b>1551</b>	<b>1430</b>

**Private Participation in Social Sector**

2018. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is contemplating about inviting private investment for the purpose of implementing many programmes in social sector included under the Common Minimum Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the basis of selection of such programmes;

(d) whether the Government is considering the likelihood of the poor being deprived of services of these programmes as a result of the services becoming costlier after the implementation of this policy; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (c) The Union Government encourages Public-Private Participation in social sector programmes only to the extent such participation improves the effectiveness of the programmes.

(d) and (e) The focus of most of the social sector programmes is on the poor and as such there is no question of the poor being deprived of the benefits of the government programmes.

[English]

**Pension Scheme for Port Workers**

2019. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce a new pension scheme for port workers and seafarers etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also plans to frame a policy on stevedoring; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government plans to formulate National Maritime Policy covering various aspects of Ports, Shipping and Inland Water Transport. Among other things, stevedoring will also be covered in the Policy.

**Meeting of National Commission on Population**

2020. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the last meeting of National Commission on Population was held;

(b) whether any new formula for stabilization of population was evolved in that meeting;

(c) if so, the points on which emphasis was given including the authority for its implementation;

(d) whether the State Governments have been directed to address population stabilization through investment in health, education and empowerment; and

(e) if so, the response of the State Government thereto?



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) The last meeting of the reconstituted National Commission on Population was held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Mnster on 23rd July 2005. The following two major decisions were taken in the meeting:

- (i) Conduct of an Annual Health Survey of all districts so that health indicators at district level are published, annually and are monitored and compared against benchmarks.
- (ii) Set up five groups of experts for studying the population profiles of the States of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa to identify weaknesses in the health delivery systems and to suggest measures that would be taken to improve the health and demographic status of the States.

As per the National Population Policy, 2000 the family planning programme is voluntary in nature and its focus is on simultaneously addressing the issues of child survival, maternal health and contraception while increasing outreach and coverage of a comprehensive package of reproductive and child health services. The Central Government in association with State Governments is implementing the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme as well as the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) for achieving the goals of population stabilization.

Proper implementation of the RCH programme and NRHM would bring about improvements in demographic scenario that would hasten the process of population stabilization. The State Governments have been advised to increase investments in health, education and other social sector programmes. The response from the States has been positive in this regard.

*[Translation]*

#### **Light Houses in Tamil Nadu**

2021. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total kilometres of coastal line in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the number of light houses in operation;

(c) the number of light houses not in operation presently and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether fishermen from Tamil Nadu have demanded for more light houses to help them in navigation; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The length of coastline in Tamil Nadu is 906.9 kilometres.

(b) 17 Lighthouses, including one Lighthouse at Pondichery, are in operation. Besides, 4 DGPS (Differential Global Positioning System) Stations and 6 Racons (Radio Transponder Beacon), including one each at Pondichery are also in operation.

(c) There is no Lighthouse, which is not in operation presently.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Proposal for establishment of a Lighthouse at Poompuhar has been received. Its construction will depend on its inclusion in the 11th Five Year Plan.

#### **Reorientation Training of Doctors**

2022. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals pertaining to the reorientation training of doctors of Government Ayurvedic College at Gwalior, Jabalpur, Ujjain and Bhopal have been received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. After considering the proposals of all the four Government Colleges total grants of Rs. 11.05 lakhs has been released to these colleges under the component of Re-orientation Training Programme of Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Development of AYUSH colleges" during the 10th Five Year Plan.

Further proposals for four Reorientation courses and four Continuing Medical Education programmes for the release of grant of Rs. 572800.00 has been cleared by the Screening Committee on 7.09.2006 for Government Ayurveda College, Ujjain subject to issue of Utilisation Certificate.

Proposals for three programme on Reorientation Training and four programmes of Continuing Medical Education for the release of grants of Rs. 504200.00 have been approved by the Screening Committee for Government Ayurveda College, Jabalpur, subject to issue of Utilisation Certificate. The college has been reminded to furnish the UC and other required supporting documents.

There is no pending proposal of the Government Ay. College, Gwalior and Government Ayurveda College, Bhopal.

#### **Ayush Specialised Clinics in M.P.**

2023. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals for setting up of six Ayush specialised clinics at Patera, Madiyado, Sarra, Hinota, Abhana and Kumhari sent by Madhya Pradesh are pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Union Government is likely to accord its approval and the funds likely to be released for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The proposals have been examined in the Department and have been approved by the Screening Committee.

(b) The Government of Madhya Pradesh had submitted proposals to the Department of AYUSH for financial assistance of Rs. 10.00 lakhs each for setting up of specialized AYUSH clinics at Patera, Madiyado, Sarra, Hinota, Abhana and Kumhari under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Hospital & Dispensaries.

(c) The proposal has been approved by the Screening Committee in the Department of AYUSH. However, the

Department of AYUSH is unable to release the funds because Utilization Certificates for financial assistance granted earlier have not been received from the Madhya Pradesh Government.

#### **Maintenance of Cath Lab**

2024. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question no. 3994 dated May 17, 2006 and state:

(a) whether the Cath Lab of Safdarjung Hospital has remained out of order for most of the period during 2005-06, and 2006-07 despite annual maintenance contract;

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

(c) the details of the officer(s) responsible for their failure to maintain the Cath Lab;

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken against them;

(e) whether any norms/standards have been fixed for the functioning of Cath Lab;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether these norms/standards are being followed by the Cath Lab; and

(h) if not, the steps taken or 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 (h) The CATH LAB in the Safdarjung Hospital has been functioning since its installation in 2002 barring short intervals when it was under repair, given below:

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2005-2006

w.e.f. 2-8-2005  
to  
5-9-2005  
10-2-2006  
to  
28-3-2006

2006-2007

w.e.f. 5-9-2006  
to  
16.10.2006

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The CATH LAB is under the warranty of three years and two years free Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) *i.e.* upto April, 2007.

[English]

#### **Alleged Discrimination of Indian Passengers**

2025. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the European Union has decided to impose new security guidelines for passengers flying from India through European airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such guidelines have been laid down for other countries also;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to protect Indian passengers from alleged discrimination at European airports?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No country specific aviation security guidelines have been issued recently by the European Union (EU). However, the EU has issued new general aviation security guidelines against threats from liquid explosives. The security guidelines apply to all flights departing from airports in the European Union.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Norms for Assistance**

2026. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the norms for providing assistance by the Union Government for the planned programmes being implemented in Rajasthan;

(b) the date on which these norms were laid down;

(c) the basis for laying down these norms;

(d) whether the Government of Rajasthan has requested the Union Government to make changes in the said norms;

(e) if so, details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (c) Normal Central Assistance to the States by the Centre is provided under a formula called "Gadgil Mukherjee Formula" as approved by the National Development Council (NDC) in December, 1991. According to the formula, after setting apart funds required for External Aided Projects and a reasonable amount for Special Area Programmes, 30% of the balance of Central Assistance for State Plans is provided to Special Category States. The remaining amount is distributed amongst the non-Special Category States on the basis of, with the weights indicated within the brackets: (i) Population (60%) (ii) Per capita income (25%) (iii) Performance in tax effort, fiscal management and progress in respect of national objectives (7.5 %) and (iv) Special Problems (7.5%).

(d) to (f) There is at present no request from Rajasthan for change of norms that is under consideration.

#### **De-Reservation of Coal Blocks**

2027. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has de-reserved/de-allocated or likely to de-reserve/deallocate coal blocks of the Coal India Ltd.;

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

(c) whether the Government has formulated any modalities for using these coal blocks for power generation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (d) The

Government after holding consultation with Coal India Limited (CIL) and Central Mining Planning Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL), have identified 81 blocks with total geological reserves of about 20.02 billion tonnes for allocation to Government/private sector for permissible end uses. Out of the 81 blocks, 48 blocks with geological reserves of about 9.22 billion tonnes are the blocks taken out from the list of blocks earmarked for CIL. These blocks were not included in the production plans of CIL for the XI Plan. In view of the rising demand for coal, it became necessary to de-reserve the blocks from the CIL list. Out of these, 41 coal blocks are proposed to be allocated for power generation.

*[English]*

#### **ISRO-ESA Agreement in Space Sector**

2028. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISRO has entered into an agreement with the European Space Agency for participation in their space-based navigation system, Galileo;

(b) if so, the details of the said agreement;

(c) whether ISRO is also planning to launch its own satellites for augmenting the navigation signals received from Galileo; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) India has initialled a Framework Agreement with European Community and its Member States in September 2005 with the intention of participation in the European Galileo system, which is under development for satellite based navigation services. However, the agreement can be signed only after all the European Union countries give their acceptance.

(b) The scope of cooperation includes space and ground segments, user receiver and application software and related commercial activities.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Bridges and By-Pass Roads at Kota**

2029. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of construction of bridges and by-pass roads at Kota (Rajasthan) under East-West corridor;

(b) whether the progress of the said construction is as per the time schedule;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Construction of Kota Bypass has been awarded in two packages as follows:

(i) Construction of Kota Bypass (excluding cable stayed bridge on river Chambal) and

(ii) Construction of cable stayed bridge on river Chambal. The construction of Kota Bypass (excluding cable stayed bridge) has been started recently and design of cable stayed bridge is under progress. However, the alignment of Kota Bypass passes through "Chambal Wildlife Sanctuary" for which permission from Hon'ble Supreme Court is being obtained. After obtaining permission from the Hon'ble Supreme Court, final clearance from Ministry of Environment & Forest (MoEF) is also required. Therefore, construction of Kota bypass is marginally behind the time schedule at present.

(d) The schedule of completion of Kota Bypass project and Chambal Bridge project are November, 2008 and February, 2010 respectively subject to permission from Hon'ble Supreme Court and subsequent final clearance from MoEF.

#### **Irregularities in Providing Telecom Facilities**

2030. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any irregularities have been noticed while extending telecom facilities to various States during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of contractors awarded contracts during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the total amount spent on laying telephone cables during the said period?

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.

#### **Violation of Right of Privacy by Consumers**

2031. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any guidelines to check the Sale of database of consumers by the mobile/telephone companies to tele-marketing companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the concrete measures taken by the Government to check the violation of right of privacy of consumers by the tele-marketing companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) Government has instructed all the Telecom Service Providers to take strict measures to stop any possible unauthorized sale of their customer information by their employees. Government has also started the process for suitable legislation in this regard.

Further, some of the mobile/telephone companies are providing Do Not Disturb (DND) register or similar facility to their customers.

#### **Coal Mine Projects**

2032. SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Coalfields Limited has taken up coal mine projects during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated cost of each of the projects;

(c) whether these projects have been completed within the time frame;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken for the early completion of the approved projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of the Coal projects sanctioned in Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) during last three years are given below:

Sl. No.	Name of project/Mine	Capacity (MTY)	Sanctioned Capital Outlay (Rs. Crores)	Date of Sanction
1.	Magadha OC	12.00	469.78	19.7.2006
2.	Ashok Expansion OC (150 Mty to 6.50 Mty)	5 (incremental)	471.66 (incremental)	13.4.2006
3.	Karo OC	3.50	96.53	12.8.2006
4.	Kanor OC	3.50	74.53	12.8.2006
5.	Piparwar Expansion OC (6.50 Mty to 10 Mty) Under Emergency Coal Production Plan	3.50 (incremental)	21.87 (incremental)	9.9.2006

(c) These projects are under implementation and are on schedule.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply at (c) above

(e) The following steps have been taken for scheduled completion of the above mentioned approved projects:

- (i) Action taken for compliance of queries; regular follow up with State & Ministry of Environment & Forests Officials; payment of dues against compensatory afforestation., Net Present Value (NPV) etc for early clearance/release of forest & non forest land.
- (ii) Strict monitoring of linked activities envisaged in the approved project report.
- (iii) Floating of tender and award of work for executing outsourcing option for coal & overburden as per time schedule indicated in the network/yearly milestone.
- (iv) Provision of adequate capital outlay through internal resources.

*[English]*

#### **Cultural Centre in Brazil**

2033. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has set up its cultural centre in Brazil;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the extent to which both countries will be benefited by the said cultural centre?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No.

(b) A Joint Communique released after the visit of the Prime Minister to Brazil from 11-14 September 2006, *inter alia*, stated that both the countries would shortly be opening Cultural Centres in Sao Paulo and in New Delhi.

(c) Both India and Brazil are members of the IBSA (India, Brazil and South Africa) grouping which spans continents of Asia, Africa and Latin America. India and Brazil are large continental sized countries with social

diversity, democratic form of government, a multi-ethnic population, and a large population base. There is enormous interest in Brazil in India's culture, religion, performing arts and philosophy. As a major country in Latin America, Indians would also like to know more about Brazil. These Centres would act as catalysts for more systematic interactions in diverse fields.

*[Translation]*

#### **Role of NGOs in Fighting Diseases**

2034. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has taken any assistance from NGOs for prevention and eradication of diseases like Malaria, Dengue, Cholera, Meningitis and Kala-Azar; and
- (b) if so, the names thereof, State-wise and the details of services provided by them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The information will be collected and laid on the table of the House.

*[English]*

#### **Developmental Works on NW No. 3**

2035. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the developmental works which are pending on Kollam-Alappuzha Stretch of National Waterway No. 3 alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (b) the details of land acquired, cost of land acquisition and the present status of widening of the said stretch;
- (c) the details of funds allocated for dredging and widening of Kollam-Alappuzha stretch for the year 2006-07;
- (d) whether the Government has given any assistance for the rehabilitation of those people residing along the banks of the waterway; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Details of pending works in Kollam-Alappuzha stretch (76 km.) of National Waterway No. 3 and reasons therefore are given at Annex-I.

(b) In Kollam-Alappuzha stretch, 20.36 hectares of land has been acquired for widening of the canal at a cost of Rs. 1562.91 lakhs. Status of widening of canal in

this stretch is also given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) In the approved budget for 2006-07 for National Waterway No. 3, an amount of Rs. 1 crore has been allocated for capital dredging in Kochi-Kollam stretch.

(d) and (e) Compensation to be paid to the displaced persons due to land acquisition is covered in the cost of acquisition of land mentioned in reply to part (b) of the question and it has already been paid by Inland Waterways Authority of India to the State Government.

#### **Statement**

Pending Works in Kollam Alappuzha stretch of National Waterway No. 3	Status and reasons for pendency
Capital Dredging for widening and deepening of the canal	Out of 76 km stretch, the shoal length is 58.33 km. Out of 58.33 km shoal length, 33.10 km has been completed and 25.23 km is pending on account of stoppage of dredging work due to objection by the local people on dumping of dredged material, non removal of fishing nets from navigational channel, filing of court cases by the local public fearing collapse of banks due to dredging etc. This has also resulted in contractual problems.
Navigational aids	Day navigational marks have been provided. For providing night navigational aids work order has been issued on 2.11.2006 with a completion period of six months.
Terminals	Out of four proposed terminal between Kollam and Alappuzha construction work has been completed at Trikkunnapuzha and Kayamkulam. For construction of terminal at Kollam revised estimate is in the process of sanction by Government. Construction of Alappuzha terminal could not be taken up because acquired land has not been handed over to IWAI by the State Government.

#### *[Translation]*

#### **Change in Syllabus for Dental Surgeons**

2036. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to change the syllabus for dental surgeons; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA

LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The BDS Course Regulations for undergraduate dental students were framed in 1983, *i.e.* about 23 years ago. Since then, significant developments have taken place in the field of Dentistry worldwide. Therefore, Central Government, on the basis of the recommendations of Dental Council of India, and in consultation with the State Governments and the Medical Universities, is contemplating to bring about certain changes in the syllabus for BDS Course, by incorporating therein new subjects like "Aesthetic Dentistry, Oral Implantology, Behavioural Sciences, Forensic Odontology and Dentofacial Orthopedics, etc., so as to upgrade the knowledge and skills of the students undergoing BDS Course in various dental colleges across the country to bring them on par with the international standards.

*[English]***Stem Cell Treatment**

2037. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether clinical test for treatment of orthopaedic related diseases by stem cells has been undertaken in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which stem cell treatment for orthopaedic patients will be made available in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

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

**VRS by Officials/Staff of MCL**

2038. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER pleased to state:

(a) the number of officials/staff of Mahanadi Coalfields limited (MCL) taken voluntary retirement during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, category-wise;

(c) the financial implication of the VRS;

(d) whether all the officials who have taken VRS have received their payments; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) The number of officials/staff taken voluntary retirement during the last 3 years is as follows:

Year	No. of officials/staff
2003-04	101
2004-05	63
2005-06	62

(b) Category-wise details are as follows:

Category	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006
Executives	1	1	—
Technical & supervisory grade and other Monthly Rated	10	5	8
Daily Rated (Excavation Grade E to Special Grade)	4	4	4
Daily Rated (Category I to VI)	47	41	22
Piece Rated	39	12	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>62</b>

(c) The financial implication on VRS during the last three years is as under:

Year	Financial implication (Rs in lakh)
2003-04	866.47
2004-05	186.05
2005-06	200.33

(d) Yes, Sir. All the officials, who have taken voluntary retirement, have received their payments.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to (d) above.

**I.T. Sector under Essential Services**

2039. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:



(a) whether the Government proposes to bring I.T. sector under essential services;

(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) to (c) As per the Ministry of Home Affairs the Central Essential Services Maintenance Act, 1981 (ESMA), came into force on 23rd September 1981, the life of the original Act was only four years *i.e.* 1985, thereafter, it was extended up to 1990, the question of continuance of ESMA, 1981 was examined in consultation with the State Governments and the Central Ministries and Departments and it was decided not to extend the term of the Act further and the Act lapsed in September 1990. Many of the States having their own ESM Acts.

As per Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are declared as Public Utility by the State Governments. This is to ensure that the export orders, which have to be fulfilled on a time-bound basis are not affected due to flash strikes.

#### **Vacancies for OBC Category**

2040. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:  
SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quota prescribed for OBC in various categories of posts in Central Government Services has not yet been filled up;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; .

(c) the number of posts in each category A,B,C and D in Central Government and the number of posts out of that filled up by the OBC category and the number of posts lying vacant;

(d) whether the Government proposes to formulate any plan to fill up the said posts; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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 PACHOURI): (a) and (b) Reservation for OBCs in services under the

Government of India was introduced in 1993 and it will take time for their representation in services to reach the prescribed percentage.

(c) Information regarding total number of posts and number of posts lying vacant as on date in the Government is not centrally available. However, as per information received from various Ministries/Departments, number of OBC employees in Group "A", Group "B", Group "C" and Group "D" as on 1.1.2004 is about 3090, 3123, 106309 and 26158 (excluding safaikarmacharies) respectively.

(d) and (e) Instructions already exist to fill up the reserved quota of OBCs.

*[English]*

#### **Financial Corporation for Managing Haj Operation**

2041. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to set up a Financial Corporation to finance and manage Haj operations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any proposals in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) to (e) A Task Force of Hon'ble Members of Parliament led by Shri K. Rahman Khan, Hon'ble Deputy Chairman, Rajya Sabha has recommended the setting up of an organization along the lines of 'Tabung Haji' of Malaysia which can, inter alia, mobilize the savings from prospective pilgrims, invest in instruments which are permissible under Shariat, distribute the returns on their savings to depositors and undertake Haj Management by providing all related services. The Task Force Report has envisaged the structure of the proposed financial institution to be a separate corporation either as a statutory body or under the Indian Company Act with Government equity participation of at least 40% of the proposed equity base of Rs. 1500 crores. The issue of setting up such an

institution is yet to be decided and contribution by Government of India will have to be decided thereafter.

#### **Increase in Per Capita Income**

2042. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the per capita income in the country has increased over the years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the rise in prices of essential commodities is disproportionate to rise in per capita income;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken to rectify the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The per capita income in the country at current prices during the years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 has been estimated at Rs. 21,142, Rs, 23,222 and Rs. 25,825, respectively. The growth rates in per capita income at current prices in these three years are 11.3 per cent, 9.8 per cent and 11.2 per cent, respectively. In real terms, the per capita income at constant (1999-2000) prices has risen by 7.2 per cent, 6.1 per cent and 6.9 per cent, respectively during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06.

(c) to (e) As per the information obtained from Department of Consumer Affairs, prices of certain commodities such as wheat and pulses have registered an upward trend, during the current year.

The reasons for the rise in prices of these commodities are shortfall in domestic supplies relative to demand and hardening of international prices. The prices of other essential commodities have generally remained within reasonable levels.

The Government has taken various measures for controlling the rise in prices of essential commodities, which *inter alia* include, import of wheat by the State Trading Corporation, permitting private trade to import

wheat at zero duty from 9.9.2006, ban on export of pulses, reduction in customs duty on import of pulses to zero, import of pulses by National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), reduction in duty on palm group of oils by 10 percentage points, banning of export of sugar, permitting import of sugar at zero duty and regulatory measures taken by Forwards Markets Commission (FMC) to contain volatility in the futures prices of wheat, sugar, pulses, etc.

[Translation]

#### **Encroachment by Nepal**

2043. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether villages of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar along the Indo-Nepal border are allegedly by being encroached upon by Nepal;
- (b) if so, whether detailed information has been sought for by the Union Government in this regard;
- (c) whether such villages have been given/are being given citizenship of Nepal by the Nepal Government;
- (d) if so, the total number of such villages given citizenship by Nepal; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (e) There are differences of perception in some regions on the alignment of boundary between India and Nepal; the major differences exist in regions such as Narsahi, Susta in Bihar/and Kalapani in Uttaranchal. The shifting of course in Susta region of the Gandak river, the mid-stream of which formed the boundary as per Treaty of Sugauli of 1816, has resulted in claims/counterclaims by both sides in this segment. Government is constantly monitoring the situation with a view to prevent encroachments by the Nepalese side.

India and Nepal have established a Joint Technical Committee, with the objective of *inter alia* resolving the differences of perception on the alignment of boundary in various segments. The JTC is yet to complete its mandated tasks. Government has reiterated from time to time to Government of Nepal the need for an early resolution of the differences of perception and the need

for maintaining *status quo* in these regions pending resolution of differences of perception. Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) has been deployed along the Indo-Nepal border and it has instructions to ensure that there are no encroachments on the Indian territory.

#### Boosting Growth of Industries

2044. SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether growth of the country has been slow

due to slow growth of power, mining and manufacturing industries in the country;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government in order to boost the growth of these industries; and

(d) the success achieved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The annual Growth Rates of Gross Domestic Product in mining, manufacturing and electricity sectors during 2000-01 to 2005-06 are given in the Table below.

#### *Annual Growth Rates of Gross Domestic Product*

(at 1999-2000 prices)

Sl. No.	Sectors	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05(QE)	2005-06(RE)
1.	Mining and Quarrying	2.5	1.8	8.7	5.3	5.8	0.9
2.	Manufacturing	7.7	2.5	6.8	7.1	8.1	9.0
3.	Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	2.0	1.7	4.8	4.8	4.3	5.3
4.	Gross Domestic Product (at market prices)	4.0	5.3	3.6	8.3	8.5	8.7

Source: Central Statistical Organisation, QE: Quick Estimates, RE: Revised Estimates.

From a comparison of the above annual growth rates of mining & quarrying, manufacturing and power sectors, with the aggregate GDP growth rate during the past six years, it can not be inferred that the slow growth rate of these sectors is the only reason behind the slow growth of the economy.

(b) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

(c) The details of the steps taken by the Government in order to boost the growth of these industries are available in the Mid-Term Appraisal of the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07), which is placed in the Parliament library. In the mining and quarrying sector, the government is taking various measures to enhance and accelerate production capacities by encouraging cost effective mineral exploration and development using state-of-the-art

exploration technologies. Government is also implementing promotional exploration schemes to increase private investments in this sector. Infrastructure development by providing critical links in potential mining fields has also been another priority area of the government.

In the power sector, government has taken measures to raise the level of competition in each element of the electricity value chain by increased private sector participation. The enactment of Electricity Act has provided a framework for reforms in this sector. Government is also encouraging Central Public Sector Undertakings to take up new investments through joint ventures with State utilities and private sector.

The liberalisation of the manufacturing sector is substantially complete, and this sector is now operating

under market conditions. This, along with steady rationalisation of the indirect tax regime, has created an environment for faster growth.

(d) In view of the long gestation period involved in realisation of increased investments over the years in the mining and power sectors, the success achieved from the steps taken by the Government can be measured only in the long run. The manufacturing sector has shown steady acceleration in its growth rate as given in the above Table, and in the first half of the current year (April-September, 2006-07), it has grown at 11.6% as per the latest quarterly estimates of CSO.

#### **CBI Raids**

2045. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:  
SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has conducted raids on officers in various parts of the country including Delhi during the last six months till date;

(b) if so, the names of such officers and the details of illegal money and documents recovered therefrom;

(c) whether the Government has taken any action against them;

(d) if so, the details of the action taken; and

(e) 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 PACHOURI):  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It will not be appropriate to disclose details of seizures/recoveries made in these searches at this stage since it may impede investigation.

(c) to (e) The action is taken in accordance with law after completion of the investigation.

#### **NOC for Allotment of Lignite Blocks**

2046. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the need for obtaining No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) for allotment of lignite blocks;

(b) whether the Government proposes to do away with this process of obtaining No Objection Certificate; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) The Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) is a major Public Sector producer of lignite and lignite based power in the country and it takes up exploration activities in various lignite blocks in order to augment lignite production. To safeguard their interests and to ensure that the resources are put to use in a planned and scientific manner it has been made mandatory for a State Government company or undertaking to obtain a certificate from Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) to the effect that NLC has no plan or willingness to undertake mining operation in the concerned lignite block.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply given to part (b) above.

*[English]*

#### **Condition of Bridges on NH No. 17**

2047. SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has assessed the condition of bridges on NH No. 17 particularly bridges across Moorad River, Moidu Bridge at Muzhappilangad in Kannur district;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has any proposals to construct bridges parallel to the existing ones;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government has also received proposals for construction of by-pass on NH No. 17 particularly between Kannur and Kozhikode; 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) and (b) The condition of the bridges on various National Highways (NH) including NH 17 is assessed from time to time and appropriate actions for their repairs/reconstruction are taken up as per site requirements. As regards Moidu bridge at Muzhapilangad, the proposal for its repair has been received from the Public Works Department, Kerala and the same is under process. Moorad bridge though narrow in width, is in good condition.

(c) and (d) The entire NH 17 in Kerala is identified for four laning including bridges under NHDP Phase III. The need for construction of bridges parallel to the existing ones can be assessed only after the finalization of Detailed Project Report.

(e) and (f) There are three bypasses identified on NH 17 in Kerala namely Calicut, Thalassery-Mahe and Koilandy deviation having length of 28.12 km, 18.03 km and 11.21 km respectively. Out of these, Calicut bypass is completed in a length of 16.25 km and construction is in progress in 2.78 km. The remaining length of Calicut bypass and other two bypasses are proposed along with four laning of NH 17 under NHDP Phase III.

#### **Conversion of GPOs into Budget Hotels**

2048. DR. M. JAGANNATH:  
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

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

(a) whether the Indian Postal Department proposes to convert all General Post Offices (GPOs) of the country into Budget hotels and lease out its prime space to private hoteliers and restaurateurs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of revenue expected to be generated from this venture; and

(d) the modalities chalked out to utilise these funds in improving the efficiency of the postal department?

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]*

#### **Construction of Bridge on NH-28**

2049. YOGI ADITYA NATH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has awarded its sanction to construct a bridge on the river Rapti in Gorakhpur on National Highway No. 28;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of construction of the said bridge; and

(d) the time by which the construction of the bridge is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir. The work of construction of an additional two lane bridge across river Rapti in Gorakhpur at Km. 262.00 on National Highway No. 28 has been awarded.

(b) An additional two lane bridge 412 m in length is being constructed adjacent to the existing two lane bridge in Gorakhpur.

(c) and (d) Construction of the main bridge is substantially completed and the work of approaches is in progress. The work is targeted for completion by March 2007.

*[English]*

#### **Supply of Coal to Thermal Power Plants**

2050. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of coal provided to the Thermal Power Plants per month in Maharashtra during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether power generation has been adversely affected in the State due to the inadequate supply of coal;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Average monthly quantity of coal supplied to Thermal Power Plants of Maharashtra during the last three years from Coal India Limited is as under:

(figures in 000 tonnes)

Year	Yearly quantity supplied	Average per month supplied quantity
2003-04	29698	2475
2004-05	32328	2694
2005-06	30998	2583

(b) to (d) No, Sir. All the Power Stations in Maharashtra have had coal stock of more than 7 days of coal consumption throughout the year. Therefore, problems, if any, in power generation by any of these power plants in Maharashtra is not attributable to less supply of coal. Further there is a mechanism, under the Ministry of Coal, comprising representatives of Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Power, Central Electricity Authority, and Coal India Limited, which monitors the movement of coal to all the power plants including those of Maharashtra and in case of any shortage, the supply of coal is appropriately augmented.

#### Funds for Synthetic Hockey Surface

2051. SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has released funds for installation of full size Synthetic Hockey Surface at SAI Training Centre, Madikeri in Kodagu District, Karnataka;

(b) if so, the amount so released;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the funds will be released?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS OF SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) The Sports Authority of India (SAI) has released Rs. 2 crore for the installation of a full size Synthetic Hockey Surface at the SAI Training Centre at Madikeri, Karnataka.

#### Training of Drivers

2052. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

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

(a) whether the Government is considering for public-private partnership in the field of drivers training and their skill upgradation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has prepared any plan in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the response of the private entrepreneurs in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (e) No Sir, the Government is not considering any plan for public-private partnership scheme in the field of driver training. However, two schemes "Administering Refresher Training to Heavy Motor Vehicle Drivers in the Un-organized Sector" and "Setting up of A Training Institute on Driving & Research" are in operation to impart training to drivers aimed to upgrade their skill.

The scheme "Administering Refresher Training to Heavy Motor Vehicle Drivers in Unorganized Sector" is administered through Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) Institutions/organizations. The scheme "Setting up of A Training Institute on Driving & Research" is administered either through State Govt. or through NGOs or through public private partemrshp between State

Government and NGOs/Automobile Manufacturers. So far 11 driver training institutes in Assam (Guwahati), West Bengal (Kolkata), Andhra Pradesh (Vijaywada), Karnataka (Hagaribommanahalli, Bellary), Himachal Pradesh (Jassur, Kangra), Kerala (Edappal, Malappuram), Delhi (Sarai Kale Khan), Uttaranchal (Dehradun), Uttar Pradesh (Kanpur), Orissa (Jajpur) and Nagaland (Dimapur) have been sanctioned, under the scheme of "Setting up of A Training Institute on Driving & Research".

*[English]*

#### Out of Order Village Exchanges

2053. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the Block-wise number of village exchanges functioning in Bolangir district of Orissa till date;

(b) the number of village exchanges out of them out of order for the last one month;

(c) whether the Government has found any officials guilty in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps 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) Sir, Block-wise number of village exchanges of BSNL functioning in Bolangir District of Orissa till date is as below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Block	No. of village exchanges
1	2	3
1.	Agalpur	3
2.	Bangamunda	2
3.	Belpara	2
4.	Bolangir	3
5.	Deogaon	2
6.	Gudvela	2

1	2	3
7.	Khaprakhol	3
8.	Loisingha	2
9.	Muribahal	2
10.	Patnagarh	4
11.	Puintala	1
12.	Saintala	4
13.	Titlagarh	1
14.	Turekela	1

(b) No village exchange is out of order for last one month.

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

#### Trauma Centres along National Highways

2054. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:  
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:  
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether the Trauma Centres are working on all the National Highways in the country; ,

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(c) the distance in kilometers at which these Trauma Centres have been set up so far;

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up such Centres during the current year;

(e) if so, the names of national highways identified for the purpose, location-wise; and

(f) the time by which these Trauma Centres will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (f) Health being a State subject, it is for the State Governments to set up trauma centres

depending upon their perception of need and availability of resources. However, under the scheme for up-gradation of emergency services in State Government Hospital located on National Highways, so far, financial assistance has been provided to 104 State Government Hospitals. During the current year a provision of Rs. 45.00 crores has been made for this scheme.

[English]

#### **Delay in Works at Ports**

2055. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether works at various major ports in the country are not progressing as per schedule and there is inordinate delay in completion of ongoing projects as reported in the *Business Line* dated October 27, 2006;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) There are time overruns in completion of some ongoing projects in the Major Ports due to a variety of reasons which include delay in award of contracts and/or placement of work orders due to procedural/constraints, time taken in acquisition of land, delay in completion of the projects by the contractors and non-availability of requisite/clearances, statutory and otherwise. The progress of all ongoing/projects is reviewed regularly with the view to removing the bottlenecks which impede the progress of the projects and facilitating their timely implementation.

#### **Blueprint Submitted by IEA for Sustainable Energy**

2056. SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Energy Agency in its Annual World Energy Outlook has submitted a blueprint for a sustainable energy as reported in the *Hindustan Times* dated November 08, 2006;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether steps taken by the Government towards sustainable energy is likely to ensure safety of nuclear projects also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The World Energy Outlook 2006 (WEO 2006) recommends reduction of energy demand & emissions and improved efficiency of energy use. The alternative policy scenario of WEO-2006 serves the three goals of greater energy security, environmental protection and economic efficiency. It demonstrates that nuclear power could make a major contribution to reducing dependence on fossil fuels and curbing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in a cost-effective way.

(c) to (e) Indian Nuclear Power Plants have an excellent safety record. Emphasis on safety will continue to remain an area of focus in case of enhanced contribution of nuclear power in India.

#### **Maintenance of N.H. No. 1**

2057. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred on the maintenance of National Highway No.1 during the last two years, year-wise;

(b) the agencies responsible for the maintenance of this highway;

(c) whether any survey is conducted from time to time to monitor the condition of various National Highways;

(d) if so, whether any defects were noticed or complaints received regarding National Highway No.1; and

(e) if so, the action 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) The total expenditure incurred on the maintenance of National Highway No.1 during the last two years, year-wise is as given below:



Year	Expenditure (Rs. in crore)
2004-05	27.73
2005-06	14.73
Total	42.46

(b) The development and maintenance of NH No. 1 is being done by NHAI.

(c) to (e) Regular maintenance is done on the basis of reports received through inspections to check road conditions or complaints/inputs received by NHAI.

#### Utilization of Maritime Cess

2058. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:  
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has imposed maritime cess on the Cargo handled in the country;

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

(c) the amount collected or likely to be collected as a result thereof, port-wise.

(d) the manner in which the maritime cess is being likely to be utilised;

(e) whether the Union Government will provide funds for dredging or development of Minor Ports;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether the Union Government plans to share cess amount so collected with coastal State Governments; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) and (f) Minor Ports (Non Major Ports) are under the overall jurisdiction of the respective State Governments in whom the responsibility for their development including dredging vests.

(g) and (h) Do not arise, in view of reply to part (a) above

[English]

#### Hindi Computer Software

2059. SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide computer software of Hindi and other regional languages and its distribution in different departments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of Hindi computer software available in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. With the objective of free use of the tools and softwares by the people, the Basic Information Processing Kits (BIPKs) for Indian Languages are being provided for free download through the website [www.ildc.gov.in](http://www.ildc.gov.in). On specific request through this website, these are also being provided in the form of a CD. The BIPKs consist of Bharateeya Open Office, Fonts, e-mail client, browser, spell checker, dictionary, transliteration tool, etc. The CDs for Hindi, Tamil and Telugu have been released for free distribution. The work for development and release of tools and software for other Indian Languages is under way.

(c) The Hindi Computer Software available in the country are word processors, desktop publishing software, office suite, fonts, code converters, transliteration tools, text-to speech software, etc.

[English]

#### Sanction of Funds Under NRHM

2060. SHRI G.V. HARSHA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has sanctioned Rs. 10,000 for each sub-centre under the NRHM;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has set any norms in regard to utilisation of the amount;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the amount utilised so far for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Untied fund of Rs. 10,000 per Sub-centre has been released to all Empowered Action Group (EAG) States during 2004-05 and to all States/UTs during 2005-06 and 2006-07 for meeting local health needs. Statement indicating releases made during these years is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Suggested areas for utilization of this untied fund include:

- Minor modifications to Sub-centre — curtains to ensure privacy, repair of taps, installation of bulbs, minor repairs, which can be done at the local level.

- Adhoc payments for cleaning up Sub-centre, especially after childbirth.
- Provide Transport in emergencies to appropriate referral centres.
- Transport of samples during epidemics.
- Purchase of consumables such as bandages in Sub-centre.
- Purchase of bleaching powder and disinfectants for use in common areas of the village.
- Provide for Labour and supplies for sanitation, such as clearing or larvicidal measures.
- Payment/reward to ASHA for certain identified activities.

Untied fund shall not be used for payment of salaries, vehicle purchase, and recurring expenditures or to meet the expenses of the Gram Panchayat.

(e) As per Statement of Expenditures (SOEs) received from States/UTs, by quarter ending September 2006, sum of Rs. 6863.10 lakhs has been utilized so far.

#### **Statement**

*Untied funds released for Sub-centres and amount utilised so far*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name State/UT	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Amount utilised (as per (SOEs/UCs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh		1252.20	1127.00	1126.98
2.	Goa		17.20		
3.	Gujarat		727.40		22.24
4.	Haryana		243.30	46.30	46.35
5.	Himachal Pradesh		206.70	10.50	10.56
6.	Jammu and Kashmir		187.90		
7.	Karnataka		814.30		6.42
8.	Kerala		509.40		

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Maharashtra		972.70	387.00	387.00
10.	Punjab		285.20	203.60	226.89
11.	Tamil Nadu		868.20	651.20	868.20
12.	West Bengal		1035.60	736.20	1035.60
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>7120.10</b>	<b>3161.80</b>	<b>3730.24</b>
<b>EAG States</b>					
1.	Bihar	1033.70	1033.70		
2.	Chhatisgarh	883.50			
3.	Jharkhand	381.80	510.60		
4.	Madhya Pradesh	446.20	1200.90		17.71
5.	Rajasthan	992.60	992.60	955.10	2031.30
6.	Orissa	592.70	592.70	480.10	480.10
7.	Uttar Pradesh	1857.70	1857.70	381.40	381.40
8.	Uttaranchal	152.50	152.50		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6340.70</b>	<b>6340.70</b>	<b>1816.60</b>	<b>2910.51</b>
<b>UTs</b>					
1.	A & N Island		10.70		
2.	Chandigarh		1.30		
3.	D & N Haveli		3.80		
4.	Daman & Diu		2.10		
5.	Delhi		4.20		
6.	Lakshadweep		1.40		
7.	Pondicherry		7.50	0.60	0.77
	<b>Total</b>		<b>31.00</b>	<b>0.60</b>	<b>0.77</b>
	<b>Total other than NE States</b>	<b>6340.70</b>	<b>13491.80</b>	<b>4979.00</b>	<b>6641.52</b>
<b>NE States</b>					
1.	Assam		510.90	463.90	154.48
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		27.30		

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Manipur		42.00		
4.	Meghalaya		40.10		
5.	Mizoram		34.60	36.60	36.60
6.	Nagaland		32.50	24.40	32.50
7.	Tripura		53.90		
8.	Sikkim		14.70		
Total NE States			756.00	524.90	221.58

*[Translation]*

### Inspection of Passport Offices

2061. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:  
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether inspection of various Passport Offices, particularly in Rajasthan has been carried out during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, RPO-wise;

(c) the shortcomings detected in the various RPOs during these inspections; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to overcome them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) Yes. A list of inspections of Passport offices carried out during the last three years is enclosed as Statement Passport Office, Jaipur was inspected on 28-29 August 2005 & 30 January to 1 February 2006.

(c) During inspections of Passport Offices, shortcomings falling in the following major categories have been noticed:

- (i) not conducting proper scrutiny of applications at the time of receipt of the same;
- (ii) not making special arrangements for Tatkal cases;

(iii) delays in despatch of Personal particular forms to Police Authorities;

(iv) instances of delays in the granting and issue of passports after receipt of clear Police Verification Reports;

(v) wrong 'Emigration Clearance Required' (ECR) endorsements;

(vi) delays in despatch of passports;

(vii) absence of prompt redressal of grievances of passport seeking public; and

(viii) absence of requisite amenities for passport applicants.

(d) After each inspection, a list of shortcomings noticed is sent to the concerned Passport Office with the instructions to take prompt remedial steps. Major shortcomings are also brought to the notice of all Passport Offices through periodic circulars so that suitable steps could be taken to avoid the same.

### Statement

*Details of Inspections of various Passport Offices during the last three years*

S.No.	Passport Office	Date of inspection
1	2	3
1.	Ahmedabad	26-27 June 2003, 25-26 Sep. 2003, 20-21 Feb, 2004, 28-30 Mar 2006 and 11 July 2006.

1	2	3	1	2	3
2.	Bangalore	24 to 27 Aug 2003, 31 Aug-2 Sep 2004 and 4-8 June 2006	17.	Kozhikode	1 to 4 Jan 2003 & 31 March 2005, 2-5 March 2006
3.	Bareilly	5 December 2005 & 30-June, 2006	18.	Lucknow	2-3 April 2003, 4-5 January 2006, 7-8 April 2006 & 19-20 April 2006
4.	Bhopal	9-11 Nov 2003	19.	Malappuram	—
5.	Bhuvneshwar	30 January — February 1, 2006 and 12-14 October 2006	20.	Mumbai	22-23 Feb 2003 & 11-13 Jan 2006
6.	Chandigarh	11 & 12 Mar 2003, 8 to 10 Feb 2004, 27-28 Feb 2006, 17-18 April 2006, 13-16 May 2006 & 9-10 Nov 2006	21.	Nagpur	17 Nov, 2006
7.	Chennai	24 & 25 Dec 2003, 24 to 27 Aug 2003, 27-28 Sep 2006 & 15-16 November 2006	22.	Panaji	30 March to 5 April 2003 & 13-16 February 2006
8.	Cochin	30-Mar-06	23.	Patna	31-Aug, 2004 & 26-27 June 2006
9.	Delhi	30-Mar-2006 & 13 June 2006	24.	Pune	30-Nov, 2006
10.	Ghaziabad	2003 & 20 Jan 2005 & Feb 2006	25.	Ranchi	28-29 June 2006
11.	Guwahati	—	26.	Srinagar	19-20 Jan 2005 & 17-18 July 2006
12.	Hyderabad	24 to 27 Aug 2003, 4-10 Jan 2006 & 23-24 Jan 2006	27.	Surat	15 & 16 Aug 2003, 1-3 December 2003 and 15-17 July 2006
13.	Jaipur	28-29 Aug 2005 & 30 Jan to 1 Feb 2006	28.	Thane	—
14.	Jalandhar	30-31 Oct. 2003, Feb 2006, 3-5 April 2006, 14 October 2006 & 16-17 November 2006	29.	Tiruchi	12 to 15 Oct. 2003, 13-15 Feb. 2006 and 25-26 Sept 2006
15.	Jammu	1 April, 2004	30.	Trivandrum	16 to 18 Oct 2003, 10-11 Jan 2006
16.	Kolkata	8 to 10 Oct. 2003 & 11-13 November 2006	31.	V'Patnam	24-28 Apr 2003 & 8-9 May 2006

[English]

**Eye Cell Transplant Research**

2062. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards successful eye cell transplantation on mice as reported in *The Hindu* dated November 10, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts being made by the scientists and doctors of the country in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The experiment reported is the use of a class of cells called precursors to photoreceptor cells, obtained from 3-4 days old mice into adult mice that have genetic defect causing blindness. Earlier studies had tried using such cells from adult mice, which did not work. The use of stem cells has not proved 100% successful for this form of blindness. It is likely that with more experiments and experience, they might be useful. The presence experiment on mice do give the hope that we can improve out existing methods and adapt them to humans in the near future, on a trial basis. Right now, it is premature.

#### **Alleged Detention of Aung San Suu Kyi**

2063. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Myanmar has allegedly detained Aung San Suu Kyi under house arrest for the last many years;

(b) if so, whether this matter came up for discussion during the bilateral talks with Myanmar;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the response of Myanmar thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) Government of India has consistently urged the Myanmar Government, including at the highest level, for the release of Noble Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi from house arrest. We have also emphasized the need for the political reform process in Myanmar to be more inclusive and broad based.

(d) Government of Myanmar has noted our position in this regard.

*[Translation]*

#### **Shortage of Staff in RPOs**

2064. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Passport Office situated in Surat is not functioning effectively due to non-availability of staff;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether similar situation has been noticed in other RPOs also;

(d) if so, the details thereof, RPO-wise; and

(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to appoint adequate staff in the above Passport Offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) and (b) No. It is not a fact that Passport Office, Surat is not functioning effectively. However, there is indeed shortage of staff in Passport Office, Surat where against a total sanctioned strength of 49, there were only 33 employees as on 1.11.2006.

(c) and (d) There is shortage of staff in other Passport Offices also. As on 1.11.2006, there were a total of 2,172 employees working against the sanctioned strength of 2,349. A chart showing working strength in various Passport Offices is enclosed as Statement.

(e) In September 2006, Ministry of Finance approved creation of 395 posts and abolition of 102 posts in various grades of the Central Passport Organization. Departmental Promotion Committees (DPCs) were convened in August, 2006 for promotion to the posts of Assistants and UDCs to fill up the additional posts sanctioned by the Ministry of Finance. Action is also underway to convene DPCs for filling up newly sanctioned posts of officials in other Grades in consultation with UPSC.

**Statement***Statement showing Sanctioned Strength and Working Strength under the CPO (as on 1.11.2006)*

S.No.	Name of Office	RPO		APO		PRO		SUPDT.		Asstt.		UDC		UDC(H)		Steno	
		SS	WS	SS	WS	SS	WS	SS	WS	SS	WS	SS	WS	SS	WS	SS	WS
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1.	Ahmedabad	1	1	2	1	3	1	8	10	24	9	37	17	0	0	1	0
2.	Bangalore	1	1	1	1	3	1	6	7	19	21	30	28	0	0	1	2
3.	Bareilly	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	6	2	8	15	1	0	1	0
4.	Bhopal	0	0	1	0	1	1	2	1	7	6	10	3	0	0	1	0
5.	Bhuvneshwar	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	4	2	6	4	0	0	0	0
6.	Chandigarh	1	1	2	0	3	3	8	9	23	21	36	14	0	0	1	0
7.	Chennai	1	1	2	1	4	5	8	4	26	28	40	52	0	0	1	1
8.	Cochin	1	0	1	0	2	1	7	8	20	40	31	54	0	0	1	1
9.	Delhi	1	1	2	1	3	2	8	17	23	49	35	19	1	0	1	2
10.	Ghaziabad	0	1	1	0	1	1	2	4	7	6	9	5	0	0	1	0
11.	Guwahati	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	3	2	5	2	0	0	0	0
12.	Hyderabad	1	1	2	0	4	1	11	8	31	25	47	37	0	0	1	1
13.	Jaipur	1	0	1	0	3	0	5	4	15	11	23	19	1	0	1	0
14.	Jalandhar	1	0	1	0	3	2	7	8	19	8	30	28	0	0	1	0
15.	Jammu	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	3	3	4	4	0	0	0	0
16.	Kolkata	1	1	1	0	2	1	5	2	13	7	20	18	0	0	1	0
17.	Kozhikode	1	1	1	1	3	0	5	4	15	8	24	46	0	0	1	2
18.	Lucknow	1	1	1	0	3	2	7	5	18	29	27	28	1	0	1	0
19.	Malappuram	0	0	1	0	4	0	9	4	12	7	17	21	0	0	1	0
20.	Mumbai	1	1	1	1	1	6	5	10	27	42	39	44	0	0	1	2
21.	Nagpur	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	4	4	6	0	0	0	1	0
22.	Panaji	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	4	4	6	2	0	0	1	1
23.	Patna	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	1	9	2	12	11	0	0	1	0
24.	Pune	0	0	1	1	1	1	3	2	8	8	12	3	0	0	1	0
25.	Ranchi	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	1	5	3	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
26.	Srinagar	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	0	4	1	0	0	1	0
27.	Surat	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	6	9	16	12	3	0	0	1	0
28.	Thane	0	0	1	1	1	1	3	3	11	13	15	14	0	0	1	0
29.	Tiruchi	1	0	2	0	4	2	8	9	26	17	38	36	0	0	1	0
30.	Trivandrum	1	1	1	0	2	1	4	4	15	8	22	45	0	0	1	1
31.	Visakhapatnam	0	1	1	0	1	1	3	1	8	3	12	1	0	0	1	0
32.	Total	15	4	30	9	62	40	138	137	415	402	622	577	4	0	27	13
33.	P.G. Cell					1	0			1		1					
34.	Inspection Unit			1	1					1		1				1	
35.	Vigilance Unit				0	1	1	2	2	2						1	
36.	Estt/Admn.			1	1	1	1		0	2	7	4	5			1	
37.	Legal Cell			1						1							
	Grand Total	15	14	33	11	65	42	140	139	422	409	628	582	4	0	30	13

S.No.	Name of Office	LDC		H.T.R.		Driver		Rec Sor		Daftry		Peon		Total		CL	WS	+CL
		SS	WS	SS	WS	SS	WS	SS	WS	SS	WS	SS	WS	SS	WS			
1	2	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	
1.	Ahmedabad	36	14	1	1	0	1	3	1	3	2	14	7	133	65	8	73	
2.	Bangalore	30	15	1	1	0	1	3	1	3	1	10	4	108	86	3	89	
3.	Bareilly	9	7	0	0	0	1	2	1	2	1	4	2	36	31	20	51	
4.	Bhopal	10	7	1	0	0	1	2	1	2	1	4	1	41	22	9	31	
5.	Bhuvneshwar	6	6	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	2	2	25	17	2	19	
6.	Chandigarh	35	17	1	1	0	1	3	1	3	1	10	8	126	77	18	95	
7.	Chennai	39	16	1	1	0	1	3	1	3	3	14	7	142	122	18	140	
8.	Cochin	30	15	1	1	0	1	3	2	3	2	10	6	110	132	0	132	
9.	Delhi	35	22	1	1	0	1	3	1	3	3	12	10	128	119	34	163	
10.	Ghaziabad	9	4	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	4	3	39	24	20	44	
11.	Guwahati	5	4	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	2	3	19	14	2	16	
12.	Hyderabad	46	26	1	1	0	1	4	1	4	3	14	7	166	112	39	151	
13.	Jaipur	23	13	1	1	0	1	2	0	2	0	6	5	84	54	14	68	
14.	Jalandhar	30	16	1	0	0	0	2	2	2	1	6	2	103	67	30	97	
15.	Jammu	4	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	2	3	17	15	2	17	



1	2	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
16.	Kolkata	21	21	1	1	0	1	2	2	2	2	12	5	81	61	15	76
17.	Kozhikode	23	20	1	1	0	1	2	1	2	1	10	9	88	95	7	102
18.	Lucknow	29	19	1	1	0	0	3	1	3	1	10	2	105	89	36	125
19.	Malappuram	18	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	7	2	73	39	0	39
20.	Mumbai	40	11	1	1	0	1	3	3	3	3	14	9	136	134	0	134
21.	Nagpur	6	8	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	0	2	3	25	17	3	20
22.	Panaj	6	7	0	0	0	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	25	20	1	21
23.	Patna	13	11	1	0	0	1	2	1	2	0	6	0	51	28	17	45
24.	Pune	12	9	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	6	3	49	28	10	38
25.	Ranchi	5	4	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	21	9	1	10
26.	Srinagar	4	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	2	1	20	7	15	22
27.	Surat	13	7	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	4	0	49	33	0	33
28.	Thane	16	14	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	2	1	55	48	3	51
29.	Tiruchi	39	22	1	0	0	1	3	1	3	2	12	6	138	96	35	131
30.	Trivandrum	23	9	1	0	0	1	2	0	2	0	6	2	80	72	9	81
31.	Visakhapatnam	12	10	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	4	3	47	20	20	40
32.	Total	627	360	23	12	0	20	71	26	71	31	215	118	2320	1759	391	2150
33.	P.G. Cell		1			0							0	3	1		1
34.	Inspection Unit					0							0	4	1		1
35.	Vigilance Unit					0							0	6	3		3
36.	Est/Admn.	5	3			0							0	14	17		17
37.	Legal Cell					0							0	2	0		0
	Grand Total	632	364	23	12	0	20	71	26	71	31	215	118	2349	1781	391	2172

Note:(1) 1 post each of Rec. Keeper at Kolkata, Trichy is included under LDC posts. Posts of Sweeper and Watchman are merged and redesignated as Peons.

(2) The existing strength of Drivers will be abolished as and when the post falls vacant.

(3) One Steno and one Assistant from Delhi RPO and two Assistants from Kolkata RPO have gone on deputation outside and included in the strength.

	SS	WS
Group A	113	67
Group B	140	139
Group C	1739	1401
Group D	357	175
CL	0	391
Total	2349	2173

SS : Sanctioned Strength

RPO : Regional Passport Officer

WS : Working Strength

APO : Assistant Passport Officer

CL : Causal Labour

PRO : Public Relations Officer

*[English]***Construction of By-Pass Along NH-44**

2065. SHRI LALIT MOHAN SUKLABAIYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of by-pass along NH-44 at Karimganj is likely to be completed in 2007;

(b) if so, the current status of the work;

(c) whether there is any proposal to repair the portion of road from Karimganj to Nilambazar linked by this by-pass; and

(d) if so, the time frame to restore this portion for normal traffic movement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Earthwork and bridges are almost complete and surfacing work is remaining to be done.

(c) and (d) The road stretch from Karimganj to

Nilambazar is being maintained under normal maintenance grant. The Border Roads Organisation has informed that the patch repair work of the carriageway alongwith other routine maintenance works are being carried out as per ground requirement and the road presently is in traffic worthy condition.

**Increasing Production of Coal**

2066. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) The Company-wise details of production of coal in underground mines of the Coal India Limited (CIL) during the last two years and the current year till date, year-wise; and

(b) The steps taken by the Government to enhance the production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) The company-wise and years-wise details of production of coal in underground (UG) mines during the last two years and the current year till date are as under:

(In Million tones)

Sl. No.	Company	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (Upto Oct. 06)
1.	Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	9.46	9.34	4.73
2.	Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	6.38	5.47	2.80
3.	Central Coalfields Ltd.	2.66	2.31	1.06
4.	Northern Coalfields Ltd.	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Western Coalfields Ltd.	9.65	10.04	5.51
6.	Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	2.18	2.02	1.13
7.	South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	16.58	16.52	8.84
8.	North Eastern Coalfields	0.15	0.12	0.06
9.	Total-Coal India Ltd.	47.04	45.82	24.13

(b) The steps taken by the Government to enhance the production from Underground mines are as under:

1. Grouping of underground mines into different categories of mechanisation with respect to the geo-technical characteristics of the mines and planning appropriate technology mix for each category.
2. Phasing out of manual loading system by introduction of mechanised loading machines in a gradual manner to pave way for greater mechanisation at the coal winning front.
3. Introduction of mass production technology with continuous miner-shuttle car combination in as many mines as the geo-technical characteristic permits.
4. Increasing the number of powered support longwall faces with a view to maximizing the production and minimizing the cost.
5. Introduction of shortwall mining with powered support in depillaring of already developed pillars.
6. Greater adoption of special methods like blasting gallery and cable bolting while depillaring.
7. Rationalising the underground transport system to handle the mechanised production.
8. Encouraging the indigenous mining equipment manufactures to develop equipment for mechanisation of underground mines.

#### **WHO Norms for Health Sector**

2067. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the the WHO has laid down any norms for health sector in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether all hospitals in the country comply with the said norms; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA

LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir. WHO has not laid down norms for the overall health sector in India.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Doctors Registered with MCI**

2068. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:  
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:

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

- (a) the total number of doctors registered with the Medical Council of India at present;
- (b) the total number of doctors registered during the current year;
- (c) the shortage of doctors in proportion to the population of the country during the previous year;
- (d) whether the Government is contemplating to increase the number of medical colleges in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) As per information furnished by Medical Council of India 668019 doctors are registered with them. Out of these, 7218 doctors have been registered by Medical Council of India during this year. As per the Medical Council of India, the allopathic doctor-population ratio at present works out to 1 : 1722. In addition, there are more than 6 lakhs practitioners of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy in the country. Taking all these numbers together, the doctor-population ratio comes to more than 128 doctors per lakh population (1: 781). There are 262 Medical Colleges with annual intake of around 29,500 students. As and when applications for opening of new medical colleges are received from concerned authorities, permission is granted to them subject to the fulfilment of conditions laid down in the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 and the Regulations made thereunder for this purpose.

*[English]***Non-Availability of Drugs in Hospitals**

2069. SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE:  
ADV. SURESH KURUP:

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

(a) whether symptomatic and opportunistic infection drugs except for Tuberculosis are not available in Government hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, and

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure availability of drugs in Government hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) In so far as the three Central Government Hospitals in Delhi, are concerned, appropriate quantity of drugs for symptomatic and opportunistic infection are available and the management of such patients are undertaken in indoor as well as outdoor as per the need of the patients.

**MOU in Industrial/Cultural Sectors**

2070. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maharashtra had sent any proposal for signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the State and Gyeonggi Provincial Government, Republic of Korea for mutual cooperation in Industrial and Cultural Sectors;

(b) if so, whether the approval has been accorded;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the time by which the approval is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) to (d) Do not arise.

*[Translation]***Opening of Mobile Dispensaries**

2071. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has opened mobile dispensaries in the country under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme;

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

(c) the number of such mobile dispensaries opened in Maharashtra during the last three years; and

(d) the State-wise details of such dispensaries proposed to be opened in the country during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, under National Rural Health Mission, all States/UTs are being provided one Mobile Medical Unit in every district for taking health care to the people especially in difficult to reach areas. As per the proposals received from States, 18 States/UTs have been released funds for provision of MMUs. State-wise funds release is given in Statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) The Government of Maharashtra have planned to convert 172 flying squads functioning in the tribal areas into mobile dispensaries under NRHM. Also, the State has proposed for Mobile Medical Units (MMUs) for 33 districts in the State.

**Statement**

*Funds released for MMUs under NRHM  
for the year 2006-07*

			(Rs. in lakhs)
Sl. No.	Name State/UT	Mobile Medical Units	
1	2	3	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	966.00	
2.	Goa		
3.	Gujarat	1073.75	

1	2	3
4.	Haryana	
5.	Himachal Pradesh	532.56
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	
7.	Karnataka	1173.12
8.	Kerala	154.75
9.	Maharashtra	
10.	Punjab	
11.	Tamil Nadu	1288.50
12.	West Bengal	683.10
Total		5871.78
<b>EAG States</b>		
1.	Bihar	
2.	Chhatisgarh	721.92
3.	Jharkhand	
4.	Madhya Pradesh	
5.	Rajasthan	2233.40
6.	Orissa	1353.60
7.	Uttar Pradesh	
8.	Uttaranchal	508.30
Total		4817.22
<b>UTs</b>		
1.	A & N Islands	
2.	Chandigarh	
3.	D & N Haveli	
4.	Daman & Diu	
5.	Delhi	
6.	Lakshadweep	
7.	Pondicherry	
Total		0.00
Total other than NE States		10689.00

1	2	3
<b>NE States</b>		
1.	Assam	1666.58
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	859.36
3.	Manipur	374.13
4.	Meghalaya	321.65
5.	Mizoram	649.98
6.	Nagaland	561.00
7.	Tripura	189.24
8.	Sikkim	
Total NE States		4621.94
Grand Total (All States & UTs)		15310.94

[English]

**Spreading Awareness about UN Conventions**

2072. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details and the names of the UN Conventions signed and ratified by India so far;

(b) whether adequate measures have been taken by the Government to spread awareness among citizens about the significance of these conventions;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) if not, the steps contemplated in this regard particularly to incorporate provisions in the domestic laws?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) The list of the UN Conventions to which India is a party is enclosed as a Statement.

(b) and (c) Yes. Awareness regarding UN Conventions is spread through press releases, through conferences and seminars and the website of the concerned Ministries. Wherever required, domestic legislation is enacted to implement within India the obligations undertaken pursuant to the Convention.

(d) Does not arise.

**Statement***The UN Conventions to which India is a Party*

1. Charter of the United Nations, San Francisco, 26 June 1945.  
  
Amendments to Articles 23, 27 and 61 of the Charter of the United Nations, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolutions 1991 A and B (XVIII) of 17 December 1963  
  
Amendment to Article 109 of the Charter of the United Nations, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolution 2101 (XX) of 20 December 1965  
  
Amendment to Article 61 of the Charter of the United Nations, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolution 2847 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971
2. Statute of the International Court of Justice
3. Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, New York, 13 February 1946.
4. Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies, New York, 21 November 1947.
5. Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, Vienna, 18 April 1961.
6. Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, concerning Acquisition of Nationality, Vienna, 18 April 1961.
7. Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes, Vienna, 18 April 1961.
8. Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, Vienna, 24 April 1963.
9. Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations concerning Acquisition of Nationality, Vienna, 24 April 1963.
10. Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes, Vienna, 24 April 1963.

11. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, New York, 9 December 1948.
12. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, New York, 7 March 1966.
13. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, New York, 16 December 1966.
14. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, New York, 16 December 1966.
15. Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, New York, 16 December 1966.
16. Convention on the non-applicability of statutory limitations to war crimes and crimes against humanity, New York, 26 November 1968.
17. International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, New York, 30 November 1973.
18. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, New York, 18 December 1979.
19. Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, New York, 10 December 1984. (signed, not ratified)
20. International Convention against Apartheid in Sports, New York, 10 December 1985.
21. Convention on the Rights of the Child, New York, 20 November 1989.  
  
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, New York, 25 May 2000.  
  
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, New York, 25 May 2000.
22. Protocol amending the Agreements, Conventions and Protocols on Narcotic Drugs, concluded at The Hague on 23 January 1912, at Geneva on 11 February 1925, 19 February 1925 and 13 July 1931, at Bangkok on 27 November 1931

- and at Geneva on 26 June 1936, Lake Success, New York, 11 December 1946.
23. International Opium Convention, Geneva, 19 February 1925 and Lake Success, New York, 11 December 1946.
  24. Convention for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, Geneva, 13 July 1931 and Lake Success, New York, 11 December 1946.
  25. Agreement concerning the Suppression of Opium Smoking, Bangkok, 27 November 1931 and Lake Success, New York, 11 December 1946.
  26. Agreement concerning the Suppression of Opium Smoking, Bangkok, 27 November 1931.
  27. Convention of 1936 for the Suppression of the Illicit Traffic in Dangerous Drugs, Geneva, 26 June 1936.
  28. Protocol Bringing under International Control Drugs Outside the Scope of the Convention of 13 July 1931 for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 11 December 1946, Paris, 19 November 1948.
  29. Protocol for Limiting and Regulating the Cultivation of the Poppy Plant, the Production of, International and Wholesale Trade in, and use of Opium, New York, 23 June 1953.
  30. Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, New York, 30 March 1961.
  31. Convention on psychotropic substances, Vienna, 21 February 1971.
  32. Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, Geneva, 25 March 1972.
  33. Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the Protocol amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, New York, 8 August 1975.
  34. United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Vienna, 20 December 1988.
  35. Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 12 November 1947, to amend the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children, concluded at Geneva on 30 September 1921, and the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women of Full Age, concluded at Geneva on 11 October 1933, Lake Success, New York, 12 November 1947.
  36. Protocol amending the International Agreement for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, signed at Paris on 18 May 1904, and the International Convention for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, signed at Paris on 4 May 1910, Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949.
  37. International Agreement for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, signed at Paris on 18 May 1904, amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949, Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949.
  38. International Convention for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, signed at Paris on 4 May 1910, amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949, Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949.
  39. International Convention for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, Paris, 4 May 1910.
  40. Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, Lake Success, New York, 21 March 1950.
  41. Final Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others, Lake Success, New York, 21 March 1950.
  42. Protocol to amend the Convention for the suppression of the circulation of, and traffic in, obscene publications, concluded at Geneva on 12 September 1923, Lake Success, New York, 12 November 1947.
  43. Protocol amending the Agreement for the Suppression of the Circulation of Obscene Publications, signed at Paris, on 4 May 1910, Lake Success, New York, 4 May 1949.

44. Agreement for the Repression of Obscene Publications, Paris, 4 May 1910.
45. Constitution of the World Health Organization, New York, 22 July 1946.
- Amendments to articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization, Geneva, 28 May 1959.
- Amendment to article 7 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization, Geneva, 20 May 1965.
- A.amendments to articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization, Geneva, 23 May 1967.
- Amendments to articles 34 and 55 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization, Geneva, 22 May 1973.
- Amendments to articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization, Geneva, 17 May 1976.
- Amendment to article 74 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization, Geneva, 18 May 1978.
- Amendments to articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization, Geneva, 12 May 1986.
- Amendments to articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the World Health Organization, Geneva, 16 May 1998.
46. Protocol concerning the Office international d'hygiene publique, New York, 22 July 1946.
47. WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, Geneva, 21 May 2003.
48. Agreement establishing the Asian Development Bank, Manila, 4 December 1965.
49. Agreement establishing the International Fund for Agricultural Development, Rome, 13 June 1976.
50. Constitution of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, Vienna, 8 April 1979.
51. Charter of the Asian and Pacific Development Centre, Bangkok, 1 April 1982.
52. Agreement to establish the South Centre, Geneva, 1 September 1994.
53. International Convention to Facilitate the Importation of Commercial Samples and Advertising Material, Geneva, 7 November 1952.
54. Convention concerning Customs Facilities for Touring, New York, 4 June 1954.
55. Additional Protocol to the Convention concerning Customs Facilities for Touring, relating to the Importation of Tourist Publicity Documents and Material, New York, 4 June 1954.
56. Convention on Road Traffic, Geneva, 19 September 1949.
57. Convention on road signs and signals, Vienna, 8 November 1968.
58. Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network, Bangkok, 18 November 2003
59. Convention on the International Maritime Organization, Geneva, 6 March 1948.
- Amendments to articles 17 and 18 of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, London, 15 September 1964.
- Amendment to article 28 of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, London, 28 September 1965.
- Amendments to articles 10, 16, 17, 18, 20, 28, 31 and 32 of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, London, 17 October 1974.
- Amendments to the title and substantive provisions of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, London, 14 November 1975 and 9 November 1977.
- Amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization relating to the institutionalization of the Committee on Technical Co-operation in the Convention, London, 17 November 1977.



- Amendments to articles 17, 18, 20 and 51 of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, London, 15 November 1979.
- Amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, (institutionalization of the Facilitation Committee), London, 7 November 1991.
- Amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, London, 4 November 1993.
60. Convention on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences, Geneva, 6 April 1974.
  61. Protocol amending the International Convention relating to Economic Statistics, signed at Geneva on 14 December 1928, Paris, 9 December 1948.
  62. International Convention relating to Economic Statistics, Geneva, 14 December 1928.
  63. Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms against Unauthorized Duplication of their Phonograms, Geneva, 29 October 1971.
  64. Protocol to the Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials of 22 November 1950, Nairobi, 26 November 1976.
  65. International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace, New York, 5 December 1980.
  66. Statutes of the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Madrid, 13 September 1983.
  67. Protocol of the Reconvened Plenipotentiary Meeting on the Establishment of the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Vienna, 4 April 1984.
  68. Convention on the Political Rights of Women, New York, 31 March 1953.
  69. Protocol amending the Slavery Convention signed at Geneva on 25 September 1926, New York, 7 December 1953.
  70. Slavery Convention signed at Geneva on 25 September 1926 and amended by the Protocol, New York, 7 December 1953.
  71. Slavery Convention, Geneva, 25 September 1926.
  72. Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery, Geneva, 7 September 1956.
  73. International Convention against the taking of hostages, New York, 17 December 1979.
  74. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, New York, 14 December 1973.
  75. International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, New York, 15 December 1997.
  76. International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, New York, 9 December 1999.
  77. International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, New York, 13 April 2005.
  78. Agreement establishing the Asian Coconut Community, Bangkok, 12 December 1968.
  79. Agreement establishing the Pepper Community, Bangkok, 16 April 1971.
  80. Agreement establishing the Asian Rice Trade Fund, Bangkok, 16 March 1973.
  81. Agreement establishing the International Tea Promotion Association, Geneva, 31 March 1977.
  82. International Agreement on jute and jute products, 1982, Geneva, 1 October 1982.
  83. International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1983, Geneva, 18 November 1983.
  84. International Sugar Agreement, 1984, Geneva, 5 July 1984.
  85. Terms of Reference of the International Copper Study Group, Geneva, 24 February 1989.
  86. International Sugar Agreement, 1992, Geneva, 20 March 1992.

87. International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1994, Geneva, 26 January 1994.
88. Grains Trade Convention, 1995, London, 7 December 1994.
89. International Coffee Agreement 2001, London, 28 September 2000.
90. Agreement establishing the Terms of Reference of the International Jute Study Group, 2001, Geneva, 13 March 2001.
91. United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, Montego Bay, 10 December 1982.
92. Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982, New York, 28 July 1994.
93. Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, New York, 4 August 1995.
94. Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, New York, 23 May 1997.
95. Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Seabed Authority, Kingston, 27 March 1998.
96. Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, New York, 10 June 1958.
97. Convention on registration of objects launched into outer space, New York, 12 November 1974.
98. Convention relating to the distribution of programme-carrying signals transmitted by satellite, Brussels, 21 May 1974.
99. Constitution of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity, Bangkok, 27 March 1976.
100. Agreement establishing the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development, Kuala Lumpur, 12 August 1977.
101. Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations, Tampere, 18 June 1998.
102. Convention on the prohibition of military or any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques, New York, 10 December 1976.
103. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (with Protocols I, II and III), Geneva, 10 October 1980.
- Additional Protocol to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol IV, entitled Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons), Vienna, 13 October 1995.
- Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Protocol II as amended on 3 May 1996) annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects, Geneva, 3 May 1996.
- Amendment to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (with Protocols I, II and III), Geneva, 21 December 2001.
- Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to have Indiscriminate Effects (Protocol V), Geneva, 28 November 2003.
104. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction, Geneva, 3 September 1992.

105. Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, Vienna, 22 March 1985.

106. Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, Montreal, 16 September 1987.

Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, London, 29 June 1990.

Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, Copenhagen, 25 November 1992.

Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer adopted by the Ninth Meeting of the Parties, Montreal, 17 September 1997.

Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, Beijing, 3 December 1999.

107. Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, Basel, 22 March 1989.

108. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, New York, 9 May 1992.

109. Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Kyoto, 11 December 1997.

110. Convention on biological diversity, Rio de Janeiro, 5 June 1992.

111. Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Montreal, 29 January 2000.

112. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, Paris, 14 October 1994.

113. Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, Rotterdam, 10 September 1998.

114. Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, Stockholm, 22 May 2001.

115. Multilateral Convention for the Avoidance of Double Taxation of Copyright Royalties, Madrid, 13 December 1979.

#### **Human Exchange Programme with Japan**

2073. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has signed any declaration regarding Human Exchange Programme with Japan this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of people sent to Japan so far;

(d) whether the Union Government has any plans to send current year applicants to Japan this year itself; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) During the official visit of Foreign Minister Taro Aso of Japan to India from January 3-4, 2006, the decision of the Japanese side to launch the "Aso Programme", which would involve exchange of 4000 persons over the next three years in the fields of Japanese language, technology, youth interaction, etc., was conveyed. The Indian side expressed its appreciation for this initiative, which would promote people-to-people contacts.

(c) to (e) The programme is an initiative of the Government of Japan and is being implemented by the Japanese side.

*[Translation]*

#### **CAT Decisions**

2074. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the objective behind the establishment of Central Administrative Tribunal;

(b) whether the decisions of the CAT are being challenged in the Courts;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of decisions taken by the CAT along with the number of cases out of them challenged in the Courts during the last three years; and

(e) the reaction of the Government 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 PACHOURI):

(a) Central Administrative Tribunal was set up for adjudication of disputes and complaints with respect to recruitment and conditions of service of persons appointed to the public services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Central Government.

(b) and (c) The decisions of the CAT can be challenged before the Higher Courts as the law permits appeals from decisions of CAT.

(d) and (e) The information relating to the decisions taken by CAT and the decisions challenged by the Government and the employees is as under:

Year	No. of Decisions taken by the CAT	No. of Decisions Challenged	
		By the Government	By the Employees
2003	28076	731	767
2004	27735	853	873
2005	22408	523	715

#### **Manufacture of Long Range Tankers**

2075. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shipping Corporation of India has signed any agreement with Korean Ship Building Company for manufacture of long range tankers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total number of tankers to be manufactured under the agreement;

(c) the total amount likely to be spent on the project; and

(d) the total number of ships in the possession of the Shipping Corporation of India as of now and their total transportation capacity?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) has signed the shipbuilding contract on 27th October 2006 with STX Shipbuilding Company Ltd., South Korea for the construction of Six (6) Long Range size Product Tankers.

(c) The total cost of the contract is US \$ 370.80 million (Rs.1706 crores approx.)

(d) SCI owns a fleet of 80 vessels of 2.74 million Gross Tonnage (GT) and 4.78 million Dead Weight Tonnage (DWT).

*[English]*

#### **Ambulances on NHs in Andhra Pradesh**

2076. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the number of ambulances provided to Andhra Pradesh to evacuate victims, National Highway-wise, during the last three years; and

(c) the number of victims evacuated by the ambulances provided under the National Highways Accident Relief Services Scheme (NHARSS) in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise and National Highway-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) There are 15 National Highways passing through the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) 24 ambulances have been deployed in Andhra Pradesh to evacuate the victims as given below:

NH 5	—	23 Nos.
NH 9	—	1 No.

(c) The number of victims helped by the above 24 ambulances during last three years is as follows:

Year	NH. 5	NH.9
2004	497	79
2005	701	155
2006	1542	125

[Translation]

**Alleged Conversion of Temple into Abattoir in Pakistan**

2077. SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Shiva temple situated in Karachi is allegedly being converted into an abattoir;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has held discussions with Pakistan in this regard;

(c) whether any assurance has been given by Pakistan in the matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) According to media reports in October 2006, the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP), in a letter, had drawn attention of the Provincial Government of Sindh to the encroachment in the premises of a Shiva temple located in Karachi and to the alleged slaughter of cows taking place inside the compound.

(b) to (d) In pursuit of international and bilateral cooperation, India continues to strive, together with other countries, that no damage is caused to religious places abroad.

[English]

**Effectiveness of DDT**

2078. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DDT has failed an effective Anti-Malaria strategy in the country besides creating chemical dependency and causing adverse health and environment impact;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) No Sir. World Health Organization (WHO) has recommended use of DDT for control of Malaria and other vector borne diseases. The DDT is being used in the programme for indoor residual spray since the inception of National Malaria Control Programme in 1953 & has been effective in bringing down the incidence of Malaria. The insecticide is still being used in areas where Anopheles vector mosquitoes are susceptible to DDT. In those areas, where the vector is resistant to DDT, alternate insecticides like Malathion & Synthetic Pyrethroids are recommended.

**Ayush Project in Kerala**

2079. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal from Kerala for setting up of an AYUSH project for an International Institute of Ayurvedic Medical Sciences at Thiruvananthapuram is pending with the Union Government for its approval;

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

(c) the present status thereof; and

(d) the time by which the Union Government is likely to accord its sanction for the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) A proposal for setting up an International Institute of Ayurvedic Medical Sciences in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala at a total cost of Rs. 101.60 crores was received from the Government of Kerala in 2004. The proposal was examined and the Government of Kerala was informed that the Department of AYUSH did not have any scheme under which financial support could be extended to the proposed project. The Government of Kerala was also informed that an application for permission to set up a new Medical College would have to be submitted to the Central Government under the provisions of section 13 A of the Indian Medicine Central Council Act 1970 and in terms of the time schedule prescribed in the Regulations. Copies of the relevant Regulations were also sent to the Government of Kerala.

(c) and (d) The Department has not received any application in the prescribed format from the Government of Kerala so far.

**Setting up of Digital Electronic Exchanges**

2080. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Digital Electronic Exchanges set up in the country, as on March 31, 2006 State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has any proposals to set up new Digital Telephone Exchanges during the year 2006-07; and

(c) if so, the number of such telephone exchanges likely to be set up during the year 2006-07, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Number of Digital Electronic Exchanges set up in the Country up to March 31, 2006 are 37862, Circle-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. 190 such Telephone Exchanges are planned to be set up during 2006-07. The Circle-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### **Statement**

*Circle-wise Details of Telephone Exchanges as on 31.3.2006 and No. of New Telephone Exchanges to be Set-up during 2006-2007*

Sl. No.	Circle	No. of Telephone Exchanges as on 31.3.2006	No. of New Telephone Exchanges to be set-up during 2006-2007
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	49	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3568	0
3.	Bihar	1163	41
4.	Chhattisgarh	633	2
5.	Gujarat	3231	2
6.	Assam	598	0
7.	Haryana	1116	6
8.	Himachal Pradesh	970	0
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	365	9
10.	Jharkhand	457	5
11.	Karnataka	2710	14
12.	Kerala	1224	6

1	2	3	4
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2789	6
14.	Maharashtra (Except Mumbai)	4949	16
15.	North East-I	276	3
16.	North East-II	217	6
17.	Orissa	1150	5
18.	Punjab	1554	6
19.	Rajasthan	2347	2
20.	Tamil Nadu	2043	7
21.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	2292	0
22.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	976	0
23.	Uttaranchal	453	7
24.	West Bengal	1371	9
25.	Kolkata	550	24
26.	Chennai	331	5
27.	MTNL Delhi	301	0
28.	MTNL Mumbai	179	9
Total		37862	190

*[Translation]*

#### **Mobile Phone Towers in M.P.**

2081. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts in Madhya Pradesh where mobile phone towers have already been installed till date;

(b) the number of districts where the towers are yet to be installed and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of towers installed or to be installed in Seoni, Jabalpur and Narsinghpur districts, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has installed mobile phone towers in all the districts of Madhya Pradesh. In addition, private mobile operators have also installed mobile phone towers in majority of the districts of Madhya Pradesh.

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

(c) BSNL has already installed 68 towers and has planned installation of 76 towers during the current financial year in Seoni, Jabalpur and Narsinghpur districts as per details below:

District	No. of towers already installed	No. of towers planned during 2006-07
Seoni	13	13
Jabalpur	38	54
Narsinghpur	17	9

In addition, the private mobile operators have also installed towers in these areas.

#### Repatriation of NRIs

2082. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the number of Non-Resident Indians repatriating to the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has formulated any schemes for providing opportunities to them in the country on their return; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (c) No such data is maintained.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

#### National Road Safety Policy

2083. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether after implementation of National Road Safety Policy, the number of road accidents has come down;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps 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) and (b) The National Road Safety Policy is under formulation stage. As reported by the States/UTs, the details of the road accidents in the country during the year 2002, 2003 & 2004 (the latest data available) are as under:

(In Numbers)

Year	No. of Accidents
2002	407497
2003	406726
2004	429910

(c) The safety of road users is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. However, this department has taken several steps to improve road safety for road users which are as under:

(i) Road safety is an integral part of road design at planning stage for National Highways/ Expressways,

(ii) Various steps to enhance road safety such as road furniture, road markings/road signs, introduction of Highway Traffic Management System using Intelligent Transport System, enhancement of discipline among contractors during construction, road safety audit on selected stretches, have been undertaken by National Highways Authority of India.

(iii) Refresher training to Heavy Motor Vehicle drivers in the unorganized sector.

(iv) Involvement of NGOs for road safety activities by Department of Road Transport and Highways and National Highways Authority of India.

(v) Setting up of Model Driving Training School in the country,

(vi) Publicity campaign on road safety awareness through audio-visual-print media,

(vii) Institution of National Award for voluntary organizations/individual for outstanding work in the field of road safety.

- (viii) Tightening of safety standards of vehicles.
- (ix) Provision of cranes and ambulances to various State Governments/NGOs under National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme. National Highways Authority of India also provides ambulances at a distance of 50 Km. on each of its completed highways under its Operation & Maintenance contracts.
- (x) Widening and improvements of National Highways from 2 lanes to 4 lanes and 4 lanes to 6 lanes etc.

#### **Organisations Exempted from RTI Act**

2084. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:  
SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:  
SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some organisations have been exempted from the operation of the Right to Information Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the names of such organisations;
- (d) whether the Government is contemplating to check the misuse of the Act from professional touts; and
- (e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government 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 PACHOURI)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Section 24 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 provides that the provisions of the Act shall not apply to the Intelligence and Security Organizations specified in the Second Schedule to the Right to Information Act, 2005. A list of organizations specified in the Second Schedule is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) The Prime Minister while addressing the Valedictory Session of National Convention of first year of RTI, had cautioned against growth of professional middleman in the use of Act as seen in some other countries.

(e) The Government expects public authorities to make adequate pro-active disclosures thereby reducing the need for public to seek information. Moreover, the Act enjoins upon the appropriate Governments to develop and organize educational programmes to advance the understanding of the public. These measures will help in reducing the role of middlemen.

#### **Statement**

*Intelligence and security organisation established by the Central Government*

1. Intelligence Bureau.
2. Research and Analysis Wing of the Cabinet Secretariat.
3. Directorate of Revenue Intelligence.
4. Central Economic Intelligence Bureau.
5. Directorate of Enforcement.
6. Narcotics Control Bureau.
7. Aviation Research Centre.
8. Special Frontier Force.
9. Border Security Force.
10. Central Reserve Police Force.
11. Indo-Tibetan Border Police.
12. Central Industrial Security Force.
13. National Security Guards.
14. Assam Rifles.
15. Sashtra Seema Bal.
16. Special Branch (CID), Andaman and Nicobar.
17. The Crime Branch-C.I.D. -CB, Dadra and Nagar Haveli.
18. Special Branch, Lakshadweep Police.
19. Special Protection Group.
20. Defence Research and Development Organisation.



21. Border Road Development Board
22. Financial Intelligence Unit, India.

#### **US Assistance for Fighting Terrorism**

2085. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Assistant Secretary of State has stated that terrorist groups mounting attacks on India have their origin and links in Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the US has extended its co-operation to help India fight terrorism; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) During a press interaction in New Delhi on November 10, 2006, US Assistant Secretary Richard Boucher referring to the problem of terrorism and in particular to the Mumbai blasts said,

*"Many of the links that have been talked about, that have been seen, do go back to groups that have origins and ties into Pakistan. But some of these groups — all these groups really — have been banned and outlawed in Pakistan as well."*

(c) and (d) As two democracies confronted with the common challenge of terrorism, India and U.S. have a dialogue on counter terrorism carried out through the Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism. India and U.S. periodically exchange views on terrorism through this dialogue, and participate in training programmes.

*[Translation]*

#### **Terrorist Activities from Pakistan**

2086. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has been informed regarding presence of terrorist organisations functioning from its territory on several occasions;

(b) if so, the number of times the attention of Pakistan has been drawn in this regard since March, 2004; and

(c) the reaction of Pakistan thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The Government of India has, from time to time, raised with the Government of Pakistan the issue of terrorist organisations/camps operating in and terrorist activities emanating from the territory under Pakistan's control. The issue has been taken up with Pakistan in meetings at Summit level, Foreign Minister level and in Secretary level talks. The details are as follows:

1. Meetings between Prime Minister of India and President of Pakistan: 16 September 2006 (Havana); 14 September 2005 (New York); 16-18 April 2005 (New Delhi) and 24 September 2004 (New York).
2. Meetings between External Affairs Minister of India and Foreign Minister of Pakistan: 4 October 2005 (Islamabad); 16 February 2005 (Islamabad); September 5-6, 2004 (New Delhi) and 23 July 2004 (Islamabad)
3. Foreign Secretary level talks: November 14-15, 2006 (New Delhi); January 17-18, 2006 (New Delhi); 2 September 2005 (Islamabad); December 27-28, 2004 (Islamabad); 4 September 2004 (New Delhi) and June 27-28, 2004 (New Delhi);
4. Home Secretary level talks: May 30-31, 2006 (Islamabad); August 29-30, 2005 (New Delhi) and August 10-11, 2004 (Islamabad).

(c) Pakistan has always denied the presence of terrorist training camps in or terrorist activities emanating from the territory under its control.

*[English]*

#### **System for Overseas Indians**

2087. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:  
SHRI K.C. PALLANI SHAMY:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of People of Indian Origin (PIOs) granted the status of Overseas Citizen of India during the last three years and till date, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government has introduced any system of hassle free approval of the proposals for NRI investments;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has started any new insurance scheme for overseas workers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) As on 27.11.2006, 78,437 OCI documents have been issued since the Scheme was launched in January, 2006.

(b) and (c) Yes, the Government has put in place a liberal and transparent policy for investment from Overseas Indians. Most of the sectors are open to Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) under the automatic route. Under the FDI policy, the facility available to Overseas Indians is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. A new insurance scheme called 'Pravasi Bhartiya Bima Yojana PBBY) was introduced in 2003. Improvements were introduced in the Scheme since February, 2006. Salient features of PBBY are:

- (i) The insurance cover has already been increased from Rs. 2 lakh to Rs. 5 lakh payable to the nominee in the event of death or permanent disability of any Indian Emigrant who goes for employment purpose after obtaining emigration clearance,
- (ii) Besides, an additional cover of minimum of Rs. 25,000/- is provided as legal expenses incurred by the emigrant in any litigation relating to his employment.
- (iii) The family of emigrant worker in India shall be entitled to hospitalization cover in event of death or permanent disability of the insured person for a maximum of Rs. 25,000/- per annum from the earlier Rs. 10,000/- per annum.
- (iv) The insured person is to be reimbursed actual one way economy class airfare if he falls sick or is declared medically unfit to commence or continue working and the service contract is terminated by the Foreign Employer within 12 months instead of 6 months of taking the insurance as provided in 2003 scheme.

Besides the above policy under the PBBY, an additional insurance cover of Rs. 5 lakhs at a nominal premium of Rs. 100 to the workers going to Afghanistan for employment has been approved by the Ministry.

All these enhanced coverage are effective from February, 2006.

#### **Statement**

1. Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) can invest upto 100% under the automatic route in the Housing and Real Estate Development for the following activities.

- Development of serviced plots and construction of built up residential premises;
- Investment in real estate covering construction of residential and commercial premises including business centers and offices;
- Development of townships;
- City and regional level urban infrastructure facilities, including roads and bridges;
- Investment in participatory ventures in the above activities;
- Investment in housing finance institutions.

2. NRIs can invest upto 100% in Indian companies engaged in Air Taxi Operation. (For foreign companies Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is permitted only up to 49%)

#### **Other facilities for NRI**

In addition to the investments under the FDI policy, NRIs can also invest under other schemes under various Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) Regulations in the following activities/Sectors:

- Mutual Funds.
- Investment in PSU Bonds.
- Investments up to 100% equity in proprietary/partnership concerns, except in agricultural/plantation activity or real estate business. (Foreign companies are not allowed to invest in partnership firms/proprietary concerns).

- Portfolio Investment Schemes: NRIs are permitted to invest in shares and debentures through secondary market purchase from the stock exchanges under the portfolio scheme. Investment limit are 5% and 10% respectively. These limits are over and above the Foreign Institutional Investors (FII) portfolio investment limits so as to ensure that NRI investment are not crowded out by FIIs.
- NRIs can acquire immovable property, other than agricultural land/ plantation property / farm house and transfer such property to a resident, another NRI.

#### FDI Inflow

2088. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission in their Draft Approach Paper of Eleventh Five Year Plan has expressed concern over economy's failure to attract much needed Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to the tune of about 1.5 billion dollars;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts being made to attract more FDI in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) No, Sir. The Draft Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan states: "The flow of FDI amounted to about \$6 billion in 2005-06 and could increase significantly during the 11th Plan".

(b) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

(c) The Government has taken major initiatives to attract more FDI in the country. Most of the equity limits in manufacturing and minerals sectors are on 100% automatic route and restricted only in production of defense equipment and atomic energy. Infrastructure services in urban areas are allowed 100% automatic route although there are equity limits for telecom, airports, civil aviation and gas pipelines. Most of the services are allowed 100% foreign equity except banking, insurance and some professional services.

#### Authorised Private Hospitals/Diagnostic Centres

2089. SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA:  
SHRI M. SHIVANNA:  
SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY:  
SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

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

(a) the list of private hospitals/diagnostic centres authorized for CGHS beneficiaries for medical treatment in the country at present, State-wise and location-wise;

(b) whether certain authorized Government hospitals/diagnostic centres have since been derecognised under CGHS;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has received any proposals to include more hospitals/diagnostic centres for recognition under CGHS;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the time by which these hospitals are likely to be granted recognition; and

(g) the reasons for delay if any, in their recognition by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) List of private hospitals/diagnostic centres empanelled under CGHS in the country is a voluminous document and is available on the website of the Ministry [www.mohfw.nic.in](http://www.mohfw.nic.in).

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) to (g) The procedure for empanelment is now a continuous process and any private hospital/diagnostic centre fulfilling the conditions prescribed by CGHS can apply at any time for empanelment.

#### Projects in Daman and Diu

2090. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of roads/highways and bridges being constructed or proposed to be constructed by the Government in the Union Territory of Daman and Diu;

(b) the amount of funds allocated for the purpose during the current financial year; and

(c) the present status of each of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Details of roads/highways and bridges being constructed or proposed to be constructed in Union Territory of Daman and Diu is given in the enclosed Statment. An amount of Rs. 2.40 crore has been allocated during current financial year for the projects sanctioned-under Inter-state Connectivity Scheme.

**Statement**

*Detail of roads/highways and bridges being constructed or proposed to be constructed in Union Territory of Daman and Diu*

Sl. No.	Description	Sancitioned cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Date of sanction	Funded by	Present status
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>A.</b>	<b>District Daman</b>				
1.	Reconstruction of bridge with approaches across river Kolak connecting Gujarat, Daman District.	334.38	17.3.2006	Under Inter-state Connectivity Scheme of Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways	Entrusted to CPWD, Gandhinagar, Work is yet to be awarded
2.	Construction of new Daman Ganga bridge across river Daman ganga connecting Nani & Moti Daman in Daman City	3884.01	24.4.2006	Funded by UT Government	Entrusted to Government of Gujarat as deposit work of UT Government of Daman & Diu. Work is in progress.
3.	Construction of major bridge across Daman Ganga river at Zari joining Kachigam on Nanidaman side and Zari on Moti Daman side				Alignment of the bridge is yet to be finalised, Project is proposed to be funded by UT Government.
4.	Construction of ROB in lieu of level crossing No. 81/C at km 175/3-5 of Balitha Gate between Vapi Udwada.				The detailed estimate of ROB is yet to be received from Western Railway Authority. Project is proposed to be funded by UT Government.

1	2	3	4	5	6	
5.	Upgradation the following three roads to 4-lane: (i) Vapi-Daman-9.00 km (ii) Vapi-silvasa-11.80 km (iii) Bhilad-Silvasa-17.40 kr					Consultancy work for preparation of feasibility study and Detailed Project Report for 4-laning of these roads is under progress with Union Territories. Project is proposed to be funded under Inter-state Connectivity Scheme of Ministry of shipping, Road Transport and Highways.
<b>B.</b>	<b>District Diu</b>					
1.	Reconstruction of minor bridge with approaches across Tad Creek in Diu connecting Gujarat & Diu District.	316.27	31.3.2006			under Inter-state Connectivity Scheme of Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways
						Entrusted to CPWD, Gandhinagar. Work has been awarded in November, 2006.
2.	Construction of bridge connecting Vanakbara in Diu District and Kotad in Guajrat.					The work has been entrusted to CPWD, Gandhinagar as deposit work of Administration of Daman & Diu. The project report is under preparation.

#### Development of Eastern side Jetties

2091. DR. P.P. KOYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plans to develop Eastern side Jetties with ship berthing facilities in the islands of Kadmat, Kiltan and Chetlat during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the construction of Eastern side Jetties of Kavaratti, Minicoy, Amini and Agatti islands is progressing as per schedule; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The plan for development of Eastern Side Jetties with ship berthing facilities in the islands of Kadmat, Kiltan and Chetlat during the Eleventh Five Year Plan are at preliminary stage.

(c) and (d) The construction of Eastern side Jetties in the islands of Amini and Minicoy in the Lakshadweep Islands is progressing as per schedule. However, construction of Eastern side Jetties at Kavaratti and Agatti Islands are due to be completed in August, 2007 due to delay of 5 months on account of re-tendering and logistic constraints as well as rough weather conditions.

#### Shifting Location of Toll Plaza

2092. DR. ARVIND SHARMA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether orders have been issued for shifting of Toll Plaza situated at 132 Kilometre to 146-148 Kilometre from Karnal on National Highway No. NH-1;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which orders are likely to be issued?

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

(b) to (d) The new Toll Plaza is proposed to be constructed at km 146/400 of NH-1 . The bids for construction of the new Toll Plaza have been received and are under examination.

**Conversion of District Hospitals into  
Medical Colleges**

2093. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

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

(a) whether the Government is considering to allow private sector to take over district hospitals for converting them into medical colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof including its impact on public sector hospitals/colleges;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any scheme has been prepared by the Government in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

**Thalassaemia Patients in Country**

2094. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Thalassaemia patients in the country, State-wise and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to eradicate this disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The detail of the estimated number of the thalassaemia patients detected during the last three years received from various States are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Prevention of the disease is possible by genetic counseling and prenatal diagnosis, facilities for which are available at very limited centers in the country as the procedure is expensive and sophisticated. The curative treatment for thalassaemia major is bone marrow transplantation.

**Statement**

*Estimated Number of the Thalassaemia Patients  
Detected during the last three years in  
various States*

S.No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Details of cases reported
1	2	3
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil
2.	NCT of Delhi	3088
3.	Goa	11
4.	Gujarat	7531
5.	Haryana	Nil
6.	Himachal Pradesh	49
7.	Manipur	21
8.	Mizoram	Nil
9.	Meghalaya	Nil
10.	Punjab	Nil
11.	Sikkim	Nil
12.	Tripura	377
13.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil
14.	Chandigarh	14995
15.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Nil
16.	Daman and Diu	Nil
17.	Lakshadweep	1
18.	Madhya Pradesh	609
19.	Uttaranchal	27
20.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil

1	2	3
21.	Nagaland	Nil
22.	West Bengal	1425
23.	Pandicherry	Nil
24.	Tamil Nadu	100

The States/UTs namely Assam, Bihar, Chattishgarh, Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Andaman & Nicobar, Orissa & Rajasthan have not responded.

#### **Upgradation of Stretches as National Highways**

2095. SHR1 VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the stretches connecting the Union Territories near Gujarat have not been upgraded to National Highways;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of the stretches left out from the purview of upgradation; and

(d) the criteria laid down for such upgradation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The stretches connecting Union Territories near Gujarat have not been upgraded to National Highways. Dadra, & Nagar Haveli and Daman near Gujarat are already located near National Highway No. 8 and Diu is located near National Highway No. 8E. However, Ministry has decided to upgrade three roads namely (i) Vapi-Daman road (ii) Vapi-Silvasa road and (iii) Bhilad-Silvasa road connecting National Highway No. 8 and National Highway No. 8E under Inter-State Connectivity Scheme. Consultancy work for preparation of feasibility study and Detailed Project Report for 4-laning of these roads is under progress with Union Territories.

(d) Criteria laid down for qualification of upgradation the State Highways to National Highways is given in the enclosed statement.

#### **Statement**

##### *Criteria for Declaration of National Highways*

1. Roads which run through the length and breadth of the country.
2. Roads connecting adjacent countries.
3. Roads connecting the National Capital with State Capital and roads connecting mutually the state capitals.
4. Roads connecting major ports, large industrial centers or tourist centers.
5. Roads meeting very important strategic requirements.
6. Arterial roads which enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and achieve substantial economic growth thereby.
7. Roads which help opening up large tracts of backward area and hilly regions.
8. National Highways grid of 100 km is achieved.
9. The road must be up to the standard laid down for State Highways both in its technical requirements as well as the land requirements.
10. The road and right of way must be free of any type of encroachment and should be the property of the State Government.
11. The right of way required for the National Highways (preferably 45m, minimum 30m) must be available for acquiring, free of encroachments and the State Government would complete acquiring formalities within six months.

##### *[Translation]*

#### **Development of Coastal Circuit in Karnataka**

2096. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka has submitted a proposal for approval of the Union Government for integrated development of coastal circuit in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its present status; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) A proposal has been received from the Government of Karnataka for inclusion of projects for development of minor ports in the State under the National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP). Development of seven minor ports from Maritime States for promotion of coastal shipping has been included in the NMDP. As only one port from each Maritime State was to be included, only Malpe port was included from Karnataka. A Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for development of such ports is yet to be approved. Further action will be taken after the CSS is finally approved.

#### **Strengthening Ship-building/Repairing Industry**

2097. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken initiatives to strengthen the ship-building and ship-repairing industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the assistance given by the foreign countries and its present status;

(c) whether a plan has been drawn up for establishing two international ship-building yards on the East and West coast on a public-private partnership basis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and its present status?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) In order to give a boost to the shipbuilding industry, Government of India had extended the Shipbuilding Subsidy Scheme to all shipyards including Private Sector Shipyards on 25th October, 2002. The Government is also providing plan/non-plan support to the Central Public Sector Shipyards for renewal/replacement and augmentation of their shipbuilding and ship repair facilities. The details of assistance provided or proposed to Central Public Sector Shipyards under administrative control of Department of Shipping are as under:

(Rupees in Crores)

Year	Plan Support	Non-Plan Support/Shipbuilding subsidy
<b>Cochin Shipyard Limited</b>		
2004-2005	Nil	15.00
2005-2006	Nil	51.00
2006-2007	Nil	70.00 (Budget provision)
<b>Hindustan Shipyard Limited</b>		
2004-2005	15.00	Nil
2005-2006	45.50	50.53
2006-2007	57.00 (Budget provision)	81.49 (Budget provision)
<b>Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited</b>		
2004-2005	1.61	5.50
2005-2006	1.50	8.50
2006-2007	3.94 (Budget provision)	8.50 (Budget provision)

No assistance by foreign countries has been given to Central Public Sector Shipyards under the administrative control of Department of Shipping.

(c) and (d) There is a proposal under the National Maritime Development Programme for setting up of two international size shipyards, one on the East Coast and the other in the West Coast. A Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Indian Ports Association to identify locations and suggest measures to facilitate setting up of two international size shipyards, has submitted its report. In order to achieve this goal, it has been decided that Mumbai Port Trust and Ennore Port Limited will function as the nodal agencies for making a preliminary preparation towards setting of shipyards including inviting expression of interests in the East coast of India and the West coast of India respectively.



*[Translation]***Survey regarding Mobile Telephone Users**

2098. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey regarding mobile telephone users in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the action taken/being taken by the BSNL on the complaints and suggestions of the subscribers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Telecom Regulatory

Authority of India (TRAI) had engaged an independent agency to undertake Customer Satisfaction Survey.

(b) As per the survey report of the independent agency for the quarter ending 30th June, 2006, none of the service providers has met the benchmarks for 4 out of 7 parameters specified in the Regulation, namely Help Services; Network Performance, Reliability and Availability; Maintainability and Overall Customer Satisfaction. Detailed parameter-wise and service provider-wise results of the survey for cellular mobile service users in Maharashtra Telecom Circle and Mumbai Metro Circle are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Complaints and suggestions of the subscribers are promptly redressed and considered by BSNL. Complaints regarding network coverage, congestion etc. are being gradually addressed through network expansion and installation of additional Base Transceiver Stations (BTS).

**Statement**

*Customer Satisfaction Survey of Cellular Mobile Service for quarter ending 30th June, 2006  
for Maharashtra Telecom Circle and Mumbai Metro Circle*

Sl. no.	Name of the Service providers	Sample size	% Satisfied with							
			Provision of service	Billing performance		Help services	Network Performance, Reliability and Availability	Maintain-ability	Overall customer satisfaction	Supplementary services
				Pre-paid	Post-paid					
		benchmark	>95%	>90%	>90%	>90%	>95%	>95%	>95%	>95%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

**Maharashtra**

<b>A Circle</b>		<b>2200</b>								
1.	BPL Cellular (Hutch)	400	86	91	80	58	77	62	80	87
2.	IDEA Cellular	400	100	100	100	72	86	*	91	87
3.	BSNL	400	99	99	99	59	86	40	89	81
4.	Bharti Televenture	400	94	92	100	66	82	*	86	91
5.	Reliance Infocomm	400	100	98	99	73	90	*	92	88
6.	Tala, MH-CDMA	200	96	100	99	69	90	*	93	98

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>Mumbai—Metro Circle</b>		<b>3430</b>								
1.	MTNL	472	98	98	96	65	94	83	93	99
2.	Bharti	585	95	98	99	68	88	80	91	98
3.	Tala Teleservices	600	95	95	90	69	87	78	88	98
4.	Reliance Infocomm	601	95	98	99	68	91	79	92	99
5.	BPL	572	98	99	87	67	91	77	92	100
6.	Hutch	600	97	99	99	63	92	83	92	99

#### Release of Funds under NRHM

2099. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal from Karnataka for release of funds under the National Rural Health Mission is pending with Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Government of Karnataka has sent NRHM Annual Action Plan 2006-07 for Mission Flexi Pool, which is under consideration by the Ministry for appraisal. After appraisal, the approved amount is likely to be released by January 2007.

#### Pending Pension Cases

2100. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pension cases pending at Coal Mines Provident Fund (CMPF) Organization during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the CMPFO has started Online settlement of PF and pension cases;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken for time bound settlement of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Number of pension cases pending at Coal Mines Provident Fund Organization (CMPFO) during the last three years is indicated below:

Year	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Number of cases pending	3586	7003	2702

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The CMPF Organization has developed software for online settlement of Provident Fund and Pension cases. All the 23 Regional Offices of CMPFO have been networked with the Central Processing Centre at Dhanbad and the Disaster Recovery Centre at Hyderabad.

(d) A special drive named "Mission Viswas" has been launched by CMPF Organization to settle PF and Pension cases within a month of receipt of the claim. This has resulted in considerable reduction in the pending cases. The number of pension cases pending as on 30th September, 2006 was 1858 only.

*[English]*

#### Shortage of Networking Professionals

2101. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of networking professionals in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/being taken to train manpower in networking skills; and

(d) the extent to which it will bridge the supply demand gap of networking professionals in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) Demand for networking professionals is adequately met by the engineering graduates coming out of AICTE (All India Council for Technical Education) approved institutions.

The Task Force on 'Human Resource Development in Information Technology' set-up by Government of India, with the main objective to prepare a long-term strategy for significantly increasing the number of well trained IT professionals in line with economic projections had noted that the issue of manpower gap is not as much about the institutional seat availability as about the nature of skills and the training provided.

DIT (Department of Information Technology) had also initiated a project on Information Security Education & Awareness to generate quality manpower in the area of

Information Security which also includes networking.

Societies under DIT viz. DOEACC, ERNET (Education & Research Network) and C-DAC (Centre for Development Advanced Computing) also conduct various training programmes in the area of IT including Networking.

*[Translation]*

#### **Enhancement in Telephone Capacity**

2102. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any initiatives to enhance telephone capacity and to provide modern communication facilities in Banka and Jamui districts of Bihar during the previous year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Initiatives taken by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) to enhance telephone/telecom facilities in Banka and Jamui revenue districts falling under Bhagalpur & Munger SSA respectively during 2005-06 are given in the enclosed statement.

#### **Statement**

*Enhancement of Telephone Capacity and Modern Communication Facilities in Banka & Jamui Districts (Bihar) by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) during the Year 2005-06*

Sl.No.	Parameter	Name of District	
		Banka	Jamui
1	2	3	4
1.	New Exchange Opened (Nos.)	—	1
2.	Capacity added (Lines)		
	(i) Land Line	744	152
	(ii) Cellular Mobile	9,000	4,000
	Total	9,744	4,152
3.	Number of Direct Exchange Lines (DELS) provided		
	(i) Land Line	870	421

1	2	3	4
	(ii) Wireless in Local Loop (WLL)	92	125
	(iii) Cellular Mobile	5200	5941
	Total	6,162	6487
4.	Internet connection provided (Nos.)	55	28
5.	Optical Fibre Cable (Route .Kms) laid	6	8
6.	Replacement of Village Public Telephone (VPT) on Multi Access Rural Radio (Nos.)	240	—
7(a)	Conversion of C-DOT RAX to AN RAX	20	14
7(b)	Conversion of C-DOT SBM to Remote Switching Unit	5	—
8.	Other development works	New Telephone Exchange Building completed at Banka	Software version of Jamui Exchange upgraded to 2.1.1.7

#### Promotion of Naturopathy

2103. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of the Government for the promotion of Naturopathy alongwith the measures being taken in this regard;

(b) whether any procedure has been laid down for including the Naturopathy hospitals in CGHS list;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any Naturopathy hospital has been recognised in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) As per the National Health Policy 2002, the Government is committed to promote/ propagate and develop Naturopathy by making this system accessible to

public at large by extending outreach, create awareness and extending assistance for infrastructure facilities.

Accordingly, Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy, New Delhi and National Institute of Naturopathy, Pune have been set up to execute schemes and programmes towards meeting these objectives. Besides, the Department of AYUSH is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on hospitals and dispensaries in the 10th Plan under which Allopathic hospitals and Polyclinics are funded @ Rs. 22.00 lakhs each for setting up of specialized therapy centers of Yoga & Naturopathy.

(b) and (c) Recognition of these hospitals under CGHS have been considered on case to case basis and on the recommendation of the inspection committee comprising of Officers of CGHS and Director, Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy.

(d) and (e) So far, four Naturopathy hospitals— Krishna Dutt Health Center (Delhi), Bapu Nature Cure Hospital & Yogashram (Delhi), Prakritik Chikitsalaya (Jaipur), and Nature cure Hospital (Hyderabad) have been recognized in the country.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Telephone Facilities in Gujarat

2104. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone facilities in Banaskatha and Patan districts of Gujarat are unsatisfactory;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/being 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) Sir, telecom facilities of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited in Banaskatha and Patan Districts of Gujarat are generally satisfactory. However, there have been instances of failure of telephone exchanges as well as media during the last six months due to severe rains, cutting of optical fiber and other cables by highway authorities due to expansion of highways, etc. Actions were taken to restore the facilities expeditiously.

(c) Following steps have been taken/being taken by BSNL to further improve the telecom services:

- (i) Connecting all telephone exchanges on reliable digital media.
- (ii) Replacement of under ground paper core cables by Jelly filled cables and other systems in phased manner.
- (iii) Creation of Pole less network to reduce drop wire.
- (iv) Introduction and addition of Wireless in Local Loop system to cover larger rural areas.
- (v) Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) based centralized fault booking at Short Distance Charging Centre (SDCC).
- (vi) Monitoring performance of telephone exchanges/ transmission media.
- (vii) Conversion of SBM (Single Base Module) into RSUs (Remote Switching Units).

(viii) Conversion of C-DOT 256 Port exchanges into AN-RAXs (Access Network-Rural Automatic Exchanges).

(ix) Provision of maintenance-free battery sets and Engine Alternators for back-up power supplies.

(x) Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) entered for WLL equipments working in rural areas including FWTs and provision of AMC in new supplies.

(xi) Provision of high capacity external maintenance free battery with FWT for providing larger talk time and standby time.

(xii) Battery charger of FWT to operate in the voltage range of 90-300V.

(xiii) Provision of more Base Transceivers Stations (BTS) to enhance the coverage of WLL System.

(xiv) Do's and Don'ts have been issued to customers to increase their awareness on proper use of FWTs so as to minimize FWT related faults.

(xv) Provisioning of additional mobile BTs for better coverage in the areas.

### Appointment of Regulatory Authority

2105. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to constitute a Regulatory Authority for Department of Posts on the lines of Telephone Regulatory Authority of India;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the new measures adopted by the Government to bring radical changes in postal services and make them competitive with courier services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) A legislation which *inter alia* envisages setting up of a Mail Regulatory and Development Authority is under consideration of the Government.

(c) The Government has brought in several changes and innovations in postal services involving use of Information and Communication Technology, business

outlook and marketing techniques with a view to improving competitiveness *vis-a-vis* courier services and satisfying customer needs.

*[English]*

**Funds from Central Road Fund to Kerala**

2106. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects of Kerala included under the Central Road Fund (CRF);

(b) the details of projects including the cost of each project ; and

(c) the amount sanctioned to Kerala during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Thirty two projects amounting to Rs. 183.79 crore have been approved in the State of Kerala under Central Road Fund (CRF). The details of the projects approved including their cost are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) The works sanctioned under CRF for the State of Kerala for the last three years *i.e.* 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are Rs. 45.15 crore, Rs. 10.21 crore and Rs. 72.57 crore respectively.

**Statement**

*Details of Projects sanctioned under CRF in the State of Kerala*

Sl.No.	Subject	Length (in km)	Sanctioned Cost (Rs. in Lakh)
1	2	3	4
1.	Improvement of riding quality Cochin city road from Edappally to Thevara portion and Thoppumpady to Aroor portion	19.8	507.00
2.	Four laning from Killippalam junction to Karmana Km. 568/400 to 570/200 and reconstruction of Killi and Karmana bridges at Km. 568/360 and Km. 570/00	1.6	1071.00
3.	Strengthening the weak pavement by providing 50mm BM and 25mm AC from Kovalam junction to Parassala and link roads Kukkola-Balarampurama and Poorvar-Neyyattinkara	44.4	612.00
4.	Imp. and strengthening the weak pavement by providing 50mm BM and 25mm AC of M.D. Road of Amaravila-Perumka-davila-Karakanam-Yellarada-Parakanam	37.6	744.00

1	2	3	4
5.	Const. of 11.30 Km. road from KRL Junction to HMT Kalamassary including strengthening of existing road	11.3	873.62
6.	Upgradation of road from MLA Quarters to NH Bypass in Trivandrum city	3.5	978.43
7.	Strengthening weak pavement from Pravachambalam-Ooruttambalam-Malayinkeezhu MD Road, Trivandrum Distt.	12.10	335.00
8.	Improvement to Kadambanad-Mannadi-Enathu-Ezhamkulam Road, Distt. Pathanamthitta, Kerala	19.00	845.00
9.	Improvement to Kalladka Cherkala Road, Distt. Kasargod, Kerala	28.9	650.00
10.	Karamana-Poorappura-Malayinkeezhu-Kattakkada and Mandapathinkadu MD Road, Trivandrum Distt.	25.00	750.00
11.	Construction of Azhoor Kadavu Bridge at Kadianamkalan Kayal in Trivandrum Distt., Kerala	0.00	624.00
12.	Improvement of riding quality and strengthening from Chavakkad—Guruvayur-Kunnamkkulam Road (SH) Km.0/00 to 9/460 in Thrissure Distt.	9.46	232.82
13.	Widening carriageway and improvements to Perambra-Cheruvanoor-Chaniyamkavu Vadakara Road Km. 0/00 to 10/00 in Kozhikode Distt.	10.00	100.00
14.	Construction of Dharmadam bridge at Km. 173/900 of NH-17 in Kannur Distt.	—	400.00
15.	Improvement of Tirur-Malappuram M.D. Road Km. 0/00 to 12/345 in Malappuram Distt.	12.345	390.00
16.	Imp. to Chavakkadu—Gurvayoor-Choondal Road (Km. 0/00 to 11/100) by providing 50 mm BM and 25 mm AC in Thrissur Distt.	11.00	231.00

1	2	3	4
17.	Varkala-Parippally road in Thiruvananthapuram Distt.	12.5	900.39
18.	Widening and improvement of riding quality of Calicut-Cheruppa-Ookadavu-Areacode (Km. 7/00 to 37/00) section of Calicut—Ooty Road in Kozhikode, Malapuram Distt.	30	992.29
19.	Strengthening weak pavement from Killimanoor-Alangod-Kadakkavoor-Varkala Road in Thiruvananthapuram Distt.	28.80	892.67
20.	Kalamassery-Pathlam-Eloor Road and Link Road (NH-47 Jn. to Seaport-Airport MDR in Ernakulam Distt.	14.3	508.70
21.	Const. of ROB in lieu of L.C. No. 73 on Thammanam-Pulleppady MDR in Ernakulam Distt.	—	290.51
22.	Chundale-Cudallur Ooty Road in Wayanad Distt.	30.00	918.56
23.	Construction of Kalpetta Bypass in Wayanad Distt.	3.84	379.22
24.	Imprvement to State Road from Ezhimala Vellor-Podiyottuchal-Putinome Road in Kannur Distt.	43.234	531.63
25.	Thrippunithura-Poothatholla Road in Erankulam Distt.	16.20	427.00
26.	Improvement to Vatakara-Thiruvallor-Perambra Road Km. 0/00 to 12/200	9.00	88.97
27.	Palarivattom-Kakkanad-Kumara-puram Road in Ernakulam Distt.	13.9	440.00
28.	Improvement & strengthening the weak pavement by providing 500mm BM and 25 mm BC Malainkil-Malayam-Pappanamkodu Road and Kymanam-Kuruman-Thiruvallom MDR Thiruvananthapuram Distt.	14.05	457.38



1	2	3	4
29.	Improvement of riding quality of Link Road connecting NH-17 and NH-47 from Aluva-Paravur Jn. (Ch. 329/200 of NH-17) to Koonammavu Jn. C. 428/100 of NH-47) MDR-Ernakulam Distt.	15.4	430.16
30.	Improvement by providing 50 mm BM and 25 mm SDBC on Thrissur-Punkunnam-Vadanappily-Thalikulam Beach Road (MDR) in Thrissure Distt.	20.4	641.27
31.	Widening and improvement of riding quality of Kondotty-Thamarssery Link Road from Km. 0/000 to 22/000 (SH) in Malappuram Distt.	22.00	701.90
32.	Widening and improvement of riding quality of Kondotty-Thamarssery Link Road from Km. 22/000 to 45/000 (SH) in Kozhikode Distt.	23.00	435.09
Total			18379.00

#### **Seamen's Provident Fund**

2107. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 2055 dated December 6, 2005 regarding seamen's provident fund and state:

- (a) whether the Government has recouped the seamen's provident fund lost in the scam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time by which the lost fund will be recouped by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) The

Government has decided to recoup the full amount of loss of Rs. 92.78 crore of Seamen's Provident Fund.

*[Translation]*

#### **Employment In Foreign Countries**

2108. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up an organization similar to the Central Manpower Promotion Council with a view to strengthening organizational process for employment in foreign countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Labour Secretaries had held discussions on this issue in the earlier conferences;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) and (b) A proposal to set up a Council for Promotion of Overseas Employment is under consideration of this Ministry.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

#### **Reduction in Monthly Rental of 'One India' Plan**

2109. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:  
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:  
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:

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

(a) whether the BSNL has slashed the monthly rental of 'One India' Plan from Rs. 225 to Rs. 180.

(b) if so, the number of applications received by the Government so far from the people under the 'One India' plan following the slashing of rental; and

(c) the increase in terms of percentage in the number of connections under the new plan *vis-a-vis* the old plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. BSNL has reduced the rates of 'BSNL One India' package from Rs. 225 to Rs. 180 under Bfone including WLL service from 1st November, 2006.

(b) and (c) BSNL extended revised cheaper package w.e.f. 1st November, 2006 to all customers *viz.* 1.16 crores served from exchange system capacity of more than 30,000 lines and above, paying rental of Rs. 180 per month with 50 free calls, by default under Bfone including WLL services.

MTNL has received 18381 applications (including change of plan) under its 'One India Plan' in the month of November, 2006. For MTNL, there is an increment of

36.33% in Delhi and 23.30% in Mumbai in the number of connections under the new plan.

#### **Recruitment of Physically Challenged in Civil Services**

2110. SHRI MOHAN SINGH:  
SHRI MONORANJAN BHAKTA:  
SHRI M. SHIVANNA:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:  
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of candidates recommended for appointment by the Union Public Service Commission for Civil Services from the handicapped quota during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government has given postings to all these selected candidates;

(c) if so, the places of their postings;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government proposes to streamline the procedure regarding selection of disabled candidates; and

(f) if so, the action taken 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 PACHOURI): (a) to (d) Details are given in the statement enclosed.

(e) and (f) There is a common procedure for selection of all candidates including disabled candidates to All India Services and Group 'A' services through the Civil Services Examination.

Streamlining the procedure is a continuous process and special attention is being paid to safeguard the interests of the disabled candidates, especially with regard to identification of services and medical examination for them.

**Statement**

Year of Civil Services Exam.	Total no. of PH candidates recommended	No. of PH candidates—Service allotted	Reasons for not offering appointment
2005	12	All the PH candidates are being allocated one service or the other	—
2004	4	1-IDAS 1-AFHQ 2-not found fit for any service	One PH candidate did not meet the physical requirement and functional classification of the service where vacancy was identified and the other candidate could not be allocated to any Service/ Post due to non-availability of vacancy of relevant category in his turn.
2003	4	1-P&TFAS 1-IAAS 1-AFHQ 1-Without Apptt.	One PH candidate could not be allocated to any Service due to non availability of vacancy of relevant Category in her turn.

*[English]***Agreement with World Anti-doping Agency**

2111. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government signed an agreement with the World Anti -Doping Agency recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has taken any steps to educate athletes about anti-doping;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) India is one of the founder members of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), established in November, 1999. India has signed the Copenhagen Declaration on Anti-Doping in January 2005.

(b) The salient features of the Copenhagen Declaration are as under:

(i) The aim of this Declaration is that signatories to this Declaration act within the limit of their respective constitutional and other legal provisions for fighting against doping in sports.

(ii) The purpose of this Declaration is to articulate a political and moral understanding among participants to recognize the role of, and support, the World Anti-Doping Agency and the World Anti-Doping Code.

- (iii) The active support of the signatory Government, within its financial means is also sought under this Declaration for a National Anti-Doping programme including dope control, education, research and information activities, etc.

(c) to (e) The control of doping in sports requires a multidimensional approach with the primary responsibility of direct action vested with the Indian Olympic Association and the National Sports Federations. The Ministry, through the Sports Authority of India (SAI) educates sportspersons and coaches during National Coaching Camps by organizing lectures, distributing pamphlets, providing them with a list of banned drugs etc. Sportspersons are also informed of the dope testing Laboratory in the premises of Sports Authority of India and Government's obligations to WADA under the Copenhagen Declaration to sensitize and make sportspersons aware of the dangers of resorting to drugs and the retribution that awaits them if they do.

[*Translation*]

#### **Incomplete Stretches of National Highways**

2112. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some stretches of National Highways in Rajasthan have been left unconstructed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the action taken/being taken by the Union Government in this regard; and
- (d) the time by which the Union Government is likely to give its sanction for construction of these stretches?

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

(b) to (d) At the time of declaration of new National Highways (NHs) in Rajasthan there were two missing links of NHs having total length of about of 103.55 km with details as under:

Km 0/00 to 62/25 of NH 11A (Dausa-Manoharpur section)	= 62.250 km
Km 0/00 to 41/30 of NH 65 (Fatehpur-Pali section)	= 41.300 km
<b>Total</b>	<b>= 103.550 km</b>

Out of 62.25 km length of NH 11A, 32 km length has already been completed and work for the construction in 20 km length is under progress. Balance 10.25 km length has been included in the current Annual Plan 2006-07. Regarding missing link on NH 65, an estimate for land acquisition for construction of this missing link from km 0/0 to km 41/300 has been sanctioned on 30.03.2006 and process of land acquisition is in progress. It is premature to indicate timeframe for sanction of its construction.

#### **Conducting Atomic Tests**

2113. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided not to carry out any atomic tests in future;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) On May 13, 1998, India announced a voluntary moratorium on further underground nuclear test explosions. The voluntary moratorium stands.

#### **Bad Condition of NH-28**

2114. YOGI ADITYA NATH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the bad condition of the Lucknow-Gorakhpur National Highway No. 28;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for repair of the said National Highway; and
- (d) the time by which this National Highway is likely to be repaired?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) The Lucknow-Gorakhpur Section of NH-28 is being maintained in traffic worthy condition through contractors engaged for 4-laning as part

of 4-laning contract except for km 251.7 to km. 279.8 which is being maintained through state PWD. Development and maintenance of National Highways is a continuous process.

*[English]*

#### Linking of Major Ports with Road Network

2115. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the action plan prepared for linking of major ports of the country with road network particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) whether the feasibility study has been completed in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) In December 2000, Government had given a mandate to National Highways Authority of India to provide National Highway connectivity to major ports in the country as part of National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-I. The status including in respect of Mumbai Port Trust and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust in Maharashtra, is enclosed as statement-I.

Status of port connectivity projects identified as part of NHDP Phase-III is enclosed as statement-II.

#### Statement I

##### *Details and Status of Port Connectivity Projects (NHDP Phase-I)*

S.No.	Port	Length in Km.	Scope of Work	Total approved Project Cost (Rs. crores)	Awarded Cost of Civil Works (Rs. in crores)	Cumulative % progress upto October 2006	Status of Works
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Mumbai	30	—	—	—	—	New Link (30 km). The proposed link passes over salt pans and involves elevated structures entailing high cost of construction. Mumbai Port Trust informed in May, 2004 that they would take up this work by themselves.
2.	Kandla	18	NH-8A (Samakhyali Gandhidham Road Project Pkg.-I) Four laning of km 306-324	43.75	31.61	100	Date of Commencement : August, 1998 Scheduled Date of Completion : August, 2000 Completion achieved : February, 2001
		22	NH-8A (Samakhyali Gandhidham Road Project Pkg.-II) Four laning of km 324-346	91.43	54.17	100	Date of Commencement : May, 1999 Scheduled Date of Completion : May, 2001 Completion achieved : July, 2002
		16.16	NH-8A (Samakhyali Gandhidham Road Project Pkg.-III) Four laning km 346-362.160	62.59	35.70	100	Date of Commencement : May, 1999 Scheduled Date of Completion : May, 2001 Completion achieved : January, 2002

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Jawaharlal Nehru Port	30	Phase-I Four laning of NH-4B from km 5/000 to km 26/967 and km 0/000 to km 4/440 and four laning of NH-4 from km 106/000 to km 109/500	177.00	142.72	100	Date of Commencement : February, 2002 Date of Completion : July, 2005 Dedicated to the nation : 21st July 2005
		14.35	Phase-II Four laning of SH-54 from km 6.400 – 14.550 and construction of four lane Aamra Marg including six lane major bridge across Parvel Creek (Belapur- Gavanphata-6.202 km) in Maharashtra State	143.00	127.21	56.4	Date of Commencement: November, 2004 Scheduled Date of Completion : May, 2007 Likely Completion : May, 2007
4.	Mormugao	18.3 (Presently 13.1 km 4 laned)	Four laning of NH-17B from Verma Junction on NH-17 to Mormugao Port	80.00	53 (13.1 km)	100	Work completed for 13.1 km Date of Commencement : 1998 Date of completion : June, 2004 13.1 km reach completed in May, 04. State Govt. could not give land free from encumbrances to take up balance 5.2 km. Balance stretch of 5.2 km may be taken up at a later stage only after completion of utility shifting, land acquisition & R&R etc., by the State Govt. for which payment has been released to them.
5.	New Mangalore	37.5	Four laning of NH-17 (Suratkal-Nantur section), NH-48 (Padil-Bantwal section) & a bypass from Nantur junction on NH-17 to Padil junction on NH-48	196.50	168.22 (excluding cost of ROBs /RUB)	1.5	Date of Commencement : June, 2005 Scheduled Date of Completion : Dec., 2007 Likely date of completion : June 2008
6.	Cochin	10.40	Four laning of NH-47 from km 348/382 to km 358/750	106.00	79.53	42	Work in progress Date of Commencement : February, 2004 Scheduled Date of Completion : August, 2006 Scheduled Date of Completion : August, 2006 Likely Completion : December, 2007
7.	Tuticorin	47.2	Four laning of NH-7A from km 4/000 to km 51/200	231.20	137.80	22	Work in progress Date of Commencement : February, 2004 Scheduled Date of Completion : August, 2006 Likely Completion : Dec. 2007

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	Chennai	30	Chennai—Ennore Port Connectivity Project— (i) Sea protection work (cost 25 crore).  (ii) TPP Road (Cost Rs. 37.5 crore)  (iii) (a) MORR (5.4 km.) (b) IRR (8.1 km.) (c) 1.6 km from port gate to Ennore Expressway (Cost Rs. 54 Crore). (iv) Balance Ennore Expressway (Cost Rs. 34 Crore)	309	Rs. 24.57 crore	Completed (June, 06)	(i) Sea Protection Work along Ennore Expressway Date of Commencement: June, 2003 Scheduled Date of Completion: June, 2005 Actual completion : June 2006  (ii) Four laning of TPP Road Date of Commencement: May, 2006 Scheduled Date of Completion : Nov., 2007  Scope of work revised in Dec., 05 (iii) For IRR, MoRR & 1.6 km EE, financial bid received is 46% excess. (iv) Ennore Expressway could not be taken up for R&R of PAFs. Like date of start of balance Ennore Expressway—December, 07.
9.	Visakhapatnam	12.47	Visakhapatnam Port connectivity	94.00	77.78	99.0	Work in progress Date of Commencement : June, 2002 Scheduled Date of Completion : December, 2004 Completed : Nov., 2006
10.	Paradip	77	Four laning of NH-5A from km 0/0 to km 77/0	427.40	327.77	47.3	Work in process Date of Commencement : February, 2004 Scheduled Date of Completion : February, 2007 Likely Completion : Dec., 2007 (Traffic congestion)
11.	Haldia	52.2	Four laning of km 0/500 to km 52/700 of Kolaghat-Haldia section of NH-41 in the State of West Bengal	273.00	219.99	38.6	Work in progress Date of Commencement : September, 2002 Scheduled Date of Completion : March, 2005 Likely Completion : December, 2007
12.	Kolkata (excluding Barasat Bypass)	10			—	—	Upgradation of 10 km of road connectivity to Kolkata Port including 1.7 km long elevated road link between Vidyasagar Setu & Swing Bridge was proposed to be taken up subject to its viability. Investment decision will be taken with approval of competent Authority on availability of DPR.

**Statement II***Details of Projects Identified under NHDP Phase-III*

S.No.	NH No.	Stretch under NHDP Phase-III	Length (kms)	Stretch under NHDP Phase-III A	Length	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	6	Surat-Hazira Port	29	Surat-Hazira Port	29	Agreement with the consultant for preparation of DPR has been signed on 18.10.2006. DPR is in progress.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	8A Ext.	Kandla-Mundra Port	73	Kandla-Mundra Port	73	Bids for consultancy service for feasibility study cum preliminary design of this stretch on DBFO invited by NHAI. The last date of submission of bid for consultancy service is on 30.11.2006.
3.	45B	Tuticorin Madurai Road*	144	Tuticorin Madurai Road	144	This BOT work has been awarded. The financial closure is being arranged by the Concessionaire.
4.	215	Panikoli-Keonjhar-Roxy*	249	Panikoli-Keonjhar-Roxy	249	DPR is in progress.

\*Identified as hinterland connectivity project.

#### Unskilled Labour in CIL

2116. PROF. M. RAMADASS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of work force is unskilled in the CIL;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps contemplated to upgrade their skill;

(c) whether any annual target has been fixed for training and redeployment of unskilled work force in the CIL;

(d) if so, whether the target has been achieved;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being taken to increase the number of programmes of training in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. About 44% workforce in CIL is unskilled. Out of a total manpower of 445172 as on 1.10.2006, the strength of unskilled workforce is 195386.

(b) Company-wise strength of unskilled manpower is given below:

Company	Strength of unskilled manpower as on 1.10.2006
1	2
Eastern Coalfields Ltd	51,190
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd	42,997

1	2
Central Coalfields Ltd	32,400
Western Coalfields Ltd	20,950
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd	33,720
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd	8,311
Northern Coalfields Ltd	3,857
CIL (North Eastern Coalfields)	1,084
Central Mines Planning & Design Institute	656
Coal India Ltd (HQ)	221
Total (CIL)	1,95,386

Each year a strategic Human Resource Development (HRD) Plan is developed for Coal India Limited on the basis of review of HRD performance of last five years and training need analysis carried out in each HRD Division of subsidiary companies. In accordance with the HRD plan the training programmes are conducted for the unskilled manpower for up-gradation of their skill to gainfully utilize them. The trained employees are redeployed to the suitable places. During last 3 years up-gradation of skills of 26,140 employees in subsidiary companies through training has been accomplished.

(c) CIL has prepared a plan to train 9000 unskilled manpower per year for skill up-gradation.

(d) and (e) From April 2006 to September 2006, 5158 unskilled manpower has been trained for skill up-gradation against the target of 9000 in the year 2006-07.



(f) Many new programmes are being incorporated in the training institutes/centres of the subsidiary companies to cover more unskilled manpower for skill upgradation.

[Translation]

**Slow Pace of Implementation of MPLADS**

2117. SHRIMATI .SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH  
DEO:  
SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received complaints from Members of Parliament about the slow pace of implementation of the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for such complaints;

(d) whether the Union Government proposes to set up special district level cells for monitoring of speedy implementation of the said scheme; and

(e) if so, the action contemplated by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The details of complaints received from Hon'ble Members of Parliament on the slow pace of implementation of the MPLAD Scheme are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) The alleged reasons for complaints are delays in sanctioning the works by the concerned District Magistrates/Deputy Commissioners.

(d) No. Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	Details of complaints	Action Taken
1.	Shri Mohammad Shahabuddin, MP(LS) <i>vide</i> his letter dated 10.3.2006 alleged that his recommendations of developmental works are not being sanctioned by District Magistrate, Siwan due to political hostility.	A copy of letter from Hon'ble MP was forwarded on 8.8.2006 and again a reminder has been issued on 20.11.2006 to DM, Siwan to furnish the factual report in the matter. Report is awaited.
2.	Shri Bhuvaneshwar Prasad Mehta, MP (LS) <i>vide</i> his letter dated 20.10.2005 has complained that Deputy Commissioner Hazaribag is intentionally delaying the approval of his recommended works.	Letter of the Hon'ble MP was forwarded to nodal DC on 2.11.2005 for comments. A factual report dated 30.11.2005 received from DC, Hazaribag states that 478 works were recommended out of which 210 works were sanctioned. Many of the works recommended by Hon'ble MP were for construction of tube wells for the individual/at private land and some repair works which are not permissible under MPLADS.
3.	Shri Avtar Singh Bhadana, Hon'ble MP(LS) <i>vide</i> his letter dated 14.7.2005 complained to this Ministry about slow progress in the execution of the works recommended by him, corruption and wrongful levying 5% administrative charges.	Matter was referred to DC, Faridabad with the request to furnish a detailed report on the allegations on 14.9.2005. He was again reminded on 2.5.2006 and 30.11.2006. Reply is awaited.

*[English]***Directory of Mobile Phone Users**

2118. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to bring out a directory of mobile phone users;

(b) if so, whether cellular operators have opposed the said move;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has given its Recommendations on "Printing of Telephone Directory and Directory Enquiry Service" which are under examination of the Government.

During the consultation process and discussion held by TRAI, the operators were not in favour of publishing directory, specially mobile directory. The major reasons advanced by the operators against publication of telephone directory and directory enquiry services are rapid growth of mobile subscribers, high churn, majority of the customers are pre-paid, bulkness of printed directory, privacy issues, etc. Though the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) supports mandatory Directory Enquiry Services for fixed lines, it is not in favour of Directory Enquiry Services for mobile customers because of privacy issues, personal communication issues, etc.

**Childhood Obesity/Diabetic Patients**

2119. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:  
SHRI LALIT MOHAN SUKLBAIDYA:

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

(a) whether the childhood obesity and type 2 diabetic patients are on the rise in the country;

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

(c) the adverse impact on the society and economy of the country as a result thereof;

(d) whether any scheme is underway to spread awareness regarding obesity, diabetes, hypertension, heart attacks, etc.; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) According to Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the overall cross sectional study suggests an increase in the prevalence of obesity and over the period. A cross sectional study undertaken in Delhi School showed that the prevalence rate of overweight and obese children is 29% this is an increase from previous studies which showed it as 16% (2002-04, adolescents). The reasons attributed to the rising prevalence of over-weight and obesity include reduced level of physical activity/increase in sedentary life as also increased consumption of calorie dense nutrient deficient food items. Since creating awareness through information, educational and communication is the main strategy, to tackle this issue, this component has been incorporated in the proposed National Programme for Control of Diabetes and Cardiovascular Diseases (CVD).

**Centre for Asian Cultural and Intellectual Activities**

2120. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to open a new centre for South East Asian Cultural and Intellectual Activities in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) The Government proposes to open a South Asian Centre for Art & Culture (SACAC) in Mumbai (Maharashtra).

(b) and (c) The proposed site for the Centre is Jinnah House in Mumbai. Jinnah House is currently undergoing restoration and renovation which is expected to be completed by December, 2007. The restoration work is

being handled by the Indian National Trust for Art & Cultural Heritage (INTACH). The SACAC is expected to be operational in 2008 under the auspices of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.

#### **Re-opening Consulates in India and Pakistan**

2121. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken up the matter of re-opening the Consulates of India and Pakistan in Mumbai and Karachi respectively before the end of the current year;

(b) if so, the response of Pakistan thereto; and

(c) the efforts taken by the Union Government to expedite the said matter ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) At the Foreign Secretary level talks in June 2004, India and Pakistan agreed in principle to reopen their respective Consulates General in Mumbai and Karachi. Agreement was reached during President Musharraf's visit to India in April 2005 to reopen the Consulates General by the end of 2005. However, Pakistan High Commission has not been able to find premises to rent so far. India is ready to open its Consulate General in Karachi but Pakistan is insisting on simultaneous opening of the Consulates General in Mumbai and Karachi.

*[Translation]*

#### **Alleged Harassment of Indians in Nepal**

2122. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:  
SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:  
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Indians working in Nepal are allegedly being harassed, coerced and beaten-up by Maoists thus being forced to leave that country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken up the above matter with Nepal;

(d) if so, the reaction of Nepal thereto; and

(e) the details of steps taken by the Union Government for safety and security of Indians working in Nepal ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) There have been various incidents of extortion and intimidation against businessmen and industrial units in Nepal. These include Indian businesses and joint ventures. There have been instances of some Indians leaving Nepal because of this.

(c) to (e) Cases involving the safety and security of Indians in Nepal, including Indian businesses and joint ventures have been taken up by the Government of India with the Government of Nepal including at the highest levels. The Government of Nepal has been requested to investigate these cases and provide adequate security and safety to all Indians, whose welfare and security is of prime concern to the Government of India. Government of Nepal has assured us full cooperation in this regard.

#### **Audit of Billing System**

2123. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to conduct annual audit of the billing system of cell phone companies;

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

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) In order to address customers concerns relating to metering and billing accuracy, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had notified the Quality or Service (Code of Practice for Metering and Billing Accuracy) Regulations 2006 on 21.03.2006. As per the regulation, the service providers have to undertake audit of their metering and billing system on a yearly basis through any one of the auditors in the panel notified by TRAI and the audit report thereon has to be submitted to TRAI by 30th June of every year. They are also required to submit action taken report on the audit report by 30th September of every year. TRAI

has notified the panel of auditors on 28th August, 2006. The service providers are required to submit the audit report for the year 2006-07 to TRAI by 30th June, 2007.

[English]

**Issue of Medical Fitness Certificate by Homoeopathic Doctors**

2124. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Homoeopathic doctors are allowed to give medical fitness certificate in the medical examination for Staff Selection, Driving Licence, LIC, etc.;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Homoeopathic doctors are included in the medical team accompanying Haj Pilgrims;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) In terms of Section 15(2)(c) of the Homeopathy Central Council (HCC) Act, 1973, a Homeopathy practitioner, who posses a recognized medical qualifications and is enrolled on a State Register of the Central Register of homeopathy is entitled to sign or authenticate a medical or fitness certificate or any other certificate required by any law to be signed or authenticated by a duly qualified medical practitioner.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise in view of reply to part (c).

(e) Saudi Arabian Government does not allow practice of homeopathy in Saudi Arabia.

**Draft National Policy for Voluntary Sector**

2125. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the draft National Policy for the voluntary sector prepared by the Government;

(b) whether the consultations have been held in this regard with the Ministries, States and other concerned;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the policy is likely to be given effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) :

(a) The Draft National Policy for the voluntary sector is yet to be finalised. However, the salient features of the draft policy, *inter-alia* include: streamlining government's rules and regulations, providing recognition for voluntary sector to engage in development efforts and creating an enabling environment for VOs.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. The Draft has been formulated in consultation with concerned Ministries, State Governments and VOs/NGOs.

(d) The draft Policy has yet to receive appropriate approvals, therefore, it is difficult to provide any time frame, at this stage.

**Denial of Visa on Arrival by Pakistan**

2126. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has not been included as one of the 24 countries whose tourists would get visa on arrival by Pakistan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the response of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Yes. India is not included in the list of countries whose tourists can get visa on arrival in Pakistan. The visa regime between India and Pakistan is governed by the Visa Agreement of 1974. India has proposed a revised Visa Agreement to Pakistan but Pakistan has not responded positively to it.

[Translation]

**Criteria for Setting up of Health Sub-centres**

2127. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether population is the criteria for setting up Health Sub-Centres for providing primary health services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of such centres as on date, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up Health Sub-Centres in the country as per 2001 census;

(d) if so, the number of sub-centres likely to be set up in different States; and

(e) the time by which these centres are likely to be sanctioned and set up in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) Yes, Madam. A Sub-centre is opened for a population of 5000 in plain area and for a population of 3000 in tribal and hilly, difficult and backward area.

Under the National Rural Health Mission (2005-2012), it has been decided to sanction new Sub-centres as per 2001 population. State/UT-wise number of Sub-centres required, functioning and shortfall as per 2001 Census as on September, 2005 is given in the statement enclosed.

States/UTs have incorporated the need of buildings for the Sub-centres required as per 2001 population norms. (mostly phase-wise) in their Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) under NRHM for the year 2006-07.

#### **Statement**

##### *Shortfall In Health Infrastructure as per 2001 population in India*

S.No.	State/UT	Total Population in Rural Areas	Tribal Population in Rural Areas	Sub centres		
				R	P	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55401067	4646923	11699	12522	*
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	870087	606278	254	379	*
3.	Assam	23218288	3154546	5063	5109	*
4.	Bihar	74316709	717702	14959	10337	4622
5.	Chhattisgarh	16648056	6264835	4164	3818	346
6.	Goa	677091	190	135	172	*
7.	Gujarat	31740767	6866637	7263	7274	*
8.	Haryana	15029260	0	3005	2433	572
9.	Himachal Pradesh	5482319	237060	1128	2068	*
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	7627062	1054488	1666	1879	*
11.	Jharkhand	20952088	6500014	5057	4462	595
12.	Karnataka	34889033	2934530	7369	8143	*
13.	Kerala	23574449	350019	4761	5094	*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14.	Madhya Pradesh	44380878	11446448	10402	8874	1528
15.	Maharashtra	55777647	7486537	12153	10453	1700
16.	Manipur	1590820	705912	412	420	*
17.	Meghalaya	1864711	1682670	597	401	196
18.	Mizoram	447567	430883	146	366	*
19.	Nagaland	1647249	1544022	535	394	141
20.	Orissa	31287422	7698358	7283	5927	1356
21.	Punjab	16096488	0	3219	2858	361
22.	Rajasthan	43292813	6717830	9554	10512	*
23.	Sikkim	480981	101909	109	147	*
24.	Tamil Nadu	34921681	551143	7057	8682	*
25.	Tripura	2653453	967997	659	539	120
26.	Uttaranchal	6310275	240209	1294	1576	*
27.	Uttar Pradesh	131658339	95828	26344	20521	5823
28.	West Bengal	57748946	4136366	12101	10356	1745
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	239954	28456	51	107	*
30.	Chandigarh	92120	0	18	13	5
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	170027	127410	50	38	12
32.	Daman and Diu	100856	11188	21	21	0
33.	Delhi	944727	0	188	41	147
34.	Lakshadweep	33683	32209	11	14	*
35.	Pondicherry	325726	0	65	76	*
India		742490639	77338597	158792	146026	19269

Note: The requirement is calculated on the basis of final total and tribal population of census, 2001 in rural areas using the prescribed norms. All India shortfall is derived by adding state-wise figures of shortfall ignoring the existing surplus in some of the states.

**Cable T.V. Facility to MTNL/BSNL Subscribers**

2128. SHRI RAKESH SINGH:  
DR. RAJESH MISHRA:

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

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) propose to provide Cable T.V. facility in the homes through broadband by means of telephone lines in the country;

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

(c) the conditions laid down for providing the above facility;

(d) the capacity available with the MTNL/BSNL for providing this facility; and

(e) the time by which the said facility is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) MTNL has launched Internet Protocol Television (IPTV) in Delhi and Mumbai in the month of October, 2006 and broadband customers of MTNL can avail this service.

BSNL has floated an Expression of Interest (EOT) for provision of IPTV and other content based services to its broadband customers through franchise route on non-exclusive, revenue share basis. Though the priority for initial roll out is planned to be major cities, services are planned to be rolled out in all cities falling in BSNL's area of operation for which franchisees agreement has already been signed for service delivery in Pune, Bangalore and Chennai city.

(c) IPTV of MTNL is a value added service under basic service licence and for BSNL, through franchise route on non-exclusive, revenue share basis.

(d) The capacity of MTNL is 5.2 lakhs line of broadband ports, which can provide IPTV services. However, being one of the latest technologies, there is a

difficulty in availability of set top boxes required to deliver IPTV service and steps have been taken to make this service available. BSNL has not launched this service commercially.

(e) The time frame for BSNL as specified in the EOI, is six months from the date of signing of agreement.

*[English]*

**Post Offices In Rented Buildings**

2129. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices in the country functioning out of rented buildings, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has any proposals to run all the post offices in the country in its own buildings;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) (a) to (d) Information is under collection and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Norms for Opening of CGHS Dispensary**

2130. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the norms followed by the Government for setting up CGHS dispensaries;

(b) whether the Government has set up CGHS dispensaries in some colonies/complexes in Delhi for specific departments while denying treatment facility to other CGHS beneficiaries living in the same complex/colony;

(c) if so, the justification therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the treatment facility be extended to all beneficiaries irrespective of their departments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) 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 translates into about 30,000 beneficiaries.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) In view of (b) above, the questions do not arise.

#### **New Guidelines for MPLADS Fund**

2131. DR. ARVIND SHARMA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has issued new guidelines for regulating MPLADS Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether as per new guidelines, the MPLADS Fund will be distributed directly at the Block/Panchayat level instead of through the District Collector/Block Development Officers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) and (b) The Government has comprehensively revised the Guidelines on MPLADS and a fresh set of Guidelines has been issued on 16th November, 2005. These Guidelines are based on the feed back received from Hon'ble MPs, the suggestions of the Committees on MPLADS (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha), the observations made by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and the operational experience gained in the monitoring of the Scheme. Some of the salient features of the revised Guidelines are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Statement**

##### *Salient features of the revised Guidelines*

- (i) Members of Parliament may choose some works for creation of durable assets of national priorities namely drinking water, education, public health, sanitation, and roads under the Scheme.
- (ii) Earmarking of funds to the extent of 15% and 7.5% funds for the development of SC and ST inhabited areas respectively.
- (iii) Automatic release of Rs. 1 crore in respect of MPs at the time of constitution of Lok Sabha and election to Rajya Sabha without fulfillment of conditions including monthly progress report.
- (iv) Automatic release of first instalment in any financial year in those cases where second instalment has been released in the previous year.
- (v) The role of Implementing Agencies, District Authority, State Government and Central Government have been clearly delineated.
- (vi) Limit of Rs. 25 lakh of individual work has been removed while maintaining the same for Trusts/Societies/NGOs.
- (vii) List of the permissible items has been removed. Instead, the list of works prohibited under MPLADS has been given.
- (viii) MPLADS works costing upto Rs.10 lakh for natural calamities like floods, cyclone etc. by MPs from the non-affected areas of their State.
- (ix) The maximum limit for rehabilitation of work in the affected areas by severe calamities have been raised to Rs. 50 lakh.
- (x) A time frame for all the works completed from 1993-94 onwards has been prescribed for submission of Utilization Certificates and Audit Certificates.
- (xi) Utilization Certificate for the previous financial year and the Audit certificate for the funds utilized in the year prior to the previous year have also been made the pre-requisites for the release of the second instalment in a year.



- (xii) The role of Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local bodies as Implementing Agencies has been stressed.

#### Vacant Posts in Missions

2132. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of second Secretary (Hindi and Culture) and Cultural Attache in various missions abroad, country-wise;

(b) whether all such posts have been duly filled up;

(c) if not, the number of posts lying vacant as on date alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) As part of its diplomatic activities, each Indian Mission abroad promotes Indian culture and cultural cooperation. An officer in each Mission is given the responsibility for this work, either exclusively or as part of his overall responsibilities. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) also has posts at various levels abroad in specific Indian Missions. These posts are in Moscow, Almaty, Tashkent, Port Louis, Cairo, London, Berlin, Guyana, Suriname, Port of Spain and Kabul. In addition, there are posts of Second Secretary (Hindi & Culture) in Indian Missions in Port Louis, Port of Spain and Suva, while there are posts of Attache (Hindi & Culture) in Kathmandu, London and Paramaribo.

(b) to (d) Of the above, all ICCR posts and posts of Attache (Hindi & Culture) are currently filled. However, the posts of Second Secretary (Hindi & Culture) are currently vacant as the incumbents have finished their tenure and their substitutes have not been appointed. The selection process is at an advanced stage and the posts will be filled as soon as the process is completed and the selected officers are able to join.

[Translation]

#### Shipbuilding Yard at Tuticorin

2133. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tuticorin Port Trust plans to establish a Shipbuilding Yard;

(b) if so, the estimated cost and the likely capacity of the project;

(c) whether the project is expected to generate more employment opportunities in the near future; and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) The project of construction of international-size Shipbuilding Yard has been identified as one of the projects to be taken up under the National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP) by the year 2011-12. The project is at planning stage.

#### Allocation of Funds under CRF

2134. SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a difference between the annual allocation of funds to Rajasthan out of the Central Road Fund (CRF) during the year 2006-07 and the actual amount released during the same period; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir. Accrual of the Central Road Fund for the State of Rajasthan and its release during the year 2006-07 are as follows:

Year	Accrual (Rs. in crore)	Release (Rs. in crore)
2006-07	119.80	116.89 (up to November 2006)

(b) Funds are released based on the progress of the sanctioned works and utilization certificates received from the State Government.

[English]

#### PM Visit to South Africa

2135. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:  
SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANAIDU:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister during his recent visit to South Africa had signed any agreement or MOU with that country for strategic co-operation between the two countries, including nuclear energy and supporting India's case with the International Nuclear Energy Commission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether South Africa has given its support to India for nuclear fuel supplies;

(d) whether the two countries have also agreed to work for joint research and development in the defence sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) to (e) During Prime Minister's recent visit to South Africa, he signed the Tshwane Declaration with President Thabo Mbeki on reaffirming the strategic partnership between South Africa and India. The Tshwane Declaration commits the two countries to intensifying cooperation in a number of areas and raising the existing level of friendship and partnership to even higher levels.

On nuclear energy, the two leaders agreed to explore, approaches to cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy under appropriate IAEA safeguards. They further agreed that international civilian nuclear cooperation, under appropriate IAEA safeguards, amongst countries committed to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation objectives could be enhanced through acceptable forward-looking approaches, consistent with their respective national and international obligations.

The document states that South Africa and India should work towards closer cooperation in the defence sector, including the possibility of joint research and development.

*[Translation]*

#### **Waiting List for Telephone Connections**

2136. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone connections sanctioned by the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL)/the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of telephone connections released out of them, State-wise;

(c) the number of applicants in the waiting list during the current year, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to clear the waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) and (b) The number of State-wise telephone connections sanctioned and released by MTNL and BSNL during the last three years are given in enclosed statement-I.

(c) The State-wise number of applicants in the waiting list during the current year are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(d) The following steps have been taken to clear the waiting list:

- (i) Underground cable up to 5 kilometers of telephone exchange against the earlier standard of 2.5 kilometers has been restored for providing telephone connections on landline.
- (ii) Deployment of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) network has been planned in the left over as Short Distance Charging Areas (SDCAs) and additional WLL network in existing SDCAs to meet the demand of telephone connections beyond five kilometers of telephone exchange. This will cover the scattered and far-flung areas where telephone connection is not possible on landline.

**Statement I***State-wise details of Telephone Connections, Targetted and released*

Sl. No.	Telecom Circles of B.S.N.L.	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
		Sanctioned (Target)	Released (Net)	Sanctioned (Target)	Released (Net)	Sanctioned (Target)	Released (Net)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	3500	6,313	4,950	4,407	6,262	22,209
2.	Andhra Pradesh	449000	309,625	319,850	295,671	477,548	333,141
3.	Assam	83000	49,771	106,800	153,502	141,119	251,531
4.	Bihar	255000	143,599	218,150	179,635	449,167	448,605
5.	Chhattisgarh	58000	41,793	51,450	47,969	101,857	73,885
6.	Gujarat	424000	3,306	331,500	127,918	429,571	169,303
7.	Haryana	223,000	164,704	187,500	113,344	215,738	218,280
8.	Himachal Pradesh	75,000	53,525	73,850	45,838	104,762	142,503
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	79,500	64,673	51,050	136,652	141,643	377,914
10.	Jharkhand	96,000	101,347	75,500	87,053	157,524	211,863
11.	Karnataka	385,000	128,552	217,200	412,887	545,145	563,583
12.	Kerala	800,000	407,074	509,000	710,685	708,071	1,101,915
13.	Madhya Pradesh	176,000	157,134	166,100	202,668	212,571	198,456
14.	Maharashtra	596,000	343,365	482,750	384,831	580,952	357,558
15.	North East - 1	69,500	26,096	58,400	49,317	48,881	51,696
16.	North East - 2	14,500	26,518	11,500	47,858	48,952	93,467
17.	Orissa	137,000	139,421	159,600	181,940	241,857	311,313
18.	Punjab	389,000	106,112	274,000	97,884	266,310	-133,346
19.	Rajasthan	297,000	214,920	320,850	234,226	484,714	805,493
20.	Tamilnadu	305,000	217,247	274,300	581,741	433,595	663,209
21.	Uttaranchal	73,000	82,806	69,950	65,509	84,476	166,350
22.	Uttar Pradesh East	271,000	173,139	293,300	388,035	622,714	877,515
23.	Uttar Pradesh West	245,000	211,836	181,250	122,576	272,143	167,423
24.	West Bengal	285,000	165,730	266,000	195,046	304,714	440,238

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
25.	Kolkata	132,000	40,360	175,850	222,111	216,190	183,272
26.	Chennai	140,000	80,415	118,350	197,101	203,524	126,849
	TOTAL	6,061,000	3,459,381	5,000,000	5,286,404	7,500,000	8,224,225
1.	MTNL Delhi	378355	378355	569051	569051	756213	756231
2.	MTNL Mumbai	488509	488509	626265	626265	777633	777633

**Statement II***State-wise details of Waiting List*

Sl. No.	Telecom Circles of B.S.N.L.	Waiting List as on 31.3.2004	Waiting List as on 31.3.2005	Waiting List as on 31.3.2006	Waiting List as on 31.10.2006
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	151	449	433	321
2.	Andhra Pradesh	51934	33965	23634	18,743
3.	Assam	15797	24554	33885	17,249
4.	Bihar	112465	96871	77500	87,864
5.	Chhattisgarh	2118	2809	99441	39,162
6.	Gujarat	58847	57328	37224	32,439
7.	Haryana	81657	68448	67839	51,595
8.	Himachal Pradesh	44935	45207	35837	31,173
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	39704	67714	60400	56,835
10.	Jharkhand	8143	9992	6538	3,740
11.	Karnataka	89730	85039	85210	79,707
12.	Kerala	419782	357004	260346	244,547
13.	Madhya Pradesh	17300	10059	268562	27,529
14.	Maharashtra	159004	151135	323246	189,856
15.	North East -1	5975	4377	2786	13,014
16.	North East - 2	5387	4442	33843	24,340
17.	Orissa	27713	22894	40224	32,844
18.	Punjab	92284	44887	36458	19,356

1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	Rajasthan	138019	137814	84598	95,185
20.	Tamilnadu	58995	99195	98515	10,118
21.	Uttaranchal	5729	4700	2237	1,197
22.	Uttar Pradesh East	101771	110508	59202	64,936
23.	Uttar Pradesh West	43670	49158	32507	29,099
24.	West Bengal	144226	125447	127078	118,261
25.	Kolkata	22720	4609	1135	1,128
26.	Chennai	6929	1444	4598	3,570
TOTAL		1754965	1620049	1903276	1,293,608
1.	MTNL Delhi	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.	MTNL Mumbai	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

*[English]***Dividend paid by MTNL**

2137. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) had paid dividend to the Union Government during the year 2004-05;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the Government holding in MTNL; and

(c) the profit of MTNL during the year 2004-05 and the first half of the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has paid Rs. 159.47 crores as dividend to the Union Government for 2004-05 which is 45% of paid up equity capital Union Government has 56.25% stake in total paid up equity of Rs. 630 crores.

(c) During the year 2004-05, the profit of MTNL was Rs. 938.97 crores and as per unaudited financial results (provisional), the profit for the first half of the current year is Rs. 239.31 crores.

*[Translation]***Identification of Poor**

2138. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to carry out a survey with the help of community based organisations/NGOs for identifying poor people, particularly in tribal dominant areas in Maharashtra and other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these surveys are likely to be completed as action taken thereon, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) There is no proposal from the Union Government to carry out survey to identify poor people with help of community based organizations/NGOs in tribal dominated areas in Maharashtra and other States.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

*[English]***Tele-service between Delhi and Mumbai**

2139. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tele-service between Mumbai to Delhi through the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) is charged at local rates;

(b) if so, whether tele-service between Delhi to Kolkata through the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is charged at STD rates;

(c) if so, the details and reasons thereof;

(d) whether as per the advertisement, the pre-paid BSNL recharge coupon can be recharged from anywhere in the country;

(e) if so, whether the recharge coupon collected from Kolkata can be recharged in Delhi; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The call between Mumbai and Delhi for landline and Garuda subscribers are being charged at Rs.1.20/- for three minutes.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. MTNL Delhi to Kolkata is charged at STD rate as mentioned below:

For One India Plan subscribers are being charged at Re. 1 per minute and for all other Plans, the charge is Rs.2.40 per minute.

(d) Yes, Sir. BSNL pre-paid subscriber can recharge their coupon from anywhere in the country. However, the recharge coupon should be from the home Public Land Mobile Network (PLMN).

(e) Yes, Sir. Kolkata pre-paid BSNL subscriber having recharge coupon from BSNL Kolkata can recharge while roaming in Delhi.

(f) Does not arise in view of (d) and (e) above.

*[Translation]***Tampering Balances of Pre-paid Mobile Subscribers**

2140. SHRI RAKESH SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has noticed the incidents of tampering the balances of prepaid mobile subscribers of B.S.N.L.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to restore the actual balance of the subscribers with interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, no such incident has come to notice.

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

*[English]***National Policy on Influenza Vaccination**

2141. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

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

(a) whether there is any national policy on influenza vaccination;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any study to evaluate india's influenza burden;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to generate resources to set up study centre to evaluate influenza burden?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA

LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) There is no specific policy for vaccination of Influenza in the country. This is due to the fact that Influenza is a mild illness and its vaccines gives very short term protection only for one season based on prevalence of strain in the country.

(c) to (e) ICMR has initiated a multi-site surveillance programme for human influenza in India. Under the existing influenza surveillance network, five centres are working as regional centres, namely, (i) All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi (AIIMS); (ii) King Institute of Preventive Medicine, Chennai; (iii) Regional Medical Research Centre, Dibrugarh; (iv) Virus Unit, Kolkata; and (v) National Institute of Virology, Pune (NIV). Continuous monitoring of the surveillance would ultimately provide the basis for conducting epidemiological studies on influenza disease burden, and evaluate the clinical and economic burden of the disease in India.

#### Mobile Phone Linkage in NE Region

2142. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the border areas of North Eastern States have no mobile phone linkage with MTNL, Delhi, both pre-paid and post-paid, resulting in hardships to the residents and the forces particularly in Assam;

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

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) As per reports from mobile service providers, mobile subscribers in North Eastern States have no problem in mobile phone linkage with MTNL, Delhi. Post-paid subscribers of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) from North Eastern States including Assam can avail facilities of MTNL Delhi while in roaming. Similarly, post-paid subscribers of MTNL Delhi can avail roaming facility in North Eastern States including Assam. However, pre-paid subscribers of North Eastern States including Assam has not been permitted roaming facility in other service areas due to security reasons. Similarly, pre-paid subscribers of other service areas are not

permitted roaming facility in North Eastern States including Assam due to security reasons.

#### Revival of Loss Making Coal Fields

2143. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN :  
SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of profit/loss earned/incurred by the various coal fields and their subsidiaries during the last three years, year-wise, coal field-wise;

(b) whether the Government has initiated any schemes for the revival of loss making coal fields;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the success achieved in this regard so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Profit earned by Neyveli Lignite Corporation during the last three years from 2003-04 to 2005-06 is furnished below :

Year	Profit before tax (Rs. In crore)
2003-04	1413.08
2004-05	1756.68
2005-06	987.39

The profit (before tax and dividend) earned/loss incurred by Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries during the last three years is furnished below :

Company	(Rs. In crore)		
	2003-04(Actual)	2004-05(Actual)	2005-06(Actual)
1	2	3	4
ECL	-326.38	-679.20	371.96
BCCL	-569.85	-959.43	205.08
CCL	370.38	437.81	1164.98
NCL	1647.06	1976.03	2116.26
WCL	743.60	935.30	1446.96
SECL	1314.22	1580.93	1286.12

1	2	3	4
MCL	1418.60	1469.36	1837.21
CMPDIL	1.76	1.73	3.94
CIL/NEC	1355.97	1328.30	1979.27
Total	5955.36	6090.83	10411.78
Less: Dividend from subsidiaries	1066.20	1289.31	1735.06
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4889.16</b>	<b>4801.52</b>	<b>8676.72</b>

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The network of the Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL), a subsidiary of Coal India Ltd. (CIL) had turned negative and it was referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). BIFR had sanctioned a rehabilitation scheme for revival of ECL. The scheme was examined and recommended by the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) as well. The rehabilitation scheme has since been considered and approved by the Government. The rehabilitation scheme does not involve any fresh budgetary support from the Government. Consequent upon these measures, ECL, which has earned a profit of Rs. 371.96 crore in 2005-06 would be able to liquidate its accumulated losses and earn profit on a sustainable basis thereby making its network positive by the year 2009-10.

Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) is another loss making subsidiary Company of Coal India limited. During 2001-02 to 2003-04, the Company incurred a loss of Rs. 1832 crore. Government had submitted a Rehabilitation Scheme of BCCL to BIFR in December, 2000. After the constitution of BRSPE in December, 2004, the matter was referred by the Government to the newly created body in May, 2005. BRPSE in August, 2005 asked the Ministry/BCCL for getting the appraisal of the revival plan done by some independent consultant before it is considered by the Board. As per directions of BRPSE, the BCCL has appointed M/s. Credit Analysis and Research Ltd. (CARE) as a consultant for appraisal of rehabilitation plan. CARE has submitted its final report, which is under consideration before the CIL Board.

#### Setting up of R&D Centres by C-DOT

2144. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DoT) has decided to set up two world class Research and Development (R&D) Centres under Public-Private Partnership (PPP);

(b) if so, the details of the R&D Centres to be opened alongwith their objectives; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. There is no decision by Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) to set up two world class Research and Development (R&D) Centres under Public Private Partnership (PPP) at present.

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

*[Translation]*

#### Theft of Telephone Cables

2145. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of theft of telephone cables during the last three years;

(b) the amount of loss incurred as a result thereof during the above period; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to curb such incidents of theft along with the results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, during the last three years, total incidents of theft of telephone cables reported by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) are 7110 and 514 respectively.

(b) Amount of loss incurred as a result thereof during the above period was approximately Rs. 1040 lakhs in BSNL and Rs. 384 lakhs in MTNL.



(c) Following steps have been taken by BSNL and MTNL to curb such incidence of theft:

- (i) Regular patrolling of important cable routes. Police authorities have also been requested to intensify the patrolling in theft prone routes.
- (ii) Diversion of routes of theft prone cable.
- (iii) Lodging FIRs at concerned Police Stations.
- (iv) Persuasion with the Police to check theft of cables.
- (v) Posting of security guards at cable dumps.
- (vi) Coordination with local bodies to minimize the theft.
- (vii) Manholes are locked to protect cable from any theft.
- (viii) GI pipes are used to protect the cable from damage/theft crossing over nallas/canals.
- (ix) RCC protection is used for the cables passing over the bridge to prevent theft/damage.

*[English]*

#### Privatization of Ports

2146. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

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

(a) whether privatization of major ports like Mumbai Port Trust and Chennai Port Trust have been delayed for about 20 months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government is planning to make changes in the bidding norms for port projects to avoid delays on account of security clearance;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether such changes will affect the internal security of the country; and

(f) if so, the time by which these norms are likely to be changed?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) There is no existing scheme or proposal for privatization of any major port. Mumbai Port has a proposal for Construction of Offshore Container Terminal on Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) basis. Chennai Port also has proposal for development of Second Container Terminal on BOT basis. There has been some delay on account of security clearance to the bidders. The issue has since been settled.

(c) No Sir.

(d) to (f) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### Functioning of PCOs

2147. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of PCOs functioning as on date, State-wise;

(b) whether PCOs have been closed in the States during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether PCOs installed at public places and railway stations are not functioning properly/satisfactorily;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The data of Public Call Officers (PCOs) excluding Village Public Telephones (VPTs) is maintained Circle-wise and not State-wise by BSNL/MTNL. Number of PCOs functioning in all the circles as on 31.10.2006 is given in Annexure.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details of PCOs closed during last three years are given in the enclosed statement.

There are various reasons of closure of PCOs. Some of the reasons are (i) franchisees are getting some other employment, (ii) franchisees are shifting to some other cities, (iii) death of franchisee, (iv) closure due to non-payment, (v) churning to other operators, (vi) reduction in STD/ISD tariff, etc.

(d) and (e) All efforts are made to ensure that PCOs installed at public places and Railway Station function properly. However, sometimes few PCOs remain out-of-order due to the reasons beyond the control of BSNL/MTNL such as vandalism, theft/damage of instrument by

unscrupulous elements, damage to underground cables/ Drop-wire, etc.

(f) The steps taken for proper and satisfactory functioning of PCOs at Railway Stations/other public places by BSNL/MTNL are installation of new CCB PCO instrument in case of theft, replacement in case of damage, priority in repair in case of instrument fault, early repair of cable in case of cable fault, creation of pole less network (to reduce drop wire fault), periodic check up, etc.

#### **Statement**

*Details of Numbers of PCOs Excluding VPTs in BSNL/MTNL & Circle-wise Number of PCOs closed during last three Years by BSNL/MTNL*

Sl.No.	Name of Circle	Numbers of PCOs excluding VPTs in BSNL/MTNL (as on 31.10.2006)	Number of PCOs closed during last three years by BSNL/MTNL
1	2	3	4
1.	Andman and Ncoar	1,170	275
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2,70,861	106564
3.	Assam	32,305	1799
4.	Bihar	66,433	6429
5.	Chhatisgarh	9,219	2568
6.	Gujarat	1,34,355	32141
7.	Haryana	32,067	9739
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11,801	797
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	16,082	1405
10.	Jharkhand	23,429	855
11.	Karnataka	2,64,070	48203
12.	Kerala (Including Lakshdweep U.T.)	1,22,451	11643
13.	Madhya Pradesh	52,872	13097
14.	Maharashtra (Including Goa)	3,18,384	44104
15.	North East-I (Including Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura)	6,851	470

1	2	3	4
16.	North East-II (Including Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Manipur)	7,187	773
17.	Orissa	31,029	6287
18.	Punjab (Including Chandigarh UT)	37,781	16154
19.	Rajasthan	68,075	16709
20.	Tamil Nadu (Including Pondichery)	2,12,496	27804
21.	Uttaranchal	14,544	1152
22.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	1,01,666	9451
23.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	50,711	13938
24.	West Bengal (Including Sikkim)	62,302	5592
25.	Calcutta Telephone District	63,432	17281
26.	Chennai Telephone District	87,442	34144
27.	Delhi	90,634	30079
28.	Mumbai	1,71,164	18861
	Total	23,60,903	4,78,314

*[English]*

**Kolachal-Kollam Stretch of T.S. Canal**

2148. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kolachal-Kollam stretch of the T.S. Canal in Kerala has been excluded from the National Waterway No. 3;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any study has been conducted by the Government regarding the Kolachal-Kollam stretch of the T.S. Canal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) The National Waterway No. 3 comprises Kottapuram-Kollam

section of West Coast Canal and Udyogmandal and Champakara canals. Kolachal-Kollam stretch of the T.S. canal is south of Kollam and is not a part of National Waterway No. 3. A study for extension of National Waterway No. 3 from Kollam to Kovalam and from Kottapuram to Kasargod was conducted by M/s RITES. Another study was also conducted for the stretch between Kovalam and Kolachal by M/s National Transportation Planning and Research Centre (NATPAC). However, further extension of National Waterway No. 3 is not being considered due to several problems being faced in the development of existing National Waterway No. 3.

*[Translation]*

**Quality of Works under MPLADS**

2149. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the standard fixed to ensure the quality of works being carried out under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme;

(b) whether most of the works are carried out in a manner not commensurate with the quality fixed in this regard;

(c) if so, the number of persons against whom action has been taken in this regard till date; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) As per Para 3.3 of the revised Guidelines on MPLADS, the District Authority shall follow the established work scrutiny, technical, work estimation, tendering and administrative procedure of the State/UT Government concerned in the matter of work execution.

(b) No Sir.

(c) and (d) As and when a complaint is received regarding poor quality of work under the MPLAD Scheme, the concerned State Government and District Authorities are requested to take action against the defaulter Implementing Agency/ Officer.

*[English]*

#### Complaints against Telecom Service Providers

2150. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints against various telecom service providers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years;

(c) whether the Government has conducted investigation against each of them;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The details of the cases, for last two years, are as follows:-

Sl. No.	Licensee	Complaint	Action Taken
1	2	3	4

#### For year 2004-05

1.	M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd. (RIL)	Illegal routing of incoming International Long Distance (ILD) calls as Local calls	MTNL and BSNL raised bills for amount of Rs. 341.27 crores and 319.04 crores respectively and M/s RIL have paid the bills. Union of India levied a penalty of 150 crores against M/s RIL UASLs Chennai, Mumbai and Kolkata and M/s RIL paid the penalty amount in March 2005.
2.	M/s HFCL Satellite Communication Ltd.	Complaints regarding operation of Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) network.	Commercial VSAT license terminated in January, 2005.
3.	M/s Trident Netcom Solutions	Involvement in Grey Market Operations	Category 'A' Internet Service Provider (ISP) License terminated in December, 2004.
4.	M/s TTML & M/s Hutch	Provision of Push to Talk (PTT) Services.	Penalty of 50 crores imposed on TTML. Investigations are in progress in case of Hutch.

1	2	3	4
<b>For year 2005-06 to till date</b>			
1.	Tata Teleservices Maharashtra Ltd., Goa	Complaint regarding excess charging from public by public Call Office (PCO) franchise	Investigations are in progress
2.	Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (VSNL)	Under charging for carriage cost of Long Distance Calls	Investigations are in progress
3.	Tata Teleservices Ltd. (TTSL), Delhi	Overcharging by M/s TTSL	Investigations are in progress
4.	M/s ISP Services (P) Ltd.	ISP operation beyond the service area	Investigations are in progress
5.	M/s Ready Link Internet Services Covai Ltd.	Operation beyond service area in Salem and Trichy	Investigations are in progress
6.	M/s Vebtel Ltd.	Providing Internet Telephony Service Provider (ITSP) operations through franchises beyond their service area	Investigations are in progress
7.	TTSL, Airtel & Reliance Infocom Ltd.	Extension of area of coverage to Bahadurgarh SDCA by Mobile Services Provider	Investigations are in progress
8.	M/s AT&T, BT (British Telecom), Equant & MCI	Provision of Service without License and AT&T has now acquired licence.	Investigations are in progress
9.	TTML, Idea & Reliance Reliance	Provision of services beyond service area in Maharashtra	Investigations are in progress
10.	Airtel & Reliance Infocom	Provision of service in the 10 Km buffer zone of International Border	Investigations are in progress
11.	Reliance Infocom Ltd.	Wrongful claim of USO fund.	Investigations are in progress

[Translator:]

**Indian Ocean Rim Organisation for  
Regional Co-operation**

2151. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives for which the Indian Ocean Rim Organisation for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC) has been formed;

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to achieve the said objectives; and

(c) the role played by India in the said organisation?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The objectives of the Indian Ocean Rim - Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC), *inter alia*, include the facilitation and promotion of economic cooperation among member States. Cooperation

within the framework of IOR-ARC seeks to reinforce, and not substitute, the bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral obligations of Member States.

(b) Projects have been undertaken for economic cooperation, trade facilitation, investment promotion and human resource development.

(c) India has participated actively in various IOR-ARC activities and has organized programmes for cooperation in e-commerce, disaster management and agro food processing and industries.

*[English]*

**Road Linking Thiruvananthapuram with Thirunelveli**

2152. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal to approve a road linking Thiruvananthapuram with Thirunelveli in Tamil Nadu via Ambasamudram;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Union Government is likely to accord its approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Proposal to link Thiruvananthapuram with Thirunelveli in Tamil Nadu *via* Ambasamudram has been received from the Government of Kerala.

(c) The proposal involves declaration of about 100 Km of State Road as National Highways. At present, the Government is concentrating on the development of already declared National Highways rather than expanding the National Highway network.

*[Translation]*

**Preparation for Commonwealth Games**

2153. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of preparatory work for the Commonwealth Games, 2010;

(b) the amount demand by the Government of NCT of Delhi for the event;

(c) the names of services for which the amount is likely to be spent;

(d) whether the amount demanded by the Government of NCT of Delhi is more than the normal requirement; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) A number of institutional arrangements have been made for ensuring proper planning and timely preparation for the Commonwealth Games, 2010, Delhi. These include a Core Group of Ministers Chaired by the Minister for Human Resource Development for coordinating and taking decisions regarding various aspects related to the organization of the Games; an Apex Committee in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports Chaired by the Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports; a Committee of Secretaries headed by the Cabinet Secretary to monitor the implementation of the decisions of the Group of Ministers and other related matters; and an Organizing Committee for the conduct of the Games headed by the President, Indian Olympic Association. At the level of the Government of Delhi, the Lt. Governor would have overall responsibility for security, law and order and matter pertaining to DDA, and there is a Sub-Committee headed by the Chief Minister of Delhi for other matters falling within the jurisdiction of the State Government in terms of the planning and upgradation of civic infrastructure, etc.

An Empowered Committee has also been set up under the Chief Secretary, Government of NCT of Delhi with representatives of all the agencies/authorities concerned to facilitate speedy and time bound clearances in respect of games related projects. Another Committee has been set up, with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports as convenor, to deal with clearances pertaining to the Delhi Urban Arts Commission and other central agencies, as may be required.

The proposal of the different implementing agencies for the creation of the required sports and civic

infrastructure, namely, the Government of NCT of Delhi, the Sports Authority of India and the DDA, and of the Organising Committee for the conduct of the Games, have been approved. It is expected that after finalization of detailed designs and estimates, tenders for construction will be floated and decided. Construction work on the various projects will commence by middle of 2007 and be completed by the end of 2009.

(b) to (e) Proposals of the Government of the NCT of Delhi for Rs.770.00 crores for works related to upgradation of civic infrastructure and the sports infrastructure assigned to the Government of NCT of Delhi and NDMC, in the context of the Commonwealth Games 2010, have been approved, in principle, by the Planning Commission. The major services on which this amount is proposed to be spent include - improvement of Transports System, Road, and Bridges, Civic Infrastructure of MCD and NDMC, augmentation of health facilities, water supply and sewage treatment facilities, and upgradation of sports infrastructure.

The above approval is over and above the normal plan outlay of Government of the NCT of Delhi.

*[English]*

#### **Setting up of Directorate of Road Safety**

2154. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Directorate of Road Safety; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) An Expert Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri S. Sundar, former Secretary, Ministry of Surface Transport and Distinguished Fellow, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) to deliberate and make recommendations for creation of a dedicated body on Road Safety and Traffic Management.

*[Translation]*

#### **Advertisements for Soft Drinks**

2155. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has directed the artists and players to refrain from involvement in any advertisements of cold drinks;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No such specific directive has been issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

*[English]*

#### **Draft Notification for Good Laboratory Manufacturing Practices**

2156. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new draft notification for good laboratory manufacturing practices has been issued by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is likely to lead to closure of a large number of small scale pharma units due to financial constraints; and

(d) if so, effective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Union Ministry of Health have published Gazette Notification *vide* GSR 634(E) dated 13.10.2006 for eliciting

views of the public before finalization of the draft rules intended to amend the Drugs and Cosmetics (D&C) Rules, to incorporate Good Laboratory Practices and Requirements of premises and equipments as schedule L-I to the D&C Rules. Good Manufacturing Practices have already been notified under Schedule M to the said Rules.

(c) No such specific reports are available with the Government which indicate that amendment of such rules would lead to closure of small scale Pharma units due to financial constraints, etc.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Task Force Report for Promotion of Sports**

2157. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken on the Task Force report for formulating a composite plan for the development and promotion of Sports and Youth Affairs in the North-Eastern Region (NER);

(b) the salient recommendations, achievements made during the last three years and targets set for implementing each of those recommendations;

(c) the details of infrastructure already created at Guwahati for hosting the National Games; and

(d) the target set for completion of the remaining infrastructure?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The main recommendations of the Task Force for the Development and Promotion of Sports and Youth Affairs in the North-Eastern States were: Development of sports infrastructure facilities in the State capitals, district and sub-divisional headquarters to train the sportspersons on regular basis, identification and focus on infrastructure of disciplines in which talent is available in North East like Martial Arts, Football, Boxing, etc. creation of playing facilities at Block and Panchayat levels, development of infrastructure for

establishment of SAI centres, strengthening the arrangements for training including coaches and equipment etc., and liberalization of the infrastructure scheme of Government to enable financial assistance to be availed for broad-basing of sports and achieving excellence.

The Ministry has set up a North Eastern Cell in Febaiary, 2000, and efforts are being made to give special attention to various aspects pertaining to the development of sports in the States of North Eastern Region. An amount of Rs. 48.62 crores has been released to the various States for development of sports infrastructure comprising State Level Complexes, Stadia, Indoor Halls, Swimming Pools, Playing Fields, etc. since 2002-03. The state-wise; and year-wise details of the funds provided are indicated in the statement enclosed-I. In addition, a proposal for setting up a Sports Complex at Khuman Lampak in Manipur has been approved by the Department of Development of North-Eastern Region at an estimated cost of Rs. 18.43 crores against which an amount of Rs. 5.8 crores has been released. The Sports Authority of India (SAI) has also taken a number of steps to strengthen and upgrade the SAI infrastructure and activities pertaining to training and promotion of excellence, and works for installation/construction of Synthetic Hockey/Atheletics Surfaces/Tracks, Multipurpose Halls, Hostels, Swimming Pool Football Ground, Archery Ground, etc., with an estimated cost of Rs. 38.38 crores have been sanctioned/are under implementation in different locations. The boarding and kitting allowances have been increased from Rs. 75 to Rs. 110 and from Rs. 3000 to Rs. 4000 respectively; special efforts have been made to activate 2 main SAG Centres at Tinsukia and Kokrajhar including appointment of 18 coaches, and; the number of trainees in the SAG Centres/STCs has increased from around 1100 to 1500. The recommendations of the Task Force in respect of various schemes are also being utilized as inputs in the exercises of the Working Group set up by the Planning Commission in the context of the Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d) The details of the infrastructure created at Guwahati for hosting the National Games, including the status of development in respect of various facilities are given in enclosed Statement-II.



**Statement I***Infrastructure Project—Amount Released—2002-03 to 2006-07 (till 30-11-2006)*

(Amount in Rupees)

Name of State	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Total
Assam	7350000	1700000	18809000	700000	18000000	46559000
Arunachal Pradesh	15844000	19100000	2700000	7100000	32000000	76544000
Manipur	6250000	00	2250000	00	70338000	78838000
Mizoram	5775000	13577375	3000000	5959333	00	28311708
Meghalaya	00	10011000	23455500	00	00	33466500
Nagaland	19400000	96246319	11598000	4500000	90700000	222444319
<b>Total</b>	<b>54419000</b>	<b>140634694</b>	<b>61812500</b>	<b>18259333</b>	<b>211038000</b>	<b>488163527</b>

**Statement II***Progress Report of Construction of Sports Infrastructure for the National Games*

Sl.No.	Name of the Venue	Sanctioned Amount (Rs. in lakh)	Percentage of progress	Date of completion	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Main Athletic Stadium, Sarusajai, (1st phase)	3223.00	100%	—	Completed
2.	AC Indoor Stadium at Sarusajai (1st phase)	2163.00	100%	—	Completed
3.	Shooting Range	323.00	100%	31-7-2006	Completed
4.	Velodrome at Tepesia	536.29	100%	31-7-2006	Completed
5.	Const. of Indoor Hall, Tepesia	1400.00	100%	31-7-2006	Completed
6.	Const. of Kho-kho, Kabaddi	130.00	100%	31-7-2006	Completed
7.	Aquatic Complex at Sarusajai	1200.00	100%	31-7-2006	Completed
8.	Indoor Stadium at RGB Sports Complex	917.13	100%	31-7-2006	Completed
9.	Hockey Stadium at Bhetapara	686.16	100%	31-7-2006	Completed
10.	Archery Range—Tepesia	174.00	100%	31-7-2006	Completed
11.	Football Ground at Tepesia	92.60	100%	31-7-2006	Completed
12.	Site Developmental at Sarusajai & Kahilipara	401.00	100%	31-7-2006	Completed
13.	Site Development at Sonapur, Bhetapara	323.00	100%	31-7-2006	Completed

1	2	3	4	5	6
14.	Sprinkler System	35.60	100%	31-7-2006	Completed
15.	Const. of Main Athletic Stadium at Sarusajai (2nd phase)	419.67	100%	31-7-2006	Completed
16.	Ganesh Mandir Indoor Stadium	113.00	100%	31-7-2006	Completed
17.	Construction of AC Indoor Hall at Sarusajai (2nd phase)	490.40	100%	31-7-2006	Completed
18.	Development of Sports infrastructure under package-III (1st phase)	380.00	100%	31-7-2006	Completed
19.	Construction of Water Sports Complex at Saron Beel, Morigaon	40.00	45%	30-12-2006	Construction of Temporary Structure going on
20.	Indoor Hall at Rudra Singha Sports Complex (under 11th Finance Commission)	230.00	100%	31-8-2006	Completed
21.	Tennis Complex at Hengrabari	256.00	100%	31-8-2006	Completed

[Translation]

**Guidelines for Government Officials**

2158. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:  
DR. RAJESH MISHRA:  
SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:  
SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cabinet Secretary has issued guidelines to the Government officials restraining them from meeting foreign diplomats and nationals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measure taken for their compliance; and

(d) the action taken against those officials found violating the guidelines?

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 PACHOURI): (a) and (b) Cabinet Secretary has recently reiterated that the existing instructions regarding contacts of Government

servants with foreign nationals/members of foreign missions should be strictly followed.

(c) The respective Ministries/Departments are responsible for compliance of the guidelines by the Government officials.

(d) No such information is centrally maintained.

[English]

**Status of National Highways**

2159. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any mechanism to ascertain the status of the National Highways of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The website of Department of Road Transport & Highways ([www.morth.nic.in](http://www.morth.nic.in)) gives the state-wise details in respect of the National Highways

viz NH No., description, length, traffic count and ongoing works. The website of National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) ([www.nhai.org](http://www.nhai.org)) gives the status of the National Highways Development Project (NHDP).

(c) Does not arise.

#### Opening of New Post Offices

2160. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of new post offices proposed to be opened in the North 24-Parganas District of West Bengal;

(b) the total number of post offices functioning with speed-post facilities in that district;

(c) whether there is any proposal to enhance these facilities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Post Offices are opened subject to fulfillment of distance, population and income norms as given in the enclosed statement and availability of resources. If justification for opening a Post Office is found, it can be opened by relocation of an existing post office, which is no longer justified on the departmental norms, in its present location.

(b) 53 Post Offices are providing Speed Post Booking facility in the North 24 Parganas District of West Bengal.

(c) No, Sir.

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

#### Statement

*Level of access promised and norms for opening and retention of post offices*

#### Population and Distance Norms

- Urban area—Population > 20 lakhs, 1.5 kms distance from nearest post office

- Urban area—Population upto 20 lakhs, 2 kms distance from nearest post office
- Normal rural area—Population 3000, 3 kms distance from nearest post office
- Hilly, tribal, desert—Population 500 for individual village and 1000 for group of villages, 3 kms distance from nearest post office.

#### Income Norms for opening of Departmental Sub Post Offices

- Normal Rural areas—Permissible limit of loss - Rs. 2400 per annum
- Tribal and hilly areas — Permissible limit of loss - Rs. 4800 per annum
- Urban areas — initially self-supporting, profit of 5% after one year.

#### Income norms for Branch Post Offices

- Normal rural areas—percentage of income to cost  $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ , i.e. subsidy of  $66\frac{2}{3}\%$
- Hilly, tribal, desert areas—percentage of income to cost 15%. i.e. subsidy of 85%.

*[Translation]*

#### Public Services Bill

2161. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need for large scale reforms in the administrative set up of the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(c) whether a draft for Public Services Bill, 2006 has been prepared for this purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the above draft is likely to be approved 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 PACHOURI): (a) and (b) The Government has constituted on 31.8.2005, the second Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) to prepare a detailed blueprint for revamping the public administration system.

(c) to (e) A draft Public Service Bill has been prepared for dealing with all aspects of Public Services. Consultations are presently being held on the draft Bill with the State Governments, various service associations and other stakeholders. No timeframe can, therefore, be fixed at this stage for the enactment of the Public Service Bill.

[English]

#### Enquiry into Grievances and Complaints

2162. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of grievances and complaints received during the current year and the comparative figures during the past two years;

(b) the mode of enquiry conducted into these complaints;

(c) the names of departments against whom maximum number of complaints have been received; and

(d) the nature of coordination between the Centre and the Local Government while looking into these complaints?

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 PACHOURI): (a) A statement containing total number of grievances/complaints received in the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances during the current year and comparative figures during the past 2 years is enclosed.

(b) After scrutinizing in the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances, all grievances are forwarded to the Ministries/Departments and State

Governments concerned for immediate redress of the grievances under intimation to the complainant. On the basis of their gravity and seriousness certain grievances are closely monitored by this Department until their final disposal. The system of online lodging of grievances enables complainants to track the redress status of their complaints.

(c) The Ministries and Departments with a large number of grievances are: Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs (Passport Division), Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Health and F W, Department of Telecommunications, Department of Posts and Banking/Insurance Divisions, Central Board of Direct Taxes of the Ministry of Finance.

(d) While public grievances arising out of the working of various Ministries, Departments and Organizations of the government are redressed through a decentralized public grievances redress mechanism which functions in every Ministry/Department/Organization, a Committee under the Cabinet Secretary reviews the public grievances redress mechanism of all Ministries and Departments of Government of India. The grievances received in the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances pertaining to States/UTs are closely monitored and followed up with State Governments/UT Administrations concerned.

#### Statement

*Number of Grievances Received during the last Two Years and the Current Year*

	2004	2005	2006
	1	2	3
January	502	372	387
February	594	436	860
March	647	364	3708
April	627	347	1254
May	443	431	1171
June	408	304	987
July	486	460	857
August	639	414	882

	1	2	3
September	499	393	624
October	501	435	572
November	447	400	641
December	509	552	—
Total	6302	4908	11943

#### Development of Drug for Kala-azar

2163. SHRI UDAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Institute for One World Health recently claimed that it had developed a drug for the treatment of Kala-azar;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Gland Pharma Limited, Hyderabad, has sought the permission of the Government to produce the drug for treatment of Kala-azar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (b) As per the documents submitted by M/s. Gland Pharma Ltd., Hyderabad, Institute for One World Health, U.S.A. in collaboration with International Dispensary Association, Netherland, has transferred technology to M/s. Gland Pharma Limited, Hyderabad, for production of Paromomycin Injection indicated for the treatment of Kala-azar.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) M/s. Gland Pharma Limited, Hyderabad, has been permitted to manufacture & market Paromomycin Injection for the treatment of Kala-azar.

[Translation]

#### Changes in Commercial Road Transport Sector

2164. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce comprehensive changes in the Commercial Road Transport Sector of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds likely to be allocated by the Government for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Private Courier Services

2165. SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted regarding the number of private courier services operating in the country and the number of workers engaged therein;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any central legislation to regulate the Operations of the private courier services; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No Central legislation exists to regulate the operations of the private courier services.

#### Construction of Highways for Commonwealth Games

2166. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to construct four lane and eight lane highways on the Delhi-Meerut, Delhi-Hapur and Ghaziabad-Aligarh sections in view of the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Uttar Pradesh has proposed 10 highways of 2181 kilometres length to the National Highways Authority of India for upgradation and widening;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps 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) and (b) Delhi-Hapur section of NH-24 is already 4-lane and is included for six-laning under NHDP Phase-V. Delhi-Meerut Section of NH-58 is also 4-lane and Detailed Project Report (DPR) for its six-laning has been taken up by NHA under NHDP Phase-IIIA. Ghaziabad-Aligarh has been included for only DPR preparation under NHDP Phase-IIIB. However, NHDP is not based on commonwealth games.

(c) and (d) 6 Nos. of proposals have been received from Government of Uttar Pradesh in the Ministry for declaration of state roads aggregating to 859 Km. length as National Highways.

(e) At present, emphasis is given for development of existing National Highways instead of declaring more roads as National Highways.

#### **National Committee on Rural Infrastructure**

2167. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:  
SHRI MANJUNATH KUNNUR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted a National Committee on Rural Infrastructure;

(b) if so, the objectives thereof;

(c) whether the said Committee has made any recommendations;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, a committee on Rural Infrastructure with the objective

of improving Rural Infrastructure in a time bound manner through initiating policies, effecting internal prioritization, developing innovative financing arrangements and periodic review of progress.

(c) and (d) The committee has met three times so far and made the recommendations regarding-augmentation of funds, prioritization of the programmes, web based information of each component, adoption of technology and innovative methods in the programme output, involvement of beneficiaries and using Remote Sensing Technique in assessment of physical achievements, specifically for irrigation sector.

(e) Concerned ministries are following the decisions and suggestions of the Rural Infrastructure Committee and accordingly programmes are being implemented.

#### **Allocation of Coal Blocks**

2168. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is evolving a system of competitive bidding for allocation of coal blocks for captive mining;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Investment Commission in its report has recommended adoption of NELP model for private sector participation in coal mining;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by which the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken;

(f) whether other recommendations made by the Commission have been accepted and implemented; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) Government is contemplating introduction of competitive bidding system for allocation of coal mining blocks for captive use as the selection process by amending the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Investment Commission had recommended adoption of NELP model for private sector participation in coal mining by offering good quality coal blocks for bids.

(e) As against the recommendation of the Commission, Ministry of Coal had taken the stand that

parameters of allocation of blocks through contemplated competitive bidding would not be too dissimilar from that of NELP.

(f) and (g) The other recommendations of the Commission and views of the Government are as given under:

Carve out specified viable mining blocks from Coal India Limited (CIL) for captive exploitation. Alternatively, encourage the subsidiaries of CIL to induct strategic partners from leading mining companies, partners could develop existing blocks on production share basis.

Offer all mines that have been closed by CIL to the private sector, in case there are viable recoverable reserves.

Fixed royalty payment per tonne extracted, as currently notified, to be offset against up front bid amount

Institute a "use or lose" policy for all blocks, to prevent hoarding and ensure best competitive use.

Permit 50% FDI under the automatic route.

Permit merchant sale of coal by coal mines.

An exercise was carried out and 48 blocks with geological reserves of about 9.22 billion tonnes were de-reserved from the list of blocks earmarked for Coal India Ltd. for allocation to captive approved end users. Coal companies are also exploring innovative approaches and practices such as outsourcing of mining activities, engagement of mining equipments and services from reputed mining firms on risk-and-gain sharing basis, development of dedicated mines for bigger clients, etc.

CIL and its subsidiary companies are exploring the possibility of working out such arrangements.

In the proposal under consideration, it is not contemplated to offset royalty dues against the bid amount. Royalty is a statutory levy, and that could continue to accrue to the State Governments, based on the quantum of coal extracted. This is a major and stable source of income for the State Governments and this need not be subjected to any uncertainties.

Condition to the effect are stipulated while allocating captive coal blocks. Specified mile stones are laid down for completion of various activities relating to development of coal blocks as well as the associated end-use projects. If no progress is made by the captive coal blocks developers the allocation of coal block as well as mining lease are liable to be cancelled.

A system of Bank Guarantee has also been subsequently, introduced.

Government has already approved 100% FDI in captive mining of coal for all the approved end-uses.

A bill stands introduced to amend the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act to provide for commercial mining by private sector.

**Assistance Provided by Bill Gates Foundation**

2169. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bill Gates Foundation has shown keen interest to help in eradicating some deadly diseases in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds released by the Foundation during the last two years, year-wise, disease-wise;

(d) the funds utilized therefrom especially in Tamil Nadu, disease-wise; and

(e) the number of patients benefited as a result thereof gender-wise, urban/rural areas-wise in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has funded HIV/AIDS prevention programmes which include provision of free condoms, free treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, outreach led communications around safe sex, capacity building of community members around safe sex behaviour, local advocacy and treatment seeking.

(c) Rs 132.98 crores and Rs 184.03 crores have been released by the Foundation during the last two years for HIV prevention activities as per information received from Bill Gates Foundation.

(d) Rs 6.35 crores and Rs 11.16 crores were utilized in Tamil Nadu for the HIV prevention programme;

(e) Beneficiaries covered in Tamil Nadu include 34,900 female sex workers and 14,560 male sex workers, including transgenders. Roughly 29,450 beneficiaries were from the urban areas and 20,010 from the rural areas.

**Construction of Super Expressways**

2170. SHRI K. S. RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposals for construction of super expressways to be built parallel to the existing national highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(c) the likely allocation of budget for the purpose;

(d) whether these super expressways would be made available to the common masses at concessional toll tax rates;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the amount of toll tax likely to be imposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (f) There is no proposal for construction of super expressway. However, the Government has approved construction of 1,000 km of expressways on new alignment at an estimated cost of Rs. 16,680 crore on Design, Build, Finance and Operate format under National Highways Development Project Phase-VI. In the first stage, 400 km long Vadodara-Mumbai corridor will be taken. The balance 600 km will be selected from the potential routes such as Delhi-Chandigarh, Delhi-Jaipur, Delhi-Meerut, Delhi-Agra, Bangalore-Chennai and Kolkata-Dhanbad on the basis of prioritization study. At present, there is no proposal to make expressways available to the common masses at concessional toll rates. The amount of toll would depend upon the outcome of financial analysis for individual project for expressway done as part of feasibility study/detailed project report.

**Production of Communication Equipment by ITIs**

2171. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ITIs in the country at present producing equipment in the field of communication;

(b) the annual turnover of each of these institutes and the items that are being produced currently;

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to wind up these units; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) M/s ITI Limited, a Public



Sector Undertaking, is manufacturing equipment in the field of communications. It has six manufacturing units in India located at:

1. Bangalore
2. Palakkad
3. Mankapur
4. Rae Bareli
5. Naini
6. Srinagar.

(b) The annual turnover of these Units for the year 2005-06 is given in Statement-I and items being produced are given in Statement-II enclosed.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

**Statement I**

*The Annual Turnover of Units of the ITI for the year 2005-06*

Sl.No.	Unit	Value (Rs. in crore) with ED
1.	Bangalore	534.68
2.	Mankapur	487.37
3.	Naini	139.70
4.	Rai Bareli	101.96
5.	Palakkad	228.72
6.	Srinagar	4.47
7.	Network System Unit	116.52
8.	Regional Offices	135.97
<b>Total</b>		<b>1749.39</b>

**Statement II**

*The Products being Presently Manufactured by ITI Unit-wise*

Sl.No.	Unit	Products
1	2	3
1	Bangalore	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. OCB CSN MM</li> <li>2. ISDN PABX</li> <li>3. C-DOT PRODUCTS</li> <li>4. WLL CDMA INFRA</li> <li>5. CDMA IFWT</li> <li>6. SATCOM-IDR MODEM</li> <li>7. 15/18 GHz T/R M/W Equipment</li> <li>8. KU Band-VSAT</li> <li>9. PCM MUXs</li> <li>10. Executive-telephone Instrument</li> <li>11. 64 KBPS Data Cards</li> <li>12. PC Hardware</li> <li>13. Antenna For GSM &amp; CDMA</li> </ol>

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1	2	3
II	Mankapur	14. Defence Products viz. Telephones, 5b/5c, Field Auto Telephones, Secrecy 2 MB & 8 MB, Channel Secrecy, etc.  1. GSM INFRA-BTS 2. CDOT Products 3. Banking Automation Products 4. Contract Manufacturing 5. Invertor
III	Naini	1. STM-1,4,16 EQPTS 2. 2/34 OPTIMUX 3. DWDM 4. ADSL Broadband-DSLAM 5. DLC Broadband & Narrowband 6. EPBT 7. Solar Panels 8. DDF
IV	Rae Bareli	1. GSM INFRA-BTS 2. Shelters & Towers 3. SMPS 4. Dealership In Sim Cards 5. Energy Saving Devices 6. Power Distribution Automation
V	Pallakad	1. OCB Local/Tax/Tandem 2. IP TAX & SSTP 3. MLLN 4. SIM Cards
VI	Srinagar	1 EPBT
VII	NSU/ROS	1 Services, Installation, Commissioning, Maintenance, Card Repairs Etc.

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[*Translation*]

**Delay in Golden Quadrilateral Project**

2172. CH. MUNAWAR HASSAN:  
SHRI JAI PRAKASH (MOHANLAL GANJ):

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

(a) whether the work on Golden Quadrilateral Project is not progressing as per the time schedule as reported in the 'Dainik Jagran' dated November 12, 2006;

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

(c) whether the National Highways Authority of India (JNHAI) has stopped the payment of fourteen projects under the Golden Quadrilateral;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to complete the projects in scheduled time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA) : (a) and (b) 93.3 % of Golden Quadrilateral has been completed (as on 31.10.2006). There have been some delays in some contracts due to problems associated with acquisition of land, shifting of utilities, forest and environment clearances and poor performance of some contractors, etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Steps taken to expedite the projects are given in enclosed statement.

**Statement**

*Steps Taken for Early Completion of the Projects*

(a) The Contracts are regularly monitored at various levels such as by Supervision Consultant, Project Directors, Senior officers of NHAI. Progress reviews are also held at the level of Chairman, NHAI, Secretary, Department of Road Transport & Highways and Minister, Shipping Road Transport & Highways.

(b) State Governments have appointed Senior officers as nodal officers for resolving problems associated with implementation of the NHDP such as land acquisition, removal of utilities, forest / pollution / environment clearances, etc. These nodal officers hold periodic meetings to review the projects and take action to resolve the problems.

(c) A Committee of Secretaries has been constituted under Cabinet Secretary to address inter-ministerial and Centre - State issues such as land acquisition, utility shifting, environment approvals, clearance of ROBs.

(d) The procedure of issue of Land Acquisition notifications has now been simplified. Earlier all the notifications under NH Act were vetted by the Ministry of Law. Recently, an amendment has been made in the Allocation of Business Rules by which these notifications are not required to be sent to the Ministry of Law. The Ministry of Law has approved the standard formats of various notifications keeping in view the similar nature of the notifications of Land Acquisition.

(e) To expedite the construction of ROBs an officer of the Railways has been posted to NHAI to coordinate with Ministry of Railways. MOU has also been signed with M/s. IRCON for construction of some of the ROBs.

(f) Action has been taken against non performing contractors and they are not allowed to bid for future projects unless they improve the performance in existing contracts.

(g) Steps have been taken to improve cash flow problems of contractors by granting interest bearing discretionary advance at the request of contractor, release of retention money against bank guarantee of equal amount, deferment of recovery of advances (on interest basis) and relaxation in minimum IPC amount.

[*English*]

**Four Laning of National Highway**

2173. SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to widen the NH-206 of Tumkur City from Batwade to Gubbi Gate into four lane;

(b) if so, whether the Government has accorded its sanction for the said project;

(c) the time by which the work on the said stretch will be completed; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay in according sanction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) There is no proposal for widening of National Highway (NH)-206 in the Tumkur City from Batwade to Gubbi Gate into four lane in current Annual Plan. A proposal to bypass the Tumkur Town, connecting NH-4 and NH-206 is under consideration. The widening of existing stretch of NH-206 in Tumkur Town will be considered as per the recommendation of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) Consultant for the bypass.

*[Translation]*

#### **Converting NH-03 Into Six Lane**

2174. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted for six laning of Agra to Gwalior NH-3;

(b) if so, the expenditure likely to be incurred on this; and

(c) the time by which the said highway will be converted into six lane ?

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 six laning of Agra-Gwalior Section has been identified under National Highway Development Programme (NHDP) Phase-V. The NHDP Phase-V is targeted to be completed by December, 2012.

#### **Cancer Medicines**

2175. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several cancer patients have been claimed to be cured by medicines developed by the D.S. Research Centre as reported in 'Dainik Rashtrdoot', Kota (Rajasthan) dated November 8, 2006;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Government proposes to conduct tests and research on the said cancer drugs of the D.S. Research Centre; and

(e) 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) Yes, sir. The 'Dainik Rashtrdoot', Kota (Rajasthan) has reported to have published an article on D.S. Research Centre, Varanasi, U.P. claiming treatment of cancer patients through indigenous anti-cancer medicine "Sarvpshti".

(c) to (e) Prof. S. Trivedi of the D.S. Research Centre, Varanasi, U.P. was earlier contacted by the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha under this Department to provide scientific data on standardization of the medicine, pre-clinical safety/toxicity studies etc. He has submitted a list of large number of ingredients contained in the medicine most of which are not identifiable. The Centre has failed to furnish requisite information for verification of their claim regarding development of anti-cancer drug.

*[English]*

#### **Uploading Details on Websites**

2176. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has reiterated its earlier instructions to the Ministries/ Departments/PSUs, etc. to ensure that details of the tenders invited are uploaded in time every month on their official websites;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministries/Departments/PSUs have uploaded the requisite details on their websites;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken against those found guilty for the lapses?

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 PACHOURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Vigilance Commission has reiterated its earlier instructions requiring all major Organizations to publish a summary every month, of all the contracts/purchases made above a certain threshold value on their website, *vide* their circular No. 31/9/06 dated 1.9.2006. The details to be provided include the date of publication of the tender, type of bid, last date for receipt of tender, number of tenders received, names of parties qualified after technical evaluation and names of those not qualified, value of contract, whether contract was awarded to L-1 and the name of the contractor.

(c) to (e) The process of publishing of the information relating to tenders on the website is an ongoing process. The Chief Vigilance Officers (CVOs) of the organizations are to monitor the implementation of the Commission's instructions and ensure that the tenders above a threshold value fixed by them, in consultation with their respective management, are uploaded in their respective organization's website. The Chief Vigilance Officers also report this to the Commission in their reports. Any instance of deviation, when it comes to the notice of the Commission, is specifically taken up with the Organization/ Chief Vigilance Officer concerned.

*[Translation]*

**Broadband Internet Enabled Service Centres**

2177. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:  
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:

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

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to open Broadband Internet Enabled Service Centres in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all rural areas proposed to be covered under the same;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the estimated amount likely to be spent in this regard;

(f) whether the Government proposes to invite private sector's participation in this regard;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the time by which the centres are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (h) The Government has recently approved a Scheme for providing support for establishing 100,000 broadband, Internet enabled, Common Service Centres (CSCs) in rural areas of the country. The Scheme has been approved at a total cost of Rs.5742 crores. The Scheme will be implemented over a period of 4 years. Preparatory steps for Scheme implementation have already been initiated. The Government of India is estimated to contribute Rs.856 crore and the State Governments Rs.793 crores, of the total cost of the Scheme. The balance resources would be mobilized from the private sector. The Scheme is specifically designed to be implemented as a Public Private Partnership. The detailed guidelines of the Scheme have been approved and are accessible at the Department of Information Technology's website namely [www.mit.gov.in](http://www.mit.gov.in).

**Financial Assistance to States**

2178. SHRI ANANT GUDHE:  
SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI:

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

(a) whether the Union Government has stopped financial assistance given for the construction of roads and their maintenance to various States for their failure to comply with the norms fixed for loading for carriage transports;

(b) if so, the names of such States;

(c) the reaction of these States in this regard;

(d) whether the Union Government proposes to restore the financial assistance; and

(e) if so, the time by which the assistance is likely to be restored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (e) With a view of curb overloading, in the year 2003-04 Central grants for road construction was held back in respect of seven States viz. Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Orissa who were issuing special token/passes for allowing plying of overloaded vehicles. Subsequently these States had withdrawn the relevant notifications in this regard following which funds for construction/maintenance of roads were released to them.

*[English]*

**Funds to States under National Discipline Scheme**

2179. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has not released Rs. 19,04,47,8797 under the National Discipline Scheme to the State Governments particularly Gujarat;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the time by which the amount would be released?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. While proposals have been received from some States, including Gujarat, despite reminders detailed information indicating the total liability in the prescribed proforma has not been received from many other States. They have again been reminded. It is also proposed to call a meeting shortly of officials from States who have not responded to expedite the required information. While these delays on the part of some State Governments has resulted in its not having

been possible to make the required budget provision, every effort will be made to expedite releases to States who have complied with the prescribed procedures. It will be appreciated that in these circumstances, it is difficult to indicate a definite time-frame by which funds could be released to all the State Governments concerned.

*[Translation]*

**National Health Policy**

2180. SHRI MOHD. TAHIR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the targets of National Health Policy are likely to be achieved during the current year;

(b) if so, the action taken to control the communicable diseases during the previous year till date;

(c) the State-wise details thereof;

(d) whether any assessment has been made in regard to the death rate as a result of these diseases;

(e) if so, the steps taken to prevent such diseases; and

(f) the reasons for lack of public health services to improve the health scenario in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The National Health Policy 2002 has set targets to be achieved during the period 2000-15. Of the targets set for the years 2005-07, the goals have been achieved in respect of YAWS, Leprosy and setting up an Integrated System of Surveillance, National Health Accounts and Health Statistics as per schedule. As regards zero level growth of HIV/AIDS by 2007, according to the annual sentinel surveillance reports, the adult HIV prevalence for last three years has remained 0.9% indicating the zero level growth of HIV/AIDS. In the case of Polio the target set is still to be achieved.

(b) and (c) Government is implementing various national programmes for control of communicable diseases which include Programmes for Prevention of Vector Borne Diseases, Leprosy, TB and AIDS. A number of initiatives have been taken in these programmes during 10th Plan for facilitating more effective delivery, enhanced coverage

and better integration. Depending on the endemicity and disease burden, a focused strategy and approach has been evolved for controlling these diseases. In the case of Vector Borne Diseases, a multi-pronged strategy of disease management (including early case detection and complete treatment, strengthening of referral service and rapid response), integrated vector management (for transmission risk reduction like indoor residual spray, insecticides treated bed-nets, use of larvivorous etc.) and supportive interventions which include behavioural change communication, public private partnerships and inter-sectoral convergence. In the case of TB, the entire country has been covered under DOTS and facilities for diagnosis by Sputum Microscopy have been decentralized and strengthened. Drugs are provided under observation and patients monitored so that they complete their treatment. Under Leprosy Eradication Programme, decentralization and institutional development have been taken up by the State Leprosy Societies that have been formed are responsible for planning, implementation, monitoring and taking timely corrective action. Integration of leprosy services with general healthcare system has been introduced for better outreach. The focus of HIV/AIDS Programmes has been on spreading awareness, surveillance of HIV and provisioning of caring treatment. These national disease control programmes are implemented across all the States/UTs and are not State specific.

(d) to (f) While Assessments has been made in respect of some disease like TB where it is below 5%, in respect of others reported mortality is analyzed for taking corrective action in the strategy implemented.

Health is primarily a state subject and provision of medical relief for communicable diseases is essentially through Primary and Community Health Centres administered by the States. However, the public health delivery system is not fully functional due to a variety of reasons including inadequate infrastructure, lack of availability of manpower, drugs, etc. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the States/UTs through the different national disease control programmes which have been brought under the umbrella of National Rural Health Mission wherein steps are also being taken to strengthen the public health system in order to ensure early detection and treatment of cases at the point of first contact.

*[English]*

#### **Internet Accessibility in NER**

2181. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3954 dated August 23, 2005 and state:

(a) whether the Government has ensured upgradation of National Internet backbone and installation of separate server at Guwahati as well as covering of inaccessible remote areas of the NER including river islands with WLL network;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the river islands already covered with WLL network;

(c) if not, the target set for its completion;

(d) whether all district and sub-divisional headquarters of the region including Lakhimpur and Dhemaji town of Assam are yet to be provided with 24 hrs. assured internet accessibility;

(e) if so, the details and the current status thereof indicating the towns already provided with broadband service; and

(f) the target set for ensuring uninterrupted internet accessibility to all the towns and block headquarters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Internet Backbone (NIB) has been upgraded by installing A4 type Node (with core and edge routers) at Guwahati. Also a separate server (One number of broadband remote access and narrowband remote access server) has been installed at Guwahati. There is a plan to cover inaccessible remote areas of NER with WLL network. For this purpose 102 BTS will be installed in Assam, 63 BTS in North East-I, 14 BTS in Sikkim and 67 BTS in North East-II.

(b) Coverage Plan for River Islands in Assam by WLL BTS is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Target of completion of work is 31.3.2007.

(d) The dial up Internet connectivity is available in all District and Sub-division Head Quarters including Lakhimpur and Dhemaji town of Assam on 24 Hours basis.

(e) The broadband service is presently available in

six town of Assam viz Guwahati, Jorhat, Nagaon, Silchar, Dibrugarh and Tinsukia.

(f) The dial up Internet connectivity is already available in all towns and Block Head Quarters of Assam on 24-Hours basis.

**Statement**

*WLL Coverage plan for remote and inaccessible River Islands in Assam*

Sl. No.	Assembly segment	River Island/ inaccessible area	Status and Targets
1.	Majuli	Majuli	Completely covered by WLL service from 3 Nos. of BTS at Kamalabari, Bongaon and Dergaon. WLL connections have already been provided in remote gorumara, Sawgurimiri, Kacheripara and Dhemajigaon in Dhudang area.
2.	Lakhimpur	Luit-Khaboloo, Joyhing, Khoga, Paschim Telahi and Purab Telahi	Coverage from existing WLL BTS at Japisujia is available.
3.	Nowboicha	Islampur, Yuvangar, Phubari & Bedetighat	Coverage is available from Laluk and Bhiupuria BTS.
4.	Dhemaji	Machkhova, Laipulia, Nalbari, Raha and Sonarighat	Telephone facility available at Machkhova and Sonari Ghat. For others radio survey is under progress will be covered by March, 2007.
5.	Jonai	Kobuchapori, Simenchapori, Mesaki & Majorbari	Telephone facility available at Kobuchapori, Najorbari. New BTS planned at Simonchapor by March, 2007.
6.	Doomdooma	Kordoiguri, Kakojan & Dighal Tarang	Part coverage is available from Doomdooma BTS. Complete coverage will be ensured by March, 2007.
7.	Chabua	Laika/Dibru Saikhuwa Reserve, Rohmorla	Laika and Dibru Saikhuwa areas could not be surveyed due to insurgency problem. Rohmorla will be fully covered from proposed Dikom BTS (Target January, 2007).
8.	Sadiya	Amarpur River Island and Tangona	Amarpur Part coverage is available from WLL BTS at Chapakowa. Additional BTS planned at Saikoaghat for full coverage. (Target March 2007) Tangona is proposed to be covered from Philobani BTS (Target January 2007).
9.	Dhakuakhana	Bhimpura, Basudeo Sthan, Katorichapori and Beel Much	Telephone facility is available at Basudcoathan and Beel Much. For other area, radio survey is in progress. Full coverage will be ensured by March 2007.

Note : All new WLL BTSs are of CDMA 2000-1X version which support Internet access.



**Delay in four Laning of NH-47**

2182. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of four laning of NH-47 from Tuticorin to Tirunelveli has been stopped;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which this work is likely to be resumed and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The National Highway from Tuticorin to Tirunelveli is the National Highway No.7A. The progress of work for four-laning of this National Highway has slowed down due to land acquisition problem in 12.5 km stretch, non-shifting of existing water supply pipeline due to non-availability of land and cash flow problem of the contractor. The work is expected to be completed by December 2007.

*[Translation]*

**Ban on Admission in Medical/Dental Colleges**

2183. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Medical Council of India and Dental Council of India have banned admission of students in medical/dental colleges under their jurisdiction due to lack of basic facilities in these colleges;

(b) if so, the list of such medical and dental colleges, State-wise;

(c) the number of seats likely to be decreased during the academic year 2006-07 as a result of it;

(d) whether the Government proposes to take any action in this regard; 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) As per the provisions of Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Act, 1993 and the Dentists' (Amendment) Act 1993 and the Regulations framed under these Acts, the permission of Central Government is granted initially for a period of one year for establishment of a Medical College/Dental College. This permission is renewed on yearly basis on verification of achievements of annual targets set out in the scheme for opening a college. The process is continued till such time the establishment of Medical/Dental College and expansion of hospital facilities are complete. In case of failure of the college authorities to meet the annual target of development of infrastructure and other facilities, as required by MCI/DCI norms, the annual renewal of permission is not granted. The College accordingly is not eligible to admit fresh batch of students for that academic year.

The name of the Dental College which was not granted renewal of permission for the academic year 2006-07 for admitting fresh batch of undergraduate students compared to 2005-06 is given in the enclosed statement-I.

There is no such case of refusal of renewal in respect of Medical College compared to 2005-06.

The names of Medical/Dental Colleges which were granted renewal of permission with reduced intake capacity are given in the enclosed statement-II.

Thus, in total, 400 Medical and 240 Dental seats have not been renewed for 2006-07. If the concerned Medical/Dental College rectifies the deficiencies pointed out, the intake can be restored for the next year after due appraisal.

**Statement I**

*Name of Colleges where Central Government has not Renewed the Permission for Admission of the Students for the Academic Session 2006-07 compared to 2005-06*

**Dental College**

S.No.	Name of the College	State	Approved intake of the college	Intake during 2006-07 due to non-renewal
1.	Dental College, Academy of Medical Sciences, Pariyaram	Kerala	60 Seats	Nil

**Statement II**

*Name of Colleges where permission of Central Government has been renewed with Reduced Intake for the Academic Session 2006-07 compared to 2005-06*

S.No.	Name of the College	State	Initial approved annual intake	Renewed with annual intake-2006-07
1	2	3	4	5

**Dental Colleges**

1.	Panineeya Mahavidyalaya Institute for Dental Science & Research Centre, Disukhnagar	Andhra Pradesh	100 seats	60 Seats
2.	Sree Sai Dental College & Research Institute, Srikakulam	Andhra Pradesh	100 seats	60 Seats
3.	Mahatma Gandhi Mission's Dental College, Navi Mumbai	Maharashtra	100 seats	60 Seats
4.	Eklavya Dental College & Hospital Kothputti	Rajasthan	100 seats	60 Seats
5.	K.S.R. Institute of Dental Science & Research, Tiruchengode	Tamil Nadu	60 seats	40 Seats

**Medical Colleges**

1.	Pinnamaneni Sidharatha Instt. of Medical Science, Chinoutpally	Andhra Pradesh	150	100
2.	G.S.L. Medical College, Rajahmundry	Andhra Pradesh	150	100
3.	PES Instt. of Medical Sciences, Kuppam	Andhra Pradesh	150	100
4.	Pratima Instt. of Medical Sciences, Karimnagar	Andhra Pradesh	150	100
5.	Shadan Instt. of Medical Sciences, Peeranchru	Andhra Pradesh	150	100

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Bhaskar Medical College, Yenkapally	Andhra Pradesh	150	100
7.	Konaseema Instt. of Medical Sciences Amalapuram	Andhra Pradesh	150	100
8.	Ram Murti Smarak Instt. of Medical Sciences, Bareilly	U.P.	100	50

[English]

### Standards Fixed for National Highways

2184. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of minimum normal standards fixed for National Highways;

(b) the date on which road from Cochin to Madurai was declared as National Highway No. 49;

(c) whether this Highway conforms to prescribed norms/standards;

(d) if not, the measures taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) the funds required for the purpose and the manner in which the funds will be allotted; and

(f) the status of bypasses along this NH and the time by which the same are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The normal standards for National Highways (NHs) are governed by the relevant codes/guidelines published and updated by Indian Roads Congress (IRC), this Ministry's specification for road and bridge works and the guidelines issued from time to time. These standards are being laid for different terrain and location *i.e.* rural or urban area. Some of these standards are Right of Way (ROW), formation/carrageway width, road alignment and geometries, design, speed, etc.

(b) The road from Cochin to Madurai was declared as National Highway-49 on 3.3.1989.

(c) to (e) A number of deficiencies in terms of inadequate crust, weak and narrow cross drainage structures, poor geometries etc. have accumulated in the National Highway network including NH-49 over the years due to non-availability of funds as per requirement in the past. Substantial amount would be needed to remove these deficiencies. Nevertheless, these deficiencies are being tackled in various annual plans depending upon the availability of funds. As far as, National Highways 49 is concerned, 40 improvement works amounting to Rs. 72.00 crores have been taken up in the last 5 years.

(f) There are three bypass namely Tripunithura, Muvattupuzha and Kothamangalam identified on NH-49. Out of these, land acquisition has been sanctioned for Phase-I of Tripunithura bypass. Alignment of remaining stretch of Tripunithura bypass and other two bypasses have been approved by the Ministry. State PWD have been requested to send detailed land acquisition estimate based on the approved alignment.

### Increase in Cancer Cases

2185. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of cancer are rapidly increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the number of cancer cases detected during 2005-06 so far, State-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government provides assistance and medicines for cancer patients in the country;

(d) if so, the details in this regard;

(e) whether the Government has any proposal to develop and modernize the Cancer Research Centres in various States;

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

(g) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to control this disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) As per the information collected by the Population Based Cancer Registries functioning under the National Cancer Registry Programme of Indian Council of Medical Research, it has been estimated that about 7-9 lakh new cancer cases are detected every year and at any given point of time there are 2-2.5 million cancer patients. As per information available with ICMR the estimated number of cancer patients for the year 2005 is approximately 8.72 lakhs. However, the state-wise data on number of cancer cases is not maintained centrally.

(c) and (d) Health being a state subject, it is for various State Governments to ensure that adequate facilities for early detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer are made available. The Central Government is also supplementing the efforts of the State Government by providing financial assistance for setting up Radiotherapy Unit in Government Medical colleges/hospitals for providing treatment facilities. In addition, the comprehensive cancer detection and management facilities including testing facilities in respective regions/states is provided by 25 Regional Cancer Centres across the country. The financial assistance is also provided to persons below poverty line from the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi for treatment of cancer.

(e) and (f) Under NCCP, this Ministry has recognized 25 Regional Cancer Centres in different parts of the country. A list of the RCC is given in the statement enclosed.

As per the existing guidelines two RCCs can be recognized in a populous state and one time financial assistance of Rs. 3.00 crore is provided to the existing RCC and Rs. 5.00 crore to the newly recognized RCC for development of infrastructure.

(g) As per revised scheme of National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP), special emphasis is now being laid on early detection of cancer by promoting health education, creating awareness. Comprehensive cancer detection testing facilities in respective regions/States are provided by 25 Regional Cancer Centres developed over

the years under NCCP. Grant-in-aid is provided to Non-Governmental Organizations to create awareness about cancer is also being carried out through the telecast of the programme "Kalyani" on Doordarshan.

#### *Statement*

##### *List of RCCs*

Director,  
Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute,  
37, S.P. Mukherjee Road,  
Kolkata - 700 026

Director,  
Kidwai Memorial Instt. of Oncology,  
Hosur Road,  
Bangalore - 560 029,  
Karnataka

Director,  
Acharya Harihar Regional Cancer,  
Centre for Cancer Research & Treatment,  
Manglabag, Cuttack - 753 007

Member Secretary,  
Regional Cancer Control Society  
C/o Indira Gandhi Medical College,  
Shimla-1, Himachal Pradesh

Director,  
Indian Rotary Cancer Institute,  
(A.I.I.M.S.),  
Ansari Nagar, New Delhi

Director,  
Pt. J.N.M. Medical College,  
Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

Medical Superintendent,  
Civil Hospital,  
Aizawl  
Mizoram

Director,  
Gujarat Cancer Research Institute,  
New Civil Hospital Compound, Aswara,  
Ahmedabad - 380 016.  
Gujarat.

Director,  
R.S.T. Hospital & Research Centre,  
Manewada Road,  
Nagpur - 440 003, Maharashtra

Director,  
Tata Memorial Hospital  
Earnest Borges Marg,  
Parel, Mumbai-400 012

Director,  
Post Graduate Institute of Medical  
Education and Research (PGIMER)  
Chandigarh-160 012.

Director,  
Sher-I-Kashmir Institute of Medical  
Sciences, Soura, Srinagar.

Director,  
Regional Institute of Medical Sciences,  
Manipur, Imphal

Director  
Regional Cancer Centre,  
Medical College Compound,  
P.O. No. 2417  
Thiruvananthapuram - 695 011

Director,  
MNJ Institute of Oncology,  
Red Hills,  
Hyderabad - 500 004  
Andhra Pradesh

Director,  
Pondicherry Regional Cancer Society,  
JIPMER, Dhanwantari Nagar, P.O.  
Pondicherry.

Director,  
Dr. B.B. Cancer Institute,  
Gopi Nath Nagar,  
Guwahati-781 016

Director,  
Indira Gandhi Institute of  
Medical Sciences,  
Sheikhpura, Patna - 800 014, Bihar

Director,  
Acharya Tulsi Regional Cancer  
Trust & Research Institute (RCC)  
S.P. Medical College,  
Bikaner, Rajasthan

Director,  
Regional Cancer Centre,  
Pt. B.D. Sharma Post Graduate  
Institute of Medical Sciences,  
Rohtak, Haryana

Director,  
Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital,  
Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh

Director,  
Cancer Hospital & Research Centre,  
Mandre Ki Mata,  
Gwalior - 474 001, Madhya Pradesh.

Director,  
Regional Cancer Institute (WIA)  
Adyar,  
Chennai - 600 020

Director,  
Sanjay Gandhi Post-graduate Institute  
of Medical Sciences (SGPGI)  
Raebareli Road,  
Lucknow-226014.

Director,  
Govt. Arignar Anna Memorial Cancer  
Hospital, Kancheepuram, Tamil Nadu.

#### **Assistance from Rashtriya Kalyan Kosh**

2186. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides financial assistance from the Rashtriya Kalyan Kosh to sports persons in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the "assistance provided to sportspersons from the said Kosh during 2004-05, 2005-06 and the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the criteria fixed for providing assistance from the Kosh?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Financial assistance is given to sportspersons under the Scheme of National Welfare Fund by giving a monthly pension of upto

Rs.2500 to outstanding sportspersons of yesteryears who are living in indigent circumstances. Lump sum financial assistance upto Rs.40,000 is also given for medical treatment in case of injury. Sportspersons who suffer from fatal injury during training for, or while participating in, International Competitions are also helped subject to maximum assistance of Rs. 1.00 lakh. Details of assistance provided by way of pension and lump-sum financial assistance under the National Welfare Fund during 2004-05, 2005-06 and the current year is as under:-

Name of the Scheme	Year		
	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (as on 30 November 2006)
National Welfare Fund	Rs. 19,82,0007	Rs. 9,14,5007	Rs. 4,86,5007

(c) A sportsperson who has achieved a position within first eight in Individual events or within the first four in Team events in a recognized National Championship or who represents or has represented the country in the Olympic Games, the Commonwealth Games, the Asian Games, World Championships, Asian Championships, Commonwealth Championships and other such recognized events living in circumstances under which the sportsperson or his family is in distress and have no source of income or have an income of less than Rs. 3000 per month from all sources is eligible for consideration for financial assistance from the National Welfare Fund. It may please be particularly noted that the Scheme does not include sportspersons who have only participated in invitational tournaments.

#### Development of Cochin Port

2187. DR. P.P. KOYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop Cochin Port to the standard of modern international sea port;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the types of bulk cargo handled by Cochin Port and the quantity of import and export handled during the last three years;

(d) the time by which the Vallarpadam Container Terminal and associated special Economic Zone will become operational;

(e) whether the Government has any plan to connect Vallarpadam and Puthu Vypin projects with the railway system and national highways;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAY (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Government of India has formulated the National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP) for the comprehensive development of all the major ports including the port of Cochin. Under the NMDP the Government has identified 14 projects at Cochin Port involving a total investment of Rs.7920 crores covering the entire gamut of Port activities.

(c) The Cochin Port handles dry, liquid and break bulk cargo. The quantity of import and export of dry bulk, liquid bulk and break bulk cargo is given in the statement enclosed.

(d) As per the License Agreement signed by the Cochin Port with the Build Operate Transfer (BOT) operator M/s. India Gateway Terminal Private Limited (IGTPL) the BOT operator is obligated to commence the commercial operations of Phase-I of the International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT) at Vallarpadam not later than twenty four (24) months from the date of commencement of construction works. The notification for the Special Economic Zone at Vallarpadam has been issued by Government of India on 2nd November 2006.

(e) to (g) As per the license agreement signed by the Cochin Port Trust with the BOT operator the Port is obligated to provide rail connectivity and national highway connectivity before (i) the date of expiry of four (4) years from the date of commercial operation of Rajiv Gandhi Container Terminal (RGCT) or (ii) the date of expiry of twenty four (24) months from the date of commencement of construction works or (iii) the date of completion of construction works at ICTT projects site to commence operation of project facility and services envisaged in Phase-I of ICTT, whichever is latest. Keeping in mind the requirement of the project, there is no proposal to provide separate railway connectivity and National highway connectivity to Puthuvypen.

**Statement**

*Quantity of import and export of dry bulk, liquid bulk and break bulk cargo at Cochin Port in the last three years*

(in 000' tonnes)

	2003-04			2004-05			2005-06		
	Import	Export	Total	Import	Export	Total	Import	Export	Total
Break Bulk	424	11	435	403	16	419	376	12	388
Dry Bulk	795	118	913	911	28	939	1163	14	1177
Liquid Bulk	8840	1259	10099	8579	1843	10422	8060	1775	9835

**CGHS Beneficiaries**

in various States as on date, State-wise and Category-wise:

2188. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the total number of CGHS beneficiaries and card holders

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): Information is given in the enclosed statement.

*The number of cards & beneficiaries availing CGHS facilities in various cities as on 31st March 2006*

S.No.	City	Cards									Beneficiaries								
		Serving Employee	Pensioners	Freed. Fight.	M.Ps.	Ex. MPs	Journa- list	Others	Gen. Pub.	Total	Serving Employee	Paralon- ners	Free. Fight.	M.Ps.	Ex. MPs.	Journa- list	Others	Gen. Pub.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1.	Ahmedabad	6483	1459	85		26	0	0	0	8053	24747	3193	115	50	0	0	0	0	28105
2.	Allahabad	16742	3766	8		5	0	0	0	20521	82970	9783	14	22	0	0	0	0	92789
3.	Bangalore	25525	9489	315		36	0	150	0	35515	92148	18097	473	80	0	346	0	0	111144
4.	Bhopal	2779	638	2		4	0	0	0	3423	11116	2552	4	8	0	0	0	0	13680
5.	Bhubaneswar	2057	492	36		17	0	0	0	2602	10750	962	64	39	0	0	0	0	11815
6.	Chandigarh	6183	2265	1		2	0	0	0	8451	30915	4528	1	4	0	0	0	0	35448
7.	Chennai	33647	14905	1167		87	0	113	0	49919	146417	33806	2115	252	0	226	0	0	182816
8.	Dehradun	173	585	1		1	0	0	0	760	588	1277	1	1	0	0	0	0	1867
9.	Guwahati	10326	581	55		15	0	86	0	11063	40365	1538	94	43	0	163	0	0	42103
10.	Hyderabad	40555	15830	5320		60	0	18	0	61786	190497	40078	7426	143	0	45	0	0	238189
11.	Jabalpur	14773	7030	73		4	0	0	0	21879	77444	18122	146	6	0	0	0	0	95718
12.	Jaipur	23289	5144	56		15	0	173	0	28047	102078	11115	77	41	0	462	0	0	113723
13.	Kanpur	19999	6324	11		5	0	68	0	26407	101968	23407	15	15	0	283	0	0	125688

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
14.	Kolkata	37491	21675	2655		32	0	0	0	61853	140338	50276	4443		75	0	0	0	195132
15.	Lucknow	19134	3867	71		19	0	3	0	23093	105638	16865	138		37	0	5	0	122683
16.	Meerut	5363	3406	5		0	0	43	0	8817	25489	8863	7		0	0	206	0	34385
17.	Mumbai	61659	12652	137		20	0	0	0	74468	231372	32050	214		50	0	0	0	263687
18.	Nagpur	15858	7186	83		0	0	0	0	23107	68786	18563	139		0	0	0	0	87488
19.	Patna	9852	1966	1024		8	0	0	0	12850	45370	6700	1997		14	0	0	0	54081
20.	Pune	27446	29664	609		20	0	0	0	57739	109784	88982	1238		108	0	0	0	200122
21.	Ranchi	1806	1011	2		0	0	2	0	2821	8375	2889	3		0	0	0	2	11270
22.	Shillong	2019	113	1		0	0	0	0	2133	8117	213	2		0	0	0	0	8332
23.	Thiruvanthapuram	4689	2558	127		17	0	0	0	7391	17239	5573	173		39	0	0	0	23024
24.	Delhi	271462	79376	692	613	2452	1258	53	2853	358749	1005886	191255	1365	2353	1937	1595	107	3497	1207985
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>659310</b>	<b>231982</b>	<b>12536</b>	<b>613</b>	<b>2845</b>	<b>1258</b>	<b>709</b>	<b>2853</b>	<b>911447</b>	<b>2678397</b>	<b>580497</b>	<b>20264</b>	<b>2353</b>	<b>2964</b>	<b>1595</b>	<b>1843</b>	<b>3499</b>	<b>3301284</b>

#### **Allocation of Mining Blocks to Private Entrepreneurs**

2189. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited (CIL) has allocated surplus mining blocks to private entrepreneurs;

(b) if not, the reason therefor;

(c) whether in order to sustain the projected coal production in the next few years, there is a need to hand over surplus mining blocks to private entrepreneurs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) The Government after holding consultations with Coal India Limited (CIL) and Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDIL) has identified 81 coal blocks with total geological reserves of about 20.02 billion tonnes for allocation to Government/private sector companies for specified end uses. Out of these 81 blocks, 48 blocks with reserves of about 9.22 billion tonnes were earlier earmarked for CIL.

(c) and (d) In order to bridge the projected gap between demand and supply of coal in the coming years, there is a felt need to allocate coal blocks to private sector companies for specified end uses.

#### **Conference on AIDS**

2190. SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a global conference on AIDS took place recently in Toronto;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any new approaches were emphasized to prevent HIV in the world particularly in India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the nutritional support for AIDS patients is vital;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA



LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, The 16th International Conference on AIDS held at Toronto, Canada from 13th to 18th August, 2006 was organised by International AIDS Society. UNAIDS, Global Network of People living with HIV/AIDS, International Community of Women living with HIV/AIDS, International Council of AIDS Service Organisations and the Canadian AIDS Society were co-organisers. The theme of the conference was "Time to Deliver"

(c) and (d) New approaches to prevent HIV infection discussed at the above conference were use of microbicides (gel) to be used by women, circumcision in males and use of ARV drugs as pre-exposure prophylaxis to prevent HIV infection

(e) to (g) Nutritional status can affect response to Antiretroviral Therapy. NACO in consultation with World Food Programme has developed a programme for micronutrient supplementation for patients on Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) and is included in the treatment protocol.

[Translation]

#### Assistance for Planned Schemes in Rajasthan

2191. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the basis on which assistance has been provided for the planned schemes in Rajasthan by the Union Government;

(b) the date on which these norms/formula was formulated and made effective;

(c) whether Rajasthan has requested for a change in norms/formula or incorporating some other standard; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN) (a) and (b) Normal Central Assistance to the States by the Centre is provided under a formula called "Gadgil Mukherjee Formula" as approved by the National Development Council (NDC) in December, 1991. According to the formula, after setting apart funds required for External Aided Projects and a reasonable amount for Special Area

Programmes, 30% of the balance of Central Assistance for State Plans is provided to Special Category States. The remaining amount is distributed amongst the non-Special Category States on the basis of, with the weights indicated within the brackets: (i) Population (60%) (ii) Per capita income (25%) (iii) Performance in tax effort, fiscal management and progress in respect of national objectives (7.5 %) and (iv) Special Problems (7.5%).

(c) and (d) There is at present no request from Rajasthan for change of norms/formula or incorporating some other standard that is under consideration.

#### Assistance under National Mental Health Programme

2192. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from Madhya Pradesh regarding central assistance for upgradation of Department of Psychiatry at Bhopal, Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur and Riwa Medical Colleges under the National Mental Health Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the delay in this regard; and

(c) the time by which approval is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Government had received proposals for modernization of mental hospitals at Indore and Gwalior and strengthening of Psychiatric Wards in medical colleges at Indore, Gwalior, Bhopal, Jabalpur and Rewa. After considering the recommendations of the Steering Committee and appraisal of the proposals, the Government has approved strengthening of mental hospitals at Gwalior (in the year 2005-06) and Indore (2006-07), and upgradation of the Psychiatric Wards of Medical Colleges at Jabalpur (2005-06) and Indore (2006-07).

The central assistance to Medical Colleges at Bhopal, Gwalior and Rewa could not be released due to non-filling up of faculty posts in the Department of Psychiatry by the State Government, review of costs of construction/equipment, etc.

### Assistance for Cancer Control Programme

2193. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal for providing assistance under Cancer Control Programme of Medical College, Bhopal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Union Government is likely to accord its sanction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Gandhi Medical College, Bhopal has sent a proposal for financial assistance under the National Cancer Control Programme. It has already been provided Rs. 1.50 crore under the scheme. The institute is, therefore, entitled for differential grant-in-aid of Rs. 1.50 crore only when the utilization certificate for the previous grant-in-aid is settled which is still awaited.

### Vacant Posts of Doctors

2194. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 30 per cent posts of doctors are lying vacant in Rural Health Centres and Government Hospitals in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to fill the vacant posts;

(d) whether the proposal for providing services of trained doctors from the 'Indian Systems of Medicine' to the Government Hospitals is under the consideration of the Union Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) As against 24476 sanctioned posts of doctors, there are 20308 doctors in position in 23236 PHCs in the country as on September, 2005. As far as position of Specialists in the Community Health Centres (CHCs) are concerned, there are 3550 Specialists in

position as against their sanctioned number of 7582 posts. Reasons are varied like non-availability, delays in recruitment, inappropriate personnel policy of the states and lack of basic amenities and incentives for specialists to work in the rural areas.

A number of States have taken various initiatives such as:

- Rationalisation of postings of specialists;
- Compulsory rural/difficult area posting for admission to post-graduate courses and as a pre-requisite for promotion, foreign assignment or training abroad;
- Compulsory rotation of doctors on completion of prescribed tenure as per classification of locations;
- Contractual appointment of doctors;
- Option to forgo non-practicing allowance and undertake practice without compromising on assigned duties, as per the service rules; offering incentive in form of allowance, etc.

Also, a Task Group of the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) under the Chairmanship of Director General of Health Services has recommended following measures to ensure the services of doctors in rural areas :

- Increase in the age of retirement of doctors to 65 years preferably with posting near hometown;
- Decentralization of recruitment at district level;
- Walk-in-interview and contractual appointment of doctors;
- Enhancing the salary for posting in rural areas by one-third;
- Increasing the admission capacity in medical colleges for Anesthesia;
- Reviving the Diploma Course in Anesthesia;
- To start one year Certificate Course in Anesthesia for Medical Officers working in the system at present to be given by National Board of Examination.

- Recognition of five hundred bedded Hospitals to provide the facility for conducting the above course;
- Hiring of private practitioners on case-to-case basis.

Contractual appointment of doctor/specialists are being done by State/UTs under NRHM.

The States are encouraged to hire the Specialists on case to case basis.

(d) and (e) Under NRHM, a Primary Health Centre (PHC) has been upgraded with the services of an Indian System of Medicine (ISM) practitioner as per the local needs. Co-location of AYUSH facilities at the PHC level is encouraged. At the level of Community Health Centres (CHCs), one ISM specialist and one General Duty ISM doctor as per the need of the State have been approved.

*[English]*

#### **International Parcel Post Hubs**

2195. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a separate parcel division was set up in 2005 with special focus on management of all parcel products and services;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the improvement noticed as a result thereof;

(c) the difference between the Parcel Post Centres and the Parcel Division;

(d) whether the Government is planning to expand the International Parcel Post Hubs;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) With a view to focus on the parcel products, a separate Parcel and Logistics Division was established under the Business Development and Marketing Directorate of Department of

Posts on 17 March, 2005. Since then the Parcel and Logistics Division has been making focused efforts to improve the operational efficiency and to enhance the customer satisfaction in respect of parcel services of the Department.

(c) Parcel and Logistics Division is a Division of Business Development and Marketing Directorate of the Department of Posts and deals with policy matters relating to improvement of quality of services and customers satisfaction in respect of Parcel and Logistics products and services.

Parcel Post Centers are operative cum business offices of the Department of Posts at various stations and they are meant for operation at the unit level.

(d) to (f) The scheme related to the Establishment of International Parcel Post Hubs is being implemented under the 10th Five Year Plan at Mumbai Foreign Post, Delhi Foreign Post and Kochi Sub Foreign Post Offices. The scheme will be operational by next financial year. At present there is no proposal for expansion till the outcome of the present scheme is known.

#### **Cheaper Landline/Roaming Charges**

2196. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:  
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to introduce cheaper local landline call charges and mobile roaming charges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the pulse rates of mobile phone calls are likely to come down further;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government proposes to fix any standard/model pulse rate in view of the difficulties faced by the subscribers due to frequent changes in pulse rates; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) As per the TRAI (Telecom Regulatory Authority) Act, telecom tariff is under forbearance, except for rural subscribers, roaming charges for Cellular Services and leased circuits. In BSNL and MTNL, at present, there is no such proposal for reduction of local land line call charges and mobile roaming charges.

(c) TRAI has initiated a consultation process on review of ceiling tariff for roaming services by issuing a consultation paper seeking comments from various stakeholders.

(d) and (e) As per the TRAI Act, all Service Providers (including the two PSUs, namely BSNL and MTNL) are given the flexibility to offer any combination of tariffs, subject to certain regulatory principles. In BSNL and MTNL, at present, there is no such proposal for reduction of pulse rates of mobile phone calls.

(f) and (g) Vide the 31st Amendment to Telecommunication Tariff Order (TTO) dated 7th July, 2004, TRAI has mandated that any tariff once offered to a customer, must be available for a minimum period of six months from the date of enrolment. During this period of six months, the service providers are not permitted to increase any item of tariff, including the pulse rate. The Regulatory Authority (TRAI) has also issued 43rd Amendment to TTO dated 21-03-2006 wherein it was mandated that no tariff item in a tariff plan shall be increased by the access provider during the entire period of validity in respect of lifetime or unlimited validity plans and also involving an upfront payment. All Service Providers, including BSNL and MTNL have to comply with the TRAI instructions.

#### **Health Delivery System**

2197. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to restructure the Health Delivery System;

(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) to (c) To make public health delivery system fully functional and accountable to the community, the Government has taken up architectural corrections in the health care delivery system by launching the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) throughout the country with special focus on 18 States with weak health indicators and health infrastructure. The main aim is to provide accessible, affordable, accountable, effective and reliable health care, especially to the rural population and vulnerable sections of population. The strategy is to *inter-alia*

- \* Promote access to improved healthcare at household level through the female health activist (ASHA).
- \* Involve the community in the planning, implementation and monitoring of the programmes.
- \* Train and enhance capacity of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to own, control and manage public health services.
- \* Integrating vertical health and Family Welfare programmes at National, State, District and Block levels.
- \* Convergence health programmes with nutrition, sanitation and drinking water.
- \* Technical support to National, State and District Health Mission, for public health management.
- \* Promote partnerships with non-government stakeholders.

The Mission is for a 7 year period from 2005-2012.

#### **Funds for Commonwealth Games**

2198. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated by the Government for the preparation of Commonwealth games to be held in 2010;

(b) the funds allocated for infrastructure to accommodate foreign visitors visiting the country;

(c) whether the Government proposes to allocate funds from the amount allocated for infrastructure to the Union Territory like Daman and Diu which have a vast tourist potential; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) So far, proposals of the Organising Committee for the Commonwealth Games for conduct of Games (Rs.767.00 crores  $\pm$  15%), Delhi Development Authority for the Games Village and sports venue infrastructure (Rs.325.00 crores  $\pm$  20%) and the Sports Authority of India for upgradation of its stadia and creation of additional facilities (Rs. 1000.00 crores  $\pm$  10%) have been recommended by the Expenditure Finance Committee for funding through Government of India, based on which funds are being released to the agencies concerned in a phased manner. In addition, proposals of the Government of NCT of Delhi for Rs.770.00 crores for works related to upgradation of civic infrastructure, and the sports infrastructure assigned to the Government of NCT of Delhi and NDMC, have been approved in principle by the Planning Commission. The above proposals cover all the key elements of the infrastructure, etc. required for the Games.

(b) As far as arrangements for tourists/foreign visitors are concerned, a Task Force has been constituted in the Ministry of Tourism to prepare plans for the creation of adequate accommodation by way of hotels and Bed and Breakfast accommodation and to coordinate and follow-up with all concerned organizations and agencies in Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR) in this regard. No separate budgetary allocations have been made for this purpose since such accommodation would be developed by private agencies.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Since the Games are to be held in Delhi, the creation/upgradation of the required infrastructure for the Games will be confined to Delhi and the nearby areas.

#### **Increase in FDI Limit In Telecom Sector**

2199. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI RAO:

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

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal after the announcement of an increase in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) limit in telecom from 49% to 74%;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of applications received so far;

(c) the number out of them cleared/pending;

(d) the details of targets fixed by the Government for FDI beyond 49%; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. 16 applications have been received, out of which 15 have been cleared.

(d) The Government has not fixed any targets for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) beyond 49%.

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

#### **Augmenting Transparency through RTI Act**

2200. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has reviewed the functioning of the Central Information Commission and the operation of the Right to Information Act on completion of the first year of its operation;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to further augment transparency through RTI Act in Government functioning?

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 PACHOURI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Right to Information Act, 2005 has adequate provisions to promote transparency in the working of every public authority.

*[Translation]***Grants to Public Schools**

2201. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:  
SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:  
SHRI THAWARCHAND GEHLOT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has provided grant to Sanskriti School, Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for providing grants to Sanskriti School;

(d) the names of the Public Schools which have been provided grants during the last three years and the amount of grants given to each of the school;

(e) the name of the scheme under which the said grants are being provided;

(f) whether inspite of getting land at concessional rates, the said schools are not fulfilling the condition of providing education to 25 percent economically backward children; and

(g) if so, the reaction of the Government with regard to the said schools not fulfilling the stipulated condition?

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 PACHOURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The grants-in-aid released to Sanskriti School, Delhi by various Ministries/Departments of Government of India is as follows:

	Rs. (in lakhs)
1. Ministry of Finance	300
2. Ministry of Defence	500
3. Ministry of Human Resource Development	500
4. Railways	20
5. Ministry of Pers., PG & Pension	600
6. Ministry of Environment & Forests	1.5
	1921.5

(c) The school has been set up to provide quality education to the wards of Government servants transferred to Delhi from other places.

(d) and (e) The grants-in-aid to Schools is essentially a State Government function. Ministry of Human Resource Development releases grants under certain centrally sponsored schemes to State Governments/NGOs for the benefit of schools/students.

(f) In Sanskriti School, as per direction of High Court and Directorate of Education of Delhi, 20% of the seats are reserved and available for economically backward children.

(g) Does not arise.

*[English]***National Sports Development Fund**

2202. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the composition of National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) and the details of grants received by it from the Union Government during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the details of other sources through which it has raised funds during the said period;

(c) whether contribution to NSDF is exempted from payment of income-tax;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of sportspersons to whom funds have been sanctioned from this fund till date alongwith the names of the sportspersons who have been sanctioned funds in advance for training-cum-competition programmes for 2010 Commonwealth Games?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHYATI RAJ, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) was conceptualized in the year 1998 with a view to promoting sports in general, and specific sports disciplines and sportspersons in particular, for achieving excellence at the national and international level. The Fund is managed and administered by a

Council chaired by the Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports with Secretary, Additional/Joint Secretary (Sports), Financial Advisor (Youth Affairs & Sports) & Director General, Sports Authority of India as ex-officio Members and an officer not below the rank of Deputy Secretary to the Government of India of the Ministry as Member-Secretary of the Council. Apart from these, the Council has eight eminent sportspersons and upto nine eminent persons representing the corporate sector, private foundations and non-profitable voluntary organizations, and such other fields. The day-to-day work of the Fund is looked after by an Executive Committee consisting of Secretary as Chairman with Additional/Joint Secretary (Sports), Financial Advisor (Youth Affairs & Sports) & Director General, Sports Authority of India as ex-officio members, Member-Secretary of the

Council as Member-Secretary of the Committee and five nominated Members of the Council as its members.

The details of grants received by the Fund from the Government of India in last three years are as under:

Year	Grant received from Government of India
2003-04	Rs. 19.46 lakh
2004-05	Rs. 19.84 lakh
2005-06	Rs. 28.79 lakh

(b) The details of other sources through which funds have been raised during the last three years are as under:

Year	Name of Source through which Funds have been raised	Amount
1	2	3
2003-04	Punjab National Bank	Rs. 5,00,000.00
	Export-Import Bank of India	Rs. 5,00,000.00
	Bank of India	Rs. 50,000.00
	Chennai Petroleum Corp. Ltd.	Rs. 1,00,000.00
	North Eastern Electric Power Corporation of India	Rs. 20,000.00
	State Bank of Mysore	Rs. 25,000.00
	National Mineral Development Corp	Rs. 25,000.00
	Union Bank of India	Rs. 1,00,000.00
	State Bank of India	Rs. 5,00,000.00
	Central Bank of India	Rs. 1,25,000.00
	Shri K.S. Rana	Rs. 300.00
2004-05	Shri K.P. Kanhaiya	Rs. 250.00
	Shri S.K. Gupta	Rs. 500.00
	Power Grid Corp. of India Ltd.	Rs. 5,00,000.00
	Videocon International Ltd.	Rs. 1,20,000.00
	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	Rs. 20,000.00
	Oriental Bank of Commerce	Rs. 3,00,000.00

1	2	3
	Puzzolan Machinery Fabricators	Rs. 4,00,000.00
	Funds Collected through Flag distribution on National Sports Day	Rs. 4,72,219.00
2005-06	Jindal Steel & Power Ltd.	Rs. 25,00,000.00
	Funds Collected through Flag distribution on National Sports Day	Rs. 3,78,353.00

(c) and (d) The contribution to NSDF is 100% exempted from payment of Income tax.

(e) The details of sportspersons to whom funds have been sanctioned from NSDF till date are given in the

enclosed statement. Assistance is provided from the Fund on the basis of specific proposals and is an on-going process. No specific assistance has been provided so far from the Fund with reference to the Commonwealth Games which are to be held in 2010.

#### **Statement**

##### *Details of Assistance Provided from National Sports Development Fund (NSDF)*

Sl.No	Name of the sportspersons assisted from NSDF	Purpose for which assistance provided	Amount
1	2	3	4
<b>2001-2002</b>			
1.	Shri Abhinav Bindra, Shooter	Training abroad	Rs. 10,00,000
<b>2002-2003</b>			
2.	Shri. Abhinav Bindra, Shooter	Training abroad	Rs. 5,00,000
3.	Shri Anil Kumar, Athlete	-do-	Rs. 5,00,000
4.	Ms, Bobby Aloysius, Athlete	-do-	Rs. 7,50,000
<b>2003-2004</b>			
5.	Ms. Anju Bobby Geroge, Athlete	-do-	Rs. 14,91,505
6.	Lt. Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore Shooter	-do-	Rs. 78,23,496
7.	Shri Abhinav Bindra, Shooter	-do-	Rs. 1,90,000
8.	Ms. Bobby Aloysius, Athlete	-do-	Rs. 18,67,531
9.	Shri Anil Kumar, Athlete!	-do-	Rs. 8,37,794
<b>2004-2005</b>			
10.	Shri Mansher Singh, Shooter	-do-	Rs. 13,28,108
11.	Shri Manavjit Singh, Shooter	-do-	Rs. 7,99,390



1	2	3	4
12.	Shri Anwar Sultan, Shooter	Training abroad	Rs. 5,17,573
13.	Shri Gagan Narang, Shooter	-do-	Rs. 5,90,549
14.	Ms. Suma Shirur, Shooter	-do -	Rs. 2,73,213
15.	Shri Abhinav Bindra, Shooter	-do -	Rs. 13,42,506
16.	Ms. Bobby Aloysius, Athlete	-do -	Rs. 7,94,071
17.	Lt. Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore, Shooter	-do-	Rs. 5,89,932
<b>2005-2006</b>			
18.	Shri Gagan Narang, Shooter	-do-	Rs. 1,92,422
19.	Lt. Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Shooter	-do-	Rs. 32,94,077
20.	Shri Anwar Sultan, Shooter	-do-	Rs. 1,27,301
21.	Shi Manavjit Singh, Shooter	-do -	Rs. 1,28,032
22.	Ms. Anju Bobby George, Athlete	- do -	Rs. 71,154
23.	Shri Mansher Singh, Shooter	- do -	Rs. 1,00,662
24.	Shri Moraad Ali Khan	- do -	Rs. 9,00,000
<b>2006-07</b>			
25.	Shri Manavjit Singh Sandhu, Shooter	-do-	Rs. 17,95,403
26.	Shri Mansher Singh, Shooter	-do-	Rs. 5,78,406
27.	Shri Ranjan Sodhi, Shooter	-do-	Rs. 8,22,835
28.	Shri Anwar Sultan, Shooter	-do-	Rs. 5,78,406
29.	Shri Abhinav Bindra, Shooter	-do-	Rs. 37,02,661
30.	Shri Parimarjan Negi, Chess	-do-	Rs. 7,59,463

**New Clause in Indo-US Nuclear Deal**

2203. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new clause, which was introduced by the Senate, in the Indo-US nuclear deal has become a matter of concern for India;

(b) if so, whether the new clause in Section 115 of the Bill recommends joint research between India and the US in the area of nuclear non-proliferation;

(c) if so, whether the new clause will also facilitate alleged backdoor entry of US National Nuclear Security Administration; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to address this concern during the forthcoming reconciliation conference?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) An amendment to the waiver Bill passed by the US Senate on November 16, 2006 to enable full civil nuclear energy cooperation with India envisages setting up of a cooperative threat reduction (CTR) programme to further common non-proliferation goals. No prior discussions on setting up such a programme have taken place between the two Governments. By its very nature, establishing such a programme would require the agreement of Government of India, which would take a decision after fully taking into account all aspects of our national security. In fact, US Congress had earlier legislated on establishing a CTR programme with India under the Department of Defense Appropriations Act 2002, which has not been implemented.

(d) Government of India has conveyed its concerns with regard to current versions of the legislation to the US side. It is our position that the final legislation adhere as closely as possible to the understandings contained in the India-US Joint Statement of July 18, 2005 and the March 2006 Separation Plan.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 12 noon.

11.04 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at  
Twelve of the Clock.*

12.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twelve of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

...(Interruptions)

*(At this stage, Dr. Shafiqur Rahman Barq and some other Hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table)*

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Papers to be laid. Shri T.R. Baalu.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): 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 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi, for the year 2005-2006.

(ii) Annual Report of the Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5185/2006]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Dredging Corporation of India Limited, Visakhapatnam, for the year 2005-2006.

(ii) Annual Report of the Dredging Corporation of India Limited, Visakhapatnam, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5186/2006]

(c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Ennore Port Limited, Chennai, for the year 2005-2006.

(ii) Annual Report of the Ennore Port Limited, Chennai, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5187/2006]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Tariff Authority for Major Ports, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the Audited Accounts of the Tariff Authority for major Ports, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5188/2006]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Paradip Port Trust, Paradip, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Paradip Port Trust, Paradip, for the year 2005-2006.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5189/2006]
- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust, Navi Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust, Navi Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5190/2006]
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust, Visakhapatnam, for the year 2005-2006.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust, Visakhapatnam, for the year 2005-2006.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5191/2006]
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the New Mangalore Port Trust, New Mangalore, for the year 2005-2006, along with with Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the New Mangalore Port Trust, New Mangalore, for the year 2005-2006.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5192/2006]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the New Mormugao Port Trust, Goa, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the New Mormugao Port Trust, Goa, for the year 2005-2006.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5193/2006]
- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Chennai Port Trust, Chennai, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Chennai Port Trust, Chennai, for the year 2005-2006.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Chennai Port Trust, Chennai, for the year 2005-2006.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5194/2006]
- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith with Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin, for the year 2005-2006.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5195/2006]
- (10) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 103 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963:-
- (a) (i) Annual Accounts of the New Mangalore Port Trust, Panambur, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the New Mangalore Port Trust, Panambur, for the year 2005-2006.
- [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5192/2006]

(b) (i) Annual Accounts of the Mormugao Port Trust, Goa, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Mormugao Port Trust, Goa, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—5193/2006]

(c) (i) Annual Accounts of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust, Visakhapatnam, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust, Visakhapatnam, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—5191/2006]

(d) (i) Annual Accounts of the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust, Navi Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust, Navi Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—5190/2006]

(e) (i) Annual Accounts of the Kandla Port Trust, Gandhidham, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Kandla Port Trust, Gandhidham, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—5196/2006]

(f) (i) Annual Accounts of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) Review by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—5195/2006]

... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Passport (Amendment) Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 674 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th October, 2006 under sub-section (3) of section 24 of the Passport Act, 1967.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—5197/2006]

... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): On behalf of Shri Suresh Pachouri, I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 524 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st August, 2006 containing corrigendum to the Notification No. G.S.R. 650 (E) (in Hindi version only) dated the 28th October, 2005, issued under the Right to Information Act, 2005.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—5198/2006]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under article 323 (1) of the Constitution:-

(i) The 56th Annual Report of the Union Public Service Commission, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

(ii) Memorandum explaining reasons for non-acceptance of the advice of UPSC in respect of cases referred to in chapter 10 of the Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—5199/2006]

... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 23 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954:

(i) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (7th Amendment) Rules, 2006 published in Notification No. G.S.R 491(E) dated the 21st August, 2006.

for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(ii) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (VIIIth Amendment) Rules, 2006 published in Notification No. G.S.R 633 (E) dated the 13th October, 2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5203/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): I beg to lay on the Table.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5200/2006]

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956:-

(2) A copy of the Drugs and Cosmetics (5th Amendment) Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions ) published in Notification No. G.S.R 678 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 2006 under section 38 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

(i) S.O. 1243 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd August, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.) maintenance, management and operation of existing National Highway No. 3 in the State of Maharashtra.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5201/2006]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute for Post Graduate Teaching and Research in Ayurveda, Jamnagar, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) S.O. 1244 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd August, 2006 making certain Amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1309 (E) dated the 14th September, 2005.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Institute for Post Graduate Teaching and Research in Ayurveda, Jamnagar, for the year 2005-2006.

(iii) S.O. 1245 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd August, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four/six-laning, etc.,) maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 3 in the State of Maharashtra.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5202/2006]

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): I beg to lay on the Table:-

(iv) S.O. 1226 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 31 in the State of West Bengal.

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Informatics Centre Services Incorporated, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

(v) S.O. 1224 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/ four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 60 (Balasore-Laxmannath section) in the State of Orissa.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Informatics Centre Services Incorporated, New Delhi,

- (vi) S.O. 1180 (E) and S.O. 1184 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 3 (Indore-Kalaghat section) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (vii) S.O. 1209 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th July, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E) dated the 24th September, 2003.
- (viii) S.O. 1210 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th July, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 1A (Jalandhar-Pathankot and Pathankot-Jammu sections) in the State of Punjab.
- (ix) S.O. 1337 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd August, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 79 (Gulabpura to Station Nagar Section), in the State of Rajasthan.
- (x) S.O. 1504 (E) to S.O. 1510 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th September, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.,) maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 11 (Mahura-Jaipur section), in the State of Rajasthan.
- (xi) S.O. 1539 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th September, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 79 (Chittorgarh-Bhilwara section), in the State of Rajasthan.
- (xii) S.O. 1561 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th September, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 76 (Udaipur-Mangalwar section), in the State of Rajasthan.
- (xiii) S.O. 1696 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th October, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for construction of Dausa Bypass on National Highway Nos. 11 and 11A (Extension) in the State of Rajasthan.
- (xiv) S.O. 1708 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th October, 2006, containing Corrigendum to the Notification No. S.O. 1034 (E) dated 10th July, 2006 (in Hindi version only).
- (xv) S.O. 1757 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th October, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.,) maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 11 (Agra-Bharatpur section), in the State of Rajasthan.
- (xvi) S.O. 1815 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd October, 2006 authorizing officers mentioned therein to acquire land for construction of missing link, maintenance, management and operation of the National Highway No. 65 in the State of Rajasthan.
- (xvii) S.O. 1191 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th October, 2006, making certain amendment in the Notification No. S.O. 1009 (E) dated 10th November, 2006.
- (xviii) S.O. 1773 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th October, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 4 (Pune-Satara section), in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xix) S.O. 1474 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th September, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 3

- (Pimpalgaon-Dhule section), in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xx) S.O. 1784 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th October, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 6 (Nagpur-Dhule section), in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xxi) S.O. 1693 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th October, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 3 (Pimpalgaon-Dhule and Vadape-Gonde sections), in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xxii) S.O. 1338 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd August, 2006, making certain amendment in the Notification No. S.O. 1308 (E) dated 14th September, 2006.
- (xxiii) S.O. 1339 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd August, 2006, making certain amendment in the Notification No. S.O. 579 (E) dated 14th May, 2004.
- (xxiv) S.O. 1367 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th August, 2006, making certain amendment in the Notification No. S.O. 1167 (E) dated 13th July, 2005.
- (xxv) S.O. 1816 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th October, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 8 (Talasari-Manor section and Surat-Manor Tollway Project), in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xxvi) S.O. 1845 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th October 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 7 (Nagpur-Hyderabad section) in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xxvii) S.O. 1597 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th September, 2006, making certain amendment in the Notification No. S.O. 1166 (E) dated 13th July, 2005.
- (xxviii) S.O. 1392 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st September, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Nagpur-Hyderabad section), in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xxix) S.O. 1565 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th September, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.,) maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Nagpur-Hyderabad section), in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xxx) S.O. 1595 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th September, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.,) maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 31A (Sevok-Gangtok section) in the State of West Bengal.
- (xxxi) S.O. 1703 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th October, 2006 authorising Additional Magistrate (Land Acquisition) Uttar Dinajpur District to acquire land for building (widening/four-laning, bypasses etc.) maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 34 in the State of West Bengal.
- (xxxii) S.O. 1759 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th October, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 31 in the State of West Bengal.
- (xxxiii) S.O. 1723 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th October, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 31C in the State of West Bengal.

- (xxxiv) S.O. 1429 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th September, 2006 authorising Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation Limited to collect and retain the fee as per the rate mentioned therein for users of National Highway No. 4 (Mumbai-Pune section) in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xxxv) S.O. 1576 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th September, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for construction of bypass road outside the Sangamner Town on National Highway No. 50 in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xxxvi) S.O. 1342 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd August, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 37 in the State of Assam.
- (xxxvii) S.O. 1289 (E) and S.O. 1290 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th August, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 215, in the State of Orissa.
- (xxxviii) S.O. 1309 (E) and S.O. 1310 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th August, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 215, in the State of Orissa.
- (xxxix) S.O. 1372 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th August, 2006 authorizing officers mentioned therein to acquire land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway Nos. 23, 200, and 203 (Chandikhole-Duburi-Talcher and Bhubaneswar-Puri sections) in the State of Orissa.
- (xl) S.O. 1714 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th October, 2006 authorizing officers mentioned therein to acquire land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 5 (Visakhapatnam-Bhubaneswar section) in the State of Orissa.
- (xli) S.O. 1733 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th October, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 5A (Chandikhol-Paradip section) in the State of Orissa.
- (xlii) S.O. 1741 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th October, 2006, authorising officers mentioned therein to acquire land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 21 in the State of Punjab.
- (xliii) S.O. 1851 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 27th October, 2006 authorizing the officers mentioned therein as the Competent Authority to acquire land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 10 in the State of Haryana.
- (xliv) S.O. 1792 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 18th October, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 22 (Ambala-Zirakpur Section) in the State of Haryana.
- (xlv) S.O. 1523 (E) and S. O. 1524 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 14th September, 2006 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of different four-laned stretches of National Highway No. 5 in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (xlvi) S.O. 1525 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 14th September, 2006 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of four-laned stretch of National Highway No. 6 in the State of West Bengal.



- (xlvii) S.O. 1725 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 6th October, 2006 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of the National Highway No. 8B in the State of Gujarat.
- (xlviii) S.O. 1526 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th September, 2006 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of four-laned stretch of National Highway No. 2 (Sikandara-Bara via Akbarpur-Bhaunti section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (xlix) S.O. 1527 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th September, 2006 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of four-laned stretch of National Highway No. 5 (Sunakhala-Bhubaneswar section) in the State of Orissa.
- (l) S.O. 1528 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th September, 2006 regarding rates of fee to be recovered from the users of four-laned stretch of National Highway No. 60 (Dantan-Kharagpur) in the State of West Bengal.
- (ii) S.O. 1294 (E) and S.O. 1295 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th August, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of different stretches of National Highways No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet section) in the state of Tamil Nadu.
- (iii) S.O. 1296 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th August, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highways No. 7 (Hosur-Krishnagiri section) in the state of Tamil Nadu.
- (liii) S.O. 1354 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th August, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Madurai-Kanniyakumari Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (liv) S.O. 1356 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th August, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Krishnagiri-Thoppur Ghat section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lv) S.O. 1360 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th August, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 45 (Tindivanam-Villupuram-Tiruchirappalli Section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lvi) S.O. 1364 (E) to S.O 1366 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th August, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 67 in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lvii) S.O. 1370 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th August, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 47, (Salem-Coimbatore section) including constructions of bypasses in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lviii) S.O. 1371 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th August, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, (Bangalore-Salem-Madurai section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lix) S.O. 1473(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th September, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of widening, (Four-laning and junction improvement/construction of free-flow facilities), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 4 in the State of Tamil Nadu.

- (lx) S.O. 1538 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 15th September, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), of National Highway No. 46, (Krishnagiri-Ranipet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxi) S.O. 1542 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 15th September, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, (Bangalore-Salem-Madurai and Madurai-Kanniyakumari sections) including constructions of bypasses in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxii) S.O. 1543 (E) and S.O. 1544 published in Gazette of India dated 15th September, 2006 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches National Highway No. 7, (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) including constructions of bypasses in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxiii) S.O. 1546 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 15th September, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7, (Madurai-Kanniyakumari section) including constructions of bypasses in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxiv) S.O. 1547 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 15th September, 2006 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 587 (E) dated the 24th April, 2006.
- (lxv) S.O. 1549 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 15th September, 2006 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 882 (E) dated the 12th June, 2006.
- (lxvi) S.O. 1550 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 15th September, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 47, (Salem-Coimbatore section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxvii) S.O. 1710 (E) and S.O. 1711 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 5th October, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 7, (Krishnagiri-Toppar Ghat section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxviii) S.O. 1755 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 12th October, 2006, making certain amendments in the six Notifications mentioned therein.
- (lxix) S.O. 1780 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th October, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (construction) of Chennai Bypass connecting National Highway Nos. 4 and 5, in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxx) S.O. 1781 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th October, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (construction) of Chennai Bypass (Phase-II) connecting National Highway Nos. 4 and 5, in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxxi) S.O. 1782 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th October, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (construction) of Grade Separator for Chennai Bypass (Phase-II) near Madhavaram Junction, on National Highway No. 5, in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxxii) S.O. 1783 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th October, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (construction), maintenance, management and operation of Chennai Bypass (Phase-II) connecting National Highway Nos. 4 and 5, in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxxiii) S.O. 1785 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 18th October, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1765 (E) dated the 15th December, 2005.

- (lxxiv) S.O. 1819 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th October, 2006, authorizing officers mentioned therein to acquire land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 3 (Khalghat-M.P./Maharashtra Border section), in the State of Madhya Pradesh.
- (lxxv) S.O. 1959 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th November, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 24 (Sitapur-Lucknow section), in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (lxxvi) S.O. 1960 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th November, 2006, authorizing Additional District Magistrate, Solan, Himachal Pradesh as the competent authority to acquire land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 22, in the State of Himachal Pradesh.
- (lxxvii) S.O. 1963 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th November, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1593 (E) dated the 25th September, 2006.
- (lxxviii) S.O. 1379 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th August, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 864 (E) dated the 8th June, 2006.
- (lxxix) S.O. 1707 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th October, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1040 (E) dated the 24th September, 2006.
- (lxxx) S.O. 1730 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th October, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 3 (Vadape-Gonde section), in the State of Maharashtra.
- (lxxxi) S.O. 1738 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th October, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 66, in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxxxii) S.O. 1739 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th October, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 45, in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxxxiii) S.O. 1748 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th October, 2006, making certain amendments in the five Notifications mentioned therein.
- (lxxxiv) S.O. 1751 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th October, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (widening/four-laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Salem-Karur section), including the bypass, in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxxxv) S.O. 1760 (E) and S.O. 1761 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th October, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 46 (Krishnagiri-Ranipet section), in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (lxxxvi) S.O. 1786 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 18th October, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1763 (E) dated the 15th December, 2005.
- (lxxxvii) S.O. 1788(E) to S.O. 1790 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th October, 2006, regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 7

(Madurai-Kanniyakumari section), including the bypass, in the State of Tamil Nadu.

- (2) Six statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (i to vii) of (i) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5204/2006]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Road Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the period from 29th June, 2005 to 28th June, 2006.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Indian Road Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the period from 29th June, 2005 to 28th June, 2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5205/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Construction Industry Development Council, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Construction Industry Development Council, New Delhi, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5208/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of

Mathematical Sciences, Chennai, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5207/2006]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Kolkata, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5208/2006]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts,
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5209/2006]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Atomic Energy Education Society, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Atomic Energy Education Society, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5210/2006]

- (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Plasma Research, Gandhinagar, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Institute of Plasma Research, Gandhinagar, for the year 2005-2006.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5211/2006]
- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.  
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5212/2006]
- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar, for the year 2005-2006.  
(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar, for the year 2005-2006, together with Audit Report thereon.  
(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar, for the year 2005-2006.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5213/2006]
- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Harish-Chandra Research Institute, Allahabad, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts.  
(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Harish-Chandra Research Institute, Allahabad, for the year 2005-2006.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5214/2006]
- (9) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006.  
(ii) Annual Report of the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 5215/2006]
- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited, Kalpakkam, for the year 2005-2006.  
(ii) Annual Report of the Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited, Kalpakkam, for the year 2005-2006, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 5216/2006]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under the Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Act, 2005:—
- (i) S.O. 1990 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th November, 2006, appointing the 17th day of November, 2006 as the date on which the provisions of the Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Act, 2005, shall come into force.
- (ii) S.O. 1991 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th November, 2006, assigning the authorities mentioned therein to exercise the powers under the Weapons of Mass Destructions and their Delivery Systems ( Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Act, 2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—5217/2006]

- (2) A copy of the Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems, Appointment of Advisory Committees and their Powers and Duties Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 715 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th November, 2006, issued under sub-section (3) of section 26 of the Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Act, 2005.

(Placed in Library. See No. LT—5218/2006)

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12.01 hrs.

### MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 5th December, 2006 agreed without any amendment to the Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial (Amendment) Bill, 2006 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 30th November, 2006."

...(Interruptions)

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12.01<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hrs.

### COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

#### Twenty-fourth Report

[English]

SHRI CHARNJIT SINGH ATWAL (Phillaur): I beg to present the Twenty-fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions. ...(Interruptions)

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12.01<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.

### STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOOD, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

#### Fifteenth and Sixteenth Reports

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution:—

- (1) Fifteenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the Twelfth Report (14th Lok Sabha) on "Demands for Grants (2006-2007)" relating to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution).
  - (2) Sixteenth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Thirteenth Report (14th Lok Sabha) on "Demands for Grants (2006-2007)" relating to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs).
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12.01<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hrs.

### COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

#### Eighteenth Report

[English]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka): I beg to present the Eighteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on "Monitoring and implementation of recommendations of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Schedules Tribes during the years 1994-95 to 1998-99".

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12.02 hrs.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS****Statement***[English]*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): I beg to lay a copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in Chapter-I and Chapter-V of the 19th Action Taken Report (14th Lok Sabha) on 5th Report (14th Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Railways on 'Safety and Security in Indian Railways : ...*(Interruptions)*

12.02½ hrs.

**MOTION RE: THIRTY-FIRST REPORT OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE***[English]*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Thirty-first Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 5 December, 2006."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Thirty-first Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 5th December, 2006."

*The motion was adopted.*

12.03 hrs.

**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\****[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377 will be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

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\*Treated as laid on the Table.

**(i) Need to give compensation to the farmers of R.S.Pura, Hiranagar and Jammu Districts whose land was acquired by the Defence authorities**

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Sir, Most of the villagers of Distt. Hiranagar and District Jammu are facing great difficulties to earn their livelihood. The farmers who are residing in and around international Border are not able work in their agricultural land as for growing their crop they have to cross the LOC which require security check and half of their time is consumed in security checks.

Sir it is a matter of great concern that from the Defence side the border line fencing is not based on ZERO LINE and as a result the farmers land remains out of Zero Line for which they are wholly dependent neither they can leave their land nor they have any source of income. Even they have been paid the compensation on account of their acquired land by Defence authorities for "DITECH" CANAL, MOUNTS and TRACKS". There is also urgent need to remove old fencing and old Naka which are not operative in any manner.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Government particularly Defence authority to take serious note of it and take immediate steps towards release of Compensation to the farmers of around 44 kms occupied area of PHARPUR to MARWA MADOD and around 35 kms occupied area of MARA MADOOD to R.S. PURA, Hiranagar and Jammu and fencing line should be constructed at Zero Line immediately.

**(ii) Need to change the name of Train No. 9105/9106 Ahmedabad-Delhi-Haridwar Mail as Jhule Lal Jayanti Mail**

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Several trains have been named after temples and deities worshipped by different religious groups/sects in India. Such as Train No. 2317/2318 is named as "Akal Takht Express", Train No.4311/4312 as "Ala Hazarat Express", Train No.2903/2904 is named as "Golden Temple Express" and recently 'Garib-Nawaz Rath'.

'Sindhis' have made greatest sacrifice during independence movement. This Community has struggled hard to preserve their identity, language and literature. They are devotees of Bhagwan Jhule Lal, Bhagwan Jhule

Lal's Birthday—Cheti Chand has declared holiday in States like Rajasthan and Gujarat. Biggest temple of Bhagwan Jhule Lal has been built in Jaipur where lacs of devotees come every year from country and abroad. It is the earnest desire of this community that Train No. 9105/9106 Ahmedabad-Delhi-Haridwar Mail be named as 'Jhule Lal Jayanati Mail'. Sindhi Council of India has made several representations in the past on this issue.

Hon'ble Minister of Railways is requested to give respect to the sentiments of Sindhi community.

**(iii) Need to bring forth an effective legislation to prevent discrimination against AIDS patients and check the spread of deadly disease**

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul): Within the next 25 years, AIDS is set to join heart disease and stroke as the top three causes of death worldwide, according to study published online Monday.

When global mortality projections were last calculated a decade ago, researchers had assumed the number of AIDS cases would be declining. Instead, it's on the rise.

Currently ranked fourth behind heart disease, stroke and respiratory infections, AIDS is set to become No. 3 say researchers in a new report in the Public Library of Science's Medicine journal. It accounts for about 2.8 million deaths every year. But the researchers estimate a total of nearly 120 million people could die in the next 25 years.

Overall the researchers predict that in three decades, the causes of global mortality will be strikingly similar worldwide—apart from the prevalence of AIDS in poorer countries. Most people will be dying at older ages of non-infectious diseases, stroke and cancer.

In an optimistic future projection, if new HIV infections are curbed and access to life-prolonging anti-retroviral is increased, 89 million people will die from the disease. These marked differences should spark changes in current approaches to controlling AIDS now, say some experts.

"It will be increasingly hard to sustain treatment programmes unless we can turn off the tap of new HIV infections".

"These AIDS numbers point to a need to do more in prevention". Simply focusing on treatment or politically uncontroversial prevention methods will not suffice.

In our country there are certain misconception about transmission of HIV/AIDS that need to be connected to all levels. However, awareness and precautions are necessary to keep the deadly virus at bay. Almost 38% of all Indians living with HIV are women. I urge upon the Government of India to bring an effective legislation to prevent discrimination against AIDS patients and control the deadly disease.

**(iv) Need to ensure availability of medicines at economical rates**

MS. INGRID MCLEOD (Nominated): The medicines sold in the market are too costly for the Common men. According to the World Health Organization the poor people in India are the greatest sufferers. The organization estimates that about 64.5 million people in India cannot avail of commonly used drugs because of their prohibitive cost. They are forced to resort to low cost spurious drugs. The figure given by the Health National Sample Survey (55th round) is that expenditure on outpatient treatment is 66% of the total expenditure on medicines. This directly affects the economic stability of individual, family and society. The World Bank has identified health expense in India as a sharply rising source of debt for India. Medicine in common use for example albenadazole the retail price is 35 times the cost of production. Though the Supreme Court has directed that 350 essential medicines are to be made available at a lower rate nothing much has been done about the same. I request the honourable minister to consider the matter and take appropriate action so that the poor people of India get some relief.

**(v) Need to construct bye-passes in Vellakoll and Kangayam towns in Tamil Nadu with a view to decongest the flow of traffic in the regions**

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): Karur is a textile city and Coimbatore is the Manchester of Southern India in Textiles. The NH-67 is connecting both cities. Four lanning of NH-67 was started to the tune of Rs. 172 crores The towns Velakoil and Kangayam are situated in my Palani Parliamentary Consitutency. Vellakoil is a Municipality. Kangayam is a Town Panchayat. Both are the oldest towns in Erode district. The town, Kangayam is famous for bulls and cattles. Kangayam town is having 250 modern rice mills and six export oriented ghee manufacturing units. There are number of industries



manufacturing gingely oil and coconut oils. Both the towns are having hundreds of powerloom and handloom textile units. Now number of spinning and hosiery units are also coming up. The holy places like Palani, Sivanmalai, Valankanni, Nagore are enroute through Kangayam and Vellakoil. Due to four-laning, there is a proposal to demolish the buildings on both sides in Kangayam and Vellakoil towns. If the buildings are demolished in both the sides, it will create havoc and very badly affect the people of Vellakoil and Kangayam. Number of government offices, petrol pumps, rice mills, spinning mills and textile units are on the edge of the road. In NH-67, there is heavy traffic between Nagapattinam to Gudalore (Nilgiri District) through Vellakoil and Kangayam. If a bye-pass road is formed in both the towns, it will help the general public of the region and decongest the traffic as well as the buildings on both sides will be saved.

Hence, I humbly request the Hon'ble Minister of Road Transport and Highways to direct the National Highways to direct the National Highway Authorities to construct Bye-passes in Vellakoil and Kangayam and do needful.

**(vi) Need to introduce Metrol Rail Services In Hyderabad**

*[Translation]*

SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV (Sikandrabad): Sir, the population of Hyderabad is around 60-70 lakhs and the people have to face a lot of difficulties while commuting. Due to heavy rush of traffic on the roads, precious time of the commuters gets wasted. It takes around an hour to cover a stretch of 10 kms only. Metro rail service is being introduced in other cities to solve the traffic problem. However, the Union Government have not taken any step to introduce this facility in Hyderabad. The Metro rail service facility will help in reducing the travel time of the commuters of Hyderabad.

Union Government is requested to take action on an urgent basis at its level to introduce this facility in Hyderabad.

**(vii) Need to formulate a scheme for providing literacy among SCs and STs.**

SHRI MAHESH KANODIA (Patan): Sir, though the results of education boards and universities have proved that girls are well ahead of boys, but I am sorry to say that the similar trend is there in the case of the number of children not going to school. As per the study

conducted at the national level, out of 21 crore 68 lakh children in the age group of 6-14 years, as many as 1 crore 54 lakh children are deprived of schooling. Out of these 21 crore 68 lakh children, 11 crore 74 lakhs were boys and 9 crore 94 lakhs were girls. Out of it 75 lakh 50 thousand boys and 78 lakh 69 thousand girls were school dropouts and 63 lakh 78 thousand boys were deprived of schooling. Out of 7 crore 49 lakh girls, 68 lakh 53 thousand girls are deprived of schooling. Here, I would like to mention that among the children deprived of schooling, the maximum number is of children belonging to the Scheduled Tribes and their number is 119 per thousand whereas for Scheduled Castes it is 89 per thousand.

Therefore, I demand the Minister of Human Resource Development that such a scheme should be formulated to ensure that these children get an opportunity to go to school.

**(viii) Need to provide irrigation facilities in tribal areas of Bharuch, Gujarat.**

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA (Bharuch): Sir, the irrigation facilities in the tribal areas of the country are negligible. People of these areas irrigate their fields with rain water and inadequate rainfall leads to the failure of crops in their fields. On one hand, Government is not making adequate arrangements for irrigation in tribal areas and on the other hand, construction of dams and canals have not been taken up due to the rules of the Environment and Forests Department. In absence of proper irrigation facilities in the tribal areas of my parliamentary constituency of Bharuch, crops are getting damaged continuously for the last 5-6 years.

I request the Government to provide adequate irrigation facilities effectively in my parliamentary constituency of Bharuch along with the other tribal areas of the country.

**(ix) Need to provide night landing facilities for aircrafts at Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI RAKESH SINGH (Jabalpur): Sir, Jabalpur with a population of about 16 lakhs is an important city of Madhya Pradesh. Major defence installations of the country, the High Court, Marble industries and several other important Central and private institutions are located here. Besides, with 400 readymade cloth-manufacturing units, it is leading in this sector in the country. It is a popular city not only in the country but abroad also because of the famous tourist site of 'Bheraghat'.

Sir, despite having full potential, this city has been deprived of air service facility. The private airlines service recently started between Jabalpur-Bhopal-Delhi is running successfully. Now other private sector companies are also showing interest in connecting Jabalpur to other important cities. Jabalpur airport has all the facilities including office of the N.A.A.I. But even today airline companies do not find it fit for new flights in the absence of night landing facility. As local army unit did not give its approval during the British regime at the time of the Second World War so the installation of the night landing facility was put off. Today, after 58 years of our independence, when the local army unit does not have any objection, lack of night landing facility at this airport is adversely affecting the development of the area. In such a scenario, the lack of desired cooperation from the Centre is discouraging this prospective industrial city.

Sir, through you, I would request the Central Government to approve for providing the night landing facilities at the Jabalpur airport as the city has got immense potential.

**(x) Need to provide Special economic packages to the farmers affected due to drought in Maharashtra**

PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR (Chimur): Sir, the farmers of Maharashtra are reeling under the burden of debt. Paddy growers of the Bhandara, Gondia, Chandrapur, Garchirauli districts are facing drought for the last three years. Cotton procurement is also not being done properly. Due to all these reasons, thousand of farmers have committed suicides and this process is going on. In such a situation farmers need immediate assistance. A Special Scheme is required to be formulated for the paddy and cotton growers.

Therefore, I request the Government to—

1. Completely waive off the loans of Paddy and cotton growers of Vidharba and other farmers growing Soyabeen, great millet, jawari, etc.
2. New loans up to 5 lakhs be granted at the rate of 4 % interest.
3. Irrigation schemes in Vidharba be completed in the next five years.
4. Provide employment opportunities to each youth of 18 year.

5. 10 cows may be provided in each household along with the expenses involved for their rearing.

**(xi) Need to restore the rights of farmers to cultivate their land presently under possession of Army in Sagar, Madhya Pradesh.**

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Sagar): Sir, the livelihood of the laboruers and farmers of village Berkhari Guru, Ladaiyapur, Sultanpura, Talchiri, Majhgua Ahir, Majhgua Grunt, Beerkatheli, Menpani, Pathriajat, Babupura, Sironja under Field Firing Range Bamheri Beeka in my parliamentary constituency, Sagar is facing a serious threat. The cultivable land of these villages was acquired for the field firing range in 1973 by the Ministry of Defence. When the farmers opposed said acquisition, the Government gave them an assurance that they could keep using the said land for cultivation even after acquisition as they had been doing/since British rule. But, in 1992 all of a sudden, the Army stopped agricultural activities of the farmers, consequently alongwith the farmers the labourers also faced serious problem of livelihood.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to lease out said land to the farmers for cultivation atleast for a period of 10 years and whenever, the Ministry of Defence needs said land, it will be handed over to the Ministry.

**(xii) Need to start the work of doubling the railway line from Panskura to Haldia and provide stoppage of Express Trains at Mechado Station, West Bengal**

*[English]*

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH (Tamluk): Haldia has emerged as a leading industrial hub following presence of Haldia Port and Dock Refinery of IOC, Petrochemicals, Hindustan Lever, TATA Chemicals, Mitsubishi PTA plant.

Handling of cargo by Haldia Port is about 46 Million Tons. Most of the traffic is being handled by South Eastern Railways, which generates approximately 60% of its revehue from Haldia.

The Inter City Express Train which was introduced by the former Railway Minister has been withdrawn due to single line from Panskura to Haldia. This line is also

meant for accommodating goods train. You were kind enough to announce doubling of Panskura to Haldia section in rail budget.

This job was allotted to Rail Vikas Nigam Limited. Now it understood that on the plea of non-bankable project RVNL is reluctant to undertake the doubling works.

I propose that this project be implemented by South Eastern Railway from its budget fund. Further, Mechada Station is nearby Tamluk which is Headquarter of newly created district namely Purba Medinipur. Population of Purba Medinipur is about 46 lakh. The people of the District avail express train either at Howrah or at Kharagpur which is about 130 km. Besides Haldia which is leading industrial but is adjacent to Mechada Station.

The people of Purba Medinipur District will be highly benefited if the Express trains stop at Mechada Station.

I would request Hon'ble Railway Minister to accord the approval for execution of the double line by South Eastern Railway and Stoppage of the Express Trains at Mechada Station.

**(xiii) Need to take steps to curb the practice of child labour in the country**

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur): With credible estimates ranging from 60 to 115 million, India has the largest number of working children in the world. Whether they are sweating in the heat of stone quarries, working in the fields sixteen hours a day, picking rags in city streets, or hidden away as domestic servants, these children endure miserable and difficult lives. They earn little and are abused much. They struggle to make enough to eat and perhaps to help feed their families as well. They do not go to school; more than half of them will never learn the barest skills of literacy. Many of them have been working since the age of four or five, and by the time they reach adulthood they may be irrevocably sick or deformed—they will certainly be exhausted, old men and women by the age of forty, likely to be dead by fifty. Most or all of these children are working under some form of compulsion, whether from their parents, from the expectations attached to their caste, or from simple economic necessity. At least fifteen million of them, however, are workings virtual slaves and these are the bonded child labourers of India. This report is about them. "Bonded child labour" refers to the phenomenon of children working in conditions of servitude in order to

pay off a debt. The debt that binds them to their employer is incurred not by the children themselves, but by their relatives or guardians—usually by a parent. In India, these debts tend to be relatively modest, ranging on average from 500 rupees to 7,500 rupees depending on the industry and the age and skill of the child. The creditors-cum-employers offer these "loans" to destitute parents in an effort to secure the labour of a child, which is always cheap, but even cheaper under a situation of bondage. The parents, for their part, accept the loans. Bondage is a traditional worker-employer relationship in India, and the parents need the money—perhaps to pay for the costs of an illness, perhaps to provide a dowry to a marrying child, or perhaps—as is often the case—to help put food on the table. Supreme Court of India in its Judgment dated 10th December, 1996 in writ petition (Civil) No. 465/1986 that simultaneous action in all districts of the country, withdrawal of children working in hazardous industries, contribution of Rs. 20,000 per child to a welfare fund to be established for the purpose.

I urge upon the Government to follow the Supreme Court orders.

**(xiv) Need to include all the districts of Uttar Pradesh under Accelerated Power Development Reforms Programme**

*[Translation]*

SHRI D.P. SAROJ (Lalganj): Sir, UP is the most backward state and from population's point of view, it is the biggest state in the country. So far as infrastructure is concerned, the state lags far behind, be it the field of small scale or cottage industry, power, roads, employment, education or water-supply. Only four districts are included each year under Centrally Sponsored APDRP. If pace of covering districts remains so slow, it would be possible to cover all the districts in 10-15 years. In view of the pitiable condition of Uttar Pradesh there is an urgent need to include all the districts under APDRP within one or two years.

**(xv) Need to preserve historical monuments and augment tourist facilities at Kaushambi, U.P.**

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): From historical, mythological and spiritual points of view, Kaushambi is a unique place. This district owns several historical heritage to its credit. The remnants of the capital of King Udaiyan, the pillar of Ashoka and Dhositia Ram exist even today. The Government have erected only a barbed fencing around these heritage sites. This place is very important

for the followers of Budhisms - Mahatma Budha sat on a fast here for 12 years. The temple of Mahatma Budha has great significance for the followers of Jainism. Every year lakhs of domestic as well as foreign tourists throng to this place to have a glimpse of Jain temple located at Prabhas Giri and also historical remnants of Kaushambi.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to conduct survey of this place for preservation of historical monuments and also construct hotels, roads and provide means of transport and other basic amenities.

**(xvi) Need to set up a Power Grid Station at Shivhar, Bihar**

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah): Sir, everyone of us is aware that so far as electricity is concerned, Bihar is the most backward state. However, with the cooperation of the Government of India, several power projects have been taken up such as Rural Electrification Scheme, setting up of Grid and Sub-Grid station including Barauni and Kanti Thermal Power Plants, Kahalgaon.

Shivhar district headquarter of Bihar is a backward and undeveloped district. Muzaffarpur grid station is at a distance of 70 kms from Shivhar power grid station, Motihari is 60 kms, and Sitamarhi at 40 kms distance. Because of said distance the power supply position in Shivhar and other rural electrification programmes are not going on satisfactorily.

In view of the above, I urge upon the hon'ble Minister of Power to set up a power grid station in Shivhar district headquarter.

**(xvii) Need to ensure that the process of agricultural land acquisition is not continued by the Uttar Pradesh State Industrial Development Corporation in Unnao, Uttar Pradesh.**

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK (Unnao): Sir, the land of farmers of my Parliamentary constituency, Unnao is being acquired by Lucknow Industrial Development Authority and UPSIDC also proposes to acquire land of farmers of my constituency, Unnao for development of Kanpur. The market rate of the land in question being acquired is approximately Rs. 8 lakh per bigha, whereas, the compensation proposed to be paid by the Lucknow Industrial Development Authority and UPSIDC is very less *i.e.* just nominal.

My Parliamentary Constituency, Unnao is very backward area and agriculture is the only source of income of farmers of this area. After their land is acquired, they will have no means of livelihood. Therefore, it is not proper to acquire the land of the poor farmers of my Parliamentary Constituency Unnao for development of Lucknow and Kanpur.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to direct the State Government to not to acquire the land of poor farmers of my Parliamentary Constituency, Unnao, a backward area.

**(xviii) Need for creation of a separate Development Board for Konkan, Maharashtra by amending article 371(2) of the Constitution**

*[English]*

SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU (Rajapur): There is a persistent demand for a separate Development Board for Konkan, Konkan is as backward as Vidarbha and Marathwada regions. The State Legislature had passed a unanimous Resolution on 13 March 1989 requesting for separate Development Board from Konkan by making suitable amendment to article 371(2) of the Constitution of India.

In response to this the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India had given some suggestions to the Government of Maharashtra through their letter dated 5.10.2005.

As per the suggestion given by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, the State Legislature has again passed unanimous Resolution on 15.12.2005 requesting for a separate Development Board for Konkan.

Sir, the request of Maharashtra Government for separate Development Board for Konkan is still pending with the Union Government. I, therefore, request the Union Government to take immediate action in the matter and make suitable amendment in article 371(2).

**(xix) Need to augment the health services at ESI hospitals in Tenkasi, Tamil Nadu**

SHRI M. APPADURAI (Tenkasi): Mukkudal is a renowned Beedi Industry town in my Tenkasi Lok Sabha Consitutency. Nearby towns like Surandal, Aladdueam are also having many Beedi Manufacturing Units with thousands of Beedi workers. About 10 lakhs Beedi

workers are there in and around the place. As these people are under-paid, they involve their school going children as part time labour in Beedi manufacturing. Since this occupation is hazardous to health, Mukkudal has got a big hospital and nearby towns have dispensaries for the benefit of Beedi workers. But the ESI Hospitals do not have adequate number of doctors and there is short supply of medicines. Thus running these hospitals with inadequate facility is a wasteful expenditure.

Hence, I urge upon the Union Health Ministry and the Labour Ministry to evolve a co-ordinated revamp plan to augment the health facilities in these hospitals and dispensaries appointing adequate number of health personnel like Doctors, Nurses and Medical Attendants while ensuring proper medical facilities like equipment and medicines.

**(xx) Need to provide Special Financial Package for the drought affected farmers of Assam**

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL (Dibrugarh): Sir, Assam was badly hit by drought in the recent past. As a result more than 20 lakhs farmers are badly affected. The affected areas include the districts namely: Guwahati, Kokrajhar, Dhubri, Sonitpur, Bongaigaon, Naogaon, Nalbari, Kamrup, Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, etc. So, I request you to urgently intervene into the matter and take the following steps to rescue the farmers from the natural calamities.

- (a) Urgent visit of a central team to the drought affected areas;
- (b) To take appropriate steps to supply water to the farmers;
- (c) Free supply of seeds to the farmers;
- (d) To modernize water supply irrigation schemes, throughout the state of Assam with adequate financial assistance and better technology;
- (e) To activate shallow tube well, Government should supply diesel to the farmers at free of cost;
- (f) Central special package with financial assistance should be given to the farmers to compensate for their damages.

I urge upon the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture to take the above mentioned measures urgently.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 2 p.m.

12.04 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till  
Fourteen of the clock.*

14.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at  
Fourteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

*...(Interruptions)*

*(At this stage, Dr. Shafiqur Rahman Barq and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Items no. 19 and 20 may please be taken up together.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record.

*...(Interruptions)\**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please go to your seats.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You first listen to me.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record. Please go to your seats.

*...(Interruptions)\**

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\*Not recorded.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Madhusudan Mistry, you are a senior Member of your Party.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 7th of December, 2006, at 11.00 a.m.

14.04 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, December 7, 2006/ Agrahayana 16, 1928 (Saka).*

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