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Monday, December 6, 2004

Agrahayana 15, 1926 (Saka)

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## (English Version)

**Third Session**  
**(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)**



सत्यमेव जयते

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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

Monday, December 6, 2004/Agrahayana 15, 1926 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please speak one by one.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah): Mr. Speaker, what is the need of carrying out question? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramji Lal Suman, you are such a senior Member.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I will allow you after the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please keep in mind the dignity of my post.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You are agreeing with me. Shri Ramji Lal Suman, I am requesting you to raise it after the Question Hour.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Ramji Lal Suman, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I am controlling them.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I will not allow this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will not tolerate this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, you please sit down. I am controlling them on your behalf.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us go to Questions. Shri Hannan Mollah, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please speak after an hour. I will give you time.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Question 61. Shri Mohan Singh.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Malhotra, I am doing it. I am grateful to all the Members.

...(Interruptions)

11.03 hrs.

*(At this stage Dr. Shafiqur Rahman Barq came and stood on the floor near the table)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded.

*...(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Shafiqur Rahman Barq, you please go to your place.

*...(Interruptions)*

11.03<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs.

*(At this stage Dr. Shafiqur Rahman Barq went back to his seat)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: I request you.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you to speak at 12 o'clock.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What objection do you have to speak at 12 o'clock?

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Prabhunath Singh ji, please sit down and have patience.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, what are you trying to do?

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 61. Shri Mohan Singh.

*...(Interruptions)*

\*Not recorded.

11.04 hrs.

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*[Translation]*

### Production of Onion

\*61. <sup>+</sup> SHRI MOHAN SINGH:  
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of onion produced and exported during the last one year and till-date, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government has made arrangement to purchase this crop and to stabilize the prices;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith quantity of onion purchased;

(d) whether the Union Government has decided to delete onion from the list of essential commodities;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the State Governments thereto and its likely impact on production and export of onion;

(f) the number of farmers who got ~~assist.~~ loan for the purpose during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(g) the details of nodal agency working in this regard alongwith rate of interest fixed thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA):  
(a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### *Statement*

(a) The State-wise details about the quantity of onion produced during the year 2003-04 is enclosed in Annexure-I. The export of onion during the last three years is as follows:

Year	Qty (MT)	Value (Rs. Lakhs)
2001-2002	536927	46597.98
2002-2003	580951	43919.06
2003-2004	840661	82170.50

Source: National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd.

(b) and (c) The Government has not made any arrangements to purchase onion.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Onion has been withdrawn from the list of essential commodities with effect from 2004-05. This has been done with a view to facilitate free trade and marketing of onion, which in turn would encourage the farmers for taking up production for

domestic consumption as well as exports. No reaction has been received from the State Governments in this regard.

(f) and (g) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme in 'Macro Management on Agriculture-Supplementation/Complementation of States Efforts' through Work Plans assistance is provided to the farmers for transfer of technology and on-farm handling. Under this Scheme 25% subsidy is being provided for infrastructure development. State Governments have the freedom to prioritize their programmes as per their felt need. However, details about the number of farmers availing the assistance is being maintained by the respective State Governments. NABARD is providing crop loan for cultivation of vegetables including onion through different State Co-operative Banks. The interest rate being charged is in the range of 12% to 13%. There are 12 canalizing agencies involved in the export of onion as enclosed in Annexure-II.

#### *Annexure I*

##### *State-wise area and production of Onion in India*

State	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
	Area ('000 ha.)			Production (In '000 MT)		
Andhra Pradesh	28	23.75	19.76	282.63	240	176.25
Bihar	20	22	23.5	192.5	220	258
Gujarat	35	35.5	45	695.41	705.41	900
Haryana	11	12.5	13.75	207.5	225	270
Karnataka	52	43.1	32	428	363.84	251.69
Madhya Pradesh	23.5	22.5	24.5	301	276	286.8
Maharashtra	68	65	75.5	1372.5	1375	1535
Orissa	55	55	55.25	465	465	483
Others	28	29.5	32	331.5	373	393
Rajasthan	25	25	26.25	316	316	350
Tamil Nadu	30	25.4	19.5	408	337.2	224.76
Uttar Pradesh	51	51	53.75	585.5	555	593
<b>Total</b>	<b>426.5</b>	<b>410.25</b>	<b>420.76</b>	<b>5585.54</b>	<b>5451.45</b>	<b>5721.5</b>

**Annexure II**

*The export is canalized through different agencies of different States viz.*

Spice Trading Corporation Ltd., Bangalore

Gujarat Agro Industries Corporation, Ahmedabad

National Co-operative Consumer's Federation of India Ltd., New Delhi

Karnataka State Co-operative Marketing Federation Ltd., Bangalore

Maharashtra State Agriculture Marketing Board, Pune.

North Karnataka Onion Growers Co-operative Society Ltd., Hubli.

Andhra Pradesh State Trading Corporation, Hyderabad.

West Bengal Essential Commodities Supply Corporation Ltd., Kolkata.

M.P. State Agro Industries Development Corporation.

Karnataka State Produce Processing and Export Corporation Ltd., Bangalore.

M.P. Oilfed, Bhopal.

A.P. Markfed, Hyderabad.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, two points were raised in the original question which have not been replied. Firstly onion can affect politics too. So, in such a situation what is the scheme of the Government regarding storage of onion? Second question is how much onion was exported? The hon. Minister has given the names of the agencies which export onion but the hon. Minister has not told about the quantity of onion that has been exported. I want to know two things, firstly, the scheme of the Government for the storage of onion and secondly the incentives that the Government propose to give for the export of onion because the list shows that Maharashtra was the biggest producer of onion, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Rajasthan were at second place but the list that shows the names of companies engaged in export does not include any company that does business in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Rajasthan. What is the scheme of Government of India to promote export of onion?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): As far as export companies are concerned, the Government of

India's approach is that if State marketing federation come forward and seek permission for export then the policy is to permit them and the 12 organisations that have come forward are essentially government, semi government or cooperative organisations. It is the right that no organisation has come forward from Uttar Pradesh. Last year 8.4 lakh tonnes was exported and the country earned Rs. 121 crore in foreign exchange. This year 5.98 lakh metric tonne has been exported till 24.11.2004. Last year only 5 lakh metric tonne was exported till the same date so this year the quantity of onions has increased by 19 thousand tonnes. Our assessment is that this year we would be able to export 10 lakh tonnes which would be record export till date.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad to know that approximately 10 lakh metric tonnes of onion would be exported which is a good thing for the farmers of the country. NABARD fixed the interest rate at 12 to 13 percent for the credit given for production of onions. As per my knowledge this amount is increased when time period increases. I want to know whether the Government has any scheme to reduce the interest rate on loans extended to farmers for the production of onion so that they are encouraged.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: As far as NABARD'S scheme is concerned, it covers all the vegetables alongwith onion. It is true that rate of interest is between 12 percent and 13 percent. No doubt the rate is quite high that is why I called a meeting of Chairman of all the Government banks and cooperative banks of state level too. We informed them that in other fields rate of interest is at 7 percent if someone wants to purchase a flat and again it is between 7 to 7.5 percent if some one wants to purchase a Maruti car but farmers get loans at the rate of 12, 13 or 14 percent which is not fair, it is injustice and interest rates need to be changed. I am glad that all the commercial banks have made arrangements for reduction in interest rates in the coming year and it would be around 9 percent. As far as cooperative banks are concerned, they have taken deposits at the rate of 12 percent or 13 percent that is why they have not made any arrangements for reducing interest rate but they have asked for 2-3 years time during which they would return the deposits taken at higher rates and they too would take deposits at low interest rates. I am sure that situation would improve by next year.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, agricultural production has been fetching a raw deal for the farmers over the last few years and they have to

depend much on the policies of the Government. Recently particularly in my constituency Jodhpur large quantities of onion and garlic was produced but it could not be exported and now people are burning it. The country faces problem when there is low yield and the farmer is in problem when the yield is good. Recently there was a good yield of cotton and it became a problem for the farmers. I particularly want to know from the hon. Minister the scheme for export when the Government have prior information that the yield of cotton, onions or garlic is going to be good, I particularly want to know this so that the farmers might survive and make progress.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: There is separate policy for different crops as the most important thing is that where demand is low in the international market there is need to enhance the demand. Just now the Member had referred to the cotton. It is a fact that the production of cotton in the country during the current year has increased by 30 percent and it is on account of this that chances are that the market may go down even below SMP so the Government is planning to export at least 20 lakh bales of cotton to protect the domestic market. Presently, the difference in the international market is only three cent and as long as this difference of three cent persists, our cotton will not be accepted in the international market unless the Government of India provide some compensation in this regard. So, the Government have devised a system in this regard. I feel that the decision in this regard will be taken in this week and will given permission for the export of the cotton. The support that they require will be provided by the Government.

As far the export of onion is concerned, its price in the international market has not gone down below the domestic SMP so onion exporters do not need any help. Whenever such situation arises, the Government will pay attention to that and will extend support in this regard.

SHRIMATI ANURADHA CHOUDHARY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the Government are confident that in future there will be no shortage of storage of onion as the Minister in his reply has said that no arrangement has been made for the procurement of onion. Through you, I would also like to know from the hon'ble Minister about difference in the cost of production of onion and its market price.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I compliment you on your maiden question.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: As far the storage arrangement is concerned, I have told in my reply that presently the Government have separate scheme according to which financial assistance is provided for the storage and handling of the produce. Several States have taken advantage of it. As far its production or cultivation cost is concerned, presently the SMP or the existing price has not declined as yet in comparison to its cultivation cost and till now there is no loss. However, if its price further falls, then the provision will be made by the Government to purchase it in open market through NAFED or other organisations.

[English]

\*SHRI P. MOHAN: Sir, Union Government had announced several incentives to benefit the worst hit farmers of Tamil Nadu which is in the grip of drought consecutively for the past 3 years. I am also expressing my gratitude to hon. Finance Minister Shri P. Chidambaram for his announcement that the quantum of loan extended to farmers will be doubled.

But I would like to point out that this has not been implemented fully. There is a need to give proper guidelines and specific directions to NABARD to extend fresh loans and converting the pending loans to long term loans.

As such small and marginal farmers are left in the lurch to fend for themselves and these poor farmers have to pledge and hypothecate their belongings to obtain loans whereas rich and wealthy agriculturists garner all the benefits easily.

Will the Government ensure that the poor rural farmers hard hit by drought get adequate relief?

MR. SPEAKER: This is regarding onion.

Mr. Minister, do you wish to answer this supplementary because it goes beyond the main Question?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: In fact, in the credit policy which has been announced this year, they have been given certain concessions. Conversion has been accepted for this year. But until and unless there is a separate notice. I will not be able to give all the details.

\*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes; you give a separate notice.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to submit to the hon'ble Minister that 12 to 13 percent interest is charged on the loan which is provided to the farmers by the NABARD for the cultivation of onion. How can it prove beneficial if the rate of interest is reduced? Other thing is that for Orissa. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: He has answered this question.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: I would like to ask two questions.

MR. SPEAKER: Not two questions, please ask only one question.

SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kalahandi and Navapada are the worst drought affected areas of Orissa. However, the production of onion in these area is very high but farmers do not get remunerative price of their produce. The middlemen earn profit at the cost of the farmers. So, I would like to know as to what steps the Government have taken to eliminate this middle man system so that remunerative price could be provided to the farmers for their produce.

MR. SPEAKER: Thanks for asking maiden question.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: As far the purchasing of onion is concerned, it is the responsibility of the State Government to make arrangement in this regard. We provide financial support to them through NAFED. Orissa is fourth largest producer of onion. The farmers of the Orissa produce enough onion to meet the requirements of the State. Till today onions have not been exported outside of the State. The districts, about which the hon'ble Member is mentioning, hold special status. Much attention is required to be paid there. Probably, I will visit the State on 26th and meet the Chief Minister there and will discuss about formulation of agricultural plan for four-five districts. The Government want to extend its financial support and introduce some new cropping pattern in the State. The Government want to formulate a new policy for the said districts and I hope that it will be beneficial for the area.

*[English]*

PROF. M. RAMADASS: Hon. Speaker, Sir, the data given on the production and export of onion does not show a rosy picture about this product. For the country as a whole, there has not been a consistent trend over the area as well as production. More specifically, in respect of Tamil Nadu there has been a decline in area from 30,000 hectares in 2001-02 to 25,400 hectares in 2002-03 and to 19,500 hectares in 2003-04. Perhaps among all the seven or eight States where onion is produced. Tamil Nadu has touched the lowest level of production as well as highest rate of decline. What are the possible causes for it? I would like to know whether it is because onion has been taken out of the list of essential commodities by the Government of India that this decline has come; or whether the crop has become unremunerative to the farmers; or whether there are any faulty policies?

My second supplementary is with regard to exports. I would like to know whether there is any continuous monitoring of international prices and has the Government got any tariff protection scheme for this crop.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Regarding onions, one of the most important things is that it depends on the market position. If the market prices are good, farmers immediately jump in a big scale on the cultivation of onion. If the prices drop, next year there will be an immediate fall in the crop. It is a continuous structure. If you study the overall situation of 10-15 years, there is a continuous fluctuation in this particular State. Our information and observation is that the farmers in Tamil Nadu are shifting from onion to some other crop which gives better yield and better price.

MR. SPEAKER: Better try to motivate them.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, onion is a perishable commodity. On several occasions, we come across such news that farmers committed suicide especially in Maharashtra whenever there was bumper production of onion in the state and they were not able to sell it in the market. I am glad that Shri Sharad Pawar ji is the Minister of Agriculture. He has sympathy for the farmers. Through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the Government propose to set up procurement centre in those States where there is high production of onion so as to stop farmers from

committing suicide. The Government provide facilities to the farmers through NABARD, however, there are states where cooperative banks are not functioning properly and farmers are also not getting facility from NABARD. Since the Government are monitoring, he must be aware of the fact that cooperative banks in Bihar are on the verge of closure as they are not functional. Will the Government propose to take any special step to provide financial assistance to the farmers of such States?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: It has already been stated that attention would be paid to formulate definite programme to encourage commercial bank where cooperative banks are functioning well. It is a fact that in the event of bumper production of onion crop its processing facility is not available in the country. There are some new processing units for which we are cultivating some onion. We will have to change those varieties. Several such processing units are coming up in the State like Maharashtra and Gujarat. Though the number of such units is inadequate, however, there is a need to encourage them.

*[English]*

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: I am really amused of the answers that are being given by the hon. Finance Minister and the hon. Agriculture Minister.

Sir, as you know, in the same House, during the Budget Speech, and subsequently also, the Finance Minister had said that maximum rate of interest charged today is 9 per cent from the farmers. But, hon. Minister for Agriculture says that it is between 12 and 13 per cent, which is correct.

Secondly, in many States, most of the cooperatives are not in a position to work. I would like to know, through you, how are they going to revive these cooperative institutions.

MR. SPEAKER: He has said it already. He has answered it already. It is already answered.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: However, the rate of interest. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He has answered it. Jalappa Saheb you please see to its.

Shri Shrinivas D. Patil.

SHRI R.L. JALAPPA: Even three days ago, when the Finance Minister was replying to the debate on the Banking Regulation Bill, he said that NABARD'S rate of interest is 5.25 to 5.5 per cent. If they charge two per cent more than that, one per cent by the Apex Bank and another one per cent by the district cooperative banks and all that, it cannot be more than 7.75 to 8 per cent. Now, if the farmers are charged 12 to 13 per cent, how can they survive?

MR. SPEAKER: I think, you put it next time. Give a fresh notice.

Shri Shrinivas Patil, be very brief. You are very articulate.

SHRI SHRINIVAS DADASAHEB PATIL: Sir, when there is ample crop, the commodities are sold in the market at cheaper rates and throwaway prices are given to the farmers. I would like to know whether there is any system to store that material on behalf of the farmers and giving some advance—may be about 25 per cent or 30 per cent of prevailing price of that commodity. I would like to know whether the commodity will be allowed to be sold through that society or through that storage when there are good rates, after three or four months, after the harvest; and thus more money could be given to the farmers so that they will be benefited. Whether this scheme will be implemented. If so, when it is likely to commence.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: As on today, in certain States, facility has been provided to set up warehouses which are a little different from the normal warehouses for onions. But still today there is no provision, as hon. Member has suggested. But, it is a good suggestion.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, onion is such an item which is consumed most by the poor. If they do not have anything else to eat they satisfy their hunger with bread onion and salt. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the Government will fix the price of onion and procure the onion by establishing weigh-bridge in all rural areas as is done in the case of sugarcane, wheat and paddy so that remunerative price of the onion could be provided to the farmers.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, SLP of every crop is not fixed. There are some selected items for which SLP is fixed through CACP. Onion is not



included in that as it is a limited crop and it is difficult to formulate a national policy in this regard.

*(English)*

#### **Maintenance of Buffer Zone around Silent Valley**

\*62. SHRI LONAPPAN NAMBADAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that private forest lands are within the Buffer Zone of the Silent Valley National Park biosphere reserve; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to acquire the same for maintaining the Buffer Zone around this biosphere reserve?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### ***Statement***

(a) There are private forest lands around the Silent Valley National Park, which is one of the core zones under the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.

(b) There is no proposal under consideration to acquire the private forest lands situated in the Buffer Zone of Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve around the Silent Valley National Park.

SHRI LONAPPAN NAMBADAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, if such private lands are within the Buffer Zone, I would like to know why the Government should not have acquired it.

SHRI A. RAJA: The purpose behind Government's declaration of 'Buffer Zone' is that they are maintaining National Parks and Sanctuaries which are notified under the Wildlife Protection Act. These National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries cannot survive in isolation, without the help of people living in and around area, and the people who are dwelling in the forest areas. So, in order to avoid isolation of National Parks and Sanctuaries, we must have a cumulative and comprehensive look in and around the area which has been notified and has been declared as biosphere by the astronomical measures with latitude and longitude.

MR. SPEAKER: The point is about acquisition.

SHRI A. RAJA: The question of acquisition would not come. We are maintaining it. We are concerned about the National Parks and Sanctuaries.

SHRI LONAPPAN NAMBADAN: What is the Government's response towards the Kerala Government's passive attitude in this respect?

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, no proposal has been submitted to the Government of India by the Kerala Government with regard to funds or facilitation for national parks and sanctuaries.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, it is now accepted that the Silent Valley forest is a rare evergreen rainforest in the world. That is why, the Silent Valley Project was abandoned. Now, it is reliably learnt that there is a proposal to construct another hydroelectric project near the Silent Valley forest, in a place called 'Patragudam'. The environmentalists and concerned groups have expressed their apprehension about this project. I would like to know whether there is a proposal for such a hydroelectric project in Patragudam. What is the Government's response to it?

SHRI A. RAJA: There is no proposal as such pending before the Ministry and it has not been mooted by any project proponent.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, on the one side, the Government is trying to push people, especially the tribals, out from the sanctuary and also from the National Park. The Government of Gujarat has recently issued a circular that these people should be sent out from the sanctuary and the National Park. On the other side, the industries are making an application to the Ministry of Environment to start mines in this area. I would like to know from the Minister whether there has been any application from Government in Balaram Sanctuary which is in my constituency, Sabarkantha, for giving them lease on the mines as well as pushing people out from the sanctuary and the National Park.

MR. SPEAKER: It really does not arise.

Mr. Minister, do you have any information?

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, actually, in and around that sanctuaries and the national parks, no mining will be permitted by the Government of India.

So far as the tribals and other persons dwelling in that area are concerned, unless there is pure and absolute

justification to shift people who are residing in that area, we do not shift them. We are always making rehabilitation measures.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, I am sorry that the answer has been given in a casual manner without giving the details. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You do not give the answer. You put a question.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Is the Government aware that Silent Valley is a place where the rarest of rare human living organism is available. It is only here in the whole world that such a rare organism is available. I do not know whether the Government is aware of that fact.

Now, my main question is in regard to the maintenance of ecological and environmental balance. Now, there is encroachment from all sides in the name of private forests. So, will the Government be pleased to take over all the private forests and maintain this rare species? It is a rare treasury so far as human life is concerned. Will the Government take necessary steps to acquire all those private forests in and around Silent Valley and maintain the ecological balance?

MR. SPEAKER: He has already answered it.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, with due respect to the hon. Member, I can say in this House that the Government is well aware about the importance and significance of the Silent Valley Project.

Sir, as a matter of fact, not only the Silent Valley biosphere, but also the Gulf of Mannar, Nanda Devi, Sunderbans—all these biosphere have been recognised by the United States, and they are giving guidelines. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is the United Nations and not the United States.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, it is UNESCO. It has been recognised by UNESCO itself, and they are issuing guidelines as to how it should be monitored. There will be no departure from those guidelines issued by UNESCO. The Government is very meticulous to maintain the biosphere. The problem is that all the private forest lands which are situated in and around the biosphere cannot be acquired, and it is not financially possible.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know categorically one thing from the Minister. When an irrigation project is built, land is acquired and market compensation is given.

MR. SPEAKER: You come to Silent Valley.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Yes, Sir, I am coming to that.

MR. SPEAKER: When?

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: When a big mega project or a big industrial establishment comes, forestland, ecological land is acquired, the people, who are evacuated, are given actual compensation at the market value. Environment and forests have become a major issue, and now a lot of sanctuaries and national parks are coming up throughout the country. Similar is the case of Silent Valley where private and other people have to be evacuated to make the bio-diversity and biosphere more effective. So, I would like to know from the Minister categorically that when they evacuate people from National Parks and sanctuaries, will they give adequate compensation and whether adequate rehabilitation programme will be drawn up for the evacuees from the National Parks? It is because today the Department of Environment and Forests does not have a clear rehabilitation programme.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question?

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: My question is this. Will the Government formulate a law or enact in Parliament a Rehabilitation Policy for the evacuees from the National Parks and sanctuaries or not? That is my pointed and categorical question. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI A. RAJA: Adequate provisions are already available.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: But you are not giving adequate compensation to them.

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot go on putting running question.

SHRI A. RAJA: Whenever the land is acquired for the sanctuaries or national parks, definitely the well-being and existence of those people who are living in that area will be taken into consideration. Of course, the Government of India is having provision to provide for funding the State Government. If it is identified by the

State Government, definitely we are giving money for rehabilitation. The problem is that without the co-operation of the tribals, those who are living in that area, a national park or a sanctuary cannot be protected. That precipitation is always in the mind of the Government of India.  
 ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record. Mr. Bikram Keshari Deo, it will not be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: They are putting questions. There are methods of seeking clarification.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot go on putting running question. I have not permitted this.

...*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: In the second part of the answer, it is stated that there is no proposal under consideration to acquire the private forestland.

MR. SPEAKER: This is something new.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Yes, Sir. In view of this, many ecologically fragile areas of the State are under the illegal possession of the private owners in Kerala. Considering this fact, the Government of Kerala had passed a Bill on 1.8.2003. It has been sent for the approval of the Government of India. Since no decision has been taken yet, the possession of private ownership in these important areas is still continuing. What is the position that the Government is going to take? Will the Government take it as a serious issue? The State Government has already requested you to do. What is the position of the Government now?

SHRI A. RAJA: He is talking about some legislative measure that has been taken by the State Government. If it is so, I think it may be pending with the Law Ministry. We will check it up and revert back to the Member.

MR. SPEAKER: You have no information.

SHRI A. RAJA: Yes.

### Interest Rate of EPF

\*63. <sup>+</sup> SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:  
 SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:

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

(a) whether his ministry has issued a notification to the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) to pay 8.5 percent interest to employees who have quit or lost their jobs in the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Central Board of Trustees (CBT) had decided on a 9.5 percent interest rate for 2002-2003 and 2003-2004;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for notifying for a lesser rate than decided by CBT?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### *Statement*

(a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) As per provisions contained in Paragraph 60 (1) of Employees' Provident Fund Scheme 1952, EPF Organisation is required to credit interest on the balance available in the accounts of the EPF members at such rate as may be determined by the Central Government in consultation with the Central Board of Trustees (CBT, EPF). Thus CBT, EPF recommends rate of interest to be credited to EPF subscribers for further consideration by the Government. For the years 2002-03 and 2003-04 CBT, EPF has recommended interest rates at 9.5% and 9% (+additional Golden Jubilee Bonus interest of 0.5%) respectively.

(e) The Government has not issued any notification in respect of rate of interest to be paid to EPF members for the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 so far.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, I am asked to hold the brief for him.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: How can it be?

MR. SPEAKER: Notice should have been given earlier.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I think the notice has been given.

MR. SPEAKER: All right.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, it is extremely unusual. It is not only the question of propriety why notice has not been given before, but also it is unusual.

MR. SPEAKER: He said it has been given. I take it. It may not have come. You come to the question.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: It is unusual because the Minister is in the capital. He is somewhere else. It is unusual. I put on record.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall look into it.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I hope the Home Minister is equipped.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. You go on.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: He is afraid of replying.  
...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: The last part of the question is absolutely puzzling, surprising, unfortunate and unbecoming of any responsible Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the question.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: The last para says:

"The Government has not issued any notification in respect of interest to be paid to Employees Provident Fund members for the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05."

Sir, you are a lawyer.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not sitting here as a lawyer. You put your question to him.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: You are here as a respected Speaker and Member of the House but your profession is not unknown to us.

Sir, the Government of India is not the custodian of the Fund. The custodian of the Fund is the Employees Provident Fund Organisation. The Ministry of Finance, because of the peculiar law, has the last say on what would be the interest rate on Provident Fund. Nobody knows who has made this law.

For three years, no interest is being credited. No government is functioning in the Ministry of Labour.

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question? Please come to the question.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I am only drawing the attention of the nation towards the callousness.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gurudas Dasgupta, please come to the question. This is Question Hour.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, this is my respectful question to the hon. officiating Minister of Labour.

MR. SPEAKER: He is not the officiating Minister of Labour.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: At the moment, he is doing it.

MR. SPEAKER: This is unnecessary. You please come to the question. This is a very vital question.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: The hon. Minister is here as a responsible member of the Government.

Do you defend this dereliction of duty on the part of the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Finance and the EPFO to the extent that for three consecutive years no interest is being credited? Do you believe that this is an act of responsibility? Or, do you believe that this is an act of irresponsibility?

MR. SPEAKER: That is a matter of opinion.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: How long would you take to correct this?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister may please reply.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, this Government has been in power only for the last six months. We are taking steps to see that what was not done in the past would be corrected.

The question of deciding the interest rate to be paid arises only when some more money has to be found to increase the rate of interest, which has to be given to the employees. The funds, which are available with the Central Provident Fund Trust, are not enough to pay the interest at the rate which is expected by the labour. That is why the Board has discussed this matter with the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Labour is discussing this matter with the Ministry of Finance. This decision is not taken by the Ministry of Finance. This decision is taken by the Ministry of Labour. If the funds are enough, it is not necessary to discuss with the Ministry of Finance. If the funds are not enough and something has to be found to give the demanded rate of interest to the employees, only then the question arises.

The present Government is looking into the matter. I am not going to comment on what has been done or what has not been done but I would like to bring to the notice of hon. Members in this august House that the Government is looking into it for favourable decision.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I do not agree that the Provident Fund Organisation does not have the funds to give 9.5 per cent rate of interest.

MR. SPEAKER: This is the time for eliciting information, not for giving information.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware that there is a hefty sum of Rs. 8,000 crore lying in the suspense account of the Provident Fund Organisation, which would enable the Provident Fund Organisation to have one per cent hike in the rate of interest. I would like to know whether he is aware of it. I would also like to know whether he would agree that since the Provident Fund Organisation is in doldrums, its accounts should be looked into by the C&AG, to give the Government a proper assessment of the funds lying there. This is a specific question and I would like to have from the hon. Minister a specific answer.

MR. SPEAKER: This is a suggestion for action.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: No, Sir. Rs. 8,000 crore are lying in the suspense account and he has not been informed of it. I would like to know whether he is ready to have a C&AG audit.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: There are funds available and these funds have to be used to pay a particular rate of interest to the employees.

I have the figures which I would give to hon. Members.

If the rate of interest is at eight per cent, then we have surplus funds; if the rate of interest is at 8.5 per cent, then there is a deficit of Rs. 206 crore; if it goes to 9 per cent, then there is a deficit of Rs. 566.80 crore; and if it goes to 9.5 per cent, the deficit is Rs. 927.15 crore.

Now, it is because of this that it has become necessary to consult the Ministry of Finance to find the funds for giving the rate of interest at 9.5 per cent. I have said it and you should be happy to note that I have said that the Government is looking into it in order to give a favourable decision.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, I need your protection. I had specifically said that Rs. 8,000 crore is lying in the suspense account. I would like to know whether he agrees that it is there or not. The point of C&AG audit is avoided. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: There are people who have not contributed to it and the action is being taken to see that the contribution is made by the employers also in order to increase the corpus of the fund and to get more interest on it.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Part (a) of my Supplementary question is. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No Part (a). Please put it properly; do not make it so obvious.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: I would like to know whether it is a fact that a large sum of unclaimed dues is lying idle with the Employees Provident Fund Organisation and if it is so, please state the details of the total sum of amount.

Part (b) of my question is: whether the Government is contemplating with the idea of depositing the amount in some profit-earning Government scheme so that with the earnings of this idle fund along with the earnings on regular EPF, Fund a higher interest rate on Provident Fund deposits can be offered to workers.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: There is a scheme made by the Government and under that scheme certain amount of money is kept with the Union Government, certain amount of money is invested in the securities of the State Governments and certain amount of money is

invested by the Board either in the Union Government securities or State Government securities or with the private sector also.

Now, the Trustees are trying to see that the investment is done in such a fashion that the maximum amount of income comes out of the investment. It has been trying to do that and here the position is that 72 per cent of the funds are with the 'Special Deposit Scheme' and that is created in order to protect the interests of the employees. Now, they are trying to see as to how best the investment can be done and they are trying to see how best the interest can be earned on the investment which is done and more interest is given to the employees.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that in the recent past, particularly during the last five years, the Employees Provident Fund Organisation had made certain investments which were imprudent in nature and rather intended to benefit some people from which the returns have not been commensurate or rather the amount has been held up with the people where the investment was made, that is, in the private sector, and if that was so, what is the extent of loss that has occurred to the EPFO because of that.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Seventy-two per cent of the investment is done in the 'Special Deposit Scheme'. It is expected that 25 per cent of the investment is done in the Union Government securities, 15 per cent in the State Government securities, 30 per cent in the public sector undertakings and only 30 per cent investment is allowed to be done by the Trust in private sector or other sectors also. So, the majority of the investment is in the Government securities and public sector securities. That is why, the contribution has been taken and it is seen that this investment gets some income for the employees. Now, as to the small details as one or two persons having not paid back the interests and all those things, I shall have to get that information and that can be given to the hon. Member.

SHRI ABDULLAKUTTY: Thank you, Sir. I want to know whether the Government is aware that the employees who have been transferred from EPF to CPF are not getting their pension. They are yet to get even their account numbers. Will the hon. Minister be pleased to give the reason for the delay and also about the action Government intend to take in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER: Have you got any information?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, I shall have to get the information and I will reach back to him.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, Employees Provident Fund Scheme is the only important social security scheme for the employees and workers of this country. The Government uses it as a captive fund and 72 per cent is put in the special deposit schemes. It should not be compared with any other deposits like the deposits in the banks and others. Even in the case of the Senior Citizens scheme, there is a limit. But the Government takes a lifetime cover for a 30-year period for which the Government can use it. ...(*Interruptions*) Now, the recommendation made by the EPF Organisation for 9.5 per cent rate of interest and for the next year at nine per cent plus additional golden jubilee bonus was done at the time when the inflation rate was half the rate at which it is there now. The Reserve Bank of India has recommended that we have reached a stage where the interest rate cannot go down any further; rather in the case of banks you find that they are raising the interest rates. In such a situation the workers and employees are very justified in demanding that it should be more than 9.5 per cent.

The Common Minimum Programme has promised a better deal to the workers and employees of this country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has taken any decision or is in the process of taking any decision to provide a better deal to the employees and workers of this country who have been suffering a lot and reeling under high price rise and all these absurdities.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, this is exactly what I have said while replying to the first question. The Government is looking into the matter in consultation with the Finance Ministry for a favourable decision. What kind of favourable decision can be taken will be made known to you through notification and by informing the Parliament also if the Parliament is sitting, as to what kind of decision has been taken by the Government. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: How long will it take? ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Already the workers and employees are suffering. When is this going to take place? How soon? ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The hon. Prime Minister himself is looking into it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: How long will it take?

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot compel the hon. Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: As I said, the hon. Prime Minister himself is looking into it. The Ministry is also looking into it. The Finance Ministry has certain difficulties. We will try to see that a favourable decision is taken. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please reply to those questions which are permitted by me. Shri Jual Oram to put his question now.

*[Translation]*

SHRI JUAL ORAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that when the Board, the Ministry and the Labour Minister all are willing to give 9.5% rate of interest then why the hon'ble Finance Minister is not agreeing to this, whereas they are having surplus money with them. I would like to know as to how the Government are spending this surplus money for employees' benefit, and how much of it is being used for the employees.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Why didn't he do it when he was Minister.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Raghunathji, you have a very competent Minister to reply.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Board of trustees take decision in this regard and before taking any decision it is important for them to see that they have sufficient money to give for the rate of interest decided. If they have the money, then Labour Ministry has no problems in agreeing to it and it is also not required to send it to the Ministry for discussion. If they don't have sufficient money then the Ministry has to see whether the decision to Board of Trustees can be implemented or not.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: You have already answered.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: If they feel that they do not have enough money they intend to give to the employees, then it shall be discussed with the Finance Ministry as to where from the money will be provided.

SHRI JUAL ORAM: The Labour Minister has agreed to give this but why is the Finance Minister not agreeing to this?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I am telling this on behalf of the Government that despite such situation and shortage of money—steps are being taken to bring a favourable decision in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: He is not the Finance Minister. You are such an experienced Member.

Shri C.K. Chandrappan will ask the last supplementary. It should be to the point and please no repetition should be there.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN: Sir, since several Members have pointed out that there is a huge surplus lying with the Government, I would like to ask whether the Minister would take the House into confidence and say what is that amount and why it is not being used. Then, the Minister is promising a favourable decision. When is that decision going to be taken?

MR. SPEAKER: As soon as possible!

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I have already replied to this super question. I have said that because of the paucity of funds, these difficulties are arising. If the funds were there, there would not have been any difficulty.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, I think, you Home Minister is also a competent Labour Minister!

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: You can say once only. You do not have to say 'Sir, Sir'. He is very competent.

**Drought Affected States**

- \*64. <sup>+</sup>SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI:  
 \*SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Multi Disciplinary Team of the Union Government has recently visited various States to assess the impact of drought;

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

(c) whether the Union Government has received proposals from various States requesting additional assistance and foodgrains to combat drought situation;

(d) if so, the details thereof including assistance and foodgrains sought by each State for the purpose;

(e) the actual amount released and foodgrains provided to each State;

(f) whether the Union Government has also given any special package to the affected States;

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

(h) the details of the strategy chalked out by the Government to deal with the drought situation in future?

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (h) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) to (h) Following a loan break in the South-West Monsoon during the month of Junly, 2004, there was apprehension of severe drought in a number of States. The situation was very closely monitored in these States and a Team of Senior Officials of the Ministry of Agriculture, headed by the Union Agriculture Secretary,

visited Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan during the month.

Based on the results of constant monitoring and visits of the Agriculture Secretary, foodgrains allocations and advance release of Central share of the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) of these States have been made from time to time as per the following details:

Name of the State	Release of Central Share of CRF in Advance (Rs. in crores)	Foodgrains allocated (In lakh MTs)
Andhra Pradesh	45.14	—
Bihar	—	2.00
Gujarat	73.57	—
Haryana	37.06	—
Jharkhand	—	0.67
Madhya Pradesh	28.55	0.50
Maharashtra	71.65	—
Rajasthan	94.35	2.00
Tamil Nadu	—	1.50
Punjab	55.93	—
Uttar Pradesh	66.68	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>472.93</b>	<b>6.67</b>

Subsequently, there was significant improvement in the situation in many States, due to resumption of rains in August. After undertaking detailed surveys of the impact of July failure of rains, State Governments submitted Memoranda for assistance from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) on different dates.

Details of assistance demanded, amounts approved and assistance so far released from the NCCF after adjusting available balances in the CRF and information about allocation of foodgrains are given below.



State	(Rs. in crores)			Foodgrains (Lakh MTs)	
	Assistance sought	Amount approved	Amount Released	Demand	Allocation
Bihar	2312.48	162.15	162.15	12.93*	2.00
Tamil Nadu	1910.58	156.84	117.27	5.40*	1.50
Uttar Pradesh	7226.10	360.94	192.10	—	—

\*Demand for whole year, allocations for shorter durations.

For the following States, consideration of the High Level Committee (HLC) is expected very shortly:-

State	Amount Demanded (Rs. in crores)	Foodgrains Demanded (Lakh MTs)
Andhra Pradesh	1199.68	22.50
Jharkhand	928.12	—
Madhya Pradesh	724.88	7.64

Central Teams are being deputed to the following States which have recently submitted their Memoranda as per the following details:

State	Amount Demanded (Rs. in crores)	Foodgrains Demanded (Lakh MTs)
Rajasthan	2378.64	28.80
Karnataka	1147.71	4.53
Chhattisgarh	604.96	7.20

Punjab Government had submitted a combined Memorandum seeking Rs. 5100.31 crores for flood and drought without giving specific damage caused by the two calamities separately. Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Agriculture have advised the State Government to submit separate Memoranda for the two calamities giving specific details of assistance required.

Rajasthan was also provided facility of transport of drinking water by rail in some seriously deficit areas till the middle of August when there was substantial improvement in the situation.

While a number of programmes and schemes seek to provide long term solutions to reduce vulnerability to

droughts through irrigation, water conservation including watershed development, droughts as natural calamities are recurrent in nature needing relief measures as and when their severity requires such interventions.

*[English]*

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, Andhra Pradesh has been one of the most drought-affected States, having faced four years of successive drought and a deficit rainfall of 23 per cent this year. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has asked for a Central assistance of Rs. 1,093 crore and 20 lakh metric tonnes of rice as drought relief. I seek to know from the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, the actions taken by the Government to release this assistance to the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Regarding Andhra Pradesh, certain details are already given in the answer. An amount of Rs. 45.14 crore of Central share of CRF in advance has already been released. Secondly, in respect of the new proposal, which we have received from Andhra Pradesh, a high-level committee, which is supposed to take a decision, is due to meet today. We will take a final view today about three States—Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, I would seek to know from the hon. Minister, once again through you, if the Union Government intends to extend the Food-for-Work Programme throughout the State of Andhra Pradesh, taking into consideration the fact that this is the fourth successive year of drought that we have faced, especially in the wake of rising incidents of suicide.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you in a position to commit?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Basically, the Food-for-Work Programme is being done by the other Ministry.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mansukhbhai D. Vasava.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded, Shri Modi, I can assure you.

Shri Mansukhbhai D. Vasava—not present. Hon. Members, I am grateful to you for your kind co-operation. Please continue with this.

Shri N.S.V. Chitthan.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Tamil Nadu was affected. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singh, please co-operate. We are having a very effective Question Hour today.

Please put pointed question.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Tamil Nadu was affected for the fourth successive year by severe drought. Agriculture operation was a complete failure and drinking water problem was very acute. Agricultural labourers were affected very badly. In the written reply of the hon. Minister, it is stated that there was no release of Central share of CRF in advance.

It is also given in the reply that the Government of Tamil Nadu has demanded an assistance of Rs. 1,910.58 crore, but the Government of India has approved only a meagre amount of Rs. 156.84 crore, and so far only Rs. 117.27 crore have been released.

MR. SPEAKER: All these details are not necessary.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Sir, nearly 1.50 lakh metric tonnes of grains were allotted against the demand of 5.40 lakh metric tonnes. I am pained to state that these are quite insufficient, and to add to our agony, Tamil Nadu was recently affected by floods also. Thousands of acres of standing crops in certain parts were submerged in water, and damaged. In the recent history of Tamil Nadu, the people of Tamil Nadu have faced both drought and flood.

I would urge upon the UPA Government, and more particularly the hon. Minister of Agriculture to give a

\*Not recorded.

special package scheme to Tamil Nadu, and also to liberally release more funds, and food grains to save the starving farmers and toiling agricultural labourers. I am asking this because we have suffered in both ways. I am aware that the hon. Minister has got a soft corner towards the agriculturists.

MR. SPEAKER: You could have put your question in one sentence also. He would definitely answer your question as you have already praised him.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I too have a question to ask.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please, you cannot ask your question when the hon. Minister is about to answer the queries raised by an hon. Member. The hon. Minister is answering the hon. Member's question now, and you cannot put a question at the same time.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, previously, the Government of Tamil Nadu did not ask any advance release of CRA. There was no such demand from the State of Tamil Nadu. As regards the second issue about food grains raised by the hon. Member, food grains have already been released. Thirdly, whatever decisions are taken by Government of India are according to the detailed guidelines of the 11th Finance Commission in which it is stated what type of proposal has to be accepted by the Government of India, etc. So, the decision is taken according to the norms that have been proposed, and suggested by the 11th Finance Commission.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Shri A.V. Bellarmin.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, other States are also there. I am trying to give every party a chance to raise questions.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, kindly cooperate with him, as it is his maiden question. Yes, Mr. Bellarmin, please put your question.

SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN: Sir, what was the actual demand of food grains made by Tamil Nadu, and what amount of food grains was provided to Tamil Nadu for drought management? I would also like to know the details of the special allocations made to the coconut growers, who lost the trees during the drought.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Bellarmin, you have put your question very well.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It was a maiden attempt by him. We have to recognise, and appreciate it.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, the allocation of food grains to Tamil Nadu was approved on 27 October 2004, and till today, as per my information, they have lifted only a very small quantity of food grains.

*[Translation]*

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Minister has told that the memorandum received from Punjab is not specific and that the State Government of Punjab has been re-instructed to provide specific information. I would like to ask hon'ble Minister as to whether such demand has been received from Punjab Government and if not, then whether the Government are going to send their teams to Punjab to make up the losses suffered by the farmers there from both drought & flood and to help the farmers over there?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Punjab Government has been asked by the Centre to give details regarding drought and flood. The Government will be able to send teams from the Centre only after they receive details of it from there, but no detailed information has been received from the Punjab Government till date.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. K. Francis George. It would be the last supplementary.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE: Sir, there is no mention about the State of Kerala in the list of States that have sought drought relief. The State of Kerala was affected by consecutive drought for the last two years. The State Government has also given a memoranda in January, April and July this year.

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to the question.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE: Sir, a Multi Disciplinary Team also visited the State, but no decision has been taken so far. The hon. Minister is doing a wonderful job in the Ministry.

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask your specific question. Otherwise, you will not get the reply, as we are running short of time.

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the request of the Kerala State will be considered positively and immediately. Thank you.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, a Multi Disciplinary Team has visited Kerala. *...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please hold a half an hour discussion on this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: Please give a notice.

*[English]*

It cannot be allowed now. Therefore, kindly give a notice on this issue.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are an expert on rules.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing else will be recorded, except the hon. Minister's reply.

*...(Interruptions)\**

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: The Kerala Government has submitted the Memorandum on 23rd of July, 2004 seeking an assistance of Rs. 3,847 crore for revival of the agriculture sector. The demand from Kerala is not for drought, but the demand from Kerala is for revival of agriculture sector. The multi-disciplinary team visited Kerala and it has submitted its report. That team had gone on behalf of the Prime Minister's Secretariat (PMO). The

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\*Not recorded.

Prime Minister's Secretariat is going to call a meeting on 9th of December to take a final decision about Kerala. So, before 24th of December, before the end of this Session, I will be able to take a final decision about Kerala.

MR. SPEAKER: Question Hour is over. Now, the House will take up the next item, that is, 'Papers to be Laid on the Table'.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, you can give Half-an-Hour Notice on this issue.

[Translation]

Give a notice.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Sir, not even a single penny was given for drought in Bihar. South Bihar is drought prone area.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing else will be recorded.

...(Interruptions)

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Lower Prices of Sugar

\*65. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sugar prices have been falling over the years particularly during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the main reasons for the same;

(c) whether the sugarcane growers are unable to get a fair price for their produce and the sugar mills also suffer losses;

(d) if so, the loss incurred by the sugarcane farmers and sugar mills during the last three years especially in Gujarat;

(e) whether the Union Government is considering any proposal to help the sugarcane growers and sugar mills in the country, especially in Gujarat; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Taking October 2001 as base, the declining trend in the price of sugar continued till April, 2004 but, thereafter, it has firmed up.

(b) The details of month wise range of wholesale price of sugar in the four principal markets of the country during the last 3 sugar seasons are enclosed as statement. The main reason for this fall in prices is high levels of sugar production in the earlier sugar seasons ranging from 181.93 lakh M.Ts (1999-2000 sugar season), 185.10 lakh M.Ts (2000-2001 sugar season), 184.98 lakh MTs (2001-2002 sugar season) and 201.32 lakh M.Ts (2002-2003 sugar season).

(c) and (d) Fair price for sugarcane farmers is ensured through fixation of Statutory Minimum Price of sugarcane payable by sugar mills to the sugarcane growers for each sugar season based on various factors like cost of production of sugarcane, return to the grower from alternative crops and general trend of prices of agricultural commodities. The losses suffered by sugar mills in the country, including Gujarat can, however, be on account of several managerial and technological factors, one of which is the prevailing sugar prices.

(e) and (f) The Government of India have already taken steps to help the sugarcane growers and sugar mills in the country like reducing levy obligation of sugar factories to 10% of their production, providing buffer subsidy to the sugar mills to clear cane arrears and providing export subsidy/incentives on export shipments of sugar.

**Statement***Range of Wholesale Prices of S-30 Grade of Sugar in the four principal markets of the country (Rs./Qtl.)*

(Source: Dte. of Economics &amp; Statistics, Min. of Agriculture)

Month	Delhi	Mumbai*	Kolkata**	Chennai	All 4 Centres
1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Sugar Season (2001-2002)</b>					
Oct, 2001	1500-1580	1415-1480	1580-1630	1410-1450	1410-1630
Nov.	1530-1560	1418-1480	1580-1620	1415-1430	1415-1620
Dec.	1460-1520	1370-1450	1530-1590	1395-1430	1370-1520
Jan., 2002	1420-1460	1355-1441	1510-1540	1400-1435	1355-1540
Feb.	1400-1430	1360-1435	1540-1550	1430-1440	1360-1550
March	1430-1450	1400-1465	1540-1580	1425-1435	1400-1580
April	1430-1450	1400-1455	1550-1580	1410-1430	1400-1580
May	1400-1450	1333-1450	1540-1575	1400-1415	1333-1575
June	1425-1440	1320-1400	1510-1550	1350-1390	1320-1550
July	1420-1440	1305-1375	1500-1520	1350-1370	1305-1520
Aug.	1380-1420	1310-1425	1450-1490	1340-1350	1310-1490
Sept.	1375-1380	1285-1401	1450-1500	1350	1285-1500
<b>Sugar Season 2002-2003</b>					
Oct, 02	1340-1375	1220-1374	1450-1480	1350	1220-1480
Nov.	1320-1340	1160-1271	1350-1450	1250-1280	1160-1450
Dec.	1300-1325	1160-1410	1330-1360	1220-1250	1160-1360
Jan., 03	1280-1300	1165-1230	1340-1380	1220	1165-1380
Feb.	1250-1280	1150-1215	1350-1370	1215-1230	1150-1370
March	1250-1260	1150-1211	1320-1350	1199-1215	1150-1350
April	1240-1250	1148-1252	1340-1360	1199-1241	1148-1360
May	1240-1250	1147-1204	1340-1400	1194-1241	1147-1400
June	1240-1270	1130-1310	1325-1400	1194-1241	1130-1400
July	1270-1310	1237-1425	1380-1490	1241-1441	1237-1490
Aug.	1300-1440	1325-1443	1480-1575	1441	1300-1575
Sept.	1440-1445	1325-1395	1520-1540	1409-1441	1325-1540

1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>Sugar Season 2003-2004</b>					
Oct, 03	1435-1500	1336-1401	1520-1535	1340-1355	1336-1535
Nov.	1450-1500	1296-1401	1470-1530	1345-1355	1296-1530
Dec.	1380-1430	1281-1362	1420-1510	1280-1300	1280-1510
Jan., 04	1350-1370	1271-1461	1400-1460	1275-1300	1271-1461
Feb.	1360-1460	1350-1545	1480-1605	1300-1550	1300-1605
March	1440-1460	1370-1480	1520-1590	1425-1460	1370-1590
April	1450-1480	1375-1575	1550-1635	1460-1510	1375-1635
May	1525-1570	1490-1571	1660-1720	1535-1600	1490-1720
June	1525-1535	1500-1595	1670-1690	1540-1600	1500-1690
July	1525-1535	1498-1597	1670-1700	1500-1550	1498-1700
Aug.	1535-1550	1535-1695	1680-1790	1540-1600	1535-1790
Sep.	1550-1625	1570-1645	1710-1800	1570-1640	1550-1800

\* Source:- Economic Times.

\*\*Reported as M-30.

### Arrival of Foreign Tourists

\*66. SHRI K.C. SINGH "BABA": Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there will be increase in the percentage of arrival of foreign tourists in the country as reported in 'Navbharat Times' dated November 17, 2004;

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

(c) the number of foreign tourists visited India during the last three years, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government has conducted any study to estimate the increase in the number of foreign tourists to the next five years; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to attract more tourists and to provide facilities of transportation, accommodation, medical and other facilities to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Based on the growth rate of about 14% witnessed

during the year 2003, and about 24 percent estimated for the period January to November, 2004 in foreign tourist arrivals in the country, it is envisaged that there will be an increase in the percentage of foreign tourist arrivals in the country in the years to come.

(c) As per the information provided by the State Governments, the number of visits of foreign tourists in different States/Union Territories during the years 2001, 2002 and 2003 is enclosed as Statement.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Various steps taken by the Government to attract more foreign tourists to the country include:-

- Direct approach to the consumers through Electronic and Print media through the "Incredible India" Campaign.
- Creation of World Class Collaterals.
- Centralized Electronic Media Campaign.
- Direct co-operative marketing with tour operators and wholesalers overseas.

- Greater focus in the emerging markets particularly in the region of China, North East Asia and South East Asia.
- Participation in Trade Fairs & Exhibitions.
- Optimizing Editorial PR and Publicity.
- Use of Internet and web marketing.
- Generating Tourist Publications.
- Re-enforcing hospitality programmes including grant of air passages to invite media personnel and tour operators on familiarization tours to India to get first hand knowledge on various tourism products.
- Launching of Road Shows in key source markets of Europe.
- Focusing on growth of hotel infrastructure particularly budget hotels.
- Enhancing connectivity through augmentation of air capacity and improving road infrastructure to major tourist attractions.

**Statement***Foreign Tourists in different States/Union Territories during the years 2001, 2002 and 2003*

Sl.No.	State/U.T.	2001	2002	2003
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	67147	210310	479318
2.	Arunachal Pradesh*	323	187	123
3.	Assam	6171	6409	6610
4.	Bihar	85673	112873	60820
5.	Goa	260071	271645	314357
6.	Gujarat	30930	34187	37534
7.	Haryana	898	85281	84981
8.	Himachal Pradesh	135760	144383	167902
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	21298	7821	24330
10.	Karnataka	140703	59545	249908
11.	Kerala	208830	232564	294621
12.	Madhya Pradesh	107824	67319	92278
13.	Maharashtra*	915399	768935	986544
14.	Manipur	183	221	257
15.	Meghalaya	2390	3146	6304
16.	Mizoram	152	259	279
17.	Nagaland*	920	657	743
18.	Orissa	22854	23279	25020
19.	Punjab	3258	7558	4589

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Rajasthan	608283	428437	628580
21.	Sikkim	31028	8566	11966
22.	Tamil Nadu	773073	804041	901504
23.	Tripura	1512	2602	3196
24.	Uttaranchal	44429	45070	55228
25.	Uttar Pradesh	795000	710000	825000
26.	Chhattisgarh	792	993	1150
27.	Jharkhand	2979	2244	3223
28.	West Bengal	284092	529366	705457
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	5539	5101	4142
30.	Chandigarh	15203	13706	17057
31.	Daman & Diu	10290	6569	3274
32.	Delhi*	830092	543036	693827
33.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli*	400	202	.136
34.	Lakshadweep	650	912	682
35.	Pondicherry	22115	20094	25559
Total*		5436261	5157518	6716479

\*Estimated.

**Root Affected Coconut Holdings**

\*67. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:  
SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received a project for Management of root affected coconut holdings and enhancement of productivity of coconut;

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

(c) the steps taken to eradicate the disease?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b)

Yes, Sir. The Government of India has received a proposal from the Government of Kerala for the removal of root wilt affected coconut trees and enhancement of productivity at a total cost of Rs. 231.80 crores. The main objective of the project is to increase the productivity of the coconut in the severely root wilt affected area in the State by removal of 59.14 lakhs of disease advanced trees and replanting with disease tolerant seedlings. The Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India has critically examined the project and also organized an interface meeting with the officials of Coconut Development Board, State Agriculture Department, Government of Kerala and Scientists of Research Institutes such as Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kerala Agricultural University and Tamil Nadu Agricultural University to discuss the project proposal. Based on the discussions, Government of Kerala has been asked to resubmit the proposal after taking into consideration the possibilities of reducing the project cost by restricting the removal of disease advanced



palms in the hot spot areas yielding less than 10 nuts per palm per year only, which do not respond to management practices. The Kerala State Government has submitted the revised project seeking an assistance of Rs. 292.28 crores from Government of India for cutting and removal of disease affected palms, replanting, integrated management of disease affected coconut gardens including irrigation facilities and for establishing of four serological laboratories. The project is under examination of the technical expert committee constituted by Government of India.

(c) The Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India has been implementing the scheme Integrated Development of Coconut Industry in India including Technology Mission on coconut to address all the issues related to development of coconut industry in India. Under the component integrated farming in coconut holdings for productivity improvement of the scheme Integrated Development of Coconut Industry in India, assistance is provided to farmers at the rate of Rs. 250/- per palm for cutting and removal of diseased palms and Rs. 35,000 per ha. for demonstration of technology for management of root wilt disease.

In addition, under the technology mission programmes, assistance is provided to public institutions, NGOs and farmers for development, demonstration and adoption of technologies involved in management of insect pests and disease affected coconut gardens including eradication of root wilt disease. The assistance provided for development of technologies to public institutions is Rs. 50 lakhs or 100% of the cost of project and to NGOs and other capable institutions is Rs. 25 lakhs or

50% of the cost of project. The assistance provided for demonstration of technologies to public institutions is Rs. 25 lakhs or 100% of the cost of project and to NGOs and other capable institutions is Rs. 10 lakhs or 50% of the cost of Project. The assistance provided for adoption of technologies to public institutions, NGOs, other capable institutions and farmers is 25% of the cost of project.

Under this programme, so far an assistance of Rs. 4.996 crore is provided for management of root wilt disease in Kerala. About 29.93 lakh disease affected palms have been cut and removed. This has helped in reducing the disease incidence from 32.4 to 24.0%.

#### Productivity of Foodgrain

\*68. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the productivity of foodgrains in the country;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to promote productivity of foodgrains; and

(c) the details regarding productivity of cash crops like rubber, coffee and coconut etc. in comparison to other developing nations?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The figures of productivity of foodgrains comprising rice, wheat, coarse cereals and pulses for the last five years, *i.e.*, from 1999-2000 to 2003-04 are given below:

(Tonnes per Hectare)

Crop	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1. Rice	1.99	1.90	2.08	1.80	2.05
2. Wheat	2.78	2.71	2.76	2.62	2.71
3. Coarse Cereals	1.03	1.03	1.13	0.96	1.23
4. Pulses	0.64	0.54	0.61	0.56	0.62
5. Foodgrains (1 to 4)	1.70	1.63	1.73	1.56	1.71

(b) The programmes aimed to boosting production and productivity of foodgrains include the following:—

- (i) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Rice).
- (ii) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Wheat Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP-Wheat).
- (iii) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Coarse Cereals Based Cropping Systems Areas (ICDP- Coarse Cereals).

From October, 2004, these schemes have been subsumed under Macro Management Programme with a view to provide flexibility according to regionally differentiated needs of the States.

A new Centrally Sponsored Scheme on 'On Farm Water Management for increasing Crop Production in Eastern India' was launched from 2002-03. The objective of the scheme is to increase production & productivity of crops through exploiting abundant ground/surface water, in the Eastern India. Under the scheme, assistance is provided for (i) installation of shallow tube wells (STW) with pumping sets, (ii) electric/diesel water pumping sets, (iii) Low Lift Irrigation Points (LIP), and (iv) dug wells in hills and plateau regions. The scheme is being implemented in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Manipur, Mizoram, Orissa, West Bengal and Eastern Uttar Pradesh. The scheme is a back-ended credit linked one and is being implemented through the National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development.

As regards pulses, assistance is provided for purchase of breeder, seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of seed minikits etc. under the centrally sponsored scheme of Integrated Scheme for Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) launched in April, 2004.

(c) As regards Rubber, the productivity of natural rubber (NR) in India is the highest among the major NR producing countries in the world. The productivity of NR in India remained at 1576 Kg per hectare during 1999-2000 to 2001-02. It improved to 1592 Kg. per hectare in 2002-03 and further up to 1663 Kgs. per hectare in 2003-04. Thus, the productivity of NR in India is well above the productivity of NR (1418 Kgs per hectare) in Thailand, which is the largest producer of NR in the world. As

regards coffee, India's productivity (1.03 tonnes per hectare) is higher than that in major coffee producing countries except Vietnam (1.47 tonnes per hectare). In regard to coconut, India's productivity (6777 nuts per hectare) is higher than that in major coconut producing countries except Brazil (12810 nuts per hectare).

#### **Foodgrain Export Scam**

\*69. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:  
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India (FCI) sold foodgrains from central pool to selected exporters at highly subsidised rates during 2003-04 ignoring the domestic market;

(b) if so, the quantum of foodgrains sold in domestic market under open sale scheme and for exports during the last five years indicating the name of the exporters;

(c) whether about Rs. 20,000 crore of food subsidy was lost as a result thereof;

(d) if so, whether the order prohibiting export in August, 2003 has been withdrawn;

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

(f) whether such foodgrains were diverted to domestic market at a higher price;

(g) if so, the details thereof alongwith the name of such unscrupulous exporters;

(h) whether the Government has ordered any enquiry in this whole episode; and

(i) if so, the details thereof alongwith the name of the agency?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) In view of stocks of wheat and rice, much more than the required buffer stock, the Food Corporation of India (FCI) sold foodgrains under its Sale for Export Scheme from the Central Pool, since 2000-01 (including the year 2003-04), to all exporters who approached the FCI and fulfilled the conditions to the scheme. At the same time, the domestic

requirements of wheat and rice were fully met during this period.

(b) The quantity of foodgrains sold in the domestic market under open sale scheme & for exports during the last five years and the list of exporters are enclosed as Statement-I and II.

(c) The subsidy towards export of 334 lakh tonnes during the period 2000-01 to 2003-04 is Rs. 16,611.20 crores.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The order dated 11th August, 2003 stopping fresh allocation for exports has not been withdrawn.

(f) and (g) Certain instances of irregularities have come to light and action has been taken in each of these cases as may be seen in the enclosed Statement-III.

(h) and (i) The Central Vigilance Commission has been requested to conduct an inquiry into the allegations of irregularities in the export of foodgrains from the Central Pool.

**Statement-I**

*Open Sales Scheme vis-a-vis Exports*

(In lakh tonnes)

Year	Open Sale			Exports		
	Rice	Wheat	Total	Rice	Wheat	Total
1999-2000	—	32.62	32.62	—	—	—
2000-01	3.86	8.86	12.72	0.42	20.43	20.85
2001-02	4.01	51.94	55.95	23.50	39.65	63.15
2002-03	3.87	50.82	54.69	80.71	67.93	148.64
2003-04	4.05	09.23	13.28	30.71	70.69	101.40
Total	15.79	153.47	169.26	135.34	198.70	334.04

**Statement-II**

*List of Exporters*

Name of Exporters	Address
1	2
Aar Dee International	Siliguri
Aggarwal Food Products	Delhi
Allanasons Ltd.	New Delhi
Algar Exports	Tuticorin
Annapurna Exports	Sonepat
Andagro Services Ltd.	Mumbai
Agrotech Foods Ltd.	Secundrabad

1	2
Ajanta Soya Ltd.	Bhiwadi
Algyas Export Pvt. Ltd.	A-17, Naehoalty Road, Doonefri, Mumbai
Amir Chand Jagdish Kumar	12/14, Libaspur Road, Samlypur, Delhi
Amira Foods Ltd.	Mehrauli, Delhi
Amivarsa Exports India	Mumbai
Amrit International	New Delhi
Amrit International Ltd.	Nehru Place, New Delhi
Amrit International Rice Co.	New Delhi
Anand Prakash Ankit Kumar	Delhi

1	2
Anchor Impex Inc.	New Delhi
A.R. Impex	Surat
Anjani Enterprise	Kolkata
Atlantic Spinning & Weaving Mills Ltd.	Chennai
Avani International	Mumbai
B. Nathat Singh Karam Singh Pvt. Ltd.	4124, First Floor, Naya Bazar, Delhi
Bagadiya Brothers	Raipur
Bansal Overseas	Karnal
Basic India Ltd.	Pitampura, Delhi
Best Food International	PO Box. No. 5, Indri, Karnal
Bhagwati Rice Mills	Ferozepur Cantt.
Bhandari Rice Mills Overseas	2244, Gali Rangunandan, Naya Bazar, Delhi
BHS Overseas	Saharanpur
Bishan Sarup Ram Kishan Agro Pvt. Ltd.	5584, First Floor, Naya Bazar Delhi
Cargill India Ltd.	Gurgaon
Commodities Inter Trade	14, Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi
Daulatram Ramesh Kumar	Taran Taran
DD International Ltd.	26, The Mall, Amritsar
Deva Singh Sham Singh	Chatwind Gate, Amritsar
Deepika Enterprises	Malda
Dhingra Export Pvt. Ltd.	
Dolphin International Ltd.	Gulmohar Park Extn., New Delhi
Doon Valley International	Karnal
Emmsons International Ltd.	12, Zamrudpur, Kailash Colony, N. Delhi
Exim Rajathi	Chennai

1	2
Expotech International Ltd.	B-15, Sector-3, Noida
Ferozepur Foods Pvt. Ltd.	Ferozepur
Foods Fat & Fertilizer Ltd.	Chennai
Ganga Traders	Sonepat
Gazebo Industries	Mumbai
G.N. Overseas	36/55, West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi
General Export Enterprises	Mumbai
General Mills India Pvt. Ltd.	Mumbai
Globe International	5, Court Lane, Civil Lines, Delhi
G.M. Overseas Rice Millers	Lahori Gate, Delhi
GNG Exports	Kolkata
GRM Overseas Ltd.	Gohana Road, Panipat
GV (God Vishnu) Rice Unit	G.T. Road, Tarari, Distt.-Karnal, Haryana
Haldiram Exports Pvt. Ltd.	Mathura Road. New Delhi
Haryana Roller Flour Mills	Jind
Hari Shallac Industries	Gondia, Maharashtra
Hemant International	Kurukshetra
Hindustan Lever Ltd.	165-166, Back Bay Reclamation, Mumbai
H.M. Overseas	Chilkana Road, Saharanpur
Indian Resins & Polymers	Kollam, Kerala
INCEE Exports Ltd.	Mount Road, Chennai
ITC Ltd. International	31, Sarojini Devi Road, Secundrabad
India Trading Co.	Delhi
Jagodia Exports	Gangarampur
Jai Bamleshwari Rice	Gondia, Maharashtra
Sortex, Dhanpat Plastic	
Jatin & Co.	Mutunga, Mumbai

1	2
JB Overseas Ltd.	20, MIG Flat, Pitampura, Delhi
Jindal Niryat Ltd. (Rice Millers & Exporters)	Sanjay Nagar, Pocket-III, Sector-II, Rohini
Kapoor Brothers Roller Flour Mills	Panchkula
K.C. Industries	Jalalabad West
Kansal Overseas	38-39, Pocket-D 11, Sector-7, Rohini
Kantilal & Co.	11/12, Janam Bhumi Marg, Mumbai
Karam Industries	F.B. Road, Sultanpur, Mehrauli, New Delhi
Kissan International	3, Galla Mandi, Rudrapur
KLA Rice India Public Ltd.	Rudrapur
K.N. Resources Ltd.	Subhash Road, Raipur
Kohinoor International	Jalandhar
KRBL Ltd.	5190, Lahori Gate, Delhi
Krishna & Co.	Tuticorin
Krishna Traders,	Kolkata
Kundan Rice Mills	Delhi
Lekhraj Narinder Kumar	Kaithal
Liberty Oil Mills Ltd.	Colaba, Mumbai
LMJ Enterprises	Kolkata
LMJ Overseas	New Delhi
L.T. International	New Delhi
L.T. Overseas	21, Green Park, Aurobindo Marg, Delhi
Lucky Export	Delhi
Mahalaxmi Rice Mills	Taraori
Mahendra Rice Industry	Nalgonda, Settupalen-5082117
Mahesh Agro Pvt. Ltd.	Lahori Gate, Delhi

1	2
Mahavir Rice Mills	Taraori
Mam Chand Roller Flour Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Yamunanagar
Namdhari Rice & General Mills	
Namdhari Food Industries	Sirsa
Maya International	14, Dr. Rajindra Prasad Road, New Delhi
NAFED	New Delhi
Navbharat Export	5192, Naya Bazar, New Delhi
New Bharat Rice Mills	Faizpura Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur
Olam Exports India Ltd.	8, KSFC Building, INTL Estate, Madhikheri
Olam Exports India Ltd.	Bangalore
Overseas Carpet Ltd.	New Delhi
P.R. Surana & Sons	Naya Bazar, Delhi
Padam Shree International	2744, F/F, Naya Bazar, Delhi
Param Hans International	Karnal
Parwaz Overseas (P) Ltd.	Naya Bazar, Delhi
Pawan Jain & Sons	GTK Road, Delhi
Pepsi Food Pvt. Ltd.	Gurgaon
Pepsi Enterprises	Kolkata
Pepsi India Holding	Gurgaon
PICRIC Ltd.	KM GT Kamal Road, Vill. Larsanli (Sonapat)
Piyush Impex Pvt. Ltd.	New Delhi
PK Overseas Pvt. Ltd.	Karol Bagh, New Delhi
Poona Dal & Besan Mills	Hadapsar, Pune
Priyanka Overseas Ltd.	D-18, Connaught Place, New Delhi
Producin Pvt. Ltd.	Mumbai
Punjab Basmati Rice Ltd.	Sangrana Sahib, Amritsar

1	2	1	2
R.K. Overseas Rice Millers	T.T. Road Suranussi (Jalandhar)	Shivnath Rai Hamarain	B-16, Bhagwan Dass Nagar, New Delhi
Ragga International	Bazar Gandawala, Amritsar	Shiv Shakti Rice Mills	Tardari, Karnal
Raghunath Agro Industries	Bhikhiwind, Amritsar	Shiv Vishnu Pvt. Ltd.	Gondia, Maharashtra
Raj Exporters	16, Pereira Street, Tuticorin	Shri Vishnu Eatables India Ltd.	Kaithal
Raisoni Exports	Pune	Siddhartha Fertichem	New Delhi
Rashmi Exports	Nabha	Singhal Merchandise (India)	Subhash Road, Vile Parle, Mumbai
Ravi Kamal Roller Flour Mills Pvt. Ltd.	Mumbai	Soubhik Exports	Kolkata
Rice India Exports (P) Ltd.	5587, Lahori Gate, New Delhi	S.S. Exports	Kolkata
R.K. Exports	Bhopal	Sun Star Overseas Ltd.	4119/7, F/F, Naya Bazar, Delhi
R.K. Overseas	Bhopal	Suraj Impex	Karol Bagh, New Delhi
R.P. Basmati & Co.	Karnala	Swami Enterprises	West Cotton Road, Tuticorin
RT Exports Ltd.	Mumbai	T.M. International	Kapurthala
Sain Exim Pvt. Ltd.		Trust Exports Enterprises	Mumbai
Sainath International	Satna, MP	Atna Agro Impex Pvt. Ltd.	Mumbai
Samarat Rice Mills	Khairana	V.C. Enterprises	Delhi
Satnam Overseas Ltd.	2, Community Complex, Masjid Marg, G. Kailash	Terai Exports	133, Aliumer, Mumbai
Satyam Industries	Jawahar Nagar, Raipur	V.K. Udyog Ltd.	Kolkata
Seth Brothers	Ambala	Vardhman Exports	
S.D. Heavy Iron Works	Malda	Veer Overseas Ltd.	Gharaunda, Karnal
Shahji Nanji Export	Itwari, Nagpur	Vikas Sortex	Kudwa Lane, Gondia
Shahji Nanji Nagsi Export Pvt. Ltd.	Anaj Bazar Itwari Nagpur	Vishal Exports Overseas Ltd.	Ahmedabad
Shankar Rao Ganpathirao Patil & Co., Rice House	Itwari, Nagpur	United Exports	Delhi
Sharp Mental India Ltd.	G. 15, SMA C, 1 Estate, GT Karnal Road, Delhi	Bansi Badian Sham	Dipiti Bagh, Sripali Bardwan, West Bengal
Shakti International	New Delhi	Ananthammal Kasi Rice Mill	Kovilpatti
		PEC Ltd.	New Delhi
		NAFED	Raipur
		West Bengal Essential Commodity	Kolkata

1	2
STC	Kolkata
Punjab State Warehousing Corporation	Chandigarh
HAFED	Panchkula
MMTC	New Delhi
MARKFED	Chandigarh
Punjab Agro (PAIC)	Chandigarh
Spices Trading Corporation	Bangalore
A.P. State Trading Corp. Ltd.	Hyderabad
NCCF	New Delhi

***Statement-III***

***Action Taken against irregularities in Export***

Penal Action has been taken against established irregularities in respect of the following:

I. NCCF lifted 2000 MT rice Ex. Ludhiana (Punjab) through their associate exporter and did not complete the obligation of export commitments. Subsequently, the differential amount with taxes has been recovered. The stocks were issued on Indemnity Bond being PSU, therefore, in this case, Bank Guarantee was not required to be encashed.

Bank Guarantee of Bhagwani Exports and Bank Guarantee of Pioneer Foods was encashed due to non-submission of export documents for wheat.

II. From Haryana Region NCCF took allocation for 6500 MT rice and M/s. Hemant International for 2000 MT. In both these cases differential cost has been recovered by encashing Bank Guarantees and DDs.

Apart from encashment of Bank Guarantees, cases have also been filed against exporters, who had manipulated/submitted fake documents, as under:

- (i) M/s R.K. Exports, Bhopal submitted manipulated export documents and fraudulent Bank Guarantees. CBI, Bhopal has registered a case against the bank officials and the party.
- (ii) M/s. A.K. Flour Mills Pvt. Ltd., Ankleswar, Gujarat, had lifted 2320 MTs of wheat for export

purposes, but the party exported wheat flour instead of whole wheat and submitted forged documents for export of wheat. Thereupon, the Bank Guarantee was encashed. FIR has been filed against the party. Differential cost between OMSS(D) and export price has been realized from the party. A money suit has also been filed for recovery of interest and differential cost. The matter is pending in the Court.

- (iii) In the case of NCCF default, a Police case is pending in the Court at Faridabad and in the case of M/s. Hemant International, FIR has also been lodged by District Manager, FCI, Kurukshetra.

**Accreditation System for Environmental Management Plans**

\*70. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:

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

(a) whether many State Governments have demanded the delegation of power to them barring those relating to projects of national importance for granting environmental clearance to developmental projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the response of the Union Government thereto;

(d) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard;

(e) whether there is any proposal to introduce an accreditation system for consultants and experts to prepare environmental management plans; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) The Government has undertaken a comprehensive review of existing environmental clearance process, formulated a proposal for a revised procedure, and held consultations with all the concerned stakeholders, including the State Governments, on the proposed revised procedure. During the meetings with the State Governments, some of the States have suggested more decentralization of powers for granting environmental clearance to the State

Governments. Any change in the existing environmental clearance process will be brought forth only after following the due statutory procedure laid down under the relevant Acts/Rules.

(e) and (f) There is no such proposal with the Government. However, during the discussion with the various stakeholders on the proposed revised environmental clearance procedure, introduction of some kind of accreditation system for the consultants for undertaking environmental impact assessment studies has been suggested. No final view has been taken yet on this suggestion.

*[Translation]*

#### **Procurement of Millet/Coarse Grain**

\*71. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE:  
SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering any proposal to procure millet/coarse grain directly from the farmers in various States;

(b) if so, whether the Government has directed the Food Corporation of India (FCI) to start procurement;

(c) if so, whether appropriate steps have been taken by the Government to make the FCI's procurement policy more transparent; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) Procurement of coarse grains from farmers under price support operations is presently being entirely undertaken by the State Governments and their Agencies.

#### **Technique of Getting more Production of Fish**

\*72. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether over six lakhs of farmers, rural youth and agriculture promoting personnel have been trained under the technology transfer by Krishi Anusandhan Sangathan and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research whereby a technique of getting 10 times more production of fish from the small ponds has been demonstrated;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the beneficiary States;

(c) whether the Government propose to expand such technology in other States also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The technique of getting more production of fish has been demonstrated in small reservoirs.

The studies undertaken by the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI), Barrackpore in small reservoirs in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Kerala over the years have shown more than 10 times increase in fish production levels over the years. They pertain to Gulariya reservoir (150 hectares), Uttar Pradesh; 10 kg/hectare/year to 150 kg/hectare/year achieved over a period of four years, accounting to 15 fold increase in fish production; Bachra Reservoir (170 hectares), Uttar Pradesh; 4 kg/ha/yr to 140 kg/ha/yr over a period of three years, with 35 fold increase; Baghla Reservoir (250 hectares), Uttar Pradesh: 7 kg/ha/yr to 102 kg/ha/yr over a period of three years, with 14 fold increase; Markonahally Reservoir (1,336 hectares), Karnataka: 5 kg/ha/yr to 75 kg/ha/yr over a period of two years, with 15 fold increase; Baretha Reservoir (1,180 hectares), Rajasthan: 8 kg/ha/yr to 99 kg/ha/yr over a period of two years, with 12 fold increase; Meenkara Reservoir (259 hectares), Kerala: 10 kg/ha/yr to 105 kg/ha/yr over a period of five years, with more than ten fold increase in fish production.

'Culture-based capture fisheries management in small reservoirs', with stocking of carp fingerlings at the rate of 300-1000/hectare every year and regulated harvesting was adopted as the technique for increasing the fish production in these water bodies.

During the year 2003-04, a total of 6,48,911 personnel comprising 4,77,780 farmers, 1,10,210 rural youth and 60,911 Extension personnel, were trained in different aspects of agriculture like crop production, horticulture, agro-forestry, livestock production and management, fisheries, plant protection, soil fertility, home science, agricultural engineering, agricultural extension and related aspects through the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) numbering 323 in the country, through 19,880,6,073 and 2,591 courses (total: 28,644) respectively.



Of these, 7,919 farmers and farm women, 3,235 rural youth and 992 extension functionaries, totaling to 12,146 personnel were imparted training in fisheries through 387,181 and 50 courses (total: 518) respectively.

(c) and (d) The Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore is working on the technique, stated above, viz., 'Culture-based capture fisheries management in small reservoirs' in a number of small reservoirs spread over other States viz., Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand. In this particular technique, stocking of advanced fingerlings of fish is the key factor. The small reservoirs are stocked with advanced fingerlings (more than 80 mm size) of carps in the right species combination (catla, rohu and mrigal) at the rate of 300-1000/hectare. The selection of species is determined based on ecological profile of specific reservoirs.

[English]

#### Linking of Rivers

\*73. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:  
SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has initiated the Rivers Linking Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has set up consensus groups for the execution of rivers-linking project;

(d) if so, the details alongwith composition thereof;

(e) whether these groups would resolve the technical issues with States also;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the time by when the entire rivers in the country are likely to be interlinked?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Two proposals for interlinking of rivers which have attracted considerable attention were given by Dr. K.L. Rao in 1972 and Captain Dastur in 1977. These proposals were not found techno-economically viable. Later, the Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) (erstwhile Ministry of

Irrigation) and Central Water Commission (CWC) formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development in 1980 envisaging interbasin transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins/ areas which comprises of two components namely Himalayan Rivers Development Component and Peninsular Rivers Development Component. The Peninsular Rivers Development Component of NPP was discussed in the Conference of the State Irrigation Ministers held during 1980 and 1981 and were welcomed by all. Seeing the merit of the concept, National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was set up under the MOWR in 1982 for carrying out various technical studies to establish the feasibility of the proposals of NPP and to give concrete shape to it. Based on various studies conducted, NWDA has identified 30 links for preparing Feasibility Reports (FRs). NWDA has completed feasibility reports for thirteen links and others are scheduled to be completed by December 2005. With a view to bringing about a consensus among the States and provide guidance on norms of appraisal of individual projects and modalities for project funding etc., the Central Govt. had set up a Task Force under the chairmanship of Shri Suresh Prabhu, Member (Lok Sabha) in December, 2002. The Task Force had submitted the required Action Plans to the Government giving an outline of the time schedule for completion of feasibility studies, detailed project reports, estimated costs, implementation schedule, benefits and alternate option for funding and execution of projects as also suggested methods of cost recovery.

The National Common Minimum Programme of the UPA Government indicates that it will make a comprehensive assessment of the feasibility of linking the rivers of the country starting with the southern rivers and this assessment will be done in a fully consultative manner. After the comprehensive assessment, it has been decided that river linking programme be continued with a focus on peninsular rivers.

(c) to (f) In 2002, it was decided by the Governing Body of NWDA where the States are represented that after preparation of FRs for the links by NWDA, further discussion with States on water sharing and Consensus building should be initiated. For this purpose, a Consensus Group headed by Chairman, CWC with States' Secretaries among others as members was formed to arrive at consensus and resolve the technical issues with various States on a continuous basis. Consensus Group headed by Chairman, CWC has held number of meetings in respect of Ken-Betwa link and Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal

link and the outstanding technical issues/reservations were discussed with the States and were clarified.

(g) Time required to complete construction of inter basin water transfer links depends upon how fast consensus and cooperation from the States in available for these river links.

#### MSP of Cotton and Sugarcane

\*74. SHRI EKNATH M. GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the Minimum Support Prices of different non-cereal agricultural products especially in respect of cotton and sugarcane for the current and ensuing years yield;

(b) whether the State Governments are authorized to fix Minimum Support Prices of agricultural products above that fixed by the Union Government under a recent decision of the Apex Court; and

(c) if so, the Minimum Support Prices if any fixed by each State Governments for cotton and sugarcane?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of non cereal commodities fixed by the Government for 2004-05 are given in the statement enclosed. As regards MSPs for the ensuing year, the MSPs will be announced by the Government on the basis of the recommendations made by Commission for Agricultural Cost & Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments and concerned Central Ministries as well as such other relevant factors, which in the opinion of the Government, are important for fixation of MSPs.

(b) The Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of sugarcane payable by sugar factories for each sugar season is required to be fixed by Government under clause 3 of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 having regard to the following factors:

- (i) cost of production of sugarcane;
- (ii) return to the growers from alternative crops and the general trend of prices of agricultural commodities;
- (iii) availability of sugar to consumers at a fair price;
- (iv) price at which sugar produced from sugarcane is sold by sugar producers; and
- (v) recovery of sugar from sugarcane.

However in Civil Appeal No. 460 of 1997 filed in the Supreme Court of India, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has held that States which have enacted legislation regarding regulation of supply and purchase of sugarcane have the right to fix price for sugarcane purchased by sugar mills which can be higher than the SMP fixed by the Central Government. The judgement of Supreme Court does not in any way go against the intentions of the Central Government for fixing the SMP.

(c) The SMP of sugarcane fixed by the Government is uniformly applicable to all the States in the country. However, SMP payable by sugar mills varies from mill to mill depending on the recovery level. As regards Cotton, MSPs are fixed for two basic varieties, which are shown in the statement enclosed. Based on the support prices for the two basic varieties and taking into account the quality differential, normal price differential and other relevant factors the support prices for other varieties of cotton of Fair Average Quality are fixed by the Ministry of Textiles.

*Statement*  
*Minimum Support Prices*  
*(According to Crop Year)*

(Rs. per quintal)

Sl.No.	Commodity	Variety	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03 -SDR price	2003-04	2004-05		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1.	Sugarcane		59.50	62.05	69.50	—	73	74.50	
2.	Cotton	F-414/H-777/J34	1625	1675	1675	20	1725	1760	
		H-4	1825	1875	1875	20	1925	1960	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Groundnut in Shell		1220	1340	1355	20	1400	1500
4.	Jute	TD-5	785	810	850	—	860	890
5.	Rapeseed/Mustard		1200	1300	1330	10	1600	1700
6.	Sunflower Seed		1170	1185	1195	15	1250	1340
7.	Soyabean	Black	775	795	795	10	840	900
		Yellow	865	885	885	10	930	1000
8.	Safflower		1200	1300	1300	5	1500	1550
9.	Copra	Milling	3250	3300	3300	—	3320	3500
	(Calendar Year)	Ball	3500	3550	3550	—	3570	3750
10.	Sesamum		1300	1400	1450	5	1485	1500
11.	Nigerseed		1025	1100	1120	—	1155	1180
12.	Gram		1100	1200	1220	5	1400	1425
13.	Arhar (Tur)		1200	1320	1320	5	1360	1390
14.	Moong		1200	1320	1330	5	1370	1410
15.	Urad		1200	1320	1330	5	1370	1410
16.	Masur (Lentil)		1200	1300	1320	5	1500	1525

Note: SDR Price : Special Drought Relief Price.

[Translation]

**Performance of Sportspersons/Teams in Athens Olympics**

\*75. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:  
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian sportspersons/teams could not perform upto the expectation in the Athens Olympics;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the performance of sportspersons in the international games?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) to (c) During Athens Olympic

Games, Indian sportsperson Major R.V.S. Rathore won a silver medal in shooting. This is the first silver medal won by an individual sportsperson since India's independence. Over the years, the performance of Indian sportspersons in Olympics has been improving. In 1996 and 2000 India won only a bronze medal. No medal could be won in 1976, 1984 and 1988, 1992 Olympics. Moreover, during the Athens Olympic Games, 2004 in the disciplines of Archery, Shooting and Weightlifting Indian sportspersons were very close to medals and in the disciplines of Athletics they created new national records.

After Athens Olympic Games 2004, meetings with office bearers of the major National Sports Federations were held to analyze their past performance and discuss their future plan of action for achieving excellence in international events.

Government of India, in addition to providing sports infrastructure, is taking the following steps to improve the performance of sportspersons in the international games:-

- (i) Finalization & implementation of Long Term Development Plan (LTDPs) for various sports disciplines in consultation with the concerned National Sports Federations, former international sportspersons and sports scientists experts.
- (ii) Provision of equipment and scientific support to sportspersons.
- (iii) Intensive coaching of the players by Indian and foreign coaches in coaching camps.
- (iv) Intensive training abroad to the teams.
- (v) Financial assistance to concerned federations for participation of sportspersons in international tournaments.
- (vi) Assistance for purchase of equipment, scientific support and training and participation within the country and abroad under the 'Scheme relating to Talent Search and Training' and the 'National Sports Development Fund'.
- (vii) With a view to broad basing of sports and scouting for talent at a young age, the Government is assisting Army under 'Army Boys Sports Company Scheme' (ABSC). In addition to eight existing ABSCs, ten more ABSCs have been sanctioned during the current year.

*[English]*

**Non-Compliance of Bio-Medical Waste Norms by Hospitals**

\*76. SHRI UDAY SINGH:  
SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware of dumping of bio-medical waste along with the kitchen waste, etc. in various cities of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Delhi Pollution Control Committee has issued show cause notices to some major hospitals in the capital for non-compliance of bio-medical waste norms;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the officials of the Central Pollution Control Board have found discrepancies in adhering to the waste norms; and

(f) if so, the facts thereof and further steps contemplated to check the same and ensure that the waste disposal norms are adhered to strictly?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) As per the provisions of Bio-Medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998, the bio-medical waste generated by hospitals is required to be segregated, treated and disposed of. A number of hospitals, more commonly smaller hospitals, however, are reported to have not been segregating the bio-medical waste properly. As a result, the mixing of such waste with other types of wastes cannot be ruled out.

(c) and (d) The Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC), conducts periodic inspections of hospitals for monitoring the compliance of the Bio-Medical Waste Rules. Since April, 2004, DPCC has issued show cause notices to 22 hospitals in Delhi which were found to be non-complying with the Rules and these hospitals are taking necessary corrective measures.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has issued show cause notices to 23 defaulting hospitals in the country. Also, the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) in their respective States/Union Territories have issued show cause notices in the defaulting hospitals. Further, CPCB has developed and circulated guidelines for Common Bio-Medical Waste Treatment Facilities and guidelines for Design and construction of Bio-Medical Waste Incinerators to all SPCBs/PCCs. In this regard, Central Government has also invited the attention of State Governments during the last Conference of the State Environment Ministers held during 8-9 September, 2004 at New Delhi.

*[Translation]*

**Share of India in World Tourism**

\*77. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has got only half percent share in the world tourism;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to take any steps to promote tourism in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The share of India in world tourist arrivals during the year 2003 was 0.39 per cent.

(b) The main competitive constraints facing the tourism sector are of the security scenario in the region that affect the perception of India as a safe and secure destination, facilitation of entry to India by international tourists, the multiplicity of high level of taxation, restrictive land use policies that limit the availability of suitable land for tourism development, shortage of air seat capacity during peak tourist season, etc.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has taken a number of steps to promote tourism in the country, like:-

- Positioning and maintaining tourism development as a national priority activity;
- Enhancing and maintaining the competitiveness of India as a tourism destination;
- Improving India's existing tourism products and expanding these to meet new market requirements;
- Creation of world class infrastructure;
- Special thrust to rural and small segment tourism;
- Development of tourism circuits,

In addition, the Government is also implementing the following measures to attract more foreign tourists to India:

- Direct approach to the consumers through Electronic and Print Media through the "Incredible India" Campaign.
- Creation of World Class Collaterals.
- Centralized Electronic Media Campaign.
- Direct co-operative marketing with tour operators and wholesalers overseas.

- Greater focus in the emerging markets particularly in the region of China, North East Asia and South East Asia.
- Participation in Trade Fairs & Exhibitions.
- Optimizing Editorial PR and Publicity.
- Use of Internet and web marketing.
- Generating Tourist Publications.
- Re-enforcing hospitality programmes including grant of air passages to invite the media personnel, tour operators on familiarization tours to India to get first hand knowledge on various tourism products.
- Launching of Road Shows in key source markets of Europe.

*[English]*

#### **Damage to Cultivable Land due to Floods**

\*78. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of recent phenomenon of damage caused to cultivable land by excessive infertile sandy deposition by flood instead of fertile silt in flood-prone areas of the country;

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

(c) the preventive measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Flooding is generally caused by the inadequate capacity within the banks of the rivers to contain the high flows brought down from the upper catchment due to heavy rainfall. As rivers carry lot of sediments alongwith water, some of the sediments get deposited on the inundated land. Nature of deposited material over the inundated area depends upon the type of sediments carried by the rivers. When the inundated area is near the foot hills, the material deposited is shingles & sand and when the deposition is in the plains the material deposited is generally silt.

(b) The breakup of the area where the damage has been caused to cultivable land by excessive infertile sandy deposition by flood instead of fertile silt in the flood prone areas of the country is not available. However, the State-wise information on the area affected/crop area affected due to floods is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) Flood management being a State subject, the schemes for flood control are planned, funded and executed by the State Government themselves as per their own priorities out of their State plan funds which are made available to them through Planning Commission. The assistance rendered by Central Government is technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

The problem of damage caused to cultivable land by excessive silt generally occurs in the rivers originating in the Himalayas and flowing down to the plains. Broadly, the problem can be tackled by construction of storage dams in the upstream. Agreement has already been reached between India and Nepal to take up field investigations and preparation of joint DPR of Sapta Kosi

and Sun Kosi Projects by a Joint Project Office, which has been opened in Nepal on 17th August, 2004. The above Joint Project Office has also been entrusted to undertake the feasibility study of the Kamla Multipurpose Project and preliminary study of Bagmati Multipurpose Project. Agreement has also been reached in principle with Nepal for preparation of Detailed Project Report of Burhi Gandaki Hydro Electric Project.

In the North Eastern Region, the Government of India have already approved the Pagladiya Dam Project which is under execution by the Brahmaputra Board. The multipurpose projects in the Siang and Subansiri basins have been entrusted to National Hydro Electric Power Corporation who have initiated action for execution of the Lower Subansiri Project. Tipaimukh Multipurpose Project in Barak basin has been entrusted to North Eastern Electric Power Corporation for execution.

The Government of India is also providing Central assistance to the various States to take up critical flood management and anti erosion works.

#### *Statement*

##### *State-wise average/maximum area & crop area affected during 1953 to 2004*

Sl.No.	Name of State	Area affected in m.ha.			Crop area affected in m.ha.		
		Average	Max.	Year	Average	Max.	Year
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.252	3.480	1989	0.209	1.405	1998
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.015	0.207	2003	0.003	0.070	1993
3.	Assam	0.955	3.820	1988	0.246	1.258	2004
4.	Bihar	1.436	4.986	2004	0.644	2.240	1987
5.	Goa	0.000	Neg.	1974	0.000	Neg.	1974
6.	Gujarat	0.319	2.050	1988	0.247	1.490	1988
7.	Haryana	0.176	1.000	1977	0.113	0.800	1977
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.190	2.870	1999	0.084	0.476	1994
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.029	0.514	1987	0.026	0.514	1987
10.	Karnataka	0.060	0.900	1988	0.047	0.900	1988
11.	Kerala	0.170	1.470	1989	0.062	0.578	1991
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0.045	0.377	1994	0.029	0.377	1994

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Maharashtra	0.058	0.391	2002	0.053	0.391	2002
14.	Manipur	0.014	0.080	1989	0.008	0.080	1989
15.	Meghalaya	0.004	0.095	1987	0.004	0.095	1987
16.	Mizoram	0.010	0.541	1993	Neg.	0.003	1993
17.	Nagaland	Neg.	0.009	1993	Neg.	0.009	1993
18.	Orissa	0.457	1.400	1980	0.292	1.200	1982
19.	Punjab	0.399	2.790	1988	0.304	2.790	1988
20.	Rajasthan	0.307	3.260	1977	0.177	3.090	1977
21.	Sikkim	0.026	1.170	2000	0.013	0.600	2000
22.	Tamil Nadu	0.078	1.280	2002	0.043	0.330	1976
23.	Tripura	0.029	0.330	1963	0.009	0.053	1993
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1.955	7.340	1978	1.087	5.200	1979
25.	West Bengal	0.786	3.080	1978	0.275	1.511	2000
26.	A & N Islands	0.001	0.030	1988	0.001	0.030	1988
27.	Chandigarh	0.000	0.000	1953	0.000	0.000	1953
28.	D & N Haveli	0.001	Neg.	2003	0.000	Neg.	1976
29.	Daman & Diu	0.000	0.000	1953	0.000	0.000	1953
30.	Delhi	0.028	0.458	1977	0.012	0.155	1997
31.	Lakshadweep	0.000	Neg.	1978	0.000	Neg.	1978
32.	Pondicherry	0.002	0.050	1977	0.001	0.012	1991

*[Translation]*

**Increase In Food Subsidy**

\*79. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:  
SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of subsidy on food has constantly increased during the last five years;

(b) if so, the amount paid as food subsidy during the said period, year-wise;

(c) the estimated amount of food subsidy during the year 2004-05;

(d) whether the reasons behind the rising food subsidy have been ascertained; and

(e) if so, the main reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The amount released as food subsidy during the last five years is as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

Year	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
Food Subsidy	9200	12010	17494	24176	25180

(c) The estimated amount of food subsidy to be released during 2004-05 is Rs. 24746 crore.

(d) and (e) The main reasons for increase in food subsidy are as follows:

- (i) Increase in economic cost due to increase in the Minimum Support Price (MSP), statutory charges, handling & transportation charges, storage & interest charges etc.;
- (ii) Freezing of Central Issue Prices under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) since July 2002 despite increase in the economic cost;
- (iii) Increased offtake of foodgrains under TPDS and other schemes; and
- (iv) Implementation of the Antyodaya Anna Yojana.

*[English]*

#### Cattle Population

\*80. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the decline in the cattle population in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of those States where cattle population is decreasing at fast rate during the last three years; and
- (d) the views of the National Commission on Cattle in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) As per the livestock censuses of 1992 and 1997, crossbred cattle population has increased by about 32.1% and indigenous cattle population has decreased by 5.8%, showing an overall decrease in total cattle population by about 2.8%. With 6.8% increase in buffalo population, there is an overall increase in bovine population by 0.2%. The provisional results compiled so far of the 17th

Livestock Census, also indicate the same trend during the period 1997 to 2003 *i.e.* increase in crossbred cattle and buffalo population and decrease in indigenous cattle population, showing a preference towards high yielding bovine population. Major decrease is in male cattle population during the successive periods mainly due to mechanization of agricultural activities etc.

(c) The States where the decrease of cattle population is higher are Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Manipur and Punjab.

(d) The National Commission on Cattle has pointed out that certain indigenous breeds of cattle in the country are becoming extinct.

*[Translation]*

#### Agro Forestry Projects In Orissa

690. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total area in Orissa where agro-forestry projects have been launched, location-wise;
- (b) the funds sanctioned by the Union Government during the last three years and thereafter for implementing these projects; and
- (c) the progress of these projects as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Agro-forestry is one of the components in the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Projects, and National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas being implemented by Ministry of Agriculture. Similarly, two agro-forestry based projects are being implemented in Orissa by Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar under the Technology Development, Extension and Training (TDET) Scheme of Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development.

(b) and (c) The funds earmarked for the State by the Ministry of Agriculture under different components of the schemes including that of agro-forestry during last three years are as under:

- (i) Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Projects: Rs. 5.20 Crores



- (ii) National Watershed Development Project in Rainfed Areas : Rs. 11.80 Crores.

[English]

**Research Centre for Pulses at Madurai**

691. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to set up a Research Centre for pulses at Madurai;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) As per the approved EFC of the X Plan for All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) on pulse crops two research centres for pulses in Tamil Nadu already exist at the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University stations at Coimbatore and Vamban (Pudukkottai).

[Translation]

**Development of Sports Facilities in Rajasthan**

692. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts being made by the Government for development of sports facilities in Rajasthan alongwith

the funds provided for the purpose during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the details of proposals sent by Rajasthan are lying pending with the Union Government;

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard;

(d) whether several sports schemes has not started for want of grant;

(e) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(f) the reasons for less participation by Rajasthan in activities of Sports Authority of India Western regional centre situated at Gandhinagar (Gujarat);

(g) the percentage of players and athletes of Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Gujarat in this regional centre; and

(h) the action taken by the Government for upgradation of this regional centre and expanding its work in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) 'Sports' is a State subject. It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to make efforts for creation of sports facilities in various places in the State in terms of their respective needs. However, Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Government by providing central assistance in accordance with the approved pattern under the Sports Infrastructure Schemes on receipt of viable proposals from the State Governments/Institutions etc. The details of grants released for creation of Sports facilities under the Sports Infrastructure Schemes for Rajasthan State during the last 3 years and the current year have been given below:-

Name of the Scheme	Year	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
(a) Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure	2001-02	0.04
	2002-03	10.71
	2003-04	25.00
	2004-05 (as on 30.11.2004)	8.275

	1	2	3
(b)	Grants to Rural	2001-02	17.78
	Schools for purchase of	2002-03	11.71
	sports equipment and	2003-04	25.198
	development of	2004-05 (as on	11.09
	playground	30.11.2004)	
(c)	Grants for	2001-02	0.14
	Promotion of Sports in	2002-03	1.10
	Universities &	2003-04	4.20
	Colleges	2004-05 (as on	7.20
		30.11.2004)	

(b) and (c) The status of proposals received during 2001-02 to 2004-05 (as on 30.11.2004) from Government of Rajasthan under the scheme of "Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure" have been placed in the enclosed Statement.

(d) and (e) It is for the State Government to avail central assistance under the Sports Infrastructure Scheme of the Government by sending viable proposals in accordance with the prescribed norms of the Schemes. The Ministry has rendered Central assistance to Rajasthan as per the details given in the Statement in respect of the proposals found in order.

(f) and (g) The Sports Authority of India Western Regional Centre located at Gandhinagar implements its schemes in the States of Gujarat, Goa, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. The number of sportspersons being trained by SAI depends on the number of SAI Centres functional in the concerned State.

The number of talented sportspersons trained under sports promotional schemes of SAI in the Western Regional Centre, Gandhinagar during 2002-03 and 2003-04 are as follows:-

1. Gujarat	191	16.57%
2. Goa	198	18.13%
3. Rajasthan	278	25.46%
4. Maharashtra	435	39.84%

(h) The upgradation of Regional Centre is a continuous process which invariably results due to expansion of SAI schemes/Centres in the respective States. In addition to SAI Centres functioning in the State of Rajasthan, it has been decided in principle to adopt Navodaya Vidyalaya at Kheri, Distt. Dausa, Rajasthan.

**Statement**

Sl.No.	Project	Present Status
1	2	3
1.	Sukhadia Sports Complex Bhiwara	Deficiency conveyed on 28.5.2001
2.	Distt. Level Sports Complex at Jaisalmer	Deficiency conveyed on 15.7.2002
3.	Indoor Stadium at Balotra, Barmer	Deficiency conveyed on 20.11.2001

1	2	3
4.	Swimming Pool and Indoor Stadium at Vidyadhar Nagar, Jaipur	Deficiency conveyed on 27.12.2001
5.	Indoor Stadium at Changan Stadium, Jaipur	Rs. 20.00 lakhs approved in principle on 5.7.2002
6.	Sports Hostel at Mount Abu, Distt. Sirohi	Deficiency conveyed on 15.3.2002
7.	Swimming Pool at Kota	25.00 lakhs released & project completed
8.	Out stadium at Kuchaman City, Nagour	Rs. 18.00 lakhs approved in principle on 3.12.2003
9.	Development of Athletic Track at Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Pokaran, Distt. Jaisalmer	Rs. 0.75 lakh approved in principle on 30.9.2003
10.	Sports Hostel at Games Complex, Chandar Vardai Nagar, Ajmer	Requested on 2.7.2003 to re-submit the proposal through the State Government
11.	Distt. Level Sports Complex at Pali	Calrification sought on 16.11.2004
12.	Distt. Level Sports Complex at Chandar Vardai Nagar, Ajmer	Deficiency conveyed on 26.8.2004
13.	Jetha Ram Dudi Stadium at Nokha, Bikaner	Rs. 18.00 lakhs approved in principle on 5.2.2004
14.	Stadium at Vill. Rajwari, Jaipur	Requested to reformulate the proposal on 13.1.2004
15.	Distt. Level Sports Complex at Jhalawar Distt.	Rs. 93.00 lakhs approved in principle on 20.2.2004

*[English]***Assam Agricultural Competitiveness Project**

693. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement for Assam Agricultural Competitiveness Project has been signed with the World Bank for Rs. 1024.53 crore;

(b) if so, the details of the project and the objectives thereof;

(c) the details of the terms of the agreement; and

(d) the steps being taken for implementation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

**Development of Livestock**

694. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI RAO:  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of centrally sponsored schemes in various States for development of livestock;

(b) the funds allocated for these schemes to States during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) the number of cattle breeders benefited therefrom during the said period;

(d) whether the funds allotted under the scheme have not been utilised by the State Governments particularly Maharashtra; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying is implementing number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes for Development of livestock. Funds are released to the States on the basis of viable proposals received from them. The details of funds allocated to States during the

last three years and current year are enclosed as Statement.

(c) Thirty million semen doses through AI besides natural services through breeding bulls have been provided to the cattle breeders.

(d) and (e) The funds allotted by the Department are by and large fully utilized by the State Governments. Unspent balance amounting to Rs. 1058.25 lakh is lying with the Government of Maharashtra.

**Statement**

*State-wise Release of Funds for Development of Livestock during last three years & current year (Till November 2004)*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	States/UT	Year			
		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 (upto Nov. 2004)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	850.02	992.04	1010.18	554.93
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	31.00	19.40	60.00	55.28
3.	Assam	18.00	75.00	272.24	149.50
4.	Bihar	36.12	6.72	253.19	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	382.89	124.13	154.33	284.50
6.	Goa	15.33	29.83	76.71	84.33
7.	Gujarat	112.74	91.25	399.72	807.42
8.	Haryana	432.74	56.96	347.25	839.86
9.	Himachal Pradesh	83.50	265.50	189.16	397.80
10.	Jharkhand	18.20	25.96	156.58	21.37
11.	Jammu & kashmir	114.79	55.50	94.55	359.11
12.	Karnataka	111.50	287.68	589.00	834.73
13.	Kerala	142.18	379.13	141.00	502.55
14.	Madhya Pradesh	858.04	325.00	391.00	930.69
15.	Maharashtra	97.00	75.78	1106.64	880.65
16.	Manipur	67.17	34.20	97.01	114.06
17.	Meghalaya	51.75	11.47	132.74	33.34
18.	Mizoram	190.69	147.97	245.58	117.21
19.	Nagaland	303.82	131.00	400.77	506.72
20.	Orissa	64.54	582.40	230.25	295.97

1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	Punjab	59.09	222.44	173.00	482.32
22.	Rajasthan	649.29	197.22	152.57	224.42
23.	Sikkim	251.93	17.00	52.09	68.50
24.	Tamil Nadu	80.41	792.83	87.60	490.12
25.	Tripura	191.55	314.26	310.29	53.33
26.	Uttar Pradesh	214.86	1516.26	716.15	1570.10
27.	Uttaranchal	262.00	106.86	296.06	205.89
28.	West Bengal	798.02	144.00	150.40	601.36
29.	A & N Islands	27.75	20.80	12.20	7.67
30.	Chandigarh	3.55	2.67	7.00	5.10
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	1.00	3.20	2.33
32.	Daman & Diu	1.00	0.00	3.20	2.33
33.	Delhi	25.13	18.95	47.20	56.99
34.	Lakshadweep	9.50	9.50	13.45	19.24
35.	Pondicherry	12.30	15.00	9.00	13.01
Total		6568.40	7095.71	8381.31	11574.73

#### Improvement in functioning of FCI

695. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal for improving the functioning of Food Corporation of India (FCI) in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of West Bengal has sent any proposal to the Union Government regarding procurement by FCI;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND

PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The State Government of West Bengal has suggested expansion of the existing storage infrastructure of FCI in the State. The State Government has also suggested that the FCI may go in for procurement of paddy directly from the producers.

(e) The FCI has taken action to make necessary storage space available for receiving the procured rice in the State. While the State Government would procure about 5 lakh MTs of paddy, the FCI would take up procurement of about 7 lakh MTs of levy rice.

#### Grant of Funds to Foundation for Ecological Security, Anand by NDDB

696. SHRI A.F.G. OSMANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the details of funds given by the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) as grant/loan to the Foundation for Ecological Security, Anand during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): The National Dairy Development Board has released Rs. 250/- lakh to Foundation for Ecological Security, Anand during the current financial year for its project "Dairying & Natural Resources Management".

#### **Renovation of Bindusagar**

697. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal to renovate Bindusagar at Bhubaneswar;

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

(c) the funds sanctioned by the Union Government to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) A proposal for conservation and management of Bindusagar lake at Bhubaneswar was received in August, 2004 for consideration under National Lake Conservation Plan. The estimated cost of the proposal is Rs. 7.20 crore. In order to consider lake projects during X Plan, the State Governments have been asked to prioritize the lakes in the State. The information on prioritization of lakes has not been received from Government of Orissa.

#### **Assistance to Groundnut Growers**

698. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the groundnut crop has been attacked by caterpillar in Challakere, Dodda Ullarhi, Yadalagatti, Kaluvehalli, Mylaahalli, Obalapur, Budnihatti, Nannivala and other places;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Karnataka has urged the Union Government to provide assistance to the farmers; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The Government of Karnataka has informed that Red Headed Hairy Caterpillar infestation was noticed in groundnut crop in 26 Grama Panchayats in 109 villages in Challakere taluka of Chitradurga district. The Department of Agriculture of the State Government took several measures to control this pest including disseminations of information to the affected farmers, organizations of field demonstrations and distribution of subsidized plant protection chemicals.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Export of Monkeys**

699. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from some countries for export of monkeys to them;

(b) if so, the names of the countries indicating the purpose thereof; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to ensure that these monkeys are not put to barbarity by those countries before exporting them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Ministry has, very recently on 30th November 2004, received a proposal for export of Rhesus monkeys for research purpose from Charles River Laboratories, Texas, United States. No final view has been taken in this regard.

*[English]*

#### **Research work for Agriculture in Non-irrigated Areas**

700. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) had undertaken any research work for the development of agriculture in non-irrigated areas and in desert prone States of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The ICAR Institutes, viz., Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad; Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur; Central Institute for Arid Horticulture, Bikaner and National Research Centre on Camel, Bikaner have undertaken research to address different issues of rainfed and arid agriculture encompassing sand dune stabilization, Watershed management/rainwater harvesting, rangeland/pasture management, Integrated nutrient and pest management, drought mitigation, crop diversification and animal husbandry etc.

*[Translation]*

#### **Narmada Canal Project**

701. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan has sent any proposal for Rs. 852 crores as additional assistance to complete Narmada Canal Project in the State; and

(b) if so, by when the assistance is likely to be given to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the reference of Government of Rajasthan to the Planning Commission, the Narmada Canal Project is planned to be completed by 2009-10 at a balance cost of Rs. 853.29 crore through a combination of Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) and State funds. For 2004-05, Rs. 275 crore ceiling for Central Loan Assistance has been fixed for Rajasthan under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) including requirement of Narmada canal. Allocation of additional Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) funds for Narmada Canal Project is linked to total allocation made under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), budget provision made by State Government for the project, preparing action plan of physical activities proposed linked to budget provision, utilization of past releases and organizational capability to absorb additional funds.

#### **Destruction of trees in Uttar Pradesh**

702. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of trees were destroyed on September 23, 2004 in village Achhepur Kirmalli under tehsil Safipur of district Unnao in Uttar Pradesh;

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

(c) whether the Government has provided or purpose to provide any financial assistance to the villagers in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) According to available information some trees, standing on the farmers land in Achhepur Kirmalli village, were damaged on 21.9.2004 due to heavy windstorm.

(b) It was an unforeseen natural calamity. The trees were damaged due to heavy windstorm.

(c) Financial assistance to the affected families has been provided by the State Government.

(d) and (e) 52 persons of affected families were provided assistance of Rs. 800/- per person for the damage to their houses. A total amount of Rs. 41,600/- was distributed to the affected villagers. In addition to this, 6776 Kg of Wheat, 2544 Kg of Rice and 72 litres of Kerosene Oil were also distributed to the affected families under different schemes.

#### **Forest Development Projects**

703. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:  
SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:  
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:  
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

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

(a) whether various States have submitted certain forest developmental projects/proposals to the Union

Government for approval during the last three years and current year;

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

(c) the details of projects/proposals out of them given approval so far, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/to be taken to approve the remaining projects/proposals indicating the reasons for their pendency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme, which is the major programme for development of forests in the country, during Tenth Five Year Plan through the mechanism of Forest Development Agencies (FDAs). Number of FDA project proposals received and approved under NAP by the Ministry is given in the Statement enclosed.

(d) Ministry of Environment and Forests is committed to operationalise FDA projects in all the forest divisions in different States of the country subject to availability of funds.

**Statement**

*Number of FDA proposals received and sanctioned under National Afforestation Programme Scheme State-wise*

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Project proposals received upto 30.11.2004	No. of Project proposals sanctioned upto 30.11.2004
1	2	3	4
1.	Haryana	15	15
2.	Orissa	29	28
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	31	31
4.	Uttar Pradesh	61	56
5.	Himachal Pradesh	28	25
6.	Uttaranchal	30	28

1	2	3	4
7.	Punjab	9	4
8.	Bihar	9	6
9.	Gujarat	15	13
10.	Jharkhand	27	26
11.	Maharashtra	41	38
12.	Rajasthan	14	13
13.	Tamil Nadu	32	31
14.	West Bengal	20	14
15.	Andhra Pradesh	32	24
16.	Chhattisgarh	27	26
17.	Goa	3	3
18.	Karnataka	41	35
19.	Kerala	25	14
20.	Madhya Pradesh	42	30
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	16	13
22.	Assam	28	17
23.	Manipur	12	11
24.	Meghalaya	7	7
25.	Mizoram	30	19
26.	Nagaland	18	16
27.	Sikkim	7	7
28.	Tripura	13	11
Total		660	561

**Development of Sports**

704. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to build modern stadium for encouraging sports in rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and



(c) the total amount allocated by the Government for the development of sports during the Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plans?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, government has promoted a Scheme of "Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure", according to which State Governments receive assistance from Government of India for building stadia.

(c) The total amount allocated by the Government for the development of Sports during the Ninth Plan was Rs. 472.61 crores and Rs. 1145.36 crore for the Tenth Five Year Plan.

*[English]*

#### Provision of Minikit in M.P.

705. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any request from the Madhya Pradesh Government to provide 'Minikit' on time;

(b) if so, whether the Government is considering to fix a time limit from the next year;

(c) whether the Government will provide adequate fund of Central contribution as per demand and within the time limit to Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government of India is supplying seed minikits of newly released varieties/hybrids of oilseeds, pulses and maize crops to major oilseeds and pulses producing States including Madhya Pradesh under the Centrally sponsored "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize" (ISOPOM) to popularize newly released varieties/hybrids. The 100% cost of seed minikits is borne by Government of India. The National Seeds Corporation and State Farms Corporation of India

are the Central nodal agencies for supplying the seed minikits to the States well in time during Kharff/Rabi sowing seasons.

#### Sprinkler Irrigation System

706. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sought reports regarding sprinkler system and tried out successfully at R and D Institutes like IARI, NDRI and other Agriculture Universities;

(b) if so, the reports and assessment made so far in this regard and whether these are part of Lab to Land Transfer of Technologies programme;

(c) if so, the number of States covered by sprinkler system in the country during the current Five Year Plan period; and

(d) the details regarding the States likely to be covered by sprinkler system in the country in the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Results of research and extension trials at ICAR Institutes and Universities indicated that sprinkler irrigation saves water to the extent of 50% or more compared to conventional method with uniform distribution efficiency. Sprinkler systems are being popularized under the Macro management scheme of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture through block grants to the States. The ICAR technology transfer system including Lab to Land programme also makes efforts to popularize it through demonstrations held by its research institutes.

(c) During the X Five Year Plan 18 States have been covered under the centrally sponsored scheme of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation.

(d) These schemes are open to all the States. It is upto the States to avail of the benefits under them.

**Dakara Nala Ganga Pump Canal Project of Bihar**

707. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had implemented the Dakara Nala Ganga Pump Canal Project in Munger district of Bihar;

(b) if so, the date on which the project was launched and the amount spent thereon; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No Sir.

(b) The scheme namely Dakara Nala Ganga Pump Canal Project was taken up by the State Government in two phases. The year of start and the details of expenditure are as follows:-

Name of Scheme	Year of Start	Expenditure upto 3/2004 (Rs. in crore)
Dakara Nala Pump Canal Scheme Phase-I	1978-80	71.95
Dakara Nala Pump Canal Scheme Phase-II	VI Plan	5.43

(c) Due to shifting of River Ganga from the project site, the progress of work has been stopped by the State. A team from Central Water Commission has visited the Project. Recommendation of the Central Team is under consideration.

[*Translation*]

**Activities Undertaken by NYKs in Tamil Nadu**

708. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the activities undertaken by Nehru Yuvak Kendras (NYKs) in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the funds allocated to NYKs in the State during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether the State Government has requested for more assistance for the welfare of sports in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) The details of activities undertaken by Nehru Yuva Kendras (NYKs) in Tamil Nadu have been indicated in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The details of funds allocated during the last three years and the current year 2004-05 (as on 1.12.04) are as under for regular programmes:

Year	Allocation of Funds
2001-02	1,37,050/-
2002-03	1,44,860/-
2003-04	1,64,860/-
2004-05	1,44,840/-

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has received proposals from the State Government of Tamil Nadu seeking financial assistance under the Scheme of "Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure" and the Scheme of "Grants for Installation of Synthetic Surfaces". The details of such proposals received during the last 3 years (2001-02 to 2002-04) and the current year till date (1.12.2004) have been indicated in the enclosed Statement-II.

***Statement-I***

*The details of various programmes/activities organized in the State of Tamil Nadu*

**(I) Regular Programmes**

1. Youth Club Development Programmes (YCDP)
2. Vocational Training Programmes
3. Awareness Campaigns
4. Work Camps
5. Sports Promotion Programmes
6. Workshops and Seminars
7. Cultural Programmes

8. Celebration of National/International Days/Weeks
9. Adventure Promotion Programmes
- (II) Schemes of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- National Service Volunteers Scheme (NSVS)
  - Financial assistance to Rural Youth and Sports Clubs and Evaluation
- (III) Special Programmes/Activities:
- Village Talks AIDS
  - Voluntary Blood Donors Forum
  - Disaster Management Programme
  - Environment Awareness Programme
  - Self Help Groups
  - Red Ribbon Clubs for Voluntary Blood Donation
  - Circulatory Library
  - Eye Camps
  - Blood Donation Camps
  - Pulse Polio Campaign
  - Mother and Child Care Awareness
  - AIDS Awareness
  - Self Employment Awareness
  - Campaign for small savings
  - Anti Drugs and Alcohol Campaign
  - Anti Craft Exhibition by SHGs promoted by the NYKs
  - Campaign for Waste Land Development, Rain water harvesting and Water shed Management
  - Malaria Prevention Rallies
  - Raising nursery and herbal gardens
  - Employment Assurance Scheme (SEWAK)
  - Food Processing Training
  - Tarun Triveni—Plantation of Trees with emotional attachment.

**Statement-II**

*Proposals Received from Govt. of Tamil Nadu for Sports Infrastructure from 2001-02 till date (1.12.2004)*

S.No.	Project	Amount	Amount	Remarks
		Approved	released	
		Rs. in lakhs		
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Scheme of "Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure"</b>				
1.	Indoor Stadium at Coimbatore	90.00	90.00	Project completed
2.	District Level Sports complex at Sivaganga	25.73	—	Progress Report to be furnished by the State Government
3.	Basketball court at Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Bhavanisagar, Distt. Erode	0.843	0.843	Project completed
4.	Distt. Level Sports Complex at Ariyalur, Distt. Perambadur	27.90	21.00	Utilisation Certificate/Completion Certificate to be furnished by the State Government
5.	Distt. Level Sports Complex at Thiruvavur	68.00	—	Progress Report to be furnished by the State Government

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Indoor Stadium at Nehru Park, Chennai	60.00	60.00	Project completed
7.	Indoor Stadium at Thindal, Distt. Erode	—	—	Rejected on 25.2.2003
8.	Outdoor Stadium at Myladuthurai, Distt. Nagapattinam	18.00	—	Progress Report to be furnished by the State Government
9.	Distt. Level Sports Complex at Thiruvannamalai	28.00	—	Progress Report to be submitted by the State Government
10.	Swimming Pool at Chennai by Dolphin Club	25.00	—	-do-
11.	Indoor Stadium at G.V. Residency Sowrpalayam, Coimbatore	—	—	Deficiencies intimated on 5.1.2004
12.	Indoor Stadium at Kodaikanal by St. Peters Matriculation Hr. Sec. School, Kodai Kanal	—	—	Deficiencies intimated on 19.8.2004
13.	Swimming Pool at Tuticorin	25.00	—	Progress Report to be furnished by the State Government
14.	Swimming Pool at Ettimadai Village Coimbatore	90.00	—	Progress report to be submitted by the State Government
15.	Outdoor Stadium at Perambalur Taluk Distt. Perambalur	—	—	To be placed before the next GIA Committee's Meeting
16.	Outdoor Stadium at Uthangarai, Distt. Krishnagiri	—	—	-do-
17.	Outdoor Stadium at Sivalarkulam Alangulam Taluk, Distt. Tirunelveli	—	—	-do-
18.	Outdoor Stadium at Parawakudi, Distt. Ramanathapuram	—	—	-do-
19.	Outdoor Stadium at Ramnad Distt.	—	—	-do-
20.	Outdoor Stadium at Korilpatti Taluk, Distt. Tootherkudi	—	—	Deficiencies conveyed on 8.11.2004
21.	Distt. Sports at Distt. Theni	—	—	Deficiencies conveyed on 10.11.2004

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Distt. Sports Complex at Karur	—	—	Deficiencies being conveyed
23.	Outdoor Stadium at Denakanikottai	—	—	Deficiencies being conveyed
24.	Distt. Sports Complex at Thiruvallur	—	—	Under examination
25.	Skating Rink at Indoor Stadium, SDAT, Chennai	—	—	No fresh cases of these districts of Tamil Nadu will be considered till the pending projects cases are settled. State Government was informed on 9.11.2004
26.	Outdoor Stadium at Tharangampudi, Distt. Nagapattnam	—	—	
27.	Outdoor Stadium at Shiva Kashi Taluq, Virudhnagar			

**Scheme of "Grants for Installation of Synthetic Surfaces"**

1.	Relaying of Synthetic Hockey Surface at Chennai	100.00	—	Progress Report to be furnished by the State Government
2.	Member Secretary, Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu, 116-A, Periyar E.V.R. High Road, Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600084	—	—	Deficiencies conveyed on 4.11.2004
3.	Member Secretary, Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu, 116-A, Periyar E.V.R. High Road, Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600084	—	—	Under examination

**District Advisory Committees on Youth Programmes**

709. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether district Advisory Committees on Youth Programmes have been set up by Nehru Yuvak Kendra Sangathan;

(b) the number of such committees set up and the details of their duties earmarked;

(c) the tenure of these committees; and

(d) the name of persons associated with such committees in Srikakulam Nehru Yuvak Kendra Sangathan?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) and (b) District Advisory Committees on Youth Programmes have been set up with Ex-officio members in all districts with Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan. The field officers have been asked to get non-official members nominated by the District Administration.

The mandate of these Committees is to advise & assist the NYKS in the implementation of the programmes in the district. It also reviews the performance of the Kendras and suggests measures for coordination with other Government & Non Government agencies.

(c) Term of non-official members is three years and that for National Service Volunteers is one year.

(d) The names of persons associated with DACYP in Srikakulam other than ex-officio members are as under:

- Mr. Preseda Rao, President, Youth Club, Bejjipuram
- Mr. Snyeoapperao, President, MAVISA (NGO) Amedelavelese
- Mr. K. Dhanunjaya Rao, President, Helping Hands (NGO)
- Mr. N. Satya Narayana, President, Grambhayudaya Yuvajana Sewa Sangham
- Ms. M. Sarada, National Service Volunteer.

#### Setting up of Beverage in Uttar Pradesh

710. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has forwarded any proposal to set up a beverage unit in the Sharda Nagar village of Gorakhpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the Government is likely to take a decision on this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) No proposal seeking financial assistance for setting up a beverage unit in the Sharda Nagar Village of Gorakhpur, UP has been received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### New Research Labs

711. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether new research labs have been set up in the country during the last three years in order to promote agricultural research;

(b) if so, the names of the places where such agricultural research labs have been set up during the said period;

(c) the total number of research labs where research work has been conducted by the end of March, 2002; and

(d) the total number and the names of the new foodgrains items on which research work is being conducted in such research labs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Indian Council Agricultural Research System has nomenclatures like Institute, National Research Centre, Project Directorate for its component field units and these have both research and farm facilities. The names of places where these have been set up during the said period are as under:-

1. National Research Centre Litchi, Muzaffarpur, Bihar
2. National Research Centre Makhana, Darbhanga, Bihar
3. National Research Centre Pomegranate, Sangola, Maharashtra (later integrated with Central Institute for Arid-Horticulture, Bikaner)
4. National Research Centre Pig, Guwahati, Assam
5. ICAR Research Complex for Eastern Region, Patna, Bihar

(c) There were 95 Institutions/Research labs conducting research by the end of March, 2002.

(d) No new foodgrains items have been included in these new research activities.

[Translation]

#### Environmental Awareness Amongst Small Scale Industries

712. PROF. M. RAMADASS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by the Government to educate the Small Scale Industries (SSIs) about various environmental issues relating to efficient utilization of available resources;

(b) whether the Government propose to recommend the Mobile Exhibition Project launched by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board to other States of India for the above purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures contemplated specifically for SSIs to deal with air and water pollution caused by them and for their improvisation and proper maintenance?

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

*[English]*

#### **Relaxing Emigration Rules**

713. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:  
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY:

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

(a) whether the Government is actively considering to ease the emigration rules;

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

(c) whether the Indian workers in foreign countries particularly in Gulf countries are likely to be protected by this relaxation; and

(d) if so, by when the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. After a comprehensive review, the benchmark for obtaining passports with "Emigration Check Not Required (ECNR)" endorsement has been lowered from graduation to 10+2 class pass. Further, the mandatory requirement of production of Demand Letter and Power of Attorney from the foreign employers is being withdrawn w.e.f. 17.01.2005.

Indian, workers seeking employment abroad, particularly in Gulf countries are expected to be better protected by the liberalisation of emigration procedures.

#### **Policy Regarding AAY**

714. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering any plan to change the policy regarding Antyodya Anna Yojana;

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

(c) the additional budget provided under this scheme;

(d) whether the additional expenditure would be shared by the Union and State Governments; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Tourist Complexes**

715. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of projects sanctioned by the Government for construction of new tourist complexes in the States including Rajasthan, location-wise;

(b) the amount allocated/released by the Government to the State Governments during the last three years for the purpose, project-wise; and

(c) the present status and by when these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) State-wise details of new tourist complexes sanctioned during the last three years are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Depending upon the size of the projects, a time limit is fixed in consultation with the Executing Agencies/ State Governments for completion of the projects.

*Statement**State-wise details of new tourist complexes sanctioned during the year 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04*

S.No.	Name of the project	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in Lakhs)	Amount released (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Haryana		
	2003-04		
	Renovation/Strengthening of Tourist Infrastructure		
(a)	Krishna Dham Tourist Complex at Kurukshetra	44.58	97.81
(b)	Parakeet Tourist Complex at Pipli	63.67	
	Archaeological Complex at Adi Badri, Distt. Yamuna Nagar	72.00	36.00
	Archaeological Complex at Rakhi Garhi (Distt. Hissar)	52.00	26.00
	Archaeological Complex at Banawali (Distt. Fatehabad)	52.00	26.00
2.	Rajasthan		
	2003-04		
	Construction of Archaeological Complex at Kalibanga	52.00	26.00
3.	Himachal Pradesh		
	2001-02		
	Tourist Complex at Bilaspur (Distt. Bilaspur)	25.00	20.00
	2002-03		
	Wayside Amenities at Bilaspur (Distt. Bilaspur)	44.34	44.34
	Construction of trekkers Hostel at Janjehli (Distt. Mandi)	41.80	41.80
	Wayside Amenities Level I at Darcha/Jispa	54.60	54.60
	Wayside Amenity Level, I Sarchu	52.10	52.10



1	2	3	4
	Tourist Complex at Mountaineering Institute, Manali (Distt. Kullu)	70.00	70.00
	Wayside Amenities at Kaza	40.00	40.00
4.	Jharkhand		
	2001-02		
	Tourist Complex at Gitlaud	40.00	12.00
	Tourist Complex at Ram Rekha Dham	40.00	12.00
	2003-04		
	Tourist Complex at Madhuban (Parasnath)	80.00	80.00
5.	Uttaranchal		
	2003-04		
	Upgradation of existing Tourist Rest House at Pipalkoti	21.14	21.14
6.	Assam		
	2003-04		
	Development Integrated Complex at Agartoli range, Kaziranga	158.00	158.00
7.	Manipur		
	2003-04		
	Improvement of INA Memorial Complex at Moirang	82.44	24.73
8.	Nagaland		
	2003-04		
	Nagaland Heritage Complex, Kohima	300.00	90.00
9.	Andhra Pradesh		
	2001-02		
	Construction of Tourist Complex at Ethipothala Water Falls	32.00	32.00
	Construction of Tourist Complex at Farahabad, Mahboobnagar	45.00	45.00
	Construction of Tourist Complex at Bairlutu, Karnool Distt.	45.00	45.00

1	2	3	4
10. Gujarat			
2001-02			
TRC at Bhuj		39.00	11.07
Tourist Complex at Narayana		39.00	11.07
TRC at Ahmedabad		40.00	32.00
11. Madhya Pradesh			
2001-02			
Tourist Complex at Neemuch		61.00	18.34
Construction of TRC Bhoal		78.04	23.52
12. Pondicherry			
2001-02			
Tourist Complex at Chunnambara		44.06	25.00
13. Tamil Nadu			
2001-02			
Construction of TRC at Kanyakumari		45.00	36.00

#### Development of Anti Cancer Variety of Tomato

716. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3958 dated December 16, 2002 regarding development of anti-cancer variety of tomato and state:

(a) whether the National Research Centre for Plant Biotechnology, Pusa, New Delhi had obtained the requisite information; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Agriculture Research System has identified two tomato lines with high level of cancer fighting anti-oxidant lycopene content. Two lines with high level

of lycopenes have been introduced from Asian Vegetable Research and Development Centre, Taiwan. These lines are being utilized in identifying genes involved in high lycopene bio-synthesis which will be later on utilized in developing elite tomato varieties with high level of lycopene contents.

*[English]*

#### Swagat Fast Track Immigration Clearance Counters at Airports

717. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under the consideration of the Government to open Swagat Fast Track Immigration Clearance Counters at all international airports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which the foreign tourists will be benefited therefrom;

(d) whether the Government propose to take steps to give thrust to tourism in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Airport Authority of India, a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Civil Aviation have recently decided to introduce 'specialised passenger handling services' by appointing an Agency at all Indian airports with the name of 'Swagat Seva' which shall carry-out the task of clearing airport formalities and to escort passengers to the check-in and immigration counters.

(c) In-bound foreign tourists/passengers requiring particular assistance can avail the services of specialised passenger handling services' on round-the-clock-basis at all stages of the 'Swagat Seva' against payment of Rs. 500/- to be charged from the international passenger.

(d) and (e) The development of tourism is primarily undertaken by the concerned State Governments. However, the Ministry of Tourism offers Central Financial Assistance to State Governments for tourism projects based on inter-se priorities. During the years 2002-03 and 2003-04, the number of tourism projects and the amount sanctioned in the States of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh were as follows:-

S.No.	Name of the State	No. of Projects	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. In lakhs)
1.	Karnataka	20	1835.15
2.	Tamil Nadu	19	1898.82
3.	Andhra Pradesh	8	1454.00

The tourism products of these States are also being promoted in the overseas and domestic markets through India tourism offices.

*[Translation]*

#### **Inclusion of Tourism in Union List**

718. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT:  
PROF. M. RAMADASS:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to promote tourism industry by enacting a law on tourism, enforcing it effectively to bring tourism in the Union list and declaring the pilgrim places as tourist centres; and

(b) if so, by when such law is likely to be enacted and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The issue of bringing Tourism in the Concurrent List of the Constitution is being examined in consultation with the State Governments. However, it is not possible at this juncture to indicate a time frame for this.

*[English]*

#### **Foodgrain Trade by Farmers**

719. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to remove State control on the trading of foodgrains and give farmers freedom to market their products with provisions for a safety net;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to establish a chain of rural and semi-urban godowns with warehousing and foodgrain banking facilities to help farmers to store and sell through the warehouse; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Government has removed all controls on foodgrains, viz. licensing, stock limits and restrictions on inter-State movement by issuing a Notification on 15.2.2002 with an amendment dated 16.6.2003, according to which any dealer can freely buy, stock, sell, transport, distribute, dispose, acquire, use or consume any quantity of wheat, paddy/rice, coarsegrains, sugar, edible oilseeds and oils, pulses, gur, wheat products and hydrogenated vegetable oil or vanaspati and shall not require any licence or permit therefor.

This Notification has ensured free trade and movement of foodgrains and best prices to farmers for their produce.

(c) and (d) Government is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Construction of Rural Godowns under which subsidy is provided on capital cost of the storage project to persons belonging to private and co-operative sectors. The scheme has helped the farmers to store their produce near the field, obtain pledge loan and marketing credit from the banks, thereby avoiding distress sale at the time of harvest. The scheme is being implemented since March, 2001 and so far 6974 storage projects have been sanctioned by banks to create 115.1 lakh tonnes of rural storage capacity in the country.

[*Translation*]

#### **Social Security Scheme under EPFO**

720. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:  
SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN:

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

(a) whether some Social Security Schemes are being run by the Government under Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main objects of the schemes and the amount spent thereon by the Government during the last three years and thereafter;

(d) whether these schemes have succeeded in achieving their objectives; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The following Schemes, which have been framed under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, are being run under Employees' Provident Fund Organisation:-

1. Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952.
2. Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme, 1976.
3. Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995.

(c) The schemes are aimed at providing social security benefits to the employees of the establishments covered under the Act at the time of their retirement/old age and at the time of genuine needs.

In accordance with the provisions contained in para 3(2) of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 the Central Government contributes at the rate of 1.16% of the pay of the members of Employees' Pension Scheme. Accordingly, Central Government has contributed the following amount during the last three years and thereafter:-

Sl.No.	Year	Amount contributed by the Central Government (Rs. in crores)
1.	2001-02	485.00
2.	2002-03	400.00
3.	2003-04	450.00
4.	2004-05 (upto Nov. 2004)	500.00

(d) Yes, Sir.

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

#### **Pollution in Delhi**

721. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:  
SHRI MUNAWAR HASSAN:  
SHRI HARISH NAGPAL:  
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:  
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

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

(a) whether Delhi is one of the most polluted cities of the world;

(b) if so, whether all types of pollution viz. air, noise, vehicular and pollution caused by filth are present in Delhi;

(c) if so, the extent thereof;

(d) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards deteriorating level of pollution as reported in *Dainik Jagran* dated November 7, 2004;

(e) if so, the facts thereof;

(f) whether the number of cases of lung diseases in Delhi is also increasing as a result thereof; and

(g) if so, the details of action plan formulated to remove various types of pollution from Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) The Central Pollution Control Board is monitoring ambient air quality at seven locations in Delhi. The monitoring results indicate that while there is general improvement in the air quality in Delhi, levels of Suspended Particulate Matter and Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter exceed the stipulated norms during certain period, mainly due to natural dust, vehicular emissions and industrial activities in the city.

(f) No conclusive information is available to establish cause-effect relationship between the environmental pollution and increase in lung disease in Delhi.

(g) The Government has brought out a White Paper on Pollution in Delhi with an action plan for prevention and control of pollution from various sources such as air pollution with specific reference to vehicular pollution, water pollution, solid waste management, industrial pollution and noise pollution. It also includes setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) and Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) for treatment of waste water for human settlement as well as industries. It entails implementation of mass emission standards at the manufacturing stage of vehicles and implementation of emission and noise standards with respect to diesel generator sets, relocation of polluting industries from non-conforming areas.

*[English]*

**Establishment of National Bureau of Forest Genetic Resources**

722. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:  
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Bureau of Forest Genetic Resources;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives thereof;

(c) the extent to which it would help in conservation and evaluation of forestry species; and

(d) the details of other such projects already existing and doing similar job?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Board of Governors of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education in its last meeting held during October 2004 has approved a proposal to set up a 'National Bureau of Forest Genetic Resources' (NBFGR).

(b) The aims and objectives of the NBFGR would be to act as a nodal agency at national level for acquisition and management of indigenous and exotic forest genetic resources for their exploration, documentation, conservation and sustainable management for productivity enhancement.

(c) The bureau would help in consolidating facilities for germplasm collection, conservation and documentation and to make available these resources to scientists engaged in forestry research. This will also help in developing suitable protocols of conservation and sustainable utilisation of forest genetic resources for bringing out ecological, economic and livelihood security to all the stakeholders.

(d) There is a National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), established during 1976 which exclusively deals with agricultural and horticultural species. For forestry species, very little efforts have been made so far. There is no national level organisation like NBPGR to take care of forestry species.

**Suicide by Farmers**

723. SHRI SUNIL KHAN:  
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently in September, 2004, farmers in Andhra Pradesh continued committing suicides;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any central team visited the State recently and gave additional amount/foodgrains to meet the situation; and

(d) if so, the latest position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Government of Andhra Pradesh has reported 300 cases of suicide by farmers from 14.5.2004 to 10.8.2004.

(c) and (d) A Central Team visited Andhra Pradesh from 17th to 19th October, 2004 for assessment of the prevailing drought situation. Its recommendations are under consideration.

#### **Import of Kerosene**

724. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:  
SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to lift the ban on import of kerosene; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the benefits likely to accrue as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) As per the extant policy there is no ban on import of kerosene. Import of kerosene has been canalized through Public Sector Enterprises namely, IOCL, BPCL, HPCL & IBP and State Trading Corporation.

*[Translation]*

#### **Gas Distribution under PDS**

725. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to distribute Gas cylinders under the public distribution scheme to the below poverty line families;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide loan facility to the shopkeepers for this purpose;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to provide commission to these shopkeepers;

(e) if so, whether the burden of their commission is likely to be transferred to the consumers; and

(f) if not, the funds likely to be spent by the Government under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) At present, Government is supplying subsidized LPG (domestic) cylinders to the registered customers of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) and there is no specific plan to distribute (LPG) (domestic gas) cylinders under Public Distribution Scheme for below poverty line consumers.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

#### **Purchase of Computers in ICAR**

726. SHRI SURAJ SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether contract for purchasing of computers in Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and its divisions/directorate offices are being given to one firm only for the last few years;

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

(c) whether any matter has come into limelight regarding irregularities in purchase of computers in ICAR;

(d) if so, the details of such irregularities which have been detected in purchase of computers in ICAR and the action taken against the culprits;

(e) if not, whether the Government are contemplating to conduct investigation by an independent agency in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) No matter has come into limelight regarding irregularities in the Purchase of computers in ICAR Headquarters during last 3 years.

(d) to (f) Question does not arise.

[English]

#### Centrally Sponsored Schemes

727. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated/released to State Governments especially to Karnataka for Centrally Sponsored Tourism Schemes during the last three years, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government has received requests from State Governments particularly from Karnataka to release additional assistance for implementation of such schemes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) A Statement giving information in respect of projects sanctioned, funds approved and released to various States and Union Territories in the country during the years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 is enclosed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Statement

*State-wise Tourism Projects sanctioned during the last three years (2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04)*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	No of Projects Sanctioned	Amt. Sanctioned	Amt. Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14	1621.85	1221.20
2.	Assam	19	1479.09	1127.59
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	25	1407.80	943.38
4.	Bihar	15	1525.77	1420.24
5.	Chhattisgarh	18	1348.00	486.00
6.	Goa	12	130.99	85.11
7.	Gujarat	21	1423.13	995.25
8.	Haryana	31	1673.07	1273.12
9.	Himachal Pradesh	46	1119.28	924.33
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	11	1054.88	1045.42
11.	Jharkhand	4	1189.00	798.60
12.	Karnataka	28	2089.91	1586.77
13.	Kerala	28	2149.94	1750.61

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Madhya Pradesh	39	1589.45	1074.74
15.	Maharashtra	28	2683.49	2426.74
16.	Manipur	3	87.68	27.35
17.	Meghalaya	10	198.44	83.07
18.	Mizoram	17	782.11	279.41
19.	Nagaland	14	1113.04	566.93
20.	Orissa	11	505.10	183.07
21.	Punjab	8	136.50	39.24
22.	Rajasthan	29	2748.51	2512.95
23.	Sikkim	26	1606.16	1020.68
24.	Tamil Nadu	39	2432.49	1333.89
25.	Tripura	16	780.70	267.81
26.	Uttaranchal	10	843.95	662.64
27.	Uttar Pradesh	15	1466.54	1258.13
28.	West Bengal	32	1148.39	542.97
29.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	7	25.75	21.75
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3	11.77	8.31
32.	Delhi	37	3875.29	3708.45
33.	Daman & Diu	5	319.57	258.96
34.	Lakshadweep	1	17.00	5.10
35.	Pondicherry	6	331.65	135.83
Total		628	40916.29	30073.64

#### Pending Water Projects

728. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:  
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether water projects of States are pending with the Government for clearance;

(b) if so, the water projects which had to be implemented during the current year;

(c) whether States were circulated guidelines for projects to be considered on water bodies that can be used for irrigation;

(d) if so, whether schemes have been formulated but not implemented so far;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;



(f) whether States have also sent their letter of intent but have not come forward with concrete schemes; and

(g) if so, by when the projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (g) A Pilot scheme on Revival, Restoration and Renovation of Water Bodies directly linked to agriculture is proposed to be taken up in line with the announcement made by the Union Finance Minister in his Budget Speech 2004-05. The eligibility guidelines for preparation of project proposals for the pilot schemes were sent to the States. The completion of the Pilot project proposals sent by the State Governments to the Central Government depends upon the promptness with which the projects are taken up by the State Government after their approval.

#### **Reconstitution of Cauvery Tribunal**

729. SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received by the Union Government from the Government of Karnataka seeking reconstitution of Cauvery Tribunal;

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

(c) by when the tribunal is likely to be constituted alongwith composition thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Scheme for Marketing Infrastructure of Agro-Products**

730. SHRI RAMAKANT YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has prepared any scheme to strengthen marketing infrastructure of agro-products;

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned by the Government to implement the said scheme during the current financial year;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to establish new mandies in the country to strengthen the agro-marketing infrastructure; and

(d) if so, the details of the mandies to be established, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved a Central Sector Scheme on 20.10.2004 for Development/ Strengthening of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure, Grading & Standardization. Under the Scheme, credit linked back-ended subsidy shall be provided on the capital cost of general or commodity specific infrastructure for marketing of agricultural commodities and for strengthening and modernization of existing agricultural markets, wholesale, rural periodic or in tribal areas. The Scheme is reform linked and assistance for development of infrastructure projects will be provided in those States/ Union Territories which permit setting up of agricultural markets in private and cooperative sectors and allow direct marketing and contract farming. The budget for this scheme for the current financial year 2004-2005 is Rs. 40 crore.

(c) and (d) Setting up of agricultural markets is a State subject. As such, State Governments have to take the initiative for establishing new mandies as per their local requirements. The State Governments can avail Central assistance for establishing mandies under the new scheme subject to their fulfilling the requirement of reforms in their law dealing with agricultural markets (APMC Act).

#### **Enforcement of Wildlife Protection Laws**

731. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 21-member Wildlife Protection Committee was proposed to be constituted some time back;

(b) if so, the details alongwith present status thereof;

(c) the details of actions taken for strengthening enforcement of wildlife protection laws and prosecution of violators since 1990-91; and

(d) the number of violators apprehended during the period and number of conviction achieved in the courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Dose not arise.

(c) The Central Bureau of Investigation has been authorized to carry out seizures and prosecute the offenders involved in wildlife crimes. The financial allocation for strengthening the enforcement of wildlife laws and protection of Protected Areas has been enhanced since 1990. Under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, technical and financial assistance are being provided to the States for effective communication, infrastructure development and defending legal cases.

(d) The information regarding number of violators apprehended and convictions achieved in the courts are maintained at the level of Governments of States and UTs.

[English]

#### Assistance to Sports Federations

732. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to intervene in functioning of various sports Federations in the country's interest and prestige keeping in view the

poor performance of sports in International and National events;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government provides grant-in-aid to Federations; and

(d) if so, the details of total funds/aid provided to various federations during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) and (b) Sports is a subject listed in the "State List" of the Constitution and the National Sports Federations (NSFs) are elected bodies registered under the Societies Registration Act. The Government of India has formulated Guidelines for assistance to NSFs defining the role and responsibilities of the NSFs. However, the Government does not intervene in the day to day functioning of these bodies.

(c) The Government provides financial assistance to recognized NSFs for training and participation in International tournaments, organization of International tournaments in India, holding of National Championships for Sub-junior, Junior and Senior categories, training/coaching under Indian and foreign coaches, procurement of equipment and for providing requisite scientific/technical back up etc.

(d) The details of funds/aid provided to various recognized Federations during the last three years is given in the Statement enclosed.

#### Statement

##### *Assistance to National Sports Federation*

Sl.No.	Name of the Federation	Amount in Rs.		
		2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004
1	2	3	4	5
1.	All India Carrom Federation	1220211	1500974	682657
2.	All India Chess Federation	5277322	11681426	16681512
3.	All India Football Federation	1831614	2795514	1598625
4.	All India Karate-Do-Federation	0	1511417	0
5.	All India Sports Council of the Deaf	635166	871899	1177522
6.	Amateur Athletics Federation of India	8170088	9069998	7025325

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Amateur Baseball Federation of India	1080768	700000	1600000
8.	Amateur Handball Federation of India	337500	1475000	1775000
9.	Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India	1872182	1737015	3485770
10.	Archery Association of India	2938624	2626548	6883370
11.	Atya Patya Federation of India	1192000	1200000	1650000
12.	Badminton Association of India	1167554	13155431	15980746
13.	Ball Badminton Federation of India	1017100	1250000	1050000
14.	Basketball Federation of India	2762478	3232936	4396382
15.	Billiards & Snooker Federation of India	2664563	3009347	2416455
16.	Cycle Polo Federation of India	813778	1251489	1000000
17.	Cycling Federation of India	1758719	2640253	2808508
18.	Equestrian Federation of India	1413089	6805902	2539252
19.	Fencing Association of India	3142793	806584	1959832
20.	Gymnastics Federation of India	6704411	12687301	3601507
21.	Indian Amateur Boxing Federation	8275236	8984951	10842412
22.	Indian Body Building Federation	225000	50000	0
23.	Indian Golf Union	0	3343796	1853785
24.	Indian Hockey Federation	17462533	7017214	12878010
25.	Indian Kayaking & Canoeing Association	701030	2086136	2720945
26.	Indian Olympic Association	177050	44491859	5877202
27.	Indian Polo Association	113186	176913	20241738
28.	Indian Powerlifting Federation	675000	1200000	175000
29.	Indian Weightlifting Federation	2754693	3488197	5995302
30.	Indian Women Hockey Federation	10908974	3510110	3087071
31.	Judo Federation of India	5725366	2986892	4435620
32.	Kho-Kho Federation of India	840000	1450000	1250000
33.	Korfball Federation of India	600000	1334539	1150000
34.	All India Tennis Association	3843898	7085207	5918312
35.	National Rifle Association of India	22648120	17436465	17455572
36.	Netball Federation of India	1125000	1200000	1645900
37.	Rowing Federation of India	5216284	3642641	4839159

1	2	3	4	5
38.	School Games Federation of India	2022809	1484869	1962015
39.	Sepak Takraw Federation of India	1176000	1200000	1000000
40.	Shootingball Federation of India	195000	0	2100000
41.	Softball Federation of India	625000	1699291	1000000
42.	Squash Rackets Federation of India	3467236	964888	1858975
43.	Swimming Federation of India	3525660	4602717	6012609
44.	Table Tennis Federation of India	5954016	7100759	7490815
45.	Taekwondo Federation of India	0	1756800	2321784
46.	Tenni-Koit Federation of India	1165200	1200000	1150000
47.	Tennis Ball Cricket Federation of India	600000	1650000	1200000
48.	Throwball Federation of India	175000	0	0
49.	Tug of War Federation of India	1200000	1650000	1150000
50.	Volleyball Federation of India	3703156	5061449	7655295
51.	Women Cricket Association of India	37500	300000	0
52.	Wrestling Federation of India	10591336	10977678	23488942
53.	Yatching Association of India	8279739	10549498	15988068
54.	Wushu Association of India	0	750000	150000
55.	Winter Games Federation of India	18363001	212000	1227400
<b>Total</b>		<b>374180219</b>	<b>265579954</b>	<b>364349456</b>

### Cashew Cultivation

733. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted for the development of cashew cultivation in view of the potential development and the increasing demand of cashew in the market World over;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has any proposal to use non agricultural land for cashew cultivation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) No study has yet been conducted for the Development of Cashew Cultivation and its increasing demand.

(c) to (e) The Government has not made any proposal for cultivation of cashew in non-agricultural land.

*[Translation]*

### Employment Opportunities in Unorganised Sector

734. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

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

(a) whether labourers in the unorganised sector are not getting employment opportunities for their livelihood;

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

(c) whether the Government has chalked out any concrete scheme to provide employment to labourers of unorganised sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the mandays aimed to be created in a year?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) No, Sir. Employment in the unorganised sector on usual status basis which was of the order of 34.7 crore in 1993-94 has gone up to 36.9 crore in 1999-2000 (latest available).

(b) to (d) Does not arise. Government is targeting creation of 5 crore employment opportunities during the 10th plan period with the following strategy.

- 8% growth with business as usual will contribute around 3 crore employment opportunities.
- Special employment generation programmes will yield 2 crore employment opportunities.
- Special emphasis on agriculture, irrigation, agro-forestry, small and medium enterprises, information communication technology, tourism and other services.

Details of estimated job potential in different sectors is given in the Statement enclosed.

**Statement**

*Estimated Job Potential in Different Sectors*

Sectors/Programmes	Total Additional job opportunities created over the 10th Plan (in lakhs)		Total (in lakhs)
	Growth based	Programme based	
1	2	3	4
Agriculture Including National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NSDRPA), Farm Management Programme, Agro Clinics, Greening India Programme, Watershed and Wasteland Development, Medicinal Plant, Bamboo Development and Energy Plantation like Ethanol etc.	4.1	90.6	94.7
Mining & Minerals	-2.0		-2.1
Manufacturing [Excl. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) & Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP)]	14.2	(large manufacturer) 60.00 (SSI)	60.00
Electricity, Gas & Water	-2.1		-2.1
Construction	63.0		63.0
Trade, Hotels & Restaurants	112.3		112.3
Transport, Storage & Communications	55.1		55.1

1	2	3	4
Financial Sector	19.3		19.3
Community Sector	-27.1	32.0	4.9
<b>Special Programme</b>			
Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) (SSI) & REGP (KVIC)		22.0	22.0
Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY)		12.9	12.9
Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) & Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)		7.7	7.7
		8.0	8.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>296.8</b>	<b>193.2</b>	<b>490.0</b>

Note: Totals may not tally due to rounding off.

[English]

#### Illegal felling of Sandalwood Trees

735. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that illegal felling of sandalwood trees in Marayoor range in Kerala has been rampant and leading to illicit sandalwood oil distillation in Pallakkad district in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the forest officials of Pallakkad (Kerala) have recently raided a few distillation units using illegal stocks of sandalwood;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether any investigation is being conducted on the reported theft of sandalwood from Marayoor high range for clandestine use by distillation units in Pallakkad; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of the illegal felling of sandalwood trees in Marayoor Range.

There have been a number of cases of illicit sandalwood distillation units functioning in Pallakkad using the illicitly felled material from Marayoor.

(b) There have been 907 number of offence cases involving felling of 3608 sandalwood trees during the last five years.

(c) Yes, Sir. A raid was conducted on 10.10.2004 by a team of forest officers led by the Vigilance wing of the Department and a few factories were raided. Prior to this a surprise raid was also conducted on 14.8.04 by the officers of Munnar Forest Division.

(d) In the recent raid on 10.10.04, 2711 Kgs of sandalwood powder and 275 Kgs of sandalwood chips of an estimated value of Rs. 20.60 lakhs were seized from four units. These four units were subsequently sealed. Four offences were booked as O.R. 14/2004, 15/2004, 17/2004 and 18/2004 regarding illicit collection and storing of the seized materials. In the earlier raid on 14.8.04, 24.90 Kgs of sandalwood oil and 1025 Kgs of sandalwood were seized from two units by the Divisional Forest Officer, Munnar.

(e) and (f) The matter is under investigation.

[Translation]

#### Availability of Water

736. SHRI MUNSHI RAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether water availability has decreased enormously due to scanty rainfall during the current year;

(b) if so, the details of decreased percentage of water level this year in comparison to last year;

(c) the impact on irrigation and power generation due to shortage of water;

(d) whether the Government has formulated any contingency plan for the States to overcome the situation; and

(e) if so, the amount to be spent on this scheme by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The status of storage capacity of the 71 major reservoirs being monitored by Central Water Commission indicates that the water availability has not decreased as compared to last year. At the end of the monsoon period this year, as on 29.10.2004, the water availability in the live storage of 71 major reservoirs was 84.8 billion Cubic Metre (BCM) against last year's availability of 80 BCM.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

*[English]*

#### **Bamboo Plantation**

737. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the fertility of soil has become a cause of concern for sustainable agricultural products in Andamans and Nicobar Islands including Bamboo plantation;

(b) if so, the details of existing Bamboo plants/productions in Andamans and Nicobar Islands and its export value during the last three years; and

(c) the locations where Bamboo plants can be grown and its products can be exported to generate employment and revenue to benefit the local farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a)

The Government has not received any report regarding depletion of soil fertility, which can be considered as a cause of concern for sustainable agriculture production including bamboo plantation in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

(b) There are five bamboo species which are native to the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and the estimated under bamboo in the Islands is around 25,000 hectares. The existing bamboos do not have any export potential or industrial use.

(c) In the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, bamboos are being planted under planting teak plantations, within natural forests and vacant degraded agricultural lands. The solid and thick walled bamboos which are being planted are useful for making handicrafts.

#### **Maize Cultivation**

738. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a vast scope to promote maize cultivation in the Kandhamal and Phulabani and other scheduled districts in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the step taken to promote maize cultivation in those scheduled districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There is scope to promote maize cultivation in Kandhamal and Phulabani and other scheduled areas/districts in Orissa.

Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored "Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm & Maize" (ISOPOM) to promote cultivation of maize in all the maize potential districts of 15 major maize growing states including Kandhamal and Phulabani and other scheduled districts of Orissa.

Under the scheme, assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of minikits, infrastructure development block demonstrations on improved technology, Integrated Pest Management Technology, distribution of Plant Protection Chemicals, Plant Protection equipments, weedicides, supply of Rhizobium culture/Phosphate Solubilising

Bacteria, distribution of gypsum/pyrite/liming/dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets, farmers training, staff & contingencies, officers training and publicity, etc. Besides, to transfer improved production technologies in maize, block demonstrations through State Department of Agriculture and frontline demonstrations through Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) are being conducted.

#### **Ban on Production of Mineral Water**

739. SHRI K.S. RAO:  
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has instructed various State Governments to stop production and distribution at various mineral water bottling units;

(b) if so, the details and reasons for the same; and

(c) the steps taken by various State Governments to implement the directives of BIS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) The Bureau of Indian Standards has not issued any instructions to various State Governments to stop production and distribution at various Mineral Water Bottling Units or Packaged Drinking Water Bottling Units.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Disposal of Damaged Foodgrain**

740. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:  
SHRI KAILASH BAITHA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) total quantity of damaged foodgrain disposed by FCI during the last three years;

(b) whether such damaged foodgrain was issued to State owned Department/Agencies in violation of set procedures;

(c) if so, the details of such agencies alongwith the quantity received by them and reasons therefor;

(d) whether these agencies resold these stocks in open market at higher price;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to constitute any enquiry of illegal sale of damaged foodgrain; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The quantity of damaged foodgrains disposed of by the FCI during the last three years, year-wise, was as under:

Year	Quantity (in lakh MT)
2001-02	1.17
2002-03	2.01
2003-04	1.74
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.92</b>

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

#### **Advisory Council for Development of Water Resources**

741. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up an advisory Council for the development of water resources with people's participation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) A proposal for constitution of an Advisory Council for Rain Water Harvesting and Ground



Water Recharge with people's participation is under consideration of the Government. The details are being worked out.

*[Translation]*

**Scheme to Attract Tourists at Uttaranchal**

742. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA": Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to attract domestic tourists towards Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated/released to State Government during the current year for the development of tourist spots?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Development of tourist places is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, has formulated schemes for Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development and Assistance for Large Revenue Generating projects for development of tourism infrastructure in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

During the first two years of the Tenth Five Year Plan, the following projects have been sanctioned in Uttaranchal:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Name of the Project	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
2002-03	1. Rural Tourism Project at Jageshwar	55.00	15.00
	2. Development of Haridwar-Rishikesh as tourist destination	557.50	399.00
	3. Artist Camp at Dehradun	5.00	4.00
2003-04	1. Virasat Festival, Dehradun	15.00	7.50
	2. Tourist Reception Centre at Pipalkoti	21.14	21.14
	3. Kumaon Festival	2.30	2.30
	4. SEL Show at Haridwar	192.00	192.00

(c) No funds have been released to Uttaranchal Government during the current financial year so far.

**Violation of Labour Law by Pesticide Companies**

743. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pesticide manufacturing companies are violating safeguards the existing labour laws of the country;

(b) if so, the names of the companies against whom actions have been taken during the last three years and thereafter, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has reviewed the measures adopted by these companies to ensure the proper implementation of the existing labour laws and safeguards; and

(d) if so, the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes Sir, some of the pesticide manufacturing companies have been found to be violating the safeguards prescribed under the Factories Act, 1948.

(b) The details as received from the State Governments which are monitoring the implementation of the safety provisions under the Act is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The Directorate General Factory Advice Service and Labour Institutes, Mumbai under this Ministry has conducted a national Survey on process safety, health and work environment in pesticide industries. The report of the survey was sent to the Pesticide Manufacturers Association and the Chief Inspector of Factories of the respective States for their implementation.

(d) The Inspectors of Factories of the respective State Governments monitor the implementation of safety provisions through their periodical inspection of the units. The Factories found violating the provisions are prosecuted and discrepancies, if any, observed are communicated to the units for rectification. Training Programmes are also organized to increase safety awareness amongst engineers, supervisors and workers working on shop floors in this sector.

#### *Statement*

#### *Pesticide Units violating Safeguards*

Sl.No.	State/U.T.	Names of the companies against whom action has been taken during the last three years
1	2	3
1.	Goa	M/s Syngenta India Ltd.
2.	Gujarat	(i) Raliz India Ltd. GIDC, Ankleshwar (ii) United Phosphorous Ltd., GIDC Ankleshwar (iii) United Phosphorous Ltd., Vapi (iv) Deva Chemicals Indl. Ltd., Kazipur (v) Fecom Organics Ltd., GIDC, Ankleshwar (vi) United Phosphorous Ltd., Unit Ankleshwar
3.	Kerala	M/s Hindustan Insecticides Ltd.
4.	Maharashtra	(i) Maharashtra Insecticides Ltd., Akola (ii) Sanjay Insecticides Pvt. Ltd., Jalana (iii) Jaikishan Agrochemical Pvt. Ltd., Beed

1	2	3
		(iv) Rallies India Ltd., Thane-Belapur
		(v) Gharda Chemicals Pharma, Mahad
		(vi) Gharda Chemicals, Lote. Ratnagiri
5. Uttar Pradesh	M/s NFC Chemicals Ltd., Secunderabad	Bulandshahar

*[English]*

#### **Assistance to Pepper Cultivators**

744. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has realized that the bilateral agreement between India and Sri Lanka exempting import duty has adversely affected the Pepper growers in the country;

(b) whether the Government has noticed that the huge amount of pepper which is being channelised through Sri Lanka has brought down the price of pepper in India; and

(c) if so, the measures the Government propose to take to assist pepper cultivators in the country especially in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The quantum of import of pepper from Sri Lanka has registered a steep increase after effecting exemption of duty in import of pepper from Sri Lanka under the India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement.

(b) The decline in domestic prices can not be exclusively attributed to duty free imports from Sri Lanka. Imports of pepper from other countries such as Vietnam and Indonesia have also gone up in recent years, alongwith decline in the international prices also.

(c) During the 3rd Commerce Secretary Level Talks between India and Sri Lanka held in August, 2004 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, both sides agreed to establish a monitoring mechanism to prevent the circumvention of Rules of Origin which will protect our farmers including State of Kerala.

### **New Agriculture Commission**

745. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new Agriculture Commission has been constituted; and

(b) if so, the composition and the terms of reference of the Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The National Commission on Farmers set up through a Resolution dated 10th February, 2004 has recently been reconstituted. The Reconstituted Commission comprises as Chairman, two full-time Members, four part-time Members and a Member-Secretary. The terms of reference of the reconstituted Commission are as under:-

- Work out a comprehensive medium-term strategy for food and nutrition security in the country in order to move towards the goal of universal food security, overtime.
- Propose methods of enhancing the productivity, profitability, stability and sustainability of the major farming systems of the country, based on an agro-ecological and agro-climatic approach and the harnessing of frontier technologies.
- Bring out synergy between technology and policy and recommend measures for enhancing income and employment potential in rural areas through diversification, application of appropriate technology including IT for information on market, weather, credit facilities and e-commerce, training and market reforms.
- Suggest measures to attract and retain educated youth in farming and recommend for this purpose methods of technological upgrading of crop husbandry, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries (inland and marine), agro-forestry and agro-processing and associated marketing infrastructure.
- Suggest comprehensive policy reforms designed to enhance investment in ag research,

substantially increase flow of rural credit to farmers including small and marginal, triggering agricultural growth led economic progress, which can lead to opportunities for a healthy and productive life to rural families.

- Formulate special programmes for dryland farming for farmers in the arid and semi-arid regions, as well as for farmers in hilly and coastal areas in order to link the livelihood security of the farming communities living in such areas with the ecological security of regions. Review in this context, all ongoing Technology Missions like those relating to pulses, oilseeds, maize, cotton, watershed etc. and recommend methods of promoting horizontal integration of vertically structured programmes. Also suggest credit-linked insurance schemes, which can protect resource poor farm families from unbearable risks. Further, suggest methods of strengthening and streamlining the National Horticulture Development Board.
- Suggest measures for enhancing the quality and cost competitiveness of farm commodities so as to make them globally competitive through providing necessary facilities and application of frontier sciences and promote quality literacy for codex alimentarius standard, sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures among farmers through reorienting and retooling extension machinery. Also suggest methods of providing adequate protection to farmers from imports when international prices fall sharply.
- Recommend measures for the credit, knowledge, skill, technological and marketing empowerment of women, taking into consideration the increasing feminization of agriculture and the proposed conferment of right to land ownership.
- Suggest methods of empowering male and female members of elected local bodies to discharge effectively their role in conserving and improving the ecological foundations for sustainable agriculture like land, water, agro-biodiversity and the atmosphere with priority attention to irrigation water.
- Consider any other issue, which is relevant to the above or is specially referred to the Commission by Government.

**Scheme for Unemployed Agriculture Graduates**

746. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:  
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start a new scheme in cooperation with Banks for unemployed Agriculture Graduates;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Agriculture Graduates who pass out every year in the country and the number who get jobs in the Agriculture Sector; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check the brain drain of Agriculture Graduates to other Sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir. However, the Government is already implementing a Central Sector Scheme on Establishment of Agri-clinic & Agri-Business Centres by agriculture graduates in cooperation with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC) and National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE) during the 10th Plan with effect from 2002-03.

(b) Scheme of Agri-clinic and Agri-business Centres was launched on 9th April, 2002. The objective of the Scheme is to provide fee-based extension and other services to the farming community and also to create self-employment opportunities for agriculture graduates.

The agriculture graduates are provided training in agri-business development for two month in over 67 institutions in public/private sector located throughout the country and coordinated by MANAGE. Those institutions also provide handholding support to the trained graduates for a period of one year. The entire cost of training and handholding is being borne by the Government of India. Trained graduates are expected to set up Agri-clinic and Agri-business Centres with the help of bank finance.

(c) The number of agriculture graduates who pass out every year in the country varies from year to year in the range of 9,000—10,000. As per study conducted by the Institute of Applied Manpower Research, 43% of agriculture graduates were unemployed (IAMR 2000).

(d) As at (a) above.

**Discouragement of Bureaucrats from Running Various Sports Bodies**

747. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to discourage bureaucrats from running various sports bodies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) to (c) All the National Sports Federation/Associations are registered bodies under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and the office bearers, who are responsible for running these sports bodies, are elected as per their respective constitutions/rules. According to the Central Civil Services Conduct Rules *inter-alia*, prior sanction of the government is necessary for contesting/canvassing in election to sports bodies.

**Amendments to CPCSEA Guidelines**

748. SHRI MUNAWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new committee has been formed to bring changes in guidelines of Committee for purpose to Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA); and

(b) if so, the composition of the committee and by when it will submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) To streamline the existing procedure of animal experimentation, a Consultative Group under the Chairmanship of Secretary, E&F was constituted by

the Government comprising representatives both from Government and non-government sectors *viz.*; representatives of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Department of Bio-Technology, Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), and National Institute of Immunology (NII). Besides, the animal welfare activist Ms. Norma Alvarez, People for Animals (PFA), Goa, Ms. Geeta Seshamani, Friendicoes SECA, New Delhi and experts *viz.*; Prof. Sashi Motilal, Department of Philosophy, Adlakha, Animal Health consultant also participated in the meetings. The Group has already submitted its report.

[*Translation*]

#### Upgradation of ITIs

749. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received from State Governments for the upgradation of ITIs State-wise; and

(b) the number of new ITIs proposed to be established in addition to the upgradation of existing ones during the tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme has been taken up for upgradation of 100 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in the 1st phase. The number of proposals received from State/UT Governments for upgradation of ITIs and the number of ITIs allocated for upgradation to each State/UT is enclosed as Statement. The State-wise allocation of number of ITIs has been done in proportion to the number of government ITIs in 26 States/UTs (excluding North-Eastern States, Sikkim and Jammu & Kashmir for which there is another Centrally Sponsored Scheme) with marginal adjustments so as to cover at least one ITI in each State/UT.

(b) Now ITIs are established either by State Governments or by private sector. However, a special Centrally Sponsored Scheme has been taken up for establishment of 23 new ITIs in the North-Eastern States, Sikkim and Jammu & Kashmir in addition to upgradation of 71 existing ITIs in these States during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

#### Statement

*State-wise number of proposals received from State/UT Governments for upgradation of ITIs*

S.No.	State/UT	Proposals received from the States/UTs for upgradation	Number of ITIs allocated for upgradation
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	1	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	10	5
3.	Bihar	10	2
4.	Chandigarh	1	1
5.	Chhattisgarh	9	4
6.	Daman & Diu	2	1
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	1
8.	Delhi	1	1
9.	Goa	8	1
10.	Gujarat	10	8
11.	Haryana	10	5
12.	Himachal Pradesh	8	3
13.	Jharkhand	7	1
14.	Karnataka	12	6
15.	Kerala	12	5
16.	Lakshadweep	0	1
17.	Madhya Pradesh	10	8
18.	Maharashtra	15	12
19.	Orissa	10	2
20.	Pondicherry	1	1
21.	Punjab	10	6
22.	Rajasthan	10	5
23.	Tamil Nadu	10	4
24.	Uttar Pradesh	61	10
25.	Uttaranchal	10	3
26.	West Bengal	27	3

**Illegal Mining in Jabalpur**

750. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that stones and muram worth crores of rupees are being illegally excavated from the hills ranging from Sangram Sagar to Sharda Mandir along Jabalpur Madan Mahel Road;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of States where Government has taken action to check the illegal excavation; and

(d) the details of concrete plan for conservation and maintenance of the ecological balance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) In so far as forest lands are concerned, no illegal mining of stones and muram is taking place from Sangram Sagar to Sharda Mandir in Madan Mahal area of Jabalpur.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Enforcement of provisions of Indian Forest Act, 1927, for the protection of forest areas, is the responsibility of the State Governments. The records of such illegal activities are maintained by the respective State Governments.

(d) State Governments follow the prescriptions of the Working Plan and Annual Work Programme for the conservation and maintenance of ecological balance of a particular forest area. Further, Central Government also provides funds for the afforestation through Forest Development Agencies, a body comprising of Joint Forest Management Committees, for the greening and sustainable forest management of the forest area under National Afforestation Programme.

**Multi-Purpose Projects of States**

751. SHRI MANOJ KUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the name of multi-purpose projects under implementation in States including Bihar and Jharkhand;

(b) the total hectare of land which will be irrigated after completion of Auranga Reservoir Project, Kanhar

Reservoir Project, Kadhavan Reservoir Project and Kutaku North Reservoir Project of Jharkhand and total area of land to be submerged;

(c) the estimated cost and revised cost of the said projects;

(d) the amount required for generating electricity from Kutaku Reservoir Project in Latehar district of Jharkhand; and

(e) by when the generation of electricity will be started and quantum thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The name of multi-purpose projects under implementation in the States including Bihar and Jharkhand are given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) The ultimate irrigation potential of Auranga Reservoir Project, Kanhar Reservoir Project, Kadhavan Reservoir Project and Kutaku North Reservoir Project is 882.97 thousand hectare and 44,706 hectare area will be submerged by these projects.

(c) The estimated cost and revised cost of these projects is given in the Statement-II enclosed.

(d) and (e) The hydro-electric component of the Kutaku Reservoir Project with installed capacity of 2x12 Mega Watt was cleared by the Central Electricity Authority, Ministry of Power for Rs. 21.94 crore during June, 1983. The Project is scheduled for completion beyond Tenth Five Year Plan.

**Statement I**

Sl.No.	Name of State	Name of Project
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Nagarjuna Sagar 2. Singur 3. Srisaillam
2.	Bihar	1. Gandak
3.	Jharkhand	1. North Koel reservoir 2. Subemarekha 3. Tilaiya Dhadhar Diversion

1	2	3
4.	Gujarat	1. Sardar Sarovar
5.	Karnataka	1. Tungabhadra 2. Varahi
6.	Kerala	1. Kallada 2. Idamalayar
7.	Madhya Pradesh	1. Bansagar 2. Bargi (Rani Avanti Bai Sgar) 3. Indira Sagar 4. Hasdeo Bango 5. Pench 6. Rajghat
8.	Maharashtra	1. Tillari 2. Warba 3. Dudhganga 4. Bhalea 5. Surya 6. Krishna Koyana
9.	Orissa	1. Potteru 2. Rengali 3. Upper Kolab 4. Upper Indravati
10.	Punjab	1. Shahpur Kandi Dam
11.	Rajasthan	1. Mahi Bajaj Sagar 2. Jakham 3. Bisalpur
12.	Uttaranchal	1. Lakhwar Vyasi 2. Tehri 3. Kishau Dam
13.	West Bengal	1. Teesta Barrage

**Statement II**

Sl.No.	Name of the project in Jharkhand State	Estimated Cost (in Rs. crore)	
		Original	Latest
1.	Auranga Res. Project	125.40	914.24
2.	Kanhar Res. Project	Unapproved	1350.00
3.	Kandhavan Res. Project	Unapproved	1111.14 (1996 price level)
4.	North Koel Res. Project (IS with Bihar) at Kutku village in district Latehar	439.00	836.11

**Review of Functioning of NYKs**

752. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any review has been made in respect of the programmes run by Nehru Yuvak Kendras;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the suggestions received in order to involve rural youth in these Kendras; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The programmes run by Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) have been reviewed and evaluated from time to time.

The Planning Commission got the evaluation conducted in the years 1978, 1991 and 2003 for various programmes run by NYKS. The programme are being reviewed regularly at the NYKs Headquarter through a monitoring unit. The District Youth Coordinators, Regional Coordinators and Zonal Directors also review the performance of Youth Clubs, Youth Development Centres through regular inspections.

(c) The various reviews stressed the need to further involve the large cross section of rural youth in the programmes. All these recommendations are duly taken care of while developing the action plan on year to year basis.

(d) Government has taken new initiatives and the programmes like Youth Development Centres, Rural Sports Clubs, Financial Assistance to Youth Clubs and Rural Information Technology Youth Development Centres. Efforts have also been made to synergize and converge various agencies in the field.

#### **Gandak Canal in Bihar**

753. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has finalised a Rs. 200 crore scheme for reconstruction of Gandak Canal in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount released so far to Bihar Government under this head and progress of work made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The project for restoration of Eastern Gandak Canal has been approved for funding under Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY) at a cost of Rs. 294 crore.

(c) An amount of Rs. 50 crore was released in April, 2004. The start of construction work is linked to finalization of tender packages and their floating and award of work by Government of Bihar.

#### **Performance of Cricket and Hockey Teams**

754. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:  
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the disappointing performances of the Cricket and Hockey teams;

(b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any enquiry into the matter;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) whether the Government has prepared any scheme to bring improvement in the performance of said teams; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) to (e) The attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact that the performance of Indian hockey and cricket teams lacks consistency. The monitoring of performance of teams and taking remedial measures is within the purview of the Board of Control for Cricket India (BCCI) and Indian Hockey Federation which are registered bodies under Societies Registration Act.

As regards hockey, after Athens Olympics Games, 2004, a meeting with office bearers of the Indian Hockey Federation was held to analyze their past performance and discuss their future plan of action for achieving excellence in international events.

*[English]*

#### **Funds to Kerala for Development of Sports**

755. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects pending with the Union Government regarding development of sports in Kerala alongwith latest position thereof;

(b) whether Sports Authority has spent only around Rs. 1.00 crore in Kerala against the total plan allocation of Rs. 125 crores for 2003-04;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the funds allocated to State during 2004-05;

(e) whether the State Government has requested to allocate more funds to State; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) The status of the proposals received from the Government of Kerala under the Scheme of "Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure" since 2001-2002 till 1.12.2004 have been placed in the enclosed as Statement.

(b) and (c) There was no specific allocation by Sports Authority of India (SAI) to the State of Kerala. Actual expenditure of Rs. 82.24 lakhs was incurred during



2003-2004 for implementation of various schemes of SAI through Special Area Games/State Training Centres of SAI, located at various places in Kerala.

(d) State-wise funds are not allocated under the sports infrastructure schemes of the Ministry.

(e) and (f) "Sports" is a State subject. Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing central assistance in accordance with the approved pattern, subject to the receipt of viable proposals. The status of infrastructure proposals received has already been indicated in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

*Funds to Kerala for Development of Sports from 2001-2002 till date (1.12.2004)*

Sl.No.	Project	Status
1	2	3
1.	Development of playfield at Govt. High School, Azkikode, Distt. Kannur	Deficiencies intimated on 6.8.2001
2.	Basketbal court at YMCA, Cochin	Deficiencies intimated on 15.7.2003
3.	District Level Sports Complex at Idukki	Deficiencies intimated on 7.1.2004
4.	Stadium at Kodumon Grama Panchayat Pathanamthitta	Deficiencies intimated on 12.7.2002
5.	District Level Sports Complex at Attingal, Trivandrum	Rs. 98.00 lakhs approved in principle on 30.9.2003
6.	Indoor Stadium at Nedumangad Municipality Distt. Thiruvananthapuram	Rs. 67.50 lakhs approved in principle on 20.2.94
7.	Indoor/Outdoor Stadium at Vadakara Municipality, Distt. Kozhikode	Deficiencies intimated on 16.8.2004
8.	Volleyball court at Udyam Kala Kayika Vedi, Poonath, Distt. Kozhikode	Proposal placed before the GIA Committee on 5.10.2004 which has been processed for IFD's concurrence
9.	Chakkittapara Grama Panchayat for Development of Football/Volleyball & Basketball court at Chakkittapara, Distt. Kozhikode	—do—
10.	Outdoor Stadium at Kattappana Grama Panchayat, Distt. Idukki	Information about availability of funds sought on 25.10.2004
11.	District Level Sports Complex at Meenangadi Grama Panchayat, Distt. Waynad	Deficiencies intimated on 30.4.2004
12.	Outdoor Stadium at Nadakkavu Valiyakovval Distt. Kasargode	Deficiencies intimated on 28.12.003
13.	Outdoor Stadium at Kaliikkadavu by Palicode Grama Panchayat, Distt. Kasargode	Deficiencies intimated on 23.8.2004

1	2	3
14.	Indoor Stadium at Punalur Municipality, Distt. Kollam	Rs. 67.50 lakhs approved in principle on 1.12.2004
15.	Indoor Stadium at Palakkad Municipality Palaghat Distt.	Deficiencies intimated on 27.2.2004
16.	Indoor Stadium at Thripprayar, Thirur	Proposal placed before the GIA Committee on 5.10.2004 Recommendation of the Committee is under process.
17.	Indoor Stadium at Diana Sports & Arts Club Mananthavady, Distt Waynad	Proposal placed before the GIA Committee on 5.10.2004. Recommendation of the Committee is under process.
18.	Indoor Stadium at Kaniyamkulam, Distt. Alappuzha	Deficiencies conveyed on 8.11.2004
19.	Indoor Stadium at Pramadam Grama Panchayat, Distt. Pathanamthitta	Deficiencies conveyed on 1.12.2004
20.	Volleyball Indoor Court & Players Hostel at Karanthur in Kozhikode	Under examination
21.	Indoor Stadium at Kalpetta Municipality, Waynad	Under examination

[*Translation*]

**Re-opening of Super Bazar**

756. YOGI ADITYA NATH:  
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:  
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to re-open Super Bazar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether Super Bazar owns any assets; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (c)

No Sir. The decision to go for the liquidation of Super Bazar was taken after considering all alternatives and not finding any of these viable. The order of liquidation of the organization was passed on 5th July, 2002, by the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies under the Multi State Cooperate Societies Act, 1984 after following the procedure laid down under the Act. The petitions filed by the employees challenging the order of liquidation were dismissed by the Delhi High Court on merits vide order dated 19.12.2003. A special Leave Petition has been filed against this order before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India where the matter is *sub judice*.

(d) and (e) As per the information made available by the Official Liquidator appointed by the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies, the details of assets are given below:-

There are 58 shops + 3 plots + building of Regional Distribution Centre, Palam (donated by Gram Sabha), in the possession of Super Bazar in respect of which no lease deed has been provided by the concerned Authority *i.e.* DDA. There are some fixtures, furniture and machinery/equipment in old and damaged condition with Super Bazar and are included in the assets of the society.

*[English]***Uniform Specification of Paddy**

757. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any representation from the public representatives for relaxation of uniform specification of paddy for the coming marketing season 2004-05 in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Orissa is prone to frequent unprecedented natural calamity affecting the normal crop quality in general and paddy in particular;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government on such representations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Representations from public representatives namely Shri Surendra Lath, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, Shri Manmohan Samal, Minister of Revenue, Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare, Government of Orissa and Shri Sriballav Panigarhi, Ex-Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) and Ex-Minister (Orissa), president Orissa Colliery Mazdoor Sangh (INTUC) were received for relaxation in uniform specifications of paddy for Kharif Marketing Season 2004-05. It has been mentioned in the representations that Orissa is prone to frequent unprecedented natural calamity affecting the normal crop quality specially paddy which is a staple food of the State. The cultivators are poor and marginal to sustain such economic setback due to crop failure. Request for relaxation was also received from the State Government.

(e) In order to reduce the hardship of farmers and to avoid distress sale of paddy, Government has allowed relaxation in uniform specifications of paddy for Kharif Marketing Season 2004-05 with value cut on 17th November, 2004 in the State of Orissa as under:

(i) The maximum limit in respect of damaged, discoloured, sprouted and weevilled grains may be allowed up 5% against 3% provided under uniform specifications.

(ii) The maximum limit in respect of immature, shrunken and shriveled grains may be allowed up 5% against 3% provided under uniform specifications.

**Sardar Sarovar Project**

758. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:  
SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on construction of Sardar Sarovar Project has been delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the present status, revised cost and time schedule for the completion of Sardar Sarovar Project alongwith time and expenditure incurred thereon, till date;

(d) whether the project has witnessed abnormal cost and time overrun;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) by when the water is likely to be made available to the participating States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The construction of the Sardar Sarovar Project was delayed because of the writ petition filed by the 'Narmada Bachao Andolan' in the Supreme Court of India.

(c) The height of the Sardar Sarovar Dam has been raised to Elevation Level (EL) 110.64 metre by June, 2004. The total expenditure incurred on the project up to September, 2004 is Rs. 17,879.88 crore. The latest estimated cost of the project at 2000-01 price level is Rs. 28478.50 crore. As per the present Action Plan prepared by the Narmada Control Authority, the scheduled completion of the Sardar Sarovar Dam is June, 2005. The scheduled completion of the main canal in the State of Gujarat is by 2006-07 and that in the State of Rajasthan is by 2009-10.

(d) and (e) The time and cost overrun of the project is largely due to court litigation and the liberalized Resettlement and Rehabilitation package offered by the States.

(f) As the dam has been raised to the minimum draw down level of EL 110.64 metre, generation of hydropower has been commenced in the Canal Head Power House and shared by the States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat. The Government of Gujarat has already started deriving partial irrigation benefits and meeting drinking water requirements.

[*Translation*]

**Profit earned by BCCI**

759. SHRI SITA RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board of Cricket for Control in India (BCCI) is making huge profits every year;

(b) if so, the total profits earned by BCCI during the last three years and the current year till-date;

(c) the sources of income of BCCI; and

(d) the amount spent for the sports facilities from this fund during the said period, year-wise, item-wise?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The details of net profits, sources of income and amount spent for sports facilities, as intimated by the Board of Cricket for Control in India (BCCI) is given below:-

(i) Net profits (in lakhs)

2001-2002	—	Rs. 3350.83
2002-2003	—	Rs. 1343.07
2003-2004	—	Rs. 1593.04

The profits earned by BCCI during current year would not be available as the financial year is not yet over.

(ii) Sources of income include income from grant of television rights, logo and sponsorship money, etc.

(iii) Details of amount spent by BCCI for cricket sports facilities during last three years, item-wise is given below:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Particulars	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004
Cricket Development in affiliated units	3220.00	3234.00	3220.00
Infrastructure development in affiliated units like stadium, gym etc.	372.72	1028.62	510.35
National Cricket Academy	168.38	139.37	214.42
Zonal Cricket Academies	94.03	77.92	71.74
<b>Total</b>	<b>3855.13</b>	<b>4479.91</b>	<b>4016.51</b>

**Funds for Development of Sports Ground in Rural Areas**

760. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated by the Government for the development of sports grounds in schools in tribal and rural areas during the current financial year;

(b) the details of the amount spent on sports stadia during the last three years till-date;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure the availability of sports grounds in schools/colleges; and

(d) the number of schools/colleges recognised in states by the Government which are lacking sports grounds facility?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) An allocation of Rs. 4.95 crore has been made for 2004-2005 under the scheme for grants to rural schools for development of playfields and

purchase of sports equipment. The above scheme covers tribal areas as well.

(b) The State-wise details of grants released for creation of sports facilities including stadia under the Scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure during the last 3 years (2001-02 to 2003-04) and current financial year 2004-05 (as on 30.11.2004) have been placed in the enclosed Statement.

(c) 'Sports' is a State subject and it is for the State

Government to ensure availability of sports grounds in schools/colleges. However, Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments in this direction by providing assistance in accordance with the approved pattern under the Sports Infrastructure Schemes subject to the receipt of viable proposals from the State Governments/Institutions etc.

(d) The 'Sports' being a State subject, it is the responsibility of the State Government and no such data is maintained in the Ministry.

**Statement**

*State-wise details of Central Assistance released under the scheme of grants for creation of sports infrastructure*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005 (As on 30.11.2004)	
		Amount Released	No. of projects	Amount Released	No. of projects	Amount Released	No. of projects	Amount Released	No. of projects
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	60.00	2	13.74	1	484.527	14	41.25	2
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	56.85	4	156.44	6	191.00	5	0	0
3.	Assam	50.00	2	73.50	3	17	2	130.08	5
4.	Bihar	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Goa	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Gujarat	3.89	2	0.00	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Haryana	37.00	2	1.20	1	40.17	2	78.725	6
8.	Himachal Pradesh	45.05	6	6.61	3	100.213	8	76.88	5
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.409	1	5.02	5	26.823	18	0	0
10.	Karnataka	31.45	4	82.20	14	58.7	8	68.75	7
11.	Kerala	1.66	1	0.124	1	13.018	4	1.50	1
12.	Madhya Pradesh	58.83	5	62.40	4	152.27	13	55.00	3
13.	Maharashtra	100.00	4	165.00	7	238.437	13	135.50	5
14.	Manipur	33.04	3	62.50	5	0	0	3.00	1
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	0	0.00	0	100.11	5	109.43	2
16.	Mizoram	0.00	0	57.75	11	136.323	21	30.00	1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
17.	Nagaland	107.62	29	194.0	8	962.463	21	105.98	11
18.	Orissa	0.00	0	15.50	2	0.05	1	0	0
19.	Punjab	162.52	11	10.00	1	45.00	1	0	0
20.	Rajasthan	0.04	1	10.71	2	25.00	2	8.725	1
21.	Sikkim	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	79.05	5	97.01	8	170.369	22	45.08	7
23.	Tripura	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	32.58	2	16.29	1	46.94	3	37.33	3
25.	West Bengal	10.00	1	28.00	2	20.07	15	2.70	2
26.	Delhi	2.52	1	0.00	0	0	0	0	0
27.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0	0	78.50	4	0	0
28.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	30.00	1
29.	Uttaranchal	0	0	0	0	0	0	47.00	3
1.	A & N Islands	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Chandigarh	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Daman & Diu	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Pondicherry	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>872.509</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>1057.995</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>2906.983</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>1006.93</b>	<b>66</b>

*[English]***Hazardous and Toxic Waste used for Cultivation**

761. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether manure from hazards and toxic Municipal Solid Waste is being used for cultivating various crops in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the impact on human life, fertility of land and yield as a result of the crops raised by such manure; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ban for the use of such manure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The municipal solid waste containing hazardous and toxic waste is not permitted for preparation of compost (manure) under Municipal Solid Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 2000.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

**Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture**

762. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the States where schemes have been launched by the Government for the development of inland fisheries and aquaculture during the last three years;

(b) the amount spent thereon during the said period, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether the inland fisheries and aquaculture of every State has not been properly tapped; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to identify such States particularly Orissa to develop inland fisheries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture is being implemented

by all the States and Union Territories of Pondicherry and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The information on Central assistance provided to States/Union Territories under the above scheme during the last three years is enclosed as statement.

(c) and (d) The tapping of the potential of inland fisheries and aquaculture in the states is an ongoing programme. This is being taken care of under the above Centrally Sponsored Scheme. Additional water area is brought under fish/shrimp culture every year through the programmes on Development on Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture being implemented by the respective States including Orissa. The Government has been taking steps to promote inland fisheries in the country. Some of the major steps taken in this regard are: (i) Set up 429 Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) and 39 Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development Agencies (BFDAs) to organize fish/shrimp farmers all over the country; (ii) extended financial, technical and extension support to fishers; (iii) provided training and package of improved practices in fish/shrimp farming to fishers; and (iv) provided diversification into new climatic areas and economically beneficial fish species.

**Statement***State-wise details of Funds released for development of Inland Fisheries*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	States/UTs	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	35.00	28.00	33.00
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	56.10	0.00	0.00
5.	Goa	2.50	0.00	15.00
6.	Gujarat	28.46	8.26	0.00
7.	Haryana	147.33	103.29	99.20
8.	Himachal Pradesh	105.00	25.00	14.46
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	112.50	0.00	0.00
10.	Karnataka	24.09	40.00	47.46

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Kerala	45.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	19.97	0.00	50.00
13.	Maharashtra	12.18	20.00	0.00
14.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Meghalaya	45.00	0.00	50.00
16.	Mizoram	35.00	63.00	0.00
17.	Nagaland	109.95	90.00	90.00
18.	Orissa	35.89	211.71	57.51
19.	Punjab	0.00	60.00	0.00
20.	Rajasthan	17.26	0.00	0.00
21.	Sikkim	103.64	6.00	0.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	25.42	0.00
23.	Tripura	71.68	40.59	25.89
24.	Uttar Pradesh	419.02	0.00	230.00
25.	West Bengal	436.63	371.63	150.56
26.	Pondicherry	0.00	3.64	0.00
27.	Chhattisgarh	21.48	15.17	91.28
28.	Uttaranchal	100.00	0.00	0.00
29.	Jharkhand	51.97	0.00	51.00
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		2035.65	1111.71	1005.36

#### Assistance to States for Tourism Projects

763. SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:  
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has formulated any scheme to provide assistance to State Government in consultation with them for tourism projects prioritised for the development of infrastructure and promotion of tourism;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has issued any guidelines to State Governments to improve facilities for domestic and foreign tourists; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No guidelines have been issued. However, State Governments are advised from time to time to improve the facilities at tourist spots.



### Evaluation Report of NRC

764. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the evaluation report of 'National Reconstruction Crops' (NRC) since its inception;
- (b) the number of volunteers enrolled in NRC;
- (c) the selection procedure for the volunteers; and
- (d) the total amount spent on NRC during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) and (b) The National Reconstruction Crops (NRC) Scheme was started on pilot basis for a period of 2 years starting from 2001-02. Its further continuance was subject to the outcome of the evaluation of the Scheme. Accordingly, evaluation of NRC was carried out by 5 NGOs identified by Planning Commission. The evaluation suggested some modifications/suggestions in the scheme. No volunteer is enrolled under this scheme during the current year till date.

(c) The selection of the volunteers was made by a Committee headed by concerned Zonal Director (NYKS) with Project Officer as Member Secretary and a representative each from NGO and concerned District Magistrate/Collector. The Committee also included an expert in the field of youth/social work who was nominated by DG (NYKS).

(d) Nil.

### Withdrawal of Coaches from District Sports Coaching Centres

765. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to withdraw its coaches from the District Sports Coaching Centres all over the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has received any representation from the Government of Kerala requesting not to withdraw the coaches from the State considering Kerala's performance in sports; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) and (b) Based on the recommendations of the Staff Inspection Unit, Ministry of Finance, Sports Authority of India is withdrawing coaches from District Coaching Centres (DCC) in a phased manner. However, efforts are being made to utilize the coaches optimally within the same State under the Schemes of SAI as far as possible.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It has been decided that coaches deployed in Kerala State will be utilized within the State of Kerala as per requirements under the Schemes of Sports Authority of India.

### Construction of Youth Hostels at Palani

766. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to construct youth hostels at economical rates in Palani in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) to (c) The construction of a youth hostel is considered on the basis of viable proposals received from the concerned State Governments and Union Territories Administrations. No proposal for construction of youth hostel at Palani has been received from the Government of Tamil Nadu till date.

### Land Lease for Sugarcane Cultivation

767. SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the several hectares of State Government land has been leased out to co-operative societies in Maharashtra for sugarcane cultivation and other purposes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the names and registration numbers of these co-operative societies and duration of the land leased out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from Government of Maharashtra and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Allocation of Funds in Tourism Sector**

768. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation of funds made to various States in sector during the Ninth Plan;

(b) whether the allocation has been enhanced during the Tenth Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount released out of that so far and the separate break up, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) State-wise details of tourism projects sanctioned and funds released by Ministry of Tourism during the 9th Plan in various States/UTs is in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission has indicated an overall allocation of Rs. 2900 crore for schemes of Ministry of Tourism during the 10th Plan. However, budgetary allocations are made on an annual basis.

(d) State-wise details of projects sanctioned and funds released during 2002-03, 2003-03 and the current financial year are given in the Statement-II, III and IV enclosed.

*Statement I*

*State-wise Tourism Projects sanctioned and Funds released during 9th plan (as on 31.03.2004)*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	Project Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	53	1170.35	1043.02
2.	Assam	62	1840.03	837.78
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	45	1084.60	634.37
4.	Bihar	44	912.68	415.19
5.	Chhattisgarh	77	155.28	60.75
6.	Goa	52	936.45	482.80
7.	Gujarat	64	1653.75	762.98
8.	Haryana	39	933.85	694.43
9.	Himachal Pradesh	63	1680.22	1176.55
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	47	1338.06	1002.56
11.	Jharkhand	8	286.49	212.81
12.	Karnataka	87	2163.02	1637.99
13.	Kerala	66	3124.66	2075.25
14.	Madhya Pradesh	68	1580.41	879.91

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Maharashtra	80	3098.52	2209.64
16.	Manipur	40	1338.36	402.77
17.	Meghalaya	26	492.36	173.61
18.	Mizoram	47	1027.46	921.81
19.	Nagaland	42	824.01	684.17
20.	Orissa	62	1236.07	769.51
21.	Punjab	30	690.16	381.57
22.	Rajasthan	72	1164.79	734.45
23.	Sikkim	77	852.43	687.97
24.	Tamil Nadu	75	1579.39	913.72
25.	Tripura	41	1084.28	866.51
26.	Uttaranchal	10	135.70	83.04
27.	Uttar Pradesh	104	2231.91	1381.96
28.	West Bengal	63	1186.24	743.87
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	7	256.85	139.07
30.	Chandigarh	14	150.86	143.99
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	6	66.90	21.85
32.	Delhi	32	550.95	404.08
33.	Daman and Diu	5	65.17	18.75
34.	Lakshadweep	3	51.00	21.40
35.	Pondicherry	22	319.33	188.63
Total		1563	37262.39	23828.76

*Statement II**State-wise Tourism Projects sanctioned and Funds released during 2002-03*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	No. of Project Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	507.50	195.00
2.	Assam	9	768.13	618.85

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	41.30	32.50
4.	Bihar	8	505.00	505.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	9	308.00	98.50
6.	Goa	1	0.50	0.50
7.	Gujarat	2	197.12	59.13
8.	Haryana	8	332.25	311.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	30	779.32	760.38
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	3	94.38	89.47
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0
12.	Karnataka	6	902.49	625.49
13.	Kerala	11	861	2075.25
14.	Madhya Pradesh	18	711.18	574.79
15.	Maharashtra	8	623.46	548.25
16.	Manipur	2	5.24	2.62
17.	Meghalaya	3	70.35	21.20
18.	Mizoram	6	141.16	48.46
19.	Nagaland	5	360.50	323.43
20.	Orissa	2	47.50	15.75
21.	Punjab	3	23.00	14.60
22.	Rajasthan	13	1098.70	1096.20
23.	Sikkim	13	346.24	269.76
24.	Tamil Nadu	5	559.00	316.10
25.	Tripura	5	216.13	67.78
26.	Uttaranchal	3	548.00	418.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3	295.00	295.00
28.	West Bengal	5	201.10	60.00
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	3	7.75	6.63
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	8.07	6.48
32.	Delhi	14	504.00	449.02

1	2	3	4	5
33.	Daman and Diu	3	49.50	16.90
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	2	7.87	6.30
Total		212	11121.10	8680.93

**Statement III****State-wise Tourism Projects sanctioned and Funds released during 2003-04**

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	No. of Project Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6	946.50	896.44
2.	Assam	3	313.46	313.06
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	1044.60	700.00
4.	Bihar	6	1019.42	913.89
5.	Chhattisgarh	6	1005.00	364.00
6.	Goa	2	36.76	34.76
7.	Gujarat	8	920.51	815.81
8.	Haryana	16	1215.38	879.23
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4	182.32	85.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5	895.00	895.00
11.	Jharkhand	2	1109.00	774.60
12.	Karnataka	14	932.66	792.151
13.	Kerala	6	608.50	564.15
14.	Madhya Pradesh	10	621.90	394.51
15.	Maharashtra	10	931.83	914.58
16.	Manipur	1	82.44	24.73
17.	Meghalaya	2	40.22	24.92
18.	Mizoram	5	567.70	186.75
19.	Nagaland	4	711.00	220.80

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Orissa	5	419.55	138.50
21.	Punjab	2	96.00	12.30
22.	Rajasthan	14	1644.81	1414.25
23.	Sikkim	8	1151.09	681.49
24.	Tamil Nadu	14	1339.82	850.53
25.	Tripura	6	450.17	135.16
26.	Uttaranchal	4	230.44	203.94
27.	Uttar Pradesh	7	1115.80	916.28
28.	West Bengal	10	717.44	384.34
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	2	10.00	8.00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
32.	Delhi	17	3316.28	3222.13
33.	Daman and Diu	1	265.07	238.56
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	1	245.17	73.55
Total		207	24185.84	18073.76

*Statement IV**State-wise Tourism Projects sanctioned and Funds released during the year 2004-05 (as on 22.11.2004)*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	No. of Project Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned	Amount Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	984.00	787.60
2.	Assam	1	437.75	350.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	574.40	459.32
4.	Bihar	2	797.20	593.13
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Goa	—	—	—
7.	Gujarat	—	—	—
8.	Haryana	2	120.20	46.35
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1	500.00	400.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	—	—	—
11.	Jharkhand	—	—	—
12.	Karnataka	2	30.00	19.50
13.	Kerala	1	50.00	40.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2	723.87	334.00
15.	Maharashtra	—	—	—
16.	Manipur	—	—	—
17.	Meghalaya	—	—	—
18.	Mizoram	—	—	—
19.	Nagaland	5	28.81	17.53
20.	Orissa	2	505.81	378.91
21.	Punjab	—	—	—
22.	Rajasthan	1	30.00	4.50
23.	Sikkim	—	—	—
24.	Tamil Nadu	2	20.92	17.92
25.	Tripura	—	—	—
26.	Uttaranchal	—	—	—
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2	246.92	156.28
28.	West Bengal	—	—	—
29.	Andaman and Nicobar	—	—	—
30.	Chandigarh	—	—	—
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—	—
32.	Delhi	—	—	—
33.	Daman and Diu	—	—	—
34.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—
35.	Pondicherry	2	451	360.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>31</b>	<b>5500.68</b>	<b>3965.04</b>

*[Translation]***Co-Operative Mills**

769. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the co-operative mills in Maharashtra whose employees are yet to be paid their wages; and

(b) whether the Government propose to provide any financial aid for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The information is being collected from Government of Maharashtra and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) No, Sir.

**Assistance by NABARD for  
Development of Forests**

770. SHRI AJIT JOGI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds sanctioned by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for the development of forests in Chhattisgarh during the last three years;

(b) whether any scheme has been formulated to utilize the amount for the conservation of forests; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the total amount utilized by the State so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per information made available by the State Government of Chhattisgarh, no funds have been sanctioned by NABARD for the development of forests in Chhattisgarh. However, during the year 2002-03, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has sanctioned a farm forestry project on 2700 hectares of private wastelands involving a bank loan of Rs. 511.14 lakhs on 100% refinance basis.

(c) Does not arise.

*[English]***Palaces-on-Sea**

771. SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up 'Palaces-on-Sea';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas where these ships will cruise along coastline; and

(d) the extent to which this would help to improve the economy of the coastal population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

**Wastage of Godavari River Water**

772. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that huge quantity of water from Godavari river flows into sea;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has drawn up any plan for harnessing Godavari water and divert it into basin areas for irrigation purpose; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) As per the water balance studies carried out by National Water Development Agency (NWDA) as a part of its studies of National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development, Godavari basin is having a surplus of 15020 Million Cubic Metre (MCM) which is available for diversion to other basins. With a view to harness the surplus water of Mahanadi and



Godavari system to benefit the water short basins of Krishna, Pennar, Cauvery & down south besides providing irrigation, domestic & industrial water supplies in the enroute areas, NWDA has proposed Mahanadi-Godavari-Krishna-Pennar-Cauvery-Gundar link system. The link system consists of 9 constituent links out of which feasibility reports for 6 links are completed.

#### **Fish drying activities in West Bengal**

773. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has issued orders thereby restricting 10,000 fishermen from fish drying activities on Jambudwip Island, West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of West Bengal has approached the Union Government for regularisation of the 100 hectare land on Jambudwip for fish drying activities as per Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and also proposed for providing equal amount of land and necessary funds towards compensatory afforestation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Union Government has not issued any order restricting the fishermen from fish drying activities on Jambudwip Island, West Bengal. The Supreme Court of India vide its order dated 25.08.2003 has directed that no trawler or mechanised boat shall enter the water adjoining Jambudwip Island until further orders. In pursuance of this order fish drying activity has not been permitted by the State Government.

(c) and (d) The State Government has submitted a proposal for diversion of 100 hectare of reserve forest land for transient fishing and allied activities in Jambudwip Island as per Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. In the proposal the compensatory afforestation has been proposed over 100 hectare of newly accreted land by the side of the river Malta, at a cost of Rs. 92.25 lakhs.

(e) The proposal submitted by the State Government was considered in the Ministry by the Forest Advisory Committee. The committee desired that the site inspection of the proposed area shall be carried out by Regional Office, Bhubaneswar, the State Government should furnish the details of various alternatives examined for fish drying activities and as recommended by Central Empowered Committee appointed by the Supreme Court, clearance from Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of External Affairs may also be obtained. The site inspection report and details of other alternatives have been received. The Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of External Affairs have been reminded to expedite submission of their report/clearance.

#### **Assistance for Women Cooperative Societies**

774. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments particularly Karnataka have requested the Union Government to sanction/grant financial assistance for women cooperative societies under central schemes;

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

(c) whether any funds have been released for these societies during the current financial year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The proposals received from various States for assistance to Women Cooperative Societies through their Work Plans for the year 2004-05 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme Macro-Management of Agriculture are enclosed as statement.

(c) to (e) Funds are released in lump sum against the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Macro-Management of Agriculture and not exclusively for Women Cooperatives.

**Statement**

*Details of Budget provision made by the States/UTs for the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Assistance to Women Cooperatives in the Work Plan proposals for the year 2004-05.*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UTs.	Budget provision made for Women Cooperatives
1.	Chhattisgarh	20.00
2.	Haryana	0.50
3.	Karnataka	15.48
4.	Kerala	5.00
5.	Mizoram	25.00
6.	Maharashtra	10.00
7.	Manipur	15.00
8.	Madhya Pradesh	60.00
9.	Nagaland	10.00
10.	Orissa	10.00
11.	Punjab	42.49
12.	Sikkim	2.00
13.	Tripura	6.00
14.	Uttaranchal	4.00

**Laying of Pipelines for Drawing  
Cauvery River Water**

775. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government has requested the Ministry of Environment and Forests to grant permission for laying pipelines to draw Cauvery River water in view of severe shortage of drinking water in Malai Mahadeshwara Temple area particularly during the monthly Car festival days;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Government of Karnataka had submitted a proposal on 9.7.2003 for diversion of 0.65 hectare of forest land for the purpose of construction of intake well, jack well, intermediate pumping station and laying of pipeline for providing water supply to Sri Malai Mahadeshwara Temple from river Cauvery at M.M. Hills of Kollegal Taluk, Chamrajanagar District. The proposal involved a part of the area of Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary.

(c) As per the orders of the Supreme Court dated: 9.5.2002 in Writ Petition (C) No. 337 of 1995, for any non-forestry activity in a National Park/Sanctuary/Protected Area, prior recommendation of the Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife (NBWL) and permission of the Supreme Court is essential. Since in the instant case, the proposal involved a part of area of Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary, it was necessary for the State Government to obtain the prior permission of NBWL and the Supreme Court before seeking forestry clearance. Therefore, the proposal was returned by the Central Government to the State Government.

*[Translation]*

**Facilities to Beedi Workers of Jharkhand**

776. SHRI FURKAN ANSARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Beedi workers of the Jharkhand State are deprived of the facilities of Housing, Health and Insurance etc.;

(b) if so, the reasons therefo.;

(c) by when the Government propose to provide the said facilities to the Beedi workers of Jharkhand, and

(d) the fund spent by the Union Government during the year 2003-04 and proposed to spend in the current financial year for the said facilities, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Budget provision towards providing benefits to beedi workers and their families in respect of health, housing, group insurance, scholarship to school going children of beedi workers etc. is made region-wise.

An amount of Rs. 1.06 crore has been spent in 2003-04 on these activities in Jharkhand state which along-with Bihar state is under the Karma region. Region-wise details

of expenditure in 2003-2004 and Budget Estimates for 2004-2005 are given in the Statement enclosed.

**Statement**

*Region-wise actual expenditure for 2003-04 and budget estimates for 2004-05 under Beedi Workers Welfare Fund*

(Rs. in thousand)

Sl.No.	Regions	States	Actual Expenditure 2003-2004	Budget Estimates 2004-2005
1.	Ajmer	Gujarat	26528	33082
		Rajasthan		
		Haryana		
2.	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	32355	40486
		Himachal Pradesh		
		Punjab		
		Jammu & Kashmir		
3.	Bangalore	Karnataka	146790	171741
		Kerala		
4.	Bhubaneswar	Orissa	69322	84076
5.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh	221293	268818
		Tamil Nadu		
6.	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh	86426	94809
		Chhattisgarh		
7.	Karma	Bihar	38411	48596
		Jharkhand		
8.	Kolkata	West Bengal	78716	107676
		Tripura		
		Assam		
		Meghalaya		
9.	Nagpur	Maharashtra	108672	129482
		Goa		

*[English]*

**Programmes for better Performance in Next Olympic Games**

777. SHRI HITEN BARMAN:  
SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA:  
SHRI RANEN BARMAN:  
SHRI SUBRATA BOSE:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the existing National Sports Policy in view of the dismal performance of the Indian contingent in the 2004 Olympic Games;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of programmes for better performance in the next Olympic Games in 2008 in China;

(d) whether the Government has introduced a rule that no individual can hold office in any National Sports Federations for a continuous period of more than eight years and in case of violation of said rule, financial and other assistance from the Government will be stopped; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The training of sports-persons for major international events including Olympic Games is an ongoing process. Systematic approach is adopted to select and train athletes and teams for participation by drawing up Long Term Development Programmes (LTDPs) as four year roll—on plan (Asian Games to Asian Games) under which elite sports-persons selected on the basis of performance are put through scientifically designed continuous training programmes.

Specific efforts by way of providing specialized training and exposure under Indian and foreign coaches with scientific inputs are being made for the sports-persons who are expected to excel in their respective disciplines in the Commonwealth and Asian Games 2006 and to prepare them for participation in Olympic Games 2008.

(d) and (e) 'Sports' is covered in 'State List'. Government of India is not able to enact legislation in this regard. However, Government of India issued guidelines in 1975 to Indian Olympic Association and National Sports Federation indicating that no office bearer would hold office consecutively for more than two terms or eight years. The Government's financial and other assistance is contingent upon fulfillment of the above conditions. Keeping in view the overall interest of sports-persons, this condition under the guidelines has not been enforced so far.

**Implementation of Wildlife Protection Act**

778. SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Leopards are listed in Schedule-I of Wildlife Protection Act; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to implement the Act in the right earnest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 are implemented by the competent authorities of the Government of India and the State Governments. In addition, assistance of other enforcement agencies is also taken for proper implementation of the Act as and when required.

**Setting up of an International Standard Laboratory for Doping Test**

779. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is setting up an international standard laboratory to check the menace of doping; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Dope Control Centre (DCC) has been set up in Sports Authority of India located at JN Stadium, New Delhi. Sports Authority of India has moved an application to World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) for permanent

accreditation. The DCC has already got ISO 9001: 2000 certification as well as ISO 17025: 1999 certification.

#### Killing of Dolphins

780. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the increasing incidents of killing of Dolphins in some States;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents which came to the notice of the Government during the last three years and current year, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to stop such poaching?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The population of Dolphins has been under decline throughout its range due to illegal hunting, habitat destruction, over exploitation of the fishes those are utilized by Dolphins, reduced availability of water in the river due to diversion for irrigation and other purposes.

(b) The information on poaching of animals is collected at the level of the State Governments. No specific incident of poaching of Dolphins has been brought to the notice of the Government in past four years.

(c) The subjects taken for promotion, protection and preservation of Dolphins include:

- River Dolphin is included in the Schedule-I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby getting the highest protection. Hunting and dealing in the products of dolphin is banned.

- Export-Import Policy of Government of India puts total ban on the export of all species of wild animals and their products.

- The trade of dolphin is regulated by the provisions of Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of flora and fauna (CITES) to which India is a signatory.

- States Governments have notified important habitats of dolphin as National Parks and Sanctuaries. The Government of India provides 100% funding for both recurring and non-recurring expenditure (other than salary of the staff) for such protected areas.

#### NDDB Taken Contract for CAMK

781. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) has taken up any contract for the Charotar Arogya Mandal Karamsad (CAMK);

(b) the value and service charge for this contract;

(c) whether NDDB has provided the services from its resources like vehicle, manpower, building and guest house to the officials and visitors of CAMK on free of cost basis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as under:

Name of the Project	Period of Execution	Value (Rs. In lakh)	Service Charge (in Rs.)
Modernization of intensive Cardiac Care Unit and Intensive Care unit	1998-99	100	Nil
Radiation Therapy Unit	2002-03	130	50,000

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise in view of (c) above.

**SCs/STs Persons in Employment Exchanges**

782. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:  
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:  
SHRI ILYAS AZMI:

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

the number of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes registered in various employment

exchanges during the last three years and current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): State-wise number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes jobseekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, registered in the employment exchanges in the country during 2000, 2001, 2002 and Jan-June 2003 (latest available) is given in the Statement enclosed.

**Statement**

(In Thousands)

Sl.No.	State/Union Territories	Number of Schedule Caste job seekers registered during				Number of Schedule Tribe job seekers registered during			
		2000	2001	2002	2003 (Jan-June)	2000	2001	2002	2003 (Jan-June)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	59.6	56.9	51.9	22.3	29.3	18.0	16.8	8.0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	●	0.1	0.1	●	3.9	4.3	2.0	1.2
3.	Assam	8.4	9.9	9.4	3.6	16.0	22.6	19.6	6.5
4.	Bihar	44.6	39.6	12.7	7.2	21.4	4.4	1.1	0.7
5.	Chhattisgarh	**	15.2	12.7	8.5	**	25.2	24.0	12.5
6.	Delhi	25.5	25.9	15.9	6.5	4.4	2.7	1.1	0.7
7.	Goa	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.1	—	—	—	●
8.	Gujarat	35.0	29.9	25.8	15.6	30.9	28.7	21.3	10.5
9.	Haryana	34.4	26.8	20.7	6.2	0.5	0.2	0.1	—
10.	Himachal Pradesh	18.2	15.7	22.0	8.8	2.3	3.3	3.8	1.9
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.2
12.	Jharkhand	&	12.4	9.7	3.3	&	24.9	10.1	7.7
13.	Karnataka	47.2	46.5	32.3	11.5	12.4	13.9	9.0	2.6
14.	Kerala	40.0	40.1	36.9	18.4	4.3	3.1	3.1	1.0
15.	Madhya Pradesh	54.0	53.9	67.0	30.6	44.8	31.3	49.6	21.1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
16.	Maharashtra	96.8	94.8	91.5	50.1	22.8	19.6	18.1	10.0
17.	Manipur	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	3.6	2.4	1.9	6.6
18.	Meghalaya	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	9.5	8.4	5.8	4.3
19.	Mizoram	—	—	—	—	15.3	1.3	1.0	1.8
20.	Nagaland	⊙	—	⊙	⊙	6.1	8.1	8.1	5.3
21.	Orissa	21.1	17.7	18.2	17.5	16.2	12.4	11.0	10.2
22.	Punjab	26.4	32.5	23.1	10.6	—	—	—	—
23.	Rajasthan	16.1	22.6	21.3	15.8	9.9	14.3	17.2	5.4
24.	Sikkim*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25.	Tamil Nadu	92.4	97.0	91.1	25.0	1.5	1.7	1.1	0.4
26.	Tripura	3.1	3.6	5.6	1.2	4.1	6.4	5.3	1.1
27.	Uttaranchal	#	11.1	14.6	2.2	#	3.2	2.7	0.6
28.	Uttar Pradesh	67.2	72.8	103.8	38.3	2.2	1.5	0.9	0.6
29.	West Bengal	25.8	32.2	38.6	7.9	5.0	7.5	5.6	1.6
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31.	Chandigarh	1.9	2.0	0.8	0.8	⊙	0.1	0.1	⊙
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
33.	Daman & Diu	⊙	⊙	0.2	—	⊙	⊙	0.1	⊙
34.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35.	Pondicherry	—	0.2	0.8	0.6	—	—	⊙	⊙
Total		718.9	759.8	727.7	313.2	266.8	269.8	240.9	122.4

**Note:**

\* No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

\*\* Information included in Madhya Pradesh.

&amp; Information is included in Bihar.

# Information is included in Uttar Pradesh.

⊙ Less than Fifty.

Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

**Standard for Silk Sarees**

783. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has fixed any standards to determine the quality of "silk sarees"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASHIMUDDIN): (a) BIS has formulated a standard, namely, IS: 1583:1991. Handloom silk dhotis and printed sarees—Specifications (first revision).

(b) This standard specifies following requirements for ten varieties of silk dhotis and printed sarees woven in handlooms:

- (i) Constructional particulars such as count of yarn, ends/dm, picks/dm, mass, breaking load, weave, length, width.
- (ii) other performance requirements such as dimensional change, scouring loss, colour fastness.

The standard also specifies details related to inspection, marking, packing and sampling of the product.

**Green Cess**

784. SHRI S.P.Y. REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering a proposal to levy a 'Green Cess' to mop up resources in order to achieve the target of extending the green cover to 33 per cent of the country's landscape;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the matter has been discussed with the various State Governments; and

(d) if so, their reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) A number of administrative and financial measures are being considered for achieving the target of increased forest cover. These are at an initial stage of examination.

(c) and (d) The subject has been discussed with the various State Governments in different fora. They have made several valuable suggestions.

**Grants to Universities to Develop Sports Infrastructural Facilities**

785. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has been providing grants to various Universities to develop the sports infrastructural facilities; and

(b) if so, the grant provided to various Universities during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Central Grants are provided to various Universities under the Scheme of "Grants for Promotion of Sports in Universities & Colleges". A consolidated statement of grants provided to Universities and Colleges under this Scheme in various States for the last 3 years i.e. 2001-02 to 2003-04 and the current year 2004-05 (as on 30.11.2004) is enclosed as statement.



**Statement****State-wise Details of Central Assistance Released under the Scheme of Grants for Promotion of Sports in Universities and Colleges**

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005 (as on 30.11.2004)	
		Amount released	No. of projects	Amount released	No. of projects	Amount released	No. of projects	Amount released	No. of projects
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55.06	17	58.089	16	87.824	27	73.779	31
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.70	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
3.	Assam	1.71	2	3.452	2	26.816	10	38.22255	16
4.	Bihar	7.50	1	0.26	1	20.60	4	0.00	0
5.	Goa	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	2.70	1
6.	Gujarat	2.70	1	8.00	3	18.279	10	27.900	13
7.	Haryana	15.49	9	3.02	3	10.313	9	26.625	3
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0	0.167	1	5.85	3	4.719	3
9.	Karnataka	99.03	50	50.94	22	39.358	35	138.00338	55
10.	Kerala	6.77	6	8.27	5	39.80	18	45.0779	24
11.	Madhya Pradesh	16.66	6	1.65	3	10.80	4	10.80	5
12.	Maharashtra	189.12	76	186.81	79	197.534	98	230.95018	107
13.	Manipur	18.05	4	28.48	2	25.03	3	2.70	1
14.	Mizoram	0.00	0	0.00	0	10.72	4	0.00	0
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	8.10	3
16.	Nagaland	0.00	0	20.40	3	22.50	11	18.90	9
17.	Orissa	40.04	20	58.98	24	83.60	40	40.40	24
18.	Punjab	14.01	9	28.48	11	52.689	13	12.58	8
19.	Rajasthan	0.14	1	1.10	1	4.20	2	7.20	3
20.	Tamil Nadu	62.11	29	75.66	17	164.815	27	107.99	18
21.	Tripura	0.137	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
22.	Uttar Pradesh	46.01	22	60.24	14	101.564	41	130.056	58
23.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0	0.00	0	24.60	10	14.10	7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
24.	West Bengal	16.69	9	44.09	19	79.865	42	140.38855	60
25.	Delhi <sup>⊗</sup>	75.05	4	22.50	1	53.50	2	1.00	1
26.	UT Chandigarh	0.07	1	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>669.047</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>660.588</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>1080.257</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>1082.17156</b>	<b>450</b>

⊗ Grant released to AIU, New Delhi.

[*Translation*]

### **Sugarcane Area Linked to Mills**

786. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering a proposal to determine the size of the sugarcane area or zone linked to the sugar mills on the basis of regional production, actual crushing capacity and expansion schemes in its efforts to provide incentive to increase the sugarcane crushing capacity and to provide better prices to the farmers;

(b) if so, the current status of the proposal; and

(c) by when the Government is likely to announce its decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) The sugar industry has been delicensed with effect from 14.9.1998 and the entrepreneurs may establish sugar factories as per the techno-economic feasibility, keeping the distance criterion of minimum of 15 Kms. between the new and the existing sugar mills.

### **Report of Bachhawat and Manisana Committee**

787. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to implement the suggestions and recommendations made in the report of Bachhawat and Manisana Committee;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the daily/weekly/monthly Newspapers and Magazines are implementing the recommendations accepted by the Union Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) to (e) The recommendations given by the Bachhawat and the Manisana Wage Boards, after acceptance, were notified by the Central Government. However, under statute, the State Governments are the appropriate Governments to implement these recommendations.

The Central Government has also constituted a Central Level Monitoring Committee for ensuring implementation of the recommendations of the last Wage Boards, namely the Manisana Wage Boards.

The State Governments have been asked for:

- (i) Creation of special cells in the State/Union Territories to oversee the progress of the implementation of recommendations.
- (ii) Constitution of a Tripartite Monitoring Committee to monitor the progress of implementation.
- (iii) Gearing up of the State Labour Enforcement Machinery for speedy implementation of the recommendations.
- (iv) Submission of quarterly progress reports to the Ministry on implementation of the recommendations.

The recommendations are applicable to Working Journalists and Non-journalist Newspaper & News Agency employees irrespective of the periodicity of the publications by different establishments.

**Printing Contents on Bottles**

788. SHRI MOHAN SINGH:  
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been taken by the Government on a High Court order regarding printing of contents alongwith presence of pesticides and chemicals on bottles of beverages as reported in *Indian Express* dated September 22, 2004;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to enact a law making it mandatory to clearly inscribe the ingredients on the bottles of the beverages; and

(d) if so, by when the above law is likely to be enacted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (d) The labeling requirements for beverages comes under the purview of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and Rules framed thereunder which are administered by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. However, Bureau of Indian Standards, being the National Standards Body, has formulated an Indian Standard on Carbonated Beverages IS: 2346 which is voluntary in nature. This standard prescribes the labeling requirements for the containers of carbonated beverages such as name of the product, name and address of the manufacturer, date of manufacture, batch number, net volume of content and any other declaration required under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955.

*[English]*

**Mismanagement of Funds by BCCI**

789. SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:  
SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the complaints about the mismanagement of funds by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) authorities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) and (b) Some allegations regarding financial mismanagement such as discrepancies in sale of telecast rights etc. by the Board of Control for Cricket in India have come to the notice of the Government. However, the matter is *sub-judice*.

**Defaulters PSUs**

790. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain Public Sector Undertakings which have not deposited their employee's Provident Fund contribution with the Employees Provident Fund Office (EPFO) as on March 31, 2004;

(b) if so, the names of the defaulters PSUs for the last three years and thereafter, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to make the Provident Fund (PF) defaulters accountable and the steps taken to deposit the outstanding PF dues?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of such PSUs in default (Region-wise) for the last three years is given in statement enclosed.

(c) Whenever any default is detected, actions under the Sections 7A, 8F, 8B to 8G, 14(1A), 14B & 7Q of Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, under Section 406/409 of IPC and under Section 110 of CrPC, are taken against defaulters.

*Statement**Details of PSUs in Default*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Region	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	Estt.	Amt.	Estt.	Amt.	Estt.	Amt.
Andhra Pradesh	25	2224.65	52	4101.74	65	6032.20
Bihar	27	5544.16	32	4410.94	28	3854.63
Chhattisgarh	2	1227.03	3	1105.65	2	5.97
Delhi	4	55.78	1	35.43	4	1047.59
Gujarat	25	14573.80	24	882.22	24	689.48
Goa	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Haryana	5	5246.87	5	1300.78	5	499.35
Himachal Pradesh	4	22.40	2	18.67	1	2.18
Jharkhand	9	1831.08	8	1931.34	6	942.02
Karnataka	20	1212.05	30	2440.55	25	2202.75
Kerala	36	754.59	40	1089.47	50	952.46
Madhya Pradesh	39	6672.38	46	5321.24	44	5684.47
Maharashtra	46	5400.47	46	5321.24	46	5684.47
N-E Region	35	2734.44	35	2538.53	45	2189.21
Orissa	147	2698.07	124	3900.04	201	7231.47
Punjab	20	576.60	23	691.65	94	1348.11
Rajasthan	8	1421.85	13	1436.90	11	2981.11
Tamil Nadu	32	978.77	31	1059.81	48	937.62
Uttaranchal	7	345.27	22	842.40	28	4069.77
Uttar Pradesh	54	12419.68	98	7022.18	92	8868.11
West Bengal	83	19272.75	68	14213.93	100	14554.34

**Discrepancies in BPL List**

791. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:  
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some discrepancies have been detected in the list of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps being taken by the Union Government to rectify these lapses;

(e) whether responsibilities have since been fixed;

(f) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken against those held responsible; and

(g) the time by which all the people living BPL are likely to be included in the list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (g) The BPL Census is conducted by the State Governments or UT Administrations for identifying the rural poor for which methodological guidelines and some financial support is provided by the Ministry of Rural Development. At present the BPL list for rural areas consists of families who are listed during the BPL Census, 1997. This list has been in operation ever since its finalization and no discrepancies in the list have come to the notice of the Government. The State Governments have been suggested to conduct a new BPL Census 2002 covering the rural households only. The results of the Census have not been finalized so far.

**Special Tourism Zone in Kerala**

792. SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR:  
SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN:  
SHRI P.C. THOMAS:  
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:  
SHRI P.K. VASUDEVAN NAIR:  
SHRI SURESH KURUP:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal to establish a Special Tourism Zone in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) A concept proposal has been received in the Ministry of Tourism from State Govt. of Kerala for establishment of a Tourism Special Economic Zone in Veli-Kovalam-Poovar area. However, there is no scheme in the Ministry of Tourism for establishment of such zones.

**Improvement of Sports Facilities in W.B.**

793. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any representation from the West Bengal Sports Council for improving sports facilities in the State; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) and (b) No representation from the West Bengal Sports Council for improving sports facilities in the State has been recently received in the Ministry. However, under the scheme of "Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure", on receipt of viable proposals from the Government of West Bengal, admissible central assistance was provided for creation of various sports facilities as per details given below:

Year	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of projects
2001-02	10.00	1
2002-03	28.00	2
2003-04	20.07	15
2004-05 (as on 1.12.2004)	2.70	2

**Horticulture Mission to Convert Wasteland**

794. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:  
SHRI K.S. RAO:  
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is working on a Rs. 15,000 crore horticulture mission to convert wasteland into vegetable and fruits producing land;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether private sector is also participating in this mission;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of land to be selected for the purpose, State-wise;

(f) whether the concerned State Governments have been consulted in this regard;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) the total expenditure likely to be incurred by the Government and the fund expected by the Government from the private sector in this mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA):  
(a) and (b) The Government is working to launch a National Horticulture Mission during the Tenth Plan with the objective of doubling the horticulture production by 2011-12.

(c) and (d) It is proposed to involve the private sector also in taking up various programmes under the mission such as production of seeds and planting material, creation of infrastructure for post harvest management and processing.

(e) Potential horticultural crops are proposed to be promoted by adopting area based cluster approach for which projects will be prepared by the state implementing agencies after approval of the Mission.

(f) and (g) Periodic consultation have been held with the representative of the State Governments, farmers group, and grower associations and their views are considered in finalizing the mission programme.

(h) The estimates of expenditure under the mission is yet to be finalized.

#### Implementation of National River Conservation Plan

795. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:

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

(a) whether in a conference of State Environment Ministers on September 9, 2004 the Ministry of Environment and Forests has suggested public-private partnership in the implementation of National River and Lake Conservation Programmes and setting up of a mechanism to monitor them;

(b) if so the response of the States thereon;

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

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the State Governments have demanded for increase in the fund allocation for implementation of National River Conservation Programme;

(f) if so, the response of the Union Government thereto; and

(g) the funds allotted by the Union Government to each State particularly Maharashtra for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) During the State Environment Ministers Conference on September 9, 2004, the Ministry of Environment and Forests suggested various means to generate resources for completion of works and Operation & Maintenance of assets created under National River and Lake conservation Programmes and setting up of a mechanism to monitor them. Some of the means discussed were collection of cost of sewage, its conveyance and treatment in new urban centers through external development costs like price of land, surcharge on property taxes and stamp duty, levying user charges, sale of sludge and generation of power from biogas in STPs etc. The suggestions were generally supported by the States. In the meeting the State Governments were asked to raise the resources by employing these means.

(e) to (g) The Ministry releases funds to the Implementing Agencies of the States for carrying out works under National River Conservation Plan and

National Lake Conservation Plan approved by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on the basis of progress of the scheme, submission of proper "Fund Utilisation Certificate" and projected funds requirement for implementation of these schemes in the States. The State Governments and Government of Maharashtra have specifically not demanded increase in the fund allocation for implementation of National River Conservation Plan.

[Translation]

**Scheme for Women in Agriculture Sector**

796. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE:  
 PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
 SHRI MUNSHI RAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount released to each State Government by the Union Government for women engaged in agricultural sector during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the number of women benefited till date, State-wise;

(c) the total number and the names of States which have been provided cent per cent funds in this regard; and

(d) the complete details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The funds to the various State Governments are released by the Union Government for the women engaged in agricultural sector under two schemes/programmes namely (i) Central Sector Scheme of Women in Agriculture; and (ii) GOI-UNDP Food Security Programme.

The details of the releases made under these schemes State-wise and Year-wise in the last three years are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) The number of women benefited under these two schemes till date during Xth Plan period, State-wise are:

(i) Central Sector Scheme of Women in Agriculture;

State	No. of women benefited
Haryana	11250
Punjab	11250
Rajasthan	11250
Uttar Pradesh	11250
Himachal Pradesh	11250
Kerala	11250
Maharashtra	11250
Assam	11250
Arunachal Pradesh	11250
Manipur	11250
Meghalaya	11250
Mizoram	11250
Nagaland	11250
Tripura	11250
Sikkim	11250

(ii) GOI-UNDP Food Security programme

State	No. of women benefited
Andhra Pradesh	17,500
Orissa	17,500
Uttar Pradesh	14,550

(c) 17 States have been provided cent percent funds in this regard. The name of the States are:

Haryana  
 Punjab  
 Rajasthan  
 Uttar Pradesh  
 Himachal Pradesh  
 Kerala  
 Maharashtra  
 Assam  
 Arunachal Pradesh

Manipur  
Meghalaya  
Mizoram  
Nagaland  
Tripura  
Sikkim  
Orissa  
Andhra Pradesh.

(d) The state-wise and year-wise details of funds released during the Xth Plan period in this regard are given in Annexure-I.

**Statement**

*Name of the Scheme/Programme:*  
*CSS "Women in Agriculture"*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

State	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05 (as on 30.11.04)
1	2	3	4
Haryana	Nil	3.00	Nil
Punjab	Nil	12.22	Nil
Rajasthan	Nil	7.00	Nil
Uttar Pradesh	Nil	23.41	Nil
Himachal Pradesh	Nil	9.07	Nil
Kerala	Nil	7.14	Nil
Maharashtra	3.70	12.50	Nil
Assam	9.44	16.00	Nil
Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil
Manipur	5.00	8.18	Nil
Meghalaya	5.00	7.00	Nil
Mizoram	4.00	13.19	Nil
Nagaland	8.00	6.00	Nil
Tripura	3.58	14.00	Nil
Sikkim	5.00	16.51	Nil

1	2	3	4
<i>GOI-UNDP Food Security Programme</i>			
Andhra Pradesh	238.56	163.46	72.85
Orissa	158.20	95.02	207.48
Uttar Pradesh	67.66	310.28	175.34

**Violation of Rules in Purchase of Liquor**

797. SHRI PARAS NATH YADAV:  
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY:  
SHRI RAMAKANT YADAV:  
SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN:  
SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:  
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:  
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of violation of rules in the purchase of liquor for selling through duty free shops at international airports in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any inquiry into the cases of purchase of liquor without purchase order;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) the loss suffered by the Government as a result thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the government against erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (e) Complaints have been received alleging violation of rules and procedures in this regard. An enquiry has been ordered into these allegations.

**Non-Payment of Daily Allowances to Athletes**

798. SHRI HEMMAL MURMU:  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:



(a) the details of the daily allowance/pocket money and other facilities provided to the Olympics contingent;

(b) whether India's best athletes left for the recently held Athens Olympics without daily allowance as reported in the *Indian Express* dated August 6, 2004;

(c) if so, the details and facts thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) Government had sanctioned a total amount of Rs. 566.08 lakhs to the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) towards participation of Indian Contingent cleared at Government cost and approved the following items of expenditure:

- (i) Out of Pocket Allowance @ USD 50 per person/day to players and their coaches and Out of Pocket Allowance @ USD40 per person/day to supporting personnel.
- (ii) Ceremonial Dress @ Rs. 10,000 per person for Indian Contingent and Rs. 7,500 per person for 2 youth campers.
- (iii) Competition Kit @ Rs. 2,500 per player.
- (iv) Hiring of Rowing Boat—USD 10,000.
- (v) Hiring & allied expenses for Yachting Boat—USD 18,700.
- (vi) Practice Ammunition for Shooters—USD 5,000.
- (vii) Boarding and Lodging @ Euro 150 per person/day and Air Passage cost for 2 personal coaches/training partners. Subject to conditions that these persons are not being paid assistance for coaching fee, etc. from any of the other Government Schemes.

In addition, assistance for excess baggage for sports-persons of Archery, Hockey, Shooting @ 20 kg for both ways and @ 10 kg for both ways for the remaining sports-persons for the Indian contingent was also sanctioned.

(b) to (d) The formal proposal for participation of Indian Contingent in the Olympic Games starting on 13th

August, 2004 was received from the IOA on 7.7.2004 and 29.7.2004. Accordingly Government, based on approved norms, issued the financial sanction for Rs. 66.08 lakhs on 31st July, 2004. Cheques of Rs. 21,21,408 and Rs. 24,17,744 were also handed over to IOA on 9th August, 2004 and 10th August, 2004 respectively. Separately a decision to revise upwards norms for out of pocket allowance for players and coaches was taken. Accordingly, additional amount was sanctioned. A cheque of Rs. 7,94,430 towards increased out of pocket allowance @ USD 50 to players and coaches was also handed over to IOA on 25th August, 2004.

The IOA has informed that they have remitted Euro 25,000 and Euro 70,000 on 10th and 11th August, 2004 respectively for the Indian Contingent to Olympic Games.

*[English]*

#### **Increase In Tourist Traffic to Kerala**

799. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of increasing tourist traffic to Kerala;

(b) if so, whether the Government has studied the reasons for such heavy traffic within a short span of three to four years;

(c) if so, whether the Government is also aware of illegal massage parlours operating there to attract foreigners; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to ban such massage parlours?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Tourist traffic to Kerala is increasing owing to the sustained and intensive marketing campaign in India and abroad.

(c) and (d) Government of Kerala has not received complaints on operation of illegal massage parlours in the State of Kerala to attract tourists. It has a scheme to approve Ayurveda Centers as "Green leaf and Olive Leaf" on the basis of facilities available.

**Impact of Clearing of Forests on Wildlife**

800. SHRI UDAY SINGH:  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

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

(a) whether eminent environmentalists have expressed concern over the increasing threat to wildlife due to clearing of forests for developmental projects as reported in the *Hindu* dated October 6, 2004;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware that the wildlife and forest land have been grossly misused of other purposes and the various agencies have failed to protect the same; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the concrete steps taken by the Government to protect them fully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The major issues highlighted by the activists, NGOs and others in their letter dated 4th October 2004, are in the Statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) Forest land and wildlife habitat are protected by various laws including the Indian Forest Act, 1927, the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. All cases of diversion and use of forest as well as wildlife habitats for non forestry purposes are regulated under the provisions of these laws and the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court issued from time to time. The cases are examined by the expert committees and decisions are taken after due consideration of laws and policies of the Government as well as the directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

**Statement**

The major issues highlighted by the activists, NGO's and others in their letter dated 4th October 2004 are as given below:

1. Wildlife habitats and populations continue to be under serious threat from 'development' projects across India.

2. Several kinds of development projects have been granted clearance despite extremely poor environmental impact assessment, including blatantly plagiarized studies.
3. Several destructive development projects have been allowed inside or immediately bordering protected areas.
4. Several clearances have been granted completely ignoring the citizens' inputs.
5. The National Board for Wildlife and Expert Committee for environmental clearance have been weakened.
6. Compensatory mechanism for clearance of projects cannot be substitute for sound decision making based on comprehensive environmental and social impact assessment.
7. Repeated dilutions of notifications under the Environment Protection Act have made wildlife habitats and sensitive ecosystems more vulnerable to development pressures.

**Restructuring of Brahmaputra Board**

801. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a plan to restructure Brahmaputra Board is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the salient features of the master plans prepared by Brahmaputra Board for flood moderation and river training with outlay, allocation and achievements made;

(d) whether the Board is mandated for execution of river training, flood and erosion control schemes; and

(e) if so, the manpower and institutional break up to execute such programme showing achievements on each assignment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposal is in a conceptual stage in the Ministry of Water Resources.

(c) to (e) The Brahmaputra Board prepared Master Plan Part-I for main stem of river Brahmaputra and Part-II for Barak river and its tributaries, which were

approved by Government of India in 1997. Under Master Plan Part-III, out of the identified 49 sub-basin Master Plans, Government of India has so far approved 32 Nos. and the balance sub basin Master Plans are under various stages of preparation. These Master Plans have provisions for flood management and anti-erosion/river training works. The outlays required for implementation of Master Plan Part-I is Rs. 1,22,944 crore and for Master Plan Part-II is Rs. 6322 crore at 2000 price level. The salient features of the approved Master Plans are in the enclosed Statement-I.

Based on the Master Plans, the Brahmaputra board identified 34 Nos. of Drainage Development Schemes, out of which detailed project reports of 9 Nos. have been prepared and 25 Nos. of schemes are under various

stages of preparation. The Brahmaputra Board also completed survey, investigation and preparation of detailed project report for 5 Nos. of multi-purpose projects, whereas 10 Nos. are under various stages of preparation. The list of Drainage Development schemes and Multi Purpose Projects for which Detailed Project Reports have been prepared in the Statement-II enclosed.

The Master Plans prepared by Brahmaputra Board and after approval by Government of India were sent to the concerned State Governments for implementation. However, Brahmaputra Board, which has the mandate for execution of river training, flood and erosion schemes has also taken up a few ongoing schemes identified in the Master Plan for execution.

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Scheme	X Plan Outlay	Estimated Cost	Expenditure till 31.10.04
1.	Construction of Harang Drainage Development Scheme	21.17	30.49	23.31
2.	Construction of Pagladiya Dam Project	557.41	1069.40*	27.18
3.	New Scheme for Majuli Island, Assam, Debang Project, etc.			
	(i) Avulsion of river Brahmaputra at Dholia-Hatighuli Phases-I & II	42.00	15.69	17.86
	(ii) Protection of Majuli Island from flood and erosion	—	6.22	—
	(ii) Borbhag Drainage Development Scheme	—	7.23	—

\*Pagladiya Dam Project approved for Rs. 542.90 crore in January, 2001. Revised cost estimate for Rs. 1069.40 crore (January, 2004 price level) under process of approval by PIB/CCEA.

For the normal activities of preparation of Master Plans, preparation of Detailed Project Reports of Drainage Development Schemes and preparation of DPR of multi-purpose projects, a continuing scheme is being implemented by Brahmaputra Board. An amount of Rs. 102 crore has been provided to the Brahmaputra Board for the 10th Five Year Plan, of which an amount of Rs. 20 crore has been earmarked for 2004-05. During the 10th Five Year Plan, expenditure for 2002-03 was Rs. 17.51 crore, for 2003-04, Rs. 17.60 crore and for 2004-05 upto October, 2004 is Rs. 4.75 crore.

*Manpower and institutional break-up of Brahmaputra Board*

(i) Total number of regular sanctioned posts in the Brahmaputra Board are as under:

Group	Sanctioned Posts
A	81
B	106
C	284
D	157
<b>Total</b>	<b>628</b>

- (ii) Total number of sanctioned posts for Pagladiya Dam Project are as under:

Group	Sanctioned Posts
A	38
B	46
C	221
D	79
<b>Total</b>	<b>384</b>

The construction of Pagladiya Dam Project is being undertaken by the staff sanctioned for the Project, whereas for all normal activities and other construction activities, the regular staff of Brahmaputra Board is engaged.

*Statement I*

*Salient Features of Approved Master Plans—Anti-Erosion/River Training and Flood Management Measures*

Sl.No.	Name of Basin/Sub-basin Master Plan	Length of River Km.	Catchment Area Sq. Km.	Annual Rainfall mm.	Anti-erosion measures No./length in Km..	Flood Management Measures	
						New Embankment Length in Km.	Raising & Strengthening Length in km
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Brahmaputra Main Stem (Part I)	2,543 up to Indo Bangladesh border	5,33,000 up to Indo Bangladesh border	2125 to 4142	11 no.	225.26	900
2.	Barak & its tributaries (Part II) Part III	532 up to Indo Bangladesh border	43,456 up to Indo Bangladesh border	2198	77 no.	162.27	469
3.	Buri-Dihing	360	8730	2421	28 no.	13.00	39.00
4.	Dikhow	236	4022	2493	7 no.	18.25	101.50
5.	Dhanaisir (S)	352	10305	1808	5 no.	19.47	18.00
6.	Kopli-Kolong	261.300 (Kopli) 203.500 (Kolong)	20068	1690	13 no.	62.50	143.78
7.	Puthimari	112	1787	1750	17 no.	4.90	52.00
8.	Ranganadi	150	2941	2336	7 no.	3.20	38.00
9.	Noa-Nadi	103	745	2550.3	0.88 km	3.20	Nil

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	Dikrong	145	1528	2834	8 no.	4.00	34.80
11.	Muhuri	56	576	2548.5	11 no.	11.83	Nil
12.	Gumti	167.4	2492	2238.4	23 no.	14.50	Nil
13.	Pagladiya	196.8	1674	2317.6	7 no.	Nil	16
14.	Jia-Bharali	229	10289	1620	6 no.	Nil	29.57
15.	Manu	140	2278	2541	13 no.	6.50	13.00
16.	Champamati	99.50	1142	3727	13 no.	Nil	Nil
17.	Disang	253	3809	2562.3	2.2 km	*	22.00
18.	Jinary	84	594	2821.5	Nil	Nil	5.50
19.	Juri	79	482	2522	89 no.	48.75	10.75
20.	Nanoi	103	909.37	1723	3 no.	8.00	Nil
21.	Dhalai	75.85	630	2693	4.00 km	6.00	6.00
22.	Burima	54	414	2197	4 no.	*	Nil
23.	Lohit	413	29487	3800	3 no.	Nil	Nil
24.	Jiadhal	187	1346	3851	5.00 km	9.00	Nil
25.	Bharalu	30.623	115.25	1864	Nil	Nil	Nil
26.	Majuli Island	85	800	2090	35.00 km	18.00	50.00
27.	Khowai	166	1328	2418	5.00 km	0.7	2.00
28.	Ghiadhari	61	670	2005	Nil	*	Nil
29.	Jinjiram	158	3467	2139	2 no.	48.00	Nil
30.	Jhanji	108	1139	3313	Nil	Nil	Nil
31.	Dhaleswari	290	4784	2810	1.23 km	3.3	4.70
32.	Subansiri	468	37000	2629	Nil	Nil	Nil
33.	Moridhal	123	929	3961	Nil	Nil	Nil
34.	Gaurang	114	1023	3478	2 no.	2.00	Nil

\*Not quantified.

**Statement II***List of Identified Drainage Development Schemes for which DPRs Completed*

Sl.No.	Name of Drainage Scheme	Tributary/ Sub-basin	Basin	Area affected (sq. km)	State	Remarks
1.	Harang	Barak	Barak	139	Assam	Completed
2.	Borbhag	Pagladiya	Brahmaputra	70	Assam	
3.	East of Barpeta	Pahumara	Brahmaputra	180	Assam	
4.	Jakaichuk	Jhanji	Brahmaputra	30	Assam	
5.	Joysagar	Kalang	Brahmaputra	55	Assam	
6.	Jengrai	Subansiri	Brahmaputra	18	Assam	
7.	Kailashahar	Manu	—	16	Tripura	
8.	Singla	Barak	Barak	322	Assam	
9.	Deroi	Buridehing	Brahmaputra	194	Assam	DPR handed over to State

*List of Multipurpose Projects for which DPRs completed*

Sl.No.	Name of Project	Basin	Installed Capacity (MW)	Remarks
<b>A-DPR Completed</b>				
1.	Dihang (Siang) Dam Project	Brahmaputra	20000	Handed over to NHPC
2.	Subansiri Dam Project	Brahmaputra	4800	Handed over to NHPC
3.	Pagladiya Dam Project	Brahmaputra	3	Under execution
4.	Tipaimukh Dam Project	Brahmaputra	1500	Handed over to NEEPCO
5.	Bairabi Dam Project	Brahmaputra	75	Handed over to Mizoram Govt.

*[Translation]***Production of Milk**

802. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any

assessment in respect of increase in milk production in the country during 2004-2005; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The targeted achievement of milk production for the year 2004-05 is 91.0 million tones.

*[English]*

**Schemes for Arsenic affected Areas  
In West Bengal**

803. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of the West Bengal has sent any pre-feasibility report to the Union Government for surface water based schemes for Arsenic affected areas in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action the Government has taken so far in implementing the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Government of West Bengal has

submitted 6 project proposals to tackle water quality affected habitations at an estimated cost of Rs. 1166 crores. The details of these proposals are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Rural drinking water is a State subject. Government of India extends financial and technical assistance to States for supply of safe drinking water in rural areas through a Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Funds amounting to Rs. 63.95 crore have been released to West Bengal Government so far during the current year under ARWSP. 15% of ARWSP funds have been exclusively earmarked for Sub Mission project for tackling water quality problems. With effect from 01.04.1998, the power to sanction Sub Mission projects have been delegated to States. As States are fully empowered to take up water quality improvement schemes, the proposals were returned to West Bengal Government for taking necessary action.

**Statement**

*Details of Project Proposals Submitted by the State Government of West Bengal to Tackle Water Quality Affected Habitations*

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1.	Surface water based water supply schemes for arsenic affected areas of Murshidabad district (N-E) sector	242
2.	Surface water based water supply schemes for Raghunathgunj-I block of Murshidabad district	55
3.	Surface water based water supply schemes for arsenic affected areas of Murshidabad district (S-E sector)	248
4.	Surface water based water supply schemes for arsenic affected areas of Nadia district in Haringhata-Chakdah areas	198
5.	Surface water based water supply schemes for Kaligunj-Nakshipara areas of Nadia district	213
6.	Surface water based water supply schemes for arsenic affected areas of Habra-Gaighata and adjoining mouzas in North-24 Paraganas district	210
<b>Total</b>		<b>1166</b>

[*Translation*]

**Fixation of Minimum Support Prices for Fruits and Vegetables**

804. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to regulate price by fixing Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for fruits and vegetables on the lines of foodgrains;

(b) if so, by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) There is no proposal to regulate price by fixing Minimum Support Price (MSP) for fruits and vegetables on the lines of foodgrains.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government is implementing the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) under which horticultural and other agricultural crops, which are perishable in nature are covered. In order to protect the growers of these crops from distress sales in the event of bumper crop, MIS is implemented on the request from State Governments which are ready to bear 50% loss (25% in case of North-Eastern States), if any, in its implementation.

**Agriculture Land Converted Into Industrial Area**

805. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:  
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agriculture land in several areas has been converted into industrial land;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the area of land in hectares converted into industrial area during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The land-use classification data indicate that the net sown area has increased from 140.27 million hectare in 1970-71 to 141.23 million hectare in 1999-2000. During the same period, the area under non-agricultural uses has increased from 16.48 million hectare to 22.97 million hectare. It indicates that the net sown area has increased by 0.96 million hectare in the last three decades, whereas area under non-agricultural uses has increased by 6.49 million hectare. It implies, therefore, that even if some agricultural land has been diverted into non-agricultural uses, a large has been brought under cultivation through reclamation of wastelands and other degraded lands, thereby, increasing the net sown area.

(c) Areas under non-agricultural uses have increased from 22.70 million hectare in 1997-98 to 22.97 million hectares in 1999-2000, indicating that there is a increase by 0.27 million hectare during these three years.

[*English*]

**Ban on Import of Electronic Waste**

806. DR. M. JAGANNATH:  
SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

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

(a) whether electronic scrap sent from England is being recycled in the country releasing both permanent pollution and irreversible health damage; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to ban such import in public interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Electronic scrap is included under List A & List B of Schedule-3 of the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 as amended from time to time. The import of this waste therefore requires specific permission of the Ministry of Environment & Forests. No such permission has been given to any authority or person by the Ministry till date.



### Shortage of Kerosene

807. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of kerosene oil in various parts of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate supply of kerosene in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No such report of shortage of kerosene has been received by the Government. However, 56,11,71 Metric Tonne kerosene has been released to the State of West Bengal during the first three quarters of the current financial year for distribution under Public Distribution System.

(b) Kerosene for distribution under Public Distribution System is an allocated product. Its allocation to various States/UTs is made by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas on a quarterly basis. Based on the quarterly allocation made by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, States/UTs decide on the monthly allocations, which is mostly uniform. Distribution of Kerosene within the State is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. Government Oil Marketing Companies have been allowed to sell non-PDS Kerosene (white Kerosene) in the open market, which is available in plenty at the prevailing market price.

*[Translation]*

### Rajiv Sagar Project of Madhya Pradesh

808. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajiv Sagar Project in Madhya Pradesh is an inter-state project of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra Governments;

(b) if so, whether the work on the project is getting delayed;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Project is being taken up under Accelerated Irrigation Programme; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for early completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The works on the project are delayed due to financial constraints and non-rehabilitation of project affected families of eight villages coming under submergence by the State Government of Maharashtra.

(d) and (e) For the early completion of the project, the Madhya Pradesh portion of the project has been included under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) since 2003-04 and an amount of Rs. 18.330 crore has been released as Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under AIBP for balance share cost of dam and Left Bank Canal system.

*[English]*

### Fairs and Festivals Projects

809. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of fairs and festivals projects submitted by Governments of Jammu and Kashmir and Delhi to the Union Government for approval during the last three years;

(b) the proposals approved/rejected by the Union Government during the said period along with funds allocated to State Governments, project-wise; and

(c) the details of ongoing tourism projects sponsored by the Union Government in Jammu and Kashmir and Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The financial assistance is provided to State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for promotion of fairs and festivals on yearly basis in consultation with them subject to availability of funds.

The details of financial assistance sanctioned for promotion of fairs and festivals to the State Governments of Jammu & Kashmir and Delhi during the last 3 years are given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(c) The details of on-going Tourism Projects in Jammu and Kashmir and Delhi are given in the Statement-II enclosed.

**Statement I***Fairs and Festivals Sanctioned to the State of Jammu & Kashmir and Delhi during 2001-02*

Sl.No.	State	Name of project	Amt. Sanctioned	Amt. Released
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>				
1.		Buddha Mahotsava at Deskit	5.00	4.00
2.		Sindhu Darshan at Leh	25.00	25.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>30.00</b>	<b>29.00</b>
<b>Delhi</b>				
1.		Chaudvi Ka Chand Festival	1.02	1.02
2.		Qutab Festival	1.42	1.42
3.		Garden Festival	4.13	4.13
4.		Jahan-e-Khusrau Festival	22.00	22.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>28.57</b>	<b>28.57</b>

*Fairs and Festivals sanctioned to the State of Jammu & Kashmir and Delhi during 2002-2003*

Sl.No.	State	Name of project	Amt. Sanctioned	Amt. Released
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>				
1.		Sindhu Darshan	26.00	22.83
<b>Total</b>			<b>26.00</b>	<b>22.83</b>
<b>Delhi</b>				
1.		Golf Tournament	7.17	6.45
2.		Ananya Festival	10.00	9.00
3.		Qutab Festival	5.00	5.00
4.		Garden Festival	5.00	5.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>27.17</b>	<b>25.45</b>

*Fairs and Festivals sanctioned to the State of Jammu & Kashmir and Delhi during 2003-04*

Sl.No.	State	Name of project	Amt. Sanctioned	Amt. Released
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>				
1.		Sindhu Darshan	35.00	35.00
2.		Golf Tournament	15.00	15.00

1	2	3	4	5
3.		Buddha Mahotsava at Kargil	10.00	10.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>60.00</b>	<b>60.00</b>
	Delhi			
1.		Nil		

**Statement II****Fairs and Festivals sanctioned to the State of Jammu & Kashmir and Delhi during 2002-2003**

Sl.No.	State	Name of project	Amt. Sanctioned	Amt. Released
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>				
1.		Sindhu Darshan	35.00	35.00
		Golf Tournament	15.00	15.00
		Buddha Mahotsava at Kargil	10.00	10.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>60.00</b>	<b>60.00</b>
<b>Delhi</b>				
1.		Qutab Festival	5.00	5.00
2.		Garden Festival	5.00	4.00
3.		Ananya Festival	15.00	12.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>25.00</b>	<b>21.00</b>

**Development of Sabarimala**

810. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:  
SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN:  
SHRI P.K. VASUDEVAN NAIR:

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

(a) whether Kerala Government has submitted any master plan for development of Sabarimala to the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has taken any decision in this regard;

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

(e) by when the plan is to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Question does not arise.

*[Translation]***Cold Storages**

811. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD:  
SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether difficulty is being faced in storing potato and onion due to shortage of cold storages resulting in steep hike in prices of these commodities during off season period;

(b) if so, the number of cold storages proposed to be set up alongwith their capacity during the current financial year, State-wise;

(c) the amount provided to the States during the current year for the purpose, State-wise;

(d) the number of cold storages with capacity set up in the country during the last three years, State-wise; and

(e) the number out of them expanded and modernized during the said period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (e) Considerable variation in prices of onion and potato has been noticed during different parts of a year. Storage capacity has been substantively increased by setting up new cold storages and augmenting the capacity of existing cold storages. The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing a scheme "Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Construction/Expansion/Modernisation of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Produce", in the country through National Horticulture Board (NHB), an autonomous organisation under this Department. Under the scheme, back-ended capital investment subsidy is provided to the eligible entrepreneurs @ 25% of the project cost not exceeding Rs. 50.00 lakh per project and @ 33.33% of the project cost, upto a ceiling of Rs. 60.00 lakh per project for North-Eastern States. Under the scheme, 1046 cold storage projects creating a storage capacity of 41.00 lakh MTs have been sanctioned with an eligible back-ended subsidy of Rs. 262.78 crores, upto 31.3.2004. Out of them, 120 are onion storages creating storage capacity of 0.25 lakh MTs. the scheme is demand based and the project proposal has to come from the eligible organisations and as such, no time bound State-wise targets have been fixed. Also, no State-wise funds are allocated under the Scheme. The number of cold storages sanctioned (new/modernized/expanded) with capacity and eligible subsidy during the last three years, State-wise, are given in the Statement enclosed.

**Statement**

*State-wise status of Cold Storage Projects sanctioned under the "Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Construction/Expansion/Modernization of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Produce" during 2001-02 to 2003-04 (as on 31.3.2004)*

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2001-02			2002-2003			2003-2004			Grand Total (as on 31.3.04)		
		No.	Capacity (MT)	Eligible Subsidy	No.	Capacity (MT)	Eligible Subsidy	No.	Capacity (MT)	Eligible Subsidy	No.	Capacity (MT)	Eligible Subsidy
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Punjab	9	31054	181.33	8	21658	170.33	7	12095	4.49	24	64807	358.15
2.	Haryana	17	63548	529.29	4	10146	80.74	7	1338.18	125.66	28	87032	735.69
3.	Tamil Nadu	5											
			12137										

147.31

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
5.	Uttar Pradesh	84	459613.8	2458.51	49	278228	1284.29	146	786583.4	4256.78	279	1524425	7999.58
6.	Uttaranchal	2	8619	49.30	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	2	8619	49.3
7.	Maharashtra	15	37792	384.55	29	60837	593.69	13	19145	142.58	57	117774	1120.82
8.	Rajasthan	6	18317	133.09	9	27976	203.00	1	4360	35.00	16	50653	371.09
9.	Karnataka	8	38174	230.04	4	11328	83.70	0	0	0.00	12	49502	313.74
10.	Gujarat	17	47796	430.05	20	59677.54	410.51	136	40928.78	421.04	173	148402	1261.6
11.	Orissa	2	8064	80.25	5	26690	236.79	1	2500	25.00	8	37254	342.04
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3	17703	94.99	9	20454	120.61	10	23741	187.68	22	61898	403.28
13.	Chhattisgarh	13	79480	432.68	5	34800	196.54	2	6089	76.87	20	120389	706.09
14.	West Bengal	21	48140	292.67	9	37440	348.27	4	14220	152.03	34	99800	792.97
15.	Andhra Pradesh	11	41880	404.72	2	8000	72.56	1	4100	35.17	14	53980	513.45
16.	Assam	6	28400	315.88	3	14500	189.00	1	1860	5.45	10	44760	509.92
17.	Bihar	20	86723	578.88	5	23706	244.84	18	73184.8	444.25	43	183614	1265.97
18.	Jharkhand	2	9318	71.52	4	13338	145.28	4	14214	112.55	10	38870	329.35
19.	Tripura	0	0	0.00	1	5000	60.00	0	0	0.00	1	5000	60
20.	Delhi	4	12260	309.99	0	0	0.00	1	530	1.33	5	12790	311.32
21.	Kerala	2	500	5.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	2	500	5
22.	Nagaland	0	0	0.00	1	5000	60.00	0	0	0.00	1	5000	60
23.	Goa	0	0	0.00	1	3633	36.33	0	0	0.00	1	3633	36.33
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	1	4000	53.33	1	4000	53.33
Total													

249

1051910.6

**Increase in Agriculture Production**

812. SHRI SURAJ SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for increasing agriculture production by developing low lying areas or water-logging areas;

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

(c) the names of water logging areas in Begusarai district of Bihar which are likely to be brought under the

said scheme for reclamation of land by providing proper drainage system;

(d) whether the Government has received any foreign assistance for drainage system in these water logged areas of Bihar; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Centrally sponsored Command Area Development (CAD) Programme was launched in the

country during the year 1974-75 with objectives of bridging the gap between irrigation potential created and that utilized; and increasing agricultural production and productivity from irrigated land etc. Under the scheme, reclamation of waterlogged areas in the irrigated command area of the approved project was included as a new component with effect from 1.4.1996. Since then number of proposals received from the States for reclamation of waterlogged areas have been approved by the Government of India as per details given below:

Sl.No.	State	Number of Approved Schemes	Area to be reclaimed (in thousand hectares)
1.	Bihar	77	13.958
2.	Gujarat	7	1.290
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	9.684
4.	Karnataka	51	3.284
5.	Kerala	265	20.820
6.	Madhya Pradesh	6	1.437
7.	Maharashtra	4	0.198
8.	Orissa	15	1.133
9.	Uttar Pradesh	12	5.321
Total		441	57.123

Besides, Government of India has sanctioned in February, 2004, a centrally sponsored scheme on improvement of Drainage in critical Areas of the country estimated to cost Rs. 54.57 crore with a central share of Rs. 49.62 crore to take up works relating to improvement of drainage in Critical areas of the country. The scheme aims to improve the Drainage conditions of critical areas affected due to floods in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) Water logging scheme from Begusarai district have not been received from the State Government of Bihar.

(d) and (e) No proposal for foreign assistance for drainage schemes in waterlogged area in the State of Bihar has been received in this Ministry.

*(English)*

#### **Prevention of Adulteration in Packed Milk**

813. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken steps to prevent adulteration in packed milk;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which these steps have been successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Adulteration in any food item including milk is checked under the Provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act, which is administered by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The standards for milk have been prescribed under the PFA Rules, 1955, along with specifications for packaging materials.

The Food (Health) Authorities in the States/UTs have been requested, by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, from time to time, to take necessary action to keep a vigil on the quality of milk sold as they are responsible for implementation of PFA Act, 1954 and PFA Rules, 1955.

(c) In the recent past, no such report of adulteration in packed milk has been brought to the notice of this Ministry.

#### **Incentives to FP Sector**

814. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite the impressive growth, the utilisation of fruits and vegetables processing in the organised and unorganised sector is estimated at around two percent for the total production;

(b) if so, the other steps the Government proposed to take to improve the position further;

(c) whether the Government proposes to give more incentives to this sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) Level of processing of fruits & vegetables is presently around 2%. In order to increase level of processing Government has exempted processed products of fruits and vegetables from payment of excise duty. Recently, under Income Tax Act, a deduction of 100% of profit for five years and 25% of profit for the next five years has been allowed in case of new agro processing industries set up to process, preserve and package fruits and vegetables. Plan schemes have also been formulated to provide financial assistance for establishment and modernization of food processing units, creation of infrastructure, support for R&D, human resource development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries. Quantum of assistance for establishment/modernization of food processing units including fruit and vegetable units is 25% of costs of plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas and 33.33% in difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakh and Rs. 75 lakhs, respectively.

*[Translation]*

#### Pollution In Cities

815. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHWAHA:  
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

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

(a) whether the Government has identified the most polluted cities in the country;

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

(c) the reasons for increasing pollution in these cities; and

(d) the measure taken to control the pollution and bring the same under specified limits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board, in consultation with the State Pollution Control Boards, has identified the polluted cities based on the ambient

air quality data for the period 1995-2003. State-wise list of these cities is enclosed as Statement.

(c) The pollution is mainly due to increase in vehicular traffic, industries, natural geo-climatic conditions and other developmental activities.

(d) The Government has taken various steps to control pollution, which include the following:

- Notification of general and source specific emission standards.
- Enforcement of auto exhaust emission standards for new vehicles at manufacturing stage.
- Improved fuel quality.
- Use of beneficiated coal in the thermal power stations.
- Implementation of Charter on Corporate Responsibility for Environmental Protection in respect of 17 categories of industries.
- Regular monitoring for compliance of environmental standards.
- Preparation and implementation of city specific action plan for improvement of air quality.

#### Statement

*State-wise List of the Most Polluted Cities in India  
(Based on Ambient Air Quality data 1995-2003)*

Sl.No.	State	City
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad
2.		Visakhapatnam
3.	Assam	Guwahati
4.	Bihar	Patna
5.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh
6.	Chhattisgarh	Bhilai
7.		Korba
8.		Raipur
9.	Delhi	Delhi
10.	Goa	Panaji

1	2	3
11.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
12.		Ankleshwar
13.		Jamnagar
14.		Rajkot
15.		Surat
16.		Vadodara
17.		Vapi
18.	Haryana	Faridabad
19.		Yamunanagar
20.	Himachal Pradesh	DamtaI
21.		Paonta Sahib
22.		Parwanoo
23.		Shimla
24.	Jharkhand	Dhanbad
25.		Jamshedpur
26.		Jharia
27.	Karnataka	Bangalore
28.	Kerala	Kottayam
29.		Kochi
30.		Thiruvananthapuram
31.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
32.		Indore
33.		Jabalpur
34.		Nagda
35.		Satna
36.	Maharashtra	Chandrapur
37.		Mumbai
38.		Nagpur
39.		Nashik
40.		Pune
41.		Sholapur

1	2	3
42.	Meghalaya	Shillong
43.	Orissa	Angul
44.		Rayagada
45.		Rourkela
46.	Punjab	Gobindgarh
47.		Ludhiana
48.		Jalandhar
49.	Rajasthan	Alwar
50.		Jaipur
51.		Jodhpur
52.		Kota
53.		Udaipur
54.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
55.		Madurai
56.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra
57.		Anpara
58.		Gajraula
59.		Kanpur
60.		Lucknow
61.		Noida
62.		Varanasi
63.	Uttaranchal	Dehradun
64.	West Bengal	Howrah
65.		Kolkata

[English]

#### Extinction of Sea Horse

816. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether "Sea Horse" declared as endangered species among the marine lives in India has been facing extinction;



(b) if so, the details of marine species categorized as endangered species since 1990-91;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted in the recent past with a view to find out the current population of these species;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether a ship sailing from Chennai to Singapore was apprehended recently for unauthorizedly possessing large volume of Sea Horses;

(f) if so, the details thereof:

(g) the action taken, if any, against the crew members as well as the owners of the ship; and

(h) the fate the Sea Horses cargo met with?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) "Sea Horse" has been categorized as endangered due to illegal capture, habitat destruction and over exploitation. The details of the marine species categorized as endangered species since 1991 are enclosed as Statement.

(c) and (d) A preliminary study of Sea Horse fishing has been conducted by Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute along the Palk Bay coast of Tamil Nadu recently. The Sea Horse population is threatened by over fishing and clandestine trade. But consequent upon the ban by Government of India for some of the marine fisheries and their export, the targeted fishing has also reduced drastically.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. The ship has not been apprehended. On the basis of specific intelligence inputs, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence recalled the container no. EOLU 3280812 covered under Shipping Bill No. 0057 dated 17.6.2004 in the name of M/s Nayagara Impex, Chennai, from Singapore. The consignment originating from Chennai was billed as Sannam Red Chillies. 76 bags of dried Sea horses and 7 bags of Red Chillies were seized under the Customs Act, 1962 on 23.7.2004. The produce is valued at Rs. 2.68 crores.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) The seized cargo viz. dried sea horses is lying in Chennai Container Terminal Limited (CCIL) under the custody of Custom House, Chennai.

*Statement*

*Marine Species Categorized as Endangered since 1990-91*

Sl.No.	Name of Species
1	2
1.	Whale Shark (Rhincodon typus)
2.	Anoxypristis cusidata
3.	Carcharyhinus hemidon
4.	Glyphius gangeticus
5.	Glyphius glyphius
6.	Himantura fluviatilis
7.	Pristis microdon
8.	Pristis zijsron
9.	Rhynchobtus dijjidensis
10.	Urogymnus asperrimus
11.	Cassis comuta
12.	Charonia tritonis
13.	Conus maineewardsai
14.	Cypracasis rufa
15.	Hippopus hippopus
16.	Nautilus pompilus
17.	Tridacna squamosa
18.	Tridacna maxima
19.	Tudicia spiralis
20.	Cypraea lamacina
21.	Cyprae mappa
22.	Cypraea talpa
23.	Fasciolaria trapazium
24.	Harpulina arausica
25.	Lambis chiragra
26.	Lambis chiragraarthitica
27.	Lambis crocea

1	2
28.	Lambis millepeda
29.	Lambis scorpius
30.	Lambis truncata
31.	Placenta placenta
32.	Strombus pilcatus siboldi
33.	Trochus nitoticus
34.	Turbo mamopratus
35.	Shark and Ray (All Elasmobranchii)
36.	Sea Horse (All Sygnathidians)
37.	Goamt Grouper (Epinephelus lanceolatus)
38.	Reef Building Coral (All Scleractinians)
39.	Black Coral (All Antipatharians)
40.	Organ Pipe Coral (Tubipora musica)
41.	Fire Coral (All Millipora Species)
42.	Sea Fans (All Gorgonians)
43.	Sea Cucumbers (All Holothurians)
44.	Sponges (All Calacareans)

#### Broadbasing of Fund Manager

817. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVRAJ: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the investment consultants engaged by EPFO have suggested appointment of more fund managers to create a competitive environment;

(b) if so, whether the returns offered by the sole fund managers (SBI) currently handling the EPFO investments is below par;

(c) if so, whether the Government proposes to broaden the fund management by engaging more fund managers; and

(d) if so, by when the boardbasing of the management of portfolio among several banks is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Investments of Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund are made as per the pattern of investment notified by the Central Government from time to time.

(c) No, Sir.

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

#### P.F. Deposited by Nokia (India) Pvt. Ltd.

818. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nokia (India) Private Limited, Multinational Company has been regularly deducting the subscription towards E.P.F. from the monthly salaries of its employees but failed to deposit the same with the concerned Regional Provident Fund Commissioner's Office alongwith its own contributions; and

(b) if not, the details information for the last three years of the amount deposited with the said concerned authorities?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]*

#### Biscuit Industries

819. SHRI MUNSHI RAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering any action plan to give the status of Food Processing Industry (FPI) to Biscuit industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is also considering to declare any financial package for the development of this industry after including into the FPI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) Food processing industry already includes biscuit industry. Plan schemes have been formulated to provide financial assistance for establishment and modernization of food processing units, creation of infrastructure, support for R&D, human resource development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries. Quantum of assistance for establishment/modernization of food processing units including biscuit units is 25% of costs of plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas and 33.33% in difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs and Rs. 75 lakhs respectively.

*[English]*

#### **Cutting of Trees for Household Activities**

820. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the local villagers are not even allowed to cut Mango tree, Guava tree, Jackfruit tree, Palm tree, Coconut tree etc. for their household construction due to ban on felling of trees; and

(b) if so, the concrete steps being taken by the Government to extend usage of these trees for the local household activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Felling of trees on forest lands is regulated by the prescriptions of working plans. For felling of trees grown on non-forest lands various State/UT Governments have their own laws, rules and regulations. Felling of trees can be done under these provisions subject to the judicial orders, if any.

#### **Appointment of Executive Director NIS, Patiala**

821. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the prolonged absence of the Executive Director of the National Institute of Sports (NIS), Patiala is hampering the functioning of the Institute and also causing discontentment among its employees and sportsmen;

(b) if so, the reasons for not appointing full time Executive Director of the NIS; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure proper functioning of NIS?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) and (b) There is no specific complaint in this regard. The charge of the post of Executive Director, National Institute of Sports (NIS), Patiala, which fell vacant on 1st May 2004, due to the superannuation of the then incumbent, is being held as an additional charge by a Senior Officer of the Sports Authority of India (SAI). This is a promotional post and could not be filled due to administrative reasons.

(c) Regular monitoring is being done by SAI headquarter officers regarding the functioning of NIS Patiala through constant interaction with the officials at the institute. Steps are being taken to fill the post on a regular basis expeditiously.

#### **Assistance to Coconut Growers in Orissa**

822. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has made a request to the Union Government to provide central assistance to the coconut growers in the State;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has examined the proposal submitted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to consider such proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of India has received a proposal from Government of Orissa seeking an assistance of Rs. 85.39 crore for development of coconut gardens, of which Rs. 35.50 crore is for management of mite in coconut gardens.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India after careful examination of the proposal has sanctioned Re. 50.00 lakhs for taking up immediate measures in management of mite in coconut gardens of Orissa. During the year 2004-05, an amount of Rs. 49.50

lakhs has also been sanctioned for implementation of the following schemes in Orissa, besides revalidation of unspent balance of Rs. 47.95 lakhs.

- (i) Establishment of Regional Coconut Nursery.
  - (ii) Aid to Approved/Registered/other specified coconut nurseries.
  - (iii) Laying out of demonstrations plots.
  - (iv) Establishment of organic manure units.
- (d) Does not arise.

#### Yamuna Action Plan Phase-II

823. SHRI K.S. RAO:  
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:  
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:  
SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL:  
SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:

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

(a) whether Pollution Control Research Institute has conducted an intensive study about increasing pollution in Yamuna;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof alongwith main recommendations made therein;

(c) the response of the Government thereto;

(d) whether Phase-II of Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) has started;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith estimated expenditure and fund allocation for the same;

(f) whether Phase-I of Yamuna Action Plan has failed in which the Government spent more than Rs. 1000 crore as reported in 'Hindustan Times' dated October 28, 2004;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor and if not, the extent of success achieved in this regard; and

(h) the corrective steps taken by the Government for the success of Phase-II of Yamuna Action Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Pollution Control Research Institute

has not conducted any intensive study about increasing pollution in Yamuna.

(d) and (e) The implementation of Yamuna Action Plan-Phase-II has started from December 1, 2004. The project is being implemented in the States of Haryana, UP and Delhi under the Japanese Bank for International Cooperation's Overseas Development Assistance loan of Rs. 13.33 billion Japanese Yen. The main components to be implemented under the project are:

- |          |   |  |
|----------|---|--|
| Delhi:   | — | Sewage Treatment Plants (135 mld capacity new and 324 mld capacity rehabilitation)       |
|          | — | Rehabilitation/replacement of trunk sewers (30.82 kms)                                   |
| UP:      | — | Sewage Treatment Plant (38 mld capacity new)   |
|          | — | Sewerlines (73 kms)  |
|          | — | Rising Main (12.7 kms)   |
| Haryana: | — | Sewerlines (73 kms) and improvement in efficiencies of existing Sewage Treatment Plants. |

The total approved cost of the project is Rs. 624 crore and share of 3 States is Haryana—Rs. 62.5 crore, UP—Rs. 124 crore and Delhi—Rs. 3.87 crore besides an amount of Rs. 50.5 crore for various components like Capacity Building, Water Quality Management etc.

(f) to (h) The Yamuna Action Plan Phase-I was launched in 1993 for cleaning of river Yamuna in the three States of UP, Haryana and Delhi covering 15 towns with Japanese Bank for International Cooperation's funding. The project has been completed in February 2003. The total expenditure incurred on the project is Rs. 668 crore with the breakup of Haryana—Rs. 218 crore, UP—Rs. 270 crore and Delhi—Rs. 180 crore. A total of 218 schemes of pollution abatement were completed and 34 sewage treatment plants with additional treatment capacity of 741 million litres per day (mld) have been installed under this Plan of which 402 mld is in UP, 309 mld is in Haryana and 30 mld is in Delhi. The details of work done under Yamuna Action Plan Phase-I are given in the Statement enclosed. The Yamuna Action Plan, Phase-II has been formulated keeping in view the experience gained during implementation of Yamuna Action Plan, Phase-I.

**Statement****Works completed under Yamuna Action Plan Phase-I**

Sl.No.	Type of Scheme	Number of Schemes
1.	Interception & Diversion	72
2.	Sewage Treatment Plant	64 (741 mld)
3.	Low Cost Sanitation	30
4.	Crematoria	18
5.	River Front Development	4
6.	Other Schemes (Afforestation, Public Participation etc.)	30
<b>Total</b>		<b>218</b>

**'Rozgar Badhao' Strategy**

824. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:  
SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:

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

(a) whether the Government has formulated a 'Rozgar Badhao' Strategy to generate employment opportunities in the country with a view to tackle the country's unemployment problem;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the role expected of the State Governments and the economic sectors of the country in the 'Rozgar Badhao' strategy of the Government;

(d) the anticipated annual growth rate of employment with the implementation of the 'Rozgar Badhao' Strategy; and

(e) the measures likely to be taken for growth of employment opportunities and the sectors/areas likely to be affected under the 'Rozgar Badhao' strategy?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) to (e) The growth strategy of the Tenth Plan lays emphasis on rapid

growth of those sectors which are most likely to create high quality employment opportunities and deal with the policy constraints which hinder growth of employment. The Approach to the Mid-Term Appraisal of Tenth Plan has reiterated the objective of the Plan that the employment growth should exceed growth of labour force to reduce the backlog of unemployment. In order to achieve the objectives the strategies advocated include:

- Promotion of public investment in rural areas.
- Reforms in the financial sector for higher investment in the Small and Medium Enterprises.
- Unleashing the potential of large-scale employment creation in the Construction sector, especially in urban areas.
- Improvements in infrastructure for expansion in private investment.
- Support to services industry, including software and all IT enabled services, trade, distribution, transport, telecommunication, finance and tourism.
- Greater focus on agro-processing and rural services.

2. Various employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes are also being implemented in the country for the generation of employment.

3. The proposal to enact a Central legislation for the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act which aims to enhance livelihood security to poor households in rural areas by providing atleast 100 days of guaranteed wage employment to every poor household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work is under consideration of Government. Also a National Food for Work Programme has been launched on 14-11-2004 in 153 backward districts with a view to provide an employment assurance of atleast 100 days per family in these areas.

4. It is the primary responsibility of the State Governments to design and implement programmes for employment generation. However, the pace and pattern of employment generation in the country depends on the rate and structure of the overall growth in the economy.

**Research on Utilisation of Unutilised Rain Water****Statement I**

825. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

*State-wise Details of area Identified for Artificial Recharge and Quantity of Surface Water to be recharged as Envisaged in the Master Plan*

(a) whether the Government proposes to promote the research on utilisation of unutilised rain water in order to tackle the problem of water crisis in various parts of the country;

Sl.No.	Name of State	Area identified for Artificial Recharge (sq. km.)	Quantity of Surface Water to be Recharged in MCM
1.	Andhra Pradesh	65333	1095
2.	Bihar & Jharkhand	4082	1120
3.	Chhattisgarh	11705	258
4.	Delhi	693	444
5.	Goa	3701	529
6.	Gujarat	64264	1408
7.	Haryana	16120	685
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	149
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	161
10.	Karnataka	36710	2065
11.	Kerala	4650	1078
12.	Madhya Pradesh	36335	2320
13.	Maharashtra	65267	2318
14.	Orissa	8095	406
15.	Punjab	22750	1200
16.	Rajasthan	39120	861
17.	Sikkim	—	44
18.	Tamil Nadu	17292	3597
19.	Uttar Pradesh & Uttaranchal	45180	14022
20.	West Bengal	7500	2664
21.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	—	3
22.	Chandigarh	33	26
Total		448831	36453

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

(c) whether any technique for utilisation of rain water exists in the country; and

(d) if so, the extent to which it has been useful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) carries out scientific studies and research for ground water management and full utilisation of surplus monsoon runoff. Based on scientific studies undertaken in various parts of the country, CGWB has prepared a report entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water". This report outlines a broad framework about the feasibility of recharge structures in the country. It envisages recharge of 36453 Million Cubic Meter volume of surplus monsoon runoff, through construction of 39.25 lakh artificial recharge and roof top rain water harvesting structures. State-wise details of area identified for artificial recharge and quantity of surface water to be recharged as envisaged in the above report is give in the statement-I enclosed.

(c) Yes, Sir. CGWB has prepared manual and guidelines on artificial recharge dealing with various techniques for utilisation of unutilized rain water. Percolation tanks, check dams, recharge shafts/trenches/pits, sub-surface dykes, nala bunds, contour bunds, gully plugs etc., are prevalent rain water harvesting structures for utilisation of unutilized rain water.

(d) The schemes of rain water harvesting and artificial recharge implemented during the VIII and IX Plans have yielded positive results. The impact assessment of various recharge schemes implemented by CGWB is given in Statement-II enclosed.

**Statement II*****Impact Assessment of Artificial Recharge Projects Implemented by Central Ground Water Board***

Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of schemes for which impact assessment done	Artificial Recharge Structures	Impact assessment
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6	Percolation Tanks	4500–5900 Cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year
		3	Check dams	1000–1250 Cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year
		1	Combination of recharge pits and lateral shafts	370 Cubic meter runoff recharged in one year
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting	7000 cubic meter runoff water harvested in one year
3.	Assam	1	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting	5500 Cubic meter runoff water harvested in one year
4.	Bihar	1	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting	4700 Cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year
5.	Chandigarh	6	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting	1440–13,000 Cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year
		1	Rain Water Harvesting through Roof Top & Pavement catchments	34.50 lakhs cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year
		1	Recharge Trenches	9.50 lakh cubic meter rainwater runoff recharged in one year
6.	Gujarat	3	Rain Water Harvesting through Roof Top & Pavement catchments	11000–45000 runoff water recharged in one year
7.	Haryana	1	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting	2350 Cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year
		1	Combination of Recharge shafts and injection wells	3.50 lakh cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year. Declining rate reduced from 1.175 m/yr to 0.25 m/yr.

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3	Check dams	1.20–21.00 lakhs cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year.
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting	300–1200 Cubic meter runoff water harvested in one year
10.	Jharkhand	1	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting	4500 cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year.
11.	Karnataka	1	Combination of Percolation Tanks, Watershed Structures, Recharge wells, Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting	2–3.5 m. rise in water levels and 9–16 ha area benefited from percolation tanks 8.60 lakh cubic meter water recharged through recharge well. 3-5m rise in ground water levels through watershed structures. 530 cubic meter recharged from Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting.
12.	Kerala	1	Sub-surface Dyke	Augmented 500 Cubic meter of ground water in upstream side with 2m rise in groundwater levels.
		1	Recharge wells	2800 Cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year.
		3	Percolation tanks	2000-1500 Cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year.
		1.	Tidal regulator	4000 Cubic meter runoff water conserved and a difference of 1.5m was observed in upstream and downstream water level.
		1	Check Dam	30,000 Cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year.
13.	Lakshadweep	1	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting	300 Cubic meter rainwater harvested in one year
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4	Sub-surface Dykes	Rise in water level in dugwells in the range of 0.80–3.80m and 6-12 m in hand pumps has been observed.
		1	Percolation Tank	Rise in ground water levels by 1-4 m. in command areas downstream of tanks has been observed.



1	2	3	4	5
		1.	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (1000 houses)	More than 2 lakh cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year.
		1	Combination of sub-surface dykes and check dam	Rise in water levels in existing tubewells in upstream area by 0.30 m to 2.00 m has been observed.
15.	Maharashtra	2	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting System	196-280 cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year
		1	Combination of Percolation Tanks and Check Dams.	Benefited area— About 60 to 120 ha. per Percolation Tank, 3 to 15 hectare per Check Dam Water level rise—Upto 1.5 m.
		1	Percolation tanks, Recharge Shaft, Dugwell Recharge.	Benefited area—400-500 hectare around the scheme.
16.	Meghalaya	1	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting	6800 cubic meter runoff water harvested in one year
17.	Mizoram	1	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting	50,000 cubic meter runoff water harvested in one year
18.	Nagaland	2	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting	3700-12,800 cubic meter runoff water harvested in one year
19.	NCT Delhi	2	Check dams	Water levels have risen upto 2.55 m in the vicinity of Check Dams and area benefited is upto 30 hectare from each check dam in JNU, IIT.  1.30-lakh cubic meter of rainwater was recharged in one year in Kushak Nala.
		7	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting	800-500 cubic meter runoff water harvested in one year
		8	Rain water harvesting through Roof Top & Pavement catchments	8500-20,000 cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year
20.	Orissa	1	Rain water harvesting through Roof Top & Pavement catchments	19,000 cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year

1	2	3	4	5
21.	Punjab	1	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting	500 cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year
		3	Recharge wells	9-15.50 lakhs cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year.
		1	Trenches	Average rise in water level to 0.32-0.70 m has been observed.
		2	Combination of vertical shafts, injection wells & recharge trenches	Recharge of 1.70 lakh cubic meter runoff water caused average rise of 0.25 m. in ground water levels around the scheme area.
		1	Combination of recharge shafts and injections wells	14,400 Cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year.
22.	Rajasthan	1	Check dams	88,000 Cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year. Water level rise-0.65 m.
		12	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting	350-2800 Cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year.
		3	Sub-surface Barriers	2000-11500 Cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year.  Water level rise from 0.25 to 0.60 m.
23.	Tamil Nadu	1	Sub-surface Dyke	39.25 ha. area benefited.
		7	Percolation Tanks	10,000-2,25,000 runoff water recharged in one year.
		1	Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting	3700 cubic meter runoff water recharged in one year
24.	Uttar Pradesh	5	Roof Top Rain Water	350-1100 cubic meter runoff  water recharged in one year
			Harvesting	
25.	West Bengal	1	Combination of Farm Ponds, Nala Bunds, Sub-surface Dykes	Water level rise of 0.15 m. observed.

**Protection and Promotion of Wildlife**

826. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fast Shrinking forests in the country, continue to threaten and endanger the safety of wildlife like the tigers, leopards, lions and other big cats;

(b) if so, the comparative figures of head-counts of different varieties of big cats as per latest four census; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken to protect and promote wildlife?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No such reports have come to the notice of the Govt. of India.

(b) State-wise Estimation on Leopards & Tigers during last four census are given in the enclosed Statement-I and II.

(c) Following steps are taken by the Government to protect and promote wildlife:

- (i) Assessing the impact of any developmental project on wildlife and its habitat.
- (ii) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals including tigers, leopards, lions and other big cats against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (iii) Financial and technical help is being extended to States under Centrally Sponsored Schemes for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure to provide effective protection and improvement of habitat for wild animals.
- (iv) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.
- (v) Ministry of Home Affairs has written to all State Governments to lend a helping hand to field formations for curbing poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

***Statement I******Population of Leopards in the Country as Reported by the States***

Sl.No.	Name of State	1989	1993	1997	2001-02
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Tamil Nadu	119	138	110	41
2.	Maharashtra	580	417	431	513
3.	Kerala	27	16	N.R.	NR
4.	Orissa	279	378	422	457
5.	Karnataka	283	455	N.R.	NR
6.	Rajasthan	461	475	474	481
7.	Madhya Pradesh	2036	1700	1851	1066
8.	Uttar Pradesh	1095	711	1412	207
9.	Andhra Pradesh	301	152	138	505
10.	Himachal Pradesh	199	821	N.R.	NR
11.	Manipur	—	—	N.R.	NR

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Tripura	37	18	N.R.	NR
13.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	10	15	15	NR
14.	Mizoram	38	49	28	NR
15.	Nagaland	72	—	N.R.	42
16.	Arunachal Pradesh	121	98	N.R.	NR
17.	Sikkim	1	—	N.R.	NR
18.	Gujarat	702	772	832	999
19.	Haryana	19	25	N.R.	NR
20.	Goa Daman & Diu	18	31	25	41
21.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	—	N.R.	7
22.	West Bengal	108	108	N.A.	331
23.	Bihar	134	203	N.A.	NR
24.	Assam	123	246	N.A.	248
25.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	1140
26.	Uttaranchal	—	—	—	1961
27.	Jharkhand	—	—	—	164
Total		6767	6628	5738	8203

**Statement II***Population of Tigers in the Country as Reported by the States*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	1989	1993	1997	2001-02**
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Tamil Nadu	95	97	62	60
2.	Maharashtra	417	276	257	238
3.	West Bengal	353	335	381	349
4.	Karnataka	257	305	350	401
5.	Bihar	157	137	103	76
6.	Assam	376	325	458	354
7.	Rajasthan	99	64	58	58

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Madhya Pradesh	985	912	927	710
9.	Uttar Pradesh	735	465	475	284
10.	Andhra Pradesh	235	197	171	192
11.	Mizoram	18	28	12	28
12.	Gujarat	9	5	1	Nil
13.	Goa, Daman & Diu	2	3	6	5
14.	Orissa	243	226	194	173
15.	Kerala	45	57	73	71
16.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	—	227
17.	Jharkhand	—	—	—	34
18.	Uttaranchal	—	—	—	251
<b>Total</b>		<b>4026</b>	<b>3432</b>	<b>3508</b>	<b>3511</b>
19.	Meghalaya	34	53	*	47
20.	Manipur	31	—	*	NR
21.	Tripura	—	—	*	NR
22.	Nagaland	104	83	*	23
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	135	180	*	61***
24.	Sikkim	4	2	*	NR
25.	Haryana	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>		<b>308</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>131</b>

N.R.—Not reported by States.

\*Tiger census was not carried out in North East States in 1997.

\*\*under compilation/vetting

\*\*\*Only for Namdapha Tiger Reserve.

#### Protection of Consumer Rights

827. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to formulate a National Consumer Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken to enhance the effectiveness of working of Central Consumer Protection Council?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Central Government has constituted a Working group on 26.2.2004 under the Chairpersonship of Principal Secretary, Co-operation, Food & Consumer Protection, Government of Tamil Nadu. The Committee

consists of Secretary in charge of Consumer Affairs, to the Govt. of States of Jammu & Kashmir, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and representatives of Voluntary Consumer Organisations. The working group has already started its consultations and it is yet to finalise its recommendations on National Consumer Policy.

(c) After the receipt of recommendations of the working group, any action required in this regard will be taken.

#### Joint Survey by India and Nepal on Flood Control

828. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:  
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:  
SHRI VIJOY KRISHNA:  
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Nepal has agreed to conduct joint survey and find out the remedies to control flood in India;

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

(c) whether both countries have also examined the decisions taken by them on earlier such meetings;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to control damages due to river water from Nepal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India and Nepal have agreed to take up field investigation and preparation of Joint Detailed Project Report for Sapta Kosi High Dam Multipurpose Project and Sun Kosi Storage cum Diversion Scheme (SKSKI) for which the Joint Project Office in Nepal has already been setup. The project *inter alia* will have flood control benefits.

(c) to (e) The various issues relating to cooperation between India and Nepal in the field of Water Resources Development were discussed and reviewed in the 2nd meeting of Joint Committee on Water Resources (JCWR) held in October, 2004 and decided that a short-term strategy identifying the vulnerable areas along various rivers should be jointly worked out on priority to identify

the steps that could be taken by both sides to mitigate the devastation caused by the floods for which a Joint Committee was also setup.

It was also decided that feasibility study of the Kamla and preliminary study on Bagmati Multipurpose Projects would be carried out by the Joint Project Office of SKSKI to ascertain the likely constraints in implementation of these projects so that these could be appropriately addressed. In addition, the JCWR also approved the Flood Forecasting Master Plan which *inter alia* envisages increasing the number of hydrometric stations on the Nepalese side and also strengthening and upgradation of data transmission system in a phased manner for enhanced lead time of forecast in the downstream on the Indian side.

It has also been agreed by India and Nepal to tie the embankments on Lalbakeya, Bagmati, Kamla and Khando to high ground in Nepal with corresponding raising and strengthening of these embankments in Bihar, for which Government of India is providing financial assistance. Financial assistance is also being provided to the State Governments for undertaking critical flood management and anti erosion works.

#### Lifting of Restrictions on Onion

829. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:  
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has lifted all the restrictions on Onion to give the relief to farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether after lifting the restrictions on Onion can be exported by farmers freely;

(d) if so, whether this decision will not affect the domestic requirement; and

(e) the precautions proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the artificial shortage of Onion after implementation of this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a)

and (b) As per the current EXIM Policy, there is no ban on the export of onions. Government has also removed onion from the purview of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 with effect from 25.11.04 thereby lifting restrictions such as licensing, stocking and movement of onion.

(c) With the removal of quantitative restrictions, onions can be exported after obtaining No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Government designated State Trading Enterprises (STEs).

(d) and (e) Availability and prices of onion are monitored regularly by the Inter-Ministerial Review Committee and the High Powered Price Monitoring Board. Remedial policy measures are initiated, if necessary.

#### **World Bank Aided Capacity Building Environmental Management Programme**

830. SHRI NAVJOT SINGH SIDHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Rs. 150 crore World Bank aided capacity building programme for environmental management has been adequately implemented;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The World Bank aided Environmental Management Capacity Building Technical Assistance Project (International Development Association Credit No. 2930-IN) has been implemented at US \$ 29.62 million (Rs. 140.62 crores). The project was started in September, 1997 and its implementation has already been completed and the project has closed on 30.6.2004. The overall performance of the project has been rated satisfactory.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Shifting of Industries**

831. SHRI MUNAWAR HASSAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the name and number of such industries of Delhi and Uttar Pradesh which have been ordered to shift from

the urban areas due to environment during the last three years and thereafter, city-wise;

(b) whether such industries have been allotted alternative sites;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Varn Organics situated at Gajraula in Uttar Pradesh has also been ordered to shift elsewhere;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

#### **Pension Scheme of PSUs**

832. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of the different Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) are preferring pension scheme after retirement and the Union Government have changed the ratio of deductions from EPF and CPF thereby making pension scheme applicable in several PSUs;

(b) if so, whether there are some complaints that the pay of the employees of some PSUs have decreased due to this plan and the pension, which they would get is not proportionate to the decreased pay;

(c) if so, whether the employees of private sector cement factories are feeling beguiled after the commencement of this scheme as the pension is very less; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by when this anomaly will be removed?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) The Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 framed under Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1952, applies to all establishments including Public Sector Undertakings to whom the Act is applicable. There is no change in the rate of contribution under the EPF & MP Act, 1952.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

#### Impact of Increased Pollution on Development

833. SHRI CHANDRABHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of States in the country where the dust particles are creating havoc by way of loss of life, property and crops worth crores of rupees;

(b) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Union Government to check further degradation of environment due to sharp increase in the dust particles for the last many years which has affected the fertility of land thereby making it barren;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken/ to be taken to combat the situation; and

(d) the preventive measures taken to check the pollution created by the cement factories in Narsinghgarh of Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Based on the ambient air quality data under the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme (1995-2003), Central Pollution Control Board, in coordination with the State Pollution Control Boards, has identified 65 cities in the country having higher levels of air pollution than the stipulated norms. A State-wise list is enclosed as statement.

(b) and (c) To check the levels of dust pollution, the following steps have been taken:

(i) Central Pollution Control Board has circulated format/guidelines to all the State Pollution Control Boards/Committees for formulation of Action Plans as per the guidelines, which include:

- Identification of sources of air pollution.
- Assessment of pollution load.
- Preparation of city-wise Action Plan for control of pollution from the identified sources.
- Set up inter-agency task force for the implementation of the Action Plan.

(ii) Pursuant to the Hon'ble Supreme Court's orders, Environment (Pollution and Prevention Control) Authority has submitted Action Plans along with its comments to Hon'ble Supreme Court in respect of seven cities.

(iii) A Workshop has been organized for monitoring the inventory of air pollution to facilitate State Pollution Control Boards for the preparation of Action Plans.

(d) As per the information provided by Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board, in the Narsinghgarh area, there is one cement plant namely, M/s. Diamond Cement Plant. The industry has installed air pollution control devices at all the places where the dust is expected to be generated.

#### Statement

*List of non-attainment cities in India  
(Based on Ambient Air Quality Data 1995-2003)*

Sl.No	States/Union Territory	City	Major Sources of Pollution	Pollutants of Concern
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad Visakhapatnam	Vehicles Vehicles Industries	RSPM, SPM NO <sub>2</sub> , RSPM, SPM
2.	Assam	Guwahati	Vehicles, Industries	RSPM, SPM



1	2	3	4	5
3.	Bihar	Patna	Vehicles, Natural Dust	RSPM, SPM
4.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh	Vehicles, Industries	RSPM, SPM
5.	Chhattisgarh	Bhilai Korba Raipur	Industries Industries Vehicles	RSPM, SPM RSPM, SPM RSPM, SPM
6.	Delhi	Delhi	Vehicles	NO <sub>2</sub> , RSPM, SPM
7.	Goa	Panaji	Vehicles, Industries	SPM
	Gujarat	Ahmedabad Ankleshwar Jamnagar Rajkot Surat Vadodara Vapi	Vehicles, Industries Industries Industries Vehicles Vehicles, Natural Dust Industries, Vehicles Industries, Vehicles Industries	SO <sub>2</sub> , RSPM, SPM SO <sub>2</sub> , RSPM, SPM RSPM, SPM SO <sub>2</sub> , RSPM, SPM SO <sub>2</sub> , RSPM, SPM SO <sub>2</sub> , RSPM, SPM RSPM, SPM
9.	Haryana	Faridabad Yamuna Nagar	Vehicles, Industries Vehicles, Industries	SPM SPM
10.	Himachal Pradesh	Damtal Paonta Sahib Parwanoo Shimla	Natural Dust Natural Dust Industries, Natural Dust Natural Dust	SPM SPM RSPM, SPM SPM
11.	Jharkhand	Dhanbad Jamshedpur Jharia	Industries Industries Industries Natural Dust	SO <sub>2</sub> , NO <sub>2</sub> , SPM NO <sub>2</sub> , SPM SPM
12.	<del>Karnataka</del>	Bangalore	Vehicles	RSPM, SPM

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Kerala	Kottayam Kochi  Thiruvananthapuram	Vehicles Vehicles, Industries Vehicles,	RSPM RSPM, SPM  RSPM
14.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal Indore Jabalpur Nagda Satna	Vehicles, Vehicles Vehicles Industries Industries	RSPM, SPM RSPM, SPM NO <sub>2</sub> , RSPM, SPM SO <sub>2</sub> , RSPM, SPM RSPM, SPM
15.	Maharashtra	Chandrapur Mumbai  Pune Nagpur Nashik Solapur	Industries Vehicles, Industries Vehicles Vehicles Vehicles Vehicles, Natural Dust	RSPM, SPM RSPM, SPM  NO <sub>2</sub> , RSPM, SPM RSPM, SPM RSPM, SPM RSPM, SPM
16.	Meghalaya	Shillong	Vehicles	RSPM
17.	Orissa	Angul  Rayagada Rourkela	Vehicles, Industries, Natural Dust Industries Industries	RSPM, SPM  RSPM RSPM, SPM
18.	Punjab	Gobindgarh Ludhiana  Jalandhar	Industries Vehicles, Industries Vehicles, Industries	RSPM, SPM RSPM, SPM  RSPM, SPM
19.	Rajasthan	Alwar  Jaipur Jodhpur Kota  Udaipur	Vehicles, Natural Dust Vehicles Natural Dust Vehicles, Industries Vehicles Natural Dust	NO <sub>2</sub> , RSPM, SPM  RSPM, SPM RSPM, SPM NO <sub>2</sub> , RSPM, SPM  NO <sub>2</sub> , RSPM, SPM
20.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai  Madurai	Vehicles, Industries Vehicles	RSPM, SPM  RSPM, SPM

1	2	3	4	5
21.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra	Vehicles, Industries	RSPM, SPM
		Anpara	Industries	RSPM
		Kanpur	Vehicles, Industries	RSPM, SPM
		Lucknow	Vehicles	RSPM, SPM
		Gajraula	Industries	RSPM, SPM
		Noida	Vehicles, Natural Dust, Industries	RSPM, SPM
		Varanasi	Vehicles, Natural Dust	RSPM, SPM
22.	Uttaranchal	Dehradun	Vehicles, Natural Dust	RSPM, SPM
23.	West Bengal	Kolkata	Vehicles, Industries	RSPM, SPM NO <sub>2</sub>
		Howran	Vehicles, Industries	SO <sub>2</sub> , NO <sub>2</sub> , RSPM, SPM

#### Setting up of Inter-Ministerial Group in Tourism Sector

834. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up inter-ministerial group of civil aviation and tourism to facilitate better co-ordination;

(b) if so, whether the inter-ministerial group has given suggestions to the Government; and

(c) if so, by when these are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) Government has set up a mechanism for Inter-Ministerial consultations for this purpose.

[English]

#### Integrated Dairy Development Project

835. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any evaluation study on the functioning or integrated Dairy Development Project (IDDP);

(b) if so, the findings thereof and the names of the States where said study has been completed; and

(c) the action taken by the Government for the success of IDDP in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The Ministry had entrusted the evaluation and impact studies of IDDP projects to two different organisations The Institute of Human Development, Delhi, was entrusted with the study in the States of Bihar, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. The study has recommended continuation and further expansion of the project activities under the scheme. It has also suggested that the State Milk Federations may implement the project and funds may be released directly to the implementing agencies instead of State Governments.

Another study was entrusted to Project Evaluation Organization (PEO) of the Planning Commission for the States of Orissa, Maharashtra and Nagaland. Some of the major recommendations are that the scheme be implemented through State Dairy Federations instead of State Governments, a survey of the project areas may be taken up for a more realistic and effective planning, inter agency co-ordination needs to be improved etc. Based on the recommendations of these studies, the process of revision of the IDDP scheme has been initiated.

*[Translation]*

#### **Conservation of Himalayan Forest Resources**

836. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes for conservation of Himalayan Forest resources;

(b) the action being taken by the Government to check the problems of soil erosion of forest land, decreasing of forest cover, land sliding etc., in the Himalayan region; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to make people of Himalayan region aware in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests is implementing three major schemes, namely National Natural Resource Management Scheme (NNRMS), support to G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development (GBPIHED), and Integrated Eco-development Research Programme (IERP). The National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme of the Ministry also provides financial support to Forest Development Agencies (FDAs) in the country for participatory development of forest resources under the framework of Joint Forest Management (JFM). As on 15.11.2004, 185 FDA projects have been operationalised in 11 Himalayan States under the NAP Scheme to treat an area of 2.60 lakh hectares at a total cost of Rs. 404.47 crores.

(b) Research on aspects of soil erosion of forest land, decreasing of forest cover, and landslides are amongst the Research and Development (R&D) priorities of GBPIHED). Similarly, landslide risk assessment in Darjeeling Himalayas, Environmental Hazard Zonation in

Alaknanda Valley in Garhwal Himalayas, Analysis of Forest cover and Land Use Dynamics in the Upper Catchment of Manipur river using remote sensing and GIS are being undertaken under the National Natural Resource Management Scheme (NNRMS). Under the National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme, expenditure up to 15% of the plantation component of the FDA projects is permitted for soil and moisture conservation.

(c) The G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development undertakes knowledge dissemination of the relevant Research & Development activities by organizing on-site training programmes, conferences, workshops, meetings, awareness camps, etc.

*[English]*

#### **Selection of Cricket Team**

837. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any problem in selection of Cricket Team during the Australia Tour;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to intervene on selection procedures; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the criteria laid down in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) to (d) The selection of cricket team is within the purview of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and the Government does not intervene in the selection process.

#### **Artificial Recharge of Ground Water**

838. SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any plan to fill the ground water artificially; and

(b) if so, the funds earmarked/released by the Government to the State Government during the Tenth Five Year Plan for implementation of Artificial Ground Water Development Schemes, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government to formulate plans for augmenting water resources. The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources, has also proposed a Centrally Sponsored Scheme at an estimated cost of Rs. 175 crores for Artificial Recharge to Groundwater and Rainwater Harvesting during the remaining part of the X Five Year Plan. The State-wise allocation of funds proposed under the scheme are enclosed as Statement.

**Statement**

*State-wise Allocation of Funds Proposed Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Artificial Recharge to Groundwater and Rainwater Harvesting*

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Funds allocated (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13.50
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.00
3.	Assam	2.00
4.	Bihar	3.80
5.	Jharkhand	3.70
6.	Chhattisgarh	5.00
7.	Delhi	3.00
8.	Goa	1.50
9.	Gujarat	13.50
10.	Haryana	3.50
11.	Himachal Pradesh	3.50
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	3.50
13.	Karnataka	13.50
14.	Kerala	3.50
15.	Madhya Pradesh	11.00
16.	Maharashtra	11.00

1	2	3
17.	Manipur	1.50
18.	Meghalaya	1.00
19.	Mizoram	1.00
20.	Nagaland	1.00
21.	Orissa	8.00
22.	Punjab	5.00
23.	Rajasthan	13.50
24.	Sikkim	1.50
25.	Tamil Nadu	13.50
26.	Tripura	1.50
27.	Uttar Pradesh	10.15
28.	Uttaranchal	4.85
29.	West Bengal	9.00
30.	Andaman & Nicobar	1.00
31.	Chandigarh	1.00
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1.00
33.	Daman & Diu	1.00
34.	Lakshadweep	1.00
35.	Pondicherry	1.00
Total		175.00

**Tapping of Tourism Potential of Tribal Areas**

839. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether tourism potential of tribal areas in Orissa, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh have not been fully tapped;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to develop the infrastructure in these areas to give a boost to tourism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (c) Development of tourist places is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Ministry

of Tourism, Government of India, has formulated schemes for Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development and Assistance for Large Revenue Generating projects for development of tourism infrastructure in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

Tourism projects are sanctioned for States/UTs in consultation with them on an annual basis. State-wise details of projects sanctioned during the first two years of the 10th Plan are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

*State-wise Tourism Projects Sanctioned during 2002-03 and 2003-04 to Orissa, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh*

Sl.No.	Name of the project	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in Lakhs)	Amount Released (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3	4
<i>(A) Projects sanctioned to the State of Orissa</i>			
2002-03			
1.	Rural tourism project at Raghurajpur	50.00	40.00
2.	Computerization of office and IT groups	7.50	3.75
2003-04			
1.	Development of Puri as a Tourist Destination	394.55	118.00
2.	Rajarani Music Festival	5.00	4.00
3.	Folk Dance Festival	5.00	4.00
4.	Boudh Mahotsava	10.00	8.00
5.	Konark Festival	5.00	4.50
<i>(B) Project sanctioned to the State of Jharkhand</i>			
2003-04			
1.	Development of Jharkhand Circuit	716.00	381.60
2.	Integrated Development of Madhubani and Parasanath in Giridih. (ITDC) (Dest. Dev.)	393.00	393.00
<i>(C) Projects sanctioned to the State of Chhattisgarh</i>			
2002-03			
1.	Destination Development of Jagdalpur (Baster)	277.50	83.00
2.	Procurement of IT Equipments	30.00	15.00
3.	Painting competition during world tourism day	0.50	0.50

1	2	3	4
2003-04			
1.	Rural Tourism at Nagarinar	48.00	38.40
2.	Development of Chitrakote Village Rural Tourism	50.00	40.00
3.	Development of Rural Tourism at Champaran	50.00	15.00
4.	Integrated development of tourism circuit covering Kawardha-Raipur-Bamawapara-Rajim-Gangrel-Kanker-Keshal-Kondagaon-Nagarinar	800.00	250.00
5.	Rajim and Boramdeo festival	7.00	5.60

**Kerala Forest (Vesting and Management of Ecologically Fragile Lands) Bill, 2001**

840. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has given its consent to Kerala Forest (Vesting and Management of Ecologically Fragile Lands) Bill, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Kerala Forest (Vesting and Management of Ecologically Fragile Lands) Bill, 2001 provides for vesting of ecologically fragile lands in the state of Kerala for the management of such lands with a view to maintaining ecological balance and conserving the biodiversity.

(c) Does not arise.

**Development of Lord Karthik Temple at Palani in Tamil Nadu**

841. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the famous temple of Lord Karthik at Palani in Tamil Nadu is frequented by many devotees every day;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to release any funds to the State Government for improving the infrastructure of the temple; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Destinations and Integrated Tourism Circuits are processed for implementation based on specific proposals received from State Governments. No such proposal has been received from the State Government of Tamil Nadu.

*[Translation]*

**Quota of Kerosene**

842. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise details of quota of Kerosene oil allotted to Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Government to increase the State quota of Kerosene oil; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The allocation of Kerosene to Uttar Pradesh under PDS during the year 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 was 12,88,674 MTs, 12,61,121 MTs and 12,32,633 MTs respectively.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. In 2002, Government took a policy decision on reduction of allocation of SKO to the States/UTs based on LPG connections released in each of the State/UT. Accordingly, Government has been reducing the Kerosene allocation to various States/UTs including Uttar Pradesh taking into account the number of LPG connections released in each of the State/UT. Therefore, the request of State Government of Uttar Pradesh was not agreed to. However, additional allocation of 3,891 MTs & 5,837 MTs of Kerosene have been released to the State of Uttar Pradesh to meet the situation arising out of Flood & drought respectively during the current fiscal year.

*[English]*

### New Irrigation Projects

843. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to execute new irrigation projects in the State during the Tenth Plan;

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

(c) the estimated cost involved and irrigation potential of each such project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Irrigation being a State subject the irrigation projects are planned, formulated, executed and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their priorities.

During Tenth Five Year Plan, 211 new major/medium irrigation projects have been programmed for execution by the State Governments. The State-wise details of these projects as per the information provided by the State Governments are given in the statement enclosed.

### *Statement*

Sl.No.	Name of States	No. of Projects		
		Major	Medium	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19	24	43
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	4	2	6
5.	Jharkhand	0	3	3
6.	Goa	0	2	2
7.	Gujarat	3	27	30
8.	Haryana	5	3	8
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	6	6



1	2	3	4	5
11.	Karnataka	3	10	13
12.	Kerala	0	0	0
13.	Madhya Pradesh	3	2	5
14.	Chhattisgarh	4	0	4
15.	Maharashtra	6	21	27
16.	Manipur	1	2	3
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	1	1
20.	Orissa	11	5	16
21.	Punjab	1	0	1
22.	Rajasthan	4	15	19
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0
25.	Tripura	0	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	6	0	6
27.	Uttaranchal	—	—	0
28.	West Bengal	6	12	18
Total		76	135	211

Sl.No.	Name of Project	Latest Budgeted Cost (Rs. Crore)	Potential (Th.Ha)
1	2	3	4
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>			
1.	Inchampaly	4000.00	63.58
2.	Gundalakamma	1950.00	30.55
3.	Bhima Lift	1040.00	82.15
4.	Polavaram Barrage (Multipurpose)	10111.00	291.11
5.	Handri Neeva Sujala	7400.00	242.62

1	2	3	4
6.	Veligonda	1664.00	177.33
7.	Tarakarama Knstnavel LIS	68.28	22.66
8.	Sh. Guru Raghavendra Div Sch	163.60	20.25
9.	Polavaram U Scheme	280.00	414.76
10.	Dummupuram MPP	1226.00	36.67
11.	Hizam Sagar LI Scheme	229.96	25.91
12.	Godavari U Scheme	1800.00	200.00
13.	Yalampalli Barrage	980.00	110.00
14.	Pranahita LI Scheme	180.00	20.24
15.	Nettampadu LI Scheme	134.31	10.93
16.	S.S.L.C. Scheme	243.00	34.00
17.	Thotapally	460.00	74.49
18.	Lower Penganga	138.00	16.19
19.	Kallakurty LI Scheme	380.00	10.93
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>24532.15</b>	<b>1864.77</b>
<b>Bihar</b>			
20.	Upper Mahananda	NA	NA
21.	Upper Sakari	NA	NA
22.	Western Kankai	NA	NA
23.	Pun Pun Barrage	102.260	13.920
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>102.260</b>	<b>13.920</b>
<b>Gujarat</b>			
24.	Bhatpur	114.840	21.22
25.	Orsang	20.36	16.070
26.	Kalpat	53916.000	0.00
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>54051.200</b>	<b>36.290</b>
<b>Haryana</b>			
27.	Mewat Lift Irr. Project	207.540	44.0
28.	Gharanda Irr. Project	15.00	12.0

1	2	3	4
29.	Ladwa Lift Project	40.00	13.00
30.	Nalvi Irr. Project	200.00	47.0
31.	Kandi Area Irr. Project	50.00	NA
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>512.54</b>	<b>116.00</b>
	<b>Karnataka</b>		
32.	Bhima Flow	185.18	42.17
33.	Ramthal Lift	114.05	22.26
34.	Swarna	—	—
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>299.230</b>	<b>64.430</b>
	<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>		
35.	Halon	193.01	N.A.
36.	Lower Goi	164.45	13.76
37.	Upper Narmada	340.65	18.61
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>698.11</b>	<b>32.37</b>
	<b>Chhattisgarh</b>		
38.	Arpa	265.71	N.A.
39.	Mongra	77.27	N.A.
40.	Kelo	92.43	N.A.
41.	Pairi	—	—
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>435.410</b>	<b>0.000</b>
	<b>Maharashtra</b>		
42.	Erkuk LIS	171.170	30.100
43.	Jihe Kathapur LIS	483.900	23.900
44.	Jigaon	929.700	91.800
45.	Bhagapur LIS	557.020	18.140
46.	Upper Tapi St. II	907.090	59.910
47.	Bodwad LIS	689.140	27.030
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>3738.020</b>	<b>250.880</b>

1	2	3	4
	<b>Manipur</b>		
48.	Chakpi Multipurpose Project	160.00	12.00
	Sub Total	160.00	12.00
	<b>Orissa</b>		
49.	Burtang	277.25	31.00
50.	Ong Dam	304.66	34.50
51.	Raul Uttal	300.000	45.00
52.	IB Project	966.030	115.00
53.	Jokadia Barriage	218.40	17.50
54.	Creek Irrigation	20.00	9.87
55.	Katra	69.00	7.20
56.	Mahendra Tanaya	68.96	7.04
57.	Turiguntal	56.960	7.77
58.	Deokunda	30.750	3.96
59.	Telengiri	104.070	13.83
	Sub Total	2416.080	292.670
	<b>Punjab</b>		
60.	Sri Dasmesh Irr. Project	64.700	130.000
	Sub Total	64.700	130.000
	<b>Rajasthan</b>		
61.	Indira Lift	1476.00	74.070
62.	Mohanarthana	365.00	37.970
63.	Mahi HLC	450.00	N.A.
64.	Yamuna Link Canal	756.00	—
	Sub Total	3047.00	112.04
	<b>U.P./Uttaranchal</b>		
65.	Kachnaudha Dam	70.45	13.65
66.	Bharot Uttari Dam	52.10	12.800
67.	Madhya Ganga Canal Ph-II	1645.31	150.34
68.	Badaum Irr. Scheme	270.00	36.45

1	2	3	4
69.	Hatnikund Link Channel Ph. II	159.00	112.00
70.	Sarda Sahayak Ph. II	75.00	N.A.
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>2271.860</b>	<b>325.140</b>
	<b>West Bengal</b>		
71.	Dhakeswar & Gandsowari	120.00	45.000
72.	Upper Kangaebati	43.80	59.00
73.	Dalong	35.00	22.000
74.	Ajay Reservoir	70.00	20.000
75.	Siddeshwari Norribhul Reservoir	50.00	55.000
76.	Teesta Barrage II Stage	111.60	314.000
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>430.40</b>	<b>456.00</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>92758.96</b>	<b>3726.51</b>

NA: Not available.

*New Medium Irrigation Project of Tenth Plan*

Sl.No.	Name of Project	Latest Estimated Cost (Rs. Crore)	Potential (Th.Ha)
1	2	3	4
	<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>		
1.	Veligalu	NA	NA
2.	Lendi (S)	NA	NA
3.	Modkumbaga	NA	NA
4.	Yeravagu	11.13	NA
5.	Peddagants	0.00	NA
6.	Kovaoatgua	9.76	NA
7.	Bhupathpaten	0.00	NA
8.	Bahuda Barrage	0.00	NA
9.	Mutsupanil	0.00	NA
10.	Mullyedu Vagu Project	0.00	NA
11.	Golavagu	0.04	NA

1	2	3	4
12.	Peddavagu (Bakrapudem)	0.00	NA
13.	Peddavagu (Dasnapur)	—	2.43
14.	Rativagu (Mukakala)	—	3.85
15.	Mathad Vagu Project	—	3.44
16.	Peddavagu (Nilwara)	—	5.26
17.	Peddavagu Diversion (Sch. Uapmatpoor)	—	4.86 —
18.	Tarakarantai Thirth Sagaram	—	12.21
19.	Pedda Vagu (ada)	—	12.34
20.	Swammuthi Barrage	—	2.33
21.	Sangantaandha LI Scheme	—	6.42
22.	Zemkgravagu	—	5.66
23.	Suddavagu	—	8.26
24.	Suram	—	8.26
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>20.93</b>	<b>69.56</b>
<b>Biher</b>			
25.	Awarane Scheme	NA	NA
26.	Wandale	NA	NA
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Jharkhand</b>			
27.	Kanhor	1350.00	57.67
28.	Garhi	143.94	NA
29.	Tahli	200.00	17.00
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>1693.94</b>	<b>74.67</b>
<b>Goa</b>			
30.	Zural River Basin Project	NA	NA
31.	Mandavi River Basin Project	NA	NA
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

1	2	3	4
	<b>Gujarat</b>		
32.	Chinchpad	15.04	2.80
33.	Khatamba	27.00	2.98
34.	Mahuppada	50.21	3.64
35.	Manmodi	42.21	2.35
36.	Naj Pavti	15.80	4.00
37.	Amba	67.97	6.35
38.	Palundra	6.24	4.00
39.	Hanmatm	28.98	2.24
40.	Umargum	4.50	NA
41.	Wadhavan	50.00	NA
42.	Rana Khir	50.00	NA
43.	Gorthia M	25.00	NA
44.	Ani	8.12	3.52
45.	Machhu-II	33.50	1.38
46.	Santali	47.60	9.00
47.	Valan	30.00	7.40
48.	Chaukya	40.50	2.97
49.	Jaloda	19.55	4.01
50.	Ugta	37.16	4.96
51.	Nani-Barsan	49.67	5.41
52.	Galkund	45.22	1.37
53.	Wardha	135.39	9.15
54.	Baripada	50.64	2.17
55.	Singoda-II	26.30	3.50
56.	Umercha	22.42	6.45
57.	Uadyam	22.09	5.46
58.	Wadhavan Bhogavo-II	23.00	3.29
	<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>638.72</b>	<b>98.36</b>

1	2	3	4
<b>Haryana</b>			
59.	Jattipur Minor & passing Subminor	5.00	5.00
60.	Nardik disty	5.00	NA
61.	Feeder channels of Agra canal system	10.00	NA
Sub Total		20.00	5.00
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>			
62.	Kandi canal Bhader wah	24.87	3.20
63.	Ambaran	89.00	8.73
64.	Larkhul Sophian	37.85	10.12
65.	Lar canal Ganderbhal	6.08	2.02
66.	Dab canal Ganderbhal	5.41	2.08
67.	Sonmun Khul Kulgam	4.58	4.00
Sub Total		167.79	30.13
<b>Karnataka</b>			
68.	Kogna	51.91	NA
69.	Manjra Lift	27.51	NA
70.	Gurupur	NA	NA
71.	Kalinadi	NA	NA
72.	Kaliur	NA	NA
73.	Mully	NA	NA
74.	Harihohle	NA	NA
75.	Payasivini	NA	NA
76.	Shallmala	NA	NA
77.	Sharavathy	NA	NA
Sub Total		79.42	0.00
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>			
78.	Uppe Beda	87.86	13.37
79.	Kakraki Mau	13.93	2.27
Sub Total		101.79	15.64



1	2	3	4
<b>Maharashtra</b>			
80.	Anala LIS	28.00	2.50
81.	Hiranyakeshi (ambehol)	50.85	6.34
82.	Hiranyakeshi (surfnella)	46.56	3.39
83.	Londhanala	13.06	0.67
84.	Kalmodi	119.17	5.07
85.	Mulshi	11.63	6.50
86.	Sangola LIS	0.00	6.53
87.	Shirala LIS	35.00	2.85
88.	Sina Mehekari LIS	43.00	4.05
89.	Gomai	7.30	4.48
90.	Kurha Wadhoda LIS	207.06	9.73
91.	Nashirabad LIS	141.16	7.09
92.	Padmalaya-II LIS	95.45	9.00
93.	Prakasha Burai LIS	205.88	7.09
94.	Sulwade Jamphal LIS	905.84	33.37
95.	Warkhede Londhe	161.86	8.86
96.	Babhali Barrage	92.60	8.00
97.	Lohara LIS	40.77	2.22
98.	Upper Kundalika	28.29	3.50
99.	Arjuna	257.38	7.11
100.	Korte Satandi	134.41	3.41
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>2625.29</b>	<b>141.76</b>
<b>Manipur</b>			
101.	Iril Multipurpose Project	110.00	6.45
102.	Sekmal River Project at Kangoi Hiramphan	100.00	3.50
<b>Sub Total</b>		<b>210.00</b>	<b>9.95</b>

1	2	3	4
	<b>Nagaland</b>		
103.	Dzuza	136.00	11.50
	Sub Total	136.00	11.50
	<b>Orissa</b>		
104.	Cheligade	NA	3.12
105.	Dhaura Gothe	84.60	2.00
106.	Darak Irrigation	42.50	3.55
107.	Badajhore Irrigation	23.61	2.26
108.	Ret Irrigation	86.14	8.50
	Sub Total	236.85	194.43
	<b>Rajasthan</b>		
109.	Piplad	75.00	3.75
110.	Chakan	40.00	2.88
111.	Olawara (lift)	65.00	4.58
112.	Kareli	60.00	3.62
113.	Karai	95.00	4.80
114.	Hindlot	60.00	2.92
115.	Lahaai	60.00	4.32
116.	Taki	64.00	5.17
117.	Gangrin	185.00	NA
118.	Gulendi	45.00	2.47
119.	Hathiadeh	96.00	NA
120.	Andheri	87.00	NA
121.	Bandisendra	31.87	4.09
122.	Gararda	39.51	7.35
123.	Suldi	25.23	3.89
	Sub Total	1028.61	49.84
	<b>West Bengal</b>		
124.	Karu	57.60	2.10
125.	Dambera	78.87	3.60

1	2	3	4
126.	Horai	10.08	2.10
127.	Sobha	54.77	2.50
128.	Saphai	48.20	2.20
129.	Raj Bundh	52.58	2.10
130.	Attla	46.01	2.10
131.	Patharikuri	52.58	2.40
132.	Kuskami	18.00	6.00
133.	Pagla	12.00	5.00
134.	Baneloi	15.00	9.00
135.	Construction of Submerged Weirs in Kharles and Nallahs	3.60	2.40
Sub Total		449.29	41.50
Grand Total		7608.63	567.34

NA: Not Available

#### **Recycling of Hazardous Toxic Waste**

844. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is importing hazardous toxic waste causing serious health problem to a large number of people in the country;

(b) if so, whether recycling of this waste is a biggest threat to global environment and process of recycling also generates lot of toxic materials which pollute environment and place workers at risk;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether according to Green Peace India, the export and import of toxic waste to Third World countries, is an unacceptable transfer of responsibilities to those least able to afford it; and

(e) if so, the facts thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) The import of hazardous wastes is strictly regulated by the Government through the

Hazardous Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989 (HW Rules) as amended from time to time. Under the provisions of the HW Rules, import of hazardous wastes for dumping or disposal is prohibited. 29 categories of highly hazardous wastes are totally prohibited for import and export purpose. Some identified hazardous wastes specified under List A and List B of Schedule 3 of the HW Rules, can be imported for recycling/reuse purpose under strictly regulated conditions. Used oil and 22 categories of non ferrous metal wastes, specified under schedule 4 of the HW Rules, can be imported by actual users registered with the Central Pollution Control Board as having environmentally sound management facilities for reprocessing such wastes.

The Basel Convention on the Control of Trans-boundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, ratified by 162 countries including India, provides that export of hazardous waste takes place only with the consent of the importing country and that too for recycling/reprocessing purpose. Major provisions of the Basel Convention have been incorporated in the HW Rules.

#### **Development of Chitradurga Fort in Karnataka**

845. SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has sent any proposal and project report for the development of Chitradurga Fort Area under Destination Development Scheme at an estimated cost of Rs. 20 crore; and

(b) if so, by when this proposal is likely to be cleared and the funds provided to the State Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

Subsequently a revised proposal has been received for an amount of Rs. 5.00 crore. Central financial Assistance for tourism related projects are sanctioned subject to completion of all formalities as per guidelines and availability of funds.

#### Illegal Recruitment

846. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a chain of middlemen including recruiting agents in India and foreign security contractors have recruited some Indians with promise of jobs in Gulf countries;

(b) if so, whether the Indian workers had to pass through five different levels of sub-contractors and employment agents before being employed;

(c) if so, whether the Government has conducted any inquiry against such middlemen and the agents located in the country including Mumbai who sent Indians to Iraq;

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the steps the Government has taken or intends to take to protect all those Indians who are working in Iraq and the arrangements being made by the Indian Government to bring them back?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. Reports were received that some unscrupulous recruiting agents, registered and unregistered had recruited some Indians with promise of jobs in Gulf countries.

(b) There are no such reports.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. On this basis of inquiry, Show-Cause Notices were issued and the Registration Certificate of the concerned Recruiting Agent was suspended. Complaints were also filed with the Police against unregistered recruiting agents.

(e) In consideration of the security conditions prevailing in Iraq, the Government has suspended emigration clearance/suspension to Indian nationals applying for going to Iraq w.e.f. 15.04.2004. All Indian nationals have been advised to defer their travel to Iraq. In case of those who are already in Iraq, Embassy of India promptly takes action whenever any Indian national approaches the Embassy for any kind of help, including their repatriation to India.

*[Translation]*

#### Killing of People by Rogue Elephant

847. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to provisions of the Indian Forest Act, rogue elephant in Jharkhand is not being put to sleep which has killed several people;

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

(c) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Jharkhand; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Under Section 11 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the Chief Wildlife Warden of a State is competent to permit the hunting or capturing of any elephant posing threat to human life.

(c) and (d) No Sir.

*[English]*

#### Hike in PDS Prices

848. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:  
SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:  
SHRI M. APPADURAI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of foodgrains sold under Public Distribution System have been hiked;

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

(c) the steps taken to protect the consumers and ensure the availability of foodgrains at reasonable rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### Availability of Edible Oil

849. SHRI MOHAN SINGH:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:  
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the annual requirement of edible oils in the country;

(b) whether the domestic production of edible oils is sufficient for meeting the requirement;

(c) if not, the names of the countries from where edible oil is being imported alongwith the quantity thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to introduce any programme on the lines of white revolution to improve availability of edible oil;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the other steps being taken to ensure adequate supply of edible oil in the domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The annual requirement of edible oils for the year 2003-2004 is estimated at 124.04 lakh MT.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Edible Oils are mainly imported from Malaysia, Indonesia, Brazil, Argentina and U.S.A. As the quantum of import from a country depends upon commercial judgement of the importer, it varies from time to time.

(d) and (e) In order to increase the production and productivity of oilseeds/edible oil in the country and to make the country self-reliant in the production of oilseeds/edible oils, Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) in 14 Major oilseeds growing States.

(f) In order to ensure adequate supply of edible oil in the domestic market, the Government has permitted import of edible oils under OGL except coconut oil.

*[English]*

#### Insurance Policies of AP Farmers lapsed due to Drought

850. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that more than five lakhs insurance policies of Andhra Pradesh (AP) farmers lapsed as they were unable to pay premium on account of drought during the last three years (April, 2001 to March, 2004);

(b) if so, the approximate loss incurred by the policy holders during the said period; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to help the affected farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) As per available information, 421124 insurance policies for the sum insured amounting to Rs. 2810.78 crores in Rural Andhra Pradesh have been lapsed during the period 2001 to 2004 due to discontinuance of payment of premium in the initial period of three years.

(c) In order to safeguard the interests of the policy holders, following steps are taken to prevent the lapsation of policies:

- Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) sends regular premium notices to policy holders before the due date.
- In case premium remains unpaid, default notice is sent after 3 months.
- Continuous revival quotations are periodically sent, if the premium still remains unpaid.
- Special Revival Campaign is generally carried out once in a year where concessions in interest on premium is offered, subject to certain conditions. Apart from sending intimation individually to the policy holders, wide publicity is given to such campaigns.
- List of lapsed policies is also supplied to the concerned agents and Development Officers to follow up the policy holders.
- A specially designed policy namely, New Jana Raksha has been designed for the rural population where full cover is available for a period of three years from the first unpaid premiums due date provided premiums have been paid under the policy for atleast two year.

#### Construction of Jetty

851. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has sent any proposal for construction of "Jetty" for fishing purposes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) No Sir. No specific proposal for construction of only Jetty for fishing purposes has been received from the Government of Gujarat.

However, the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India has during the current financial year 2004-05, accorded approval to the proposals of Government of Gujarat for construction of two new fishing harbours, one at Dholai in Navasari District and other at Okha in Jamnagar District.

#### Dwindling Population of Vultures

852. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether endangered vultures are choking on red tape as reported in the 'Times of India' dated September 8, 2004;

(b) if so, whether saving of vulture in the country is hanging fire between various ministries;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether vulture population has fallen by 95 percent since 1990; and

(e) if so, the corrective measures so far taken or to be taken by the Government to save the vultures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Populations of three out of nine species of vultures in India have been reported to be adversely affected due to the consumption of livestock carcasses treated with diclofenac. A multi-pronged strategy has been adopted to protect the species. This includes phasing out veterinary diclofenac and replacing it with an effective substitute that does not have deleterious effect on vulture or other wild species. The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying has advised that residual effect of substitute drugs needs to be studied before they are introduced.

(d) A survey conducted by the Bombay Natural History Society under a special project sponsored in the year 2000 by the Ministry of Environment & Forests revealed that there has been more than 90 percent decline in the populations of three species of vultures viz. White Backed, Long Billed and Slender Billed in many parts of the country. Post mortem and diagnostic tests revealed that this drastic decline was due to consumption of the veterinary drug diclofenac by the vultures who fed on carcasses of livestock. Diclofenac causes deposition of uric acid in the visceral organs leading to sudden death.

(e) The corrective measures so far taken or to be taken by the Government to save vultures are as follows:

- (i) Protection status of White backed, Long Billed and Slender Billed Vultures has been upgraded from Schedule IV to Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

- (ii) Two workshops were organized in New Delhi in September 2000 and April, 2004 to work out a comprehensive strategy for conservation of vultures in consultation with scientists.
- (iii) The State Governments have been advised to draw a comprehensive action plan for effective conservation of vultures.
- (iv) Bombay Natural History Society in collaboration with the Haryana State Forest Department has taken up a project on conservation of vultures. A 'Vulture Captive Care facility' has been established at Panchkula.
- (v) The Ministry of Health has been requested to replace the use of the drug diclofenac with suitable alternative drugs.
- (vi) As reported by the Government of Uttaranchal, a provisional vulture care centre has started functioning in the premises of Veterinary Hospital, Roorkee.
- (vii) The Government of Uttaranchal has directed all Chief Veterinary Officers to orient the veterinarians to reduce the use of diclofenac.
- (viii) The State of Uttaranchal has also requested the drug Controller to impose ban on the use of diclofenac.
- (ix) The Government of Gujarat has requested the Indian Drug Manufacturers Association to replace diclofenac with suitable alternatives.
- (x) The State Governments have been requested to set up vulture care centres for the conservation of three species of vultures.

#### **Inter-Linking of Peninsular and Himalayan Rivers**

853. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has carried out any pre-feasibility studies of National Perspective Plan for inter-linking of various Peninsular and Himalayan rivers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the reports are likely to be submitted by NWDA to the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has completed pre-feasibility studies of 31 link projects under National Perspective Plan (14: Himalayan & 17: Peninsular).

(c) These reports were circulated to the members of Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of NWDA and concerned State Governments. The reports were discussed in the TAC and accepted by the TAC.

*[Translation]*

#### **Production of Sugarcane**

854. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE:  
SHRI SURESH ANGADI:  
SHRI BHAL CHANDRA YADAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the decline in the production of sugarcane in 2003-2004 vis-a-vis the previous year alongwith the decline in the production of sugar in 2003-2004;

(b) whether the Government proposes to provide financial assistance to the sugarcane growers;

(c) if so, the details thereof till-date, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government proposes to provide improved fertilizers to the sugarcane growers in order to increase production of sugarcane; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) As per the fourth advance estimates for the year 2003-04, the production of sugarcane in 2003-04 was 236.18 million tonnes which was 45.39 million tonnes or 16% less than the production of sugarcane in 2002-03. While in 2002-03 the production of sugar was 20.13 million

tonnes in 2003-04 it has been provisionally estimated at 13.96 million tonnes.

(b) and (c) The Central Government in the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) decided to provide one time financial assistance to State Advised Price (SAP) State Governments to mitigate the hardship of the sugarcane farmers who have not been paid cane arrears for 2002-03 season by private sector factories.

The Government of Bihar submitted a proposal for release of Rs. 18.86 crore in January, 2004 and accordingly Rs. 18.86 crore was released to Bihar Government as per the terms and conditions of the package.

A proposal for financial assistance of Rs. 45.54 crore was submitted by the State Government of Uttaranchal. Accordingly, an amount of Rs. 45.54 crore was released to the Uttaranchal Government.

Since the package was a one time assistance to clear the sugarcane arrears for season 2002-03 in SAP states, no provision of fund was made in the budget of the DAC for the year 2004-05.

(d) and (e) The Government ensures adequate availability of different types of fertilizers of right quality to the farmers under the provisions of Fertiliser Control Order (FCO), 1985. Accordingly, large number of grades of fertilizers like straight and Nitrogen-Phosphate-Potash (NPK) complexes, micro-nutrients & fortified fertilizers and 100% water soluble fertilizer for fertigation have been prescribed under FCO for use indifferent crops including sugarcane. In addition, the State Governments has also prescribed different grades of fertilizer Mixers as per soil specific and crop requirements.

*[English]*

#### **Amendment to Forests Conservation Act, 1980**

855. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 with a view to clear hurdles in developmental activities of infrastructural facilities especially in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) No Sir. Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is a regulatory Act, not prohibitory. The development oriented infrastructural projects involving non-forest use or the forest land are granted forestry clearance under this Act on merit. This Act does not create any hurdle in the forestry clearance of the eco-friendly developmental projects. Since 1980, 11,282 developmental projects involving 9.81 lakh hectare of forests lands have been approved under this Act.

*[Translation]*

#### **Malpractices in PDS**

856. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:  
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons identified as living below poverty line in the country;

(b) the criteria adopted for the identification process;

(c) whether malpractices are rampant in the public distribution system;

(d) if so, whether directions have been issued to the State Governments to check such malpractices;

(e) if so, the steps taken thereon; and

(f) the action being taken by the Government to streamline the above system and make it more accessible to the poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the State Governments/UTs have identified and issued ration cards to 8.14 crore BPL families.

(b) The guidelines issued to the State Governments/ UT Administrations for identification of BPL families under TPDS, provides for identification of only the really poor and vulnerable sections of the society such as, landless agricultural labourers, marginal farmers, rural artisans/



craftsmen such as porters, tappers, weavers, blacksmith, carpenters, etc. in rural areas and slum dwellers and persons earning their livelihood on a daily basis in the informal sector like porters, rickshaw pullers, hand-cart pullers, fruit and flower sellers on the pavement etc. in urban areas. They have also been advised to actively involve the Gram Panchayats and Gram Sabha in the identification of eligible families, as they are close to the beneficiaries.

(c) The TPDS functions through a vast network and caters to people living in all parts of the country. As such the possibility of some malpractices occurring cannot be ruled out.

(d) to (f) Under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the supervision and monitoring the functioning of FPSs rests with the concerned State Governments/UTs. Streamlining the PDS in the country, making it more accessible to the poor and taking corrective steps is an on going process. However the following measures have been taken to strengthen the system:

- (i) The State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations have been asked to actively involve the Panchayati Raj Institutions to monitor the functioning of the Fair Price Shops, as a measure of social audit;
- (ii) The States and Union Territories have also been asked to constitute Vigilance Committees on the PDS at the State, District, Block and FPS levels;
- (iii) With a view to efficiently reaching PDS commodities to the consumers in a transparent manner, a model Citizens' Charter has been issued by the Central Government for adoption by the State Governments/UT Administrations;
- (iv) In order to strengthen the hands of the State Government, the Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 has been issued on 31st August, 2001 under section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 with a view to curb willful adulteration, substitution, diversion etc. of the PDS commodities. An offence committed in violation of the provisions of the Order shall invoke criminal liability under the EC Act.
- (v) A Task Force has been constituted to look into irregularities in the implementation of the TPDS and the Antyodaya Anna Yojana in the identified areas. The shortcomings/irregularities noticed by

the Task Force Teams are forwarded to the concerned State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for corrective action.

*(English)*

#### **Repair of Dams**

857. SHRI UDAY SINGH:  
SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN:  
SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of dams are on the brink of collapse and need urgent repairs;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the World Bank have provided funds for repair of such dams but the Government has not released funds to the State Governments; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the strategy formulated by the Government to repair all the dams in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The State Governments who are the owner of dams have not reported to the Central Government of any case of dam on the brink of collapse.

(c) and (d) A Dam Safety Assurance & Rehabilitation Project with the assistance of World Bank was taken up in 1991 and completed in 1999 for a total cost of Rs. 422.95 crore under which assistance was provided to the four participating States namely Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu for renovation and rehabilitation of 33 dams and providing basic facilities to 182 dams.

Irrigation being a State subject the irrigation projects including repair of dams are planned, formulated, executed and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their priorities.

#### **Food and Erosion Control Projects**

858. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of modifications made on criteria for central funding of flood and erosion control projects during the Ninth and Tenth Plan period;

(b) the total amount earmarked and released to the State Governments by the Union Government during the said period State-wise; and

(c) the present status of flood and erosion control proposals submitted by State Governments for implementation during the said period, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No modifications have been made on criteria

for central funding of flood and erosion control projects during the 9th and 10th Plan period.

(b) and (c) The Flood Management including erosion control being a State subject, the schemes for flood & erosion control are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments depending upon their priorities and available resources. However, Central Government is also providing financial assistance to the State Governments to take up critical works relating to Flood Management and erosion control. The details of the total amount released to the State Governments during 9th Plan and earmarked & released in 10th Plan period are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

*The details of the total amount released to the State Governments during 9th Plan and earmarked & released in 10th Plan periods.*

(Rs. In crore)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Name of the State	9th Plan	10th Plan	
			Amount released towards Central Share	Funds earmarked (Central Share)	Amount released towards Central Share upto 30.11.2004
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Flood Proofing Programme in North Bihar	Bihar	2.37	3.50	1.25
2.	Maintenance of Flood Protection Works of Kosi & Gandak Projects	Bihar (Kosi) U.P. (Gandak)	15.60 2.70	27.00 8.00	11.72 2.06
3.	Critical anti erosion works in Ganga Basin States	Bihar Uttar Pradesh Uttaranchal West Bengal Himachal Pradesh Jharkhand	22.08 10.89 1.00 17.88 — —	57.42 38.61 4.95 63.12 2.32 2.30	26.14 16.69 0.95 10.78 — —

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Raising, Strengthening and Extension of Embankments on Lalbakeya, Kamla, Bagmati & Khando rivers	Bihar	4.80	46.00	1.50
5.	Improvement of drainage in critical areas of the country	Andhra Pradesh Bihar Orissa Uttar Pradesh	— — — —	5.45 27.38 12.84 3.65	1.50 5.00 1.50 —

[Translation]

#### Rates of Foodgrain

859. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:  
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether different rates are fixed for different categories of buyers of wheat and rice from the Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns;

(b) if so, the rates fixed during the year 2003-04, grain-wise and category-wise;

(c) whether these rates have been changed during 2004-05; and

(d) if so, the reasons and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The central issue prices fixed for the year 2003-04, grain-wise for different categories were as under:

Category	Rs. per quintal	
	Wheat	Rice
Above Poverty Line (APL)	610.00	830.00
Below Poverty Line	415.00	565.00
Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY)	200.00	300.00

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Distribution of Rain Soaked Foodgrain

860. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that rain soaked wheat and rice is being distributed among the people living below poverty line in some States;

(b) if so, the State-wise number of cases reported to the Government in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) Good quality wheat and rice conforming to the specifications laid down by the Government and the PFA norms are issued to the States and Union Territories for distribution to the families living below poverty line under the Targeted Public Distribution System. No complaint has been received from any State Government regarding poor quality of foodgrains. However, a complaint received from President, Shahide Azam Balidan Divas Sanyojan Samiti, Meerut and Secretary, Desh Bhakt Society, Meerut regarding distribution of damaged wheat to below poverty line families in district Meerut, UP have been forwarded to the State Government for investigation and for further appropriate action.

*[English]***Water Sharing Disputes**

861. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether increasing water disputes and violation of treaties and tribunal awards are straining the relations between States;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to nationalise the rivers or bring any legislation to resolve the issues; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Disputes exist between the States on sharing of waters of some inter-State rivers. In some cases, difference in interpreting the clauses of tribunal awards have also arisen between States. Efforts are made by Central Government to resolve such disputes/differences by negotiations failing which disputes are referred to tribunals for adjudication at the request of concerned States. There is no proposal at present to nationalize rivers. The Government has amended the inter-State Water Dispute Act in 2002 whereby the adjudication of the water dispute by a Tribunal has been made time-bound.

**Use of Chemical Pesticides**

862. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to assess the effect of indiscriminate use of chemical pesticides in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof with respect to resistance in pests to pesticides contamination of water and soil etc.; and

(c) the steps taken to check the ill-effect of pesticides?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a)

to (c) Expert committees have been appointed from time to time to review the continued use or otherwise of pesticides which are banned/restricted in other countries. As a result, 27 pesticides and 4 formulations of 3 other pesticides have been banned for use and the use of another 7 pesticides has been restricted.

The Registration Committee constituted under Section 5 of the insecticides Act, 1968 registers pesticides only after satisfying itself regarding their efficacy and safety to human beings and animals. If the pesticides are used as per the guidelines contained on their labels and leaflets, they do not cause any damage to human beings, animals or the environment.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM), encompassing cultural, mechanical and biological methods and need based user of chemical pesticides has been adopted as the cardinal principal and main plank of plant protection in the country. 26 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres spread over 22 States and 1 Union Territory are involved in training the farmers in IPM. Grants-in-Aid to the States for setting up of State Bio-control Laboratories (SBCLs) are provided by the Central Government.

The Central and State Governments impart training to the farmers in the safe and judicious use of pesticides.

**Foreign Companies in Sugar Industry**

863. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to open up the market for international players to keep down the prices of sugar;

(b) if so, whether the French Sugar Major Sucres ET Denrees SA is planning to enter Indian Market and has obtained permission to set up an exporting unit in India;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Foreign Investment Promotion Board has permitted French Company to sell both imported as well as locally produced sugar;

(e) whether the Government has conducted any study on its impact on Indian farmers/sugar mills; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Import and export of sugar is under O.G.L. (Open General License). Sugar is improbable @ 60% *ad-valorem* and Rs. 850/- per M.T. (Countervailing Duty).

(b) to (d) M/s Sucres ET Denres SA, France was granted permission vide FC approval dated 10.10.2003 for 100% foreign equity participation amounting to Rs. 15.00 lakhs in M/s Sucden India Pvt. Ltd. for the following activities: (i) Purchase of domestic sugar for the purposes of export (ii) import of raw sugar for the purpose of refining and re-export to third countries where India has a locational and logistical advantage (iii) Provide logistics management expertise to improve the efficiency of Indian Sugar exports (iv) Any other related activities which are permissible under Indian regulations.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

**Opening of High Tech Post Harvest Technology Centres in Bihar**

864. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of High Tech Post Harvest Technology Centres approved to open in the country particularly in Bihar at present, State-wise;

(b) the details of the districts selected for the purpose, State-wise;

(c) the budget allocated for each centre, State-wise; and

(d) by when these are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Eight new centres of the All India Coordinated Research Project on Post Harvest Technology have been approved under X Plan. The State-wise list of the centres is given in Annexure-I. A centre of this scheme is already in operation at Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa Samastipur, Bihar.

(b) As given in enclosed statement-I.

(c) As given in enclosed statement-II.

(d) All the centres are functional at present.

**Statement I**

**(b) Location of Centres of AICRP on PHT**

Sl.No.	State	District	Location
1	2	3	4
1.	Maharashtra	Akola	Punjabrao Krishi Vishva Vidyalaya
2.	Orissa	Bhubaneshwar	Orissa University of Agrl. & Tech.
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	Central Institute of Agri. Engg.
4.	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	Central Arid Zone Research Institute
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur	Jawahar Lal Nehru Krishi Vishvavidyalaya
6.	Gujarat	Junagarh	Gujarat Agricultural University
7.	Kerala	Kasargod	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute
8.	West Bengal	Midnapur	Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
9.	Punjab	Ludhiana	Punjab Agricultural University.

1	2	3	4
10.	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	Central Tuber Crops Research Institute
11.	Rajasthan	Udaipur	Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology
12.	Uttar Pradesh	Faizabad	Narendra Dev University of Agriculture & Technology
13.	Andhra Pradesh	Bapatla	Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University
14.	Bihar	Samastipur	Rajendra Agricultural University
15.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur	Indira Gandhi Agricultural University
16.	Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology
17.	Uttaranchal	Almora	Vivekanand Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhanehala
18.	Uttaranchal	Udham Singh Nagar	G.B. Pant University of Agri. & Technology
19.	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
20.	Karnataka	Bangalore	University of Agricultural Sciences
21.	Assam	Jorhat	Assam Agricultural University
22*.	Uttar Pradesh	Aligarh	Aligarh Muslim University
23*.	Haryana	Hisar	Haryana Agricultural University
24*.	Kerala	Trichur	Kerala Agricultural University
25*.	Rajasthan	Bikaner	Rajasthan Agricultural University
26*.	West Bengal	Kolkatta	West Bengal University of Fisheries and Animal Sciences
27*.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University
28*.	Himachal Pradesh	Solan	Dr. Yashwant Singh Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry
29*.	Karnataka	Dharwad	University of Agricultural Sciences
30.	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research
31.	Maharashtra	Kolhapur	Regional Sugarcane and Jaggery Res. Station.
32.	Andhra Pradesh	Anakapalle	Regional Agricultural Research Station
33.	Assam	Jorhat	Assam Agricultural University
34.	Uttaranchal	U.S. Nagar	G.B. Pant University of Agri. & Tech.

The centres marked with \* are the new centres.

**Statement II***(c) Budget allocation for the centres of AICRP on PHT during Xth Plan*

Sl.No.	Location	Allocation (Rupees in lakh)
1	2	3
1.	Punjabrao Krishi Vishva Vidyalaya	235.83
2.	Orissa University of Agri. & Tech.	240.69
3.	Central Institute of Agri. Engg.	35.52
4.	Central Arid Zone Research Institute	34.00
5.	Jawahar Lal Nehru Krishi Vishvavidyalaya	239.69
6.	Gujarat Agricultural University	244.89
7.	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	33.02
8.	Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur	186.44
9.	Punjab Agricultural University.	243.28
10.	Central Tuber Crops Research Institute	36.02
11.	Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology	237.28
12.	Narendra Dev University of Agriculture & Technology	71.98
13.	Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University	75.41
14.	Rajendra Agricultural University	71.41
15.	Indira Gandhi Agricultural University	73.34
16.	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology	77.28
17.	Vivekanand Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhanshala	42.07
18.	G.B. Pant University of Agri. & Technology	405.86
19.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University	301.55
20.	University of Agricultural Sciences	302.78
21.	Assam Agricultural University	323.66
22*	Aligarh Muslim University	129.90
23*	Haryana Agricultural University	134.09
24*	Kerala Agricultural University	147.19
25*	Rajasthan Agricultural University	142.41
26*	West Bengal University of Fisheries and Animal Sciences	136.00

1	2	3
27*	Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University	139.16
28*	Dr. Yashwant Singh Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry	133.13
29*	University of Agricultural Sciences	133.00
30.	Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research	58.91
31.	Regional Sugarcane and Jaggery Res. Station.	62.76
32.	Regional Agricultural Research Station	64.36
33.	Assam Agricultural University	323.66
34.	G.B. Pant University of Agri. & Tech.	57.56

The centres marked with \* are the new centres.

#### Registration Approval Sought by NDDDB for MDFVL

865. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB) has sought the approval of the Ministry for registration of a subsidiary company Mother Dairy Fruits and Vegetables Limited (MDFVL);

(b) if so, whether the Ministry has granted its approval in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) The Government of India have granted approval for creation of Mother Dairy Fruits and Vegetable Limited (MDFVL), a wholly owned subsidiary company of National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB) in December 1999.

[*Translation*]

#### Package for Religious Tourism

866. SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE:  
SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH:  
SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for special package on religious tourism is under the consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is aware of the number of religious places, organised and unorganised which can be brought under this package;

(d) if so, whether through religious tourism Government can earn foreign exchange;

(e) the amount of Government's investment in these places;

(f) whether the Government have prepared any plan for development of all important religious places; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) Formulation of tourist packages is primarily the responsibility of the tourism industry viz. tour operators and travel agents. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India does not formulate any tourist packages.

(d) International Tourism including religious tourism can earn foreign exchange for the country.

(e) to (g) The development of tourist sites including religious tourist places, is primarily undertaken by the State Governments. However, Central Financial Assistance is offered to the State Governments and Union Territories



for development of tourist sites which include religious places.

#### **Settlement of Insurance Claims of Farmers**

867. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether insurance companies are taking long time to settle the claims of the farmers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to fix up time limit for settlement of the claims; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The claims in general are settled within two months of the receipt of yield data from the State Government except in case where submission of yield data and receipt of share of funds from the States are delayed. Settlement of claims are also sometimes delayed on account of discrepancies noticed in the area sown vis-a-vis area insured.

(c) and (d) A time-frame has been prescribed in the scheme for settlement of claims. Implementing States/UTs are advised from time to time to make available requisite yield data to the Implementing Agency within stipulated time and to make adequate budget provision in their budget for timely payment of their share towards financial liabilities under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS).

#### **New Sugar Mills in West Bengal**

868. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for setting up of new sugar mills in West Bengal is pending with the Government;

(b) if so, the number of new mills proposed to be set up during the current financial year in the above mentioned State;

(c) whether the mills set up earlier have become sick;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and since when these mills are closed; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to revive these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

#### **Kharif Crops in Vidharbha Region**

869. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the crisis regarding sowing the Kharif crop twice and thrice in Vidharbha region of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As reported by the State Government, in total 1826451 hectares Kharif crops were sown twice or thrice in Vidharbha region of Maharashtra.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Quality Standard Certification**

870. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue earned by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) through the issue of standards certifications;

(b) whether there is any mechanism to monitor the companies using quality standards certifications marks set by the BIS;

(c) if so, the number of cases detected for violation of the quality standards by the products carrying certifications marks during the last three years;

(d) the number of cases of illegal use of BIS marks detected during the last three years; and

(e) the procedure followed by the Government to check illegal use of BIS marks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) The revenue earned by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) in respect of income derived from the Certification Schemes for the years 2002-03 was Rs. 9313.48 Lakhs and for the year 2003-04 (un-audited) was Rs. 9814.91 lakh.

(b) The BIS monitors the quality of ISI marked products through regular factory inspections and by testing of samples drawn from the factory and market after grant of licence. In case there is violation of the quality requirements specified in the Indian Standards, the licensee is, in the first instance, given a warning and in case of repeated failures, he is directed to Stop marking. The marking rights are restored after the licensee has taken adequate corrective actions and the same have been verified by the BIS. In case the corrective actions are found inadequate, the licence is cancelled or allowed to expire. In order to protect consumer safety in respect of Food products under mandatory BIS Certification, the licensee is directed to Stop marking even after a single failure of its sample.

(c) Details of failure of samples observed out of test reports received during the years 2001-02, 2002-03 and upto November, 2003 are as under:

Period	No. of test reports received	Number of test reports found failing
2001-2002	17588	2716
2002-2003	17615	3251
2003-upto Nov. 2003	9898	1368

(d) The number of cases of illegal use of BIS marks detected during the last three years are as under:

Sl.No.	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
1. Total number of cases of misuse of ISI Mark registered	36	34	180
2. Search & Seizure Conducted	30	12	206 (Some of these search and seizure were recorded in the year 2004-05)

(e) The misuse of ISI Mark is detected through market surveys, visit to exhibitions, interaction with industry/traders associations, feedback from BIS licensees and complaints. After detection, detailed investigation is carried out through its different offices located all over the country with a view to collect documentary and material evidence in consultation with enforcement and legal departments at BIS Headquarters. Search & seizure is also organized to seize the material wherever needed. Wherever, spurious ISI marking on the product is established, legal proceedings are launched in the Court of law against the offending parties under BIS Act 1986 through Enforcement Department, Legal Department and concerned Branch Office. Any person convicted under the Act is liable to be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to Rs. 50,000/- or with both as provided under Section 33 of the BIS Act.

*[English]*

**International Development Aid to Combat Global Hunger**

871. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 100 countries endorsed a campaign recently to raise an additional \$ 50 billion annually to combat global hunger;

(b) if so, whether a series of options for raising the extra money have been set out; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) A Joint Declaration on Action against Hunger and Poverty was issued on 30th January 2004 at a meeting between the Presidents of Brazil, France, Chile and UN Secretary General stressing on the need for the greater international cooperation to ensure availability of resources to tackle pressing economic and social challenges, especially hunger and poverty pursuant to the target of the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) to halve the number of the under-nourished by 2015. It also called for the setting up of a global alliance against poverty and hunger. As an initial step, it was decided to establish a technical group to study different proposals to promote innovative sources of financing and examine mechanisms to efficiently channel the possible additional sources to a special fund to combat hunger and poverty, under the supervision of appropriate multilateral agencies. Further a meeting of World Leaders on Action against Hunger and Poverty took place on 20th September, 2004 at New York which was attended by a number of Heads of State/Government, Vice Heads of State/Government/Ministers etc. The report of the Technical group on Innovative Financial Mechanisms was presented during the event and the New York Declaration on the Action against Hunger and Poverty was adopted during the event. India has supported the said Declaration. The Declaration urges international community to give careful consideration to the report prepared by the Technical Group established in January, 2004. The Government of India is considering the report of the Technical Group.

#### Minor Irrigation Work in Gujarat

872. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:  
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware that Gujarat is placing major emphasis on minor irrigation works to augment water for irrigation to farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds requested by the Government of Gujarat to the Union Government under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programmes (AIBP); and

(c) by how much the funds are likely to be given to the State Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Government of Gujarat had furnished a proposal for 5000 check dams, costing Rs. 150 crores under Sardar Patel Participatory Water Resources Conservation Project to GOI during 2002-03.

(c) Release of funds for Gujarat against the proposal is not possible as Central Loan Assistance for minor irrigation schemes are provided under AIBP to the Special Category States only (i.e. North Eastern States, Hilly States & KBK Districts of Orissa).

#### Reduction in Quota of Rice and Kerosene

873. SHRI ALEMAO CHURCHILL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quota for rice and kerosene for the State of Goa has been reduced significantly during the last three years; and

(b) if so the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The quota of rice to Goa under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) has not been reduced for Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and Below Poverty Line (BPL) during the last three years. However, under Above Poverty Line (APL) it was marginally reduced from 7,031 tonnes per months to 6,498 tonnes per month with effect from 1st July, 2002.

The allocation of kerosene to Goa under Public Distribution System (PDS) has been reduced during the last three years as under:

Year	Allocation (in MTs)
2001-02	23,639
2002-03	21,999
2003-04	20,469

(b) A decision was taken by the Cabinet in March, 2002 to fix the scale of issue of foodgrains for APL at

35 kg per family per month. This decision was uniformly applied to all the States/UTs where APL allocation was restricted to 35 kg. per family per months as per the estimated APL population in each State/UT as on 01.03.2000 as per the norms of the Planning Commission. In this process, the allocation to Goa under APL got marginally reduced.

Allocation of Kerosene to Goa has been reduced as per the uniform Government policy taking into account the number of LPG connections released to that State.

*[Translation]*

#### Construction of Irrigation Projects

874. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that construction work on various irrigation projects has not been started even after their approval;

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

(c) by when the work on such projects would be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Irrigation being a State subject the irrigation projects are planned formulated, executed and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources and as per their priorities.

All those projects which have been approved by the Planning Commission have been taken up for construction.

#### Support Price of Wheat

875. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:  
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to enhance the support price of wheat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the support price of wheat fixed as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for Rabi Crops of 2004-05 Season to be Marketed in 2005-06, including wheat, have been announced on 3rd November, 2004. The MSP of wheat has been raised by Rs. 10 and fixed at Rs. 640 per quintal as against the MSP of Rs. 630 per quintal fixed for the Rabi Crops of 2003-04 Season.

#### Cut in Expenditure for Agricultural Sector

876. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is continuous cut in expenditure for agricultural sector in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to take any steps to check it; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The expenditure incurred by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has generally been on an increase in successive years of the Ninth & Tenth Plan except 2002-03 as indicated in the table below.

(Rs. Crore)

Year	Expenditure
<i>Ninth Plan</i>	
1997-98	1208.00
1998-99	1344.00
1999-2000	1457.00
2000-01	1649.00
2001-2002	1777.92
<i>Tenth Plan</i>	
2002-03	1656.78
2003-04	2055.95
	(Provisional)

**Development of Hazur Sahib in Nanded**

877. SHRI SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal for the development of Gurdwara Takht Sachkhand Shri Hazur Abchal Nagar Sahib, Nanded under religious tourism policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assistance provided to the State Government during the current year for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No Sir. No such proposal has been received from the Tourism Department of Government of Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

*[English]*

**Permission of Genetically Modified Seed/Food**

878. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether genetically modified stuff—be it seed or food is being permitted officially to be marked in India;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of GM products which have found entry into market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) the Rules for the Manufacture, Use, Import and Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro Organisms Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cell, 1989, framed under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 provide that all genetically engineered organisms or cells or products derived therefrom, shall not be produced sold imported or used except with the approval of the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

As on date the Government has granted market authorization only for Cotton hybrids namely, Bt. MECH-

12, MECH-162, MECH-184 and RCH-2 Bt. containing MON-531 event in Cry 1 Ac gene upon which adequate biosafety tests/trials have been conducted. Though GEAC has not granted market authorization for any food or food products, limited import of refined vegetable soybean oil and crude degummed soybean oil under the Integrated Child Development Service (ICDS) programme was permitted by GEAC.

**Incredible India Campaign**

879. SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is launching "Incredible India campaign" in order to attract foreign tourists to India; and

(b) if so, the number of countries where this campaign has been launched and the results achieved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Ministry of Tourism has launched the Incredible India Campaign in the Print, Electronic and internet media globally to attract foreign tourists to India.

(b) The Print and Electronic media have been targeted at European market, U.K., Australia, Asia Pacific, South East Asia, Middle East and SAARC countries. The campaign has just finished for the current year. It is therefore too early to now assess its results. The internet campaign has also been launched globally with main stress on US, Japan, Europe, China, Australia, Singapore and the Middle East.

The Campaigns launched in the international markets have contributed to a 23.7% increase in tourist arrivals (Jan.-Oct.) and 37.5% increase in Foreign Exchange earnings in Dollar terms over the same period in 2003.

**Implementation of Labour Law**

880. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether labour laws are applicable in Sikkim including Minimum Wage Act; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SHEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) As per information received from the State Government of Sikkim, the following labour laws have, so far, been enforced in the State:

1. The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976
2. The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976
3. The Inter-State Migrant Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1976
4. The Sikkim Shop & Commercial Establishments Act, 1983
5. The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923
6. The Fatal Accident Act, 1855
7. The Employees Liability Act, 1938
8. The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986
9. The Payment of Wages Act, 1936
10. The Employees' Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952
11. The Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972
12. The Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Act, 1996
13. The Building and Other Construction Workers (Welfare Cess) Act, 1996
14. The Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

#### Tourism Projects of Kerala

881. SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved new tourism projects in Kerala with Central assistance during 2003-04;

(b) if so, whether there are tourism projects with Central assistance proposed during the previous years, but not yet implemented by the State Govt. of Kerala; and

(c) if so, the details of such projects and by when the projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir. During 2003-04 Department of Tourism sanctioned six projects for an amount of Rs. 608.50 lakhs.

(b) and (c) In the previous three years 36 projects were sanctioned for the State of Kerala. The number of these projects which are incomplete are follows:

Year	No. of incomplete projects
(1) 2002-03	7
(2) 2001-02	8
(3) 2000-01	4

All the State/UT Governments have been directed to complete all the projects pertaining to the 8th & 9th Plan by March, 2005.

#### Import of Milk Products

882. MOHD. MUKEEM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of imports of milk products in the country during the last three years; and

(b) the total amount spent thereon during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The details of import of milk products in the country during the last three years and the value of imported milk products during the said period are enclosed as Statement.

**Statement***Import of Milk product during last three year (April to March)*(Quantity in MT)  
(Value in Rs. lakh)

Sl.No.	Exim Code at four digit level	Milk Products	2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
			Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1.	0401	Milk and cream not concentrated not containing added sugar or other sweetening matter (Liquid milk)	6.2	0.98	0.30	0.28	207.99	24.17
2.	0402	Milk and cream concentrated/ containing sugar/sweetening matter (Milk powders)	381.35	386.75	487.43	523.87	9539.63	8007.94
3.	0403	Butter milk, crdd milk and cream, yoghurt, kephir and other fermented or acidified milk and cream; yoghurt	7.77	10.71	15.37	60.54	29.17	28.35
4.	0404	Whey and products consisting of natural milk constituents/whether or not containing added sugar or sweetening matter	773.55	440.81	642.22	370.03	1770.54	895.89
5.	0405	Butter and other fats and oils derived from milk, dairy spreads	3344.27	1820.77	8321.99	4335.01	4740.52	3095.48
6.	0406	Cheese and curd	401.84	578.94	533.46	871.51	548.58	868.87

(Source:-DGCIS, Calcutta)

**Foodgrain Offtake Under MDM Scheme**

883. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a big difference in allocation and offtake of foodgrain in different States under the Mid Day Meal Scheme;

(b) if so, the details of the allocation and offtake of foodgrain under the said scheme during the last three years, State-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Percentage offtake of the allocated foodgrains (Wheat & Rice) under Mid Day Meal Scheme during 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 was 72.51, 75.07 and 79.51 respectively.

(b) Statements showing State-wise allocation & offtake of foodgrains (wheat & rice) during 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 are enclosed as Statement-I, II and III.

(c) Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Elementary Education & Literacy) is the

nodal Ministry for implementing and monitoring the Mid Day Meal Scheme. for improving the offtake of foodgrains,

State Governments are requested from time to time effect maximum lifting of foodgrains under the Scheme.

*Statement I*

*Allotment and Offtake of Rice and Wheat under Mid Day Meal Scheme during 2001-02.*

(fig. In thousand tonnes)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Rice		Wheat	
		Allot	Offtake	Allot	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	232.75	167.87	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.30	0.55	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	91.72	32.03	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	48.92	35.87	170.65	107.87
5.	Chhattisgarh	126.72	59.93	0.00	0.00
6.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	20.21	6.87
7.	Goa	2.41	1.01	0.00	0.00
8.	Gujarat	45.08	10.65	45.08	11.36
9.	Haryana	24.25	18.43	24.25	18.34
10.	Himachal Pradesh	20.06	19.19	0.00	0.00
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	21.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Jharkhand	21.43	18.17	2.04	0.81
13.	Karnataka	120.45	106.11	35.70	29.16
14.	Kerala	48.69	43.38	0.00	0.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	44.35	35.91	146.26	131.51
16.	Maharashtra	293.76	249.86	0.00	0.00
17.	Manipur	8.38	6.49	0.00	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	12.57	8.42	0.00	0.00
19.	Mizoram	2.95	2.36	0.00	0.00
20.	Nagaland	4.79	4.62	0.00	0.00
21.	Orissa	92.22	79.85	0.00	0.00
22.	Punjab	0.00	0.42	49.79	28.83



1	2	3	4	5	6
23.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	186.85	147.31
24.	Sikkim	2.42	2.37	0.00	0.00
25.	Tamil Nadu	116.01	81.04	0.00	0.00
26.	Tripura	14.24	9.26	0.00	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	161.26	128.61	313.87	245.25
28.	Uttaranchal	19.21	15.87	1.72	0.51
29.	West Bengal	287.44	207.91	0.00	0.00
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1.15	0.58	0.00	0.00
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.04	0.56	0.15
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.76	0.61	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman & Diu	0.45	0.33	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	1.25	1.10	0.00	0.00
Total		1867.50	1348.81	996.79	727.96

*Statement II**Allotment and Offtake of Rice and Wheat under Mid Day Meal Scheme during 2002-03.*

(fig. in thousand tonnes)

SI.No.	States/UTs	Rice		Wheat	
		Allot	Offtake	Allot	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	223.69	184.83	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.00	0.77	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	91.72	43.62	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	57.59	31.96	185.29	100.83
5.	Chhattisgarh	74.55	0.31	0.00	0.00
6.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	20.22	3.80
7.	Goa	2.07	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Gujarat	32.59	13.66	32.59	13.48

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Haryana	23.07	21.49	23.07	21.39
10.	Himachal Pradesh	19.20	18.78	0.00	0.00
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	24.66	0.46	0.00	0.00
12.	Jharkhand	47.43	15.35	4.36	0.99
13.	Karnataka	142.92	108.57	10.84	8.54
14.	Kerala	47.11	47.09	0.00	0.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	49.31	42.88	161.34	143.31
16.	Maharashtra	297.93	251.64	0.00	0.00
17.	Manipur	8.63	7.96	0.00	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	13.04	12.57	0.00	0.00
19.	Mizoram	2.81	2.25	0.00	0.00
20.	Nagaland	4.79	4.79	0.00	0.00
21.	Orissa	123.76	104.96	0.00	0.00
22.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	48.62	36.06
23.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	154.04	141.43
24.	Sikkim	2.31	2.18	0.00	0.00
25.	Tamil Nadu	108.03	78.79	0.00	0.00
26.	Tripura	13.80	10.05	0.00	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	151.10	137.36	294.57	273.35
28.	Uttaranchal	20.79	12.90	3.86	0.97
29.	West Bengal	292.93	217.75	0.00	0.00
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1.08	0.91	0.00	0.00
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	1.25	0.37
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.78	0.38	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman & Diu	0.30	0.20	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	1.25	1.18	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>1864.24</b>	<b>1375.64</b>	<b>939.85</b>	<b>744.52</b>

**Statement III****Allotment and Offtake of Rice and Wheat under Mid Day Meal Scheme during 2003-04.**

(fig. In thousand tonnes)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Rice		Wheat	
		Allot	Offtake	Allot	Offtake
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	178.28	151.76	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5.45	1.89	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	97.14	77.42	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	86.97	51.67	156.33	118.91
5.	Chhattisgarh	56.57	61.80	0.00	0.00
6.	Delhi	3.74	1.99	17.99	5.26
7.	Goa	1.25	0.00	0.00	0.50
8.	Gujarat	30.05	20.55	30.05	18.40
9.	Haryana	22.94	21.13	22.94	20.65
10.	Himachal Pradesh	18.45	17.84	0.00	0.00
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	24.66	0.59	0.00	0.00
12.	Jharkhand	47.44	20.34	4.36	2.59
13.	Karnataka	135.80	82.05	10.26	5.35
14.	Kerala	43.33	43.36	0.00	0.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	37.75	33.01	128.06	116.88
16.	Maharashtra	223.60	184.81	0.00	0.00
17.	Manipur	8.89	7.83	0.00	0.00
18.	Meghalaya	10.28	9.37	0.00	0.00
19.	Mizoram	1.88	1.87	0.00	0.00
20.	Nagaland	5.21	4.02	0.00	0.00
21.	Orissa	123.31	113.88	0.00	0.00
22.	Punjab	0.00	0.39	45.49	23.24
23.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	170.08	0.00
24.	Sikkim	1.54	1.28	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	Tamil Nadu	110.80	79.31	0.00	0.00
26.	Tripura	9.08	8.90	0.00	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	172.64	140.74	318.60	269.03
28.	Uttaranchal	20.61	18.79	3.11	1.05
29.	West Bengal	289.35	251.54	0.00	0.00
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.70	0.85	0.00	0.00
31.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.98	0.20
32.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.68	0.19	0.00	0.00
33.	Daman & Diu	0.30	0.27	0.00	0.00
34.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Pondicherry	1.25	1.11	0.00	0.00
Total		1771.44	1410.66	908.27	720.00

#### Arrival of Tourists in Jammu and Kashmir

884. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently the flow of Israeli tourists has increased manifold in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) As per the information received from the Government of Jammu & Kashmir, the number of Israeli tourists who have visited Kashmir and Ladakh region during the years 2002, 2003 and 2004 (upto September) are as follows:

Year	Kashmir region	Ladakh region
2002	57	Nil
2003	2288	1097
2004 (upto Sept.)	1788	1667

#### Scheme for Fruits and Vegetables Growers

885. SHRI PRAKASHBAPU V. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to motivate fruits and vegetables, growers of such States where off season fruits and vegetables could be grown;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to conduct any survey in this regard to identify the said places; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture-Supplementation/complementation of State Efforts through Work Plans under which, among other things, the farmers are being given assistance for taking up cultivation of fruits and vegetables. This schemes is being implemented in all States & UTs in the Country. Under this scheme assistance is also being extended to the farmers for constructing green houses, which facilitate them in taking up of off season cultivation of fruits and vegetables.

(c) and (d) The State Governments prepare the Work Plans after ascertaining the potential and scope for taking up programmes on horticulture development under the Macro-Management Scheme.

#### **Minimum Support Price of Gram**

886. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Red Gram which matures in a longer time is lower than Black Gram;

(b) if so, whether the delay in announcing the MSP much ahead of the sowing season limits the options of the farmer to decide the type of crop to be cultivated for remunerative returns;

(c) if so, whether the Government proposes to take steps to ensure the early fixation of MSP on scientific basis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Red Gram (Arhar) for 2004-05 is Rs. 1390 per quintal whereas the MSP for Black Gram (Urad) is Rs. 1410 per quintal. The price difference in MSPs between Red Gram and Black Gram may be seen in the context of the difference in cost of cultivation/production which is one of the important factors considered by the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) in recommending the MSPs. The projected all-India weighted average cost of production of Red Gram (Arhar) for 2004-05 is lower than the corresponding cost in respect of Black Gram. It is also important to note that Red Gram is essentially a Kharif crop whereas Black Gram is grown during both Kharif and Rabi seasons.

(c) and (d) As the purpose of MSPs is to give price signal to farmers with regard to choice of crops, every effort is made to expedite announcement of MSPs. The Government decides on the MSPs for various agricultural commodities taking into account the recommendations of CACP, the views of State Governments and concerned Central Ministries as well as such other relevant factors, which in the opinion of the Government, are important

for fixation of MSPs. While recommending MSPs, the CACP keeps in view (i) the need to provide incentive to the producer for adopting improved technology and for developing a production pattern broadly in the light of national requirements; (ii) the need to ensure rational utilization of land, water and other production resources; (iii) the likely effect of the price policy on the rest of the economy, particularly on the cost of living, level of wages, industrial cost structure, etc., and (iv) terms of trade between agricultural sector and non-agricultural sector.

*[Translation]*

#### **Share of Rajasthan from Ravi, Beas and Yamuna Rivers**

887. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes being implemented by the Government to make available the State's share of water from inter-state water schemes and the latest progress of these schemes keeping in view the limited availability of internal sources of water in Rajasthan;

(b) the share of Rajasthan in Ravi-Beas and Yamuna rivers and the steps being taken by the Government for firm implementation of the decisions taken in the past in this regard;

(c) whether any request has been made by the Government of Rajasthan to the Central Government in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Indira Gandhi Feeder-cum-Canal and Bhakra Main Line System are in use for delivering supplies corresponding to Rajasthan's share of surplus Ravi Beas waters as decided in the monthly Technical Committee meetings of the Bhakra Beas Management Board. Rajasthan has framed two proposals viz. "Utilisation in Bharatpur district" and "Utilisation in Jhunjhunu-Churu district" for utilization of its share of Yamuna waters. These schemes have been cleared by the Technical Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources on 07.02.2003 subject to concurrence of Haryana of the cost of works to be carried out in their territory and taking up construction in Haryana and Rajasthan simultaneously. The concurrence of Haryana is awaited.

(b) The share of Rajasthan in surplus Ravi Beas waters is 8.06 Million Acre Feet (MAF) i.e. 10.61 Billion Cubic Metres as per an agreement dated 31.12.1981 among the Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan, and share of Yamuna waters is 1.119 Billion Cubic Metres as per a Memorandum of Understanding dated 12.05.1994 among the States of Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana and Delhi. The Bhakra Beas Management Board decides the periodical allocations of Ravi Beas waters while regulation of the supplies of Yamuna waters is vested with the Upper Yamuna River Board.

(c) The 1981 agreement on surplus Ravi Beas waters provides that until such time as Rajasthan is in a position to utilize its full share, Punjab shall be free to utilize the waters surplus to Rajasthan's requirements. Since Rajasthan has been receiving supplies corresponding to 8 MAF against its full share of 8.6 MAF, the State has been requesting for the restoration of its remaining share for quite some time.

Since the concurrence of Haryana to the two schemes of Rajasthan for utilization of Yamuna waters was not forthcoming, Rajasthan submitted the matter for consideration in a meeting of the Upper Yamuna River Board held on 06.08.2004 where Haryana indicated their disagreement till storages are constructed in the upper catchment. Subsequently, Haryana has requested for a meeting of the Upper Yamuna Review Committee, chaired by the Union Minister of Water Resources with the Chief Ministers of all the party States as members, in which the matter could be discussed as an agenda item.

(d) The matter of restoration of remaining share of Ravi Beas Waters was discussed during an inter-state meeting held on 25.07.2002 in which Punjab expressed inability to accede to the restoration. In view of the enactment of Punjab Termination of Agreements Act, 2004 on 12.07.2004 by the State of Punjab terminating the 1981 agreement and all other agreements related to Ravi Beas waters, a Presidential Reference in the matter of the said Act has been made to the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the views of which when available, may facilitate the resolution of the issues involved.

*[English]*

#### **Leasing Out Islands to Foreign Firms**

888. SHRI MILIND DEORA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved the leasing of 23 islands in Lakshwadeep and Andamans to private operators and foreign firms;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for leasing out some islands to foreign firms;

(d) the manner in which the Government would monitor the private operators who would manage them after development;

(e) whether the Home Ministry has not cleared the proposal; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

#### **MoU Signed by NDDB**

889. SHRI A.F.G. OSMANI:  
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of each Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) signed by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and its subsidiary Mother Dairy Companies with various Cooperative Dairy Federations/Unions during the last three years;

(b) the objective and financial outlay of each of the MoUs;

(c) the date of execution of MoUs and time frame for implementation of MoU;

(d) the nature of assistance to be extended in MoUs;

(e) whether funds have not been released to the organisations; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA):  
(a) to (f) Information on the MOU signed by NDDB

and Mother Dairy Companies with Cooperative Unions/ Federations in last three years is enclosed as statement.

**Statement**

*Details of MoUs signed by NDDB with Cooperative Dairy Federation/Unions in last three years*

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Agencies involved	Date of execution of MoUs	Objective	Financial Outlay and nature of assistance (Rs. in Lakh)	Time frame (Years)	Funds released (Rs. in Lakh)*
1.	NDDB Project on Indigenous Breed Development for Rathii Breed	A. National Dairy Development Board, Anand B. Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation, Jaipur C. Uttari Rajasthan Sahakari Dugdh Upadek Sangh Ltd., Bikaner D. Sr. Ganganagar Zila Sahakari Dugdh Upadek Sangh Ltd., Hanumangarh E. Urmul Rural Health Research and Development Trust, Bikaner	21.06.2003	Improving the production and productivity of Rathii Cows in target population in the project area	100% grant 128.61	10	34.96
2.	NDDB Project on Indigenous Breed Development for Kankrej Breed	A. National Dairy Development, Board, Anand B. Banaskantha District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union Ltd., Palanpur, Gujarat C. Radhanpur Khoda Dhore Panjrapole Sanstha, Dist. Patan, Gujarat	03.05.2004	Improving the production and productivity of Kankrej Cows in target population in the project area	100% grant 171.47 (135.83 for Banas Union and 35.64 for Radhanpur Panjrapole)	10	40.5
3.	NDDB Project on Dairy Herd Improvement Programme (DIPA)	A. National Dairy Development Board, Anand B. Kolhapur Zila Sahakari Dugdh Upadek Sangh Ltd., Kolhapur, Mah. C. Shri Warana Sahakari Dugdh Upadek Prakriya Sangh Ltd., Wananagar, Dist. Kolhapur, Maharashtra D. Rajaram Bapu Patil Sahakari Dugdh Sangh Ltd., Islampur, Dist. Sangli, Mah. E. Shivamrut Dugdh Upadek Sahakari Sangh Ltd., Yeatwaninagar, Dist. Solapur, Maharashtra	10.10.2003 05.02.2003 19.02.2003 19.02.2003	Implementation of a field based Progeny Testing Programme in target population of Buffaloes and Crossbreeds in Project area.	100% grant 50 lakh to each union as contribution towards creation of a corpus fund	10	200

\*As on 02.12.2004

*Details of MoU signed by Mother Dairy Companies with Cooperative Dairy Federations/ Unions in the last three years*

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Agencies Involved	Dated of Execution	Objective	Funds Released/ Nature of Assistance (Rs. in Lakh)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	MILMA FOODS LTD a Joint Venture	Mother Dairy Foods Ltd. (MDFL)	30.08.2004	To create a Joint Venture Company to market milk and milk products. Accordingly, a joint	MDFL invested Rs. 51 lakh as Share

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Kerala Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd. (KCMMF)		venture agreement was signed on 26.12.2002 and a joint venture company "MILMA FOODS LIMITED" was incorporated on 17.03.2003 to market milk products under the brand name "MILMA".	Capital in MILMA FOODS LTD.
2.	MAATHASRI MILK PRODUCTS LTD. a Joint Venture	Mother Dairy Foods Ltd. (MDFL) Matha Milk Marketing Mutually Aided Cooperative Federation Ltd.	23.09.2002	to create a Joint Venture Company to market milk and milk products. Accordingly, a joint venture agreement was signed on 05.01.2003 and a Joint Venture Company "MAATHASRI MILK PRODUCTS LIMITED" was incorporated on 17.03.2003 to market milk and milk products under the brand name "VISHAKHA AND SANGAM" to begin with and later in the brand name adopted by the Federation.	MDFL invested Rs. 51 lakh as Share Capital in MAATHASRI MILK PRODUCTS LTD.

[*Translation*]

#### Revival of Water Projects

890. SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to revive the pending water projects in the country;

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

(c) the funds likely to be spent by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) A Pilot scheme on Revival, Restoration and Renovation of Water Bodies incorporating the proposals of the States directly linked to agriculture is proposed to be taken up in the line with the announcement made by the Union Finance Minister in his Budget Speech 2004-05. The funds likely to be spent by the State Governments depend upon the project proposals getting approved and taken up for execution.

[*English*]

#### Setting up of Milk Products Factory in Karnataka

891. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and the Government of Karnataka have signed an agreement for setting up of a Milk Products Factory to be managed by NDDB or its subsidiary;

(b) if so, the details of location, proposed project cost, source of fundings, proposed capacity of said factory; and

(c) the brand in which the products are likely to be marketed and the name of the organization for management of the said factory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) the Dairy plant will be set up near Bangalore. The cost of the plant has not yet been worked out.

(c) The plant will be owned and managed by NDDB or its wholly owned subsidiary, Mother Dairy Fruits & Vegetables Limited (MDFVL).

#### Increase in Production of Sugar

892. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:



(a) whether due to general price-hike, the cost of production of sugar has been increasing continuously leading to the demand by sugar-mill owners for change in the existing sugar price policy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) As per present policy, 90% of the sugar produced by sugar factories is sold by them as free sale sugar in the open market, the prices of which are determined by the economic forces of supply and demand. The price of balance 10% to be sold as levy sugar is fixed by Government keeping *inter alia* in view the cost of production of sugar.

[*Translation*]

#### Production of Rice

893. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the targets vis-a-vis achievements of rice production of Tamil Nadu and other South Indian States during the last three years; and

(b) the details of financial assistance provided to Tamil Nadu under the centrally sponsored scheme of ICDP-Rice during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The details of the targets and achievements of rice production in southern states including Tamil Nadu during last 3 years are as below:

(in Lakh Tonnes)

State	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04*	
	Target	Achievements	Targets	Achievements	Targets	Achievements
Andhra Pradesh	122.00	113.90	122.25	71.95	122.25	90.31
Karnataka	37.50	32.34	37.50	22.37	37.50	25.16
Kerala	9.00	7.03	10.50	7.00	10.50	6.23
Tamil Nadu	76.50	65.84	77.00	57.09	77.00	41.50

\*Fourth Advance Estimate of the Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Govt. of India.

(b) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of ICDP-Rice has been subsumed in the Macro Management Mode of Agriculture since October, 2000. Following assistance has been provided to the scheme of ICDP-Rice in Tamil Nadu during last 3 years:

(Rupees in Lakhs)

Year	Amount
2001-02	534.052
2002-03	489.225
2003-04	414.010

#### Tista Irrigation Project

894. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Tista Irrigation Project is going on in West Bengal particularly in North Bengal since long back;

(b) if so, the reasons for not completing the project as scheduled;

(c) the budget allocation during the current year for the project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The execution of the project by the State Government is being delayed due to land acquisition, litigation, paucity of funds, change in the scope of the project, cost escalation, etc.

(c) In the current financial year, the Government of West Bengal has provided Budget Provision for an amount of Rs. 58 crore under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) works and a sum of Rs. 4.47 crore under non-AIBP works for the Project.

(d) The project was originally scheduled to be completed during the 8th Plan period, but now according to the latest schedule of the State Government, all three phases of the project are likely to be completed by 2015.

#### **Decentralisation of Procurement and Distribution**

895. PROF. M. RAMADASS: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to decentralise procurement and distribution of foodgrain through Public Distribution System (PDS);

(b) if so, whether the State Governments would be permitted to decide the issue prices and quantum of foodgrains to be supplied;

(c) whether the Government will allow 26 per cent Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in food retailing as a measure for enhancing the role of private sector in the distribution system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The Decentralised Procurement Scheme was introduced in 1997 and it is being undertaken by State Government of West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttaranchal, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Orissa, Tamilnadu & Gujarat. Under the scheme the Central Government undertakes to meet the entire expenditure incurred by the State Governments on the operations of procurement, storage & distribution of foodgrains as per the approved costing.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Government has put in place a liberal and transparent policy of FDI which is reviewed on an ongoing basis. The present policy permits FDI upto 100% in wholesale trading. FDI in retail trading is prohibited.

[English]

#### **Incomplete Irrigation Projects**

896. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) in its report No. 15 of 2004 has brought out that physical performance of programme has not been commensurate with the financial progress;

(b) if so, whether none of the 172 projects selected for funding could be completed as targeted;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether envisaged irrigation potential of 10,042 th ha, the potential created was only 2,839. 752 th ha; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not creating the envisaged irrigation potential?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Report of the CAG of India (No. 15 of 2004) for the year ending March, 2003 has mentioned that the physical performance of Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) programme has not been commensurate with the financial progress.

(b) to (e) Out of 172 irrigation projects receiving Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), 25 irrigation projects have been reported completed by various State Governments till March, 2003. The irrigation potential created from the projects under AIBP upto March, 2003 was about 2195.986 thousand hectare. The main reasons for delay in completion of irrigation projects and creation of envisaged irrigation potential are delay in land acquisition of both private and forest land, contractual problems, litigations, law & order problem by way of public agitation and delay in transfer of fund from State Finance Department to the Project Authorities.

#### **Closure of PDS Shops in Goa**

897. SHRI ALEMAO CHURCHILL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of Public Distribution System shops in Goa have closed down in the recent years;

(b) if so, whether the levies like transportation cost and gunny bags effects the viability of these shops;

(c) if so, whether the Government proposes to bail out these shops by providing transportation cost and cost of gunny bags;

(d) if so, whether the Government intends to allow sale of kerosene and other commodities to enhance their viability; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) As per the information received from the Government of Goa from time to time, the number of Fair Price Shops (FPS) has marginally declined from 557 (September, 2001) to 523.

(b) and (c) Transportation cost effects the viability of the FPS to certain extent, but the Government of Goa is already giving transportation rebate to FPS owners at enhanced rates with effect from 1.8.2000. The gunny bags in respect of rice and wheat are supplied free of cost by the Food Corporation of India. Only the cost of the gunny bag in respect of levy sugar is being recovered from the FPS Owners at the rate of Rs. 13.50 per bag.

(d) and (e) Kerosene is already being allocated by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for distribution under Publication Distribution System. Distribution of kerosene within the State is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. In order to improve the viability of the FPSs, the State Government have been asked to advise the FPS owners to supply commodities of daily consumption through these shops.

#### **Sugar Through PDS**

898. SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE:  
SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a sugar surplus in the country during 2003-04;

(b) if so, whether this was due to poor off take of sugar meant for distributions to BPL families;

(c) the steps the Government is taking to increase sale of sugar;

(d) whether the Government proposes to distribute sugar through Public Distribution System (PDS) to APL families to increase sale of sugar;

(e) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to increase consumption of sugar in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Sugar surplus in the country is due to continuous high production of sugar from 1998-99 to 2002-2003.

(c) The sale of sugar has been increasing from year to year.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Popularise G.M. Crops**

899. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any legal hurdles in popularizing GM crops in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to popularize GM crops amongs the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Awareness promotion is undertaken by concerned agencies from time to time to enlighten the farmers and other stake-holders about scientific facts relating to the Genetically Modified (GM) crops. The popularity/acceptance of GM Crops ultimately depends on their performance.

*[English]*

#### Revision of Policies of FCI

900. SHRI ARJUN SETHI:  
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is actively considering to review the procurement and distribution policies of Food Corporation of India (FCI);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether due to implementation of the said FCI policies, the Union Government has been losing crores of rupees per year in form of subsidy on procurement, transportation and distribution;

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

(e) whether various procurement and distribution policies of FCI are likely to be revised and implemented;

(f) if so, whether the Government is considering to transfer transportation costs to the State Governments; and

(g) if so, by when the reformed policies are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The FCI is the main agency of the Government of India for the procurement of wheat and rice at minimum support prices (MSP) to farmers, in order to offer remunerative prices and to check distress sales. The existing policy also envisages encouraging the States

to take up procurement under the Decentralised procurement scheme. The food grains procured are distributed amongst the various States for distribution to the targeted population under the Public Distribution System (PDS) and other welfare schemes. Since the issue prices fixed for issue food grains to the targeted population is less than the economic cost of food grains, the difference between the two represents the food subsidy.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g) Measures to encourage decentralized procurement which, inter alia, will reduce transportation costs, are already under implementation.

*[Translation]*

#### Economic Cost of Foodgrain

901. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides subsidy due to the increase in the economic cost of wheat and rice;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the economic cost of wheat and rice during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;

(d) the details of the heads of expenditure taken into consideration for calculating the economic costs; and

(e) the amount spent on these heads during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) Government provides the difference between the economic cost and central issue price of foodgrains as subsidy. The details of economic cost of wheat and rice and the total subsidy released during the last three years and in the current year are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(d) and (e) Details of the heads of expenditure taken into consideration for calculating economic cost and the amount spent on these heads during the last three years and the amount likely to be spent in the current year are given in the statement-II enclosed.

**Statement-I**

*A. Details of economic cost of wheat and rice for the last three years and the current year are as under:*

Year	Commodity	Economic Cost (Rs./Qtt)
2001-02	Wheat	852.94
	Rice	1097.96
2002-03	Wheat	884.00
	Rice	1165.03
2003-04 (RE)	Wheat	952.51
	Rice	1253.04
2004-05 (BE)	Wheat	924.82
	Rice	1262.51

*B. Total Subsidy released during the last three years and the current year is as under:*

Year	Subsidy (Rs. in crores)
2001-02	17494
2002-03	24176
2003-04	25160
2004-2005 (As on 1.12.2004)	17662

**Statement II**

*Details of the heads of expenditure taken into consideration for calculating economic cost and the amount spent on these heads during the last three years and the amount likely to be spent during the current year, in respect of FCI's operations, are as under:*

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Head	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05 (BE)	
		Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice	Wheat	Rice
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Pooled cost of grains	9641	14373	15379	23766	13678	22423	10986	20560
2.	Procurement Incidentals:								
	<b>A. Statutory Charges</b>								
	(i) Mandi Charges	556	82	874	135	850	170	675	158
	(ii) Purchase Tax	374	117	616	191	550	175	433	164
	(iii) Gunny Cost	576	601	913	1003	864	978	687	920
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1506</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>2403</b>	<b>1329</b>	<b>2264</b>	<b>1323</b>	<b>1796</b>	<b>1242</b>
	<b>B. Labour &amp; Transportation Charges</b>								
	(i) Mandi Labour	124	11	181	23	218	21	174	21
	(ii) Forwarding Charges	15	73	21	68	12	55	9	7
	(iii) Internal Movement	184	67	292	91	246	124	196	121
	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>148</b>

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>C. Storage and Interest Charges</b>									
(i) Storage		24	0	39	0	58	0	50	0
(ii) Interest		129	0	248	0	225	0	162	0
(iii) Arrears		7	57	-11	-2	61	171	75	157
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>160</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>157</b>
<b>D. Administrative Charges</b>									
		196	45	336	41	341	34	271	34
<b>E. Others (Guarantee Fees)</b>									
		10	0	14	0	14	0	10	0
<b>Total Procurement Incidentals</b>		<b>2195</b>	<b>1053</b>	<b>3523</b>	<b>1550</b>	<b>3440</b>	<b>1729</b>	<b>2743</b>	<b>1581</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Acquisition Cost</b>	<b>11836</b>	<b>15426</b>	<b>18902</b>	<b>25316</b>	<b>17117</b>	<b>24152</b>	<b>13729</b>	<b>22141</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Distribution Cost</b>								
	(i) freight	675	293	1313	1046	1393	1121	536	1131
	(ii) Handling	354	343	578	568	689	741	550	650
	(iii) Storage	210	203	425	418	453	599	356	421
	(iv) Interest	606	790	1113	1488	928	1648	674	1087
	(v) Shortages	18	62	9	163	63	316	35	343
	(vi) Administrative Charges	201	195	286	280	332	368	305	361
	<b>Total Distribution Cost</b>	<b>2064</b>	<b>1886</b>	<b>3724</b>	<b>3963</b>	<b>3838</b>	<b>4793</b>	<b>2455</b>	<b>3993</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Economic Cost</b>	<b>13900</b>	<b>17312</b>	<b>22626</b>	<b>29279</b>	<b>20955</b>	<b>28945</b>	<b>16184</b>	<b>26134</b>

*In addition subsidy released to the States undertaking decentralised procurement operations during the last three years and subsidy estimated to be released in the current year is as under:*

(Rs. in crores)

Year	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Subsidy	770	1503	1286	2486

[English]

#### Change in Sugarcane Price Regime

902. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sugar Industry has sought overhaul of Cane price regime and lower the Statutory Minimum

Price (SMP) fixing it on zonal basis linking to average and not peak recovery; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the anomalies pointed out by the Industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD

SINGH): (a) and (b) As per the present practice, Government have notified a uniform Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) for the entire country for sugarcane at Rs. 74.50 per quintal linked to a basic recovery of 8.5% subject to a premium of Rs. 0.88 for every 0.1% point rise in the recovery above that level for sugar season 2004-05, compared to Rs. 73.00 per quintal for the sugar season 2003-04 linked to a basic recovery of 8.5%. Requests for different SMPs for different Regions was not agreed to by Government as Government declares one uniform price for the entire country for different agricultural commodities. Government have, however, decided that with effect from 2004-05 sugar season the factory-wise SMP of sugarcane will be fixed by taking into account the whole season's recovery rate instead of the peak period recovery rate. In addition, rounding off the fraction of recovery rate will be done as per statistical practice upto one decimal place with effect from 2004-05 sugar season.

#### **Outsourcing of BPL Identification Process**

903. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to out source the identification of Below Poverty Line population to private parties or Non-Governmental Organisations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering to put a freeze on the number of BPL families; and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Assistance for Agricultural Sectors**

904. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any memorandum regarding the central assistance to tide over the conditions of agricultural sectors in the country;

(b) if so, the suggestions made by the multi disciplinary team of the Government to assist the poor farmers; and

(c) the measures the Government intend to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) A Memorandum from the Government of Kerala was received. A Multi-Disciplinary Central Team was constituted for assessing the situation. The Team has submitted its report and it is under consideration of the Government.

#### **Improvement in Tourism Industry**

905. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any improvement in travel and tourism industry after the fall in tourist arrival in India due to September 11 incident in USA; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government had contemplated to attract more foreign tourists in such numbers as to offset the loss incurred in the past?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) A revival trend has been observed in the arrival of foreign tourists in the country with effect from September 2003, which has continued during the years 2003 & 2004. The years 2003 and 2004 (Jan-Nov. 2004) have registered a growth of 14.3% and an estimated growth of 24.0% respectively over the corresponding previous years.

(b) The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has taken the following steps to promote tourism in the country:

- Positioning and maintaining tourism development as a National priority activity;
- Enhancing and maintaining the competitiveness of India as a tourism destination;

- Improving India's existing tourism products and expanding these to meet new market requirements;
- Creation of world class infrastructure;
- Special thrust to rural and small segment tourism;
- Development of tourism circuits.

In addition, the Government is also implementing the following measures to attract more foreign tourists to India:

- Direct approach to the consumers through Electronic and Print media through the "Incredible India" Campaign.
- Creation of World Class Collaterals.
- Centralized Electronic Media Campaign.
- direct co-operative marketing with the tour operators and wholesalers overseas.
- Greater focus in the emerging markets particularly in the region of China, North East Asia and South East Asia.
- Participation in Trade Fairs & Exhibitions
- Optimize Editorial PR and Publicity.
- Use of Internet and web marketing.
- Generating Tourist Publications.
- Re-enforced hospitality programmes including grant of air passages to invite the media personnel, tour operators on familiarization tours to India to get first hand knowledge on various tourism products.

*[Translation]*

#### **Soil Erosion**

906. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar had forwarded a Rs. 500 crore project last year to the Union Government to check soil erosion by the Ganges, the Gandak, the Koshi, the Budhi-Gandak, the Bagmoti, the Khiroi, the Kor and other rivers and for the construction and strengthening of the embankments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide the said amount to State Government in view of havoc caused by the floods there; and

(d) if so, by when this amount is likely to be provided to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Bihar submitted a list of critical anti erosion and raising & strengthening/construction of embankment schemes on the rivers the Ganges, the Gandak, the Burhi Gandak, the Khiroi, the Bagmati and the river Kareh with a total estimated cost of Rs. 526.98 crore for inclusion in the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, "Critical anti erosion works in Ganga Basin States" for implementation during 2004-07.

(c) and (d) The proposals received from the State Governments including Bihar were examined by the Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Chairman, GFCC which also included a representative of the State Government of Bihar. Based on the recommendations of the Committee, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme which inter alia included schemes estimated to cost Rs. 53.33 crore with a central share of Rs. 40 crore in respect of the State Government of Bihar was sanctioned for implementation during 2004-07. An amount of Rs. 11.43 crore has so far been released to the State Government of Bihar to the end of November, 2004.

#### **Crop Insurance Scheme**

907. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY:  
SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV:  
SHRI UDAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has been studying recently to introduce three crop insurance schemes;

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

(c) whether the existing crop insurance scheme have been provided ineffective for farmers; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a), (b) and (d) A Joint Group has been set up to study the improvements required in the existing Crop Insurance Schemes. The terms of reference of the Group are:

- (i) To review the status position of existing Crop Insurance Schemes i.e. National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS), Pilot Project on Farm Income Insurance Scheme (FIIS), Varsha Bima Yojana and other Agriculture related schemes floated by Private General Insurance Companies.
- (ii) Improvements required in NAIS.
- (iii) To develop broad parameters/concept paper of an appropriate and farmers' friendly crop insurance scheme after taking in to account the professional inputs obtained from experts and private sector general insurance companies.
- (iv) To make an assessment of up-front subsidy, if any, to be paid by the Government.

(c) National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) is in operation since Rabi 1999-2000. During the last nine crop seasons (from Rabi 1999-2000 to Rabi 2003-04) 462 lakh farmers have been covered over an area of 743 lakh hectares insuring a sum of Rs. 40272.81 crore. Total claims amounting to Rs. 4751.77 crore have become payable as against the premium of Rs. 1242.65 crore and about 1.58 crore farmers have been benefited under the scheme so far.

The Farm Income Insurance Scheme (FIIS) has been implemented in Rabi 2003-04 and Kharif 2004 seasons on pilot basis. A concurrent evaluation of the scheme is underway to decide the future of this scheme.

#### **Foreign Participation in Construction of Godowns**

908. SHRI SITA RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has invited foreign partners for constructing godowns in the country;
- (b) if so, whether Food Corporation of India (FCI) has not been able to finalize these tenders/bids till date; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

*[English]*

#### **Promotion of Horticulture in Arid and Semi-Arid Areas**

909. SHRI SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL:  
SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some projects have been sanctioned in the arid and semi-arid zones of the drought affected districts in the country;

(b) if so, the funds sanctioned under these projects during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) the details of the projects launched in the arid and semi-arid zones of Rajasthan during the said period; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to promote horticulture in arid and semi-arid areas in various parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) No horticulture projects have been sanctioned specifically for the arid zones of the drought affected districts in the country including Rajasthan. However, the Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture-Supplementation/complementation of State Efforts through Work Plans under which, among other things, the farmers are being given assistance for taking up cultivation of

horticulture crops. This scheme is being implemented in all the States & UTs in the Country including Rajasthan. Under the scheme the State Government are given freedom to take up programmes as per their felt needs

and requirement. The state-wise details of funds provided under the scheme during the last three years and the current year is given in the statement enclosed.

**Statement**

*Statewise releases of funds under Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture*

Sl.No.	States	Funds Released (Rs. in lakhs)			Allocation Central Share
		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2250.00	1900.00	3800.00	3600.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	219.50	463.20	317.28	500.00
3.	Assam	523.50	350.00	350.00	800.00
4.	Bihar	1800.00	1250.00	900.00	1800.00
5.	Jharkhand	1095.00	600.00	1200.00	1800.00
6.	Goa	200.00	162.20	131.04	200.00
7.	Gujarat	1900.00	1600.00	1150.00	2300.00
8.	Haryana	1620.00	1600.00	1662.00	1600.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1800.00	1600.00	1585.15	1800.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	900.00	1932.00	1680.00	1800.00
11.	Karnataka	5850.00	5338.00	5580.00	1400.00
12.	Kerala	2313.54	2762.00	2348.00	5700.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	5000.00	4350.00	4400.00	2900.00
14.	Chhattisgarh	1339.02	1138.00	1600.00	4500.00
15.	Maharashtra	9000.00	7612.00	8400.00	8200.00
16.	Manipur	345.00	300.00	300.00	700.00
17.	Mizoram	720.00	810.00	820.00	900.00
18.	Meghalaya	202.74	700.66	427.25	700.00
19.	Nagaland	776.80	660.00	880.00	900.00
20.	Orissa	1485.00	1250.00	1967.31	2300.00
21.	Punjab	1035.00	850.00	—	1500.00
22.	Rajasthan	5250.00	6700.00	6571.19	6800.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
23.	Sikkim	422.00	330.00	500.00	600.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	4500.00	3360.00	4275.00	4300.00
25.	Tripura	630.00	900.00	715.34	800.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	7500.00	6885.00	7375.00	7000.00
27.	Uttaranchal	1400.00	1290.00	1600.00	1600.00
28.	West Bengal	2500.00	1427.47	1920.00	2400.00
29.	Delhi	—	80.00	50.00	100.00
30.	Pondicherry	135.00	100.00	—	100.00
31.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	90.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
32.	Chandigarh	50.00	—	—	25.00
33.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	135.00	100.00	10.00	50.00
34.	Daman & Diu	45.00	—	—	25.00
35.	Lakshadweep	90.00	100.00	50.00	100.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>63122.10</b>	<b>58600.76</b>	<b>62664.56</b>	<b>69500.00</b>

[Translation]

#### Circulation of Poor Quality Goods

910. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the consumers get poor quality of goods and services despite paying the full cost for the same;

(b) if so, whether any mechanism is in place to monitor the quality control process;

(c) if so, the details of the consumer goods examined during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) whether the companies are required to undergo quality test for their products before circulating the same; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check the circulation of poor quality goods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and

(b) Under the BIS Act 1986, licences are granted to manufactures for the use of BIS Standard Mark (ISI Mark). Licences are granted by BIS after verifying that the manufacturer has the requisite plant and machinery, equipment for tests and qualified technical persons and that the quality of the product confirms to the relevant Indian Standard. This is checked through Preliminary factory evaluation by qualified technical officers of BIS and testing of samples in BIS laboratories of BIS approved laboratories. After grant of licence, BIS ensures that the quality of goods being produced under the BIS Certification Scheme consistently conforms to the requirements of the relevant Indian Standards on continuous basis through the Scheme of Testing and Inspection and Surveillance Inspection.

(c) The number of samples drawn for testing in BIS laboratories or BIS Approved laboratories during the last three years is as under:

	Market Samples	Factory Samples
2001-2002	11802	21696
2002-2003	11364	18983
2003-2004	14824	18604

(d) BIS licensees are required to test their products as per the Scheme of testing and inspection which is given to the manufacturer by the Bureau of Indian Standards and only those products which pass the various tests as required according to the corresponding Indian Standard, can be marked before supplying to the market/ consignees.

(e) About 109 products including packaged drinking water, packaged natural mineral water, cement, food and food additives, LPG cylinders, electrical immersion water heaters, electric iron, electric stoves, electric radiators, switches for domestic and similar purposes etc. which are considered to be important from the point of view of public health and safety have been brought under the mandatory certification of BIS. For these products, it is obligatory for all manufacturers to obtain licence from BIS and to conform to the relevant Indian Standards. These steps ensure that such products which are critical for human health and safety etc. are not supplied without the relevant quality checks.

#### Relief to Farmers

911. SHRI AJIT JOGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government for providing relief to those farmers who faced difficulty because of bad monsoon; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Compensation to farmers suffering crop loss due to insufficient rains is mainly under the National Agriculture Insurance Scheme. For Kharif 2004 the last date of receipt of yield data for determination of claims is 31st January, 2005. As for drought relief assistance the following details may be given;

(Rs. in Crores)

States	Amount Demanded	Amount Sanctioned
1	2	3
Bihar	2312.48	162.15
Tamil Nadu	1910.58	156.84

1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	7226.10	360.94
Andhra Pradesh	1199.68	*
Jharkhand	928.12	*
Madhya Pradesh	724.88	*
Rajasthan	2378.64	**
Karnataka	1147.71	**
Chhattisgarh	604.96	**

\*To be decided by the High Level Committee shortly.

\*\*Memorandum received recently. Central Team being deputed.

[English]

#### Non-Availability of Paddy Seed

912. SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that non-availability of paddy seeds made the situation worst for the farmers of the Assam State; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Normally there is no shortage of paddy seeds in the State. Under abnormal situation like natural calamities i.e. floods during early and mid Kharif (Sali) season, the shortage of quality Sali seed is realized because the seeds available with farmers and other sources are already used up for raising seedling which eventually gets damaged. Government, generally, under such situation takes steps to provide seeds under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) programme.

Government of India, under National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF), released Rs. 19.61 crores this year for agriculture inputs assistance including seed to small and marginal farmers affected by flood. Government of India also provide funds to the tune of Rs. 50 lakh to Assam Seeds, Corporation for construction of seed storage godowns for storing seeds required for calamity

situation. A revolving fund of Rs. 26.94 lakh sanctioned by Government of India for the production of seeds to be kept in Seed Bank is used for procurement of seeds under the Seed Bank scheme to fulfill the demand of seeds in the calamity situations. Government of India has also released Rs. 20.41 lakh this year to Assam Seeds Corporation for maintenance of the Seed Bank.

**Withdraw of Concession on Premium for Insurance of Crops**

913. SHRI PRAKASHBAPU V. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether small and marginal farmers are receiving concession in premium for insurance of crops;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to withdraw this concession; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the provision of the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS), small and marginal farmers were entitled to avail 50% subsidy in the premium which is being phased out over a period of five years. At present, the premium subsidy available to the small and marginal farmers is 10% of the premium.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Erosion Due to Rivers**

914. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of massive erosion of embankment of Ganges, Rupnarayan and other rivers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has received proposals from the State Governments including West Bengal for protection of erosion;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action the Government have taken or proposed to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) constituted by Central Government had prepared comprehensive plans for flood management including river erosion for the main Ganga stem which also includes Bhagirathi, Hooghly, Rupnarayan etc. and the same were sent to respective State Governments for implementation.

(c) to (e) Flood Management being a State subject, the flood control projects are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves according to their own priorities. The assistance rendered by the Central Government is technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

The Government of India had formulated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) in January, 2001 with a view to provide financial assistance to the Ganga basin States including West Bengal for implementing critical anti erosion schemes. Under this scheme, after examination of the proposals received from various State Governments, funds have been released to them during 10th Plan as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Name of State	Funds released
1.	Bihar	26.14
2.	Uttar Pradesh	16.69
3.	Uttaranchal	0.95
4.	West Bengal	10.78

**Development of High Yield Wheat**

915. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Scientists of Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi have developed a high yielding and disease resistant wheat (Triticum aestivum) Variety (HD-2851); and

(b) if so, the comments of the Government on the new variety?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Wheat Variety HD-2851 (Pusa Vishesh) was released in 2004 by Delhi State Variety Release Committee for cultivation under irrigated conditions of Delhi State (NCR) for timely sowing. The variety matures in about 137 days duration with average yield potential of more than 5 tonnes per hectare. It is also resistant to all the three wheat rust diseases i.e. yellow, brown and black rusts.

#### Production of Palm Oil

916. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of production of Palm Oil in the country at present;

(b) the production of Palm oil in the country during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the quantum of palm oil imported during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) the steps, the Government is taking to increase production with a view to become self-sufficient; and

(e) the contribution being made by the agricultural scientists in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The cost of Palm Oil varies as it depends upon market fluctuations.

(b) The estimated production of Palm Oil in the country is 50,000 MT, annually, for the last couple of years. State-wise data regarding production of Palm Oil is not maintained.

(c) The quantum of Palm Oil imported during the last three years is as under:

(Quantity in Lakh MT)

Year (April-March)	Crude Palm Oil	Refined Palm Oil
2001-2002	1.73	1.01
2002-2003	2.69	3.61
2003-2004	2.65	1.18

(d) Some of the steps taken by the Government to enhance production of oilseeds/edible oils in the country are:

- (i) A Technology Mission on Oilseeds is in place to increase the production and productivity of oilseeds in the country.
- (ii) Increasing the areas under non-traditional oilseeds crops, like tree borne oil seeds, rice barn oil etc. to increase availability of edible oils.
- (iii) Assistance for Oil Palm development.
- (iv) Better incentives to producers through fixation of Minimum Support Price (MSP).
- (v) Use of indigenous oils in the manufacture of Vanaspati upto the level of 12% production has been made mandatory.

(e) In order to increase the production and productivity of oilseeds/edible oil in the country and to make the country self-reliant in the production of oilseeds/edible oils, Government of India is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) in 14 major oilseeds growing States. Under this Scheme, assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of seed minikits, distribution of plant protection chemicals, plant protection equipments, weedicides, supply of rhizobium culture/phosphate solubilising bacteria, distribution of gypsum/pyrite/liming/dolomite, distribution of sprinkler sets, water carrying pipes, publicity, etc. In order to disseminate information on improved production technologies amongst the farmers, block demonstrations and integrated pest Management (IPM) demonstrations are organized through State Department of Agriculture and Front Line Demonstrations through ICAR.

*[Translation]***Development of Horticulture and Floriculture**

917. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken by the Union Government for the development of horticulture and floriculture in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) the assistance provided to each State for the purpose during the last three years and the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Government is implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture-Supplementation/complementation of State Efforts through Work Plans under which, among other things, the farmers are being given assistance for taking up cultivation of horticulture crops including floriculture. This scheme is being implemented in all States & UTs in the Country including Tamil Nadu. Under the scheme the State Governments are given freedom to take up programmes as per their felt needs and requirement within the budgetary allocation of the scheme. The state-wise details of assistance provided under the Macro Management scheme during the last three years and allocation for the current year are given in the statement enclosed.

***Statement***

*The statewise releases of funds under Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management in Agriculture*

Sl.No.	States	Funds Released (Rs. in lakhs)			Allocation Central Share
		2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2250.00	1900.00	3800.00	3600.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	219.50	463.20	317.28	500.00
3.	Assam	523.50	350.00	350.00	800.00
4.	Bihar	1800.00	1250.00	900.00	1800.00
5.	Jharkhand	1095.00	600.00	1200.00	1800.00
6.	Goa	200.00	162.20	131.04	200.00
7.	Gujarat	1900.00	1600.00	1150.00	2300.00
8.	Haryana	1620.00	1600.00	1662.00	1600.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1800.00	1600.00	1585.15	1600.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	900.00	1932.00	1680.00	1600.00
11.	Karnataka	5850.00	5338.00	5580.00	1400.00
12.	Kerala	2313.54	2762.00	2348.00	5700.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	5000.00	4350.00	4400.00	2900.00
14.	Chhattisgarh	1339.02	1138.00	1600.00	4500.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Maharashtra	9000.00	7612.00	8400.00	8200.00
16.	Manipur	345.00	300.00	300.00	700.00
17.	Mizoram	720.00	810.00	820.00	900.00
18.	Meghalaya	202.74	700.66	427.25	700.00
19.	Nagaland	776.80	660.00	880.00	900.00
20.	Orissa	1485.00	1250.00	1967.31	2300.00
21.	Punjab	1035.00	850.00	—	1500.00
22.	Rajasthan	5250.00	6700.00	6571.19	6800.00
23.	Sikkim	422.00	330.00	500.00	600.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	4500.00	3360.00	4275.00	4300.00
25.	Tripura	630.00	900.00	715.34	800.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	7500.00	6885.00	7375.00	7000.00
27.	Uttaranchal	1400.00	1290.00	1600.00	1600.00
28.	West Bengal	2500.00	1427.47	1920.00	2400.00
29.	Delhi	—	80.00	50.00	100.00
30.	Pondicherry	135.00	100.00	—	100.00
31.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	90.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
32.	Chandigarh	50.00	—	—	25.00
33.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	135.00	100.00	10.00	50.00
34.	Daman & Diu	45.00	—	—	25.00
35.	Lakshadweep	90.00	100.00	50.00	100.00
Total		63122.10	58600.76	62664.56	69500.00

**Globalisation causing Hardships to Small and Marginal Farmers and Farm Workers**

918. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain aspects of globalisation are subjecting small and marginal farmers and farm workers in India to many hardships;

(b) if so, whether the indebtedness among farmers is on the increase in the changed circumstances of globalisation; and

(c) if so, the steps, the Government propose to take to safeguard the interest of the farming community?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) As may be seen from the table given below, the quantum of agricultural imports compared to the groups domestic product from the agriculture sector in India continues to very small. Thus, the hardships, if any, suffered by small and marginal farmers and farm workers in India cannot be attributed to the process of globalisation.



Year	GDP Agriculture at Current Price (Rs. in Crores)	Agriculture Imports (Rs. in Crores)	Percentage of Imports to GDP
1993-94	221834	2327.33	1.04
1994-95	255193	5937.21	2.32
1995-96	277846	5890.10	2.11
1996-97	334030	6612.60	1.97
1997-98	353490	8784.19	2.48
1998-99	406498	14566.48	3.58
1999-00	422392	16066.73	3.80
2000-01	423522	12086.23	2.85
2001-02	473004	16256.61	3.43
2002-03	456044	17608.83	3.86

Source: Central Statistical Organisation, New Delhi; *Agricultural Statistics at a glance 2004*.

On 18th June, 2004, the Government has announced a new Agriculture Credit Policy, to improve the flow of credit to the agriculture sector and also to provide debt relief to farmers.

*[English]*

#### Tourism Circuits in Gujarat

919. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to develop tourism circuits in Gujarat by connecting cultural and tourism hubs including 'Coastline Tourism'; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Development and promotion of places of tourist spots/ interest in primarily undertaken by the State Government/ UT Administrations themselves. However, the Department of Tourism also sanctions projects at important tourist places in the country which include cultural and coastline tourism. These projects are sanctioned on the basis of filed visits/consultations with the States/UT Administrations concerned.

During the last three years (2001-02 to 2003-04), 21 projects for Rs. 1423.13 lakhs were sanctioned for development of tourism in the State of Gujarat.

12.00 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, for the year 2003-04.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, for the year 2003-04, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) of Item No. (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 916/2004]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Reports for the year 2003-2004 (Hindi and English versions) alongwith Audited Accounts in respect of the following institutes:
- (a) (i) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Ahmedabad.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 917/2004]
- (ii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Bangalore.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 918/2004]
- (iii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Bhopal.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 919/2004]
- (iv) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Bhubaneswar.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 920/2004]
- (v) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Kolkata.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 921/2004]
- (vi) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutrition, Chandigarh.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 922/2004]
- (vii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Chennai.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 923/2004]
- (viii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutrition, Gurdaspur.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 924/2004]
- (ix) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Goa.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 925/2004]
- (x) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Guwahati.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 926/2004]
- (xi) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Gwalior.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 927/2004]
- (xii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Jaipur.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 928/2004]
- (xiii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Hyderabad.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 929/2004]
- (xiv) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutrition, Lucknow.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 930/2004]
- (xv) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Mumbai.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 931/2004]
- (xvi) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, New Delhi.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 932/2004]
- (xvii) Institute of Hotel Management and Applied Nutrition, Patna.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 933/2004]
- (xviii) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering and Nutrition, Shimla.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 934/2004]
- (xix) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Srinagar.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 935/2004]
- (xx) Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Shillong.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 936/2004]
- (xxi) Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology, Thiruvananthapuram.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 937/2004]

- (xxii) National Council of Hotel Management and Catering Technology, New Delhi.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 938/2004]

- (b) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the above institutes for the year 2003-04.

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management, Gwalior, for the year 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management, Gwalior, for the year 2003-2004.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 939/2004]

- (3) 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 Kumarakruppa Frontier Hotels Private Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Kumarakruppa Frontier Hotels Private Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 940/2004]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the India Tourism Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003.

- (ii) Annual Report of the India Tourism Development Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 941/2004]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Ranchi Ashok Bihar Hotel Corporation Limited, for the year 2002-2003.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Ranchi Ashok Bihar Hotel Corporation Limited, for the year 2002-2003, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (4) Three statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 942/2004]

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 516(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th August, 2004 rescinding the Insecticides Price, Stock Display and submission of Reports Order, 1986 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 943/2004]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Destructive Insects and Pests Act, 1914:

- (i) The Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003 published in Notification No. S.O. 1322(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th November, 2003.

- (ii) The Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) (Amendment) Order, 2004 published in Notification No. S.O. 167 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th February, 2004.

- (iii) The Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Third Amendment Order, 2004 published in Notification No. S.O. 644 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st May, 2004.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 944/2004]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the All India Federation of Co-operative Spinning Mills Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2003-04, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the All India Federation of Co-operative Spinning Mills Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2003-2004.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT. 945/2004]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): Mr. Speaker, Sir ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the tainted Ministers. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Please take your seats.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (a)(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cooperative Store Limited (Super Bazar), New Delhi, for the year 1998-1999, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cooperative Store Limited (Super Bazar), New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (iii) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cooperative Store Limited (Super Bazar), New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (iv) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cooperative Store Limited (Super Bazar), New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (b) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Cooperative Store Limited (Super Bazar), New Delhi, for the years 1998-99 to 2001-2002.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 946/2004]

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA): Sir, on behalf of Shri Namo Narain Meena, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:
- (i) The Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Amendment Rules, 2004 published in Notification No. S.O. 826(E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th July, 2004, together with a Corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. S.O. 914(E) dated the 12th August, 2004.
- (ii) The Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Second Amendment Rules, 2004 published in Notification No. S.O. 897(E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th August, 2004.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 947/2004]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Food Corporation of India, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Food Corporation of India, New Delhi, for the year 2001-2002.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 948/2004]

12.01 hrs.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE  
SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE**

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: The Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House in their First Report presented to the House on 26th August, 2004 have recommended that leave of absence from the sittings of the House be granted to the following Members for the period mentioned against each:

(1) Shri Suresh Kalmadi	16.8.2004 to 26.8.2004
(2) Shri Abdul Mannan Hossain	16.8.2004 to 26.8.2004
(3) Dr. Chinta Mohan	3.7.2004 to 21.7.2004
(4) Km. Mamata Banerjee	16.8.2004 to 26.8.2004

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: When the Speaker is making an announcement, you are interrupting him?

Is it the pleasure of the House that leave as recommended by the Committee be granted?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Leave is granted. The Members will be informed accordingly.

12.02 hrs.

**SECURITIES LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL\*,  
2004**

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): On behalf of my senior colleague, Shri P. Chidambaram, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and the Depositories Act, 1996.

MR. SPEAKER: The question:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and the Depositories Act, 1996."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: Sir, I introduce the Bill.\*\*

12.03 hrs.

**STATEMENT RE: SECURITIES LAWS  
(AMENDMENT)\* ORDINANCE**

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): Sir, on behalf of my senior colleague, Shri P. Chidambaram, I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by the Securities Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2004 (No. 4 of 2004).

*[Placed in Library. See. No. LT. 949/2004]*

12.04 hrs.

**ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST  
AND RECOVERY OF DEBTS LAWS  
(AMENDMENT) BILL\*, 2004**

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): Sir, on behalf of my senior colleague, Shri P. Chidambaram, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and further to amend the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and the Companies Act, 1956.  
*...(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Sir, I want to raise an objection at this stage.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no notice in front of me.

\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 6.12.2004.

\*\* Introduced with the Recommendation of the President.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, this Bill should be sent to the Standing Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: Let your notice come to me, I will decide.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: He is introducing the Bill now.

MR. SPEAKER: That does not mean the Bill is passed.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: At the introduction stage itself I have a right to say that the Bill be sent to the Standing Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your point.

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shivraj Patilji is sitting here. He had said that every Bill would be sent to Parliamentary Standing Committee but of the ordinances that have been brought so far not a single Bill has been sent to Parliamentary Standing Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: Bill has not been introduced as yet. Bills are sent to Parliamentary Standing Committee only after introduction.

*[English]*

Let the Bill be introduced first.

The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and further to amend the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and the Companies Act, 1956."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: I introduce the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Malhotra, you wanted to say that the Bill be sent to the Standing Committee. Well, I have noted it.

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir it is the convention of the House to send all the Bills to Parliamentary Standing Committee. Shri Shivraj V. Patil said that the bill should be sent to Parliamentary Standing Committee even if there is change in just one line. The Government has brought many ordinances. I want to know how many of the Bills have been sent to Parliamentary Standing Committee?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I have noted your submission.

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, what decision have you taken in this regard?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I will decide on it. I cannot work as fast as you can.

Item No. 12, Shri Palanimanickam.

12.06 hrs.

### STATEMENT RE: ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST AND RECOVERY OF DEBTS LAWS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE\*

*[English]*

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: Sir, on behalf of my senior colleague Shri P. Chidambaram, I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by the Enforcement of Security Interest and Recovery of Debts Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2004 (No. 5 of 2004).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 950/2004]

12.07 hrs.

## NATIONAL TAX TRIBUNAL BILL\*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF LAW and JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the adjudication by the National Tax Tribunal of disputes with respect to levy, assessment, collection and enforcement of direct taxes and also to provide for the adjudication by that Tribunal of disputes with respect to the determination of the rates of duties of customs and central excise on goods and the valuation of goods for the purposes of assessment of such duties as well as in matters relating to levy of tax on service, in pursuance of article 323B of the Constitution and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the adjudication by the National Tax Tribunal of disputes with respect to levy, assessment, collection and enforcement of direct taxes and also to provide for the adjudication by that Tribunal of disputes with respect to the determination of the rates of duties of customs and central excise on goods and the valuation of goods for the purposes of assessment of such duties as well as in matters relating to levy of tax on service, in pursuance of article 323B of the Constitution and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: I introduce the Bill.

12.08 hrs.

### (i) Re: Demolition of disputed structure at Ayodhya

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I know there are many hon. Members who want to raise a particular issue. I have already committed that after the Question Hour I shall permit them. My earnest request is, instead of all of you rising together and trying to say something, I will call

you one-by-one. I have also committed to Shri Malhotra that I would give him opportunity to make his submission. Therefore, my earnest appeal is that if you consider this to be a very important matter, do it in a manner in which what you say will be heard by everybody and also will be an effective presentation. Therefore, please cooperate.

Shri Ramji Lal Suman.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Ferozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, opportunities should be given to equal number of hon. members of opposition too.

MR. SPEAKER: Allright, I would count.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Raghunath Jha, I appeal to you to maintain peace. He gave the notice first so he is being given the opportunity to speak first.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, the demolition of Babri Masjid. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: There was no Babri Masjid ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please ask him to keep quiet. None of them would be able to speak, if he does not let me speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Speaker, Sir. He is raking up dead issues. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: My appeal to all the hon. Members is.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is very unfortunate.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You mention that when you speak. You are not bound by his statement. Malhotraji, you say that you are not accepting it.

\* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 6.12.2004.

Shri Suman, please be brief.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on one hand the minority communities are aggrieved to remember this day and on the other hand the communal organisations celebrate this day as "Vijay Diwas" or "Shaurya Diwas" and organise some functions.

Mr. Speaker, the persons who demolished Babri Masjid deserve to be severely condemned. ...(*Interruptions*)\*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: That word is deleted.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have deleted it.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have expunged it.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramji Lal Suman, why are you raising such issues?

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have expunged it.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, he should tender an apology. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the persons responsible for demolition of Babri Masjid should be severely condemned. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Suman, do not use such words, which are not parliamentary.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot allow that.

...(*Interruptions*)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: No, it will not do. He has to apologise. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Malhotra, I will call you.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is expunged.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, these people celebrate 6 December as 'Vijay Diwas' and 'Shaurya Diwas' and they are not ready to accept ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Now you are on television. The whole country is seeing how you are behaving. I am appealing to all sections of the House, let us conduct in a manner where you will have your say.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will give you full opportunity.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have deleted that word. I had already expunged it.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have expunged that word.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You will get full opportunity.

...(*Interruptions*)



MR. SPEAKER: That is not even recorded.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Then, I will allow. Shri Suman, please carry on with your speech.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What are you saying?

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this wan't done here. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, today is Black Day. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Suman, you better have your say. Only your statement will be recorded and nobody else's. Be brief.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have deleted that word. What could be done further?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, they celebrate this day as Shaurya Diwas. ...(Interruptions)  
The Government led by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee deposed before the Lebrahan Commission on 3 June 2003.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not appropriate.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, I have deleted the objectionable word.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: They have said in the affidavit, Kalyan Singhji was in power in Uttar Pradesh at that time. Shri Kalyan Singh failed to protect the

monument, the Government failed in carrying out its responsibility. ...(Interruptions) Shri Kalyan Singh himself said before Lebrahan Commission that Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Shri Lal Krishna Advani, Shri Murl Manohar joshi and Ms. Uma Bharati hatched the conspiracy to demolish the mosque and then the some Kalyan Singh ji said before the Commission it was the will of the God. ...(Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir. There are secessionist elements who want to destroy the peace of the country. I would request the Government to take strict action in this regard. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have deleted the objectionable word.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basudeb Acharia to speak. Please be brief and just mention the issue.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order. There is no point of order.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Today is the black day. 12 years back, on this very day, Babri Masjid was demolished. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have deleted that from the record.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Malhotra, I immediately expunged it. I have expunged it. It is not on record.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Leaders of BJP were charge-sheeted. Even the charge-sheeted Ministers continued to remain in the NDA Government. Shri Kalyan Singh was the former Chief Minister and he is a Member of this House. He deposed before the Liberhans Commission that the conspiracy was hatched at the residence of Shri L.K. Advani for demolition of Babri Masjid. Now when Shri Kalyan Singh appeared before the Liberhans Commission, he changed his statement. I demand that Shri Kalyan Singh should clarify what he meant when he deposed before the Liberhans Commission one year back. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into everything.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We demand that action should be taken against those who are responsible for the demolition of Babri Masjid, who are responsible for the demolition of the fabric of our country. In the last Lok Sabha elections, the mandate of the people was clear. People have demanded that immediate action should be taken against Shiv Sena, VHP, Bajrang Dal and others. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also given notice. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: All of you should not speak together. What is this? What are you people doing?

...(Interruptions)

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ (Moradabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Babri Masjid was demolished on 6 December. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Your matter is over.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you yourself said. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Your name is not there.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: He is repeating same words.

12.18 hrs.

(At this stage Shri Srichand Kriplani and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the table)

...(Interruptions)

\*Not recorded.

12.19 hrs.

(At this stage Shri Srichand Kriplani and some other hon. Members went back to their seats)

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir much ...(Interruptions) at least you would allow me to speak. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Malhotra speaks.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is recorded.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Which is not recorded, cannot be quoted. It is not recorded.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Everybody should search his heart.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Can you justify your action? ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Please do not force me.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Goyal, I will name you one day. I will name you soon, you must know. You are the most unruly Member.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You should know how to address the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

\*Not recorded.

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: All of you please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)**[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Everybody must sit down.

...*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: I request you to sit down. Till now three of your Members have spoken.

...*(Interruptions)**[English]*PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker Sir, you become totally helpless. ...*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: What will you get from interrupting the proceedings. Nothing is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)**[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I would not allow this.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am trying to do it in a manner which is consistent with a civilised organisation. It is the highest body of the country.

...*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, while raising the issue the language that has been used, in any civilised country, in any civilised party, in any civilised Lok Sabha, in Rajya Sabha. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing, you please sit down, you please control them.

...*(Interruptions)**[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I will now try to impose discipline. Bring the rule. Mr. Azmi, you must sit down. You have to sit down. Please, at this stage of your life, do not do this. I respect you. Do not behave in this manner that I am compelled to take action. Yes, Mr. Malhotra.

*[Translation]*PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it would have been better had they not used those words. I would like to say only three-four things in this regard. One should not repeat the something like Goebbels and should prove wrong thing right. In 1949. ...*(Interruptions)**[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I am calling Sumitraji to sit here and control. It is very easy to give advice to the Chair.

*[Translation]*SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, commission is going on ...*(Interruptions)* How can you expunge it. ...*(Interruptions)*PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there in 1949. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You please listen.

...*(Interruptions)*PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: In 1949 idols were installed there. The idols are installed there with the order of the High Court and the Supreme Court. ...*(Interruptions)*The Supreme Court has directed that idols can not be removed from there. The Supreme Court has also stated that worshipping will be performed there. ...*(Interruptions)* If they are not carrying out the order of the Supreme Court then it is wrong. ...*(Interruptions)**[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot understand. What you are saying, they are not bound and what they are saying, you are not bound. Respective viewpoints have been said. It is for the people to decide.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: I am telling  
 ...(*Interruptions*) The worshipping is being done since  
 1949. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You please deny everything.

...(*Interruptions*)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir,  
 the structure that they are calling mosque was merely a  
 structure. No Muslim was allowed to go inside its 200  
 meter periphery. ...(*Interruptions*) Who did decide this?  
 ...(*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

Please, let me now speak. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Goyal, again you have risen  
 without my permission. I will request the hon. Minister of  
 Parliamentary Affairs to control his Member. Otherwise,  
 he will be in trouble.

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE (Aurangabad,  
 Maharashtra): Through you, I would like to submit to  
 UPA Government. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You please speak.

...(*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Mr. Khaire.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Malhotra, you cannot go on like  
 this. I have called Mr. Khaire.

...(*Interruptions*)

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: I have given you full time.

...(*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing would be recorded except  
 what Mr. Khaire says.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Mr. Speaker, Sir,  
 through you I would like to submit to the UPA Government  
 that Ayodhya is the land of Lord Shri Rama Chandrajī.  
 Lord Rama Chandra ji was born there but Babar built  
 mosque there. Then several incidents took place and  
 there were many conflict. Whatever structure was there  
 was built by Babar. That is the birth place of Lord Rama.  
 Lord Rama was born there. If the temple of Lord Rama  
 is not built there then will it be built in Pakistan. Everyone  
 is opposing it. Rama is present in the names of Shri  
 Ramji Lal Suman, Shri Raghunath and Shri Ram Kripal  
 Yadav. If they oppose the name of Rama then they  
 should drop word Rama from their names. ...(*Interruptions*)  
 Ramachandra Param Hans himself had launched  
 movement there for many years. His last desire was that  
 Rama temple should be constructed there. ...(*Interruptions*)

Through you, I would like to submit to the UPA  
 Government that Lord Rama Temple should be built there  
 where Lord Rama was born. ...(*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I shall look into the records.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: There shall be no personal  
 allegations.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded. Why are  
 you speaking now?

I am grateful for your kind cooperation. Now, Shri  
 Bellarmin may raise his matter.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I shall look into the records  
 personally. If there is anything unparliamentary, it is for  
 me to delete it.

...(*Interruptions*)

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\*Not recorded.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, since today is the black day in the history of India, we walk out from the House to protest against it.  
...*(Interruptions)*

12.27 hrs.

*(Shri Mohan Singh and some other hon. Members then left the House)*

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bellarmin.

SHRI A.V. BELLARMIN (Nagercoil): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I greet you all, on behalf of the people of the Tri-Sea Sangama Bhoomi, Kanyakumari, where the confluence of three big Oceans—the Bay of Bengal, the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea—is a unique phenomenon.

The sacred relics of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi and that of the great leader Iyya Kamaraj, kept at their memorials in the soil of Kanyakumari give impetus to my voice. Iyyan Thiruvalluvar who imparted universal codes of ethos to the world and the revolutionary young Saint Swami Vivekananda who preached universal religious tolerance bear witness to my voice.

But such a pomp and glory of Kanyakumari District is being eclipsed by the persistent neglect of the district in the matter of setting up of development projects ensuring a better life and well-being of the 14 lakh people of the district by the successive powers that be. That district which has a literate population of 95 per cent longs for employment opportunities.

The upgradation of the Colachel Port into an international mother container port and a central transit harbour is a cherished need of the people of south India in order to achieve socio-economic development of this region. Already a proposal submitted by the Malaysian Port officials and marine experts in 2001 to develop Colachel as super transit port and container mother port is with the State Government of Tamil Nadu.

It is a natural port with sea depth of more than 55 feet. This port is strategically located on the southern tip of our country. Because of such a central geographical position of the port, Colachel can be developed as a container mother port. Hence I request that the Government must come forward to get the proposals from the State Government for the upgradation of this historical port. Thank you.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, will the time not be given to the members of RJD?  
...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

\*SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai): Hon. Speaker, Sir, at a time when Samba harvesting is on in Tamil Nadu particularly in Thanjavur District the State Government has not taken adequate steps to procure paddy directly from farmers. Very few procurement centres are on. There again they refuse to accept paddy from farmers on the grounds of moisture content.

Union Government is also not procuring paddy there through FCI. The Cauvery Delta farmers have been hit hard by drought consecutively for the past three years. The small and marginal farmers have been driven to their wits end and such poor farmers are forced to sell their paddy at a throw away price of Rs. 4 per kg. The cost of production of rice in itself is Rs. 8 per kg when it is sold not less than Rs. 12 per kg in the open market. Hence I urge upon the Government to open more procurement centres to help overcome the problems faced by the Cauvery Delta farmers.

Similarly, groundnut price has also dwindled from Rs. 750 per quintal to Rs. 400 and less. The peanut farmers find it difficult to make both ends meet as the input cost is more. Ironically at the same time groundnut oil price has been increased by Rs. 10 per kg. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to evolve effective steps to save poor farmers from middlemen by way of offering minimum support price setting up more number of procurement centres.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Have you given notice to speak in the regional language? No interpretation is coming.

...*(Interruptions)*

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\*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

[*Translation*]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I would like to say something about my constituency. Drought is continuously occurring in my constituency for the last season. ...(*Interruptions*) we could not sow crop of maize and the next crops have got ruined. So I want that in my district. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Let him finish. I will make my submission.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Lal Singh, have you finished?

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: No Sir.

[*Translation*]

I have not yet started then how will it be finished. With your permission, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards my constituency. I would like to submit to the Minister of Agriculture that drought is occurring continuously in my area. Last crop of maize could not be sown.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mohd. Shahid, please do not do this. Do not take everything in your hand. I am not going to tolerate it, whatever you have said has not been recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: People are dying of starvation in my constituency and they are talking of temple and mosque ...(*Interruptions*) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am submitting that drought is continuously occurring in my area and the people are dying of hunger. I request you to issue directive to the Government to send food in my area and special package should be given to my area. A team should be sent there to assess the situation there. The condition is very precarious there. They do not know what is happening there. Both the parties are aggrieved. ...(*Interruptions*)

\*Not recorded.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I know the importance of this day for both the sides. I had requested all the hon. Members at the beginning itself. Some hon. Members had met me and I told them, let the issue be raised in a manner which is consistent with the decorum and dignity of the House. Some of the hon. Members wanted to raise it. I have asked them to raise it in the House. I have also promised to Prof. Malhotra—I know they are the main Opposition Party and they have something to say on this—that he will also be asked to speak. Three parties are represented here and I invited all of them. RJD has not given any notice to me. Not a single notice has come from your Party, Shri Jha.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we had requested you to give us an opportunity to speak. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please allow me to finish.

I request you to please do not force me to break the rules. Rules are very clear. Those who have given notices, will be allowed to speak. Therefore, please cooperate. The issue has been raised. Some observations have been made from both the sides. Certainly, if any other appropriate occasion arises I will give you full opportunity to speak.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Sir, what will be a bigger occasion than this? ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Occasion comes after giving notice.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: All the rules exist for us only. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: We know your views and respect it too.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): 27 out of 98 small industries have closed down due to the lack of central financial aid in all the States and complex labour laws. 1754 workers are jobless. The main reason for lockouts is increase in raw material prices over there whereas the cost prices have not increased as much. Competition with big industries is another reason for this. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: You have given chance to other Members also.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not true, I have not allowed anyone to speak without notice. Their leader had asked for time. Your leader did not do so. If Lalu Prasad ji had asked for time, I would have given him too.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Family feuds have been a reason for heavy expenditure on workers. It has led to the closure of 27 units. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Till now, nobody has asked me for an opportunity.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt.

*[English]*

You have raised a very good point.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: 480 workers of five Upton Units are jobless and they are on the verge of starvation. The workers of these units in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh are jobless since Atal ji's regime. I would like to inform that 127 employees of Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation Workshop, 20 of Sunwind Chemicals, 499 of Amausi Textiles Mill and 36 of Ganesh Iron Steel Rolling Mill are now jobless. At present a total number of 1754 workers of 27 Mills are jobless. I shall give the complete list to the Minister later on. I would like to say that the workers have always supported their Mill owners in the times of distress but today the workers are jobless and they are starving, their wives are also jobless at present. Efforts have been made from time to time by the Uttar Pradesh Government and to absorb many of these workers in Government departments providing employment to them. Through you, I demand

the Government to provide financial help and to simplify the labour laws to revive these 27 small industrial units, this will help in solving the workers' problems. With these words I conclude.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN (Deogarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government are going to bring a third Amendment Bill in the Patent related law during this Session. New developments are taking place in Indian Medicine scenario. A huge price rise is expected in medicines for major diseases like cancer, diabetes and heart diseases etc. Otherwise also the prices of life saving drugs are not affordable for the people of India. 40 percent people in my region are living below poverty line. It is not possible for the people of this region to buy medicines for such diseases at the present cost itself. The Government are going to bring an Amendment Bill thus they should keep in mind the expected price rise. Through you, I would like to draw the Government's attention towards the apprehension of price rise of wanted drugs, the Government should come out with a solution in the forthcoming Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, you have raised a good point.

12.38 hrs.

(II) **Re: Reported threat to the Indian Cricket Team from a terrorist group in Bangladesh**

*[Translation]*

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI (Bhagalpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Indian Cricket Team had proposed to visit Bangladesh. A terrorist group in Bangladesh named Harkat-ul-Jehad has threatened to kill the Indian players. It is a 22 day tour. Two test matches and three one day international matches will be played during this trip. The Finance Minister of Bangladesh Shri Salfurrahman has said that Harkat-ul-Jehad is an organisation on papers only but the fact is that this organisation was formed four years ago with the help of Osama Bin Laden. This organisation had announced implementation of Islamic Rule. A Bangladeshi Journalist was killed and attempts were made twice by this organisation to kill Sheikh Haseena. The entire country is shocked with this threat. The Indian team wants to go and play in Bangladesh. Through you, I would like to mention this to the Government that they should make the country and House aware of the situation prevailing there and let the country know about the people who are giving such threats. If they try to harm a single player of ours, the entire country will strongly react to it, therefore the players should be

provided with tight security. The advance party which has gone to Bangladesh should check all the security arrangements and our team should be sent there only after that. The Government should give a statement in the House about this.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): I too have to say something on this issue.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Had you not been interrupting. I would have called you. But since you are interrupting, you are not getting a chance.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Today, the cricket lovers of the country are waiting desperately for matches to take place between India and Bangladesh. These matches should end peacefully, but our players should be provided with maximum security.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I have been repeatedly telling the hon. Members that by interrupting each other, they are not helping themselves also. Nor if I do not call you then, you cannot blame me because you are already interrupting. Mr. Rawale, you have to associate only.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bangladesh was formed because of Pakistan. A few years back Bangladeshi people had killed Indian soldiers. As hon'ble Modiji said today that terrorism of Bangladesh is prevailing in North-East also. I would like to ask as to what security the Government is providing to the people there. Our Parliamentary Affairs Minister Hon'ble Ghulam Nabi Azad is sitting over here, I would like to demand from him that until terrorism is curbed in Pakistan and Bangladesh, we should not send our teams to these countries.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have also given a notice.

MR. SPEAKER: I have received your notice just now.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Hon'ble Azadji, please tell whether this tour will take place or not?

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot force them.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, this issue is already there in the knowledge of hon'ble Minister of Sports and he has already said that he is looking into the matter.

*[English]*

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPA (Trichur): Sir, there is an alarming report in the Press today that the Director of the Russian Atomic Energy has made a statement that the Tarapur Nuclear Power Plant, which is working on the enriched uranium supplied by the Russian Federation, will not get any more enriched uranium from there. If that happens, then this Power Plant will not be able to work.

Sir, therefore, I would like to request, through you, to the Government to look into this matter and make a statement in the House so that the hon. Members of the House would be enlightened on the prevailing situation today.

*[Translation]*

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA (Mirzapur):  
*...(Interruptions)\**

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: You please come to your subject—problem of erosion caused by river Ganga in the Mirzapur region of Uttar Pradesh.

*...(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to your subject. Nothing will be recorded. I would not allow this to be recorded. You are not coming to your subject.

*...(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA: Sir my submission is that forests are available in every part of India and matter relating to its conservation and drought.  
*...(Interruptions)* You are not allowing me to speak but not stopping Members who resort to indiscipline. I am a disciplined soldier of BSP. *...(Interruptions)\**

\*Not recorded.



[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the discipline you are showing. I would not allow this thing. Nothing except the subject on which he has given notice, will be recorded. Please do not try to be too intelligent.

[Translation]

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Ganga flows through my parliamentary constituency, Mirzapur. Its flow has rendered many a temples, schools in Mirzapur city on the verge of collapse and land beneath them has been almost eroded. I have written several times to the Government in this regard and the Government of Uttar Pradesh has been telling that it would release funds.

But, present State Government machinery and the administration is neglecting it. Entire Mirzapur city may be washed away or may collapse any day which would badly affect thousands ...*(Interruptions)* Hon. Minister, I will not do all this.

MR. SPEAKER: It is very important issue, you may speak on it.

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to submit that the flow of Ganga has caused substantial erosion on the banks of Mirzapur city. An action plan should be formulated in this regard urgently and package should be provided to my district so that it could be protected. It includes drought relief and many other things. ...*(Interruptions)*\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very easy to make an allegation. You say that you are a young Member and you have learnt how to accuse the Speaker. You have learnt it already.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA: Please ask the Government of Uttar Pradesh to check flow of river Ganga and soil erosion being caused by it urgently. ...*(Interruptions)*

\*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: It has not been recorded. If you have spoken anything of this kind it will not be recorded. Indiscipline will not be paid-off.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Mahadeorao Shiwankar—not present.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, it is reported in today's newspaper, particularly, *The Hindu*, that the hon. Finance Minister made a statement that the Government will implement the decision of the NDA Government of 74 per cent foreign investment in private banks.

Sir, it is a very serious thing because, in the Common Minimum Programme, there are many items regarding the common man and they must be implemented. Without implementing that Programme, why is the Government eager to implement this one which was announced by the NDA in March this year? It is rather unbecoming on his part and it is also reported that he was wearing a full suit in the meeting instead of his usual dress, that is, *veshti* and shirt.

In that meeting, he has wearing a full suit with a tie and he made this declaration in the presence of the Tatas and other captains of industry. This is quite unbecoming on the part of the Finance Minister who is heading the UPA Government.

So, I request the Government to make a statement regarding the implementation of this particular item of the NDA Government when there are other items of the Common Minimum Programme.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh, please cooperate.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It will come in order. Do not be impatient. I am calling an hon. Member. I have not called anybody outside the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' (Begusarai): Mr. Speaker, Sir, entire north Bihar was reeling under flood during rainy season and since rainy season is over, now entire south Bihar is facing drought. There are no irrigation facilities over there. No dam has required reserve stock of water because of scanty of rains. 99 percent tubewells have gone dry. Private tube wells are not working as there is a shortage of power. The State used to supply pulses to whole of the country whereas this year crop of pulse could not be sown. Today, in reply to Question No. 64, the Government have admitted that not a single penny has been allocated to Bihar to tackle drought. The State Government is not concerned to take required steps to fight drought. It is not at all bothered. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not raise a State issue here except drought.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': Through you, I urge the Central Government to send a Central Team to assess the drought situation in Bihar and declare the State as drought affected. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You are supporting each other now. It is very good.

SHRIMATI MINATI SEN (Jalpaiguri): Hon. Speaker, Sir, railway lines passing through forest areas and sanctuaries continue to pose a real threat to wildlife.

Last year seven elephants were mowed down by a passenger train in Upper Assam before the engine derailed. An inter-city passenger train coming from Ledo to Dibrugarh hit a small herd of elephants leading to the death of at least two adult elephants and four calves. An elephant calf was fatally injured in a train accident at Mahanadi Wildlife Sanctuary in West Bengal. Collision with the trains is causing death of many elephants in the 170 km stretch of metre gauge railway line passing through the forest of Mahanadi Wildlife Sanctuary and Garumara Wildlife National Park, Buxa Tiger Reserve, Chapramari, Joladapare Wildlife.

I urge upon the hon. Minister of Railways, through you, to take appropriate measures to regulate the speed of all trains while passing through forests and sanctuaries to avoid the death of wild animals.

MR. SPEAKER: Please be brief. Not much time is left.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Labour Minister and the Labour Ministry, through you, to an important problem.

The miserable conditions of beedi workers in Kerala are really known to all. Lakhs of people are working and depending on this industry. Ninety-nine per cent of these workers are women. They are getting very low wages. An amendment passed by the last Parliament, due to a court order, has reduced the employment opportunities of these beedi workers to a great extent. There should be separation of functions of the beedi and cigarette workers in order to give assistance to beedi workers.

Some welfare measures have already been implemented to the beedi workers. But as far as the State of Kerala is concerned, its special situation has to be taken into account. With regard to ESI hospitals, there are no doctors at all. Though there are hospitals, there are no doctors to serve the people. With regard to construction of houses, the authorities are saying that there should be group housing, which is impossible in Kerala. It is because the beedi workers go to the factories from the villages. In the evening they go to their homes. For getting a small land, they should pay high prices. So, a limit of Rs. 1 lakh has to be increased. They give Rs. 30,000 to every person. But there is no need to fix the ceiling at Rs. 1 lakh. They should not limit that the beedi workers should construct the houses only within the cost of Rs. 1 lakh. They are not going to construct big houses. So, this assistance can be given to all. The third point that I would like to make is with regard to excise duty.

MR. SPEAKER: Mention the points only.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: As far as the beedi industry is concerned, the rate of excise duty is unlike other industries. For every one thousand beedis that they are producing, they have to pay Rs. 9. They have to pay thrift fund, welfare fund and Gujarat calamity fund.

MR. SPEAKER: Just mention the issue.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: At least that one rupee can be avoided.

With regard to total production of beedi, 20 lakhs is the limit. If it is curtailed, then the cooperative societies will be benefited. The private owners are really giving no accounts to the Government. They are really misleading the Government. These cooperative societies give the accounts clearly. They have to give high taxes. At the same time they have to compete with them. So, the Government should take these measures for the welfare of beedi workers.

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH (Jhalawar): Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on a very important issue.

MR. SPEAKER: Utilise it.

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Sir, in my parliamentary constituency, Jhalawar, people are facing tremendous problems due to non-availability of proper telecommunication facilities. In my constituency, which consists of Jhalawar, Bara, Khanpur, Pirawa, Sunel, Manor Thana, Dag, Choumela, Raipur, Bakani, Chhabra, Atra, Kishanganj, Shahbad, land line facilities are not working properly. People have to travel three National Highways—NH 90, NH 76 and NH 12.

We do not have proper cellular phone facilities in that area. People have applied for phone lines but still they have not been given phone line connections. They have made complaints but the complaints have still not been considered. I have written to the hon. Minister. He said: "I am looking into the matter." I am bringing to the notice of the hon. Minister the urgency of the people of Jhalawar as also the people of other districts who are facing this problem ...*(Interruptions)*

May be, the people of the other districts are also facing the same problem. I would request the hon. Minister to take due note of this and look into the matter sympathetically.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much.

*[Translation]*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI (Jodhpur): Sir, through you, I would like to draw attention of the Government. Our last NDA Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajanj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, please give me one minute to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: You would be given a chance tomorrow.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please give me a chance tomorrow but my name should be placed at first. I will send the notice in the morning. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I do not prepare the list.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: An hon. Member wants to speak, please allow him to speak.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Our last, NDA Government had taken decision to open six AIIMS in the country including one at Jodhpur. A Minister in the last Government had also laid foundation stone of AIIMS at Jodhpur. But, construction work has not commenced so far, which has caused resentment in public. Shiv Sena and many other organisations are sitting on dhama there for last several days. AIIMS at Jodhpur was not meant for Jodhpur only. It was to cater to the needs of Western Rajasthan, Gujarat, Punjab and Haryana etc. It is a humanitarian step. Hospitals like AIIMS would have been a great achievement for the Government. Its opening would directly benefit common man. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You give the notice tomorrow.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Sir, through you, I would request the Central Government to undertake especially the construction work of proposed AIIMS at Jodhpur, whose decision was taken by the previous Government and even foundation stone was laid as it is in public interest and a humanitarian step.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have received a note from one of our colleagues here, a new hon. Member. He says:

"We, the young Members of Parliament, would like to listen to both the arguments peacefully on any controversial matter from both the Ruling Party and the Opposition Parties. Rather than wasting our valuable debating time in the Parliament, we should like to learn from our learned Parliamentarians.

Please, Sir, make them understand about our feelings."

This is the feeling of some new hon. Members. It is also our duty to cooperate with the new hon. Members. Now, I think, we should all give proper respect to this feeling. I am appealing to every hon. Member that we should not set examples which people will criticise us for. The new hon. Members will feel disheartened in this matter. Therefore, we shall give opportunity to everybody.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Prabhunath Singhji, you are aware of the rules and I have also asked you to give notice tomorrow. I will give you a chance tomorrow. Why do you interrupt.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: It is very important issue.

MR. SPEAKER: All the matters are important. Members do not ask useless questions. Nobody's monopoly works here. Shri Raghunath Jha, you speak now. Please be very brief.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you, since you gave me an opportunity to speak. Today will be considered a black day in the country's history. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No controversial matter should be raised.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Same day communal forces conspired and demolished Babri Masjid. Shri Kalyan Singh was the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh at that time. In this regard, previous statement made by Shri Kalyan Singhji. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

12.59 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.03 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at three minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(SHRI AJAY MAKEN *in the Chair*)

## MATTERS UNDER RULE 17

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up Matters under Rule 377. Shri S.K. Kharventhan.

- (I) **Need to release a commemorative stamp in honour of Tyagi Dheeran Chinnamalai of Tamil Nadu who fought against the Britishers**

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Tyagi Dheeran Chinnamalai was born in 1756 in Melappalayam, Kangayam Taluk, Erode District, Tamil Nadu which falls under my constituency and was known for his valour and fame. He was instrumental in stopping of collection of taxes by the then ruler, Hyder Ali in Kongu region which was brought under the Mysore ruler. After this incident, he was called as "Dheeran Chinnamalai" since he hailed from a place between Chinnamalai and Sivanmalai, both abodes of Lord Karthikeya. Dheeran Chinnamalai gathered a strong army consisting of Kongu youths in and around Kangayam and trained them vigorously to fight against the Britishers. He was captured by the British army treacherously at Karumalai Hills in Palani region in my constituency and was hanged to death in 1806 at Sankagiri.

Tamil Nadu Government honoured him by establishing a transport corporation after his name with Trichy as its headquarters. Moreover, the building of the Collectorate at Erode has also been named after him. Every year 17th April is observed as Memorial Day in his honour. His 200th death year falls on July, 2005 and 250th birth year falls on April, 2006.

It will be a befitting tribute to the First Great Leader who fought against the Britishers and was known for his valour and sacrifice if a commemorative stamp is released in honour of Tyagi Dheeran Chinnamalai. I urge upon the UPA Government to take necessary action at the earliest.

- (II) **Need to conduct a survey of the population of certain castes with a view to provide them proportionate reservation**

[Translation]

PROF. CHANDER KUMAR (Kangra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, for the first time the population of the Scheduled

[Prof. Chander Kumar]

Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes in the country was enumerated in the Census. Later on, the column of caste was deleted from the census form. By doing so, the information regarding the actual number of these castes in the country cannot be had and the Government have been making their provision of reservation on the basis of estimated figures. Though the framers of our Constitution ensured reservation of 22.5%, 7.5% and 27% respectively on the basis of the then population of these categories and made actual population of these categories as basis for the future but the Government have not conducted any survey to ascertain the actual number of these castes as on date.

I urge the Government that a survey of population of these castes should be conducted on the basis of which the selection of the castes can be done and the process of including these in the list and excluding these from the list is done properly.

**(iii) Need to ensure early commissioning of telephone exchanges in Mandsaur Parliamentary Constituency, Madhya Pradesh**

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the new buildings of telecommunication department at various places in Mandsaur, Neemuch and Ratlam districts are ready for functioning but due to non-availability of some equipments, the telephone exchanges in these new buildings are not being commissioned. The villagers coming under the purview of these new exchanges had deposited the required amount for telephone connection about 2-3 years back, but they have not been released the telephone connections till date. Similarly, the mobile service has not been started due to the non-availability of ordinary equipments in Jawara, Bhanpura, Jawad and Rampura cities though announcement has been made officially several times about these services. The people are facing great inconvenience due to non-commissioning of telecommunication services and not getting the connection despite depositing the required amount as many places in these regions are influenced by some people of criminal nature. Attention of the officials has been drawn several times in this regard but delay is being made due to negligence.

Hence, I urge the hon'ble Minister of Telecommunication to ensure early commissioning of telephone exchanges in the new buildings and he should also ensure supply of equipments which are not available there at present.

**(iv) Need to provide financial assistance to the Government of Kerala to safeguard the interests of Khadi and village industries in the State**

[English]

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Sir, khadi and village industries in Kerala are facing serious crisis in the recent time. Majority of the workers are women and they are getting very low wages. The main problem of the industry is marketing. Earlier Central Government had given rebate, but now it has changed to MDA. The Government should also introduce a special incentive scheme to disperse the stocks that are already accumulated. The Government can also direct hospitals, PSUs, Guest Houses and other Central and State Government owned establishments to purchase khadi materials. Many of the societies are unable to pay ESI. Provident Fund and also contribution of the workers to the Government. Neither the State Government nor the Central Government pay adequate attention to this industry.

I request the Government to take immediate steps to give financial assistance to the State Government as well as to the societies.

**(v) Need to improve working conditions of and provide better facilities to bidi workers in Chall Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chall): Mr. Chairman, Sir, out of the 27 lakh bidi workers in the country, 7 lakh are working in Uttar Pradesh. Around 50,000 bidi workers are engaged in my Parliamentary Constituency. The wages of these bidi workers are very low. It is Rs. 4 per thousand bidi which should be increased to Rs. 65. In Madhya Pradesh the tax on Tendu leaves has been waived off. In Uttar Pradesh, there is 4% tax on Tendu leaves. Keeping in view the problems of these bidi workers in Uttar Pradesh, there should be 10% tax. Instead of Rs. 20,000, Rs. 40,000 should be provided for housing. The amount of insurance should be increased from Rs. 10,000 to one lakh rupees. Since most of the bidi workers suffer from T.B. therefore, free medical facilities and nose-masks should be provided to the bidi workers.

**(vi) Need to conduct a fresh survey for laying rail line on Shegaon-Khamgaon-Jalana route**

*[English]*

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Buldhana): Chairman Sir, I would like to draw the attention of Railway Minister towards the long-pending demand of Vidarbha and Marathwada regions for providing direct connectivity rail line between Shegaon-Khamgaon on Jalana.

Sir, due to non-availability of such direct rail connectivity between Shegaon, Khamgaon and Jalana, the people of 10 Districts of Vidarbha and 9 Districts of Marathwada regions are facing lot of problems.

People of Vidarbha and Marathwada regions particularly Buldhana Parliamentary Constituency have to use route via Purna-Akola or Manmad-Jamner to reach Shegaon or Jalana resulting in expensive travel and wastage of time.

Vidarbha is a backward and tribals-dominated region and the industries of Vidarbha and Marathwada regions are suffering due to non-availability of cheaper transport or container services on shortest route i.e. Shegaon-Jalana.

During the British regime in 1926 a survey was conducted to connect Khamgaon with Jalana directly. Thereafter, after independence, another survey was conducted by the Government of India. But, so far no work has been initiated for construction of railway line between Shegaon, Khamgaon and Jalana despite repeated requests from public representatives and Government of Maharashtra.

Therefore, I request the hon. Minister of Railway, through you, to pay due consideration on the request and direct the concerned authorities to have a fresh survey for laying Shegaon, Khamgaon-Jalana rail line.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri B. Vinod Kumar—not present.

Dr. M. Jagannath.

**(vii) Need to take suitable measures to check the spread of AIDS in the country**

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagar Kurnool): There are about 5.1 million AIDS victims in India. Most of them belong to the age group of 15-24 years. Irony is that, young women are also affected. The spread of the cases

in India is due to lack of awareness among the youths. Another reason is the distortion of minds after watching obscenities shown on Television—both by private and official—which provoke the minds of the youths towards sexual activities. Recent survey has shown that most of the positive HIV cases belong to these adolescent groups enjoying pre-marital sex. Also, many women economically dependent on men, may not have the power to resist sex or ask partner to use condom.

In order to bring down the cases of AIDS in India, the following steps must be taken immediately:

- (1) Regulation of TV channel to ensure that obscenity provoking minds of youths should not be allowed to telecast;
- (2) Adequate mass awareness programmes in rural areas, semi-urban areas and in schools and colleges to enlighten the youths about AIDS, the dreaded disease.
- (3) Supply of condoms free from different important public places.
- (4) Only such measures will halt the spread of the disease.

I request the Union Government to take necessary action in this regard.

**(viii) Need to provide stoppage of Pothigai Express at Thiruthangal and also provide basic amenities at the station**

SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI (Sivakasi): In my Sivakasi Parliamentary constituency, Thiruthangal railway station is situated near the town bus stop adjoining highway. It is one of the highest revenue earners among all the stations on the route. But the condition of this vital station is pathetic. There is a need for an improved platform, well-maintained toilet and telecom facilities. The newly introduced Pothigai Express between Chennai-Thenkasi may be given a stoppage at Thiruthangal.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Suraj Singh—not present.

I am repeating the names of Members who are not present. If they are here now, they can raise their matters.

Shri Dawa Narbula—not present.

Shri Madan Lal Sharma—not present.

Shri Kashiram Rana—not present.

[Mr. Chairman]

Shrimati Jayaben B. Thakkar—not present.

Shri Rajen Gohain.

**(ix) Need to take concrete measures to check Recurring floods in Nagaon Parliamentary Constituency, Assam**

SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN (Nagaon): My Parliamentary constituency, Nagaon in the State of Assam is a remote rural area and has zero industrial growth. Agricultural income is the main source of livelihood of the people in my constituency. Sir, we all know that Assam is basically a flood-prone State, which bears huge loss of crops, cattle, human life and Government property worth crores of rupees every year. During the rainy season heavy rain makes the life miserable as the Hydro Power Project Dams of NEEPCO and ASEB release heavy amount of water, without even informing the district administration and alarming people of the area. The sudden release of water from these dams causes loss of life and property. Crops in thousands of hectares are washed out completely. The dam at Bhutan border creates disaster in lower Assam. The Brahmaputra water from Arunachal Pradesh affects the northern part of Assam. In the same manner the Hydro-power project dam of the NEEPCO in Karbianglong proves to be a disaster to my constituency Nagaon.

I would urge upon the Government to prepare a regulatory system to overcome such disasters every year. The storage capacity of such dams may also be increased to avoid the unpleasant situation. I would also urge upon the Government to construct raised platforms in large scale and provide shelter to the victims during the flood.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri B. Vinod Kumar—not present.

Shri Suraj Singh—not present.

Shri Dawa Narbula.

**(x) Need to create a separate Postal Division for Darjeeling**

SHRI D. NARBULA (Darjeeling): Sir, I would like to draw the kind attention of the Government to the longstanding demand of the National Union of Postal Employees, Darjeeling Division for creation of a separate Postal Division for Darjeeling. The Union has consistently been pressing for this for the last fifteen years but all efforts have proved futile. It is needless to mention that Darjeeling is a hilly area and creation of a separate Postal

Division will not only contribute in the development of the hilly backward region but also improve the efficiency of the Postal Department. I would, therefore, urge the Department of Posts to pay immediate attention to this long-pending demand and create a separate Postal Division for Darjeeling without further delay.

14.17 hrs.

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL OF PREVENTION OF TERRORISM (REPEAL) ORDINANCE, 2004 AND PREVENTION OF TERRORISM (REPEAL) BILL, 2004 AND STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL OF UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES (PREVENTION) AMENDMENT ORDINANCE, 2004 AND UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES (PREVENTION) AMENDMENT BILL, 2004**

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House will take up item Nos. 15 to 18 together. Shri Madhusudan Mistry, you can continue your speech.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will start from where I left on the other day.

I would like to remind my friends who are sitting on the other side and who are overwhelmingly opposing the repeal of POTA that one of the law Ministers in their Government when they were in power, Shri Ram Jethmalani had expressed his regret publicly on 14th March, 2004. I quote:

"I, today, regret that I supported POTA and I reposed faith in the sincerity and the honesty of politicians who told us that it is not to be misused. I have no doubt at all that it has been misused and I have no doubt at all that we do not need it. I have no doubt, as my other friends said, that it must go lock, stock and barrel."

This is what their Minister had said before the people's tribunal in March, 2004.

Sir, let me just bring to your notice as to how this is misused. Out of 573 POTA detainees in the country, Gujarat has the highest number—172 persons—though there is hardly any terrorist activity there. And 99.9 per cent of the POTA accused in Gujarat were Muslims and from one particular community. In the court of law, no one wants to defend them. The Government has, in fact, recently arrested two lawyers, one of them is Hindu, and this is to terrorise the lawyers not to defend people who are arrested under POTA.

It is an indiscriminate arrest. There were blind people who were arrested under POTA. There were people whose age was 67 years, 60 years, 58 years and 56 years and there were young people with 16 years and 17 years. All of them were arrested under POTA.

The cases are made out. The common thing is that the people were hatching a conspiracy against 'x' Minister, 'y' Minister and 'z' Minister. They wanted to kill these Ministers. On the basis of that, they arrest one person. There are five officers in Gujarat who seem to have specialised in taking confession from the people who are arrested under the POTA. The sequence goes on like this that they arrest one person and go to the third degree torture until the person arrested gives the name of another person. Then they arrest another person, go for third degree torture and extract the name of a third person. Then they arrest a third person. So, POTA is used against one after another and it is creating such a terror in certain community, especially in the area Shri Advani hails from. I am from his constituency. I live in his constituency. I know how people are being terrorised.

No one would come forward to give their names if the people are being picked up in the middle of night. People say that their sons or relatives are being picked up simply because somebody has given the name. If someone talks to the police officer or to the Commissioner at the higher level, the person will be punished much more. That is the reason why people do not come forward.

Allegations are being made out against people. False cases are being filed. There are one or two Ministers who said that there are certain people who wanted to kill them. That is why they hatched a conspiracy. They were arrested under the POTA.

Sir, the terrorists are created in Gujarat. There is no terrorist activity. It is just last year's phenomenon after 2003 that one after another people are arrested in Gujarat.

Who are being left out deliberately? I have seen it. I mean, this fact has recently come to light especially before the Nanavati Commission, and I congratulate the police officer. He collected a compact disc of all the phone calls made in Ahmedabad from 25th of February, three days before the Godhra incident took place, until fourth. The content is not there, but the particulars of who spoke with whom and even the location are there. There are five lakh entries in this disc. This disc was analysed and the facts came out in a newspaper. This was produced before the Nanavati Commission as well as the Banerjee Commission. I request the Home Minister and I demand that this compact disc should be procured from the Banerjee Commission, and the CBI should launch an inquiry as to what was the role of the Government and the police officers. It is because what the newspaper says, on the basis of their analysis of this compact disc, is that the very accused who was involved in Naroda Patia case has spoken to the Chief Minister's office has spoken to the top police officers and has spoken to the DCP who is incharge of the area. There was a constant talk going on among them. Though some of the police officers denied that they were there when this took place, that the first information they got was at around 9 p.m. on the same day while their own phone says that, they were very much there and they knew what was going on.

The same thing happened when ex-MP, Mr. Ehsaan Jaffrey was burnt alive. The police say that they had no information and that they came to know later on. The cellular phone analysis shows that the DCP had that information, the Commissioner of Ahmedabad Police had that information and the DGP had that information. Both the accused were speaking with the police. They were in contact with the Chief Minister's Office. They were speaking with the MLAs of that area. One of the accused is an MLA from Naroda Patiya who deposed before the Nanavati Commission saying that she was not there. The cellular phone analysis shows that she was there at the site. This is the whole detail. I demand and request that the compact disc should be obtained by the Ministry of Home Affairs and an inquiry should be ordered through the Central Bureau of Investigation to look into the role of the Ahmedabad police, the Chief Minister's Office and two or three Ministers whose names crop up very often. While this massacre was going on at these various sites, the DCP deliberately remained absent. He did not go to see what was happening.

I want that POTA should go. I am very happy that finally this Bill has come. There was a demonstration



[Shri Madhusudan Mistry]

outside Parliament this morning. There was a demonstration in Ahmedabad. There were meetings of human rights groups and people from all over Gujarat are curiously waiting to see whether Parliament agrees to repeal it from the day it came into existence. There is a very strong demand and feeling of the people of Gujarat, all human rights groups and all civil liberties groups because they have been feeling that human rights have not been respected in this country. They want that the Prevention of Terrorism (Repeal) Bill should have a provision that it should remove POTA from the day it came into existence. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhilwara): I hope, Akshardam-type incidents do not happen after this. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: I know about that. Why was information being withheld? The then Prime Minister went to that very site and pronounced that it was done by a particular organisation. How did he know the very next moment? There is a tendency in the Gujarat police and the Government of Gujarat to brand everything that is happening in Gujarat as an activity of Pakistan and ISI. ...*(Interruptions)*

I am not yielding. You may speak when your turn comes.

I want to draw the attention of the House to how the Government of Gujarat has been behaving in each case. If a person is found to be a Muslim, they would arrest him under POTA and brand him as an ISI agent or as an agent of Pakistan. This is the mindset of the Government in Gujarat and of the police force which is working under it.

I would like to draw the attention of this august House to the fact that there is gross misuse of POTA in Gujarat. That is why we vehemently demand that it should be repealed. These people have not been arrested only under POTA. The moment we repeal POTA, they are not going to be allowed to go. There are other provisions under other different laws under which they could be tried. ...*(Interruptions)* I am not yielding.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me do my job. You please address only the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: It is difficult for them to digest because these are the facts. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): It is not that Muslims are living only in Gujarat and nowhere else. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Swain, please let me take care.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: These are the facts. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: These are the facts. I know, it is difficult for them to digest. It is difficult for them to listen to these facts. ...*(Interruptions)*

It is difficult. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Madhusudan Mistry, please address the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, I am addressing you and not him. ...*(Interruptions)* My other colleagues will say as to what is happening in their States. Since I have information about Gujarat only, I am talking about it. If you want other information, I can give that information also, but my other colleagues will speak on other things. It is very difficult to digest it. It exposes their face. What can they talk about the human rights?

The other thing has been branded as if you are safe only, if the minority community is not in the State. That is the atmosphere that their Party is creating in the entire State by using POTA and giving the whole information to certain Presses who come out with very big headlines and are creating an atmosphere of prejudice against the minority community in the State. They cannot do it any more. We already have got 12 seats. We are a little bit short. So, they should keep patience. Let the new elections come and we will come to power in Gujarat. If that is not possible, I just request the Government. ...*(Interruptions)* I would not forget.

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\*Not recorded.

If you see page 2, Section 2(d), it is mentioned and I quote:

"any investigation, legal proceeding or remedy in respect of any such right, privilege, obligation, liability, penalty, forfeiture or punishment as aforesaid, and any such investigation, legal proceeding or remedy may be instituted, continued or enforced and any such penalty, forfeiture or punishment may be imposed as if the principal Act had not been repealed."

I just request to add save and except that these provisions of Sections 4, 5, 21, 23 to 35, 49 and 53 shall stand repealed and shall not be applicable to the existing cases.

I am sure this will safeguard the very civil liberty of all those innocent people who are languishing in jails for months and years in Gujarat.

Finally, I would also request that though the provisions are made for a Review Committee and it is being hoped that there will be more Review Committees, I wanted to draw the attention of the Government that there are a number of States which deliberately do not supply information to the Review Committees. They take their own time. There are cases in a number of States in this country especially when you have adverse Government which deliberately will not supply the information to the Review Committee. As a result, all these innocent detainees who are there have to languish in jails for a long time to come. I do not know what remedy one can find. But I have my own doubt about the effectiveness of the Review Committee itself if their number is not increased. If they write to the State Government seeking information on 'x', 'y', or 'z', if that information is not supplied in a specified time—that is in a specified time and not after two or three months later—If the State Government does not supply this information to the Review Committee, then it should be treated that the State has no case against them and they should be released. This is all that I have to say.

I congratulate the Government once again who have come out with this Bill and I am sure this will go a long way to further the very freedom of citizens of this country which is enshrined in the Constitution of India.

14.38 hrs.

(Dr. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY *in the Chair*)

[*Translation*]

MD. SALIM (Calicut North-East): Mr. Chairman, Sir it is a co-incidence that we are discussing this Bill today

i.e. on 6th December, the day when Babri Masjid was demolished. Merely holding discussion on demolition will not serve the purpose. Though POTA (Repeal) Bill has kindled a ray of hope but I don't agree entirely with it, because two issues have been clubbed, on one hand an ordinance for repealing POTA has been promulgated and on the other hand Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Bill have been brought. It was created confusion. When U.P.A. Government was formed, it stated in its Common Minimum Programme that:

[*English*]

'There will be no compromise in the fight against terrorism, but given the abuse of POTA that has taken place, the UPA Government will repeal it while existing laws are enforced strictly.'

[*Translation*]

Terrorism, is posing danger to civil society, be it India, America or some other country. Some people, feel that fight against terrorism is their heroic deed whether they are residing in Delhi, Islamabad or in Washington. But I would like to say that it's wrong conception. At that time POTA was not only enacted in India but a similar law was also enacted in Pakistan because at that time global war against terrorism was going on. Instructions have been issued from the Head Quarter, it is not an internal matter but if someone thinks that we have enacted this for generating national awareness, then it is wrong.

If we see the world scenario, we find that such laws were enacted in the year 2002 throughout the world. Attack on Tower on September, 11 had shaken the whole world. There was no justification for it. But we have been victim of militancy prior to that also. But the speed with which developments took place after September 11 were unprecedented. UNO passed a Resolution on September 12 and directed that stringent laws to be enacted in this regard and thereafter the process carried on.

I am repeatedly saying and my party and all peace loving people of the world also believe that there can be no justification for this act of terrorism and we all should accept this fact. I believe that it has no justification. But the Question is how to fight against terrorism? If terrorism could be controlled by framing legislations, the intelligent people of the world would have eliminated terrorism by framing laws. This is a self deception of not facing the reality even after having the full knowledge. I am not widening the canvas of terrorist of militant. During our freedom struggle also, the Question of violence and non-violence was raised.

[Md. Salim]

Our people either indulged in the politics of violence or non-violence, they also discussed the same ideology.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Then there is no need of Constitution.

MD. SALIM: Shri Prabhunath ji, I am sorry to say that this is beyond your understanding.

Bhagat Singh dropped bomb in this very House. *...(Interruptions)* Had he wanted, he would have killed some one, but he was not a murderer. He had also mentioned about the Philosophy of Bomb. The terrorists today are mindless murderers who choose soft targets. But Britishers called those freedom fighter of our country as militants who led armed revolution against them. Such terminology is used differently in different perspectives. We have to understand it in our own perspective. POTA is not a new law. I am saying this to Patil especially. Earlier also there were Acts like TADA, NASA, MISA, DIR or PD Act. Every ruling party or the Government or law enforcing agencies like to have the laws with less accountability. Objective behind this move is important. He has given statement of objects and Reasons. The same objective was seen during the tenure of previous Home Minister. Laws are always framed with good objectives but history has witnessed that, somehow these laws go into wrong hands and implemented wrongly. Law is misused most of the time.

Just now, Shri Mistri ji was talking about Gujarat. At present BJP Government under the leadership of Narendra Modi is in power there. At the time of implementation of TADA, Congress was in power there. At that time, it was misused in Gujarat. It is a tradition. If we go into reality we will come to know that TADA and POTA misused mostly in Gujarat and POTA was misused in Jharkhand also. In Gujarat it was implemented against minorities and in Jharkhand it was applied against tribals, dalits, poor, women, trade unions and children. No figures are available in this regard. I was expecting that Home Minister will come with all facts and figures regarding application of POTA and tell us about the number of cases in which POTA was applied, number of people convicted under this Act alongwith the number of people arrested and detained and how it was misused. There is a political ideology behind it. If a clear picture is not presented in this regard, there are people who will misinterpret it and are doing so. They had got the time and they had to take a decision in this regard because the subject was included under Common Minimum Programme. But why POTA was enacted.

Today, Jammu & Kashmir is in the grip of terrorism and militancy but this law is being used frequently in Jharkhand. It has left behind Jammu & Kashmir in this regard. Why is it so? I am not supporting its implementation in Jammu and Kashmir. I hail from Bengal. Regarding the implementation of POTA in Bengal, We decided not to implement it. State's administration is running smoothly without POTA. WE have to understand that people take the path of terrorism and militancy to violate the laws. In civil societies, laws are made for law abiding citizens. But these laws have no meaning for those who are ever ready to put their life at stake for militancy. In the era of suicide bombs, they are trying to curb militancy by enacting such laws. Laws are made but the world has witnessed that such laws are used against common citizens, political opponents and critics. If anybody does not agree with this view, he may take a lesson from the speech and condition of Shri Vaiko. How he was treated under POTA? Orders were also issued to arrest Shri Kannappan under POTA who was a Minister in NDA Government from Tamil Nadu.

*...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Salim,\* please be brief because there are three more Members to speak from your party.

MD. SALIM: Sir, I am entirely on the subject. They are going to hang thousands and detain hundreds. The Parliament is a place where we can deliberate. If I am wrong, you can point it out.

You have the right to criticise others. *...(Interruptions)* Kindly give this opportunity to others also.

[Translation]

That is why we have come to Parliament and lakhs of people are in favour of this step. If we could avoid implementing it through ordinance it would have been better. TADA has always been extended through ordinance. I am not in favour of a law which is routed through an ordinance. Parliament is a place where discussion can take place. People should know the reality as to what is wrong and what is right. People are aware that Parliament remained standstill during the last few days. So the Government is bound to repeal it. That is why it had to be brought in the shape of an ordinance. As far as the second part is concerned, the amendment regarding unlawful activities should not be brought in the shape of an ordinance. If the matters of misuse, abuse

an those included under POTA are to be taken under new law, then it would be like changing the name only. If the inappropriate subjects of POTA are to be included under this new law, I am not in favour of this law and it should not happen also. It will become a cosmetic change only. I would like to say that when POTA was enacted, it was stated that since TADA was misused, it has been given a new face. The then Home Minister Shri Advaniji had also stated to check it but what happened. I am not specifying the objective behind it but Mr. Chairman, Sir, I understand that there is shortage of time but. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Salim, please conclude.

*[Translation]*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Go through it and come to know the part included in it. You all are happy that it is going to be repealed. It is same like the previous one. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Kharabela Swain, please sit down. Do not interrupt the hon. Member.

MD. SALIM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon'ble Member is a learned person but he should not be so haughty to think that only he goes through the relevant papers and others do not. I am repeatedly saying that I am in favour of repealing of Bill but I would like to say to the hon'ble Home Minister that if he wishes, section-wise discussion can take place but it should not include any provision which can lead to its misuse. Even today, there is a possibility of its misuse. Hon'ble Minister can either seek suggestions from the law experts or it can be referred to the Standing Committee on Home Affairs. Discussion on it should take place in the Committee and I would like that while curbing the terrorism, we should not terrorise the common people. Today we talk about global war against terrorism, all are politicising the issue of terrorism but not fighting against it. Osama-bin-laden and Mul' Omar are no longer being searched for in Afganistan. We talk about the world but we must look on our side also. They only grind their own axes when they talk about global war against terrorism. Therefore, we must remain careful. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I on behalf of my party rise to support the bill moved by hon. Minister of Home Affairs to repeal POTA.

My party opposed this bill from beginning to end when it was being passed in the joint session of Parliament. We opposed it due to three main reasons. We opposed it on the basis of tradition and history of the country and the demeanor and language used by the leaders who participated in national movement.

I believed that such types of laws are misused by the bureaucracy and history stands witness to this. The Constitution of India says it is the duty of the Parliament and the Government to protect and uphold the values of national movement. Individual freedom was the main issue even during national movement and that is why at the time when Rowlatt act was being passed in the country, Mahatma Gandhi who was a new entrant in the politics of the country, sent telegrams to Shri Madan Mohan Malviya, Shri Mohammad Ali Jinnah and Shri Moti Lal Nehru despite having ideological differences with all of them and requested them to oppose Rowlatt Act in the Central Assembly and these leaders did so.

Britishers passed defence of India Act in 1939 when second world war started. At that time too Gandhiji and other leaders of the national movement opposed it as they felt that it would be used to suppress the national movement of the country though it was being brought to protect the country. It proved true in 1942 when after the call "do or die" all the national leaders of the country were called criminals under Defence of India Act and were jailed. That is why we opposed it in principle as all the three laws enacted during emergency were practicable. India and Pakistan went into war in 1971-1972 and Bangladesh got independence. Defence of India Act was passed with a view that the Government of India can tackle the elements supporting Pakistan but during emergency it was used against persons who supported democracy. Maintenance of India Act—MISA was passed and thousands of people were kept in jails for 19-20 months. Persons like me used to visit courts—DIR warrant already used to be there and a second warrant was issued just after shouting a slogan. 332 cases were filed against us in 20 months. All our rights were withdrawn during the proceedings of litigations against as under MISA. I was in jail for 20 months during emergency. It is my personal experience that such types of laws enacted during emergency are inevitably misused and POTA has also been misused like this. Our apprehension has already proved right in this case that is why we opposed it.

Secondly, day before yesterday and before that some of my colleagues sitting beside me were complaining that people from Pakistan have asked you to do away with

[Shri Mohan Singh]

this law. I would like to tell that when a slogan to fight global terrorism was being raised during that period the people who take themselves to do the leaders of the world enacted a law in their country and circulated its draft all over the world. A number of nations which had promised their cooperation in the global war against terrorism enacted the laws on the similar lines. I would like to submit to my colleagues that it would not be a bad thing to repeal that have been enacted at the behest of a country. It is never considered to be wrong to accept the advice of our brethren. I want to congratulate the hon. Minister of Home Affairs for paving the way for scrapping the law that has enacted on the advice of a particular country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to speak about the Bill that has been brought. Simultaneously, Standing Committees under committee system have been set up in our Parliament. The Committees were formed during the time when the present Minister of Home Affairs used to be Speaker and it was provided that a legislation bill should be brought before the House through Parliamentary Standing Committees.

Sir, it is true that we oppose the misuse of POTA. It is also true that keeping anyone in jail without any case is against the established principle of individual freedom in our country. At the same time we also accept that anybody who challenges the unity and sovereignty of the country does not have any moral right to claim individual freedom. It is the moral and fundamental duty of the Government of a country to protect the nation. That is why when the Constitution of India was being framed the principle of individual freedom was provided paramount importance but we did not have any rights to deal with the agitation launched for Telengana. Therefore an interim amendment was carried out in the chapter that deal with individual freedom in the Constitution of India in 1950 and the law of preventive detention was enacted in the country in 1950 itself. I want to say that it is necessary to bring such a law keeping in view the attacks being made at the country from every side.

Sir, I have seen that period also when the Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru used to visit in open car. Once Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru was passing by our hostel in an open car we agitated before his cavalcade. When the police came to control us, he acknowledged our slogan that we enchanted against him before his open car. We have seen that era also when Shrimati Indira Gandhi came to Allahabad as Prime Minister, she was also in open car and when showed

blackflags, she acknowledged this reception also from an open car. We have seen that period when the agitators used to come to the gate of Parliament to protest. We agitated as students in 1966. At that time we protested against cowslaughter. Agitators came till the gate of Parliament and after that Section 144 was imposed and our agitation was banned during that time.

Sir, we can claim that democracy is flourishing in India but in today's situation can our Prime Minister travel in an open car? Can this kind of freedom be given to any agitator to come till the gate of Parliament? Agitators are not allowed but terrorists could enter the Parliament. Therefore, we need a law to deal with this situation but we have to be careful that it does not turn out to be another POTA. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that the law which he wants to enact to prevent unlawful activities, should be sent to Standing Committee before bringing it in the House and all the parties should be consulted so that there should no loopholes in this law which might pave way for its misuse as happened in the case of POTA and TADA. Hence, I request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to bring this bill through Standing Committee so that we could have the opinion of all the parties before getting it passed.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I conclude my speech with these words that I support the bill to repeal POTA and request to bring the bill relating to the prevention of unlawful activities through Standing Committee. At the same time I thank you for giving me opportunity to speak.

SHRI ILYAS AZMI (Shahabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Bill brought to repeal POTA. I was astonished to see BJP opposing Shri Madhusudan Mistry when he was speaking.

15.00 hrs.

Though there is no difference in BJP or Congress in bringing draconian in-humanitarian law. They enacted POTA and misused that. A famous saying goes in Persian that "Nazala barajay jeaf." means it is always the weaker who is at the receiving end. As POTA was used against weaker persons and minorities, more so, TADA was misused against weaker sections, minorities such as Sikhs, Muslims and others. I am surprised that a particular class of the society constitute only 2-3 percent, but is quite influential. People from both the sides want to please them. And it is not possible do so without enacting a draconian law as they have treated men like animals for thousands of years. They cannot be happy unless a small

section of society is treated like animals and members from both the sides want to make those 2-3 percent people happy. TADA was proved to be more atrocious for humanity than POTA. I was not a Member of Lok Sabha when TADA was enacted but I had read that Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi had assured the public time and again that TADA will not be allowed to be misused. Similarly, in joint session of Parliament as well as separately both Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Shri L.K. Advani ji had assured that it will not be misused. I want to say how a person who has no power in his hands can give such an assurance. What is the meaning of giving assurance by the Central Government when implementation of such laws vests with the State Governments. Shri Vaiko, who played major role in enactment of POTA was the first person to fall prey to POTA within some days. Because, there was different party's Government in the State. Therefore, such assurance, be it with regard to TADA or POTA or any other new ordinance being brought by them, has no meaning. My submission is that there is a provision of punishment for every offence in Indian Penal Code and every offence can be tried under its provisions. The issue is that, even Britishers, who ruled us, did not enact such draconian laws. DIR was enacted to serve the purpose during war, which was wrong. But it was applied even after war. Several persons like Shri Mohan Singh, I myself and many others fell prey to that. DIR enacted during the war has been in use in peace time also in our own country. TADA, enacted to curb terrorism, created thousands of terrorists. When TADA was brutally misused against innocent youth of 15, 16 or 18 years they rose against this law and became terrorists. I myself have not assessed how many youth were forced to take resort to terrorism because they were tortured under POTA. However these laws are enacted not to check terrorism, but to create new terrorists.

First of all we should ponder over this issue quite honestly. If a person acts as a human-bomb killing 10-20 persons, does it mean that he acted on the behest of ISI or Pakistan who paid him rupees five lakhs. During meeting of Standing Committee a senior officer had put this question to me. Then I asked him if his son is given Rs. 10 lakhs can he act as a human bomb and explode himself? If our blood is infected, it will result in pimples. If it is treated it will lessen the pain. But if one pimple is healed up, another will come up until and unless there is a permanent treatment for infection.

Terrorism, be it in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, as it was earlier, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar or Uttar

Pradesh and be it of naxalite nature or Assam where ruling class itself, i.e. upper caste Hindus operating ULFA activities have some reasons. Terrorism is in a way, rebellion against political and economic inequality. When some young persons lose faith in justice and they do not get justice under prevailing conditions, they bend upon resorting to extremist methods. My submission is that if injustice is removed from the society, terrorism will automatically end. If atrocities being inflicted on dalits and so called untouchables for thousands of years are curbed, naxalite problem will automatically come to an end. But if we say that we will suppress naxalite terrorism either through the barrel of a gun or by hanging them, then it is madness which needs to be treated either at Agra or Bareilly. The Government may enact as many laws as they can. Why do not they take action to check social injustice being done to innumerable persons for the last thousands of years forcing them to lead a life worse than those of animals. Be it the ruling party or opposition their primary concern has been to please the specific class which constitutes just 2-3 percent of the society who have been leading this society for thousand of years. For God sake, please think of common men also.

So far as, Sonia ji is concerned she has no social concerns. I am sure, under the leadership of Sonia ji, social ideology of Congress will undergo a change and they will not try to bring TADA in its new form. It is because, the social ideology persisting for the thousands of years in our country is not in Sonia ji's blood and therefore, I hope, the thinking of Congress which enacted TADA, which imposed emergency and which tried to suppress the voice of society raised to fight atrocities, will go a change under the leadership of Sonia ji and I would welcome it.

I would like to emphasise that 8 years have elapsed since repeal of TADA but hundreds of POTA detainees are still languishing in jails. It should not be that despite POTA the repeal of POTA sufferers remain in jail for years. A provision should be made in this law that as soon as POTA becomes ineffective cases under POTA become ineffective. Cases under POTA should also be withdrawn and if anyone has committed any crime then should be tried under relevant sections of Indian Penal code. Say, if one has committed murder or dacoity he should be tried under either Section 302 or 395 of IPC. POTA was applied against some persons in Uttar Pradesh but when the new Government assumed power it withdrew cases against three persons. ...*(Interruptions)* I will not take more than 2 minutes. POTA was immediately

[Shri Ilyas Azmi]

withdrawn against three persons. Had those three persons descended from the sky? I do not say whether application of POTA against them was right or wrong. But I can say that they were not innocent they were infamous in society. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRA PAL SINGH YADAV (Jhansi): His certificate is not required.

SHRI ILYAS AZMI: Certificate is required. Their history is the evidence. They drowned 3-3 young girls in Ganga to death and set villages on fire. ...*(Interruptions)* He should listen to what I am telling. I am against POTA also. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): That time he was leading a movement in our party. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ILYAS AZMI: I have always been opposing POTA and TADA and would oppose such laws throughout my life.

SHRI CHANDRA PAL SINGH YADAV: Who misused POTA in Uttar Pradesh?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Azmi Saheb, please conclude it in two minutes.

SHRI ILYAS AZMI: I am concluding. ...*(Interruptions)* Let me finish. I am against it in every aspect, irrespective of which party I belong to. I know it is not right the way POTA and TADA have been used. I am against such people, but isn't it shameful that POTA has been lifted from 3 persons involved in major controversies in U.P. whereas Muslims, dalits and other people arrested under POTA are still sulking in jails. Is it justified that you are interrupting me. ...*(Interruptions)* I am concluding my speech. I want to say that there is no need to enact a new law. Social justice should be given to all the people to ensure peaceful environment in the country. The social injustice taking place since thousands of years or social justice being done with minorities in our country for the last 50 years must be done away with. I would like to thank Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and Shri Manmohan Singh for they have caught the right nerve of Kashmir. I would like to put forth that the path adopted by Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and Shri Manmohan Singhji, may well solve the problem of Kashmir. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now you conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ILYAS AZMI: Today it is important that the innocent persons arrested under POTA be released and to register case under the Indian Penal Code against those who have been found guilty and POTA should be abolished.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI (Bhagalpur): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I rise here to oppose the repeal of POTA. Our Communist friends are very happy today, Congress people too are happy that POTA is being repealed but there is another place where it is being celebrated, and it is Pakistan which was at times a part of our country. The people over there are very happy that a bill to repeal POTA has been passed in India. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Basuji, you please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, in the month of October 18 members delegation had visited India under the leadership of Gauhar Ayub Khan ex-chairman of Pakistan's National Assembly. The delegation met our Home Minister and in that meeting it was mentioned and insisted by them that POTA should be abolished in India. The misuse of POTA is being mentioned in all the speeches made here. Our old friends here have said that TADA was misused in Gujarat during the tenure of Congress as well as during the tenure of BJP. I would like to know from my friends that why only Gujarat has been accused of misusing POTA. One more allegation is that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will be recorded except Shri Modiji's speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Another allegation is that why only people belonging to a particular community are arrested in matters relating to misuse of POTA. I felt that the Congress Government should make reservations in this also to arrest people from all castes, religions in the same ratio. Only those who are involved in terrorist activities, will be arrested. I would like to quote Shri Collin Powell here. Shri Collin Powell had said that "all Muslims are not terrorists."

Though it is a fact that maximum number of terrorists are associated with one particular community. ...*(Interruptions)* If Godhra incident took place. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except what Mr. Sushil Modi is saying.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb him.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please sit down. Whatever you are saying is not being recorded.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: If Akshardham incident took place in Gujarat, then any Government over there would have had to abide by this law. ... (Interruptions) The present Government is soft towards terrorists. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: I want to say that the entire world and society needs to find an answer as to why people of a particular community are involved in terrorist activities. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not going on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Azmi, you please sit down. Shri Basu, you also sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Kriplani, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: The present Government is soft towards terrorists and rude towards Nationalists. ... (Interruptions) By repealing this law this Government is indicating that "Hello, Mr. Terrorist, please come in". ... (Interruptions) Terrorists, hello to you, please come, you are welcome in this country. ... (Interruptions)

\*Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb him. You are provoking him.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: By repealing it, you mean to say this only. If one is suffering from headache then chopping off the head is not the solution. If one has headache then cutting and giving it away to those who want to take it and demonstrate, is not a solution to this. I know that POTA law has been misused in Tamilnadu. However, regarding Vaiko's case I would like to say that there was delay in approaching the Review Committee but he was to present his case for bail before the Review Committee. He went for bail after one and a half year. Who discouraged him from going to the Review Committee. Our Government had made a provision to safeguard POTA so as to prevent its misuse. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please sit.

[English]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: I have not named any religion. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except what Mr. Modi is saying.

...(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, this law was to end itself on the 23rd October. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record except Shri Modi's version.

...(Interruptions)\*

\*Not recorded.



[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: I have mentioned it only. On 23rd October this law. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

In the case of Vaiko, I accepted that it was a misuse of POTA provisions. ...*(Interruptions)* I only said that he refused to apply for bail. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

This law was to lapse on 23rd October. What was the need to bring an ordinance for this law just one month ago when the law was to lapse on the 23rd October. Vote bank is more important to them than the country's welfare. The country was continuously attacked for 500 years since the time of Sikander. These are the people who believe that there should not be any hurdles in the path of terrorists, if they come here. ...*(Interruptions)* As a result of terrorism we have lost two ex-Prime Minister's, a former Army Chief and 60,000 army personnel. But they are not worried about this. Infact those who talk of human rights today are actually worried about the democratic rights of terrorists. They are not worried about the human rights of 60,000 army personnel who lost their lives to terrorist activities. ...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, I would like to say to both the people of Congress and Left Front that their slogan should be "Bin Laden Shamam Gacchami, Masood Azhar Shamam Gacchami, Salauddin Sharnam Gacchami". By repealing this Bill they ...*(Interruptions)*

MD. SALIM: They took Azhar Masood by a special plane and dropped him there. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)*\*

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, they ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You speak when you get a chance.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Swain, do not disturb. It is not going on record.

...*(Interruptions)*\*

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\*Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I would like to quote the Common Minimum Programme—

[English]

"...There will be no compromise in the fight against terrorism. But given the abuse of POTA that has taken place, the UPA Government will repeal it, while the existing laws will be enforced strictly."

[Translation]

They said POTA will be repealed and existing law would be strictly implemented. I would like to know from hon'ble Home Minister that if existing law was to be enforced strictly then there were 64 provisions under POTA law and 43 clauses out of 64 sections were accepted by them. ...*(Interruptions)* Two third provisions of POTA law and 37 year old law has been accepted under the new law. Therefore, I would like to know if we had existing law then what was the need to amend unlawful activities Act and include these provisions in it?

Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, the Government has opposed POTA on two-three grounds, first they have opposed the provision of bail under this, because rules are very strict under this law and the Government wants to make it soft, secondly they have opposed the provision regarding confession made in front of police officer and thirdly they have opposed another provision under POTA wherein police did not have to prove someone accused, but the accused had to prove his innocence. But the onus lies on him who is to prove his innocence. They have opposed all these three things. They have made a provision for bail in the new law. I would like to tell Hon'ble Home Minister in this regard that making easy provisions for bail would make it easier for the terrorists coming from other nations, to get out of jails as they are more powerful than them.

MD. SALIM: They are not more powerful than us, they are more powerful than them, that is why they took such step.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why are you speaking, Home Minister will answer this.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, if the bail provision is weakened, if confession is not accepted in front of a police officer, then I would like to tell the House that at the time of Shri Rajiv Gandhi's

assassination terrorism was not defined under IADA. Supreme Court had said that Shri Rajiv Gandhi's assassination was not a terrorist attack. That is why a law like POTA had to be brought. There is law in our country to fight common people of the country but there was no law to fight against terrorism. The NDA took initiative to bring such a law. A proposal was passed in the security council, after an incident took place in America, but till then there was no such law in our country. Therefore our Government had to bring such a strict law as POTA.

I would like to say that had there not been a law like TADA, POTA, the accused who had attacked Parliament would not have been convicted in a year itself. It became possible only because of POTA. If this law had not been in vogue then these persons would have been set-free long back. Had TADA not been enforced during Rajiv Gandhi's assassination his killers would not have been hanged. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Swain, I have already said nothing is going on record except the speech of Mr. Modi.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

[*Translation*]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: I am unable to understand as to why he is having objection over this. It is not true that stringent laws are prevailing in our country only. There is a law in America that if a Secretary of State declares anyone as non-citizen then that person could be imprisoned for years and stringent action could be taken against him. As compared to the laws prevailing in U.K., America, Germany and France, our laws are much more flexible NDA Government enacted such kind of law. However, I am sorry to say that the present Government want to withdraw it and replace it by Unlawful Activities Act.

I agree with Mohan Singhji that this Bill should be forwarded to a Standing Committee or a Select Committee, otherwise, the charges which were levelled against POTA will also be levelled against this law. Otherwise also, there is not even a single law in the country which is not being misused. All sections of Cr. P.C. and I.P.C. are being misused in all States of the country. Once a demand was raised in the House

\*Not recorded.

that Cr.P.C. and I.P.C. should be repealed. If we appeal a law just because it is being misused then there will be no law in the country.

I would like to say that today our country is confronting terrorism. If we don't enact any stringent law to deal with the cross border terrorism and destroy the network of terrorist forces, the incidents, which have been taking place in Kashmir for the last one month in which the military personnel are being killed, will continue to take place. In Manipur also, a demand is being made to repeal Manipur Arms Act as it is being misused. However, BJP feels that it should not be repealed rather there is a need to check its misuse. I would like to tell the members of Congress party that they should think about national interest and not about their vote bank. We would not be able to contain terrorism by indulging in politics of pleasing the people of any particular class. I would like to request the House that this Bill may be forwarded to Select Committee and after consideration by all political parties this Bill should be repealed.

[*English*]

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (Sriperumbudur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for the opportunity given to me.

At the outset, on behalf of the DMK Party, I would like to thank this Government for repealing the POTA and for bringing in suitable amendments to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. The POTA was passed by the NDA Government for preventing the terrorist activities. Many of the Opposition parties opposed the introduction of that Bill at that time because they feared that that Act would be misused. We, the DMK Party, also strongly placed our views saying that POTA would be misused. While replying to the debate, the then Home Minister Shri L.K. Advani promised that POTA would not be misused anywhere in the country against any individual, particularly any political party and political leader. But, unfortunately, POTA was misused by the Jayalalithaa Government and it arrested our then Member of Parliament and MDMK General-Secretary, Shri Vaiko. He was imprisoned for more than 575 days along with eight others.

It was not only Shri Vaiko who was arrested. A journalist by name Shri Nakeeran Gopal was arrested. Also, a senior-most leader and a former MLA Pazha Nedumaran was arrested. He was detained for more than 19 months. The ruling Jayalalithaa Government foisted

[Shri A. Krishnaswamy]

POTA cases against its political opponents. The major reason why the DMK opposed the POTA was its fear about the blatant misuse by the State Governments, particularly the Tamil Nadu Government, against political leaders. Not only in Tamil Nadu but also in Gujarat, POTA was misused. Most of the Muslim people, the minorities have been arrested. Elderly political leaders have been arrested.

We are well aware that the State Governments are utilising the police force for meeting their personal ends. The Government Secretaries, high police officials dance to the tunes of the Chief Ministers. This situation leads to the police *raj* in the States. In Tamil Nadu, after assuming power in May 2001, Ms. Jayalalithaa started victimising and punishing her political opponents. For example, our leader, who ruled the State for four times, who has a long background in politics, political activities and democracy, Dr. Kalaingar Karunanidhi was arrested in the midnight. He was dragged and thrown into the jeep. He was treated as a beggar. Such a senior-most leader was punished and victimised because of personal enmity. It is not only that. Ms. Jayalalithaa's adopted son Shri Sudhakaran was also arrested in the heroine case. One Ms. Serina was arrested in the *ganja* case. So many people, who turned enemies to the Chief Minister Jayalalithaa, have been arrested. They are victimised. Till today, no person has been charge-sheeted. It is all due to personal enmity. As I said earlier, the police people dance to the tunes of the Chief Ministers of the State Governments. There is no rule of law. The police administration is totally in the hands of tyrants. By repealing the POTA, the UPA Government has saved the people of Tamil Nadu. I once again thank the UPA Government for repealing the POTA.

Having learnt the lessons from the State Governments, particularly the Jayalalithaa Government, we should not again enact a law by giving more powers to the police which may misuse such a law. Prevention is better than cure. If one innocent person is detained under any such terrorist activities Act, if he is imprisoned for a long time, after the trial and after his release by a court of law, his dignity will be lost.

He cannot regain the dignity or image. So, prevention is better than cure. For example, we can take Shri Vaiko's case. He has been released by the Review Committee. The Review Committee has clearly stated that there is no *prima facie* case against Shri Vaiko. Though the Review Committee has given its Report, yet the Court has not accepted that case and the case is still pending before the Supreme Court.

We are fighting against terrorism. There is no compromise regarding national security. The Bill has now come in a new shape scrapping the POTA, which is spelt out in the National Common Minimum Programme. We welcome this Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, having special features like bail provisions according to the Cr.P.C. provisions. After getting the bitter experience, the State Government should not take cognisance of any offence under this Act. The Central Government have to have a role of sanctioning authority.

I also give some suggestions regarding the Review Committees. The Review Committees should be empowered to intervene and enquire about the *prima facie* case and also the withdrawal of the case. This is my humble submission to the hon. Minister. The Bill should have a specific provision to punish any officer who may resort to arresting of an innocent person under the pretext of terrorism and sufficient compensation should be given to the victim by the Court of Law.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to congratulate U.P.A. Government. Ever since UPA Government has come to power, terrorism has come to an end from Kashmir to Kanyakumari. Now, no terrorist activities are taking place anywhere. ... (Interruptions) Here we are talking about repealing POTA. Today no terrorist activities are taking place in the country. Terrorism has been wiped out from the country. The country is on the path of progress. The people of Jammu and Kashmir are leading their life peacefully. An atmosphere of peace has been created in the entire country. If this is the situation, where is the need to have POTA? Is this the reason that a bill to repeal POTA has been placed before the House by the Government?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, taking this step is most unfortunate for our country—India, which is our motherland and which we treat as our mother. Our country has faced several invasions. Our soldiers have fought the invaders bravely on the borders. Our soldiers are guarding all the borders of our country to give a sound reply to and to fight off all the attempts to invade our country. They have fought courageously.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is unfortunate for the country that those, who have malafide intention and do not want that peace should prevail in the country and law and order situation remain good; have fully realised that they

cannot gain a control over this country through war and therefore now they have started proxy-war. I am surprised to see that whenever something is said about terrorism, there is protest from certain quarters. I don't think that any members has any link with terrorists and it cannot be so also.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, POTA was passed by the then Government in the joint sitting of both the Houses of Parliament. Why it was felt necessary to pass POTA? It's reason was that the terrorists attacked Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Red Fort of Delhi and our Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Chairman, Sir, I neither interrupted these people during their speech nor I am speaking against them. Whether it was the Government of Deve Gowdaji, the Government of Gujaralji or the Government of Vajpayeeji, or whether the Home Minister was Indrajit Gupta or Advaniji, the statement of Government was that Pakistan is involved in these attacks. Every time, the same reply has been given that either the Pakistani terrorists are involved in this or Pakistani terrorists from across the border have attacked. ...*(Interruptions)* Let them deny this. ...*(Interruptions)*

AN HON'BLE MEMBER: Who is helping Pakistan?

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, five terrorists who entered the Parliament were Pakistani. How did they enter the Parliament, they did not come here without support, who did help them, who did harbour them and with whose association did they come here? After all some one provided them shelter that they reached to the Parliament. They were provided shelter here so they came to Delhi and attacked Parliament.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): Who were in power then?

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is not the question of the Government, I am not denying the responsibility of the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Anant Gangaram Geete, please address the Chair.

*[Translation]*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it was unfortunate for the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH (Kanakpura): Mr. Chairman, Sir, India was well protected during the Congress regime. Indiraji fought against Khalistan extremists very forcefully. ...*(Interruptions)* Rajivji fought against LTTE. But our Parliament was attacked during the NDA regime. Nobody can forget that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please resume your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not disturb him.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH PARANJPE (Thane): I think, the hon. Lady Member has forgotten how many Hindus have been killed in Kashmir during the Congress regime. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH: Kashmir belongs to Hindus, Muslims and to every citizen of this country. ...*(Interruptions)* I am also a proud Hindu. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record, except Shri Geete's speech.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am being reminded by the Government that at that time it was our Government. I fully agree with it. Terrorist activities have been going on in our country for last twenty years. Whosoever is in the Government the fact is that all the Governments have failed in fighting and curbing terrorism in the country. I am telling the fact. But what is the reason behind this reality. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: The Minister of the Government to which they were supporting had gone to release the terrorists. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Mr. Minister, it is wrong, you please stand up and then speak. ...*(Interruptions)* Would the Government have left so many people to be killed? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: We have failed in fighting terrorism. It is unfortunate that terrorists are getting shelter also in our country, it is unfortunate for the country. ...*(Interruptions)* It is unfortunate for the country that terrorism and terrorists are getting support in our country. At that time it seemed that we were killing and nabbing the terrorists. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record, except Shri Geete's speech.

...*(Interruptions)*\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Paranjpe, now you are wasting the time of the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Paranjpe why are you speaking. Your speech is not going on record. Nothing of whatever you are telling is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)*\*

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Paranjpe, whatever you are speaking is not going on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: It is unfortunate for the country that terrorism is getting shelter in the country today. They are being assisted. I would like to cite an example, when our Government had formulated POTA. ...*(Interruptions)*

MOHD. SHAHID (Meerut): He may please clarify as to who are doing so. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am not telling anything wrong. I am not alleging anyone. I would like to cite one example. ...*(Interruptions)* The matter is old ...*(Interruptions)*

MOHD. SHAHID: Mr. Chairman, Sir, when Shri, Jaswanj Singh along with the terrorists. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mohd. Shahid, you please sit down. Your speech is not going on record.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, if he is citing the incident of Shri Jaswanj Singh, then I would like to ask him whether the then Minister of Home Affairs Mufti Mohd. Sayeed had not compromised with the terrorists for the release of his daughter? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prabhunath Singhji, you please sit down. Now none of your speech will go on record. Shri Geete ji, you please address the Chair.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, what can I do, I am being interrupted time and again. I am not alleging any one despite being interrupted.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to give one more example. Our Minister of Home Affairs is present here. He is from Maharashtra and I am also from the same state. When the POTA was moved in the Parliament, the Congress Party had opposed it. That was their stand. Then the Congress party had decided that the POTA will not be enforced in those states where there were Congress Chief Ministers or the Congress Party was in power. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Geete ji, you please address the Chair.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Congress governed states were given instructions that POTA should not be enforced in those states. At that time the Congress was in power in Maharashtra and Karnataka. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra and Karnataka had announced that they would not enforce POTA in their states, however, after few days there was a bomb explosion in a bus at Ghatkoper in Mumbai. ...*(Interruptions)* Thereafter there was a bomb explosion in Mahalakshmi. Then similar incidents took place in the Mumba Devi area and near the Gateway of India. Hundreds of people were killed. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Paranje ji, you please sit down. Geeteji himself is competent. He will reply. Let him speak. You please sit down. Your speech is not going on record.

MOHD. SALIM: At that time, POTA was enforced in only 10 states. Are not the remaining states part of India? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, there was Congress Chief Minister when there were bomb explosions in Ghatkoper, Mahalakshmi, Mumba Devi and the Gateway of India. Then the Congress Government of Maharashtra imposed POTA against them and they enforced POTA. The Government of Maharashtra had to impose POTA. The Government of Maharashtra realised that if POTA was not enforced and terrorists activities in Mumbai were not checked, it would be difficult to check it and the entire nation would come in the grip of it.

Sir, they had declined to enforce POTA, however, they were aware that the people encouraging terrorism were then in Mumbai. So the action was taken. Today similar is the situation all over the country. One may look into the figures for last three four days. Military officials were killed in Jammu and Kashmir continuously on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Daily they are being killed. Some day 10 some day 12 and some day 18 military personnel have been killed. This is the situation. It is giving message that the gate is open, come. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Geeteji, now you please conclude.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be brief. Your time is very limited.

*[Translation]*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, much of my time has been wasted in interruptions and I was not allowed to speak. It is reality that the entire nation is infested with terrorism and it has spread its tentacles in the entire country. Today nobody is safe. In such a situation terrorists had this fear of POTA but it is unfortunate that our friends from Congress are giving more importance to electoral politics than the security of borders of the country, security of nation is not that important. They had raised slogans and made demands and announcements. They are in power right now. Their purpose is solved and now they are least concerned about whatever happens to the nation. I do not know

whom they had promised but they have come to the House to fulfill their promise. The public of India does not want it. It is against terrorism. ...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today terrorism is continuing from across the border. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL (Daman and Diu): They are not in power anymore. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not to reply. He is addressing the Chair. He is not addressing you.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am a member of this House from 1996 and today is the first 6 December when House is functioning. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Anant Geete, you do not reply to him. Please address the Chair.

...*(Interruptions)*

15.58 hrs.

*[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN in the Chair]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Now you are not concerned whatever happens to Babri Masjid or society as you are in power now but it is unfortunate that black day of 6 December has been registered in the history of India. It is a black chapter in the history of India and hon. Minister of Home Affairs name would be included in it. I would like to tell them that they are encouraging terrorism. They are playing with the security of the country. It is the demand of crores of people that POTA should stay. I would request you on behalf of the people and in the interest of the security of the nation to withdraw this bill.

16.00 hrs.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to congratulate the hon. Prime Minister and the Government. They had declared in their Election Manifesto that if they come to power they would repeal POTA. ...*(Interruptions)* Government have brought that bill. When the erstwhile Government brought POTA in the House, unfortunately I too supported it and I still regret it. The direction of the debate has been changed. ...*(Interruptions)* It is not the question whether apprehension was expressed at that time too that POTA would be misused, similar kind of things had been said and people opposed it vehemently and when the bill could not be passed by both the Houses, then it was passed in a joint session of the two Houses. When it was being discussed, at that time, our erstwhile leaders Shri Vaiko supported it strongly and delivered a very impressive speech. Then came the issue of the treatment meted out by the Government of Tamil Nadu where their allied party was in power. Ms. Jayalalithaa led Government ill treated Shri Vaiko ji, kept him in jail for years without any proceedings in the court.

Geetejji is my friend very impressive orator and a seasoned member but he is forgetful, he was asking what is our relation. 240 persons were arrested under POTA in Gujarat out of which 239 were Muslim and one was a Sikh ...*(Interruptions)* Please listen.

\*.....\* On 16 May Bhartiya Janata Party. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): He is not a terrorist. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: If he is yielding, you can say.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except his speech.

...*(Interruptions)\*\**

MR. CHAIRMAN: If there is any objectionable statement that will be expunged.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: I am enough to handle them, please keep quiet. I am enough for all of them.

\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

\*\*Not Recorded.

They are in power in Jharkhand and that tribal area of Jharkhand is the most peaceful area of our region. I can understand that there are terrorist activities in Kashmir but 72 persons have been looked under POTA in Jharkhand which include children and old persons of 80 years. Persons belonging to Shibu Soren's party, Jharkhand Mukti Morcha, RJD and Congress were arrested under POTA as they wanted to win elections. They \*...\*. For their vested interests they distorted the geography of Bihar as they had thought that they would continue in power but how many seats did they get, just one. I can tell them that they are not coming to power.

This Bill has been brought as it was being misused, be it the Government of Uttar Pradesh which used it against its opponents or the Government of Gujarat or Jharkhand, it had to be stopped. All laws are good but people misuse them. This Government has brought this Bill to prevent its misuse. You are showing much sympathy for terrorists. Nobody from this side or from the opposition wants terrorism to rise but the need is to find out the root cause of terrorism. Terrorism would be suppressed if it is done effectively. Thousands of children are being taught in madarasas and if they say that ISI is imparting training over there then they are converting all of them into terrorists. Who has the courage to wipe out 15 crore people? Who can remove them? Despite this they have launched a campaign against persons of a particular community, they are poisoning minds of people.

Though he got its result yet he did not learn anything from it. Shri Modiji has gone from Bihar Assembly. Had Laluji imposed POTA in Bihar then what would have been the fate of these people? Where they could have hidden themselves? ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your time is over.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: I would like to urge hon. Home Minister to assure that whatever law the Government enacts is not allowed to be misused. He should ensure that it is not misused. TADA was misused during Congress regime. ...*(Interruptions)*

\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, Shri Raghunath Jha, your time is over. Please conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am concluding. My submission is that the Government should take stringent steps against terrorists but law should not be allowed to be misused. Whole nation is with the Government. Let us march ahead unitedly, then only the nation will progress.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Shri P.K. Vasudevan Nair.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, after finishing your speech, you do not have the right to speak. Nothing will go on record except Shri P.K. Vasudevan Nair.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI P.K. VASUDEVAN NAIR (Thiruvananthapuram): I am happy that the UPA Government is deleting one item from the Common Minimum Programme. But I am sorry that they are doing it only partially. Repealing POTA is a very welcome step. I think that is the sentiment of the country and the people. In spite of the discordant notes from my hon. friends on that side, I hope they will learn proper lessons, if not today at least, tomorrow. I said only partially, because in the Common Minimum Programme, what did it say? They said that they will repeal the POTA, and they will more strictly implement the existing laws. By implementing the existing laws more strictly, the implication is that more or less we can meet the menace of terrorism. But this is also an extraordinary period which we are passing through. Nobody would like to have a POTA or a TADA or any other such law all the time.

We would like to have ordinary laws, human laws, laws for the people and laws for the common man. Unfortunately, not only in India but all over the world, now, this is a very extraordinary period when violence is on the rise and terrorism is there.

Here again, when we talk of terrorism, some hon. friends say, 'international terrorism' and refer to the UN

Security Council Resolution. Let us be very clear in our minds that terrorism does not have the same features in America and India or in other countries. We have our own problems. My humble submission is that we should try to go to the roots of the problem as some hon. Members have said.

It is an unfortunate fact that in Kashmir and in the North-East, a lot of people are frustrated for various reasons. We may be responsible for it. But somehow they have their own complaints and their own feelings. It is good that the UPA Government is taking some steps. The hon. Prime Minister visited Kashmir. He has visited the North-East. Some steps are being taken. That should sometimes, some extraordinary laws may be unavoidable but here my criticism of the Government is that they have brought this Ordinance to amend the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act along with the repeal Bill. I request the hon. Minister to go over it all over again. Then, he would see that many of the obnoxious and draconian provisions of the old law are smuggled into this Bill. I am very sorry that this kind of an approach has been taken by the Government. It should be reviewed.  
...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Would you please yield? Would you point out that provision which is obnoxious in the Unlawful Activities Amendment Bill?

SHRI P.K. VASUDEVAN NAIR: There is the definition of terrorism and many other sections. It is very difficult to spell them out within the limited time.

You can even arrest a person or book a person on suspicion. Of course, it is true that they can get bail. I do not say that there are no changes but there are provisions in the POTA which have been lifted and put here. They should be re-examined.

I now come to the changes that I should like the Government to consider. There is a review committee. It is very vital committee in the whole scheme of things. So, I would suggest that for the review committee the names should be proposed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Let the Government not take upon itself that responsibility. If it is the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who makes the proposals, that would be more agreeable to the whole country. As far as the membership of the committee is concerned, you have said that it could be a retired judge. I object to that. It should be a sitting judge.



[Shri P.K. Vasudevan Nair]

There is another proposal that I want the hon. Minister to consider very seriously.

As far as excesses are concerned, there is a provision there but that is not sufficient. My suggestion is that if there are such complaints and excesses and if the Review Committee is convinced that excesses are committed, then those who were affected by that should be allowed to approach a judicial body, that is, the High Court of that State so that proper remedy is there. That should be considered.

Now, I want to say one thing. You are giving so much power to the bureaucracy. Of course, you have to do it because, after all, you have to operate through your machinery. But there is a fundamental question. When you give more powers, then there is more chance of misuse and more corruption. One of the reasons for corruption in the bureaucracy is that they have more and more powers conferred on them. Of course, you have to give powers to some of them, but please try to have as clean and incorrupt people as possible when you select these people. Please try to have as incorruptible and clean people as possible; otherwise all these things will get upset and corruption will increase and misuse will be on the increase.

Now, we say that POTA was misused. I am sure the hon. Minister will agree with me that with the provisions in this Bill also, there is enough scope for misuse. I do not say that there is any law which can not be misused. Any law can be misused. After all, people are operating it. So, extra care on the part of the Government as a whole and the Minister in particular is necessary so that this law is implemented—I do not say without any misuse; I will never say—with as little misuse as possible. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI P.K. VASUDEVAN NAIR: The time allotted to me is limited. I want the hon. Minister to give consideration to these points. There was a suggestion by some hon. Members that various clauses contained in the Unlawful Activities (Amendment) Bill may be referred to a Standing Committee of Members of Parliament or to some other committee. If it is possible, that should be seriously considered.

My friend, the Leader of the Shiv Sena—I do not know in which world he is living—says that POTA has been very useful. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. You have already taken ten minutes.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.K. VASUDEVAN NAIR: Sir, I did not want to take ten minutes, but I could not help it. That is why, I took ten minutes. ...*(Interruptions)* They should know that the misuse of POTA is one of the causes of their debacle. That is the real analysis. So, if again we are going to misuse such powers, the same fate will be repeated again. I do not want that to be repeated. I do not want them to be transferred to that place.

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Mr. Chairman, Sir I stand here to discuss about the repeal of POTA Bill, 2004 and the UAPA Bill, 2004 which is the abbreviation of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mahtab, you have five minutes before you.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Sir, I need some more minutes because we are dealing with two important Bills.

The UPA was committed to repeal POTA and it had included it in the Common Minimum Programme. Let us not forget that the Act was enacted to tackle terrorism. But it had become an instrument in the hands of some Chief Ministers to settle scores with their political opponents. Ironically the NDA Government was unable to check the abuse of POTA as the Act, though enacted by Parliament, is implemented by the State Government. In order to prevent its misuse, a Central Review Committee was constituted after some time. It is the possibility of misuse of the provisions of the Act that is its main weakness.

During the debate, in this House, in the 13th Lok Sabha, I had drawn the attention of the then hon. Minister of Home Affairs and an assurance was given to the effect that adequate steps would be taken to avoid misuse of the Act. The real need today is to avoid misuse and abuse of the law. Therefore, better safeguards be provided when we are enacting a stringent law.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons as has been stated while piloting this Bill says that three criteria have been opined here and the reason why the POTA is being repealed has been stated as the Act has been misused. It is often said—as has been said by my colleague Shri Modi—that 'do not cut your head off if you have a headache'. This simple political lesson seems to have been lost on the ruling alliance.

POTA was abused grossly and needed amendment. Changes include sharpening the distinction, as Shri Soli Sorabjee, former Attorney General had rightly observed, between speaking in favour of terrorist groups and acting to help them. The first is a matter covered by interpretations of the right to free speech; the terrorism law does not come in here. Shri Vaiko should never have been arrested. POTA is not the first law on which proper application is found wanting. The mature response should have been to correct flaws, not score political points.

Today, terrorism is still a major problem and we do need an Act which helps secure quicker convictions. POTA could have been expanded to include perpetrators of communal violence. Gujarat instances have been repeatedly mentioned here. POTA was applied against those accused of setting the Sabarmati Express on fire at Godhra but not against those who roiled in Gujarat. That is the kind of lacuna a smartly amended law could have addressed.

When TADA was repealed, the Narasimha Rao Government had prepared the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, 1995, as a replacement and expanded terrorism law to include communal violence. That Bill could not be passed during the Rao Government's time. Congress could have resurrected it.

We should not forget that India has to meet its obligation under the United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 1373. It states to have a comprehensive and stringent anti-terror law. The United Nations Security Council resolution seeks that member-countries "ensure that any person, who funds or plots or prepares, or perpetrates or supports acts of terrorism is brought to justice and such terrorist acts are established as serious criminal offences under domestic laws."

Provisions of POTA helped India to fulfill these obligations. Besides banning the funding to the terrorist organisations, the POTA provisions also empowered the Government to confiscate the proceeds of terrorism, including buildings, property, etc., and freeze bank accounts. One should admit that these provisions have helped various State Governments, especially those of Jammu and Kashmir and Maharashtra, to seize substantial property and freeze bank accounts with huge sums of money belonging to various terrorist organisations. The security agencies had been successful in bursting gangs of financiers who had been funding terrorist movement in Jammu and Kashmir. As per POTA, at least 32 terrorist

organisations have been banned. Keeping promises, especially electoral ones, is an honourable thing, but the question is: at what cost?

We will know that an anti-terror law acquires its character from the way it is used by the society in which it exists. In the long history of opposition to POTA, the Supreme Court had repeatedly pointed this out ruling that it was not essentially unconstitutional for the Centre to ensure the existence of such a law. Each State had to sort out its attitude to, an execution of, the law and this had to do with its understanding of the relations between security, justice and power. Therefore, a clear definition of terror and terrorism is needed. In the recent past, hon. Minister for Home Affairs had stated that UAPA is 'milder' than POTA and the onus of proving the guilt will shift back to the prosecution from the accused, thereby reversing the provision of POTA wherein the accused had to prove his innocence.

Sir, I come to the crux of the matter here. The basic idea of repealing POTA was its misuse. They could have corrected it. The POTA was a temporary act. It was due to go out of effect on 24th October, but they have repealed it and they have added the terrorism aspect of POTA into the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. But here POTA is repealed not because there has been any diminution of the menace; the repeal was intended as a token response to the demand of some group. By promulgating the Ordinance No. 2 the same day, on 21st September, 2004, virtually all the penal provisions of POTA, concerning terrorist organisations and activities, have been transferred to the pre-existing milder sounding Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967. The signal emanates from the gimmick reinforced by the Government's weak-kneed handling of violence and extortion in the North-East and naxalite terrorism that its repeal just a month ahead is nothing but a frivolous act.

I come to the next Bill, the UAPA. How was it designed? I just want to remind, through you, Sir, that earlier in 1967 it was designed to deal with associations and activities that questioned the territorial integrity of India. When one goes through those debates of 1967—before that Bill was passed in this House, when the Bill was debated in the Parliament—one finds that leaders cutting across the party lines and party affiliations insisted that its ambit should be limited, that the right to association remained unaffected and that political parties were not exposed to intrusion by the Executive. The ambit of the Act was strictly limited to meeting the challenge to the territory of India, but the Act was a self-contained

[Shri B. Mahtab]

code of provisions for declaring secessionist associations as unlawful, adjudication by tribunal, control of funds and places of work of unlawful associations, penalties for their members, etc.

The Act has worked holistically and completely within the purview of the Central List in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next speaker is Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: With the help of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment (UPAP) Bill, that is being discussed today, the penal provisions of concurring terrorism—a subject belonging to the Concurrent List—has been transferred. It is now a combination, and it is bound to lead to confusion in its implementation, specially when State-specific provisions are sought to be added by the respective legislatures. We would like to be educated about this issue. What does the Government think to correct this confusion?

With the help of the UAPA Bill, the definition of 'unlawful associations' has been expanded to also include any association, "which has for its object any activity, which is punishable under Section 153(A) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), or which encourages or aids persons to undertake any such activity or of which Members undertake any such activity". Section 153(A) is about promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, etc. I think, my friends from Tamil Nadu are hearing this aspect. The intention of the UAPA Bill is a blatant violation of that consensus, and exposes our party system to mischief. An opening is being created to assault nationalist organisations in order to pursue political design.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mahtab, you can add what you want to say to your written speech, and submit it at the Table of the House. This would allow other hon. Members to put forth their views on this issue before the House too. So, please conclude. If it is a written matter, you can submit it.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: The regional parties from both sides should realise that they also may not remain unscathed, if at any stage the Centre considers it politically expedient. It may use the expanded definition of unlawful association against any of us. In the interest of harmonious functioning of our polity, the expansion made in the definition of unlawful association has to be reserved.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal. Shri Mahtab, please conclude.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: It is needless to mention that countering terrorism requires a special framework, substantive as well as, procedural. What was the basic idea of having POTA? Basically, we have two types of jurisprudence in this world. One is the British jurisprudence, and another is the French jurisprudence, and in India we have a number of laws, which go with the French jurisprudence, where the accused has to prove that he is not guilty. In the UAPA Bill you are moving to the British jurisprudence, where the prosecutor has to prove that the accused is guilty. We have the same procedure in our IPC, CrPC, etc. Why duplication?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mahtab, the BAC has allotted only four hours for this Bill.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Sir, I am the only Member of my party who is participating in this discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mahtab, the time allotted is only four hours for this Bill, and you have already taken 15 minutes, instead of five minutes allotted to you.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Sir, you are in the Chair. I need another five minutes.

We had POTA, and before that we had TADA, which not only included special penal provisions, but also special provisions for enforcement.

In the UPAP, the Special Panel provisions have been transferred, while the special provisions for enforcement have been dropped, thereby the State apparatus combating terrorism has been debilitated. Among the special provisions dropped are those restricting release on bail and allowing longer periods of police remand. What I was trying to harp on is that the French jurisprudence.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude otherwise, nothing will go on record. There will be no end to this.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: We should not forget that because of the Special Court, a verdict in the Parliament attack case could be obtained within a year.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, your written text can be submitted. Why should you take the House to task?

SHRI B. MAHTAB: The Government must realise that the crux of the problem is.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can very well submit the written text. Why should you take the House to task?

SHRI B. MAHTAB: If you take any anti-terrorist law, the crux of the problem is in its implementation. When we use the word 'abuse', it is intentional; when we use the word 'misuse', it is unintentional. In the beginning, I had said that this law, POTA, was abused. In that respect, I am to say that it is the Parliament which is enacting this law, but it is the State which is implementing it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: I had asked this same question in 2002 to the then Home Minister, today again, my question is—"What steps, corrective measures, have been taken by the Government?"

MR. CHAIRMAN: There should be no further speech. Now, I give the floor to Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal. There is a limit to everything.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Sir, let me conclude. With these words, my Party and I oppose the repeal of this POTA and also the implementation of this UAPA Bill. We oppose it.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, our opposition to POTA was based on certain principles. We felt that there were provisions in the Act, which were draconian in nature. We believe that POTA had provisions which were tearing to smithereens certain time-tested principles of criminal jurisprudence. A reference to that has been made earlier saying that we have almost reproduced the entire thing in a different form under a different label. The position is not so.

The provisions which were opposed to, we remain opposed to. We have ensured that those provisions do not find a mention in any law which is framed with the UPA Government in office. What are those provisions? We then felt that, for the first time, under section 32 of the POTA, it was being provided or it had been provided that confessions made to police officers would be admissible in the trial. It was a pernicious provision.

The second, we felt, was that under section 53 of the said Act, presumption as to offences under section 3 of that Act could be inferred by the Court and, in certain circumstances, I quote, "the court shall draw adverse inference against the accused". This was provided in that Act. We had opposed that then.

Then, further, under another provision, namely, section 29, it was provided, "That the Special Court (which they

had set up) for the purpose may take cognizance of any offence without the accused being committed to it for a trial." Unheard of in criminal jurisprudence.

Further, in the case of bail, we know what the courts have provided as far as the principles governing the grant of bail are concerned. What did that Act provide? Very briefly, I will refer to some words. Section 49(3) says:

"The court shall not grant bail until the court is satisfied that there are grounds for believing that the person brought before it is not guilty of committing such an offence."

Never heard of! That law stipulated that the court shall not grant bail till the court believes that the person is not guilty of an offence. If the court feels that the person is not guilty of an offence, where is the question of bail? The person has to be acquitted outright. It is only when you find that there are *prima facie* reasons, that the person would not flee, would not leave the country, the person would not be in a position to influence the witness, that the bail is granted. For the first time, we had this concept in this POTA that the bail could be denied even on such frivolous grounds. It was because of these provisions that we had said that we are opposed to that law.

On the first available opportunity we have fulfilled our commitment. The Government has come out with an Ordinance to repeal that law. I heard some little objections today in the morning, as also now, about choosing the Ordinance route. What was really objectionable was when a law like POTA which, as I had said, was doing away with the well-established criminal jurisprudence principles was enacted, was enacted through an Ordinance. We are repealing that law. Along with that, because our commitment to fight against terrorism remains as solid as it ever was, we brought about certain provisions, certain amendments to the Unlawful Activities Act. Had we permitted only POTA to be repealed today without touching upon the Unlawful Activities Act, what would have been the state of affairs? Then we would have been accused by these people saying that we do not understand what law has to be like.

Sir, it is the Congress Government, it is Shri Shivraj Patil who has piloted this Bill. When he was the Speaker, he took that initiative of setting up of the Departmentally Related Committees. We know that we in the past have been, in fact, pressing here in the House that Bills have to go to the Committees. During the last five years, what

[Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal]

did we see? Anything which they found was, in fact, very difficult for them to deal with, the route thought of was that of an Ordinance because in the case of Ordinances we normally cooperated. But, here the situation is altogether different. For certain solid, valid reasons this amendment has been brought about.

It has been pointed out repeatedly from the other side, unnuendoes even, that the Congress has been soft on terrorism; that it was the BJP which fought terrorism. I do not want to repeat what has been said earlier but I think since our memory is short I have to say that again. Who from the Government went to escort the foul-mouthed terrorist to Kandahar? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhilwara): If I ask like that if our Shivraj ji or say, Sonia ji is kidnapped, will the Government not initiate to protect them? Will the Government not pay ransom for their release? Even I am ready. ...*(Interruptions)* What will happen if Sonia ji is kidnapped by the terrorists, we will act to protect her. even if we have to pay ransom, we shall pay.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I would like to say that. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This cannot be allowed. Only the hon. Member is allowed to speak. You cannot ask questions. He is the only person competent, and the one who is allowed to speak. Nobody else can speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I yielded to him. Let me please answer.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Can you go on TV and say that rescuing those people was wrong? Can you go and say that now? I am asking you.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I would like to tell hon. Member that on behalf of the Congress. ...*(Interruptions)* he has spoken and I have listened to him fully. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL (Hapur): Who is he to ask, why is he interrupting in between. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH (Bhilwara): Give a straight answer. Do not circumvent it.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I want to tell hon. Member that Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and Shri Rajiv Gandhi fell prey to the terrorism on behalf of Congress party. Still Congress is following the same principles. Still we had said that. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

Sir, any bullet that is fired by the terrorists revalidates our unflinching faith. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: Just give a straight answer. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Bansal, please conclude. Your time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Had a situation like this happened. ...*(Interruptions)* If he wants to keep on doing like it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: I want a straight answer. ....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I can shout very much like you, but I was letting you speak. Now, please let me speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

Let me tell you that had a situation like that happened when the Congress were in Government, we would not have let that plane go from Amritsar to Kandahar. The way those people were hijacked, we would not have let that happen. It is the Congress which laid down the lives. Congress lost Indira Gandhi; Congress lost Rajiv Gandhi. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I rise to inform the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please resume your seat.

But we will have to sit after 6.00 p.m. If you agree, you can continue. ...*(Interruptions)*

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to inform the House that already the time is 4.50 p.m. We have to pass the Bill today itself. There is a clause-by-clause consideration also, which will take a longer time. There are still about 12 or 15 speakers. What should be done?

Shri Bansal, your time is over but you want to continue. What shall I do? We have to pass the Bill before 6.00 p.m. At least by 5.30 p.m. the floor has to be given to the hon. Home Minister to reply. Clause-by-clause consideration is also there which would take a longer time. You have to agree for extending the time to allow these Members to speak. That is for the House to decide.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Sir, I want to tell only this much. ...*(Interruptions)* I want to urge that. ...*(Interruptions)* A need for me to say so should not have arisen. But I want to tell that once my brother was kidnapped by a terrorist. He was in their captivity for 58 days.

*[English]*

For 58 days, not once did I ask the Government of the day to release those people and get my brother back. I want to say that the NDA represented the theatre of the absurd and the poetry of dubious virtue. That is what they have. What I say is that the Congress has always believed that any bullet fired by the terrorists only revalidates our inflexible commitment to the principles of democracy. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAYENDRA PAL SINGH: We know your virtues. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: What has happened, Sir, under this law. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Bansal, your time is over. Please conclude. I am helpless.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Please see the time given to the Congress party. Fifty-five minutes were given to the Congress party. Only 23 minutes have been taken by my colleague, Shri Madhusudan Mistry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have no objection. If you are agreeable for a longer sitting, we will have discussion.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Do I speak or not, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time allotted is already over. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: The time allotted to the Congress party is 55 minutes. ...*(Interruptions)* Only 23 minutes have been consumed by Shri Mistry, my colleague.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the hon. Home Minister say. If he is agreeable, we will have a longer discussion after 6.00 p.m.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: As you feel, Sir. If you want me to stop, I will stop.

*[Translation]*

Sir, I was telling that Congress has always fought against terrorism and even today we are committed to fight terrorism. Nothing of that sort has happened by which one can say that Congress has bowed under the pressure of terrorists.

Sardar Beant Singh sacrificed his life in Punjab. It was being said that we have failed in our fight against terrorism. Could anyone have thought, when terrorism was on its peak in Punjab, that it will be curbed. Who did it? That time we did not boast of our achievement. We never said that we have done this and now we will do that.

Sir, I feel that POTA was project of terrorism and not prevention of Terrorism Act. For what purpose this law was enacted? Gujarat example was cited quite often which is apt also. Was terrorism existing in peace land of Mahatma Gandhi, Gujarat? Since election were at doorstep and their condition was dwindling. They thought of creating POTA-creating terror, communal-tension, mass murder and spread hatred in the country so that POTA could be applied later on. This all was done for what? It is said that the matter may have come to an end, if the ordinance was allowed to lapse. Though the public was aware that the Government had issued ordinance, a Bill was brought and the debate was held. They made use of their majority in the Central Hall. One house rejected the Bill in principle, they resorted to this method. They say that crores of Indian want it and crore have taught them a lesson. Then Maharashtra's case came up. And they still talk of crores.

[English]

You are still under that illusion.

[Translation]

Today also he is under same impression. He is not trying to learn anything out of what he is being taught... Today also, he is opposing it. He should say why the Government are repeating it. He should say, if the Government want to bring any legislation to deal with such eventuality strongly, they will support that. Why he is opposing it because their Government brought this law and people told that they did a wrong by bringing this law. People were assured by the Congress and Shrimati Sonia ji and we have fulfilled that. Therefore, we feel that since we live in a civilized society, it was our responsibility to repeal such a draconian law.

It has been said here that today is a black day.

[English]

Today is a 'black day'. But the 'black day' was in 2001 when this ordinance was promulgated in the form of POTA.

[Translation]

Cries of the people had no impact on the then Government. The Government was bent upon doing that since Gujarat was in its mind. I don't know what happened subsequently ...*(Interruptions)* Today, after a gap of three years, 'Indian Express' has published whole story. ...*(Interruptions)* That time, their Government was in power and whatever they wanted, they did and did not allow anyone to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

Now, those cell phones are ringing after three years.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, he is here to reply. Why do you reply?

[Translation]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: We opposed that law because of certain issues and provisions. When somebody is arrested, he has to be produced before the

Magistrate within 24 hours. This provision too was flouted and was directed to arrest him. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

You arrest a person and inform his family members. He has a right to be represented by a lawyer. But the lawyer does not have the right to be present all the time. What a mockery of the law it was.

[Translation]

What could we do as this kind of law was there, today there is a need to fight terrorism and this should be done under the general law that already exists in the country. But it is not applicable in all cases. This provision was there that summary trial could be conducted, the person arrested would not be given a chance of defence. This kind of provision is not there in this bill. There is a provision to fight terrorism and I feel that it should be against terrorism, not an individual. I only want to say this, I am about to conclude as per your order. Congress would not compromise with anything while fighting terrorism. The entire nation is against it and we have stood upto it, it is not so that we would work as per what seems right in a particular region—Congress would stick to its statements, legacy, ideology and philosophy and fight terrorism will all its might.

With these words, I support the bill.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajanj, Bihar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am unable to decide whether I should speak in favour of or against ordinance for the amendment to the Prevention of unlawful Activities Act, 1967. The House is always divided whenever any sensitive issue is discussed here. It is quite apparent that people sitting on my right have taken themselves to be the champion of Hindus and people on the Left are the patrons of Muslims in the country. In this system of patronage. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Prabhunath Singh, you please continue.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am addressing you. Soniaji I request you to ask your people to listen to me, they do not want to listen. I was saying that it is not right to discuss sensitive issues with a prejudiced mind.

Hon. Minister of Home Affairs Shri Shivraj V. Patil is sitting here I respect him quite a lot. I believe that every member of the House respects him. I was not a member of the House when he was Speaker of the House but old members, praise him when they sit in the Central Hall. I cannot understand why a sensitive person like Shivraj Patil ji who maintained high standards as Speaker is acting in a wrongful way regarding such a sensitive issue. Under what circumstances he is taking this kind of recourse, is he doing so under some pressure? Who is pressurising him. Is he doing so at the instance of Pakistan. Befriend Pakistan, that is another matter but I do not deem it fit to take action in the laws regarding terrorism as per the advice of the persons from Pakistan.

This law was enacted in 2002. It was valid for three years, although it has generated controversy since the day of its formulation. It has not implemented completely but it is on the verge of lapse. It was formulated in controversies and today it is being said that it has been misused. Even I accept that it has been misused as per the reports that have been received, it can not be denied that it has been misused but every law has loopholes and can be misused. Be it CrPC or IPC States have also formulated several laws like in Bihar.

16.59 hrs.

[SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL *in the Chair*]

There is a Prevention of Crime Act, similarly other States have also formulated many laws. He says action has been taken as per law but it has not been done so. He has formulated a law that seeking dowry is illegal.

17.00 hrs.

- Whoever seeks dowry commits an illegal act and we take action against him under CrPC and IPC. POTA or prevention Act that he is enacting would hardly affect the action to be taken in this matter. As per the law that we have enacted, police should take action. Even today the
- issue of granting bail is discussed in the court on the basis of diary maintained by Police under CrPC and IPC and the court agree to that whatever is maintained in the diary under CrPC and IPC. Nothing else is accepted. Neither the plaintiff's word is accepted nor the defedent, only the Police'e statement has weightage. There is mere juggling with the words in CrPC and IPC and nothing else. Why was he so restless. The provision of getting bail is a little bit strict in POTA. Now he is making it a little bit flexible.

The country is witnessing special circumstances. I would like to tell him that he was the district president of youth Congress when Shrimati Indira Gandhi was at the helm of Congress Party. I respect him even today. I accepted him as our leader. Shri Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated by terrorists. Several times such situations have arisen in the country that the Central Government had to kneel down before the terrorists, be it the incident of abduction of the daughter of the then Minister of Home Affairs or the abduction of any aircraft. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not rung the bell to ask you to sit down. I am ringing it to ask you to conclude your speech soon.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I was just giving an introduction. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Though your party's time has run out, you may conclude your speech in few minutes.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: The Government of this country has knelt down before terrorism several times. I too accept that no law can allow to arrest anyone. It is not a machine bu, a strict law creates an environment of fear for persons involved in illegal activities. He has just sent out a message that POTA has been repealed. We are going to soften this Act so it will certainly boost the morale of the terrorists. We are doing this in a situation when it is coming in the newspapers that 250 militants are prepared to enter into Kashmir. They are terrorists. It is daily coming in the newspapers about the incidents that 12, 15, 17 or 20 people have been killed. ...(*Interruptions*) Why are they talking about NDA. Neither I am on the pay roll of the NDA nor the Congress. They should listen, I am telling the truth. I am not speaking in favour or against anyone. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prabhunath Singh ji, they will not interrupt you if you address the Chair.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: The Government should remain vigilant particularly in a situation when any of its steps can boost the morale of the terrorists and it should ensure that such things do not happen.



[Shri Prabhunath Singh]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, when you were speaking from your Chair, it was being discussed at that time that accused person will have to prove that he is innocent. The states have their own laws. Such laws are there in Punjab and also in Bihar. When law for checking the Crime is implemented and when the person concerned approaches board, then it is the accused persons who is supposed to prove that he is innocent. By the way even in general cases the accused person is required to prove that he is innocent. Others do not prove that they are innocent. What has happened now? He himself is a Lawyer. When he speaks in the court wearing black coat it does not make any impact however, here he has to speak in white coat and shirt why do you speak the language of a lawyer in the House. He has to give message to the country through the august House. Today, the message that is going to the country is that the laws that the Central Government are proposing to formulate will boost the morale of the terrorists. ...*(Interruptions)*

The discussion about the special court is held. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please cover the points only. Then the rest of the Members will express their views accordingly.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: As far as the issue of special court is concerned, special courts are constituted in several such cases like fodder scam for which special court has been set up. There is special court of CBI. Besides, special courts have been constituted in the States separately for hearing the matters related to dowry related atrocities and crime against Scheduled Castes. They sky will not fall if special court is constituted in this case also. I don't feel anything unprecedented in it and I think that the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs should not have been so concerned about it. See what they have done in the new law: from section 16 to 23 words have been inserted. They have not added anything new in it. Raising funds for terrorists activities, joining conspiracy or harbouring terrorists all these things are the same, what is new in it? Similarly, section 27(1) and section 9(1) of POTA are the same and no change has been made. If there is no difference then what was the need of changing it. They should have written it SOTA instead of POTA and would have made the law more stringent. They should have declared that they are making more stringent law. It would have discourage the terrorists. However, I am not able to understand what new they have done in it. It is fact that they have somewhat relaxed the provision related to bail. What did Government achieve

by softening the provisions of bail. In earlier law, the police officer of the rank of SP had power to attach the property after seeking permission from the DGP. In the present law too it is mentioned that property can be attached by the investigating officers after seeking permission from the DGP. Investigating officer can be a police sub-inspector or assistant sub-inspector. The Government have further given power to lower rank officials. As far the confiscation of proportions is concerned, police can confiscate the property whenever it likes to do so after seeking order from the court. What is new in it whether it is CrPC, IPC or any other laws what was the need to get disturbed. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, you please conclude.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Interruptions create disturbance and everything is spoilt. ...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it was discussed that there were certain shortcomings in the earlier law and it is on account of the pressure on the police or due to their own mistakes that many innocent persons have been arrested and lodged in prison. My submission is that police was the enforcing agency of the law in the previous Government which arrested people and took action against them. I would like to know from the Government as to whether it is going to replace that agency. Will different agency be constituted after replacing police to enforce the new law? If the police is not replaced by some other agency and the police is to enforce it then how the situation will improve. If the incident of dacoity happens in any area under the jurisdiction of a police station then will the Government disband the police station or will it strengthen the process to check dacoity. If there is incident of murder in any district under any SP, then will the Government remove SP and abolish district or will it take strict action in this regard. What the Government are doing? What will they do if there is an accident on the road.

My submission is that I would like to quote only one line of the news-item published in newspapers. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am giving you maximum time but do not quote.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I quote only one line—250 terrorists ready for infiltration. Under what circumstances are they going to do this? The Government should see that what it is going to do is in the interest of the country or not. I would like to submit that the morale of the terrorists should not be boosted. I am quoting only the heading of the news item—'leftist group active after repealing the POTA'.

'Atankvad Asiai Deson Ke Liye Khatra'. Hon'ble Natwar Singh is the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Now I am coming to the next issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thanks.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Please do not tell me to sit down by saying thanks.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, I am telling you for the same. You have taken fifteen minutes.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I am concluding in one two minutes. I think that after the formation of the present Government, impractical and unprecedented things are happening and in this matter also something is happening. Till now whenever any person has held important political post in the country, all have risen from the masses. It is for the first time that a bureaucrat has been installed on the post of the Prime Minister of the country. It is due to this that there is trend of recession in the economy of the country. If we have to check it then the person like hon. Shivraj Patil ji should have held the post of the Prime Minister then we. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL: What is he saying? He should withdraw his statement. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I am telling this because he has come from the masses. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now you have taken enough time, you please sit down. You please conclude. I will have to call the next Member. I do not want to call next Member before you sit down. You have taken enough time. Please conclude.

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL (Hapur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, whatever he has said just now. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Sonia ji is seeing him. She will make him Minister. Why is he worried? Sonia ji, please make him Minister. I also plead for this. ...*(Interruptions)* Now I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before calling the next Member I would like to inform the House that I will not be able to give more than five minutes to any of the Members. If I ring the bell after five minutes then the Member who is speaking at that time should conclude.

SHRI NIKHILANANDA SAR (Burdwan): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I stand here to support the Prevention of Terrorism (Repeal) Bill, 2004. It is a draconian law. We are against any such law that curtails the rights of the people. From the Acts like PD Act, the DIR, the NSA, TADA and finally to POTA we are against all these draconian laws.

Sir, we are sorry to say that we could not achieve national unity since Independence owing to wrong policies followed by previous Governments. That is why we are faced with a situation like this today in this country. There is a distinction between discontent amongst people and anti-national activities. Anti-national activities is something serious, but discontent amongst people are growing endlessly. There are so many reasons for that. There are foreign agents who are eagerly waiting to take advantage of the situation and are helping such organisations in various ways in Jammu and Kashmir. They are instigating the people and creating trouble in that State.

I do not want to talk about Jammu and Kashmir here. I visited the State of Manipur for four to five days. Where is the rule of law there? We talk about human rights. But where is any human right in Manipur? The Army Special Protection Act is in vogue there. Under this Act there is a provision that even one *havildar* can arrest any person without having any warrant of arrest against him. Anyone can be arrested. The House of any person can be searched and even the person can be shot at.

Such a type of right has been completely encroached. What has happened in the case of Manorama? Police invaded her house at the dead of night, took her away, placed in an Army truck and, next morning at 6 a.m., her dead body was found. What has happened? Is it rule of law? There may be some connection with some groups. But who gave that Army people the right to kill her in such a way? At the same time, allegations have been made that she was raped. The next day, you saw what happened in Imphal. Aged women staged a naked demonstration before Kangla Fort. "Army people, rape us" was the slogan. The whole country saw it. Now, one should realise the rule of law.

The main point is people's discontentment. Why does discontentment start? What is the position in Manipur? It is a tiny State with a population of 26 lakhs. And in employment exchanges, five lakh names are registered. In such a tiny State, five lakh names are registered. Can

[Shri Nikhilananda Sar]

you imagine? There is not even one Technical Institute there. There is only one IIT in that State for supply of skilled labour. That is the position, Students began to burn their books in front of us. I asked them as to why they were losing their books. Do you know what did they tell me? They said, "We have no future. The Army people will butcher us. So, why should we study? We will give it up." And then they burnt their books.

The Central Government should take steps regarding all these things. Only by repressive measures, only through the repeal of the Bill on unlawful activities, you cannot suppress the movement of people. For that reason, the Government should take up pro-people policies and not anti-people policies. That is the main point. That is why, there is discontentment in the country. In that case, we have seen many Governments which had followed anti-people policies. This UPA Government, with its Common Minimum Programme, should be sincere in tackling the problems of the people. As regards these problems, I request the hon. Home Minister to send it to the Standing Committee for further discussion.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH (Barmer): Sir, I think there is irony or coincidence of history today. It is indeed very sad that we are discussing the repeal of POTA and today, in less than 24 hours, brave soldiers of RR have died in an IED blast in Anantnag. Their bodies have not even reached their homes yet and we are discussing the repeal of POTA. I am grateful that you have given me time to speak against the repeal of the POTA.

Terrorism is the single greatest threat to civil society in the world today. As we know it, civil society is governed by a set of regulations and laws and is dictated by a constitutional framework under which we all live. This threat of terrorism emanates within this country from a design across the border and when members of that Government whose design acts against India come and meet a senior Member of this Government and ask for POTA to be repealed, they brandish that request on TV cameras round the world.

That image is indeed shameful for this country. A country which is hostile towards India, by policy, members of the executive of that country should interfere to such a degree in the internal matters of India and we allow that to happen without contradiction from the hon. Home Minister. I think it is a terribly shameful event. To perpetuate that, we have this sad discussion today. Sad

also because one RR was raised specifically as a counter insurgency unit, amongst the first to be raised in this country specifically for Jammu and Kashmir. It is amongst the most decorated units of the Indian Army. It is one of the first units to receive Chief's Unit Citation and that Unit has had a terrible loss yesterday through an act of terror and here we are having a debate to repeal POTA.

The State, as we know it, is duty bound to protect its citizens by law and the strict implementation of law. Law, as we know it, governs this society. The State is under siege today; the society is under siege. In this situation, the Government declares that it is diluting—to use its own language—measures to prevent terrorism.

It is not difficult to understand why there would be a dilution. It is because movements of terror in this country, every single movement of terror across this country, whether in the North or in the East, is rooted in the policies of the ruling Party. I say this with full historical verification and historical honesty. So, it is not surprising that this Government would work at diluting the laws that seek to prevent terrorism in this country.

The curious thing about governance in this country is that there are sufficient laws to prevent either terror or other measures that the Government seeks to impose. The problem lies in implementation. India has amongst the most stringent laws on environment. But we all know how shoddy the implementation is. If Members are agitated about the misuse of POTA, is it the fault of the law or is it the fault of those who implement the law? Is it not the fault of various State Governments that have clearly violated provisions of the Constitution and the rights of certain citizens? It is intriguing that the section of this House promotes itself as the protectors—and to use the word that my senior colleague, Shri Prabhunath Singh used—*thekodars*, of a certain community.

I would like to remind those Members that the largest, in the statistical sense, number of victims to terrorism in India have been the innocent citizens of Jammu and Kashmir, innocent women, innocent children and innocent men. They have been killed systemically since violence began in Jammu and Kashmir by terrorists. When these Members are agitated about protecting the community, I would like to remind them about what is happening to the community in Jammu and Kashmir. I wish they show the same concern for conditions in Jammu and Kashmir.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the time you have given me.

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR (Calicut): Hon. Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I support the Government's decision to repeal POTA and also to introduce another amending Bill. It has been our practice that whenever a law is made, it is misused. Then, everybody talks of misuse of the provisions and forgets. This time, an example has been set.

We were all victims of law during the Emergency because of the misuse of MISA. We talked of the misuse of MISA. They said that MISA would not be used against political leaders and public workers; it would be used only against the anti-nationals or the black-marketeers. But what happened? Even right from Shri Jai Prakash Narayan down to so many were imprisoned. First, no Review Committee was held. When the Review Committees were held, even then, people continued to be in prison. It is all a ritual one. Issue is not that anybody wanted to go into the spirit of law to see that human rights are presented, the freedom is guaranteed. Then came the NSA, the TADA and the POTA. I do not want to narrate the details of our experience because it has already been said here by other hon. Members.

Can a Member of Parliament be so helpless as Shri Vaiko was? He was arrested under POTA. What could those friends of mine sitting there do? Why was he imprisoned? What was the terrorist act that he did commit? Why was he arrested under POTA? If a Member of Parliament has no security, has absolutely no defence against this law, what about the common man? Is it not a very sad thing to note that thousands of people are languishing in jails? Under POTA, children are arrested and jailed. I do not want to talk about Gujarat because we know what happened in Gujarat. Out of all the people arrested in Gujarat, I think 99 per cent belong to one community. Are only they the terrorists?

Some friends said that we have to take lessons from Mr. Colin Powell about terrorism, what he said, etc. Is the United States' mandate binding on us? Should it be? Is the same thing continuing everywhere in the world? What has Mr. Powell done in Iraq? What is it that they are doing in Iraq and Palestine? The terrorists have some different manifesto. They have to go to the root cause of it. He cannot take the last link from the chain and say this is all. It is not so. With all the might, terrorism could not be suppressed.

Sir, we have a different situation here. People are driven to various positions. There are reasons for that. Even the present law, as it is, is no different. As far as the new Act of the UPA is concerned, I think the things are replanted here from POTA. Honestly speaking, I say that it must go to the Standing Committee as it cannot be accepted.

There is one more thing. I will quote another thing in respect of Tamil Nadu. ...(*Interruptions*) I am just concluding. The fact is that for six-and-a-half years, there is one Mr. Madani who is in Jail. First, he was arrested under some section. Then, when they could not keep him in jail, they used the NSA. For six-and-a-half-years, he has been there without any trial. All the other people have been given parole, but that man is now languishing in jail in Tamil Nadu. It is a flagrant violation of human rights.

Some friends, were saying that the withdrawal of POTA is against civilisation. Is killing of children, the innocent people, denying human rights is civilisation? We heard the Hon. Member from Manipur. What is happening in Manipur? Who is responsible for that? Can we sit and say that we do not see all these things, we do not see what is happening in this country? By the use of law, people could not be suppressed. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: I am concluding. Sir, the withdrawal of POTA will be supported, but the other Bill must go to the Standing committee.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. SPEAKER: Sh<sup>r</sup> L. Ganesan. Please be brief. We do not have much time. I am sure you will cooperate.

SHRI L. GANESAN (Tiruchirappalli): Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the very outset, with all respect humility and sincerity at my command, I wish to make an appeal to you. Of all the political parties in Tamil Nadu, of all the leaders in Tamil Nadu, our party, the MDMK and our leader Shri Vaiko had been singled out and treated with vendetta and vengeance by the politically biased Tamilnadu State Government.

Shri Vaiko has been a veteran parliamentarian and his fiery orations are even today reverberating both in this House as well as in the Upper House. He, along with his eight comrades, was arrested and detained under POTA for about 19 months. During this long period, the

[Shri L. Ganesan]

mother of one of the detenues and a grand daughter of another detenu have died. They said that they had untold miseries under detention.

Sir, we have submitted a memorandum to the Central Review Committee. I hope you would remember that you also subscribed your signature to that memorandum and 300 other Members of Parliament also signed that memorandum. The Chairman of that Committee was a retired Chief Justice of a High Court. He conducted the proceedings in such a way as though it is a pucca Criminal case. After so much of arguments and deliberations, the Review Committee has given a finding to the effect that there is no *prima facie* case and, therefore, Shri Vaiko and his colleagues should have to be released. But Miss Jayalalithaa, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu was not kind enough to release them. So, what actually happened? We had been tossed from pillar to post, from the POTA Court to the Review Committee, from the Review Committee to the High Court, from the High Court to the Supreme Court and so on and so forth and even today we are facing the trial.

Therefore, my submission is that POTA was flagrantly misused and, I should say, blatantly abused by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. I do not know what is taking place, what is wrong with Miss Jayalalitha but one thing is sure, she is always fond of darkness and dead of night. She ordered the police to knock at the very door of the bedroom of Kalaingar Karunanidhi at the dead of night. Who is Kalaingar Karunanidhi? He is an octogenarian leader, he is a senior most political leader and sober statesman. Is he a criminal? If he is to be arrested at any time, if any policeman approaches and tells him that he is under arrest, he will unhasitantly come out and get himself arrested. But he was dragged out of his bed and arrested at the dead of night and this is taking place every time in every other cases.

As a result of all these atrocities, what happened ultimately in the last General Elections? We are all Members of Parliament here. We know that most of you have been Members of Parliament for two or three terms or even more. But have you ever, in your life seen such a victory as we witnessed in Tamil Nadu? We achieved cent per cent victory in the last Lok Sabha Elections in Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry. We won 40 out of 40 seats. Why? What is the reason? It is because of the leader of the Democratic Alliance Dr. Kalaingar Karunanidhi and the tireless work of my leader Shri Vaiko. Not only that: it is also because of the announcemert made by Dr.

Kalaingar that Shrimati Sonia Gandhi would lead the alliance. With all these combined together, we have won thus stupendous victory. We have inflicted a crushing defeat on Miss Jayalalithaa.

Therefore, Sir, please permit me to quote from the memorandum signed by 301 Members of Parliament and submitted to the Review Committee.

Shri Vaiko had been drawn to politics by late Thiru Anna, the founder leader of DMK and developed later on by Thiru. Kalaingar Karunanidhi, the successor of late Thiru Anna. Shri Vaiko was a Member of Rajya Sabha for three consecutive terms from 1978 to 1996. Also he was a Member of Parliament in Twelfth and Thirteenth Lok Sabha. Shri Vaiko, who is a known democrat is wedded to non-violent and peaceful form of political actions for the past four decades. He is one of the founder leaders of MDMK and ever since the founding of MDMK in 1993 he has been the General Secretary of the Party. During his long and uninterrupted political life he has never been accused of resorting to violence—leave alone terrorism—by anyone. We should doubt the sanity of anyone who would brand him as a terrorist.

Sir, much has been talked about our leader, Shri Vaiko here and elsewhere. So many people tried to portray him as a terrorist and so many people have tried to defend him. I am the person who is much qualified, since I know him from his student days and associated with him. My humble submission is that the previous Government has done so many things. But I know that he has defended the previous Government. I do not want to suppress the matter. He had always tried and he had staunchly defended the earlier Government. There is no doubt about that. But what for he had defended them? That we must understand. The greatest thing is that if he is a friend, he will be a sincere friend and if he is a foe, he will be an honest foe.

What happened in the National Democratic Alliance party meeting?

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): Why did he defend them?

SHRI L. GANESAN: In the NDA meeting, before the introduction of POTA Bill itself, he stoutly opposed the introduction of POTA. Mind you, even in the NDA meeting, Shri Vaiko stoutly opposed the introduction of POTA Bill. I should have to dispel so many wrong impressions created here and elsewhere that he had supported the law. But I say here with honesty and sincerity.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ganesan, please conclude now.

SHRI L. GANESAN: Sir, this is a vital point. I would submit that he has not supported POTA. When he was requested by the then Law minister to speak in the very same House in support of passing POTA Bill, he flatly refused. Therefore, to say that he is one of the instruments in passing the POTA Bill is wrong is incorrect and untrue.

The people of Tamil Nadu have been very much upset and agitated. As a result of our peaceful agitations and mass movements and the spontaneous mass support our agitations and movements and our repeated representations to the then Central Government, it had taken some half-hearted steps. It is of vital importance. Therefore, I appeal to the Chair—we are the offended party, we are the aggrieved party, we are the affected party—to consider to what extent we have been tortured. At least, we should be allowed to ventilate our feelings.

MR. SPEAKER: It cannot be indefinite. I respect your sentiments, but you have to be under control of time. Please cooperate.

SHRI L. GANESAN: Now, our Government wants to repeal POTA and it has introduced the POTA (Repeal) Bill. For burying POTA, if anybody shed tears, let them shed tears. But we are happy that POTA has been done away with now and buried several fathoms deep.

The UPA Government, in their promise in the Common Minimum Programme, have said that they would do away with it, that they would put an end to it, and that they would repeal the POTA Act. They have kept their promise for which I am very happy. I appreciate and I pay my highest tributes to this Government.

But in this also, there is a very great danger that I should have to point out as a friend and not as a foe. As a sincere friend and honest friend, I should have to warn that there are the same pitfalls in this. The lacunae in the previous Act still exist here also. For want of time, I shall be very brief.

Now I come to amendment in Prevention of Terrorism (Repeal) Act. After sub-section 3 of Section 2, the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely, 3(a) notwithstanding the repeal of Section 60 of the Principal Act, the Review Committee constituted by the Central Government under sub-section (1) of that Section reviewed any case registered under the Principal Act as to whether

there is a *prima facie* case for proceeding against the accused thereunder or not and then form the opinion that there is no *prima facie* case for proceeding against the accused then: In case, a sanction had been granted under Section 60 of the Principal Act by the Central Government or the State Government, as the case may be, the said sanction shall be deemed to be null and void and non-existent in the eye of law with effect from the date of issue of sanction and (b) in cases in which cognizance of any offence under the Principal Act in pursuance to sanction granted is taken by the court, the cases shall be deemed to have been withdrawn with effect from the date of issue of directions by such Review Committee under sub-section (4) of section 60 of the Principal Act.

MR. SPEAKER: You need not read it out. you make your point please. I have given you 15 minutes.

SHRI L. GANESAN: What is it? So many people have taken so much of time. Therefore, in case of, say, Vaiko's case, the Review Committee has given findings and directions that there is no *prima-facie* case and hence they should be released. In spite of that they are not released. There is a problem. Therefore, when we enact, we should be very careful. There should not be any scope for ambiguity. I would wholeheartedly support my veteran leader, CPI(M) Member, who said that this bill should better be referred to the Select Committee. We will sit there, discuss it threadbare, and then plug the loopholes in the Act. I, first of all, appreciate the Government for having kept its promise and also I appeal that the loopholes should be plugged.

MR. SPEAKER: You have made a very effective intervention. Thank you.

There are three or four hon. Members to speak. You please cooperate and speak for three or four minutes. Otherwise, I am sorry.

Ms. Mehbooba Mufti, please try to be very brief. I know the importance of the Bill.

MS. MEHBOOBA MUFTI (Anantanag): So much has been said about Jammu and Kashmir. You are asking me to just answer within three minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: That shows your ability to do so.

MS. MEHBOOBA MUFTI: You have to give me some more time.

MR. SPEAKER: I have faith in your articulation.

[Translation]

MS. MEHBOOBA MUFTI: I support the repealing of this POTA. I believe that our country has most stringent laws in the whole world to deal with any kind of crime, violence or even insurgency. But the effectiveness of any law depends upon its implementation, that is, whether a law is being followed and implemented to safeguard the lives and provide justice on equal basis without making any discrimination between rich and poor, influential and ordinary, religious and non-religious people, majority and minority, and men and women. I would like to tell you that the most prominent example of political vendetta is that of Mr. Vaiko's case. We have seen that. Shri Ishikhar Gilani was another victim who was put behind the bars for six months just because he happened to unload something—which was freely available—from the computer. These are the two cases. But there are hundreds and hundreds of people who have been languishing in jails.

In our State it was POTA which was implemented there. Ever since Congress and PDP Government has been formed, we have not implemented it. I would like to tell my colleague, who is sitting here, that as a result of this, not only the flag was hoisted on 26th January and 15th August but thousands of children, women and aged people were present in our stadium. As a result, Advaniji leaving aside POTA, started unconditional talks with Hurriyat. The Ministers who used to visit, talked about fight to finish battle and he made declaration of friendship with Pakistan amidst 40,000 people. These are the qualities of this Government. They gave a healing touch against which he has spoken a lot and called it soft terrorism. He should know that his leader Shri Vajpayeeji endorsed it during his visit to Srinagar.

[Translation]

[English]

About whom we have no information but they have been kept in jail on one pretext or the other, perhaps in the name of poverty, religion thinking that they are anti-nationals. Jammu and Kashmir has the population of 1,20,000 people. Out of them only very small percentage of people have become militants whom you are trying to control for the last 15 years with such a huge army.

He said: "Healing touch policy is the only policy to deal with the Kashmir situation".

[Translation]

[English]

It is eating at our vitals.

Therefore, they should appreciate it.

[Translation]

Sir, I would like to say that in a law like POTA, in which the Government get unbridled discretionary powers, there are more chances of its being misused and it has been misused also. We have the example of Manorama of Manipur. The recent rape of mother and daughter is another example. Whenever powers are used in such manner we always regress. Therefore, I feel that

But we are not able to control them. Whenever any black law is enacted due to which a person is imprisoned then he is declared as anti-national. If they do like this then from where will they get the army to fight against them?

[English]

people are the fountain head of power.

[English]

So, do not push the minorities to the wall. This is my request.

[Translation]

Sir, they should not alienate entire nation for a group of people.

[Translation]

[English]

Sir, when POTA was passed here at that time it was implemented in our State.

You have to win over the hearts and the minds of the people, whether it is North-East, whether it is J&K or for that matter even the people of Pakistan. We will have to win them over. I would say that Vajpayeeji has been doing that very well.

[English]

My State is the most unfortunate state.

I would like to compliment Dr. Manmohan Singhji also for his successful visit to Newyork.

Finally, I would like to request the Government that all the cases should be reviewed and decision should be taken at the earliest. Here the BJP Members are accusing that we are with that Government, which released the terrorists to get the daughter of Chief Minister released. I would like to remind him.

[English]

that they were supporting that Government and the Congress party was in opposition at that point of time. They did not withdraw the support.

[Translation]

over some issues. They did not withdraw the support with Shri V.P. Singhji but they withdrew their support on Mandal and Babri Masjid Demolition issue.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much for your co-operation.

Prof. M. Ramadass, please be brief.

PROF. M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak on behalf of the Pattali Makkal Katchi of Tamil Nadu. We fully support the repeal of POTA and also the amendments brought in the Prevention of Unlawful Activities Act.

Enough has been said about the rationale for the repeal of POTA. We only wish to state that POTA was not acceptable to us even at the initial stage because the intention of POTA could have been achieved with the existing laws and regulations contained in the Indian Constitution itself. For example, section 153(b), section 121(b), section 122 and other sections of IPC could have been easily used by the Government to achieve the objective of combating terrorism in this country. Therefore, we are not for the continuance of POTA because it is an assault on human rights and it is an assault on liberty and equality of individuals.

Sir, we are happy that this nation, represented by the Parliament of India, is discussing this question of liberty on a day when the country is remembering Dr.

Ambedkar, who has been the champion of human liberties, human rights and equality. On this day, we are putting a dead end to POTA by extending overwhelming support to the repeal of POTA in this House.

Therefore, we support this Bill. At the same time, we would feel that as our previous speaker from MDMK has rightly said the Act how it has been grossly misused. If we take the total number of cases that have been booked, there are 617 cases. Sir, 172 cases are there in Gujarat itself. In Tamil Nadu, without any reason or rhyme, the MDMK leader has been prosecuted for a political vendetta. It was not the intention of the Act itself. The intention has been misplaced. The intention has been misused by the Government there, and it has been duly punished for doing so. Therefore, this misuse has to be stopped. Repealing the POTA Act is the only way. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude.

PROF. M. RAMADASS: Sir, I have taken not even two minutes.

MR. SPEAKER: I wish I had your watch.

PROF. M. RAMADASS: While supporting this POTA Repeal Bill, we would only urge the Home Minister to give a retrospective effect to the repeal of POTA because many innocent people have been punished. Natural justice demands that they should be compensated. For those people who have been languishing in jail and for a parliamentarian like Shri Vaiko has been imprisoned for more than 19 months, what is the compensation that we are going to give? Even after the Review Committee has said that there is no *prima facie* case, the case has not yet been withdrawn. It is totally unjust on the part of the Parliament to allow this. Therefore, we would feel that there should be a retrospective effect to this and adequate compensation must be thought of.

Now coming to the second part of the amendment, we fully support this Bill because it gives a number of provisions which would help the Government to avoid the misuse of the Terrorism Bill which would help the Government to avoid the able to detain a suspect on mere suspicion. An accused can apply for bail. The provision of special court has also been dispensed with. Guilt of the accused will have to be proved by the prosecution. In all these respects, we support this Bill.

But still some more precautions have to be taken to ensure that this amendment, at least, is not used for political vendetta in the future. Therefore, we feel that



{Prof. M. Ramadass}

the Review Committee, which is going to play a central stage in this amendment, must be given more teeth. Today the Review Committee has got only a limited power of examining the cases. We would feel that this POTA Review Committee must be given the powers of a civil court so that it can call for any evidence and do it. Before you chargesheet any accused under this Act, the POTA Review Committee must give its opinion in full and chargesheet must be registered only after that. If these two provisions are made and the Review Committee is given more powers, we think that we would be able to curb the menace of terrorism.

Finally, if the terrorism has to be curbed here, we should be able to evolve a modern police system and the mind of the police people must be set in a proper way so that they will be able to tackle the problem in a better way.

This is my last word. When we talk in terms of repealing this POTA and supporting the amendment, nobody should think that we are against national integrity and we are against national security. We are not second to anybody in upholding the dignity of this nation and security of this nation. Let nobody think that by repealing this law, the Congress-I Government is sending a signal or invitation to terrorists in this country or abroad. There is no point in bringing Pakistan or any other country here. This is India. This is our motherland. We are committed to this country as anybody in this House is committed. Therefore, on behalf of our founder President. Dr. Aiyya we appreciate the Government for this measure. We support the Government in these two activities. Minor precautions should be taken so that the individual liberties are not trampled in this country.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much. I am sorry to interrupt your good speech, but I am constraint of time. I am sorry.

Now, Shri Asaduddin Owaisi. Please be brief.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the repeal of POTA.

At the outset, I would like to congratulate the Government for repealing this draconian law. But I have a complaint to make, which has been rightly pointed out by my hon. friend over here. The premise on which we are repealing this Act is that this was bad in law, this particular piece of legislation divided our nation, created disharmony and discontent among various communities

and it was used against the common man, whereas the whole purpose of this was to safeguard the citizens.

I request through you the Government and the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that this repeal should have retrospective effect. There are many people who are languishing in jail. We have to provide minimum relief to them. My request to the hon. Minister is that if not retrospective effect to the whole repeal Bill, at least for sections 49 and 32, there should be retrospective effect because one year is a long time for a Central Review Committee to look into all those things.

I do not want to repeat what happened in Gujarat but on October 30, in Hyderabad, a Gujarat police team had come to my constituency to arrest an alleged accused. This Gujarat police team had killed in cold blood a youngster. Four days ago, an accused has been arrested for the murder of Shri Hiren Pandya. His father has died but he has not been given the permission to come to Andhra Pradesh to perform the last rites. This is what is happening in the State of Gujarat. That is why I say that in the review committee the top priority should be given to cases of Gujarat.

I was listening to the debates and the speeches of my hon. friends from the BJP. Innuendoes are being used. They have referred to what Mr. Colin Powell had said about Islam. Does Mr. Powell hold a brief for Islam or Muslims? I would like to say that even before the *Sangh Parivar* ideologies were born Muslims have been faithful to this country and history has proven that never before have we compromised on the security of the nation. My request to my hon. friends is to stop these innuendoes. I would like to ask them why POTA was not applied to the killers of Mr. Ehsaan Jaffrey. Why was it not applied to the people who raped Iqbal Bano? Why was it not applied to the people who carried out the massacre at Naroda Patiya?

The father of Shri Hiren Pandya had contested elections against Shri Lal Krishna Advani. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, this remark should be expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into it.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, he has taken the names of people who are not Members of this House. ...*(Interruptions)* They cannot defend themselves. It should be removed from the records. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: That portion will be omitted from the record.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Owaisi, please try to conclude. We are running against time.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: Sir, I request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to please examine sections 49 and 32.

Amir Meena has said:

*[Translation]*

Khanjar chale kisi par, tadapte hai hum,  
Amir Sare Jahan ka dard, hamare jigar mein hai.

This is about Muslims. About you, it is like this—

Sitangar tujhse ummide wafa hogi, jinhe hogi,  
Hame to dekhna hai ki tu, jhalim kahan tak hai.

*[English]*

Regarding Unlawful Activities (Amendment) Bill, I would request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs, through you, that there is no need of having a designated authority. He may kindly take away the provision for designated authority. Regarding forfeiture of property, it should be through a local magistrate. I request that this particular Bill regarding unlawful activities should be referred to the Standing Committee.

I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I oppose the Government's decision to repeal POTA through this Bill. The TDP had supported the passing of the Prevention of Terrorism Bill.

Suppose some State Governments are found misusing IPC and foisting cases against their political rivals, would we repeal the IPC? Would we also repeal other criminal laws? When the Government of Tamil Nadu

had misused POIA and the MDMK trends approached me, I was also a signatory to the representation to seek his release. If we find any abuse or misuse, we have to take care of those provisions. Instead of taking care of those provisions, completely repealing POTA is not correct.

18.00 hrs.

This is not for the welfare of the nation.

Now, terrorism is increasing day by day. This is the tool for combating terrorism very effectively. What happened yesterday in Jammu and Kashmir and in Assam? So, after all these cases we are repealing this Bill. This will not give peace in this country. The law and order is deteriorating in Jammu and Kashmir and in the North-Eastern States. Maoist Communist Parties have announced a corridor from Nepal to Tamil Nadu. ...*(Interruptions)*

Therefore, in these situations we are repealing this Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*

Time will tell and after some time the Congress Party will realise as to why unnecessarily they repealed this Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Yerrannaaidu, you have made your point.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: The previous Government also enacted MISA and TADA. Both are special laws. ...*(Interruptions)* That is why, please refer this Bill to the Standing Committee for further discussion.

So, my appeal to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs is that this Bill be sent to the Standing Committee for further discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is 6 o'clock. Do I have the sense of the House to extend the time of the House by a certain time?

...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): We request that the time of the House may be extended by half-an-hour. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is all right. That is the sense of the House I take it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (Gandhinagar): I do not propose to participate in the debate as such. I have been listening carefully to the debate on Friday and today, and I would say that the arguments advanced from both sides—whether on this side or on that side—have been heard earlier also thrice, first, in the Lok Sabha, then in the Rajya Sabha and later in the Joint Session. The sum and substance of it is that because it is abused, therefore, it should be repealed.

I do think that India's would be a unique case in the whole world where it is universally acknowledged today that the most gravest threat to civilized society and particularly to democracies is terrorism, and the ordinary law in existence in most democracies is inadequate to meet that threat or challenge. Therefore, it was because of this that we, in the earlier Lok Sabha, decided that India must also respond to the general realisation. Even the United Nations Security Council said, there ought to be in all countries special laws against terrorism. We did it. Now, today, that special law is being repealed. This will be the first country in the world to do that. Even though terrorism continues till today in the whole country, someone can say POTA has not stopped terrorism. I agree. But there have been instances pointed out that POTA has served to some extent as a deterrent and it has also served to punish those who indulged in this crime. But my submission is that I heard the debate and I found that those who are against repeal of POTA, pleaded that this matter be referred to the Standing Committee and there were others who were in favour of repeal of POTA. ...(Interruptions)

DR. C. KRISHNAN (Pollachi): POTA was misused. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. You have not taken my permission.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: There were others who were in favour of repeal of POTA. Several of those Members also pleaded that the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Bill be referred to the Standing Committee. Here, the hon. Minister of Home Affairs is the person under those Speakership, this special institution of

Standing Committee was created. I have noticed that though it is said that ordinarily Bills seeking to replace Ordinances will not be referred to Standing Committees, during the Eleventh Lok Sabha I found the Electricity Laws (Amendment) Bill which sought to replace an Ordinance, and in the Twelfth Lok Sabha the Lotteries Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 1998, Finance (Amendment) Bill, 1998, Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 1998—all of these, though they sought to replace Ordinances—were referred to the Standing Committees and their reports were there.

I believe that so far as the hon. Speaker is concerned, the Chairman of the present Standing Committee on Home Affairs has met you and said that 'we would like to expedite it because I understand the constraint of time'. Therefore, it is at this last moment that I have come to plead with you and with the Government that because of this general desire of Members—some in respect of the POTA repeal Bill and some in respect of the other Bill—that they be referred to the Standing Committee. The Government should agree to refer these to the Standing Committee. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Salim, just one minute. You must mention your point.

MD. SALIM: Yes Sir. I will just make a point. We have two separate Ordinances and two separate Bills as well as two separate Statutory Resolutions. You were kind enough and the BAC was wise enough that we have taken them up together for discussion and consideration. We have discussed it.

Now, as far as the repeal of POTA is concerned, our position is very clear. I made it in my submission also that it should be made done forthwith. Today itself, we want to repeal this draconian Act.

As far as the amendments sought to be made in the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act are concerned, it is a totally different Act. It is not the same piece of legislation. I think some kind of consultation or some kind of further discussion is needed because the same provision, like the definition etc. which are there in POTA, if we put them here, it will be difficult. ...(Interruptions) It is up to you. The hon. Speaker can decide it to send it to the Standing Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: I think I can.

MD. SALIM: You can decide it with a meeting of the leaders. We have two weeks and we can utilise that period. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI ILYAS AZMI: How will you get these two Acts passed simultaneously?

MOHD. SHAHID: Besides repealing this law, the innocent people, who have been imprisoned on sale allegations may also be released. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister of Home Affairs—

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Sir, just give me a minute. Please allow me. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: We have only half-an-hour's time.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He has given me notice and so I called him. You cannot go on like this. Hon. Minister, please reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I want to get his views on this. I ask him to give his views on this.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

Mr. Minister, what do you say with regard to the proposal of Shri L.K. Advani?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: What about sending it for consultations? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot go on with this running commentary.

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: You let me know in the beginning itself.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, if you ask me to express my views on this point at the beginning itself, I will do it. If you allow me to do it at the fag end of my speech, I will do it because if I express my views on this point alone, I do not know whether I would be able to continue my speech later on or not. So, I seek your permission to make my submission at the fag end.

MR. SPEAKER: You give your reply including this point.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I will do that. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (Bangalore South): Are you sending it to the Standing Committee? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: How can I direct the hon. Minister? How can I direct him?

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Sir, the Committee can give its report early. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Can I direct the hon. Minister how to reply?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, it is for you to decide that. Please deal with this point.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I will not avoid replying to that point. I assure you that I will give reply. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Not in the end, but now. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as the views of the Government are concerned, they are known. But on this particular point, I would like to know the views of the Government now.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, if you want, you can say on it.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, I will go by your direction.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, why do you not mention it since he is asking?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am requesting him to give his views.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: First.

MR. SPEAKER: First; Mr. Minister, you give your views on whether you want it to be sent to the Standing Committee or not.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, we have the system of Standing Committee with us; we have the Constitution of India also with us. The Constitution of India provides that when there is an urgency, when there is an emergency, the Ordinance should be issued and after the Ordinances are issued, there is a timeframe given in the Constitution of India. Now, within that timeframe the Ordinances have to be replaced by the law. For that purpose, we have to move a Bill and the ordinances have to be replaced.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: The Standing Committee can give its report in 7 days. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: We have to go by what is there in the Constitution. We have to go by what is provided in the rule book and we have to go by what has been done in the past in certain circumstances. ...(Interruptions) My submission is that. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He has heard you. You allow him to speak. It is very unfortunate for senior Members to do that. Let him finish.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I had anticipated this and I think that for us, for this House and for the country, repeal of a special legislation like POTA is not a right step. My party and my colleague, associates in the NDA, would like to protest against this. If the Government had been willing to refer the matter to the Standing Committee, we would have changed our view, but in order to register

our protest against this, we would like to walk out from the House.

18.11 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri L.K. Advani and some other hon. Members left the House.)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Home Minister.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Now, Shri Ram Kripal Yadav may be given 2 minutes time to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you speaking so loudly, please speak quietly.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: He has left after giving the reply. Now please give an opportunity to Shri Ram Kripal Yadav.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, kindly take your seat for a second.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please allow me. I wish, you had been sitting here now. I understand that this has been going on for a long time. Hon. Chairman was here. If Shri Ram Kripal Yadav wants to speak, he can seek a clarification after the hon. Minister's speech.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, there is one more point which I would like to make with respect to the reference of this Bill to the Standing Committee. POTA came into existence through the route of Ordinance and when that Ordinance was tried to be replaced by a Bill, it was not referred to the Standing Committee. So, there is no occasion now to refer this Bill to the Standing Committee when it is being repealed. That is the only submission I wanted to make.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs is putting both the things together. It is alright that POTA was enacted through an ordinance and has been repealed by an ordinance but

we have protest against promulgation of unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Bill through an Act. This is not right.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That point has been made.

Hon. Members, although we feel that ordinarily, especially when the House has been called, no law should be passed by way of an Ordinance—that is what we follow usually—but making law by means of an Ordinance is provided by the Constitution itself. Therefore, making an Ordinance is not unlawful *per se*. The question is whether this Bill should be sent to the Select Committee. I am of the opinion that ordinarily a Bill should go to the Select Committee, but here, there is a compulsion because it is a short Session. These important Ordinances will lapse on the 12th of January, 2005. Therefore, I feel that it is my duty to see that these Bills replacing Ordinances are passed on the basis of the decision of the Members of the House.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Thank you, Sir.

Shri Manmohan Singh has said in his Speech....

MR. SPEAKER: No. He is Shri Mohan Singh.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Then, he will be targeting for this seat!

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: It is Mohan Singhji, who is appreciated by everybody. I will definitely try to give the reply of point which he has raised here.

[English]

Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Members for participating in this debate. We know that POTA was brought into existence and POTA lapsed, and the Congress Party was responsible for passing TADA and allowing it to lapse also. After that, the Congress Party decided that the laws, which are of draconian nature, should not be there on the Statute Book.

This is the reason that the Bill to make POTA was opposed by the Congress Party, and the allies of the Congress Party—who are the Members of the UPA Government—in this House, and in the other House also.

This was not all, Sir. During the elections, most of the parties mentioned in their manifestoes that they will repeal POTA, and that was not all. When the Common Minimum Programme (CMP) was made, it was specifically mentioned that POTA would be repealed. But while saying that they did take care to say that terrorism is affecting the country, and necessary steps have to be taken for it. So, these two interests had to be balanced, and that is why in one Clause in the CMP these two points were made, namely, on the one hand terrorism will be tackled, and on the other hand it was very clearly, mentioned that POTA will be repealed. Hence, it will be wrong to say that POTA is being repealed in order to get some votes or anything of that kind. We are doing it after the elections. The general elections have already taken place, and in the general elections the mandate has been given to the parties to repeal POTA, and we are doing it. We are fulfilling the commitment which we had made to the people in the election manifestoes, and in the CMP also. The hon. Members should not see anything more than this in our attempt to repeal POTA, the Draconian law.

Mr. Bansal was very eloquent, and he made very good points during the course of his speech. He explained as to what was obnoxious in POTA. What was obnoxious in POTA? It was the bail provision. Ordinarily, under the criminal law, the bail provision is a rule, and it is not an exception. Even in cases of murder, dacoity, rape, etc., even though they are called non-bailable offences, in which life imprisonment or death punishment is awarded or cases that are of very grave nature, yet the courts do give bail. Non-bailable offences are those where the police will not give the bail, and the court will give the bail, the courts generally do give the bail. Even in murder cases, the bail is given.

It is now provided under the amended Criminal Procedure Code (Cr.PC) that if the charge-sheet is not filed within a limited period of time, then the bail should be given. But this bail provision in POTA was a very stringent character. The bail was not only refused, but for a long time the police could retain the accused person in police custody. They could go to the court, and say that the bail should not be given. If the court had to decide that the bail should be given, then it was provided in the law itself that the judge had to state that the accused is an innocent person. Mr. Bansal very rightly

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

said that if this is to be done, then it is just like giving a judgement, and if this kind of judgement is given while deciding the application for bail, namely, that the accused should be acquitted rather than kept behind the bars and then allow to face the trial, then I would say that this is a very very Draconian provision. It is against the general principle of criminal jurisprudence in India, and we have done away with it. The second point was with regard to the confession to the police. This is one of the most important things. In India, the investigations the case, and it becomes a party to the case. The police is interested in seeing that the accused is punished. So, the court should not accept the evidence given by the interested parties. It is the general principle followed in the criminal jurisprudence. I am not saying that the police always make wrong statements. They do make good, and correct statements. Still, they are an interested party, and that is why the criminal jurisprudence provides that the confession made to the police is not admissible in the court of law. This is a very very salutary provision, and this provision has come into existence after the experience of thousands of years from Roman law to the British law, from the British law to the Indian law, etc. The Evidence Act and the Criminal Procedure Code also provide it.

Now, this was made topsy-turvy, and it was provided in the law that the confession made to the police should be admissible; that it should have evidentiary value. This also is done away with.

The most important provision is about the onus of proof. According to criminal jurisprudence, until an accused is found guilty, he is supposed to be an innocent person. Then, he is not only defending himself, but he is opposing the might of the State. The State has the police machinery, the State investigates, the State goes to the Court, and the State is in a position to use the lawyers. One of the lawyers said, 'that everybody is equal in the eye of the law, but not in the court of law'. It is because in a court of law, it depends on what kind of a lawyer is supporting a particular party. If the lawyer is not well-versed in the law or is not paid a hefty sum of money as fees, he is unequal.

MR. SPEAKER: Such a person is sitting next to you.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: He is the Finance Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: I am talking about what he does in his other *'avtar'*.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Our name comes only after yours, Sir.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I leave this debate to both the good lawyers.

The might of the State is on the one side, and the accused is on the other side, and this wrong to think that the accused has to prove that he is an innocent person. To prove a positive thing is possible, but to prove a negative thing is very difficult. If I want to prove that I am an innocent person, what do I do or how do I prove that I am an innocent person? Of course, there would not be methods proving that a person was not present at a particular place or anything like that. So, proving 'negative' is more difficult than proving 'positive' and, that is why, the law says that the prosecution should do that. This provision is also there.

Then, comes the question of information about the terrorists. The information was to be given to the police by the citizens and, if terrorist activities are prevailing in a particular area, it is difficult for ordinary citizens to be bold enough to go to the police station and say that such and such kind of group of persons, who are carrying on terrorist activities, are hiding at such an such place. I have just referred only to a few provisions in the law, and we have seen that these provisions in the law are not there in the other one.

What is it that we are trying to do by amending the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act? On thing, which is most important for the purpose of controlling and containing terrorism, is to know what can be called a 'terrorist act'. There has to be a definition of the 'terrorist act'. The definition of the 'terrorist act' is, unfortunately, not found in any of the statutes which we had in India, except POTA. If POTA was going out of use, it was difficult for the investigating officers, even for the deciding Judges also, to say as to what kind of an act can be called as a 'terrorist act'. Therefore, it was necessary to define 'terrorist act'. What we have done is to introduce the definition of 'terrorist act' in the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. The second thing which we have done is about the proceeds of terrorism. For carrying on terrorist activities, funds are collected; sometimes, the funds are collected by abducting and kidnapping innocent persons. Now, the proceeds should not be in the hands of those who are carrying on the terrorist activities. So, the Government is given the authority to confiscate that kind of funds available with the terrorist organisations. Then, the funds are flowing, sometimes, from other countries to

the terrorist organisations. So, it had become necessary to see that the flow of funds is stopped. That is also provided in this law.

There is a provision in the law to protect the witnesses. One cannot find any fault with this kind of a provision.

The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act says that if the world is trying to fight a war against terrorism, India should join hands with it. The United Nations passed a resolution. What this law is saying is that if the Security Council of the United Nations says that a particular organisation can be described as a terrorist organisation, that resolution of the Security Council of the United will be acceptable in India and that organisation will be treated as a terrorist organisation in India. This is the scope of the amendment we have suggested to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

One of the hon. Members made a very good speech. While making that speech, he said that there are some draconian provisions that were shifted from POTA to Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. This is not correct. That is exactly why I wanted to know as to which is that draconian provision which we are trying to introduce in the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act which should not have been there. All the provisions which were against the person, against the individual, are not there now. There are provisions which are against property, there are provisions which are widening the scope of the law including the Resolution passed by the Security Council of the United Nations. These kinds of provisions cannot be treated as draconian provisions, and cannot be equated with the provisions which found place in POTA. All obnoxious provisions in POTA have been given up. They are done away with. They are not introduced in the new law. What has been introduced in the new law is only that which will help the police machinery and the Government machinery to take action against the terrorists who are carrying on terrorist activities in some parts of the country. We know that this is a reality and we have to face that reality.

There is a sunset clause in POTA. This sunset clause provides that only in one year everything will come to an end. The cases which are pending in the court will not be there. They will abate. Investigation will abate. Everything will come to an end. The Finance Minister suggested this sunset clause because he knew that in some laws this kind of sunset clause is provided. We have this kind of sunset clause against the criminal cases pending with the police or with the Government also.

The Review Committee is there. This Review Committee has to look into the cases. The intention of the Government, the intention of the Legislature is to see that the cases which are of a very very serious nature, they and they alone, should be there in the court, and all other cases should go. If the Parliament was attacked and if that case had to abate, it would not be proper. A case of that nature would be there in the court. All other cases will come to an end within one year's time. In order to see that the decisions are taken expeditiously - there was only one Committee at the national level - we have created three Committees at the national level.

The law helps, and so we need the law. We are following the rule of law in the country. But, draconian laws do not help. And so, we do not want to have draconian laws. That is why we are balancing the interests. The new jurisprudence says that the law is nothing but an instrument to balance the interests of the individuals or the citizens in the country. This is exactly what we are trying to do. On the one hand we would like to have the law in order to have the rule of law, and on the other hand we would like to protect the human rights of the citizens. We would like to see that there are not draconian provisions in law. That is exactly why we have repealed POTA. We are having some provisions in another law which will help to see that the innocent persons are protected.

We are trying to solve the problem of terrorism through dialogue, through economic development, through social justice, through accepting the principle of cultural diversity, by good laws, by developing the powers and strength of our police forces and armed forces, by having good governance, and by obtaining cooperation of the people.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, it is already 6.30 p.m. now.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I will take not more than two minutes to conclude, Sir.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: The sitting of the House may please be extended till this item of business is concluded, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: It is the pleasure of the House that the sitting be extended till this item of business is completed?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay. The House sits till this item of business is disposed of.



[Translation]

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ (Moradabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say something.

MR. SPEAKER: Please let him conclude. You know that we have fixed time for everything.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Terrorism is a reality in India and in the world, in developed countries and developing countries. We have to encounter these kinds of activities, not only with force but also by doing justice. So, the starting point is dialogue, economic development and social justice but if it is necessary, the Government has a duty to use the law and the force in order to protect the life, the limb and the property of the innocent persons, in which we will not fail. It is exactly to achieve this objective that we are repealing the law and we are amending the other law, I hope, this House will pass these two Bills. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I express my gratitude to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Do not give speech, just seek clarification.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: I will wind up quickly as per your instructions. Firstly I would like to express my gratitude towards the UPA Government. I would like to thank hon'ble Prime Minister and hon'ble Home Minister, for repealing POTA as per the commitment made in Common Minimum Programme. I would like to thank the Government for taking this appropriate step.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the POTA bill was being introduced in the House, crores of people of the country were apprehensive that minority communities and political opponents will be targeted through this law. I will give an example of this as to how all the states under NDA

Government misused this law. Hon'ble Member Shri Raghunath Jha has presented figures as to how many people were booked under it in Gujarat and who were those people. What happened in Jharkhand and other States. We would like to thank our leader Shri Lalu Prasad and hon'ble Chief Minister Shrimati Rabri Devi. On the day POTA was passed our National leader had said that he would not implement this black law in his state at any cost and other states also, under UPA Government took the same decision and the results are there. I would specially like to thank our Government, hon'ble Chief Minister and our leader Shri Lalu Prasadji.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that just now they were giving long speeches, but they have left now. It would have been better if they remained here.

MR. SPEAKER: You only seek clarification.

[English]

In the name of clarification, you speak. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: They were saying that our Government want to encourage terrorism through this law. Our Country was disgraced that day itself when the country's hon'ble Foreign Minister accompanied terrorist to Kandhar on Government plane incurring Government expenditure. They were talking about message. They had given the message that day itself. It must be the first incident after independence when a Foreign Minister himself did the job of releasing terrorists. They were saying that this will encourage terrorism. Infact my submission is that the terrorism was encouraged that day itself and the situation deteriorated so much. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Ask if it will be implemented effectively.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: The situation deteriorated to such an extent that Parliament House was attacked. This kind of situation developed.

MR. SPEAKER: Ram Kripalji, Please cooperate.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Sir, I am cooperating, these are my personal feelings. I will conclude within two minutes. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please, no cross-talk.

He has asked for two minutes time.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Today, the country has to be taken into confidence. Let any law be formulated but the intention behind it should be clear. They know that there is a large minority Community in our Country, they want to have peace by targeting and killing them. How can we have peace. How can peace prevail in Gujarat where so many innocent people have been killed and put in jails.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the communal organisations demolished a mosque in the country. It was demolished on this day itself. This day will be marked as black day in history.

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask the question.

[English]

Hon. Minister will note down your question. He has already noted down your question.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Sir, I would like to express my gratitude to Shrimati Sonia Gandhiji for taking the initiative to bring this bill to repeal the black law. She has taken a very important and effective step.

Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the attention of Hon'ble Home Minister that the innocent people have been arrested under POTA during the times of NDA Government, for e.g. Shri Vaiko was arrested. They are arresting their political opponents. In the name of this law thousands of people have been detained under POTA in Gujarat. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please, Dr. Kripal Yadav ji, now you conclude.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Throughout the country they have arrested people from 80 years old to 10 years old children under this law, I would like to ask whether they will be released or not and ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will not allow this. This is too much. Some semblance of order should be there.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: With these words, I thank you for giving me time to speak.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to congratulate hon'ble Shivraj V. Patilji for repealing a black law like POTA. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: There is no need to congratulate, ask your question.

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from hon'ble Home Minister that the people detained under POTA. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question? I will not allow this.

[Translation]

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask if they will be released and whether cases against the scores of innocent people who are detained under POTA will be withdrawn?

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Mr. specific question to the hon. Home Minister is, whether he will agree to delink the Bill from the repeal of the Ordinance. We are firmly of the view, as a supporter of the Government, that this Bill includes some provisions, which may be cynically abused against political opponents leading to dilution of the democratic values. At this moment, I appeal to you from my party, the CPI, to delink it and send it to the Standing Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already given the ruling on that.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): I congratulate the Government for bringing a legislation to repeal the POTA. Our request is that another Bill which is now being brought for consideration and passing, should be referred to the Standing Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: I have given a ruling. You cannot question it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: What is the difficulty in referring it to the Standing Committee for wider consultation?

*[Translation]*

SHRI ILYAS AZMI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask hon. Home Minister ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I may be permitted to ask a question. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please have order in the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI ILYAS AZMI: He has no miracle by which he will check misuse of this new law. Some police and the State Govts. are existing which misused TADA. They enacted TADA and misused it. He should assure that it will not be misused. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: You have put your question.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI (Sivakasi): Sir, please allow me to put a clarification. Give me just a minute. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I would not allow this. Please sit down. Your leader has already spoken.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L. GANESAN: Sir, this is only a clarification.

MR. SPEAKER: No. Please take your seat. I have not called you.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI L. GANESAN: What is this?

MR. SPEAKER: You can decide 'what is this'. I have decided already.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the entire House debated about repeal of POTA and its alternative-unlawful activities Prevention law.

Sir, so far as POTA is concerned, it is not a matter of any particular political party, it concerns whole nation. One of our colleagues has gone out, when Shri L.K. Advani was Home Minister, and whenever there was any discussion on terrorism, all the political parties rallied behind him and assured him whole hearted support. ...*(Interruptions)* This issue cannot be confined to the limits of parties. All of us are united on this issue.

Sir, when Shri L.K. Advani was Home Minister, a joint session was called wherein he emphasised that POTA will not be allowed to be misused at any cost. Most important question is concerning new law likely to be brought. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Your Resolution is on POTO only. Restrict yourself to that only.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am withdrawing it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Alright you may withdraw.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House that the Statutory Resolution moved by Shri Ramji Lal Suman be withdrawn?

*The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.*

MR. SPEAKER: You have withdrawn it. Thank you Ramji Lal Sumanji for your cooperation. You have been very cooperative, I know that.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are going to some other subject.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, would you like to say anything now on the points raised by some hon. Members?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: All right. Please be very brief.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say only this much that we have constituted three not one Committees for speedy disposal of pending cases. ...*(Interruptions)* We will do it in a year.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Sir, the persons in jails. ...*(Interruptions)* Will be released after the Bill is passed. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: They will have to wait for a year. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are not even ready to hear.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Nobody is ready to listen anything.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: He has told it will be misused against party. No, it will not be. They are apprehensive about Sec-153(A). We have not inserted this section through this amendment. Sec 153(A) was very much in vogue in Indian Penal Code, 1972 to deal with unlawful activities. So far, it has not been used against any political party. It will be used against religious organizations or group who are involved in secessionist activities. ...*(Interruptions)* Since, since 1972 it has not been misused, so now it will not be.

I have given reply to the issue relating to 'Difficulty for referring it to the Standing Committee' ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Sir, will the Govt. release the persons who are in jail. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Yes, we will release them. I agree with him. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Please do not get more involved in legal matters. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVHAJ V. PATIL: Allright. I fully agree with you. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I will give you a chance in the next Bill. Now, you may please sit down.

Mr. Minister, have you finished?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Yes. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded now.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: I will give you a chance during the course of discussion of the next Bill.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not support Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Bill 2004 and thus I can't be a party to it. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I am putting the first Bill to the vote of the House. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to repeal the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2002, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER: The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill. The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The House shall now take up item No. 17.

Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh—Not present.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): We oppose it. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is concerning motion. Let us not jump the style.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will now put the Statutory Resolution moved by Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh to the vote of the House:

The question is:

"That this House disapproves of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Ordinance, 2004 (No. 2 of 2004) promulgated by the President on 21st September, 2004."

*The motion was negatived.*

MR. SPEAKER: The House shall now take up item No. 18.

The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, since we oppose it, therefore, we boycott the House. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Left parties, Samajwadi Party and all other friends have reservation on Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Bill, 2004. Therefore it should be referred to the Standing Committee. You have decided that. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If you have given amendments, then we shall come to that later.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: But on this issue, I have given a ruling already.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have already given my ruling.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a detailed debate is needed on the issue and it should be referred to the Standing Committee. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is your point? I do not understand what is your point.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we the Members from Samajwadi Parties, Left parties and many other colleagues want that it should be debated in Joint Committee. We boycott the House.

18.48 hrs.

*(Shri Ramji Lal Suman and some other hon. Members then left the House)*

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot hear if all of you speak together.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, you can call a meeting tomorrow or day after tomorrow and then we can take it up. We have an apprehension about this Bill. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not entertaining it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Panskura): Sir, we have our deep reservation. We appeal to the Congress Party not to do like this. We appeal to the Congress Party not to do it without consultations. ...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): The Speaker has already given a ruling. If you challenge the ruling of the Speaker, there is no point. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: No. We are not challenging the ruling of the Speaker. We need consultations. Without consultations, they have done it. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the passing of Bill can be postponed by a day. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: After the hon. Speaker has given his ruling, if the hon. Members have some views, they could discuss it with the hon. Minister. Let us not challenge the ruling of the Speaker. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, it can be postponed by a day. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not reconsidering my ruling.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no scope for anything now. The issue was raised categorically and the hon. Minister has made his submission. I have given my ruling. Thereafter, no question is allowed.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ILYAS AZMI (Shahabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it should be referred to Standing Committee. ...(Interruptions)

We walkout from the House in protest. ...(Interruptions)

18.50 hrs.

(Shri Ilyas Azmi and some other hon. Members then left the House)

[English]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Sir, we are not challenging your ruling. We accept your ruling. We want a consultation. ...(Interruptions) Let it be postponed for one day ...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): I will discuss it with them after it is passed.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the hon. Minister has agreed to have a full consultation with you.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: It would be after the Bill is passed. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, nothing else will be recorded.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 8 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 to 8 were added to the Bill.*

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: We are not walking out but we are abstaining. We register our deep protest. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. I know you are agitated. You want certain consideration from the Government. An opportunity was there and you have made your submission. The issue came before me and

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\*Not recorded.

I had to give a ruling. I have given my ruling. I have heard the hon. Minister and the other side also. Personally speaking, I have said that I am always in favour of sending the Bill to the Standing Committee—which you all have supported. But it will lapse if it is not passed during this Session. Therefore, only for that consideration, I have given my ruling. There have been precedents for that. If you are still not satisfied, what can be done? Certainly, you are supporting it, as you have said. Then you can talk to the Minister and I am sure he will hear it. If there are any changes needed, why not they will do that?

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: It can be brought through amendment.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sure they will consider all the suggestions. Mr. Acharia, you always make good suggestions. I am sure he will hear them.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I will consult Mr. Acharia and Mr. Dasgupta. I will try to persuade the hon. Members to see that in the circumstances in which we find ourselves we have to pass it. Both sides are there before you to see. We would consult you and we would discuss with you. But in the present circumstances, this is the correct thing to do. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Leader of the House has also said, if need be, they will bring an amendment.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Even after consultation, if it is needed, there can be fresh amendment. But let us not create a new precedent where after the Speaker's ruling, we do not obey that. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You can rest assured, I will not allow that. We all respect each other.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: This is not the way to run a multi-party Government. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Very well. It is for you to decide. I am not here to decide how the Government will be run. Fortunately, that is not the job of the Speaker.

The question is:

"That Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I beg to move:

"That the bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 7th December, 2004 at 11.00 a.m.

18.54 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, December 7, 2004/ Agrayana 16, 1926 (Saka).*

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