

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Seventh Session**  
**(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)**



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# LOK SABHA DEBATES

## LOK SABHA

[English]

Monday, March 13, 2006/Phalgun 22, 1927 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

### REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

**Re: Felicitations to cricketer Anil Kumble**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I believe, the hon. Members will join me in conveying our congratulations to Anil Kumble on his outstanding performance. We are proud of his achievement.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): Sir, in the morning Munaf Patel has taken three wickets in two overs. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us wait for his further greater and greater performance. On my and on your behalf, I wish to convey our every best wishes to Shri Anil Kumble for his further achievement.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: it seems that the new President of BCCI has energised the team. We are very happy. Should we congratulate the President also?

...(Interruptions)

11.01 hrs.

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Maneka Gandhi, Question No. 302

### Forest Cover

\*302. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of forest cover in the country as on December 31, 2005;

(b) the rate of depletion of forest cover in India, annually; and

(c) the details of the steps taken to prevent depletion of forest cover?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) Forest Survey of India (FSI) carries out forest cover assessment once in every two years. The last assessment of forest cover was made in 2003 and it was based on satellite data of the year 2002. The next assessment (2005) based on interpretation of satellite data of the year 2004 is currently in progress. Therefore, the information on the percentage of forest cover in the country as on December, 2005 is not available at present.

The forest cover of the country as per the latest assessment (2003) is 6,78,333 sq. km. constituting 20.64% of the geographic area of the country.

(b) States of Forest Report (SFR) 2003 published by FSI shows the net increase of 2795 sq. km. over the SFR 2001 assessment.

(c) The steps taken to prevent depletion of forest cover, inter-alia, include the following:

(i) Strict enforcement of Indian Forest Act, 1927, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the rules and guidelines made thereunder.

(ii) Meetings of the State Forest Ministers, Forest Secretaries and other Forest Officials have been held in the years 2004 and 2006 to, inter-alia,



stress upon increasing the forest and tree cover and for stricter enforcement of forest laws.

- (iii) Management measures like working of forests according to approved Working Plans, Forest Development Agencies and Joint Forest Management activities.
- (iv) Financial measures like providing assistance to the States/Union Territories under Centrally Sponsored schemes and externally aided projects.
- (v) Other measures like certain of Protected Areas, Substitution of Wood etc.
- (vi) Guidelines for rationalizing of felling and transit regulations for tree species grown on non-forest private lands to promote large scale afforestation in non-forest areas.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Sir, according to the statement, the forest cover of the country as per the latest assessment (2003) is 20.64 per cent of the geographic area of the country. This is completely wrong. The reason why it is wrong is, perhaps, the hon. Minister is not aware that the satellite figures are usually taken when the sugarcane production is at its highest. Now, this is often mistaken for forest cover and it is deliberately done by the Ministry in order to prove how great their achievements are.

When I was the Minister a 'century ago', in 1989-90 it seems like a century ago, we went through the same exercise and suspiciously enough the figures were 20.64 per cent in 1990, after which we redid the satellite figures and came out with eight per cent. So, you are actually looking at a difference of 12 per cent in obfuscation of figures. No country has steady weather patterns or anything unless its forests are 25 per cent. Therefore, I would suggest that you go back to the satellite figures and get a correct estimate. And to say that they have gone up by 2,000 square kilometres, you know and that this is not correct.

Now I will come to my question. There are four main reasons why forests are cut. One is to burn the forests by the Forest Department using the age-old mismanagement technique of fire lines which I repeatedly brought to the notice of the Ministry. Second is cutting for firewood. Third is cutting the so-called old growth and fourth is the making of roads, dams and mining.

May I ask what has been done since the technique has proven to be completely useless and burns down most of the forests? What has the Ministry done to ban this so-called fire-line burning which starts at the end of February and which is responsible for losing two to three per cent of forests every year?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, the survey of forest is being conducted worldwide and in our country also we have adopted this satellite remote sensing technology in the survey of 2001. This growth of 2,795 square kilometres is more than what it was recorded in 2001. This is the real increase in the forest cover and tree cover in the country.

Sir, some points were suggested by the hon. Member that forest cover is depleting because of these reasons. To some extent, I agree. There is pressure on the forests of the country—population pressure, agricultural pressure and the pressure of developmental activities. In a developing country, the developmental activities will have to be there. Certain forest land is to be diverted for the developmental activities. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Sir, I asked about the fire. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Yes.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, regarding fire, this is a practice adopted by the forest department. The State Governments are there making the management plans and they are doing on their own. I am here now. You were there a few years before, on my seat.

*[Translation]*

Why didn't you check it at that time?

*[English]*

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Sir, this is an extremely childish answer. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, you cannot reply by putting a question. Therefore, the question is not proper.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, if this practice is detrimental to the growth of the forests, I will certainly look into it and pass suitable instructions.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Sir, my second supplementary is this. When the land is diverted for roads, dams etc. there is a law by which the State Governments which are diverting the land. If they divert any kind of forest land they have to replace it at the rate of ten acres for one. How much land has been given in the last five years by the States and how much has been planted on?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Member in this august House that before the promulgation of the Forest Conservation Act the rate of diversion of forest land was about 1.5 lakh hectares per annum. But, after 1980, the annual rate of diversion of forest land has come down to only 40,000 hectares per annum. ...(*Interruptions*) Since 1980 it is 40,000 hectares per annum.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: In that case, have you got 4,00,000 hectares back if 40,000 hectares have been diverted every year? ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, I am coming to that point. Since 1980, around 13,000 cases have been cleared involving an area of 10.12 lakh hectares. We are, now, charging net transfer value from the user agencies at the rate of Rs. 5.8 lakh to 9.20 lakh per hectare and there is a provision of Compensatory Afforestation. Also it is compulsorily included in all cases of diversion of forests and presently Compensatory Afforestation has started on 11 lakh hectares of area in respect of forest area which was diverted, against which 5.13 lakh hectares area has already been achieved.

SHRI K.C. SINGH 'BABA': Sir, with your permission, I would like to ask the hon. Minister that to prevent depletion of forests, whether the Government will declare all natural forests as protected areas with national parks status also declaring all areas within five kilometres of protected areas and wildlife corridors as eco-sensitive under the Environment Protection Act.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, there is no such proposal with the Government.

[*English*]

The Notification of protected areas is done by the State Governments. If some proposal like that comes to our notice, we will certainly look into the matter.

SHRI KHAGEN DAS: In Tripura, 70 per cent of the area is under forest cover. It is more than the national average. Now after 58 years of Independence, Tribal Jhumias, who are shifting cultivators, have no house and land of their own. They are honeycombing the forest, leading to degradation of the forest. May I know from the hon. Minister, through you, whether the Government has any plan to release funds for permanent settlement of Jhumias to prevent degradation of land and whether the Government of India would provide more funds for the development and maintenance of the forests as well as for the development of people dependent on forests.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, Jhum cultivation is a practice in the North-East. This problem is being dealt with by the Minister of Agriculture. So far as my Ministry is concerned, we are giving some money under NAP for rehabilitation of Jhum areas and we are providing assistance to all the States for the protection and conservation of forests under various schemes of the Ministry. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded. I am sorry. This is an additional question. Send it to him.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

[*Translation*]

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister, through you, that after the division of Bihar to create Jharkhand, Bihar is left with negligible forest wealth. So, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government have any specific afforestation plan for Bihar so that Bihar could be brought at par with other States in terms of forest areas or the area could be covered under forest there in accordance with national average. If so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, National Afforestation Programme of Government of India is being implemented throughout the country with 100% funding by the Government of India. There are 811 forest divisions in the country. The Ministry has received 735 proposals till date, out of which funds have been provided in respect of 680 proposals.

sir, as regards to any specific plan for Bihar, I would like to inform the hon. Member that if any proposals from

\*Not recorded.

Bihar are pending with the Ministry, I assure him that these proposals will be cleared. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded. No further discussion.

...*(Interruptions)\**

DR. P.P. KOYA: Sir, it is almost conceded by the Minister that the forest size is diminishing day by day. Everybody knows that it is not only because of the felling of trees but also because of mega industrial units, because of big towns and because of the mining. The State Government is supposed to compensate for the land which is going out of forest, but nobody is accepting the responsibility and the size of the forest is reducing day by day, which is confirmed by satellite pictures and not by survey and all that. By satellite pictures, it is conceded that the size of the forest is coming down. What is the proposal before the Ministry to tide over such intervention like mega mine, mega dam and mega industries?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Sir, I have not confessed or yielded that the forest cover is depleting. Forest cover and tree cover in the country is increasing and the recorded forest land. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Which country is he talking about?

MR. SPEAKER: Let him reply. I am sorry. No running commentary.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: I am talking about India. These are the reports released by us. Regarding forest land, the total percentage of the geographical area of the country under forest and tree cover is 23.68.

As regards banning the mega projects, I have already said that some developmental activities will have to be undertaken for the country to progress, but we are looking into the matter on a case to case basis. I have also said that the depletion has decreased substantially after Forest Conservation Act.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Now, the last supplementary on this Question by Shri Ravi Prakash Verma.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will take only half a minute to ask my question.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry, but I have already allowed five supplementaries on one Question.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to ask a question on this subject. It is a fact that. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, it is a very important issue.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry. I would not mind if you have a special discussion on this issue, but there cannot be 20 supplementaries on this Question itself.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: The hon. Minister whether accept this fact or not, being an inhabitant surrounding jungle. I can say in with conviction that forests are shrinking and depleting. Biotic pressure is a major cause for depletion of forests. I have a question to ask the hon. Minister. Has he got any study conducted to know the division-wise places in the country where there is biotic pressure and the quantum of such pressure? Hon. Minister Sir, I would like to tell you that State Governments concentrate on plantation and despite plantation being made 15 times on the same piece of land, there is no sign of forest around. I want to know about the action being taken by you to promote those who are engaged in regeneration of forests with natural method and to get the study conducted in respect of biotic pressure? I would also like you to lay the report in this regard on the Table of the House at the earliest. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: All the Members have the same question. He has already replied this question.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: As far as the hon. Member's concern regarding regeneration of degraded forest is concerned, it will require public participation under afforestation plan. ...*(Interruptions)*

\*Not recorded.

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Sir, this Question relates to the survival of our future generations.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yerrannaidu, I am very sorry. I expect full co-operation from you.

[Translation]

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: All this is being done by J.M.F. to ensure plantation on the land under degraded forests and to meet the shortage of forest through it. As regards the biotic study, I will see the progress made in this regard. I will send my reply to you in this regard.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You write a letter.

#### Consumer Awareness Programme

\*303. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

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

(a) whether the Government has decided to launch a programme for creating consumer awareness through the public, private partnership; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the table of the house.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A multi-media campaign covering electronic, audio and print media for creating consumer awareness in the country has been launched as part of the 10th Five Year Plan of the Department of Consumer Affairs. Special focus is being given for covering rural and backward areas through regional channels of Doordarshan and All India Radio as also field and outdoor publicity. A special campaign has been launched for the North-Eastern States.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, chewing *pan masala* and tobacco causes mouth cancer; and adulteration of

*vanaspathi*, drugs and insecticides are causing concern for the consumers, mainly, the salaried classes, poor people and farmers. What steps have the Government already taken to tackle this issue or are going to take in this direction?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, this particular Question is mainly related to campaign, and creating awareness in the minds of the consumers. There are a number of programmes that have been taken up with the help of some electronic media like All India Radio, print media, etc. Simultaneously, there are a number of NGOs that are coming forward for the same, and we are supporting them financially through the Consumer Protection Fund. Therefore, they are also active in this area.

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Mohan, do you have any more question to ask from the hon. Minister?

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Yes, Sir. The public-private partnership is in focus mainly in the area of phone tapping.

MR. SPEAKER: Phone tapping! Why are you putting a question with regard to this issue to him?

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Incidents like kidney sale and negligence of doctors in the hospitals has come to light. What national policy is the government planning to bring to curb these things?

MD. SALIM: Sir, the hon. Member is asking about protection of consumers in new areas.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Speaker, are you an expert on phone tapping?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, I will not be able to reply about the rules and regulations of the Ministry of Telecommunications with regard to phone tapping. We have set one National Consumer Helpline with the help of Delhi, and we are getting a lot of complaints about the performance of the Department of Telecommunications, various new telephone companies, and allied industries.

We are trying to communicate to the consumers what exact action they should take, whether they should approach the company, whether they should approach the industries' association, or there are courts for the redressal. We are providing all this information to them.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the telecast of consumer awareness programme with private participation on regional channels negligible. I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the number of times this programme has been telecast on regional channels, state-wise, along with the number of times likely to be telecast in the coming two-three years. There should be a definite number to telecast this programme as it has been included in Five-Year Plan, so as to give it wide publicity and the information reach this public.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Have you got all these details as to how many times such advertisements were shown on the television?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: I can definitely say one thing. Every week, there is a programme which is broadcast on radio in all the stations, that is, regarding "Jago Grahak Jagd". That type of campaign is going on. There is a channel "Gyan Vigyan", which broadcasts a number of programmes. Then, there are certain video spots and things like that. There are a number of programmes and, in fact, by using all these electronic media, All India Radio and print media plus cinema slides, we are trying to create awareness among the public.

MR. SPEAKER: In future, you can use the Lok Sabha channel also.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question has two parts. One part is about making the consumers aware and the second part is about providing rights to the consumers at his home. Hon. Minister has said that electronic and print media have been selected as medium for this purpose though the hon. Minister knows that there is no proper power supply in rural areas. I would like to know the ground of money spent on electronic media in such circumstances and the percentage of rural areas where awareness campaign has been successfully launched despite the unavailability of electricity. Please say in terms of percentage.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: That is a separate question.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for rural areas we have laid thrust on All India Radio and it also appears in print media. It is true that in absence of electricity, there may be limitation but a different type of programme is being launched in some areas like in North-East music is very popular. So efforts are being made to make this campaign popular there by organizing musical concerts in every village.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said that this programme has been started through print and electronic media. It has been started in North-Eastern states in a different way. Ours is also a hilly area. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has any plan to introduce any programme in our hilly areas through local culture or folk song and music.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a separate programme has been chalked out for North-East. We are open to consider a special programme for such hilly areas where there is paucity of electricity or coverage of All India Radio or Doordarshan is limited or where there is lack of print media.

MD. SALIM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, new areas such as Telecommunication, Health care center etc. are emerging with the progress of our country. Now a days slimming centres are being set up everywhere, claiming to make a perfect model through cosmetics. Similarly sops of spiritual discourses are being set up ensuring heaven for a person.

*[English]*

They promise heaven, or at least peace in heaven.

*[Translation]*

Thus, the consumer is being cheated everywhere. The promises made are not fulfilled accordingly. Would you expand consumer protection rights for all these things because they are making a business of crores of rupees in the name of all these things?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing to do with consumers. It is only provocative.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, concentration is required to fulfill our present responsibility and there is no use of taking new responsibilities.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, It is being publicized through electronic media and radio but you know that neither radio is played nor electric media is there in the villages of remote areas even today.  
...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Radio is played there and even transistor is also played.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any exhibition will be organized to create awareness among consumers on the lines of exhibition organized to provide information to farmers so that they could be made well aware? You have mentioned NGOs, it is good. Many NGOs are encouraged with it. They are making efforts to create awareness among the people in villages through dramas and short stories. What will be done to promote this?  
...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Answer only the last part relating to pradarshan. First part is a compliment.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will consider whether we can provide basic information by putting a stall on consumer awareness in the exhibitions organized particularly on agriculture at various places of the country.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: No. 304, Shri Revati Raman Singh—  
Not present.

Dr. K.S. Manoj.

#### Conservation of Wetland

\*304. DR. K.S. MANOJ:

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:

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

(a) the area covered under wetland, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government has chalked out any strategy to ensure conservation of wetland in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the ongoing wetland projects;

(d) whether India is party to Ramsar Convention or wetland conservation; and

(e) if so, the wetland projects being covered under the said convention alongwith the steps proposed/taken by the Government to conserve the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### *Statement*

(a) As per the available information on record, the area under wetlands (comprising both natural and manmade wetlands) is 40,40,137 ha. The state-wise area is furnished in the Annexure enclosed.

(b) Yes, Sir. The strategy for conservation of wetlands in the country comprises inventorising the wetlands; identification of appropriate sites in consultation with State Governments & UT Administrations; ensuring biodiversity conservation; recourse to preventive & curative measures to arrest degradation; securing local committees' participation; reducing biotic stress on wetlands through supplementary and alternative livelihood options; and awareness-creation among, and sensitization of stakeholders through Interpretation Centers, & Education.

(c) At present, 71 wetlands located in 22 states have been identified for inclusion under National Wetland Conservation Programme for Conservation & Management. Management Action Plans for 35 wetlands have been approved so far.

(d) and (e) Yes Sir. India is a party to Ramsar Convention. So far, 25 sites have been identified from India as Ramsar sites under Ramsar Convention which include: Ashtamudi, Sasthamkotta & Vembanad-Kol (Kerala) Chilika Lake & Bhitarkanika Mangroves (Orissa), Bhoj Wetland (M.P.), Deepor Beel (Assam) Harike, Kanjli & Ropar (Punjab), East Kolkata Wetlands (W.B.), Keoladeo National Park & Sambhar Lake (Rajasthan),

Kolleru Lake (A.P.), Loktak Lake (Manipur), Point Calimere (T.N.), Pong Dam Lake, Chandratai & Renuka (H.P.), Tsomorari, Wular, Surinsar-Mansar, Hokansar (J&K), Rudrasagar (Tripura) and Upper Ganga (U.P.).

Ramsar sites are given assistance taking into account relevant factors *i.e.* the states' requirements, fulfilment of eligibility criteria & prescribed parameters, & fund availability.

**Annexure**

*State-Union Territory-wise distribution of Wetlands of India (including wetlands of less than 100 ha.)*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Natural	Area in ha.	Man-Made	Area (ha.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	219	100457	19020	425892
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	20200	NA	NA
3.	Assam	1394	86355	NA	NA
4.	Bihar	62	224788	39	48607
5.	Goa	3	12360	NA	NA
6.	Gujarat	22	394627	57	129660
7.	Haryana	14	2691	4	1079
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5	702	3	19165
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	18	7227	NA	21880
10.	Karnataka	10	3320	22758	539195
11.	Kerala	32	24329	2121	210579
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8	324	53	187818
13.	Maharashtra	49	21675	1004	279025
14.	Manipur	5	26600	NA	NA
15.	Meghalaya	2	NA	NA	NA
16.	Nagaland	2	210	NA	NA
17.	Orissa	20	137022	36	148454
18.	Punjab	33	17085	6	5391
19.	Rajasthan	9	14027	85	100217
20.	Sikkim	42	1101	2	35
21.	Tamil Nadu	31	58868	20030	201132
22.	Tripura	3	575	1	4833
23.	Uttar Pradesh	125	12832	28	212470
24.	West Bengal	54	291963	9	52564
25.	Chandigarh (UT)	—	NA	1	170
26.	Pondicherry	3	1533	2	1131
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2167</b>	<b>1450871</b>	<b>65254</b>	<b>2589266</b>

Total Area of Natural and Manmade wetlands : 4040137 ha.

NA = Not Available

Source: Directory on wetlands of India' (1990) by MOEF

DR. K.S. MANOJ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Vembanad Lake in Kerala, along with the adjacent wetland over the eastern and southern sides of the State in Kuttanadu is the rice bowl of Kerala and the largest wetland system in the west coast of India. Five rivers originate from western ghats and drain into this lake. A good portion of this wetland has been converted into paddy fields which remain water-logged for more than six months a year. Every year, tonnes of insecticides, weedicides, fungicides and chemical fertilisers reach this wetland. Vembanad Kayal is one of the most productive eco-systems in our country.

MR. SPEAKER: You are giving information. Ask your question. What is your question?

DR. K.S. MANOJ: Vembanad Lake has been designated as Ramsar site in November, 2002. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is going to take up any programme for the conservation of Vembanad Lake which is declared as Ramsar site in India.

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: There is a specific question about the Vembanad Kol. This is a Ramsar site. This is already in the tourism list of identified wetlands on which conservation activities are going on. We have received proposals from the Government and money worth Rs. 50.20 lakh has been released for the conservation of this site.

DR. K.S. MANOJ: Reclamation of lakes and wetlands including paddy fields is a continuing affair in many parts of the country. In Kerala alone the area of cultivable paddy fields has come down to one-fourth of the area that was there four years ago. Vembanad Lake has been reduced to 37 per cent of its original area as a result of land reclamation. Water carrying capacity of the system has been reduced to 0.6 cubic kilometres from the original volume of 2.4 cubic kilometres. All these point to an impending ecological disaster. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what measures he has taken to prevent this. And, would he bring forward some central legislation to prevent further shrinkage of cultivable paddy fields and reclamation of lakes and other water bodies in the country?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: There is acute pressure on the wetlands in the country and I agree with the hon. Member on that. Our strategy is two-fold in the conservation and development of wetlands—one is promotional and the second is regulatory.

MR. SPEAKER: Is anybody using a mobile phone here? Will you please hand it over to the Marshall?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Some of the States have come up with their own regulatory measures. 'Wetlands' are covered by various Acts of the State Governments. For example, State Water Act, etc. Encroachment is dealt with by another Act. But I would look into this. As I have stated in my reply, this is a problem.

SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID: In the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu, a lot of wetlands are there. Particularly, in Vedaranyam, and other parts of Tamil Nadu. Will the Central Government come up with a plan to utilise it for agricultural purposes?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: Wetlands for agricultural purposes is a State subject. I do not know as to how Agriculture Ministry comes in the picture.

MR. SPEAKER: You mean to say that you will not encourage it.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: In the answer, it is stated that out of 71 wetlands located. Management Action Plans have been approved for 35. My question is related to Orissa where two wetlands have been identified. I am told that they have been approved. One is Bhitarkanika and other is Chilika. I would like to state here that Vansupa is also another sweet water wetland. Is Vansupa going to be taken up in the near future?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: When the proposal comes from the State Government, we would consider the same.

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Thank you for giving me an opportunity. I am fortunate that two of the wetlands identified, namely, Ashtamudi and Sasthamkotta, are in my constituency. Sasthamkotta lake is known for its uniqueness; purified potable drinking water is stored there. Would the Government initiate a plan to secure this unique drinking water support as there are some encroachments?

SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA: We have identified 71 wetlands for which we are extending assistance. If this lake is included in the approved 35 wetlands, I would say that we have already been given funds. If it is not covered in the 71 wetlands, in that case, if State Government sends the proposal, we would look into it.



**Production of Sugarcane**

\*305. <sup>+</sup>KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH:  
SHRIMATI KALPANA RAMESH NARHIRE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of sugarcane during 2005-06, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to formulate any programme to provide more technical knowledge to the farmers in order to increase sugarcane production; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

[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 (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) State-wise production of sugarcane during 2005-06 are given below:—

State/Union Territory	Production (000 tonnes)*
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	17940
Assam	856
Bihar	4217
Chhattisgarh	24
Gujarat	13305
Haryana	6840
Himachal Pradesh	27
Jharkhand	142
Karnataka	15200
Kerala	85

1	2
Madhya Pradesh	2622
Maharashtra	34690
Orissa	2920
Punjab	5290
Rajasthan	308
Tamil Nadu	33299
Uttar Pradesh	121529
Uttaranchal	6134
West Bengal	1052
Others	396
All-India	266876

\*Second Advance Estimates

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Government through its extension services, institutions in the private and non-governmental sector is endeavouring to improve the technical knowledge of farmers and sugarcane growers. The Government of India is already implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System (SUBACS) under Macro Management in 21 States/Union Territories namely; Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Pondicherry. The scheme includes demonstration of production technology, training of farmers/extension workers, farm implements/machines, heat treatment plants, production of planting material and drip irrigation as its components.

In addition to this, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution is providing soft loan to sugar mills from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) for the cane development in mill areas. The activities covered are production of planting material, setting up of tissue culture and heat treatment plants, drip irrigation, switching over to improved varieties, equipments for pest control, ratoon management and computerization of cane management.

MR. SEPAKER: Shrimati Kalpana Ramesh Narhire—  
not present.

**KUNWA'**

have seen, MANVENDRA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I the hon'ble reply to the question laid on the Table by to tell the Minister. This is the reality and I would like are for hon'ble Minister that the sugarcane growers raising trouble everyday. Shri Rahul Gandhi had also raised this issue in the House on 22 March, 2005. The main reason for deteriorating condition of sugarcane farmers is that they are not getting payment of their produce. The State Governments time and again, are not obeying the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Secondly, the means of irrigation are also inadequate.

Till date the farmers are depending on old varieties of the sugarcane resulting in very low production. At the same time, the technical know-how of sugarcane is also inadequate as has been stated by the hon'ble Minister in his reply. Will the hon'ble Minister be pleased to state whether the Government are likely to launch any programme to enhance the production of sugarcane and improve the financial condition of the farmers?

MR. SPEAKER: It has already been replied. Will be same matter be repeated?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Sir three-four questions have been raised here. So far as the issue of making payment to farmers is concerned, it has to be admitted that what the farmers are getting for sugarcane this year, had not been paid to them for the last 20-25 years. This year the price of sugarcane has been increased to Rs. 120, Rs. 130, Rs. 140 per quintal and there is no complaint in this regard. Previously, the complaint was that there were a number of such sugar mills which procured sugarcane but did not make payment of such sugar mills. Last year, a campaign was launched in this connection. This problem occurs more, particularly, in Uttar Pradesh. So the Government of Uttar Pradesh paid attention to this problem and the Government of India also looked into it. As a result, we have been successful in making payment to more than 90 percent farmers. Hence, there are not many cases of outstanding payment now. This is a fact that it had its impact. On per hectare yield. I have also stated in my reply that for more improvement, we are implementing a scheme in 20-21 States in the country.

*[English]*

There is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System.

*[Translation]*

More importance has been given to the issue of popularization of suitable varieties in the strategy made through this Scheme because more attention has been paid to the issue of carrying out work for change where change in variety is required and more attention has been paid to popularizing the new variety among the farmers. With this, more attention has been paid to it.

*[English]*

the thrust for transfer of technologies through demonstration and training of farmers and extension workers, production of quality planting materials. Ratoon Management is a serious issue. A number of farmers are taking again and again Ratoon crop.

*[Translation]*

In Ratoon crop, the productivity falls. In order to improve it, awareness is brought among farmers through this programme. With this, attention is paid towards

*[English]*

adoption of suitable time for planting and crop rotation.

*[Translation]*

In all of them through this programme and the Government are also looking forward to meet the requirement of sugar and 'Gur' in the country. Though it is a fact that there was low production of sugarcane in the country last year, yet according to this year's figures of production, the situation has improved and it is likely to improve further during next year.

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Sir, I agree to the reply of the hon'ble Minister. However, there are some apprehensions also viz. the news item titled "Pairila keet ka ganna kisano ke saamne sankat" that appeared in 'Jansatta' newspaper dated 25 May, 2000. Likewise, there is a steep decline in production of sugarcane in Uttar Pradesh and the sugar mills are facing a lot of difficulties since the last harvest season. The sugarcane farmers are facing a crisis due to spread of 'pairila'. It has been reported in the newspaper that the Government are very much anxious to know about the spread of 'pairila' in the State which is termed as cancer of sugarcane. Besides, no action is being taken by the State Government despite

repeated pursuance by the Central Government in this regard. Yesterday, I was watching the statement by the hon'ble Minister on television. He was talking about making export of sugar. Today, the price of sugar has touched Rs. 25 per kilogram. If you will export it, then this price is likely to go up further. You should also take care that the price of sugar does not increase in the country. I would like to know what action is likely to be taken by the Government to improve the condition of farmers and check the diseases of the sugarcane crop.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Sorry, these are not supplementaries. Mr. Minister, only relevant answer should be given.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: So far as 'Pairila' is concerned, this is a fact that Pairila had spread in Uttar Pradesh and many other states in the country. In this regard, spraying programme had also been taken up and the State Governments were informed accordingly. A number of States have paid attention to it. At the same time, a disease named 'Uliafir' had caused damage at a large scale in Maharashtra and Karnataka belt. A campaign had been launched to bring it under control and a favourable result is being noticed there. Actually, 'Uliafir' is causing huge damages. So far as export is concerned, this is all right and the Government is considering about it. Last year, there was a very low production of sugar in the country. The total requirement of the country is 180 to 185 lakh tonnes while only 125 lakh tonnes of sugar was produced in the country last year.

*[English]*

that is why there was a gap. Of course, some buffer stock was there. That is why the Government of India has taken a cautious decision to allow raw sugar with a condition that the fellow who is going to import raw sugar will re-export raw sugar within 24 months.

*[Translation]*

Raw sugar was imported last year. As per the policy of the Government, there is an obligation to re-export the same. So the sugar exporters are sending their requests to the Government seeking permission of fulfills the responsibility of export. So permission should be granted. Therefore, the Government are considering about it.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing would be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)*\*

*[Translation]*

SHRI NIHAL CHAND: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has stated in his reply that the price of sugarcane has been hiked to Rs. 140 per quintal, but in Punjab and Rajasthan it has been increased to Rs. 114 and Rs. 90 per quintal respectively.

MR. SPEAKER: The main issue is regarding production and you are talking about prices.

SHRI NIHAL CHAND: I am telling him this because hon'ble Minister has stated about it in his reply. In Rajasthan, production of sugarcane this year has been more than that of the previous year. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the Government have taken any decision to provide information about the new technique of sugarcane production to the farmers there?

*[English]*

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: I could not understand his question. I am sorry.

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: On which subject do you want to have information about?

SHRI NIHAL CHAND: I have asked about the information regarding the new technique to be provided to the farmers for enhancing the production of sugarcane.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the scheme I have mentioned earlier is being implemented in 21 states in the country. Under this scheme, farmers are given knowledge to use the new techniques to increase production.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon'ble Minister has furnished state-wise details in his written reply. In Bihar, production of sugar has been stated to be 4217 metric tonnes. There is much scope to enhance production in Bihar. In his reply, he has stated

\*Not recorded.

as relief measures that the Government are allocating funds to the sugar mills for their upgradation so as to provide support price to sugarcane growers. This apart, the hon'ble Minister has also laid emphasis on the application of new techniques. There is fair chance of enhancing sugar production in Bihar from the existing production of 4217 metric tonnes but the only barriers to growth is the absence of suitable market. The few sugar mills there are also lying closed which has discouraged the sugar cane farmers as they are unable to sell their produce. There is ample scope of growing sugar cane in larger areas of Bihar. I would like the Minister to apprise us of the plans lying under consideration with the Government to revive the closed sugar mills and open new sugar mills so as to enable the local farmers to play a conducive role in natural growth on the sugar production front.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: It is a fact that once Bihar was ahead of the rest of the states in terms of the production of sugarcane and sugar. But a few years in the recent past have witnessed a declining trend in the cultivation of sugarcane because of the simple reason of the local sugar mills lying closed. Currently, the consumption of sugar is mostly required in the states of West Bengal, Assam, North East, Orissa and Bihar while it is mainly produced in the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. The cost incurred in transportation of sugar to Bihar is also exorbitant. This has necessitated the emphasis to be laid on raising up the production of sugarcane as well as establishing new sugar mills in Bihar. I have the pleasure to inform you that the hon'ble Minister of Railways has given me a list of the districts with the potentialities to set up sugar mills with sustained-support of the farmers and I have paid attention to it. Last month my colleague Hon'ble Minister of States for Food and Agriculture and I myself had extensive deliberations with the State Government. The potential investors also accompanied us. They have evinced interests in setting up new sugar mills in five districts. I am sure this process will start there as in the current situation, there is an urgency of setting up more and more sugar mills in Bihar. Bihar is equipped with the potential to fulfill the requirement of sugar in the rest of the states. Besides, its convenient to undertake transportation of sugar from Bihar to the sugar-deficit states. The cost of transportation is likely to be reduced substantially. That is why Bihar has been accorded priority.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has admitted in his reply that in the recent past Maharashtra ranked first in the production of sugarcane and Karnataka and Tamil nadu also gained leading status in terms of yield per acre. The picture produced by the Hon'ble Minister, Uttar Pradesh has topped the list leaving behind even Maharashtra as its production has become fourfold more. The simple reason behind such development is that during the past regime the farmers were offered fair and profitable price for their sugarcane. Now the less, per hectare yield of sugarcane has witnessed a declining trend. Acreage has increased but per hectare production has gone down. This is for the reason that minor farmers fail to use drip irrigation and are severely faced with the problems of worms, insects and 'pairila'. Sir, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the Government would take pains to set up sugarcane-research centers at the locations where production of sugarcane is on its decline for some reason or the other to familiarize the farmers with the methodology of enhancing per hectare sugarcane production, its upkeep and productive varieties of seeds on the patterns of Krishi Vighyan Kendras are being set up across the country.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, given the studies undertaken during the last four to five years, it is a fact that per hectare yield of sugarcane is witnessing a declining trend. Yet the fact remains that India is a country with maximum per acre yield of sugarcane. Productivity-wise. We are at number one in the whole world. At the same time is also a fact that in some states and particularly in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar per-acre yield has come down and corrective measures are required to be undertaken in those regions. In the area of sugarcane, there already exists a premier research institute which has been working since past 100 years and it is located in Coimbatore. Several new varieties have been developed by the Coimbatore-based institute over the past few years and has earned popularity not only inside the country but also outside. Given the prevailing circumstances in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, work has set in pertaining to the varieties but there is scarcity of water and water is not used in a proper way. Proper dosage of fertilizers and the allied material is expressly required.

Unless, these shortcomings are taken care of, per acre yield will not increase. Simply widening the area won't suffice. We are focusing on maximizing the production in the limited areas with limited water. It has caught our attention and we have already undertaken this programme. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Have a little bit of patience. You people are daily given the opportunity to speak.

*[English]*

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY: Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity. Tamil Nadu is the third sugarcane producing State only next to UP and Maharashtra. It was in the second place but now it has been relegated to the third place because of the attitude of the mill owners. The sugarcane growers are still suffering because of the attitude of the mill owners. The sugarcane growers are still suffering because of inadequate payment or not getting their dues paid on time. In spite of many steps taken by the Government the sugarcane growers are still suffering. I would like to know from the Minister whether, to relieve the sugarcane growers are still suffering. I would like to know from the Minister whether, to relieve the sugarcane growers of their problem, the Government would think of giving the soft loan not through the mill owners but directly.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Tamil Nadu is one of the highest sugarcane producing States. It gives the highest sugarcane yield per hectare. It is number one in the country today in terms of production. There was a problem last year because there was drought. For consecutively two years there was problem and that is why the production in Tamil Nadu was affected. The situation is definitely changing. This year, the local State Government has announced a new price formula which is more than the Government of India. Local mills are paying that price. So, I do not think there will be any problem about the price.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BHANWAR SINGH DANGAWAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) are being set up by the Department of agriculture in all the districts to provide technical support. As matter of policy, irrespective of the area of land or population covered in a district the number of KVKs shall not be more than one in a district. The point I wish to drive home is whether the Government propose to set up Krishi Vigyan Kendras in those women training institutions which have been set up on 75 bighas of land by deploying a female scientist over there.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: In this regard, it has been decided to set up a KVK in each district. As of now, the work of setting up KVKs in all the districts of the country

remains to be completed. There are drawbacks in certain districts. When Krishi Vigyan Kendras will be set up in all the districts of the country. We will definitely lend our thought to the issue of setting up some additional KVKs in the districts of unusual size. No proposal of setting up more than one KVK in a district has been forwarded to the Government so far.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*...(Interruptions)\**

#### **Development of Agro Processing Industries**

\*306. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the ongoing schemes formulated for the development of agro-processing industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering to formulate any new scheme for the above industries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

#### **Statement**

For promotion of food processing industries, Government has implemented several Plan Schemes. Under these schemes financial assistance is provided for technology upgradation/modernization/establishment of the food processing units, creation of infrastructure, support for R&D, human resource development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of the food processing industries. Review of the existing schemes and formulation of a new scheme for promotion of agro processing industries is an ongoing process. A proposal to introduce a new plan scheme for mega food park

\*Not recorded.

(Integrated Food Zone) was submitted to the Planning Commission and the same is under examination in the light of the advice given by the Planning Commission.

**SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:** Speaker, Sir, food processing sector plays an important role in diversification of agriculture activities, improving value addition opportunities and create surplus for export of agro food products. It would however, require policies and plans for improvement of food processing infrastructure including upgradation of technology and investment. Though the Ministry has operated several planned schemes, however, these schemes have not been able to achieve expected targets and failed to show its presence in global market.

In the absence of clear-cut national policy, this industry has miserably failed to create sufficient job opportunities. Further, the concerned Ministries are not paying adequate attention towards the promotion of this industry. Project proposals are not cleared timely. Funds are not being released in time. Central Government's share is very little, only 25 per cent of the project cost is being provided by the Centre to establish a project. Further, National Policy on FPI is still pending for finalisation.

Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is considering to invest maximum amount in this sector by increasing its contribution for establishing the projects and whether there are any hurdles in finalising the National Policy on Food Processing Industry, if not, by when the National Policy will be announced.

**SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY:** In the last two years we have announced several measures for improving this industry.

Income tax holidays have been declared for these projects. Moreover, in this Budget, almost negligible percentage of excise and import duty has been announced. The Government has recommended for zero per cent VAT on perishable items and it should not exceed beyond four per cent VAT on non-perishable items.

So far as this scheme is concerned, I would say that during the Ninth Plan it was a 50 per cent grant scheme but, during the Tenth Plan it has become a 25 per cent grant scheme. We have already taken up several issues with the Planning Commission in this regard. In

order to finalise the policy on this, a Committee of Group of Ministers headed by the hon. Minister of Agriculture is already discussing it and I hope that within a month we would be able to come out with a policy. We are proposing to come out with revised schemes and other things in that.

So far as the issue of the Budget allocation for this Ministry is concerned, I would submit that whatever Budgetary allocations have been made we are trying to balance it amongst all sectors and are trying to work out a plan of decentralising this process of disbursement of grants so that it does not remain centralised.

**SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:** During the last three years around 2700 projects were submitted by various States for approval and financial assistance. Out of which only 579 proposals have so far been approved. Remaining proposals are either lying pending for consideration or have been rejected.

As far as the State of Maharashtra is concerned, about 411 projects were submitted, out of which only 89 projects have been approved. Furthermore, the ambitious scheme of Government of setting up of Food Parks is lagging behind schedule. Till date, only 20 Food Parks have become operational in the entire country.

So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how he would propose to achieve the targeted growth of 7.3 per cent in the Food Processing Sector by the end of the Tenth Plan given such slow process of approving the projects and setting up of Food Parks.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Would the Government be able to reach the targets? That is his question.

**SHRI SUBODH KANTH SAHAY:** I think, the policy of the Government will help the investors to invest in this sector. We have succeeded in creating a vibration in this sector and not only a lot of relaxation has been provided in the tax regime but it has also been simplified. This has now become a priority sector for the Government. There is a kitty of a thousand crore by way of re-finance with NABARD and this will help achieving our target.

Apart from this we are trying to go from the district level to the branding of the multi-national level. Cent percent FDI has been allowed in this sector. A lot of big players are coming to invest in this sector. There is likely to be a major business activity in the food processing

industry. Unfortunately, this sector did not have the focus of the earlier Governments. But under the UPA Government this is a priority sector and we would achieve our targets. We have worked out a Vision Document for ten years, we are working towards it and we would achieve our targets.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the Government propose to set up Guava Research Centre at Allahabad in Uttar Pradesh; famous for its guavas, under the current plan charted out for the upgradation of Agriculture processing industries in order that the yield of guava may rise.

SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the figures available with us, wherever there is availability of resources linked with fruits, vegetables or agro-business, we make endeavours to ensure that new entrepreneurs come forward and with the contribution of the Central Government the scheme may be sanctioned by motivating them. Insofar as the issue of the setting up a Guava Research Centre is concerned, it does not directly fall within my purview. This fall within the jurisdiction of Ministry of Agriculture.

*[English]*

SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI: Passion fruits are evidently produced in abundance in the hills of the North-Eastern region. But due to lack of processing units, these fruits are fed to animals. Australia has taken the maximum advantage of this fruits and have produced juice, pulp and squash. We could have produced better quality of finished goods out of these fruits because we have a better quality of these fruits. Food processing is one of the thrust areas of the Government for the current year.

Sir, I would like to know, through you, from the hon. Minister as to what steps have been taken by the Department of Food Processing to develop food processing industries in the State of Sikkim and also whether any assistance for putting up a plant for food processing is in the pipeline or not. If so, the details thereof, if not, why not?

SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY: Sir, this is a fact that there is an abundance of passion fruits in the North-Eastern region. The North-Eastern region as a whole has

been our focus. In last November we ha<sup>1</sup> visited the region and had a discussion with the Govern<sup>ment</sup> there. Again, we propose to visit the State along with the hon. Minister of Agriculture on the 27th to focus<sup>on</sup> the development of this region.

We have a Horticulture Mission. This is called a Mi<sup>n</sup> Mission. The Government proposes give 50 per cent of funds up a maximum of Rs. 4 crore for setting up of new industries. Therefore, I would again say that we are looking towards re-casting our schemes which are already under consideration.

Insofar as the State of Sikkim is concerned, if there are any schemes that would come to us, we would consider them on priority basis.

MR. SPEAKER: In spite of best efforts we could not take up more than five questions. I want your co-operation.

Another good news is that England has been all out for 181.

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## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*[Translation]*

### Fertility of Drought hit Areas

\*307. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:  
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:

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

(a) whether the fertility of the drought hit areas gets diminished;

(b) if so, the efforts made by the Government to improve the fertility of such areas during the last two years; and

(c) the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) In general, occurrence of drought does not have significant effect on diminishing the soil fertility in short run. However, higher

frequency of droughts can have adverse effect on soil fertility by way of (i) reduced bio-mass production, (ii) fast decomposition of organic matter, (iii) poor bio-activity in the rhizosphere, and (iv) deterioration of soil structure and water holding capacity etc.

(b) and (c) The Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA), Hyderabad and its net work of 25 All India Coordinated Research Project on Dry land Agriculture (AICRPDA) centres provide technical support to the State Governments by way of training and exposure visits on managing soil fertility during drought through various technologies in different agro-ecological region.

The Research Project has found the following techniques for improving fertility of such areas (i) incorporation of biomass and application of green leaf manures or organic manures, (ii) integrated use of organic manures, bio-fertilizers and chemical fertilizers based on soil testing, (iii) land coverage with litter/mulch and ley farming, (iv) promotion agro forestry system and plantation of perennial biomass yielding trees on bunds and incorporating in the soil, (v) raising of drought tolerant cover crops off season and its incorporation in the soil and (vi) controlling of wind erosion through shelter belt plantation to minimize the drought induced soil degradation.

[English]

#### Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture

\*308. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally-sponsored scheme of Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in the North-Eastern States and other hilly regions of the country; and

(b) the funds allocated for the purpose during the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) Ministry of Agriculture has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Technology Mission for Integrated

Development of Horticulture in North Eastern States including Sikkim" since 2001-02 in all the eight North Eastern States namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim. During the X Plan, the scheme has been extended for implementation in other three hill states, of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal. The outlay of X Plan for implementation of above scheme is Rs. 845.00 crores of which Rs. 585.00 crores is for North Eastern States including Sikkim, Rs. 100.00 crores is for Jammu and Kashmir and Rs. 80.00 crores each for Himachal Pradesh and Uttaranchal.

The scheme is being implemented within a Mission mode approach, with its four mini Missions to address the issues related to development of horticulture in these eleven States. Mini Mission-I, which relates to research is being coordinated and implemented by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR); Mini Mission-II which relates to production and productivity improvement is being coordinated by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation and implemented by concerned State Department of Horticulture/Agriculture; Mini Mission-III which relates to Post Harvest Management and Marketing is being coordinated by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation and implemented by Directorate of Marketing and Inspection and National Horticulture Board and Mini Mission-IV which relates to processing is being coordinated and implemented by Ministry of Food Processing Industries. Details of allocation and release of funds for implementation of the mission during the last 3 years and current year are given in the Statement enclosed.

#### Statement

Allocation and release of funds for implementation of the mission during the last 3 years and current year

(Rs in Crores)

Year	Allocation	Release
2002-03	120.00	91.00
2003-04	134.23	118.39
2004-05	200.00	176.12
2005-06	185.00	155.58 (till date)



*[Translation]***Model Hospitals for Labourers**

\*309. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to set up model hospitals for providing medical facilities of a high standard to the labourers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve medical facilities to the labourers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) to (c) The ESI Corporation in its meeting held on 16.02.2001 decided to take over one of the existing Hospitals in each State from the State Governments to develop these as Model Hospitals. The ESI Corporation has so far taken over 12 hospitals from the State Governments for developing them as Model Hospitals as per details given in the enclosed Statement. Apart from these, the ESI Corporation is also developing ESI Hospitals at KK Nagar (Chennai), Joka (West Bengal), Nagda (Madhya Pradesh) and Chincwad (Pune) as Model Hospitals. These Hospitals are already being run by the ESI Corporation as Occupational Diseases Centres.

**Statement**

*List of Model Hospitals taken over by the ESI Corporation from the State Governments*

Sl.No.	State	Hospitals
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Nacharam, Hyderabad 200 beds
2.	Assam	Beltola 50 beds
3.	Jharkhand	Ranchi 50 beds
4.	Karnataka	Rajajinagar 500 beds

1	2	3
5.	Kerala	Asaram, Kollam 200 beds
6.	Orissa	Rourkela 50 beds
7.	Punjab	Ludhiana 100 beds
8.	Rajasthan	Jaipur 236 beds
9.	Uttar Pradesh	Sahibabad 100 beds
10.	Bihar	Phulwari Sharif 50 beds
11.	Gujarat	Bapu Nagar-600 beds
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu-50 beds

**Import of Steel**

\*310. SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:  
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether steel is being imported into the country;

(b) if so, the year-wise and country-wise details of steel imported alongwith its quantity and rate during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether foreign and private sector investment is invited to increase the production of steel in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The country-wise details of steel imported by India during the last three years and the current year along with the quantity and value of imports is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) In terms of the industrial policy in vogue, no prior permission is required for setting up steel plants barring certain locational restrictions. Entrepreneurs are free to set up these plants based on their commercial judgement. 100% foreign direct investment is permitted in this sector under the automatic route.

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

*Statement*

*Country-wise import of Carbon Steel (including seconds/defective) through major Indian ports during 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06*

Country	Carbon Steel (including seconds/defectives) (quantity in '000' tonnes & value: Rs. Crores)							
	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05		2005-06 (Prov.) (April—January, 2006)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Argentina	1.05	1.61	0.00	0.00	—	—	0.59	1.51
Australia	19.15	44.79	36.88	95.62	20.7	46.71	8.30	25.66
Austria	9.37	12.98	0.34	1.44	3.3	13.62	0.67	7.48
Bangladesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.24	0.50
Baharin	—	—	—	—	0.6	—	0.76	1.16
Belguim	28.56	43.07	59.86	106.83	24.9	54.59	48.99	127.22
Brazil	4.74	9.31	9.32	24.06	3.5	11.08	8.01	31.13
Canada	22.93	26.86	28.95	35.29	19.8	27.73	38.48	77.07
China	3.17	3.15	30.98	69.65	55.8	115.63	133.64	296.63
CIS	371.59	484.42	384.05	596.96	416.7	1139.88	1118.15	2613.34
Czech	—	0.00	—	0.10	—	—	—	—
Denmark	6.20	4.31	0.34	2.60	2.7	4.99	8.93	14.56
Egypt	—	—	—	—	27.6	—	126.78	280.66
E.C.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—	—	—
Finland	0.10	0.32	0.09	0.27	0.1	0.31	0.37	1.13
France	29.91	62.17	17.67	32.81	20.6	97.79	16.97	108.22
Germany	128.35	194.82	108.80	206.16	100.2	310.50	138.51	420.52
Ghana	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.38	1.79
Holland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.38	47.43	129.52
Indonesia	—	—	—	—	28.7	26.13	65.60	133.64
Iran	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.5	24.92	139.01	281.03
Italy	16.68	29.36	8.22	13.31	24.0	84.63	23.96	69.52
Japan	173.29	462.16	119.34	352.50	112.9	395.61	157.37	425.56

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Jordan	—	—	—	—	12.4	—	0.86	1.20
Korea	129.61	244.33	127.36	283.29	228.4	704.11	318.91	733.37
Kuwait	1.40	0.59	2.76	3.12	4.1	5.39	8.92	11.74
Lebanon	—	—	—	—	3.5	—	0.62	0.68
Macedonia	—	—	—	—	1.4	—	0.00	0.00
Malaysia	5.44	7.14	9.02	9.38	14.9	32.64	16.31	41.49
Romania	51.13	61.18	58.29	86.53	62.2	165.59	111.99	281.41
Singapore	26.30	32.34	20.81	27.49	22.1	36.35	18.28	31.73
Slovenia	1.00	1.34	0.25	0.14	0.0	0.00	0.59	2.57
South Africa	20.47	22.58	8.59	13.98	6.4	13.69	113.80	199.41
Spain	10.71	18.48	1.83	3.08	1.7	7.44	1.51	6.67
Sri Lanka	1.98	2.41	2.61	4.54	3.0	5.51	0.68	0.66
Sweden	6.07	9.18	6.65	9.18	5.4	17.63	8.66	28.31
Switzerland	6.27	6.25	1.07	1.99	249.2	9.02	3.19	11.58
Taiwan	—	—	—	—	—	—	8.22	35.23
Thailand	—	—	—	—	—	—	56.91	150.39
Turkey	—	—	—	—	44.6	79.49	61.15	125.86
U.A.E.	236.05	407.05	95.05	137.01	237.5	509.83	29.39	61.41
U.K.	70.01	86.32	151.93	278.54	54.4	147.07	56.37	143.60
U.S.A.	54.68	109.04	35.24	73.65	47.2	93.33	103.12	299.02
Venezuela	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Others	170.10	218.05	283.54	660.52	538.2	1419.12	506.29	515.95
<b>Total</b>	<b>1606.2</b>	<b>2605.41</b>	<b>1609.82</b>	<b>3130.04</b>	<b>2408.379</b>	<b>5604.70</b>	<b>3509.91</b>	<b>7730.10</b>

(Source: Joint Plant Committee)

[English]

**More Hallmarking Centres**

\*311. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:  
SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to make Hallmarking mandatory for all gold jewellery;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to set up more accredited centres of Bureau of Indian Standard for Hallmarking in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the cities where such centres are proposed to be set up; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Hallmarking and Assaying Centres are expected to come up on account of increasing demand from consumers for Hallmarked gold jewellery. In order to ensure adequacy of assaying infrastructure particularly in uncovered areas prior to Hallmarking being made mandatory, a scheme for setting up of Gold Hallmarking/ Assaying Centres in India has been launched for implementation during 2005-07. Under this scheme, one time financial incentive of 15% of the cost of plant and equipment, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 15 lakh will be provided to selected entrepreneurs. The list of districts selected under the scheme is given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

*List of Districts Selected under the Pilot Project on Gold Hallmarking*

1. Jammu (Jammu and Kashmir)
2. Shimla (Himachal Pradesh)
3. Ludhiana (Punjab)
4. Chandigarh (Union Territory of Chandigarh)
5. Panipat (Haryana)
6. Gurgaon (Haryana)
7. Meerut (Uttar Pradesh)
8. Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)
9. Noida (Uttar Pradesh)
10. Dehradun (Uttaranchal)
11. Jaipur (Rajasthan)
12. Jodhpur (Rajasthan)
13. Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh)
14. Indore (Madhya Pradesh)
15. Patna (Bihar)
16. Burdwan (West Bengal)

17. Siliguri (West Bengal)
18. Ranchi (Jharkhand)
19. Gangtok (Sikkim)
20. Aizwal (Mizoram)
21. Agartala (Tripura)
22. Guwahati (Assam)
23. Bhubaneswar (Orissa)
24. Raipur (Chhattisgarh)
25. Vadodera (Gujarat)
26. Pune (Maharashtra)
27. Jalgaon (Maharashtra)
28. Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh)
29. Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh)
30. Hubli (Karnataka)
31. Mangalore (Karnataka)
32. Panaji (Goa)
33. Madurai (Tamil Nadu)
34. Tiruchirapalli (Tamil Nadu)
35. Pondicherry (Union Territory of Pondicherry)

**Reforms in Food Processing Sector**

\*312. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD:  
SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to initiate reforms in the food processing sector in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures being taken to create competition in this sector and to bring improvement in the quality of the products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH

KANT SAHAY: (a) to (c) Introduction of reforms in food processing sector is an ongoing process. Several fiscal reforms have been introduced by Government from time to time for promotion of food processing industries. Fruit & vegetable processing units are already exempted from payment of excise duty. In the year 2004-05 the Government has allowed under Income Tax Act, a deduction of 100% of profit for five years and 25% of profits for the next five years in case of new agro processing industries set up to process, preserve and package fruits and vegetables. In the Union Budget of 2006-07, Government has also implemented Plan Schemes to provide financial assistance for technology upgradation/modernization/establishment of the food processing units, creation of infrastructure, support for Research & Development, Human Resource Development besides other promotional measures to enable the food processing industries to improve their quality and become competitive in the market. In order to rationalize/reform food laws so as to ensure better food quality/safety, the Government has since introduced the Food Safety & Standards Bill, 2005 in the Lok Sabha on 25.08.2005.

#### Protection of Birds

\*313. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of details of birds noticed in different wetland sanctuaries every year because of pollution in the water during the last three years;

(b) the steps taken to save the rare species of birds in this regard;

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate new guidelines to preserve the eco-balance for protecting the birds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN

MEENA): (a) No reports have been received regarding deaths of birds in wetland sanctuaries due to pollution. Stray cases of natural mortality or incidental poisoning do take place for which no information is collated. However during the year 2005-06, two cases of major mortalities of wild birds were reported, which are placed at the enclosed statement.

(b) The steps taken to save rare species of birds include the following:

- (i) Species of birds are listed in different Schedules of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 ensuring high degree of protection.
- (ii) Financial and technical assistance is provided under Centrally Sponsored Schemes for development of important Bird Sanctuaries and wetlands of the country.
- (iii) 71 wetlands covering 22 States have been identified under National Wetland Conservation Programme for carrying out conservation activities.
- (iv) Specialised agencies viz. Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) and Salm Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON) are being associated in the task of avifaunal research, conservation and monitoring.
- (v) India is a signatory to many International Conventions dealing with conservation and regulating international trade in wildlife and wildlife articles, thus affording higher degree of conservation to wildlife, including birds.
- (vi) All States/UTs carry out continuous servillance of wetland sanctuaries for conservation of both resident and migratory birds.

(c) No new guidelines are proposed to preserve the eco-balance.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Statement

Name of the Wetland/State	Number of birds	Reported Cause of Death
Okhla Wildlife Sanctuary, Uttar Pradesh	53	Poisoned baits used for fishing
Chilka Lake, Orissa	1709	Death of migratory birds due to Pasteurellosis due to <i>Pasteurella haemolytica</i>

### Facilities for Seed Production

\*314. SHRI TAPIR GAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to strengthen infrastructural facilities for seed production in the country;

(b) the special facilities provided for strengthening seed production in the North-Eastern Region; and

(c) the results achieved therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Government has introduced a scheme on "Development and Strengthening of Infrastructure Facilities for Production and Distribution of Quality Seed". The components of the scheme are:—

- (i) Seed Village Scheme.
- (ii) Assistance for Creation of Infrastructure Facilities.

- (iii) Assistance for boosting seed production in private sector.
- (iv) Establishment and Maintenance of Seed Bank.
- (v) Quality Control Arrangements on Seed.
- (vi) Transport subsidy on movement of seeds to North East and other hilly areas.
- (vii) Assistance for Seed export.
- (viii) Use of Bio-technology in Crops production.
- (ix) Promotion of use of hybrid seed of rice.
- (x) Human Resources Development.

Further, assistance for seed production and distribution is also provided under (i) Integrated Scheme on Oil Seeds, Pulses, Oil palm and Maize (ISOPOM) (i) Macro Management of Agriculture (ii) Technology Mission on Cotton.

(b) and (c) Assistance has been provided to North Eastern Region as under:

Scheme	State	Amount in Lakhs
Macro Management of Agriculture (For Strengthening States Seed Farms)	Manipur	62.49
	Nagaland	58.20
	Tripura	25.40
	Arunachal Pradesh	8.20
	Assam	6.50
<b>Establishment and Maintenance and Seed Bank</b>		
Seed godown	Assam Seed Corporation	50.00
Data Bank Information System	-do-	10.50
Revolving Fund procurement of Seed	-do-	72.00
Strengthening of State Seed Testing Laboratories	Sikkim	15.00
	Meghalaya	15.00

[Translation]

### Price of Wheat

\*315. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the production and consumption of wheat in the country during the last year and the current year;
- (b) the price of wheat in the country as on date;
- (c) the difference between the retail price and Minimum Support Price as on date;

(d) whether there is any proposal to check unlimited storage and hoarding of wheat to control its prices; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The production of wheat in the country during the years 2003-04 (2004-05 marketing season) and 2004-05 (2005-06 marketing season) was 72.1 and 72.0 million tonnes respectively. As per the methodology adopted by the Commission on Agriculture Costs and Prices (CACP) and based on available NSS data, the estimated, household consumption of wheat during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06 is 64.46 and 64.27 million tonnes respectively.

(b) The retail prices of wheat in the country range from Rs. 8 per kg. to Rs. 16 per kg.

(c) The difference between the Minimum Support Price of wheat and the retail selling price in the major wheat growing States is Rs. 1.50 per kg. to Rs. 4.00 per kg.

(d) and (e) To facilities free trade and movement of foodgrains, enable the farmer to get better prices for his produce and ensure availability of foodgrains in deficit areas, the Government of India has issued a Notification on 15.2.2002, inter alia, removing stock limits for foodgrains. There is no proposal before the Government for re-introduction of stock limits for foodgrains.

[English]

#### **Sea Food Processing Industry**

\*316. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Sea Food Processing Industry has been working much below its capacity owing to shortage of raw materials;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps the Government proposes to take to help the Sea Food Processing Industry to improve its position;

(d) whether the industry needs to have a conservation policy to revive the coastal resources; and

(e) if so, other steps the Government has taken so far to save the industry and also improve its profitability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (e) The Sea Food Processing Industry in the country is operating at a capacity utilization of about 20 per cent primarily due to shortage of raw material.

Government have taken various measures for improving the current status of sea food industry, which include *inter-alia* the following:—

- (i) Increase of production by promoting aquaculture of fresh water and brackish water through Fish Farmers Development Agencies which includes development of new farms, renovation of existing farms, farming inputs etc.
- (ii) Development of deep sea fishing for harvesting under exploited resources such as Tuna, Cephalopodes and Pelagic finfish.
- (iii) Promotional activities and financial schemes for the farmers for sustainable shrimp/scampi culture in India.
- (iv) Development of infrastructure for setting up of fishing harbours and fish landing centres.
- (v) Assistance for motorization of traditional crafts and conversion of trawlers into long liners.
- (vi) Promulgation of comprehensive marine fishing policy addressing conservation and management issues.
- (vii) Enactment of Coastal Aquaculture Authority Act for ensuring sustainable development of coastal aquaculture.

[Translation]

#### **Revival of Krishi Vigyan Kendras**

\*317. SHRI SHISHUPAL PATLE:  
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any review of the scheme meant for the revival of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the States during the year 2005-06;

(b) if so, the total number of such Kendras which are functional, partially functional or non-functional;

(c) the number of such Kendras sanctioned during 2005-06 and the number of such Kendras that have been set up so far;

(d) the amount of expenditure incurred under the said scheme during 2005-06 by the Union Government;

(e) whether any complaints regarding the poor functioning of such Kendras in the States have been received during the year; and

(f) if so, the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) In 2005 the Government have constituted a Committee for conducting independent evaluation and impact analysis of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK).

(c) During 2005-06, 52 KVKs have been sanctioned and the number of such Kendras set up so far is 503.

(d) During 2005-06, an amount of Rs. 248.36 crore has been provided for the Scheme.

(e) and (f) During the year, two references were received from two States. While one KVK has been withdrawn, a committee has been constituted for the other.

*[English]*

#### **Status of Development Activities**

\*318. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has reviewed the status of development activities in rural areas to work out appropriate strategies for accelerating growth in agriculture and related non-crop sector through comprehensive policy/measures/package;

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

(c) the details of the new agricultural initiatives for thrust areas, particularly for non-green/dry land farming?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c) The Mid Term Appraisal of the Tenth Plan (2002-07) had provided a comprehensive review of the development activities in rural areas pertaining to agriculture and related sectors, and emphasized the need for reversing the declaration in the agriculture sector. It has laid thrust on rejuvenating the support systems in extension, credit and delivery systems of inputs, improvement of irrigation, shift of land from cereals to non-cereals coupled with increased productivity in cereals, and shift to horticultural crops supported by adequate marketing infrastructure.

Initiatives have already been taken such as launch of National Horticulture Mission, undertaking activities with a mission approach for enhancing productivity and quality of cotton, oilseeds, pulses, and coarse grains. The other vital areas where policy initiatives have been taken include credit, irrigation facilities, crop diversification, marketing infrastructure and reforms and extension services.

*[Translation]*

#### **Major Irrigation Projects**

\*319. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of some major irrigation projects to be completed in the Tenth Five Year Plan has escalated due to delay in getting environmental clearance;

(b) if so, the details of revised cost of these projects, State-wise; and

(c) the number of projects likely to be completed by the end of the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) The State Governments have informed about the programme for completion of 95 major ongoing irrigation projects during the Tenth Five Year Plan. So far, 15 major irrigation projects have been reported as completed by the respective State Governments. Out of the remaining 80 major projects identified for completion during the Tenth Five Year Plan, 53 projects are duly cleared from environmental



consideration and have also been accorded investment clearance by the Planning Commission. The remaining 27 projects have not been accorded investment clearance by the Planning Commission. State Governments have not submitted any proposal for revised estimate in respect of any of the projects targeted for completion during Tenth Five Year Plan.

*[English]*

#### Setting up of Corpus Fund

\*320. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has directed the National Co-operative Union of India to set up a Corpus fund to meet the financial requirements of the National Council for Co-operative Training (NCCT) out of the income on its investment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has decided to entrust the entire role of co-operative education in the country to the National Co-operative Union; and

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

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The Government has decided to set up a Corpus Fund of Rs. 200 crore to be contributed on 50:50 basis by the Central Government and National Cooperative Union of India. The National Cooperative Union of India shall maintain this fund in a separate account and all income by way of interest or otherwise accruing from contribution shall be credited to this fund. The interest accrued on Corpus Fund shall be utilized for the purposes connected

with the cooperative education and training and human resource development for cooperatives.

(c) and (d) No such decision has been taken by the Government. Presently, the Central Sector Scheme of Cooperative Education and training is being implemented through National Cooperative Union of India.

*[Translation]*

#### Production of Steel

\*321. SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of steel and the business of steel products is getting affected due to rising prices of iron-ore;

(b) if so, the percentage of increase in the prices of steel products recorded during the last three years and the current year; and

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir. At present, the production of steel and the business of steel products are not affected due to rising prices of iron ore. In fact, the total finished (carbon) steel production has gone up by 5.9% during April 2005—January 2006 compared to the corresponding period last year.

(b) Percentage variation of February 2006 prices over the quarter-end prices in 2003, 2004 and 2005 in Mumbai is given in the Statement enclosed.

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

#### *Statement*

*Percentage Variation of February 2006 prices over the Quarterly Prices of 2003, 2004 and 2005 in Mumbai*

Mumbai	Pig Iron LM Gr. IV	TMT 10mm	Wire Rods 8mm	Rounds 16mm	Plates 12mm	HR Coils 2.5mm	CR Coils 0.83mm	GP Sheets 0.63mm	Pencil Ingot/Billets 100mm
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Feb. 2006 VS Jan. 2006	-4.88%	-3.00%	-0.88%	-2.06%	-2.97%	-2.88%	0.00%	0.00%	6.22%
Feb. 2006 VS Dec. 2005	-7.14%	-3.96%	0.45%	-4.04%	-5.77%	-3.81%	-7.81%	-5.56%	4.24%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Feb. 2006 VS Sept. 2005	-10.86%	-13.39%	-15.47%	-12.48%	-12.50%	-6.48%	-11.94%	-8.11%	-5.53%
Feb. 2006 VS June 2005	-14.75%	-19.17%	-19.42%	-16.67%	-19.67%	-17.21%	-14.49%	-12.82%	-6.43%
Feb. 2006 VS Mar. 2005	-20.81%	-17.09%	-15.79%	-16.67%	-28.26%	-27.34%	-21.33%	-11.69%	-18.46%
Feb. 2006 VS Dec. 2004	-17.02%	-14.16%	-14.83%	-15.18%	-21.60%	-20.16%	-14.99%	-8.11%	-12.67%
Feb. 2006 VS Sept. 2004	-13.33%	-11.82%	-14.18%	-12.04%	-22.47%	-19.84%	-14.49%	-5.56%	-6.87%
Feb. 2006 VS June 2004	-15.68%	-1.02%	-17.04%	-3.06%	-18.33%	-17.21%	-13.24%	-5.56%	3.42%
Feb. 2006 VS March 2004	-22.00%	-4.34%	-6.67%	-5.00%	-23.44%	-22.55%	-15.11%	-11.69%	5.08%
Feb. 2006 VS Dec. 2003	-1.14%	9.98%	10.34%	10.47%	-4.85%	0.66%	2.61%	9.68%	14.24%
Feb. 2006 VS Sept. 2003	14.71%	25.65%	8.74%	20.56%	4.93%	7.45%	6.31%	15.25%	16.27%
Feb. 2006 VS June 2003	34.48%	34.72%	24.44%	38.08%	22.50%	12.22%	13.46%	13.33%	35.52%

[English]

#### Appointment of Consultation by EPFO

2314. SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) has engaged M/s Mercer Human Resources consulting as consultant to suggest investments options for Employees Provident Fund;

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

(c) whether the Trade Unions have raised certain objections in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to verify the antecedents of the said firms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) The Central Board of Trustees in its meeting held on 21.02.2005, approved the proposal for engagement of M/s. Mercer Human Resource Consulting as consultant for one time study of the investment options for the Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The following objections were raised.

- i. Alleged involvement in providing inaccurate information to New York Stock Exchange in the matter of Compensation Package to its Chairman; and
- ii. Allegation of wrong doing against Marsh Inc. (sister concern).

The matter was referred to the consultant *i.e.* M/s Mercer Human Resource Consulting for their comments and it was clarified by them vide their letter dated 02.05.2005 that their role was restricted to advice on actuarial and pension related matters and did not involve providing of advice or services concerning the Compensation Committee's annual decisions regarding compensation of NYSE employees, including the Chairman.

In regard to the second allegation, it was clarified by M/s Mercer Human Resource Consulting that it is an independent company, run entirely by its own management and responsible to its own Board of Directors. The events surrounding Marsh Inc have no bearing on Mercer's operations and do not affect its financial or professional capability to service its clients effectively in any part of the world.

### Storage of Water

2315. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of water stored during each of the last three years in the country;

(b) the total rainfall in the country in millimeter recorded during the said period and the percentage/quantity of water stored for irrigation and other purposes, separately;

(c) whether the Government proposes any specific plans to prevent wastage of water; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) The Ministry of Water Resources is monitoring the status of storage of 76 important reservoirs with total designed live storage capacity of 133.02 billion cubic metre (BCM) which is 62% of the total live storage capacity created in the country. Filling of the reservoir from the inflows and the releases of water from reservoir for various purposes is a continuous process. However, the sum total of the maximum storage attained in various reservoirs was about 65%, 72% and 87% of the designed live storage capacity in the years 2003, 2004 and 2005 respectively.

(b) The average annual rainfall recorded during the years 2003, 2004 and 2005 are 1242.8, 1085.9 and 1208.1 millimeters respectively. Separate storage for purposes is not earmarked in the reservoirs. The stored water is released for various purposes as per the priorities and in accordance with guidelines for reservoirs regulations.

(c) and (d) With a view to optimally utilize the available resources, several measures for development management of water resources are undertaken by the respective State Governments which include creation of storages, restoration of water bodies, rain water harvesting, artificial recharge to ground water and adoption of better management practices etc. State Governments conceive, plan and implement major medium & minor schemes for utilization of water resources. Storage capacity of about 213 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) has been created so far. As per present assessment, the

total estimated storage capacity of the various projects under construction is about 76 BCM. Further, the State Governments have identified various other schemes for investigation and planning and estimated storage for such schemes is about 108 BCM.

[Translation]

### Board for Reconstruction of PSE

2316. SHRI RAGHUVeer SINGH KOSHAL:  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Board has been set up by the Government for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises;

(b) if so, the details thereof and how it differs from the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction;

(c) the number of cases referred to this Board and the number of cases settled so far; and

(d) the extent to which the Board is effective in settling the cases referred to it?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Government of India, vide its Resolution dated 6th December, 2004 had constituted a Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) to address the task of strengthening, modernizing, reviving and restructuring of Public Sector Enterprises and advise the Government on strategies, measures and schemes related to them. Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) is a statutory body set up under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act (SICA), 1985 to sanction suitable revival/rehabilitation packages in respect of sick industrial companies (both CPSEs as well as Private Sector companies) as defined in SICA. BRPSE may advise Government on ways and means of strengthening the PSEs and making them more autonomous and professional. It may also consider the cases of non-industrial as well as incipient sick CPSEs and make suitable recommendations relating to them. The recommendations of BRPSE are advisory in nature.

(c) and (d) Since the constitution of BRPSE, 41 cases of PSEs have been referred to BRPSE. BRPSE has so far held 32 meeting till February 2006 and considered 34 cases. The Board has given its recommendations in respect of 29 cases and remitted the remaining 5 cases to the administrative Ministries/Departments for further information.

#### **Improvement in Livestock and Cow Progeny in Uttar Pradesh**

2317. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme being implemented in Uttar Pradesh for the improvement in livestock and cow progeny;

(b) whether the Government proposes to implement any scheme for scientific research in the veterinary field in the State; and

(c) 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) Uttar Pradesh is participating under National Project for Cattle and Buffalo Breeding (NPCBB) for genetic up-gradation of bovine population since 2002-03. Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 22.04 crores has been released to the State for implementation of the project including an amount of Rs. 300.00 lakh released during current year. Following is the year-wise details of the central assistance released to Uttar Pradesh under NPCBB:

(Rs. in lakhs)

2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	Total
1063	Nil	841.15	300	2204.15

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

*[English]*

#### **Production of Bio-Fertilizers**

2318. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of bio-fertilizers in the country as on December 31, 2005, company-wise;

(b) whether there is self-sufficiency in bio-fertilizers; and

(c) if not, the steps the Government taken/proposed to be taken to augment the production of bio-fertilizers 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) and (b) The production of bio-fertilizers is demand driven. The installed capacity of bio-fertilizers units in the country is about 18,200 MT per annum against which the production was 10,594.90 MT during 2004-05. Thus, at present there is self sufficiency in bio-fertilizer production. The company-wise/agency-wise production of bio-fertilizer during 2004-05 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) In order to augment the production of bio-fertilizers in the country, the Government provided financial assistance of Rs. 20.00 lakh per unit for setting up of bio-fertilizers production units under "National Project on Development and Use of Bio-fertilizers" during IXth Plan and 2002-03. The scheme has been subsumed under a new Central Sector Scheme "National Project on Organic Farming" with effect from October, 2004. Under the new scheme financial assistance for setting up of bio-fertilizer production units @ 25% of the project cost up a maximum of Rs. 20.00 lakh is being provided as credit linked back ended subsidy through National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) & National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).

**Statement***Production of Biofertiliser in India by various units 2004-2005*

State	Organization Name	Capacity	GOI Funded	AZOTO.	AZOSP.	ACETO	RHIZ	PSB	Total BF
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	Krishna Agro Biotech	75	No	0	0	0	0	1925.00	1925.00
Andhra Pradesh	Bacterial Culture Production Lab	75	No	0.02	0.09	0	24.55	6.58	31.25
Andhra Pradesh	Acharya NG Ranga Agril. Univ.	75	GOI	0	1.05	0	21.49	8.19	30.72
Andhra Pradesh	Bio-Tech. Agro. Hyd.	75	No	5.00	0	0	0	5.00	10.00
Andhra Pradesh	Godavari Fertilisers and Chemicals Ltd.	75	GOI	0	10.30	0	0	10.30	20.59
Andhra Pradesh	Biofertiliser Production Unit-Tiruchirapalli	75	No	0	0	0	0	0	0
Andhra Pradesh Total		450	0	5.02	11.44	0	46.03	1954.47	2019.50
Arunachal Pradesh	Jolang Multipurpose Coop Soc.	75	GOI	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arunachal Pradesh Total		75		0	0	0	0	0	0
Assam	Assam Agro Industries Dev. Corpn. Ltd.	150	GOI	9.52	5.67	0	2.00	8.01	25.20
Assam Total		150		9.52	5.67	0	2.00	8.01	25.20
Bihar	Association for Social, Bihar			5.00	3.00	0	7.00	0	15.00
Bihar Total				5.00	3.00	0	7.00	0	15.00
Delhi	IARI	1		0.61	0.05	0	0.15	0.56	1.37
Delhi Total			0	0.61	0.05	0	0.15	0.56	1.37
Gujarat	Gujarat State Cooperative Marketing Fed. Ltd.	125	GOI	0	20.90	0	7.40	25.80	54.10
Gujarat	Gujarat State Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd.	475	GOI	75.08	32.77	26.03	26.75	126.21	286.16
Gujarat	KRIBHCO-Surat	325	GOI	80.00	13.50	19.75	80.00	226.70	419.95
Gujarat	Gujarat Agro Industries Corpn -Ahmedabad	150	GOI	0	20.90	0	7.44	25.77	54.11
Gujarat	CORDET		0	21.02	8.34	23.50	7.33	67.82	128.01
Gujarat Total				176.10	96.41	69.28	128.92	472.30	943.00
Himachal Pradesh	Central Laboratory D/o Agril.	75	GOI	5.74	0	0	4.56	0	10.30
Himachal Pradesh Total				5.74	0	0	4.56	0	10.30
Karnataka	Karnataka Compost Dev. Corpn. Ltd.	150	GOI	7.60	4.50	0	4.58	5.12	22.42
Karnataka	Kadur Agro	150	GOI	0	0.03	0	0.03	0.40	0.50
Karnataka	Karnataka Biofertilisers	75	No	—	4.20	—	4.15	812.20	820.28
Karnataka	Multiplex Biotech (P) Ltd.	150	No	9.90	10.08	0	14.86	87.30	122.08

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Karnataka	UAS GKVK Bangalore	50	No	0.43	0.42	—	0.14	0.82	1.82
Karnataka	Rhizobium Culture Lab-Dharwad	75	GOI	0	0	0	1.40	5.27	6.67
Karnataka	Rhizobium Culture Prd. Lab-Habbal	20	No	1.01	0	0	3.10	6.81	10.92
Karnataka	West Coast Herbo Chem Ltd.	150	GOI	2.80	1.00	0	2.80	31.29	34.19
Karnataka	Sunaraya Compost, Bang.	NA	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0
Karnataka	Deptt. of Agril-Gulbergha	150	GOI	1.33	1.00	—	3.25	8.00	13.58
Karnataka	Samrath Bio-Tech Ltd.	75	GOI	20.09	30.21	—	15.25	34.50	101.20
<b>Karnataka Total</b>				<b>43.16</b>	<b>51.43</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>49.56</b>	<b>991.71</b>	<b>1135.86</b>
Kerala	State Biofertilizer Lab Thiruvananthapuram	10	No	1.50	55.00	—	1.50	35.00	93.00
Kerala	Agro Biotech Research Centre Kottayam	75	GOI	0.50	91.40	0	0.09	26.20	118.19
Kerala	The Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd.	150	GOI	0	1.52	0	0.54	0	2.07
<b>Kerala Total</b>				<b>2.00</b>	<b>147.00</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2.13</b>	<b>61.20</b>	<b>213.25</b>
Madhya Pradesh	Nafed Biofertilizer Indore	200	GOI	210.00	0	0	180.00	205.00	595.00
Madhya Pradesh	NFL-Vijaypur	100	No	27.23	—	—	17.83	78.27	123.33
Madhya Pradesh	The M.p. State Agro Ind. Dev.-Corpn.	450	GOI	35.50	0.01	0	199.60	380.50	615.66
<b>Madhya Pradesh Total</b>				<b>272.73</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>397.43</b>	<b>663.77</b>	<b>1333.94</b>
Maharashtra	Vikash Kruti Sansthan Kendra	75	GOI	10.00	5.00	0	10.00	50.00	75.00
Maharashtra	M.S. Industries	10	No	2.00	0	1.00	1.71	4.20	8.91
Maharashtra	Agriculture Research Station	75	No	3.34	0.74	0	1.73	5.64	12.04
Maharashtra	M/s Niku Bio Research Lab	150	GOI	5.00	2.40	3.00	8.00	10.00	28.50
Maharashtra	Microplex Biotech	150	No	8.51	0	0	1.07	30.52	40.13
Maharashtra	Kumar Kishri Mitra Bio Products (I) P. Ltd.	216	No	694.28	0	0	0	218.90	913.18
Maharashtra	Agriculture Bacte. Section Coll Agril	50	No	3.34	0.74	—	1.73	5.64	12.04
Maharashtra	Choudhury Agro Tech	10	No	25.00	0	0	20.00	1050.00	1095.00
Maharashtra	Vaibhav Luxmi Biocontrol Lab	20	No	3.50	0	8.00	12.50	0	23.50
Maharashtra	Avistkar Biofarm Pvt. Ltd.	50	No	0	37.50	0	50.00	44.50	132.00
Maharashtra	Arun Biofertilizers	150	GOI	8.00	2.00	0	30.00	92.00	132.00
Maharashtra	EPRF	150	GOI	10.00	0	0	5.00	10.50	25.50
Maharashtra	Nirmal Seeds Pvt. Ltd.	150	GOI	29.00	0	0	23.00	58.00	110.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
Maharashtra	Nomain Seeds	0	0	0.55	0	0	0.83	0	1.18		
Maharashtra	Nilayam Bio-fertilizer Prod. Unit	150	GOI	16.90	0	0	11.90	21.64	50.24		
Maharashtra	Kisan Agro. Chem.	240	No	0.13	0	0	0.75	0.30	1.18		
Maharashtra	Eilora Biotech	0	0	3.00	3.00	0	0	8.50	14.50		
Maharashtra	K-Fert Lab	150	GOI	20.00	6.50	0	33.00	45.00	104.00		
Maharashtra	INORA	150	GOI	25.00	10.00	0	9.00	27.00	71.00		
Maharashtra	Vasant Dada Sugar Institute	500	GOI	36.00	0.50	1.00	0.50	37.00	75.00		
Maharashtra	SMSMP Patil A	150	0	0	0	0	0	91.45	91.45		
Maharashtra	Sai Nath	75	0	0.99			1.50	2.27	4.76		
	MRDC Salpur	0	GOI	1.99	0	0	2.88	9.31	14.00		
Maharashtra	BAIF Development Res. Foundation	250	GOI	0.50	0	0	0.50	3.00	4.00		
Maharashtra Total					903.72	68.38	13.00	240.20	1825.37	3049.98	
Mizoram	Biofertiliser Production Unit	75	GOI	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Mizoram Total					0	0	0	0	0		
Orissa	Orissa A.I.C. BBSR		GOI	3.71	1.70	0	9.04	6.72	21.17		
Orissa	B.I.L. Dy. Director PP. BBSR		0	2.95	0.19	0	4.59	3.72	11.45		
Orissa Total					0	6.65	1.89	0	13.64	10.44	32.62
Punjab	Biofertiliser Prd. Unit Ludhiana	75	GOI	0	0	0	0.37	0	0.37		
Punjab Total					75	0	0	0	0.37	0	0.37
Rajasthan	Rhizobia Scheme Agri. Deptt.	50	No	7.70	0	0	10.11	12.83	30.64		
Rajasthan Total					7.70	0	0	10.11	12.83	30.64	
Tamil Nadu	Biofertilizer Prd. Unit Trichy	10	No	0	120.20	0	31.23	72.23	224.05		
Tamil Nadu	Krishicare Bio Inputs	10	No	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Tamil Nadu	Biofertilizer Prd. Unit Cuddalore	250	No	80.28	0	0	26.28	19.13	125.69		
Tamil Nadu	Biofertilizer Prd. Unit-Kudumiamalai	75	GOI	0	97.09	0	21.06	77.06	195.23		
Tamil Nadu	Biofertiliser Prd. Unit-Salem	250	GOI	116.00	0	0	53.09	89.94	259.95		
Tamil Nadu	SPIC	100	GOI	—	38.73	7.12	6.11	52.14	104.09		
Tamil Nadu	Esvin Advanced Technologies Ltd.	150	GOI	19.71	0	1.95	0.08	16.76	38.50		
Tamil Nadu	Madras Fertilizer Limited Manali	75	No	65.00	0	0	33.00	115.00	213.00		
Tamil Nadu	TNAU-Coimbatore	10	No	0	2.11	0	0	1.54	3.64		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Tamil Nadu	Modern Nursery Divn	180	No	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Tamil Nadu	BF Prd. Unit-Tiruchirappalli	230	No	0	122.10	—	31.61	72.24	224.06	
Tamil Nadu	BF Prd. Unit-Ramanathapuram	250	No	—	105.31	—	9.88	54.02	169.21	
Tamil Nadu	SIMA Cotton	75	GOI	0	3.21	0		3.21	6.41	
Tamil Nadu Total					280.99	488.32	9.07	213.24	573.28	1564.94
Uttar Pradesh	Deptt of Agri. Govt. of UP			10.98	0	0	54.17	65.12	130.27	
Uttar Pradesh Total					10.98	0	0	54.17	65.12	130.27
West Bengal	Nodule Research Lab	100	No	0.48	0.63	0.80	1.09	3.33	6.33	
West Bengal	Nitrofix Laboratories	150	No	57.50	0	0	10.03	0	67.53	
West Bengal Total					57.97	0.63	0.80	11.60	3.33	74.30
Grand Total					1790.18	871.21	92.08	1188.35	6653.01	10594.90

#### Pollution due to Ship Breaking Industry

2319. SHRIMATI JYOTIRMOYEE SIKDAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment of the extent of pollution caused by ship breaking industry has been made;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a French ship clearance is presently parked at one of the Indian dock-yards;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has appointed a technical committee to assess the pollution caused by ship breaking industry recently;

(f) if so, the terms and reference thereof; and

(g) the time by which the committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (g) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has carried out a study for the assessment of pollution potential from ship breaking activities. The study

covers the status of the ship breaking industries, inventory of materials present in the ship, potential sources of pollutions etc. Guidelines to mitigate the environmental impacts due to ship breaking activities have been formulated by the CPCB and circulated to all the State Pollution Control Boards and the Pollution Control Committees in Union Territories for implementation.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on 17th February, 2006, in its recent order, in the matter of Writ Petition (Civil) No. 657 of 1995 in the context of the French ship Clemenceau, which was scheduled to reach earlier at the Ship-breaking yard at Alang in Gujarat for breaking, has directed to constitute a Committee of technical experts to find out whether the infrastructure as existing at the ship breaking yard at Alang presently is adequate. If according to the Committee, it is not, the Committee is to indicate the deficiencies, and also suggest remedial measures to upgrade the infrastructural facilities. The Committee has been asked to submit its report within 8 (eight) weeks.

The French ship "Clemenceau" is not been parked at any of the Indian ship breaking yards and the same has already been called back the Government of France.

#### Poultry Sector

2320. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:



- (a) whether several States are yet to classify poultry as agriculture in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Maharashtra has classified poultry as agriculture; 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) to (c) As per available information, Orissa and the State of National Capital Territory of Delhi have classified poultry as agriculture. The States of Tamil Nadu and Kerala and the Union Territory of Pondicherry also reportedly treat poultry at par with agriculture.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Livestock Insurance Scheme**

2321. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY:  
SHRI JUAL ORAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a livestock insurance scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has discussed with various sections of society and public sector insurance companies on the issue;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which it is likely to be formulated?

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 has already approved the centrally sponsored scheme on Livestock Insurance on a pilot basis and scheme is to be implemented by the State Livestock Development Boards. The scheme has been formulated after discussions with the Secretaries, Incharge of Animal Husbandry Department in the States and public and private sectors insurance agencies. The scheme is to be implemented in 100 districts and crossbred and high yielding cattle and buffaloes are to be covered under the scheme. The Government will provide 50% subsidy on the insurance premium and will also bear the payment of honorarium to veterinary practitioners engaged for insurance. The balance 50% of insurance premium will be borne by the beneficiary.

(e) The question does not arise.

#### **Simplification of Agricultural Land Purchase**

2322. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to simplify the process of purchase of agricultural land and providing loans in agriculture sector to ensure that its benefits reaches all the farmers;

(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) to (c) Land is a State subject, and therefore simplification of procedure for purchase of agricultural land falls under the purview of the State Governments. However, Banks are providing loans to the farmers for purchase of land for agricultural purposes for which refinance support is available from National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD).

*[English]*

#### **Vehicles for Physically Challenged Persons**

2323. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether car manufacturing companies have stopped making vehicles for the physically challenged persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have issued any directions to those manufacturers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per information available, M/s. Maruti Udyog Limited and M/s. Hyundai Motor India Ltd. manufacture vehicles for the physically challenged as per demand.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### Construction of Katragada Canal

2324. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Water Commission has approved the construction of Katragada canal to take water from river Vansadhara to Hiramandalam reservoir proposed by the Government of Andhra Pradesh without the objections raised by the Government of Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Uncultivable Land

2325. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of uncultivable land in the country at present, State-wise, particularly in West Bengal;

(b) whether the Government is formulating any scheme to bring such land under cultivation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount likely to be allocated for this purpose in the country, 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 (d) As per Wastelands Atlas of India (2005) published by Ministry of Rural Development, an area of 55.27 million ha. is wastelands including 0.44 million ha. falling in the State of West Bengal. The State-wise details are given in the Statement enclosed. The Wasteland is described as "degraded land which can be brought under vegetative cover with reasonably effort and which is currently under-utilized". Government of India is implementing various schemes/programmes on watershed development, namely, (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPPRA), (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR), (iii) Reclamation of Alkali Soil (RAS), (iv) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA), (v) Externally Aided Projects (EAPs) on Watershed Development, (vi) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), (vii) Desert Development Programmes (DDP), (viii) Integrated Waste-land Development Programme (IWDP) and (ix) National Afforestation & Eco-Development Project Schemes (NAEPS) for increasing the productivity of degraded lands including wastelands in the country. Under these programmes upto March 2005, about 28.50 million ha., wastelands have been developed with expenditure of Rs. 14577.00 crore.

#### Statement

*State-wise Wastelands of India  
(Wasteland Atlas—2005, MoRD)*

(Area in Sq. Km.)

Sl.No.	State Name	No. of Distt.	TGA	Total WL	% to TGA
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23	275068	45267.15	16.46
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16	83743	18175.95	21.70

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Assam	23	78438	14034.08	17.89
4.	Bihar	37	94171	5443.68	5.78
5.	Chhattisgarh	16	135194	7584.15	5.61
6.	Goa	2	3702	531.29	14.35
7.	Gujarat	25	196024	20377.74	10.40
8.	Haryana	19	44212	3266.45	7.39
9.	Himachal Pradesh	12	55673	28336.80	50.90
10.	Jammu and Kashmir*	14	101387	70201.99	69.24
11.	Jharkhand	19	79706	11165.26	14.01
12.	Karnataka	27	191791	13536.58	7.06
13.	Kerala	14	38863	1788.80	4.60
14.	Madhya Pradesh	49	308252	57134.03	18.53
15.	Maharashtra	33	307690	49275.41	16.01
16.	Manipur	9	22327	13174.74	59.01
17.	Meghalaya	7	22429	3411.41	15.21
18.	Mizoram	8	21081	4469.88	21.20
19.	Nagaland	7	16579	3709.40	22.37
20.	Orissa	30	155707	18952.74	12.17
21.	Punjab	17	50362	1172.84	2.33
22.	Rajasthan	32	342239	101453.86	29.64
23.	Sikkim	4	7096	3808.21	53.67
24.	Tripura	4	10486	1322.97	12.62
25.	Tamil Nadu	29	130058	17303.29	13.30
26.	Uttaranchal	13	53483	16097.46	30.10
27.	Uttar Pradesh	70	240928	16984.16	7.50
28.	West Bengal	18	88752	4397.56	4.95
29.	Union Territory	20	10973	314.38	2.87
Total		597	3166414	552692.25	17.45
Total (Mha.)			316.64	55.27	

\*Unsurveyed Areas (J&K) = 120849.00

Total Geographical Area (TGA) = 3287263 Sq. Km = 328.7 Mha.

Source: 1:50,000 Wasteland Maps-2003 prepared based on IRS-LISS III Data

### World Bank Fund in Assam

2326. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank while reviewing the implementation of the World Bank funded Assam Agricultural Competitiveness Project (AACP), has observed that "Although the project has achieved a lot", in increasing the volume of agricultural, production and productivity of the land, there was no proportionate increase in the income of farmers;

(b) if so, the reasons, if any identified for failure to increase the farmers' income; and

(c) the steps taken and being taken by the Government to ensure increase in farmers' income in proportion to increase in agricultural yield and productivity?

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) No such observation has been made by the World Bank while reviewing the Assam Agricultural Competitiveness Project (AACP) in September 2005. This is a new project which became effective from 14.2.2005. During the first year only preparatory activities have been taken up.

*[Translation]*

### Iron Ore Reserves in Lohar Dongri

2327. SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Lohar Dongri in Chandrapur district of Maharashtra has immeasurable iron minerals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to start mining from Lohar Dongri;

(d) if so, whether any time schedule has been fixed therefor; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

*[English]*

### Setting up of National Institute of Organic Farming in Kerala

2328. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the Government of Kerala for setting up of National Institute of Organic Farming in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has declined any request from State of Kerala for setting up of a Regional Institute of Organic Farming;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government utilizing the opportunity for the development and export of organic products which are sufficient in Kerala; 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) and (b) The Government of Kerala offered to make available 200 hectares of land either in Palakkad or Idukki district for setting up of National Institute of Organic Farming.

However, the National Bio-fertilizer Development Centre, Ghaziabad and its six Regional Centres at Hisar, Jabalpur, Nagpur, Bhubaneswar, Bangalore and Imphal have been converted into National Centre of Organic Farming and Regional Centres of Organic Farming. The Regional Centre of Organic Farming, Bangalore is working for promotion of organic farming in all Southern States including Kerala.

(c) and (d) No proposal has been received from the State of Kerala for setting up of a Regional Institute of Organic Farming.

(e) and (f) The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Exports Development Agency (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce & Industry have taken the following initiatives for development and export of Organic Products from India:-

- (i) The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has accredited 11 Certification Agencies for certifying organic products.
- (ii) APEDA has taken up the issue of establishing equivalency of Indian Organic Standards with European Commission and USDA.
- (iii) APEDA organizes awareness programmes for development of organic farming for export. This has led to increase in the certified area under organic production.
- (iv) APEDA organizes training programmes for the domestic certification agencies to accredit and make them at par with international certification agencies. As a result, 5 domestic certification agencies have been accredited by APEDA.

[Translation]

#### Provident Fund Facility to Workers

2329. SHRI HEMMAL MUMRU: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has started survey to extend Provident Fund facility to labourers/employees particularly temporary employees working in various sector and to ascertain the actual number thereof;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of such employees/labourers in various Government and Private Sector who have been kept deprived of Provident Fund and health care facility by the employers;

(d) whether the Government proposes to extend these facilities to the said employees and labourers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA

SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (e) The employees of an establishment to which the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 applies are entitled to become members of the Fund from the first day of their joining and avail benefits under the Schemes irrespective of the fact whether they are employed on a permanent or temporary basis.

The Employees Provident Fund Organisation has recently launched 'Compliance Validation and Analysis Programme 2006' to examine whether the provisions of the Act are being complied with by the establishments in all respects. Under this programme, an exercise is to be carried out wherein at least 1% of the establishments in each Regional Office/Sub-Regional Office would be inspected on a random basis. The programme is expected inter-alia to provide information on non-reporting/under-reporting/evasion, if any.

All eligible employees of a covered establishment are entitled to benefits under the Schemes framed under the Act. As and when any information in respect of non-enrolment of member/non-extension of benefits is received, appropriate action as provided under the Act is taken.

[English]

#### Approval to Hooman River Project

2330. SHRI K.C. SINGH 'BABA': Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government intends to approve the Hooman River Project in Eastern Maharashtra despite its proximity to the Tiger Reserve and the National Park;

(b) if so, whether several alternatives to the above project recommended by the Bombay Natural History Society were given consideration by the Government before taking a decision to approve the above project;

(c) if so, the reasons for not accepting the alternatives recommended by the society;

(d) whether construction of the above river project would submerge the only existing wild life corridor between the Chandrapur Forest Division and the Brahmपुरi Forest Division; and

(e) if so, the steps to be taken by the Government to preserve the tiger and other wild life surrounding the project area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Central Government has granted in-principle approval for diversion of 2906.28 ha. of forest land for Hooman River Project subject to certain stipulations.

(b) Bombay Natural History Society had not recommended any alternatives to the Central Government before grant of in-principle approval to this project.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) A part of the wildlife corridor would be submerged due to implementation of this project. The stipulations contained in the in-principle approval provide adequate safeguards for protection of wildlife including tigers of the area. These safeguards are given in the Statement enclosed.

#### **Statement**

##### *Stipulations in in-principle approval for protection of Wildlife*

- (i) Crossing points of size 25 metres x 35 metres may be constructed at three locations on the left bank canal and the canal will be constructed underground in this portion.
- (ii) The legal status of adjoining Srikada Protected Forest, Srikada, Zudpi and the Sioni Protected Forest should be upgraded to reserved forest.
- (iii) The areas lying between the periphery of the Andhari Wildlife Sanctuary and the proposed submersion area comprising Karwa Reserved Forest, protected forest compartments, the evacuated village sites, and the draw-down areas should be upgraded to status of sanctuary.
- (iv) Karwa Village which is, as of now, not included for rehabilitation as it is not being affected by the project, should also be rehabilitated because of the keenness evinced by the villagers.
- (v) The State forest Department shall constitute an 'Environment Monitoring Cell', which shall be represented by experts of the relevants fields.
- (vi) The protection infrastructure of the Tadoba-Andhrari Tiger Reserve should be upgraded along with a 'recovery programme' for addressing the habitat issues. The project proponents shall provide funding support for these activities.

- (vii) A time-bound 'Action Programme' for implementing the various activities, shall be prepared.

#### **Contamination in Paints**

2331. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that lead or other contamination in paint posing a danger to health and environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to regulate the use of lead or other contamination in paint?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

#### **Fisheries Development Projects**

2332. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD: SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to modernize six ports viz. Arnala, Jivana, Agardanda, Sakinara and Harne to give filip to the fisheries trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such fisheries development projects in the ports in other States are also planned;

(d) if so, the details of the project proposals and cost thereof; and

(e) the steps taken so far 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) Yes, Sir. There is proposal for modernisation and expansion of the existing fishing harbour at Ratnagiri (Mirkarwada). The Government of Maharashtra has also proposed to develop new fishing harbours at seven locations Deogad (Anandwadi) in Sindhudurg District, Sakharinate and Hamai in Ratnagiri District, Jeevana,

Karanja and Agardanda in Raigad District and Amala in Thane District.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Details of the project proposals and cost for modernisation of the existing fishing harbours under various schemes of the Government of India are given in the enclosed Statement.

**Statement**

*Fisheries Development Projects*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Name of the Fishing Harbour	Estimated cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Action taken/status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	638.00	Funds already sanctioned under ASIDE Scheme.
		Tuticorin	504.41	Funds already sanctioned under ASIDE Scheme. In addition, Rs. 20 lakhs has been provided under CSS.
2.	Karnataka	Malpe	100.00	The State Government is to finalize the proposal for upgradation under the ASIDE Scheme.
		Mangalore	90.00	The Government of Karnataka is to submit the proposal for assistance under the ASIDE Scheme.
		Honnavar	40.00	-do-
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Visekhatpatnam	156.89	Project approved under the ASIDE scheme and works completed.
		Kakinada	40.00	Project approved under the ASIDE scheme and works completed.
		Nizamapatnam	40.00	Project approved under the ASIDE scheme and works completed.
		Machillipatnam	45.37	Project approved under the ASIDE scheme and works completed.
4.	Gujarat	Veraval	381.26	Work in progress. Concreting of finger jetty No. 1 to 5 completed under ASIDE Scheme. Rs. 20 lakhs has also been provided under the CSS.
		Mangrol	54.67	The State is to finalize the proposal for assistance under ASIDE Scheme. Rs. 20 lakhs has also been provided under the CSS.
		Porbandar	18.00	Rs. 9 lakhs has been provided under the CSS and works completed.
5.	Orissa	Dhamara	150.00	The State is to finalize the proposal for assistance under ASIDE Scheme.
6.	Kerala	Neendakara	650.00	The proposal has been recommended by MPEDA for assistance under ASIDE Scheme by the Ministry of Commerce. Rs. 15 lakhs has been provided under the CSS.
		Beyyore	273.60	Proposal has been approved under the CSS.
		Puthiyappa	277.00	The proposal has been recommended by MPEDA for assistance under ASIDE Scheme by the Ministry of Commerce. Rs. 10 lakhs has already been provided under the CSS.

1	2	3	4	5
	Kerala	Munambam FH	227.00	Proposed approved under ASIDE Scheme and funds to the tune of Rs. 70 lakhs has been provided to Munambam Fishery Harbour Management Society for execution of the work.
		Cochin FH	170.00	Entire funds provided and upgradation work completed.
		Mopla Bay	38.00	Project approved under the CSS and Rs. 15 lakhs has already been provided.
		Chombal	37.70	Project approved under the CSS and Rs. 10 lakhs has already been provided.
7.	Maharashtra	Sesoon Dock FH and new Ferry Wharf FH	—	The Port Trust and CICEF, Bangalore are to finalize the proposal.
8.	West Bengal	Shankarpur Stage-I (Digha)	40.00	Project approved under the CSS and Rs. 20 lakhs has been provided to the State Government.
		Frasergunj	40.00	-do-

ASIDE—Asistance to State for Infrastructure Development for Export and Allied Activities.

CSS—Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

### Dumping of Milk Products

2333. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representations have been received from Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation, National Co-operative Dairy Federation of India and other Milkmen Co-operatives against subsidized milk products being flooded and dumped into Indian markets;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps initiated by the Government 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 (c) Government of India has not received any representation from Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation, National Co-operative Dairy Federation of India and other Milkmen Co-operatives against subsidized milk products being flooded and dumped into Indian markets. However, data on imports of milk and milk products

(Source NDDB) shows that there is decline in import of milk and milk products during the last three years:

Year	Quantity of milk and milk products imported (in Metric Tonnes)
2003-04	16836
2004-05	6532
2005-06	1231 (upto September, 2005)

### Threat to Gas based Industries in Assam

2334. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any representation regarding sudden hike of Natural Gas price posing survivability threat to Assam Petro Chemicals Limited and many other Gas based industries in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of House.

#### Production of Ethylene Oxide

2335. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of units which are producing Ethylene Oxide in the country;

(b) whether the existing production of Ethylene Oxide in the country is sufficient to meet the domestic demand;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to bridge the gap of Ethylene Oxide in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) The details of units producing Ethylene Oxide in the country are as follows:

Name of the Unit	Capacity (Tonnes)
IPCL, Vadodara, Gujarat	5,000
IPCL, Nagothane, Maharashtra	5,000
IPCL, Gandhar, Gujarat	10,000
Reliance Industries Ltd., Haziara, Gujarat	50,000
Reliance Industries Ltd., Kurkumbh	16,000
Reliance Petrochemicals, Thane, Maharashtra	19,000
Indian Glycol Ltd., Bareilly, U.P.	18,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,23,000</b>

(b) and (c) The Report of Task Force in the Petrochemical estimated the demand for Ethylene Oxide as 1,11,000 tonnes by 2006-07. The domestic production of Ethylene Oxide during 2004-05 was 79,264 tonnes against the domestic capacity of 1,23,000 tonnes. The current domestic production is 65% of the domestic capacity. The domestic capacity is sufficient to meet the projected demand of 1,11,000 tonnes by 2006-07.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Directions to PSUs by the Government

2336. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has issued directions to the managements of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs);

(b) if so, the directions issued to PSUs since 1999, till date PSU-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether any review of such directions has been carried out with a view to distinguish those directions which tend to impinge autonomy of the management with other; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV):

(a) and (b) Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) being nodal Department for Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) have issued guidelines from time to time. The details of guidelines issued since 1999 till date and year-wise are as under:

1999-2000	17
2000-2001	14
2001-2002	20
2002-2003	16
2003-2004	15
2004-2005	22
2005-Till date	21

(c) and (d) In order to give more autonomy to CPSEs, Government set up a Committee in 1997 to review the guidelines issued by BPE/DPE. On the basis of the recommendations of the Committee, 696 guidelines were deleted and 196 guidelines were retained. The retained guidelines and guidelines issued subsequently were further reviewed in 2000 by another Committee. On the basis of the recommendations of the said Committee, 66 guidelines have been deleted, 11 guidelines have been removed from the DPE Compendium in September, 2002 and 47 guidelines have been merged/modified.

#### Indo-UNDP Programme for Food Security

2337. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:  
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have signed any agreement regarding funding of programmes of food security;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of assistance so far provided by UNDP and developmental programmes undertaken therefrom, State-wise; and

(d) the number of persons benefited by each of such programmes in various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) UNDP-GOI Food Security programme was signed on 13th February, 1998 with the objective of intensification

of agriculture, diversification of farming system, transfer of technology with a focus on rainfed and marginal land, undertaking innovative community initiatives and mainstreaming gender concerns in agriculture. The Umbrella Programme has been successfully concluded on 31.12.2005. An expenditure of Rs. 46.45 crores has been incurred on the programme which was funded by UNDP.

(c) and (d) The details regarding assistance provided by UNDP and activities undertaken and persons benefited under various programmes state-wise are given in the statement enclosed.

### *Statement*

#### *UNDP-GOI Food Security Programme*

Sl.No.	Name of the Sub Programme and State in which located	Project Duration	Name of the Funding Agency/ Donor country	Total cost of the Project (Rs. in crores)	Amount of Foreign Assistance (Rs. in crores) released	Present Status
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(i)	Sustainable Dryland Agriculture by Mahila Sanghams, Andhra Pradesh	3.11.99 to 31.12.04	UNDP	10.42	9.238	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme concluded on 31.12.04.</li> <li>• Was operational in 5 districts of the State.</li> <li>• 700 Farm Women Groups formed.</li> <li>• 17,500 FW trained.</li> <li>• A sum of Rs. 9.24 crores released under the project upto Dec. 2004.</li> <li>• Remaining sub-programme fund re-appropriated to be used in Orissa/UP sub-programme.</li> </ul>
(ii)	Empowerment of Women Farmers for Food Security in Uttar Pradesh	3.11.99 to 31.12.04	UNDP	10.04 Revised to 11.841 Crore	11.841 Crore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme concluded on 31.12.04.</li> <li>• Was Operational in 11 districts of the State.</li> <li>• 582 Farm Women Groups formed.</li> <li>• 14,550 FW trained.</li> <li>• Rs. 11.84 crores released under the project upto Dec. 2004 including an additional package of Rs. 179.84 lakhs sanctioned to provide infrastructure support and federation of FWGs at block/cluster level.</li> </ul>

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
(iii)	Strengthening Natural Resource Management on Sustainable Livelihood for Women in tribal Orissa	3.11.99 to 31.12.04	UNDP	Rs. 9.55 crores (Revised to Rs. 11.01 crores)	11.01 Crore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme concluded on 31.12.04.</li> <li>• Was operational in 7 districts of the State.</li> <li>• 700 Farm Women Groups formed.</li> <li>• 17,500 FW trained.</li> <li>• A sum of Rs. 11.01 crores released under the project upto Dec. 2004 including an additional package of Rs. 1.48 crores sanctioned to provide NRM support and federation of FWGs.</li> <li>• Rs. 11.30 Lakhs released further during 2005-06 for completing NRM activities &amp; federation of FWGs from the Management Support subprogramme.</li> </ul>
(iv)	Additional support to super cyclone affected districts in Orissa	15.3.2000 to 31.12.04	UNDP	1.495	1.495	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme included on 31.12.04</li> <li>• Was operational in 4 districts of the State.</li> <li>• 224 Farm Women Groups formed.</li> <li>• 5600 FW provided infrastructure support.</li> <li>• A sum of Rs. 1.495 crores released under the project upto Dec. 2004.</li> </ul>
(v)	Development of Hybrid Rice Technology for large scale adoption in India (All States)	1.1.99 to 31.12.2002	UNDP	6.85	6.32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed in December, 2002</li> </ul>
(vi)	Maize Based Cropping System for Food Security in India—3 States (U.P., Bihar and Rajasthan)	1.5.99 to 31.12.04	UNDP	6.42	6.441	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme concluded on 31.03.05.</li> <li>• Farmers groups/ associations formed in all the project areas.</li> </ul>

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inter-cropping of oilseeds, pulses, vegetables and flowers with maize promoted under the project.</li> <li>• Rabi-maize popularized in Behraich and Deoria and spring maize in all the project areas.</li> </ul>
(vii)	Management Support for Food Security (DOE, MOA)	Oct. 2000 to 31.12.05	UNDP	Rs. 0.339 Crore	Rs. 0.701 Crore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rs. 6.441 crores released under the project upto March, 2005.</li> <li>• Programme concluded on 31.12.05.</li> <li>• A sum of Rs. 0.701 crores has been utilized under the project up to 31.12.2005 including release of Rs. 36.76 to GOAP for setting up of Gender Cell.</li> </ul>
<b>Total</b>				<b>45.12</b>		An expenditure of Rs. 46.45 crores incurred against the project cost of Rs. 45.12 crore (after taking into account the refunded amount of Rs. 0.599 crore of Hybrid Rice Programme) (Rs. 47.049 crore-Rs. 0.599 crore = Rs. 46.45 crore). The additional amount has come from Dollar: Rupee conversion rate which with the consent of UNDP & DEA, MOF has been pumped into the project cost.

### **Revival of Cement Factories**

2338. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to restart those Cement factories, under Cement Corporation of India and the Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited, which are going to be sold as per the decision taken by the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises;

(b) if so, whether the Government has any proposal for rehabilitation of employees; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) On the directions of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), a Draft

Rehabilitation Scheme (DRS) for Cement Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) has been prepared by the Operating Agency, namely the Industrial Finance Corporation of India Ltd. (IFCI). The DRS, inter-alia, proposes closure and assets sale of seven non-operating plants and utilization of funds so generated for revival of CCI including improvement in functioning of the three functional plants. The Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) has given its recommendations on the DRS.

BRPSE has recommended closure of Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Limited (BOGL) by offering benefits under Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS) to employees and thereafter winding up the company as decided by the BIFR.

(b) and (c) The existing employees of the plants/company proposed to be closed/wound up will get the benefit under VSS in terms of guidelines of the Department of Public Enterprises after a final decision is taken in this regard. They will also be eligible for coverage under the Counselling Retraining and Redeployment Scheme (CRR) of the Department of Public Enterprises of this Ministry.

*[Translation]*

#### **Merger of Industries**

2339. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:  
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to incorporate food processing industries under the cottage industries to create more employment opportunities with less investment; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) Food processing industries are in large, medium, small, tiny/cottage sectors. No distinction is made on sectoral basis by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries in extending assistance for development of the FPI units. As such there is no proposal to incorporate food processing industries under the cottage industries.

*[English]*

#### **Patent Claims**

2340. MS. INGRID MCLEOD:  
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has recently expressed grave concern over the Government's failure to press for patent claims in international forum;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to file patent claims of neem, basmati rice, turmeric, etc.;

(d) whether direction has been issued to revoke the patent granted on the 'Nap Hal' variety of wheat; 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) and (b) During the hearing of Writ Petition (Civil) No. 64 of 2004 praying to direct the Government of India to facilitate revocation of a patent granted by European Patent Office on a soft-milling wheat, the Hon'ble Supreme Court had directed for the appointment of a Committee to examine the matter. Accordingly, a Committee was appointed under the chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research & Education (DARE) and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). The report of the Committee has since been submitted to the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The patent in question was revoked on 3.10.2004 as per the European Patent rules.

(c) Patents are sought and obtained by applicants/inventors, both Indian and foreign, in different countries to safeguard and promote their commercial and other interests. Such patents are granted under the sovereign prerogative of countries according to their respective patent laws, and have territorial effect *i.e.* they are effective only in the country of grant.

As patents are essentially private rights, they are normally challenged, in accordance with the patent laws

of the country concerned by the person(s) whose interests are affected/jeopardized.

As and when information is received about patents being obtained on certain items which are not considered patentable and which affect Indian interests, steps are taken to assess whether the grant of such patent can be challenged under the patent laws of the country concerned. Earlier, a patent granted in the United States of America on the use of turmeric in wound healing was successfully challenged and was also cancelled by the Patent Office of the country concerned. Similarly, a patent on the fungicidal property of Neem, granted in Europe, was successfully challenged. The claims of the patent on Basmati Ricelines and grains granted in the United States of America which had the potential of affecting India's commercial interest were also challenged. The said claims were subsequently cancelled by the United States Patent and Trade Mark Office and the title of the patent was also amended.

(d) and (e) The petition is now listed for hearing on July 7, 2006 in the Supreme Court of India.

#### **Environmental Impacts of Energy**

2341. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study on environmental impacts of various energy options;

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

(c) whether the Government has worked out any plan to minimize the environmental degradation while meeting the increasing power demands; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed/taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) No specific study has been conducted by the Government on environmental impacts of various energy options. However, energy-environment linkages have been dealt in the draft report of the Expert Committee on Integrated Energy Policy set up by the Planning Commission.

(c) and (d) The regulatory regime to integrate environmental concerns into developmental projects

relating to energy sector is in place. Under the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 as amended subsequently, projects relating to Thermal Power, Nuclear Power, Hydel Power, exploration of oil and gas and their production, petroleum refineries require prior environmental clearance. These projects are appraised based on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) studies. Based on the EIA, necessary environmental safeguard measures are put in place as part of the Environment Management Plan.

#### **Assessment on Performance of Food Processing Sector**

2342. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment on the performance of food processing sector of the country in the recent past;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) the steps being initiated to further improve the FPI sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) As per the National Accounts Statistics 2005, average annual GDP growth rate of food processing industries including tobacco in the country during 2000-01 to 2003-04 was 7.86%. There is adequate scope for growth of food processing industries in the country. Government has formulated and implemented several Plan Schemes to provide financial assistance for establishment and modernization of the food processing units, creation of infrastructure, support for R&D, human resource development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of the food processing industries. In order to give boost to growth of FPI sector the Government in 2004-05 has allowed under Income Tax Act, a deduction of 100% of profit for five years and 25% of profits for the next five years in case of new agro processing industries set up to process, preserve and package fruits and vegetables. Excise duty of 16% on dairy machinery has been fully waived for promotion of dairy processing industries. In the Budget of 2005-06 customs duty on refrigerated vans was reduced from 20% to 10%. In the Budget 2006-07 the Government has announced to exempt excise duty on condensed milk, ice cream, preparations of meat, fish and poultry, pectins,

pasta and yeast. Excise duty on ready-to-eat packaged foods and instant food mixes, like dosa and idli mixes reduced from 16 per cent to 8 per cent. Excise duty on aerated drinks has been reduced from 24 per cent to 16 per cent.

*[Translation]*

### **Rajiv Sagar Project**

2343. SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA:  
SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the construction of the Rajiv Sagar Project (Bawanthadi);

(b) whether the Government is taking any action to ensure early completion of the project being implemented under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Rajiv Sagar Project (Bawanthadi) is an ongoing major inter-State irrigation project of the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra with ultimate irrigation potential of 57.12 thousand hectare. The headworks and the canal system in Madhya Pradesh are executed by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh and the canal system in the State of Maharashtra is executed by the State Government of Maharashtra. The details of physical and financial progress upto March, 2005 are enclosed at Statement.

(b) and (c) The Central Government included Madhya Pradesh portion of Rajiv Sagar Project (Bawanthadi) under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme to provide central loan assistance (CLA) in 2003-04 while the Maharashtra portion of the project came under AIBP in 2004-05. The CLA/grant released under AIBP for the project to the Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra is Rs. 46.22 crore (upto March, 2005) and Rs. 33.695 crore (upto January, 2006) respectively. As reported by the respective State Governments, the Madhya Pradesh portion of the project is scheduled for completion by June, 2007 while that of Maharashtra portion is scheduled for completion by March, 2008.

### **Statement**

(Rs. crore/potential thousand hectare)

	Madhya Pradesh Portion	Maharashtra Portion	Total
<b>Financial Progress</b>			
1. Latest Estimated Cost	194.99	182.00	376.99
2. Expenditure incurred upto March, 2005	149.82	107.41	257.23
3. Budget outlay for 2005-06	35.76	59.04	94.80
<b>Physical Progress (upto March, 2005)</b>			
1. Dam (Headworks)	90%	—	—
2. Main & Branch Canals	65%	85%	—
3. Distribution System upto Chak outlets	20%	30%	—
4. Ultimate irrigation potential	29.412	27.708	57.120
5. Potential created	0.000	0.000	0.000
6. Target for potential creation during 2005-06	0.000	5.000	5.000

*(English)***Production of Honey**

2344. DR. M. JAGANNATH:  
SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of honey produced in the country during the last three years, year-wise, the details and location of laboratories available to test the quality of honey in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the quantum of honey exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom 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) The production of honey during the last three years is as under:

Year	Production (in Metric tonnes)
2002-03	30108
2003-04	48257
2004-05	52879

There are Agmark honey Laboratories in each State under the control of Central Agmark Laboratory, Nagpur, Department of Agriculture Marketing, Ministry of Agriculture. There are three laboratories under the control of APEDA for honey analysis of the consignments for export one at Jammu and two at Delhi.

(b) A Statement indicating export of honey and the foreign exchange earned during the last three years is enclosed.

**Statement**

*The export of honey for the years 2002-03 to 2004-05*

Years	Honey Export	
	Quantity (Kgs)	Value (Foreign exchange earned) (Rs.)
2002-03	66,46,589	52,90,47,844/-
2003-04	69,64,295	68,08,93,594/-
2004-05	1,03,53,640	66,46,54,506/-

**Fishing Harbours in Orissa**

2345. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of fishing harbours reported functioning in Orissa during the last three years and the current year; and

(b) the details of such harbours likely to be set up in the State in the near future?

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) One major fishing harbour at Paradip, three minor fishing harbours namely Gopalpur in Ganjam District, Naugarh (Astarang) in Puri District and Dhamra in Bhadrak District are functioning in Orissa during the last three years and current year.

(b) The Government of India has sanctioned one fishing harbour at Bahabalpur in Balasore District, and the State Government has proposed two more fishing harbours, one each in Chudamani in Bhadrak District and Chandipur in Balasore District.

*[Translation]***Afforestation**

2346. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:  
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

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

(a) the names of the States where the forest cover has been expanded during the last three years;

(b) whether there are certain States where the forest cover has not been expanded; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and the effective steps initiated in that direction so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Forest Survey of India (FSI) publishes the State of Forest Report (SFR) on a biennial basis. As per the SFR-2003, the State-wise increase and



decrease of forest cover in comparison to SFR-2001 are given in the enclosed statement-I and Statement-II respectively.

(c) The decrease in forest cover, for the States mentioned in Statement-II is due to shifting cultivation, encroachments, felling of trees etc.

The steps taken to prevent depletion of forest cover are:

- (i) Legal measures like Indian Forest Act, 1927, Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the rules, guidelines thereof.

- (ii) Management measures like working of forests according to approved Working Plans, Forest Development Agencies and Joint Forest Management activities.
- (iii) Financial measures like providing assistance to the States/Union Territories under Centrally Sponsored Schemes and externally aided projects.
- (iv) Other measures like creation of Protected Areas, Substitution of Wood etc.
- (v) Guidelines for rationalizing of felling and transit regulations for tree species grown on non-forest private lands to promote large scale afforestation in non-forest areas.

***Statement I***

*State-wise increase in forest cover from SFR 2001 to SFR 2003*

(Area in sq. km.)

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Forest Cover SFR 2001	Forest Cover SFR 2003	Change in Forest Cover between 2001 & 2003
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Assam	27,714	27,826	112
2.	Delhi	111	170	59
3.	Goa	2,095	2,156	61
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	21,237	21,267	30
5.	Jharkhand	22,637	22,716	79
6.	Kerala	15,560	15,577	17
7.	Manipur	16,926	17,219	293
8.	Meghalaya	15,584	16,839	1,255
9.	Mizoram	17,494	18,430	936
10.	Nagaland	13,345	13,609	264
11.	Sikkim	3,193	3,262	69
12.	Tamil Nadu	21,482	22,643	1,161
13.	Tripura	7,065	8,093	1,028

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Uttar Pradesh	13,746	14,118	372
15.	Uttaranchal	23,938	24,465	527
16.	West Bengal	10,693	12,343	1,650
17.	Andaman and Nicobar	6,930	6,964	34
18.	Chandigarh	9	15	6
19.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	219	225	6
20.	Daman and Diu	7	8	2
21.	Pondicherry	36	40	4

*Statement II**State-wise decrease in forest cover from SFR 2001 to SFR 2003*

(Area in sq. km.)

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Forest Cover SFR 2001	Forest Cover SFR 2003	Change in Forest Cover between 2001 & 2003
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44,637	44,419	218
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	68,045	68,019	26
3.	Bihar	5,720	5,558	162
4.	Chhattisgarh	56,448	55,998	450
5.	Gujarat	15,152	14,946	206
6.	Haryana	1,754	1,517	237
7.	Himachal Pradesh	14,360	14,353	7
8.	Karnataka	36,991	36,449	542
9.	Madhya Pradesh	77,265	76,429	836
10.	Maharashtra	47,482	46,865	617
11.	Orissa	48,838	48,366	472
12.	Punjab	2,432	1,580	852
13.	Rajasthan	16,367	15,826	541
14.	Lakshadweep	27	23	4

*[English]*

**Damage to Sugar Crops due to Flood in Maharashtra**

2347. SHRI TUKARAM GANGADHAR GADAKH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the last year's flood and deluge in Maharashtra has caused enormous damage to sugarcane crops and the soil;

(b) if so, the extent of damage caused to standing sugarcane crops and the soil sustaining such crops; and

(c) the Central financial assistance provided to the State to make up the losses?

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 details floods in Maharashtra during July and August, 2005 damaged more than 50% sugarcane crop over an area of 66292 hectares. Further, top soil over an area of 25709 hectares was also lost.

(c) An amount of Rs. 15.91 crores was approved from National Calamity Contingency Fund for damaged sugarcane crop to the affected farmers upto 2 hectare. However, no assistance was provided from the National Calamity Contingency Fund for the loss of top soil, as this item is not covered under the norms of the scheme.

*[Translation]*

**Setting up of Agri-Clinic, Agri-Business and Agri-Technology Centres**

2348. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Agri-clinics, Agri-Business and Agri-Technology information Centres set up in the country as on 31st January, 2006, State-wise;

(b) the aims and objectives behind their establishment;

(c) whether the scheme provides counselling to farmers for taking up new ventures in horticulture and allied fields;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the total amount sanctioned and spent there under during the last three years and current year; and

(e) the name of the nodal agency which is monitoring the above centers?

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 Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing a Central Sector Scheme titled "Agri-Clinics and Agri-Business Centres (ACABCs) by Agriculture Graduates". As on 31.01.2006, 2739 such Centres have been set up by agriculture graduates trained under this scheme.

The Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) had implemented National Agriculture Technology Project (NATP) during the period 1998-99 to 2003-04. A total of 44 Agriculture Technology Information Centres (ATICs) were set up under NATP.

The State-wise information is given in the Statement-I and Statement-II respectively.

(b) The primary objective behind ACABCs is to provide extension and other services to farmers on payment basis through economically viable self-employment ventures.

The objective behind establishment of ATICs was to provide a 'single window' support system for availability of technology products, diagnostic services and technology information to the farmers and other end users.

(c) and (d) The ACABCs set up by agriculture graduates are expected to provide extension services to farmers in agriculture, horticulture and other allied sectors as per local need of farmers.

An amount of Rs. 2417.45 lakh was released under the scheme during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05. Also, an amount of Rs. 425.00 lakh has been released during 2005-06. The amount spent so far is Rs. 1781.97 lakh.

ICAR had released Rs. 17.26 crore for ATICs during 2002-03. No funds were released thereafter.

(e) The ACABCs are set up in self-employment mode. However, the National Institute Agriculture Extension Management (MANAGE) is the current implementing agency under ACABCs scheme.

ICAR was the nodal agency for ATICs.

**Statement I**

*Agri-clinics and Agri-business Centres scheme  
(Period from : 01.04.2002 to 31.01.2006)*

Sl.No.	Name of the State	No. of Agri-Clinic & Agri-Business Centres
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	165
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
3.	Assam	12
4.	Bihar	225
5.	Chandigarh	0
6.	Chhattisgarh	42
7.	New Delhi	0
8.	Goa	0
9.	Gujarat	137
10.	Haryana	12
11.	Himachal Pradesh	1

1	2	3
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	8
13.	Jharkhand	7
14.	Karnataka	467
15.	Kerala	15
16.	Madhya Pradesh	105
17.	Maharashtra	596
18.	Manipur	18
19.	Meghalaya	0
20.	Mizoram	0
21.	Nagaland	0
22.	Orissa	73
23.	Pondicherry	1
24.	Punjab	12
25.	Rajasthan	300
26.	Sikkim	0
27.	Tamil Nadu	117
28.	Tripura	0
29.	Uttar Pradesh	366
30.	Uttaranchal	11
31.	West Bengal	49
Total		2739

**Statement II**

*State-wise List of Agricultural Technology Information Centres (ATIC)*

Sl.No.	State	No. of ATICs	Centre
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Rajendra Nagar, Hyderabad
2.	Assam	1	Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat

1	2	3	4
3.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	Central Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair
4.	Bihar	1	Rajendra Agricultural University, Samastipur
5.	Chhattisgarh	1	Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur
6.	Delhi	1	Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi
7.	Gujarat	1	Sardar Krushi Nagar Dantiwada Agricultural University, Sardar Krushi Nagar, Gujarat
8.	Haryana	2	National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3	Chaudhary Sarwan Kumar Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Palampur YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Srinagar
11.	Jharkhand	1	Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi
12.	Kerala	5	Kerala Agricultural University, Thriessur Indian Institute of Spices Research, Calicut Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Ernakulam Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasargod Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, Cochin (Kerala)
13.	Karnataka	3	University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad Indian Institute of Horticulture Research, Bangalore
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal (M.P.)
15.	Maharashtra	5	Marathwada Agricultural University, Prabhani Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Ahmednagar Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli, Ratnagiri

1	2	3	4
16.	Meghalaya	1	ICAR, Research Complex for NEH Region, Barapani (Meghalaya)
17.	Orissa	2	Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Bhubaneswar Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology, Bhubaneswar
18.	Punjab	1	Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana
19.	Rajasthan	3	Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur Maharana Pratap Agricultural University, Udaipur Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner
20.	Tamil Nadu	2	Tamil Nadu Veterinary & Animal Sciences University, Chennai Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore
21.	Uttar Pradesh	4	Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur Acharya Narendra Dev University of Agriculture and Technology, Faizabad Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, Bareilly Indian Institute of Vegetable Research, Varanasi (UP)
22.	Uttaranchal	1	Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, Udham Singh Nagar
23.	West Bengal	1	Bidhan Chandra Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Nadia
Total		44	

*[English]*

**Production of Fruit, Vegetable  
and Floriculture Items**

2349. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:  
SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of fruit, vegetable and the floriculture items recorded in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government is aware of the problems being faced by the producers of said items;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether they have ceased to produce these commodities; and

(e) if so, the measures taken by the Government to encourage production of these items particularly for export and provide remunerative prices of their produce?

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) A statement of estimated production of fruits, vegetable and floriculture, State-wise as per available information, for the years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. The major problems that need to be addressed are inferior quality, low productivity, pest and disease control, post harvest management, marketing and processing facilities.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The Government is taking measures for enhancing production and productivity of horticultural crops under National Horticulture Mission, Technology Mission for Development of Horticulture in North Eastern Region, Coconut Development Board, National Horticulture Board,

Directorate of Cocoa and Cashewnut Development, Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development. Government is encouraging export of horticultural crops through different fiscal and financial incentives, setting up of Agri Export Zones, bilateral agreements, participation/organization of seminars and exhibitions abroad. In order to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers, the Government implements Market intervention scheme at specific request of the State Governments in event of fall in prices. To enhance the production, productivity and quality of produce, steps being taken are: area expansion, integrated pest management, organic farming, transfer of technology programmes, production of nucleus planting materials of high yielding and export oriented varieties and their further multiplication and distribution through State department nurseries and dissemination of technical information through seminars, workshops and training programmes.

#### *Statement*

##### *State-wise area and production under various horticultural crops during the year 2003-04*

State/UT's	Fruits		Veg.		Flowers		
	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	
						Loose	cut
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Andaman and Nicobar	3.9	22.1	4.0	23.3			
Andhra Pradesh	639.556	6871.697	247.9	2931.6	12.9	49.1	43.9
Arunachal Pradesh	51.421	101.26	20.2	80.9			
Assam	94.295	1181.104	198.7	1958.9			
Bihar	295.602	3294.909	621.7	8394.5	0.1	1.8	10.8
Chandigarh	0.1	1.1	0.1	1.7			
Chhattisgarh	16.8	401.1	61.0	1555.7	0.2	0.1	
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.7	7.1	1.5	13.5			
Daman and Diu	0.017	0.023	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	
Delhi	0.1	1	43.6	627.7	4.5	25.0	
Goa	10.311	78.73	7.8	74.7			
Gujarat	194.296	3586.798	267.3	4235.8	4.9	30.2	
Haryana	31.611	257.2	203.8	2703.4	4.3	58.3	460.5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Himachal Pradesh	201.982	588.098	59.0	863.6	0.3	1.5	379.9
Jammu and Kashmir	157.585	1180.507	30.3	380.0	0.1	0.2	2.5
Jharkhand	32.667	321.15	118.2	1300.1			
Karnataka	224.884	3027.256	326.4	4072.8	18.2	143.3	5591.0
Kerala	224	1401.8	114.5	2555.4			
Lakshadweep	0.3	1.1	0.2	0.2			
Madhya Pradesh	63.351	1167.797	164.8	2376.9			
Maharashtra	1315	9269.713	365.0	4062.0	8.4	49.0	
Manipur	53.067	353.257	11.1	73.7	0.5	0.7	
Meghalaya	23.806	199.617	32.9	271.8			
Mizoram	21.152	42.401	5.7	24.1	0.1	0.0	0.6
Nagaland	13.314	48.822	10.7	83.6			
Orissa	227.265	1352.574	626.8	7732.9	0.3	0.1	11.0
Pondicherry	1	19.1	4.3	71.1			
Punjab	43.711	628.17	141.5	2400.5	0.6	3.0	
Rajasthan	23.295	220.891	115.3	501.1	1.9	2.2	
Sikkim	0.007594	0.011496	16.1	75.0	0.00		9.0
Tamil Nadu	206.573	3460.167	158.3	3943.5	20.3	161.7	
Tripura	30.458	482.016	31.8	363.5			
Uttar Pradesh	292.51	3381.19	688.02817.17	15182.2	6.3	9.8	2650.0
Uttaranchal	78.899	644.633	46.3	529.1	0.1	0.5	
West Bengal	172.77	2111.477	1168.3	18540.5	17.3	43.6	876.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>4746.3</b>	<b>45705.9</b>	<b>5225.2</b>	<b>88005.3</b>	<b>101.4</b>	<b>580.0</b>	<b>10035.8</b>

Area (in 000' HA)

Production (In 000' MT)

P (Cut)=Production in (Million Nos)

Figure of Production under Grand Total does not include Production of Cut-Flowers



*State-wise area and production under various horticultural crops during in year 2004-05*

State/UT's	Fruits		Veg.		Flowers		
	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	
						Loose	cut
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Andaman and Nicobar	3.9	22.1	4.00	23.3			
Andhra Pradesh	652.042	7735.445	258.4	3861.9	15.7	57.9	83.6
Arunachal Pradesh	54.212	103.234	20.2	80.9			
Assam	94.296	1181.104	198.7	1958.9			
Bihar	291.239	2920.254	494.0	7828.5	0.1	1.8	10.8
Chandigarh	0.1	1.1	0.1	1.7			
Chhattisgarh	13.62	325.3	84.2	2143.0	0.3	0.7	
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.7	7.1	1.5	13.5			
Daman and Diu	0.017	0.023	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	
Delhi	0.1	1	43.6	627.7	4.5	25.0	
Goa	10.311	81.645	7.8	74.7			
Gujarat	272.478	4019.096	331.4	4867.0	7.0	41.8	1989.0
Haryana	24.071	232.22	207.8	2980.4	4.8	55.6	508.0
Himachal Pradesh	186.903	692.011	60.3	984.4	0.3	1.5	379.9
Jammu and Kashmir	167.538	1217.604	30.3	380.0	0.1	0.2	2.5
Jharkhand	32.667	321.15	118.2	1300.1			
Karnataka	250	3983	374.4	4315.8	18.7	149.0	5591.0
Kerala	224	1401.8	114.5	2555.4			
Lakshadweep	0.3	1.1	0.2	0.2			
Madhya Pradesh	66.601	1395.017	205.1	2946.0	2.0	1.2	
Maharashtra	1340	10013	366.0	3974.0	8.7	51.7	
Manipur	53.067	353.257	11.1	73.7	0.5	0.7	
Meghalaya	23.806	199.617	32.9	271.8			
Mizoram	21.152	42.401	5.7	24.1	0.1	0.0	0.6
Nagaland	13.314	48.822	10.7	83.6			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Orissa	230.445	1404.464	656.2	8085.6	0.3	17.3	12.1
Pondicherry	1	19.1	4.3	71.1			
Punjab	47.067	679.546	156.6	2677.4	0.6	3.0	
Rajasthan	23.835	238.598	121.7	644.2	3.3	2.6	
Sikkim	8.24	12.21	16.9	76.4	0.1	27.9	9.0
Tamil Nadu	38.722	3907.721	206.2	5059.2	21.9	175.0	
Tripura	30.458	482.016	31.8	363.5			
Uttar Pradesh	297.81	3525.86	847.0	15265.0	8.0	11.9	3527.0
Uttaranchal	175.6	667.04	72.8	951.8	0.1	0.5	
West Bengal	166.288	2128.278	1177.3	18618.2	17.9	44.7	896.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>4815.918</b>	<b>49363.23</b>	<b>6274.015</b>	<b>92982.9</b>	<b>114.9413</b>	<b>669.9832</b>	<b>13009.86</b>

Area = Area (in 000' HA)

P = Production (in 000' MT)

P (Cut) = Production in (Million Nos.)

Figure of Production under Grand Total does not include Production of Cut-Flowers

*State-wise area and Production under various Horticultural Crops during in year 2005-06*

State/UT's	Fruits		Veg.		Flowers		
	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	Area	Prod.	
						Loose	cut
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Andaman and Nicobar	3.9	22.1	4.0	23.3			
Andhra Pradesh	679.814	8410	290.0	4539.0	32.0	80.0	88.5
Arunachal Pradesh	57.382	103.234	20.2	80.9			
Assam	94.295	1181.1	198.7	1958.9			
Bihar	291.239	2920.25	496.4	7751.7	0.1	1.8	10.8
Chandigarh	0.1	1.1	0.1	1.7			
Chhattisgarh	14.43	344.47	84.5	2151.2	0.2	0.7	
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.7	7.1	1.5	13.5			
Daman and Diu	0.017	0.023	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Delhi	0.1	1	43.6	627.7	4.5	25.0	
Goa	10.311	81.645	7.8	74.7	0.0		1.0
Gujarat	294	4128	350.0	5000.0	7.5	45.0	1989.0
Haryana	27.297	210	230.0	3250.0	5.0	36.3	736.0
Himachal Pradesh	191.2	692.2	60.3	984.4	0.3	1.5	379.9
Jammu and Kashmir	171.018	1348	30.3	380.0	0.1	0.2	2.5
Jharkhand	32.667	321.15	118.2	1300.1			
Karnataka	257.167	4142.84	385.6	4488.5	19.3	155.0	5591.0
Kerala	224	1401.8	114.5	2555.4			
Lakshadweep	0.3	1.1	0.2	0.2			
Madhya Pradesh	68.596	1638.92	183.1	2630.4	1.8	1.1	
Maharashtra	1370	10253	398.5	4740.0	9.3	56.1	
Manipur	53.067	353.257	11.1	73.7	0.5	0.7	
Meghalaya	23.806	199.617	32.9	271.8			
Mizoram	21.152	42.401	5.7	24.1	0.1	0.0	0.6
Nagaland	13.314	48.822	10.7	83.6			
Orissa	288.57	1427.7	860.5	8426.2	0.7	20.9	150.0
Pondicherry	1	19.1	4.3	71.1			
Punjab	50.68	731.35	163.1	2816.7	0.6	3.0	
Rajasthan	24.95	248.745	134.0	884.0	3.7	3.3	
Sikkim	9.55	13.46	18.0	81.0	0.1	31.0	9.0
Tamil Nadu	257.82	4230.89	222.7	5477.6	23.6	189.5	
Tripura	30.458	482.016	31.8	363.5			
Uttar Pradesh	302.97	3624.61	862.0	16608.0	8.0	11.9	3527.0
Uttaranchal	180.8	640.56	76.1	986.9	0.1	0.5	
West Bengal	215	2780	1282.5	21838.3	263.3	66.6	1220.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5241.67</b>	<b>52051.6</b>	<b>6733</b>	<b>100558</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>730.09</b>	<b>13705.3</b>

A = Area (in 000' HA)

P = Production (in 000' MT)

P (Cut) = Production in (Million Nos.)

Figure of Production under Grand Total does not include Production of Cut-Flowers

**Land Affected due to Salinity, Alkalinity and Rainfed**

2350. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:  
SHRI M. RAJA MOHAN REDDY:  
SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP:  
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to know the hectares of land affected by salinity, alkalinity and rainfed areas degraded, available in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures undertaken by the Government to reclaim such waste lands?

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 per National Bureau of Soil Survey & Land Use Planning (NBSS&LUP), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), out of total geographical area on 328.60, an area of 146.82 million ha. are suffering from various categories of land degradation including rainfed areas. The category-wise summary of the extent of degraded lands are as under:—

Sl.No.	Category of Land Degradation	Extent of Area in million ha.
1.	Water erosion	93.68
2.	Wind erosion	9.48
3.	Water logging	14.30
4.	Salinity/alkalinity	5.95
5.	Soil acidity	16.03
6.	Complex problem	7.38
Total Degraded area		146.82

Government of India is implementing various schemes/programmes on watershed development, namely, (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Area (NWDPA), (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing the

Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP&FPR), (iii) Reclamation of Alkali Soil (RAS), (iv) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Area (WDPSCA), (v) Externally Aided Projects (EAPs) on Watershed Development (vi) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), (vii) Desert Development Programme (DDP), (viii) Integrated Waste-land Development Programme (IWDP) and (ix) National Afforestation & Eco-Development Project country. Under these programmes, upto March 2005, about 28.50 million ha. has been developed with expenditure of Rs. 14577.00 crore

**Equity Fund for New Agro and Food Processing Industries**

2351. PROF. M. RAMADASS: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up an equity fund for starting new agro and food processing units.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has created an Expert Marketing Development Fund;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the fresh initiatives taken by the Government to provide more financial assistance to entrepreneurs willing to start agro processing industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) In the Union Budget 2006-07, Government has announced that NABARD will create a separate window with a corpus of Rs. 1,000 crore for refinancing loans to the FPI sectors, especially for agro-processing infrastructure and market development. An amount of Rs. 150 crore has been earmarked for National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for terminal markets.

(e) For development of the food processing sector in the country, the Government has already implemented Plan schemes to provide financial assistance for establishment and modernization of the food processing units, creation of infrastructure support for R&D, human resource development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of the food processing industries. In order to give boost to growth of FPI sector

the Government in 2004-05 has allowed under Income Tax Act, a deduction of 100% of profit for five years and 25% of profits for the next five years in case of new agro processing industries set up to process, preserve and package fruits and vegetables. Excise duty of 16% on dairy machinery has been fully waived for promotion of dairy processing industries. In the Budget of 2005-06 customs duty on refrigerated vans was reduced from 20% to 10%. In the Budget 2006-07 the Government has announced to exempt excise duty on condensed milk, ice cream, preparations of meat, fish and poultry, pectins, pasta and yeast. Excise duty on ready-to-eat preparations of meat, fish and mixes, like dosa and idli mixes reduced from 16 per cent to 8 percent. Excise duty on aerated drinks has been reduced from 25 per cent to 16 per cent.

*[Translation]*

#### **Tiger Project in Maharashtra**

2352. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a tiger project in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to displace the revenue villages falling under the national parks/sanctuaries; and

(d) if so, the time by which they are likely to be displaced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Government of Maharashtra had submitted a proposal for declaring the Chandoli forest as a Tiger Reserve, which has not been accepted by the Steering Committee of Project Tiger.

(c) and (d) Based on recommendations of the Tiger Task Force appointed as per the recommendations of the National Board for Wildlife under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister for reviewing the management of tiger reserves in the country, the Wildlife Institute of India has been directed to assess the core areas of tiger reserves where village relocation has to be undertaken, in addition to other protected areas of the country within a timeframe

of five years. Simultaneously, action has been taken for developing a model involuntary village relocation/rehabilitation package through a professional agency.

*[English]*

#### **Second Project Tiger for Tamil Nadu**

2353. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for the Second Project Tiger Reserve For the State of Tamil Nadu is pending before the Union Government for its approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be operational; and

(d) the funds proposed to be allocated for the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) Based on proposals received from the States, in principle approval was accorded by the Steering Committee of Project Tiger for inclusion of Anamalai and Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuaries, falling in Tamil Nadu and Kerala respectively, under Project Tiger. Necessary action has been taken for including the same in the Expenditure Finance Committee memo of Project Tiger.

#### **'Agro Bio Diversity'**

2354. SHRIMATI ARCHANA NAYAK:  
SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:

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

(a) the number of species identified under the bio-diversity category;

(b) whether their number has declined due to pollution, poaching, illegal trade etc.;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the steps to check this declining trend;

(d) whether a national conference on bio-diversity was held recently; and

(e) if so, the details of discussion held and decisions arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The total number of identified plant and animal species at present stands at 45,469 and 89,593 respectively.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. As per the Red Databook on Mammalia, the number of Threatened species has risen from 77 in 1994 to 144 in January 2006. As for the floral species, there are 1250 species categorized as Threatened in the various volumes of the 'Red Databook of Indian Plants'. The Red Databooks on faunal and floral species are prepared taking into account the criteria laid down in The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and Convention of International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES).

The regulatory and promotional steps to safeguard the biodiversity of the country comprise enlarging the Protected Area Network; setting up of National Bio-diversity Authority and State Bio-diversity Boards; compliance with guidelines of IUCN and CITES; and increasing the number of Biosphere Reserves; designating Ecologically Sensitive Zones; and Conservation and Community Reserves under The Environment Protection Act and The Wildlife Protection Act respectively; and scaling up the number of identified wetlands.

(d) and (e) A National Conference on Agro Bio-diversity was held by National Bio-diversity Authority between February 12-15, 2006, at Chennai. Some of the key decisions taken relate to the need to sensitize administrators and policy makers on sustainable use of biodiversity; ensure people's participation for sustainable conservation of agro-biodiversity; create awareness among children and tribals; utilize biodiversity registers, and other databases; and to rest Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) for food, feed, environmental safety, among others.

*[Translation]*

#### **Payments Under Coal Wage Agreement**

2355. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) which has since been merged with the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has three coal mines at Chasnala, Jetpur and Ramnagar in which four thousand coal workers are working who have not been provided the benefits to National Coal Wage Agreement No. 7 meant for the coal workers;

(b) if so, whether the National Coal Wage Agreement No. 7 is likely to be extended to employees of IISCO to maintain uniformity in the salary and other facilities provided to the coal workers of the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) to (c) Pursuant to merger of India Iron and Steel Company (IISCO) with Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and to have parity of wage system among all plants/units of SAIL, including collieries of IISCO Steel Plant (ISP), it has been agreed to adopt pay scales/benefits at par with SAIL, as per current National Joint Committee for Steel Industry (NJCS) Agreement. For the period between 1.7.1996 to 31.12.1996, pay would notionally be fixed as per National Coal Wage Agreement (NCWA-VI). Further, it has also been agreed that while fitting the employees of collieries in the NJCS scale of pay notionally from 1.1.1997, it shall be ensured that their wages in terms of NCWA-VII as applicable on 1.4.2005, will be protected.

*[English]*

#### **Decline in Production of Fish after Tsunami**

2356. SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI:  
SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a great fall in the production of fish from sea and rivers of Tsunami affected States particularly coastal areas of Kerala;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the corrective measures being taken by the Government to stimulate the fish production?

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 evidence to suggest any fall in the production of fish from sea and rivers of tsunami affected States, particularly coastal areas of Kerala. At least in certain instances higher catch rate has been reported post tsunami. Any fluctuation in catches could be due to a temporary phenomenon of upwelling of bottom sediments and consequent reduction in dissolved oxygen forcing fish stocks to migrate.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Kochi and the Fishery Survey of India (FSI), Mumbai have taken up studies to ascertain the changes to the living organisms including marine fish stock due to tsunami.

The studies include impact of tsunami on coastal fish stocks, rapid assessment of the impact of tsunami on the coral reef ecosystem of Andamans, socio-economic conditions of coastal communities in Peninsular India and assessment of post tsunami microbial and chemical hazards of public health significance in seafood.

In addition, FSI has deployed seven exploratory survey vessels to survey coastal, deep sea and oceanic fish resources in terms of their distribution in time and space, abundance and stock availability.

#### **Enhancement of Import Duty of Titanium Dioxide**

2357. SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government has sent any representation with regard to the Travancore Titanium products and Kerala Minerals and Metals which produce more than the requirement of the product in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether huge quantity of imported materials is causing serious marketing problems of these two units;

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

(e) whether the Government has enhanced the import duty of Titanium Dioxide at least 30 per cent; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals has not received any representation from the State Government.

(c) and (d) Import of titanium dioxide is under OGL. However, details of installed capacity, production of Travancore Titanium Products and Kerala Minerals and Metals and import of Titanium Dioxide into the country is as under:

Sl.No.	Year	Installed Capacity	Production	Imports
1.	2002-03	66,500 MT	45463 MT	6653 MT
2.	2003-04	86,000 MT	49839 MT	7074 MT
3.	2004-05	86,000 MT	57560 MT	11212 MT

It may be seen that imports are very negligible as compared to the level of production achieved by these two companies.

(e) and (f) In the recent Union Budget announced on 28.2.2006, the peak rate of duty is 12.5%. The import duty on titanium dioxide is kept at peak rate of duty.

#### **National Institutes on Mushroom Research and Training**

2358. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details and locations of National Centre/ Institutes on Mushroom Research and Training working in the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to upgrade existing Research Centre on Mushroom at Chambaghat district, Solan in Himachal Pradesh as National Institute; and

(c) if so, the steps taken 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 Indian Council of Agricultural Research has a National Research Centre for Mushroom at Chambaghat, District Solan, Himachal Pradesh.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Decline In Prices of Pepper**

2359. SHRI ABDULLAKUTTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the adverse effect of Indo-Srilankan accord especially in the pepper, cardamom, arecanuts and other cash crops;

(b) whether prices of pepper have declined due to this import policy; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to assist the pepper cultivators?

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 authentic information is available about any adverse effect of Indo-Srilankan accord.

(b) Price to black pepper has shown a declining trend since 2000-01. The price which ruled at Rs. 20,450 per quintal during 1999-2000 gradually declined to the level of Rs. 6581 per quintal in 2004-05. Pepper is mainly in exported oriented commodity, international markets determine the price. Since 2000-01, the production scenario has changed due to increase in production in majority of the traditional producing countries. Among them, Vietnam and Jakarta have contributed significantly. Production of pepper in India during 2003-04 and

2004-05 was moderately higher than the production recorded in the preceding year. The excess supply production the world market and high price level of Indian pepper, compared to other countries put pressure on pepper price. As a result the price of pepper in both domestic and international market has drastically come down.

(c) The Government implements Market intervention scheme at specific request of the State Governments in event of fall in prices. To make Indian pepper more competitive and to increase its production/productivity, several development programmes are being implemented under the National Horticulture Mission such as, area expansion, integrated pest management, organic farming, transfer of technology programmes, production of nucleus planting materials of high yielding and export oriented varieties and their further multiplication and distribution through State department nurseries and dissemination of technical information through seminars, workshops and training programmes.

#### **Distribution Network of SAIL**

2360. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has been asked to increase its distribution network to make steel available in smaller towns; and

(b) if so, the efforts made by SAIL in that direction so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) With a view to increase consumption of steel in the country as also to widen the reach of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL's) branded items of common use *i.e.* TMT Bars and GP/GC Sheets, 208 dealers have been appointed at 99 district locations in 2004-05.

[*Translation*]

#### **Environment Commission**

2361. SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has put up any proposal for setting up Environment Commission for early disposal of cases related to the environment;



(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) There is no proposal for setting up of Environment Commission for early disposal of the cases related to the Environment. However, the "The Law Commission, in its 186th Report, has *inter alia* recommended establishment of separate 'Environment Courts' in each State, consisting of judicial and scientific experts in the field of environment, for dealing with environmental disputes besides having appellate jurisdiction in respect of appeals under the various Pollution Control Laws. These recommendations are under consideration in consultation with the M/o Law & Justice.

[English]

#### Construction of Vented Dams in Karnataka

2362. SHRI D.V. SADANANDAGOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for seeking financial assistance from the Government of Karnataka for construction of Vented Dams across west flowing rivers and streams is lying pending with the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the financial assistance is likely to be released to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) No proposal for seeking financial assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme has been received from the Government of Karnataka for construction of Vented Dams across west flowing rivers and streams.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Classification of Agricultural Subsidies

2363. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received recommendation regarding classification of agricultural

subsidies into those which benefit small farmers and those which go to the agri-business companies big farmers and land owners;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(c) whether in India the agricultural activities have been showing downward trend; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to protect Indian 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) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The actual growth rates achieved are given below:

Year	Actual Annual Growth Rate in Agriculture and Allied Sectors (%)
2000-2001	-0.10
2001-2002	6.30
2002-2003	-6.90
2003-2004	10.00
2004-2005	0.70
2005-2006 (Advance Estimates)	2.30

Source: Tenth Plan Document; Central Statistical Organisation.

(d) The reasons include drought and other natural calamities as well as problems like inadequate investment, low irrigated area, inadequate flow of credit, low productivity, and inadequate marketing infrastructure.

A number of steps through policy initiatives have been taken in vital areas like credit, irrigation facilities, crop diversification, marketing infrastructure, horticulture and extension services. This process is being further strengthened through farm mechanization, agri-clinics and agri-business centres and extension services. Other areas for higher investment include micro-irrigation comprising drip and sprinkler irrigation, National Horticulture Mission having end-to-end approach with backward and forward

linkages covering research, production, post harvest management, processing and marketing, under an umbrella, in an integrated manner.

#### **Production of Grapes**

2364. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production and consumption of grapes recorded in the country during each of the last three years and current year;

(b) whether the production of grapes is sufficient to meet the demand in the country;

(c) if not, the steps being taken to increase the production of grapes in the country; and

(d) the total quantum of grapes exported and foreign exchange earned therefrom 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) The total production of grapes in the country during the last three years is given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government is talking several measures to increase production and productivity of grapes in the country under the National Horticulture Mission such as, area expansion, integrated pest management, organic farming, transfer of technology programmes, production of nucleus planting materials of high yielding and export oriented varieties and their further multiplication and distribution through State Department nurseries and dissemination of technical information through seminars, workshops and training programmes. The Government is also providing assistance for development of infrastructure for marketing, post harvest management and processing of Grapes.

(d) A statement-II indicating the quantum of grapes exported and foreign exchange earned there from is enclosed.

#### *Statement I*

##### *Year-wise Production of Grapes in India*

Year	Production (in 000 MT)
2001-02	1209.7
2002-03	1247.8
2003-04	1472.8

Source: NHB

#### *Statement II*

##### *Export Performance of grapes from India*

Year	Quantity (in Kgs.)	Value (Rs.)
2001-02	14571025	599560205
2002-03	25567981	1086718295
2003-04	26469635	1036837942

Source: APEDA Export Statistics 2003-04

#### **Conversion of Forest Village Into Revenue Villages**

2365. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Assam to convert all the recognized forest villages into revenue villages within the Bodoland Territorial Areas District (BTAD) in Assam;

(b) if so, the details about the action taken so far in this regard;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government proposes to provide adequate amount of Central Fund directly to the local Government of BTAD to help facilitate afforestation;

(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 (c) No proposal has been received from the Government of Assam for conversion of forest villages into revenue villages.

(d) to (f) No Sir. However, National Afforestation Programme (NAP) Scheme is being implemented on a 100% central funding basis during the 10th Five Year Plan. This scheme is being implemented through decentralized set up of the Forest Development Agency (FDA) at the forest division level and Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) at the village level. Funds are provided directly to Forest Development Agencies. As per information received from the Assam Forest Department, Kachugaon, Haltugaon, Dhubri, Aie Valley, North Kamrup (part) and Darrang (part) FDAs fall within Bodoland Territorial Areas District (BTAD). These FDA projects are being implemented at a total cost of Rs. 6.43 crore covering the project area of 4,640 hectares. Till date, an amount of Rs. 2.84 crore has been released.

**Assistance to Hindustan Cables Ltd. and Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Ltd.**

2366. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has approached the Union Government for assistance to Hindustan Cables Ltd. (HCL) and Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Ltd., Visakhapatnam; and

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto and the time by which the assistance would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) Government of Andhra Pradesh had requested for release of some orders for supply of material on M/s. Hindustan Cables Ltd. (HCL) so that operation of the company could be started. Department of Telecom placed orders for the supply of 10 LCKM of PIJF cables on HCL alongwith 50% advance amount, but M/s. HCL could not supply the cables as per their acceptance and commitment, inter-alia, for want of working capital. Department of Telecommunication have expressed their inability to place further orders for PIJF

cables on HCL. Based on the three reports on HCL viz. Draft Rehabilitation Scheme (DRS) by SBI, report of IIT Kharagpur and report by Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) a proposal on the future of HCL has been placed before the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) for their recommendation in the matter.

Further, in the case of Bharat Heavy Plate & Vessels (BHPV), Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for revival of the company. In their request, the State Government has suggested the following four measures for revival of BHPV:-

- (i) GOI counter guarantee for Rs. 130 crore.
- (ii) Merger of BHPV with BHEL
- (iii) Wage revision of the employees of BHPV
- (iv) Orders on nomination basis for BHPV.

Government of India has been making efforts for revival of the company and a revival package based on study of Consultants has been submitted to the BRPSE. After receipt of their recommendations, Government will take a decision in the matter.

*[Translation]*

**Upgradation of Food Processing Laboratory**

2367. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for upgradation of Food Processing Laboratory under the Food and Drug Administration of Madhya Pradesh has been pending with the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the time by which this proposal is likely to be accorded sanction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) A proposal for upgradation of Food testing Laboratory under the Food and Drug Administration of Madhya Pradesh has been received and examined by the Techno Scrutiny Committee (TSC) of this Ministry. The applicant organization has been asked to furnish requisite information/documents, which have not been received so far.

*[English]***Assistance for Local Dams and Big Canals**

2368. DR. K. DHANARAJU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government provides assistance to the States for the development of local dams and big canals;

(b) if so, the details of proposals received from each State during the last three years, till-date;

(c) the decision taken on the proposals received and allocation made in each case of the approved proposals; and

(d) the decision taken on the Nandan Canal Scheme received from Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) Irrigation is a State subject and the planning, execution, funding, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments based on their priorities. The Central Government launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) in 1996-97 to provide Central Loan Assistance (CLA) for such approved irrigation projects which are in an advanced stage of construction and beyond the resources capability of the States that can be completed in the next four financial years as per the guidelines of the Programme. An amount of Rs. 9057.541 crore has been released to the State Governments as CLA/grant during the last three years.

In addition, a pilot scheme, namely, "National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies Directly Linked to Agriculture", has been approved by the Government of India in 2005 at an estimated cost of Rs. 300 crore for renovation of water bodies like tanks, ponds and small dams having culturable command area below 2000 hectare. Under the scheme, an amount of Rs. 82.88 crore has been released as Central share of grants during 2004-05 and 2005-06 (till date).

(d) No Proposal has been received from the Government of Tamil Nadu for availing Central assistance under AIBP for the Nandan Canal Scheme.

**Appointment of Independent Directors in PSUs**

2369. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Public Enterprises has issued new guidelines for appointment of independent directors in Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether appointments have since been made in pursuance of the said guidelines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV):

(a) and (b) The Government has laid down criteria regarding age, qualification and experience for appointment of Independent Directors on the Boards of Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs). The criteria regarding experience was further amended recently to include "persons of eminence with proven track record from Industry, Business and Agriculture".

(c) and (d) The proposals for appointment of Independent Directors are submitted by the concerned Administrative Ministries on the basis of existing guidelines for the consideration of Search Committee/Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB). The appointments are thereafter made by the concerned Administrative Ministries on the basis of recommendations made by Search Committee/PESB after obtaining the approval of the competent authority.

**Construction of Narmada Main Canal in Gujarat**

2370. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether out of a total stretch of 458 kms. of Narmada Main Canal in Gujarat, construction work on 101 kms. remains incomplete for paucity of funds;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has received request for additional funds to ensure completion of the aforesaid part of the canal in the State; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to provide the required assistance to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) Out of a total stretch of 458 kilometre (KM) of Narmada Main Canal, construction work upto the reach of 357 KM has been completed and the work in the remaining reach of 101 km is in progress. The State Government of Gujarat has not reported paucity of funds as the reason for not completing the construction of Narmada Main Canal.

(b) and (c) Irrigation is a State subject and the planning, execution, funding, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments based on their priorities. The Central Government has been providing Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) for such approved irrigation projects which are in an advanced stage of construction and beyond the resources capability of the States that can be completed in the next four financial years as per the guidelines of the Programme. The irrigation component of Sardar Sarovar Project in Gujarat has been receiving CLA under AIBP and an amount of Rs. 4302.75 crore has been released to the State Government of Gujarat for this project as CLA/grant upto February, 2006.

#### **Shortage of Gas for Gas Based Fertilizer Units**

2371. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fertilizer sector is experiencing a 30 per cent shortage in availability of gas even in terms of the requirement of percent gas based units;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) The requirement of gas for the existing gas based fertilizer units is 34.5419 million metric standard cubic metres per day (MMSCMD). The actual average supply to gas based units during April-September 2005 was 28.4089 MMSCMD. The extent of shortfall with reference to requirement of existing gas based units is 17.76%. The Department of Fertilizers is in constant interaction with Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, GAIL (India) Limited and other

prospective suppliers of NG/LNG so that the gas requirements of the fertilizer industry are met adequately.

#### **ADB Aided Irrigation Projects of Orissa**

2372. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has submitted proposals for irrigation projects for accelerating irrigation with Asian Development Bank (ADB) loan;

(b) if so, the projects which are proposed for ADB loan; and

(c) the amount of assistance sought by State Government and the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) to (c) The Government of Orissa submitted a Preliminary proposal "Quick Yielding Projects" for Asian Development Bank assistance with an estimated cost of Rs. 580.78 crore which has been examined and recommended by Ministry of Water Resources to the Department of Economic Affairs on 6.2.2006 for posing the same to the Asian Development Bank. A revised proposal at an estimated cost of Rs. 1251.20 has also been received from the State Government and the same has been taken up for techno-economic appraisal.

#### **Public Shares of Steel Authority of India Limited**

2373. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to issue public share with premium for Steel Authority of India Limited; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Revival of ailing PSUs in Gujarat**

2374. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ailing Public Sector Undertaking units, in Gujarat, as on date;

(b) whether the Government proposes to revive such undertakings/units; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV):

(a) There is only one Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSE) namely NTC (Gujarat) Ltd. whose registered office is located in the State of Gujarat. The company is registered with the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) for revival as per the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA).

(b) and (c) The BIFR has sanctioned a revival scheme for NTC (Gujarat) Ltd. on 10.02.2002. Subsequently based on the recommendations of the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE), the Government has sanctioned an action plan for rehabilitation of sick subsidiaries of National Textiles Corporation Ltd. including NTC (Gujarat) Ltd.

[*Translation*]

#### Imported Seeds to Farmers

2375. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has tested the imported seeds given to farmers for agricultural production;

(b) if so, whether these seeds are found of inferior quality;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to impose ban on the sale of these seeds; 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) to (d) The export/import of seeds and planting material is governed by the Export/Import Policy, 2002-2007 read with New Policy on Seed Development and Plant

Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003 and amendments made thereunder.

A specified quantity of seeds sought to be imported is required to be given to Indian Council of Agricultural Research for trial and evaluation for one crop season. Based on the trial/evaluation report on the performance of the seed and its resistance to seed/soil borne diseases, Export/Import Committee of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation makes appropriate recommendation for import.

[*English*]

#### Decommissioned Ships at Ship Yards

2376. SHRIMATI JYOTIRMOYEE SIKDAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of de-commissioned/aged ships received from abroad by our ship breaking yards during the last three years and current year; and

(b) the total cost involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) The number of de-commissioned/aged ships received from abroad by our ship breaking yards during the last three years and current year (upto Feb., 2006) and the approximate cost involved is as under:—

Year	No of ships received*	Approximate cost involved* (Rs. in crores)**
2002-03	390	2025
2003-04	375	2193
2004-05	256	1560
2005-06 (till Feb. 2006)	111	737

\*Source - Iron and Steel Scrap Association of India.

\*\*Value of imports is exclusive of custom duty and taxes.

[*Translation*]

#### Setting up of Fish Safari in Haryana

2377. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that 67 out of 120 species of fish found in Haryana have become extinct during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to set up Fish Safari in Haryana for the preservation of fish species?

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 study conducted by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Institute, out of 112 species available in Haryana in year 1966-67 has now reduced to 55.

(b) Reasons for depletion includes high siltation in the river Yamuna and Ghaggar, increased pollution due to release of sewage and industrial effluent and abstraction of water from the rivers for multipurpose use.

(c) Government of Haryana has declare upper reaches of river Yamuna as fish Sanctuaries to avoid commercial fishing and River ranching is done every year to restore depleting species. However, there is no

provision under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme in place at present for setting up of fish safari.

#### **Expert Committee on Sick Industries**

2378. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to constitute an Expert Committee to look into the unprecedented increase in the number of sick industries in the country especially in the backward and rural regions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Government in December, 2004, constituted a Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) for considering *inter alia* the proposals for revival and restructuring of sick Central Public Sector Enterprises. As on 28th February, 2006, 41 cases were received out of which BRPSE has already made recommendations in respect of 29 Central Public Sector Enterprises. A list of these 29 enterprises is given in the enclosed Statement.

#### **Statement**

*List of PSEs whose revival/rehabilitation or closure/winding up proposals have been cleared by BRPSE*

Sl.No.	Name of the CPSE	Location of Registered Office
1	2	3
1.	Hindustan Salts Ltd.	Jaipur (Rajasthan)
2.	Birdge & Roof Co. (India) Ltd.	Kolkata (West Bengal)
3.	BBJ Construction Co. Ltd.	Kolkata (West Bengal)
4.	Tyre Corporation of India Ltd.	Kolkata (West Bengal)
5.	British India Corporation Ltd.	Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh)
6.	National Textiles Corporation Ltd. & its subsidiaries	New Delhi
7.	Madras Fertilizers Ltd.	Chennai (Tamil Nadu)
8.	HMT Bearings Ltd.	Bangalore (Karnataka)
9.	Praga Tools Ltd.	Secundrabad (Andhra Pradesh)
10.	Braithwaite & Company Ltd.	Kolkata (West Bengal)

1	2	3
11.	NEPA Ltd.	Nepanagar (Madhya Pradesh)
12.	Richardson & Cruddas Ltd.	Mumbai (Maharashtra)
13.	Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd.	Kolkata (West Bengal)
14.	Tungabhadra Steel Products Ltd.	Bellary (Karnataka)
15.	Bharat Wagon & Engineering Co. Ltd.	Patna (Bihar)
16.	Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd.	Naini, Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh)
17.	Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd.	Pune (Maharashtra)
18.	Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	Burdwan (West Bengal)
19.	Cement Corporation of India Ltd.*	New Delhi
20.	Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd.	Durgapur (West Bengal)
21.	HMT Machine Tools Ltd.	Bangalore (Karnataka)
22.	Heavy Engineering Corporation Ltd.	Ranchi (Jharkhand)
23.	Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd.	Rasayani, District Raigad (Maharashtra)
24.	Hindustan Insecticides Ltd.	New Delhi
25.	Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd.	Nagpur (Maharashtra)
26.	Fertilizers & Chemicals Travancore Ltd.	District Ernakulam, Kochi (Kerala)
27.	Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.	Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh)
28.	Central Electronics Ltd.	New Delhi
29.	National Projects Construction Corporation Ltd.	New Delhi

\*Some units are located in backward regions like Raipur, Mandour and Bilaspur in Madhya Pradesh, Karbi Anglong in Assam, Sirmaur in Himachal Pradesh.

### Census of Wild Buffaloes

2379. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to conduct census on wild buffaloes;

(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) Government has not proposed to conduct any census specifically for wild buffaloes. However, an exercise for monitoring tigers, co-predators, prey and their habitats has been undertaken at the national level, which includes wild buffaloes also. Directorate of Project Tiger is the coordinating agency in this regard. Normally, the State Governments conduct population estimation of different wild animals found in the protected areas from time to time.



*[English]***Delhi Milk Scheme**

2380. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of profit/loss of Delhi Milk Scheme (DMS) recorded during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the DMS is running in heavy losses;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the DMS to boost its operations and to increase the profit?

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 losses of DMS during the last three years and the estimated loss for current year is as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (Estimated)
Loss	1111.12	2816.24	1777.66	1395.84

(c) DMS is running into losses on account of continuous increase in the cost prices of raw materials and other inputs; lower capacity utilization and higher operational losses due to the plant and machinery, which is very old and labour intensive.

(d) The following steps have been taken by DMS in this regard:

- (i) Outsourcing of transportation and engagement of distributors to further increase sale of milk.
- (ii) Reduction in consumption of electricity and water per unit of milk produced.
- (iii) Custom packing of Mother Dairy milk to utilize the surplus capacity.
- (iv) Modernisation/Upgradation of some part of plant, machinery and equipment to reduce the operational cost.

(v) Reduction in staff strength by not filling up the vacant posts.

*[Translation]***Investment in Water Sector In Rajasthan**

2381. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether investment of Rs. 500 crore in water sector in Rajasthan in collaboration with 'Britain and European Commission' has been sanctioned;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) European Commission has agreed to provide a grant assistance of Euro 80 million (equivalent Rs. 425 crore approximately) for State of Rajasthan under State Partnership Programme (SPP). The Programme aims to support to state-wide Water Sector from which include (i) Support to State Water Resources Planning Department; (ii) Sustainable Water Campaign; (iii) Institutional Development and Capacity Building of line departments; and (iv) Support to Panchayat Raj Institutions/user groups in selected districts and blocks. The Financing Agreement for the programme is under negotiations with the European Commission. Britain is not involved in the Programme.

*[English]***Promotion of Tourism In Certain Forest Areas**

2382. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the bio-diversity areas identified in the country, location-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether certain bio-diversity areas in Karnataka are being promoted as tourist destinations by the Forest Department of Karnataka;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) While no specific areas have been identified,

natural biodiversity occurs in forest areas throughout the country, some of which having the status of protected areas.

(b) and (c) The Karnataka Forest Department has evolved a policy for fostering responsible Wilderness Tourism. The State has reported that no specific biodiversity area is being promoted as tourist destination, since all protected areas and reserve forests in the State are rich in biodiversity.

(d) Action has been taken for evolving an ecotourism strategy so that benefits of tourism can be shared with local people.

#### **Revival and Expansion of HFL**

2383. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the proposal by M/s Guarniflon, S.P.A. of Italy to invest for the revival and expansion of Hindustan Fluorocarbons Ltd. (HFL);

(b) if so, whether the Government has given its clearance;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the clearance is likely to be given and work started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) In response of the advertisement issued by the Operating Agency, Industrial Development Bank of India Ltd. (IDBI) on the orders of the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in 2001, M/s Guraniflon, SPA, Italy had submitted a proposal. This proposal related to the acquisition of assets of Hindustan Fluorocarbons Ltd. (HFL) and not for its revival and expansion. At the hearing dated 22.11.2004 before the Appellate Authority for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (AAIFR), it was informed that M/s Guarniflon had withdrawn their offer/bid. Consequently, AAIFR has remanded the case to BIFR. No proposal from M/s Guarniflon is pending with the Government of India for clearance.

*[Translation]*

#### **Payment by SAIL against Damage**

2384. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India has to pay damages for failing to complete unloading and loading of goods in the rail wagons within the prescribed time limit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there has been a consistent increase in the damages during the last year;

(d) if so, the details of damages paid during the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 and first ten months of the year 2005-06; and

(e) the quantum of goods transported by railways for this public sector company during the above mentioned periods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Due to substantial reduction in free time for loading/unloading and increase in the penal charges for detention of wagons, by Railways, the demurrage charges of Rs. 92.39 crores has been incurred by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) during the period April-December, 2005. As the matter was taken up with the Railways, they have provided relaxation in loading/unloading time and in penal charges. The Railways have also agreed to waive part of the demurrage charges applicable to SAIL for the said period.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. There has been progressive increase in the demurrage amount charged by Railways in the past few years. The details of demurrage amount charged by railways to SAIL during the period 2002-03 to 2005-06 are as under:

Year	Amount (Rs/Crs.)
2002-03	10.17
2003-04	16.01
2004-05	23.75
April-December' 05	92.39

(e) Quantum of goods transported (inward and outward) by SAIL during last 3 year & current year is as follows:—

Unit: Million Tonnes

	SAIL Integrated Steel Plants	IISCO	Total
2002-03	49.5	3.0	52.5
2003-04	53.6	3.0	56.6
2004-05	51.8	3.3	55.1
April' 05—January' 06	47.0	2.8	49.8

[English]

#### Shortage of Chilli

2385. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chilli production has declined by around 30% due to unusual and prolonged rains this year in the country;

(b) if so, whether this has resulted reduction in the availability of high quality Chilli;

(c) whether the short supply could lead to an increase in price and negative impact on exports;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether exportable surplus of other varieties of chillies are also expected to be less this year because of fall in production; and

(f) if so, the steps the Government proposes to take to meet the shortage?

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 has been some damage to the chilli production due to unusual and prolonged rains but the loss is not to the extent of 30%.

(b) No, Sir. During the year 2005-06 about 60 to 70% of area sown is under good quality hybrid chilli.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) No, Sir.

#### Ban on Diclofenac Drug

2386. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to phase out and eventual ban of the veterinary use of Diclofenac drug;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to make available the replacement drug at affordable price to 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) and (b) Diclofenac is prescribed in veterinary practice as a non-steroid anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) and is prescribed to reduce pain, inflammation and stiffness of muscles. Considering the adverse effect of the drug on vultures that scavenge on the dead carcass of animals, the Government has taken a conscious decision to phase out use of Diclofenac in veterinary practice. Government has already requested to state Animal Husbandry departments to restrict the use of Diclofenac and to reduce procuring this drug for Government stores.

(c) Alternative drugs are available in the country.

[Translation]

#### Scheme for safety of coastal areas

2387. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme for safety of coastal areas with assistance from World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the coastal areas identified for this purpose;

(c) whether the Government has constituted any committee to look into this matter;

(d) if so, the composition and the terms of references thereof; and

(e) the time by which the committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has recently forwarded a proposal based on the recommendations of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Committee on Coastal Zone Management, which *inter-alia* includes projects relating to demarcation of Vulnerability Line along coastal areas, control of marine pollution, conservation of ecologically sensitive coastal areas etc., to the Planning Commission seeking their concurrence for posing assistance from World Bank.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

**Handicapped Persons Registered in Special Employment Exchanges**

2388. SHRI KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of handicapped persons registered in Special Employment Exchanges as on date, State-wise; and

(b) the number of handicapped persons given employment during the year 2005 through Special Employment Exchanges, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) Exchange-wise details of the number of physically handicapped jobseekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed registered with the Special Employment Exchanges in the country as on 31.12.2004 (latest) and placements effected through them during 2004 are given in the Statement enclosed.

**Statement**

*Special Employment Exchange-wise number of physically handicapped jobseekers as on 31st December 2004 and placement made during 2004*

(In Actual Number)

SI.No.	Special Exchange	Placement	Live Register
1	2	3	4
1.	Bombay	12	6317
2.	Curzon Road	40	4786
3.	Chennai	240	13300
4.	Kolkata	10	9683
5.	Ahmedabad	127	2815
6.	Bangalore	12	7878
7.	Kanpur	1	2560
8.	Thiruvanthapuram	54	1954
9.	Jaipur	—	4966
10.	Patna	5	6484
11.	Jabalpur	1	2270
12.	Bhubaneshwar	2	1686
13.	Agartala	10	1379
14.	Rajkot	44	1704
15.	Surat	53	943
16.	Vadodra	101	1296
17.	Imphal	—	1803
18.	Mysore	1	1868
19.	Kozhikode	59	1670
20.	Kollam	6	1316
21.	Ajmer	31	2024
22.	Alwar	55	1358
23.	Gorakhpur	—	1134
24.	Aligarh	—	418

1	2	3	4
25.	Allahabad	—	2225
26.	Agra	—	1076
27.	Varanasi	—	1031
28.	Shahadra	1	1890
29.	Bareilly	2	953
30.	Lucknow	6	1869
31.	Mathura	1	673
32.	Hyderabad	13	6937
33.	Hubli	—	1304
34.	Gulberga	—	2544
35.	Ernakulam	35	1367
36.	Ghaziabad	1	1133
37.	Kottayam	31	1109
38.	Kota	3	2838
39.	Jhunjhunu	—	1429
40.	Neyyattinkara	20	1930
41.	Dehradun	1	1074
Total		978	112994

*[English]*

#### **Migration of Siberian Birds**

2389. SHRIMATI KALPANA RAMESH NARHIRE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether migration of birds from Siberia and other parts of the world to Delhi Zoo during the onset of the winter season has been decreasing during the last few years;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No significant change in the number of migratory birds visiting Delhi Zoo has been observed in the last few years.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### **Committee for Enquiry in Non-Availability of Foodgrains**

2390. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to appoint a special commission/committee to enquire into the non-availability of foodgrains (rice and wheat) allotted under various central schemes to the poor and the needy persons in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the other remedial steps proposed to be taken 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) The Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State Government. The responsibility for distribution of foodgrains to the beneficiaries lies with the State Governments.

A system to monitor distribution of foodgrains under TPDS is already in place. Planning and despatch of required number of rakes of foodgrains is made by the FCI every month for each consuming States/UT at an optimally feasible level, within the constraints of availability of rakes and other logistics in order to adequately cater to the requirements of each State/UT under the TPDS and other Welfare Schemes and with the aim of building

up and maintaining the stock level equivalent to three month's average requirement (two months in respect of NE Region). On receipt of any report regarding depletion of stock, the FCI is advised to prioritize the induction of rakes to such State/UT and whenever required, the Railway Board is also requested to take appropriate remedial action to augment the supply and induction of the rakes.

The following measures have also been taken by the Government to reach the foodgrains to the beneficiaries:—

- (i) The Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 was issued in order to streamline the functioning of the PDS and to make the same more effective and accountable. Any offence committed in violation of the provisions of the Order invokes criminal liability under Section 7 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) The State and Union Territories have also been asked to constitute Vigilance Committees at the States, District, Block and FPS levels to oversee the functioning of PDS.
- (iv) With a view to efficiently reaching PDS commodities to the consumers in a transparent manner, a model Citizen's Charter has been issued by the Central Government for adoption by the State Governments/UT Administration.
- (v) Under the Area Officers Scheme, the Senior Officers of the Government visits their allocated States/UTs to conduct review of the TPDS. The observations made by the Area Officers in their reports are sent to the concerned State Governments/UT for taking necessary action.
- (vi) In the Regional Conferences held recently at Mumbai, Shimla, Thiruvananthapuram, Kolkata and Guwahati, the State Governments/UTs have been asked to take immediate necessary steps to curb diversion, through inspections, computerization and effective implementation of PDS Control Order.

[*English*]

### Sea Link Projects

2391. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sea link projects pending with the Union Government for environmental clearance as on date, particularly from the Government of Maharashtra;

(b) the time since when each of them is pending alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent of cost escalation as a result thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to accord early clearance to these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No such projects are pending for environmental clearance in this Ministry.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

### Afforestation Project

2392. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:  
SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA:

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

(a) the States in the country where afforestation projects are being executed with assistance of foreign banks/agencies as on date; and

(b) the areas in square kilometres added to the forest cover during the last three years, till-date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Afforestation projects are being executed with assistance of foreign banks/agencies in the States of Rajasthan, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh.

(b) Periodic estimation of forest cover in the country is done biennially by Forest Survey of India. Last such estimation was done in 2003. State-wise forest cover in last two estimations is given in the Statement enclosed.

**Statement***Forest cover of country as per State of Forest Report, 2001 & 2003*

Sl.No.	State/UT	Total Forest Area as per 2001 assessment (km <sup>2</sup> )	2003 assessment (km <sup>2</sup> )	Change (km <sup>2</sup> )
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44,637	44,419	-218
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	68,045	68,019	-26
3.	Assam	27,714	27,826	112
4.	Bihar	5,720	5,558	-162
5.	Chhattisgarh	56,448	55,998	-450
6.	Delhi	111	170	59
7.	Goa	2,095	2,156	61
8.	Guajrat	15,152	14,946	-206
9.	Haryana	1,754	1,517	-237
10.	Himachal Pradesh	14,360	14,353	-7
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	21,237	21,267	30
12.	Jharkhand	22,637	22,716	79
13.	Karnataka	36,991	36,449	-542
14.	Kerala	15,560	15,577	17
15.	Madhya Pradesh	77,265	76,429	-836
16.	Manipur	16,926	17,219	-617
17.	Maharashtra	47,482	46,865	293
18.	Meghalaya	15,584	16,839	1,255
19.	Mizoram	17,494	18,430	936
20.	Nagaland	13,345	13,609	264
21.	Orissa	48,838	48,366	-472
22.	Punjab	2,432	1,580	-852
23.	Rajasthan	16,367	15,826	-541
24.	Sikkim	3,193	3,262	69
25.	Tamil Nadu	21,482	22,643	1,161

1	2	3	4	5
26.	Tripura	7,065	8,093	1,028
27.	Uttar Pradesh	13,746	14,118	372
28.	Uttaranchal	23,938	24,465	527
29.	West Bengal	10,693	12,343	1,650
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	6,930	6,964	34
31.	Chandigarh	9	15	6
32.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	219	225	6
33.	Daman and Diu	6	8.34	2
34.	Lakshadweep	27	23	-4
35.	Pondicherry	36	40	4
Total		675,538	678,333	2,795

[English]

#### Permission for Oil Exploration

2393. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has allowed off-shore oil exploration in various coasts in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether turtles are being killed on various coasts due to use of the deep water trawlers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial action proposed/taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India during the year 2005-2006 has granted environmental clearance to 30 projects for offshore oil and gas exploration with investment above Rs. 100 crores under the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 and its subsequent amendments in the East Coast, West Coast, of the Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Goa coasts.

(c) and (d) During the year 2005 to 2006, a total of 6020 sea turtles have been reportedly killed in the Orissa coast due to use of trawl nets and gill nets of fishing trawlers.

(e) The remedial actions proposed/taken include the following:

(i) Protection of sea turtles under Schedule-1 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(ii) Prohibition of fishing under the provisions of Orissa Marine fisheries Regulation Act, 1982 by trawlers and mechanised fishing vessels using gillnets within a sea ward radius of 20 km from Dhamara mouth (Gahirmatha area) during turtle congregation; in the specified turtle congregation areas such as Devi river mouth and Rushikalya river mouth along the coast upto 10 km, and prohibition of fishing by specified categories of gill nets within 5 km into the sea in the traditional turtles congregation areas during November to May;

(iii) Regular patrolling in the sea to secure safety of turtles against illegal fishing activities.

(iv) Regular monitoring.



**Inboard Engines for Traditional Fishing Crafts**

2394. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has given licence to use Inboard Engines for Traditional Fishing Crafts; and  
(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

**Funds for Sheep and Goat Rearing**

2395. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether role played by the sheep and goat rearing in providing employment and generating income for the economically backward rural people;  
(b) if so, the policy of the Union Government for the development of this sector; and  
(c) the amount released during the last three years and the current 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) Yes, Sir.

(b) A new Centrally Sponsored Scheme for implementation in Macro Management Mode has been proposed, which has a component for integrated development of sheep and goat.

A Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Conservation of Threatened Breeds of Small Ruminants, Pigs, Pack Animals, Equine and Yak is being implemented under which 100% grant-in-aid is provided.

(c) The amount released for conservation of threatened breeds of sheep and goat under the above mentioned ongoing scheme during 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 was Rs. 128.30 lakh, Rs. 0.00 lakh, Rs. 117.50 lakh and Rs. 209.37 lakh respectively.

**Mechanism to determine MRP on Drugs**

2396. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of Central Excise Duty collected from drugs for Cancer, HIV/AIDS and other life saving drugs during each of the last three years; and  
(b) the mechanism to determine the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of a drug and the percentage of profit for the producer added in to the MRP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) No such information is being maintained separately by the Government.

(b) As per the present Pharma Pricing Policy, the 74 bulk drugs specified in the First Schedule of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995 (DPCO, 95) and the formulations based thereon are under price control and their prices are fixed/revised by the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), as per provision of Para 7 of DPCO, 95. In case, there is any violation of the approved/notified price of a Scheduled formulation, action is taken under the provisions of the DPCO, 95.

Prices of non-Scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view the various factors like cost of production, marketing expenses, R&D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc. NPPA monitors the prices of medicines as per monthly Retail Audit Reports of ORG-IMS Research Pvt. Ltd. The Government takes corrective measures where the public interest is found to be adversely affected.

**Inclusion of Madikeri Town under NCRP**

2397. SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Madikeri town on Kodagu District in Karnataka has been included under National River Conservation Programme (NCRP) for the Tenth Five Year Plan Period;  
(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total estimated cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

**Programme for Development of Agriculture in North Eastern Region**

2398. SHRI TAPIR GAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the plan and programmes formulated for the development of agriculture in the North-Eastern Region particularly in the State of Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) the targets fixed and achievements made thereunder during the last three years; and

(c) the present status of these plans alongwith the benefits accrued therefrom till 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) The major plan programmes being implemented for development of agriculture in the North Eastern Region, particularly in Arunachal Pradesh, are the Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme and Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture.

(b) and (c) Under the Technology Mission on Integrated Development of Horticulture, an additional area of 83,718 hectares has been brought under various horticultural crops in the North Eastern States out of which 13,748 hectares has been covered in Arunachal Pradesh since the inception of the programme.

Under the Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme, in the main programmes being implemented in Arunachal Pradesh include National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPR) and Farm Mechanization programme.

Under the NWDPR, in 45 watersheds covered in Arunachal Pradesh, during the years 2003-04 and 2004-05, 2250 hectares and 3105 hectares respectively have been developed.

Under the Farm Mechanization programme, the following were made available with subsidy in the State:

Type of Equipments (in numbers)	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Tractors	60	50	80
Power Tillers	20	20	32
Plant Protection Equipments	825	1039	1000
Irrigation Equipments	86	120	50

The financial performance of the above schemes in Arunachal Pradesh during the last three years is given below:

Name of Scheme	2002-03		2003-04		2004-05	
	Allocation	Release/Utilisation	Allocation	Release/Utilisation	Allocation	Release/Utilisation
Macro Management of Agriculture	500.00	298.05	400.00	466.12	500.00	716.00
Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture	1099.00	1099.00	1220.00	1220.00	1500.00	1645.55

**Limit of Directors in Public Sector Enterprises**

2399. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of Government directors on the Boards of several Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) exceeds the prescribed limit of two;

(b) if so, the PSEs which have more than two Government Directors; and

(c) the measures proposed by the Government for reducing the number of Government Directors to the prescribed limit of two?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV):

(a) The Government Directors on the Boards of PSEs are appointed by the concerned administrative Ministry/Department.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) The administrative Ministries/Departments have been advised from time to time to review the composition of the Board of Directors of PSEs under their administrative control, so as to bring them in conformity with the guidelines on the subject.

**Edible Oil Packaging**

2400. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power to implement Edible Oil Packaging (Regulation) Order, 1998 was delegated to the State Governments;

(b) if so, whether some States have failed to implement the said order;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of such States; and

(d) the corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure proper implementation of the order?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details about State-wise status of implementation of the said Order are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) Some of the State Governments/UT Administrations which have not implemented the Edible Oils Packaging (Regulation) Order, 1998 or have granted exemptions/extensions for varying period of time deferring the implementation of the Order have been reiterated the need to implement the Order in letter and spirit.

**Statement*****State-wise Status of Implementation of the Edible Oils Packaging (Regulation) Order, 1998***

States implemented the Packaging Order	States not implemented the Packaging Order	
	but implementation under consideration	where no manufacturing/packaging units
20 States: (namely, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Pondicherry, Mizoram, Punjab, Delhi, Gujarat, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Kamataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim, Nagaland and Jammu & Kashmir)	10 States: (namely, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Haryana, Jharkhand, Manipur and Uttaranchal)	5 States: (namely, Andaman & Nicobar, Arunachal Pradesh, Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep and Meghalaya)

**Dhansri and Champamati Irrigation  
Projects of Assam**

2401. SHRI SANSUMA KHUNGGUR BWISWMUTHIARY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to complete Dhansri Irrigation Project and Champamati Irrigation Project in Assam by way of converting these projects under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme into 100 per cent Centrally Funded Scheme; and

(b) if so, the details of action taken so far in this regard alongwith assistance provided to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Irrigation is a State subject and the planning, execution, funding, operation and maintenance of irrigation projects are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments based on their priorities. The Central Government launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) to provide Central Loan Assistance (CLA) for such approved irrigation projects which are in an advanced stage of construction and beyond the resources capability of the States that can be completed in the next four financial years as per the guidelines of the programme. Rs. 31.69 crore and Rs. 13.733 crore have been released as Central Loan Assistance upto 2003-04 to the State Government of Assam for Dhansri Irrigation Project and Champamati Irrigation Project respectively.

**FPI Status to Biscuit Industry**

2402. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: 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 along with the criteria fixed for giving status of FPI;

(c) whether the Government proposes to declare any financial package for the development of this industry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) Biscuit industry is already in the category of the Food Processing Industries. The Government has implemented Plan schemes to provide financial assistance for establishment and modernization of the food processing units, creation of infrastructure, support for R&D, human resource development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of the food processing industries including biscuit industry.

**Re-employment of VRS Optees**

2403. SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR DUBEY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether after opting VRS or Compensation Package, the Employees of PSUs are not being considered for fresh appointment as Director, Executives or even employees in other PSUs, in similar or higher posts;

(b) if so, whether after disinvestment of so many PSUs their Functional Directors have been re-interviewed by the PSEB and appointed Directors in other PSUs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Under the existing policy, no further appointment in CPSEs is allowed after the employees of PSEs have gone on VRS. If they desire to do so, they will have to return the VRS compensation received by them to the PSEs concerned.

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

**Navratna Status of PSUs**

2404. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) having the status of Navaratna;

(b) whether the Government has received any proposal to include more PSUs to Navaratna status;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV):

(a) Presently, there are nine Navratna PSEs, viz. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, GAIL (India) Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, NTPC Limited Oil, & Natural Gas Corporation Limited and Steel Authority of India Limited.

(b) to (d) The proposals for grant of Navratna status to Power Finance Corporation Limited, Rural Electrification Corporation Limited, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, National Aluminium Company Limited and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited have been received. These proposals are under consideration.

#### **Green Revolution**

2405. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to green revolution India is producing surplus grains;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to divert food crops to energy crops to produce ethanol; and

(c) 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) to (c) The production of foodgrains has increased from 72.35 million tones during 1965-66 (pre Green Revolution period) to 213.46 million tones during 2003-04 making country self-sufficient in foodgrains particularly rice and wheat. The Government is advising the States to promote diversification from cereal centric cropping systems to high value and low water demanding crops especially oilseeds, pulses, medicinal and aromatic plants, horticulture, floriculture, etc. while keeping in view the national food security.

#### **Starvation Deaths**

2406. SHRI RANEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court of India had directed the West Bengal State Human Rights Commission to verify reports of wide spread starvation deaths in several villages in Murshidabad district of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure availability of adequate quantity nutritious food to people living below the poverty line in the said district in order to avoid further deaths due to starvation?

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 West Bengal has reported that issuance of such directions by the Supreme Court of India have not come to their notice nor they have received any reference from West Bengal State Human Rights Commission in this regard. Moreover, the State Government has reported no starvation death.

(b) does not arise.

(c) To ensure food security to the people living below poverty line, a quantity of 15.88 lakh MT of rice, 45.12 lakh MT of wheat under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and 6.20 lakh MT of rice and 0.42 lakh MT of wheat under various food based welfare schemes was allocated to State Government of West Bengal during the year 2003-04. For the year 2003-2004, 15.88 lakh MT of rice, 45.12 lakh MT of wheat under TPDS and 7.88 lakh MT of rice and 0.41 lakh MT of wheat under various Welfare Schemes and for 2005-06 (upto January, 2006) 25.04 lakh MT of rice and 25.78 lakh of wheat under TPDS and 5.12 lakh MT of rice and 0.17 lakh of wheat was allocated to the State Government under various welfare schemes for further distribution in the Districts including Murshidabad.

#### **Bio-Medical Waste**

2407. SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:  
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:  
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:  
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

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

(a) whether injection needles and syringes as also used cotton of hospitals are being recycled/reused causing health hazards;

(b) if so, whether the Government has taken any action to check such recycling/reuse of hospital wastes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Ministry of Environment & Forests has notified the Bio-Medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998, according to which biomedical waste has been classified into 10 (ten) categories. The treatment and disposal methods for each category have been indicated in Schedules I & II of the Rules.

The used injection needles, syringes, etc., are classified as Category no. 4 in the Rules and the same are required to be disinfected by chemical treatment/autoclaving/microwaving and mutilation/shredding. The purpose of chemical treatment is to disinfect the used needles, syringes, etc., and the purpose of mutilation/shredding is to prevent any unauthorized re-use of the same. The items contaminated with blood and body fluids including cotton, dressings, etc., are classified as Category No. 6 in the Rules and the same are required to be incinerated or disinfected by autoclaving/microwaving. The used injection syringes, needles, used cotton, dressings, etc., are not allowed for re-use and the same are required to be treated and disposed of strictly in accordance with the above mentioned Rules.

These Rules make it mandatory for every occupier of an institution generating bio-medical waste to take all steps to ensure that such waste is handled without any adverse effect to human health and environment. The Rules also require such waste to be segregated, packaged, labeled, treated and disposed of in accordance with the provisions of these Rules.

(b) to (d) The State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) of Union Territories are the Prescribed Authorities in the respective States/Union Territories responsible for strict implementation of the Rules by the concerned agencies, such as, hospitals, nursing homes, etc.

Any violation of the Rules attracts action by the concerned SPCB/PCC under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Action to be taken by the SPCBs/PCCs in this connection includes closure of the unit, stoppage or regulation of the supply of electricity or water or any other service. The Act also provides for punishment with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 5 (five) years with fine, which may extend to Rupees one lakh, or with both.

The Ministry has addressed all the SPCBs/PCCs of UTs for strict implementation of the Bio-Medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998.

#### **Low Cholesterol Desi Ghee Development by NDRI, Karnal**

2408. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI), Karnal has developed a low cholesterol 'desi ghee';

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its contents; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to speed up the technology to the production stage for the benefit of the people?

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 average cholesterol level in desi ghee is 0.3%. By using technology developed at NDRI, Karnal, the cholesterol content can be reduced to 0.045%.

(c) The technology is being scaled up and shall be sold for commercial use.

#### **Setting up of Car Unit by Volkswagen in Mangalore**

2409. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team from Volkswagen, the German car giant visited Mangalore to search for a site for setting up a unit in India;

(b) if so, whether the team also visited Iran and Balepuni villages near Mudipu;

(c) if so, the time by which this car unit is likely to be set up;

(d) whether the Union Government has agreed to provide all facilities to the company; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY, MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) Yes Sir. The team from Volkswagen visited three sites in Karnataka, including Mangalore for evaluation of the feasibility of setting up of a unit for manufacturing of passenger cars.

(b) The Volkswagen team has visited a potential site near Mudipu, Mangalore.

(c) So far no proposal has been received by the Government in this regard.

(d) and (e) Does not arise, in view of the reply at (c).

#### **Promotion of Agro-Tourism**

2410. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is giving due importance to agro-tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the areas identified for promotion of agro-tourism;

(c) whether the Government has made efforts to promote employment generation and to alleviate poverty in the rural and backward areas in the country by developing agro tourism; 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) There are no schemes presently under implementation by the Ministry of Agriculture exclusively catering to the promotion of agro-tourism.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **Financial Irregularities in NCDEX**

2411. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:  
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:  
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

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

(a) whether financial irregularities have been reported in the National Commodity and Derivative Exchange Ltd. (NCDEX) recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the amount involved therein;

(c) whether the responsibilities have since been fixed;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the names of the officers involved therein; and

(e) the steps taken to divest such officials from the core and allied functions of the exchange?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The National Commodity and Derivative Exchange Ltd., (NCDEX), Mumbai had changed the methodology for calculation of final settlement price for Chana and Urad January, 2006 contracts during the currency of these contracts, which was in violation of the instructions issued by the Forward Markets Commission (FMC). The amount involved on account of this change is not quantifiable.

(c) to (e) On the directions of FMC, the NCDEX has relieved its Chief Business Officer, Shri Narendra Gupta, from his present duties and the Exchange's core position.

**Encroachment of Ridge Area**

2412. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a recent report, the topography of the ridge is being changed from reserved forest to commercial parkland;

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

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to remove the broad paths, motorable road, etc. which are still being constructed in the ridge despite a ban on illegal construction, temples and parks inside the Ridge Area; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Report of the joint inspection carried out by the officials of Delhi Government, Delhi Development Authority and a Non-Governmental organization does not indicate that the topography of the ridge is changing from reserved forest to commercial parkland. The inspection, however, confirmed the existence of wide motorable paths criss-crossing the Sanjay Van, adverse effect to frost on vegetation, presence of stores etc. Asola and Bhatti forest areas of the ridge extend in Haryana State also. However, extension of ridge in Haryana mainly has the status of Panchayat lands and such areas have not been declared as reserved forests.

(c) and (d) Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has taken steps to remove illegal structures. To improve the vegetation cover in the South-Central Ridge, no new constructions are being allowed. To check degradation of forest cover of the Ridge, the Ridge Management Board has directed all the land owning agencies to take following measures:

- (i) No constructions in the Ridge area.
- (ii) Abandoning of all roads except the lanes essential for protection and maintenance of the Ridge.
- (iii) Ridge not to be used as thoroughfare.

(iv) Planting of only native species in the Ridge area.

(v) Repairs and strengthening of fencing of Ridge area.

(vi) No dumping of garbage and debris.

(vii) Eviction of encroachments.

(viii) Demarcation of Southern Ridge.

**Centrally Sponsored Schemes to Augment Water Resources**

2413. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented in the country for providing assistance to the State Governments to augment and harness the water resources, State-wise;

(b) the allocation made and released to each State Government under these schemes during the last three years;

(c) the achievements made by each State Government in implementation of these schemes; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Union Government to ensure effective implementation of these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Ministry of Water Resources does not implement State-wise Centrally Sponsored Schemes to augment and harness the water resources. However, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme titled "Command Area Development and Water Management Programme (CAD & WM)" is being implemented by Ministry of Water Resources which aims at bridging the gap between irrigation potential created and created irrigation potential utilized and optimizing agricultural production/productivity from irrigated lands on sustainable basis. Releases made to various State Governments under CAD&WM programme in the last three years is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) Not applicable.



**Statement****State-wise Central releases under Command Area Development and Water Management Programme**

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	Year		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	125.10	—	—
2.	Bihar	—	—	630.11
3.	Chhattisgarh	148.50	174.60	30.34
4.	Haryana	620.00	—	2355.85
5.	Himachal Pradesh	180.00	118.00	104.00
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	344.00	417.00	—
7.	Karnataka	2653.00	2654.00	2034.74
8.	Kerala	—	108.30	359.09
9.	Madhya Pradesh	616.10	203.90	437.84
10.	Maharashtra	331.30	214.60	—
11.	Manipur	211.00	124.20	128.10
12.	Meghalaya	11.30	16.00	16.40
13.	Mizoram	9.10	9.10	14.21
14.	Nagaland	—	—	50.00
15.	Orissa	264.90	299.50	592.79
16.	Punjab	1622.00	1002.00	501.12
17.	Rajasthan	2939.30	2038.30	3476.85
18.	Sikkim	1.30	—	—
19.	Tamil Nadu	2305.00	2026.00	1946.63
20.	Tripura	—	—	7.52
21.	Uttaranchal	75.00	—	—
22.	Uttar Pradesh	2279.40	4738.90	1464.99
23.	West Bengal	284.00	—	—
	<b>Total</b>	<b>15020.30</b>	<b>14144.40</b>	<b>14150.58</b>

*[Translation]***Imbalance in Availability and Demand of Crops**

2414. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding the imbalance in the availability and the demand for specific crops/varieties in areas facing seed-related problems;

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

(c) whether the farmers are using lesser amount of fertilizer per hectare land area of the country; and

(d) if so, the details and 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) Government has put in place an institutionalized mechanism for assessing the demand and availability of Seeds. Zonal Input Conferences and National Conferences are organized before each cultivating season for this purpose. Further there is also an elaborate indenting system for Breeder Seed allotment. The details of Seeds required and available for Kharif 2006 Crop-wise and State-wise are given in the Statement-I and II respectively.

(c) and (d) The per hectare usage of fertilizer by the farmers in the country during 2004-05 is given in the Statement enclosed. The purchasing power of the farmer and the economic return on investment in fertilizer influence the fertilizer usage.

**Statement I**

*Requirement and Availability of Certified/Quality Seed*  
(Qty. in Quintals)

Crops	Kharif-2006	
	Requirement	Availability
1	2	3
Paddy	2516503	2904551
Maize	384856	419233

1	2	3
Jowar	179751	191264
Bajra	141365	139639
Ragi	26441	25564
Kodo	130	100
<b>Cereal Total</b>	<b>3249046</b>	<b>3680351</b>
Urd	86288	95818
Moong	102365	123651
Arhar	106840	117712
Cowpea	8825	8932
Moth	5050	5834
Rajmash	1342	3713
Others	3882	3713
<b>Pulses Total</b>	<b>314592</b>	<b>356810</b>
Groundnut	920101	931355
Til	10329	16526
Sunflower	37044	43315
Soyabean	1139814	1348170
Castor	49408	56622
Niger	879	659
Others	2450	4699
<b>Oilseed Total</b>	<b>2160025</b>	<b>2401346</b>
Cotton	240499	251622
Jute	34150	365666
Mesta/Other	4628	6028
<b>Fibre Total</b>	<b>279277</b>	<b>294216</b>
Others	19895	33149
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>6022835</b>	<b>6765872</b>

*Statement II**Requirement and Availability of Certified/Quality Seed during Kharif-2006*

South Zone	Qty. in Quintals									
	Andhra Pradesh		Karnataka		Tamil Nadu		Kerala		Pondicherry	
	Req.	Avail.	Req.	Avail.	Req.	Avail.	Req.	Avail.	Req.	Avail.
Paddy	696000	883374	158200	197950	69700	69700	28093	47550	2200	2788
Maize	98000	98000	120000	137225	100	100				
Jowar	8000	8722	26250	29015	620	620				
Bajra	4000	6352	15400	17900	630	630				
Ragi	0	0	24500	24500	600	600				
Urd	7000	15236	4390	3690	2800	2800			25	25
Moong	17000	20204	12120	11120	1500	1500				
Arhar	24000	24843	24200	24170	600	600				
Cowpea	0	0	4390	4390	1050	1050				
Others	0	0	700	310	0	0				
Groundnut	600000	619003	150000	150000	32721	32721			45	45
Til	0	1192	350	350	78	78				
Sunflower	6000	10008	24500	25500	40	40				
Soyabean	91000	127382	15000	26875	2	2				
Castor	10000	15736	1050	1050	63	63				
Niger	0	0	22	22	0	0				
Cotton	10000	26600	7000	6415	2250	2250				
Jute	0	2138	0	0	0	0				
<b>G. Total</b>	<b>1571000</b>	<b>1858790</b>	<b>588072</b>	<b>660682</b>	<b>112754</b>	<b>112754</b>	<b>28093</b>	<b>47440</b>	<b>2270</b>	<b>2858</b>

Req. = Requirement

Avail. = Availability

*Requirement and availability of certified/quality seed during Kharif 2006***West Zone**

Qty. in Quintals

Crop	Maharashtra		Gujarat		Madhya Pradesh		Rajasthan		Chhattisgarh	
	Req.	Avail.	Req.	Avail.	Req.	Avail.	Req.	Avail.	Req.	Avail.
Paddy	117190	136086	48510	48727	45000	45824	0	5514	70000	53080
Maize	400000	41120	4700	5515	10000	16850	40000	42420	775	151
Jowar	130371	136801	4200	4200	6600	6700	3500	2066	0	0
Bajra	0	0	29250	31100	4230	6500	70000	71559	0	0
Ragi/Others	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	0
Urd	36800	38314	5075	6424	4000	2667	3500	2731	1000	88
Moong	21000	23948	10400	11125	1070	1670	30000	33622	500	46
Arhar	29140	42495	8460	9502	3000	2350	800	9	2500	1477
Cowpea	0	0	0	0	0	0	2000	2107	0	0
Moth	0	0	0	0	0	0	5000	5499	0	0
Groundnut	40420	41934	67720	55231	1000	806	10000	12036	500	130
Til	1600	1892	3685	8318	320	322	2700	2725	200	82
Sunflower	6200	7652	0	0	35	0	0	0	25	0
Soyabean	562300	570434	0	0	366850	509691	60000	67399	30000	14902
Castor	250	281	30520	34259	25	205	7500	5028	0	0
Niger	0	0	0	0	250	400	0	0	500	105
Cotton	74700	86971	42534	43778	7340	275	40000	46920	0	0
Jute	8150	8428	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Others	10600	13776	0	0	0	0	10000	15796	0	0
<b>G. Total</b>	<b>1078721</b>	<b>1150132</b>	<b>255054</b>	<b>258179</b>	<b>449750</b>	<b>596280</b>	<b>286000</b>	<b>315391</b>	<b>106000</b>	<b>70061</b>

Req. = Requirement

Avail. = Availability

*Requirement and availability of certified/quality seed during Kharif-2006***North Zone**

Qty. in Quintals

Crop	Uttar Pradesh		Haryana		Punjab		Himachal Pradesh		Jammu and Kashmir	
	Req.	Avail.	Req.	Avail.	Req.	Avail.	Req.	Avail.	Req.	Avail.
Paddy	159000	170750	35000	68084	27800	122011	4700	4700	12967	12967
Maize	0	1280	1000	1300	16000	22957	13030	13030	5957	5957
Jowar	200	60	0	1050	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bajra	955	751	16900	4847	0	0	0	0	0	0
Urd	4800	5326	500	276	100	28	700	700	165	165
Moong	1250	3205	900	5051	250	816	200	200	200	200
Arhar	2130	2158	2200	3412	100	16	0	0	0	0
Cowpea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motn	0	0	50	335	0	0	0	0	0	0
Groundnut	1020	833	10	555	100	38	0	0	25	25
Til	150	264	0	23	0	0	50	50	5	5
Sunflower	200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Soyabean	1950	12252	0	1496	0	0	400	400	0	0
Castor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cotton	350	2610	48000	26782	8125	8821	0	0	0	0
Others	0	0	1600	7332	0	0	0	0	365	365
<b>G. Total</b>	<b>172005</b>	<b>199489</b>	<b>106160</b>	<b>120543</b>	<b>52475</b>	<b>154678</b>	<b>19080</b>	<b>19080</b>	<b>19684</b>	<b>19684</b>

Req. = Requirement

Avail. = Availability

*Requirement and availability of certified/quality seed during Kharif-2006***East Zone**

Qty. in Quintals

Crop	West Bengal		Orissa		Bihar		Jharkhand		Uttaranchal	
	Req.	Avail.	Req.	Avail.	Req.	Avail.	Req.	Avail.	Req.	Avail.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Paddy	462800	467500	214300	202416	207200	203977	40000	40000	15950	19662
Maize			530	210	20000	20880	3400	930	514	458

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Ragi			1000	350			75	75	266	39
Urd	9400	9700	1060	1641	1400	1952			178	440
Moong	1700	1700	1150	2365	420	4174	3149	3370*	0	0
Rajmash			0	0				192	0	
Arhar	4500	4500	30	330	3500	500			0	0
Groundnut	6200	6200	8000	9708			2450	4699#	250	0
Til			165	207					8	0
Sunflower			4	75					0	0
Soyabean			0	0				2512	7597	
Niger			107	132					0	0
Cotton			0	0					0	0
Jute	25000	25000	478	478					0	0
Others			1066	1066			80	80	50	0
<b>G. Total</b>	<b>509600</b>	<b>514600</b>	<b>228220</b>	<b>218978</b>	<b>232520</b>	<b>231483</b>	<b>49454</b>	<b>49445</b>	<b>19920</b>	<b>28196</b>

\*All Pulses # All Oilseeds

Req. = Requirement

Avail. = Availability

*Requirement and availability of certified/quality seeds during Kharif-2006***North-Eastern Zone**

Quantity in Quintals

Crop	Assam		Manipur		Meghalaya		Mizoram		Tripura		Arunachal Pradesh		Nagaland		Sikkim*	
	R	A	R	A	R	A	R	A	R	A	R	A	R	A	R	A
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Paddy	58660	58660	330	330	4713	8500	1500	1500	28190	28190			8500	8500		
Maize	1000	1000	30	30	770	8000	600	600	450	450	10	10	8000	8000		
Ragi/Kodo																
Moong	2090	2090	100	100					450	450	65	65				
Urd	2000	2000	800	800		250			270	270	75	75	250	250		
Arhar	300	300	100	100		400	300	300	250	250	5	5	400	400		
Cowpea						700	500	500	180	180			700	700		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Rajmash						1000	100	100		50	50	1000	1000			
Lentil																
Peas					13						20	20				
G. Nut			205	250	140	500	300	300	900	900			500	500		
Soyabean			500	500	300	8000	700	700					8000	8000		
Til	100	100			18	650	50	50	170	170	30	30	650	650		
Sunflower										40	40					
Castor																
Mesta					2		60	60								
Cotton					200											
Jute	500	500			22											
Beans/others					600	100	100									
<b>Total</b>	<b>64650</b>	<b>64650</b>	<b>2110</b>	<b>2110</b>	<b>6178</b>	<b>26700</b>	<b>4210</b>	<b>4210</b>	<b>30860</b>	<b>30860</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>28700</b>	<b>28700</b>		

\*Not reported

R = Requirement

A = Availability

*Statement III*

*Per-hectare Consumption and Consumption of fertilizers (State-wise, Nutrient-wise) during 2004-05  
[Based on 2001-02 (Provisional) Gross Cropped area figures]*

Sl.No.	State/U.T.	Consumption (in '000 tonnes)				Gross Cropped Area 2001-02 Provisional ('000 ha)	Per hectare Fertiliser consumption in Kgs.			
		N	P	K	Total		N	P	K	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,156.53	538.98	292.36	1987.87	12756	90.67	42.25	22.92	155.84
2.	Karnataka	655.96	363.98	273.27	1293.23	11670	56.21	31.19	23.42	110.82
3.	Kerala	88.25	41.79	201.53	2992	29.50	13.97	23.89	67.36	
4.	Tamil Nadu	482.73	211.32	257.98	952.03	6226	77.53	33.94	41.44	152.91
5.	Pondicherry	22.88	10.09	9.07	42.04	39	586.67	258.72	232.56	1077.95

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
6.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.27	0.17	0.07	0.51	44	6.14	3.86	1.59	11.59
7.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<b>SZ Total</b>	<b>2406.64</b>	<b>1166.33</b>	<b>904.24</b>	<b>4477.21</b>	<b>33730</b>	<b>71.35</b>	<b>34.58</b>	<b>26.81</b>	<b>132.74</b>
8.	Gujarat	754.00	296.26	96.22	1146.48	10734	70.24	27.60	8.96	106.81
9.	Madhya Pradesh	617.72	393.25	55.30	1066.27	19044	32.44	20.65	2.90	55.99
10.	Chhattisgarh	230.36	96.87	35.04	362.27	5595	41.17	17.31	6.26	64.75
11.	Maharashtra	954.04	526.74	258.43	1739.21	22381	42.63	23.54	11.55	77.71
12.	Rajasthan	541.85	203.14	16.33	761.32	20798	26.05	9.77	0.79	36.61
13.	Goa	2.55	1.48	1.73	5.76	168	15.18	8.81	10.30	34.29
14.	Daman and Diu	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	3	3.33	0.00	0.00	3.33
15.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.67	0.35	0.04	1.06	30	22.33	11.67	1.33	35.33
	<b>WZ Total</b>	<b>3101.20</b>	<b>1518.09</b>	<b>463.09</b>	<b>5082.38</b>	<b>78753</b>	<b>39.38</b>	<b>19.28</b>	<b>5.88</b>	<b>64.54</b>
16.	Haryana	789.40	241.03	19.59	1050.02	6318	124.94	36.15	3.10	166.19
17.	Punjab	1202.23	317.19	43.22	1562.64	8116	148.13	39.08	5.33	192.54
18.	Uttar Pradesh	2389.33	739.38	181.49	3310.20	26006	91.67	26.43	6.96	127.28
19.	Uttaranchal	84.99	21.24	7.64	113.87	1269	66.97	16.74	6.02	89.73
20.	Himachal Pradesh	30.69	8.63	7.03	46.25	956	32.10	8.92	7.35	48.38
21.	Jammu and Kashmir	50.46	21.60	3.17	75.23	1106	46.62	19.53	2.87	68.02
22.	Delhi	0.54	0.02	0.00	0.56	52	10.36	0.36	0.00	10.77
23.	Chandigarh	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	3	3.33	0.00	0.00	3.33
	<b>NZ Total</b>	<b>4647.65</b>	<b>1348.99</b>	<b>262.14</b>	<b>6158.78</b>	<b>43828</b>	<b>103.76</b>	<b>30.78</b>	<b>5.96</b>	<b>140.52</b>
24.	Bihar	618.80	70.90	41.98	731.68	7897	78.36	8.96	5.32	92.65
25.	Jharkhand	76.16	42.96	4.37	123.49	2086	36.48	20.57	2.09	59.14
26.	Orissa	223.54	77.99	53.77	355.30	8799	25.41	8.86	6.11	40.38
27.	West Bengal	630.94	339.62	290.89	1261.45	9779	64.52	34.73	29.75	129.00
	<b>EZ Total</b>	<b>1549.44</b>	<b>531.47</b>	<b>391.01</b>	<b>2471.92</b>	<b>28563</b>	<b>54.25</b>	<b>18.61</b>	<b>13.69</b>	<b>86.54</b>
28.	Assam	77.94	50.92	37.04	165.90	3985	19.56	12.78	9.29	41.63
29.	Tripura	9.33	2.58	1.53	13.44	338	27.60	7.63	4.53	39.76
30.	Manipur	17.05	2.40	0.95	20.40	216	78.94	11.11	4.40	94.44



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
31.	Meghalaya	2.85	1.90	0.18	4.93	242	11.78	7.85	0.74	20.37
32.	Nagaland	0.31	0.22	0.07	0.60	378	0.82	0.58	0.19	1.59
33.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.45	0.20	0.11	0.76	248	1.81	0.81	0.44	3.06
34.	Mizoram	0.61	0.51	0.30	1.42	87	7.01	5.86	3.45	16.32
35.	Sikkim	0.44	0.18	0.00	0.62	131	3.36	1.37	0.00	4.73
NE Total		108.98	58.91	40.18	208.07	5625	19.37	10.47	7.14	36.99
All India		11713.91	4623.79	2080.66	18398.36	190488	61.49	24.27	10.82	96.59

\*Based on 2001-02 provisional gross Capped Area.

*(English)*

**Krishi Vigyan Kendra at Karamchedu in A.P.**

2415. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for establishment of a Krishi Vigyan Kendra at Karamchedu in Andhra Pradesh is pending with the Government for quite a long time;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is 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 (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Government has approved the establishment of a Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) in each of the 578 rural districts of the country. A KVK under Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University is already functioning in Darsi in Prakasam district of Andhra Pradesh. Hence there is no further proposal to sanction a second KVK in the same district.

**Losses to FCI**

2416. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has suffered heavy losses during the last three years;

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

(c) the action taken against persons responsible for the said losses; and

(d) the efforts made by the Government to improve the performance of FCI and overcome the losses?

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) Losses in the Food Corporation of India (FCI) occur on account of storage, transportation, pilferage, etc. Storage losses occur, *inter-alia*, due to loss of moisture, multiple handling, prolonged storage and spillage. Transit losses take place due to moisture loss, different modes of weighing, trans-shipment, spillage, etc. The details of transit, storage losses and losses occurred on account of damage of foodgrains are as under:—

(Qty. in lakh MT/Value in Rs. crore)

Year	Qty.	Value	Qty. Moved	% age of loss on Qty. moved
1	2	3	4	5
<b>Transit Losses</b>				
2001-02	1.42	123.12	234.28	0.61
2002-03	1.70	148.52	297.46	0.57
2003-04	1.70	150.48	341.74	0.50

1	2	3	4	5
<b>Storage Losses</b>				
2001-02	1.44	143.02	578.98	0.25
2002-03	3.17	309.39	831.34	0.38
2003-04	2.32	244.59	819.18	0.28

(Figures of storage & transit losses for the year 2004-05 are yet to be audited, hence not given)

**Damage to Foodgrains:**

Details of accrual of damage to foodgrains *vis-a-vis* value realized on its sale in the last three years are as under:—

Year	Quantity	Qty. in Lakh MTs Value in Rs. crores
		Value
2002-03	1.35	83.55
2003-04	0.76	51.01
2004-05	0.97	63.00
Total	3.08	197.56

The percentage of damaged foodgrains is only 0.23% of the foodgrains sold by the FCI during the last three years.

(c) The details of the action taken against the persons responsible for the losses including other irregularities during the last three years are given in the statement-I enclosed.

(d) The details of the steps taken by the Government to minimize the losses and to improve the performance of the FCI are given in the Statement-II enclosed.

**Statement I**

The details of the action taken against the persons responsible for the losses including other irregularities during the last three years.

Nature of Penalty Imposed	2003	2004	2005
Dismissal/Removal/Compulsorily Retired	56	37	44
Reduction in rank	66	39	30
Reduction in time scale of pay	420	361	313
Withholding of increment	146	168	118
Recovery from pay of the loss caused to FCI	964	1346	886
Withholding of promotion	12	6	5
Censure	427	489	307
Total	2091	2446	1703

**Statement II**

*Steps taken by the Government to minimize the losses and to improve the performance of the FCI*

- (a) Adoption of 50 kg. packing in a phased manner to avoid use of hooks.
- (b) Administrative measures, such as, tightening of security at depots, intensifying surprise checks, ensuring regular stock verification etc.
- (c) Encouraging double line machine stitching of bags.
- (d) Periodical prophylactic and curative treatment of stocks as prescribed.
- (e) To streamline procedure and documentation for transparency and accountability in operations at each level.
- (f) Special squad checking at selected railhead, transshipment and destination/dispatch centers.
- (g) Identification of vulnerable points.
- (h) Speed up of write-off cases and fixation of responsibility after undertaking investigation and recover the losses wherever called for after following the prescribed procedures as per Staff Regulations.
- (i) Inspection of depots by Sr. Officers of Headquarters, Executive Directors (Zones)/ General Managers (Regions)/Area Managers.
- (j) Inspection and calibration of weighbridges.
- (k) Improvement in size and quality of gunnies.
- (l) Two-tier system of audit *i.e.* Internal and CAG.
- (m) Maintaining priority list for issue of stocks observing the FIFO principle.
- (n) Proper weighment and accounting at the time of receipt and issue.
- (o) Undertaking pre-monsoon fumigation.
- (p) Improvement in dunnage material.
- (q) Movement of foodgrains from one place to another by safe means, *i.e.* covered wagons, etc.

- (r) Ensuring proper quality checking of foodgrains at the time of procurement.
- (s) Ensuring that all FCI own godowns are constructed and maintained on scientific lines for storage of foodgrains.
- (t) Transit Insurance Agreement with M/s Oriental Insurance Company effective from 20.9.2005 (for a period of one year) for the losses arising out of transportation of foodgrains ex-North to other Zones.

*[Translation]*

**Price of Skimmed Milk Powder**

2417. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of skimmed milk powder is higher at present as compared to the previous year;

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

(c) the action being 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) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of increase in the price of skimmed milk powder at Kharibaoli market, Delhi for the period 2004-05 and 2005-06 (upto February 2006) as reported in the print media is given below:

Months	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3
April	91.81	92.46
May	88.17	96.75
June	80.00	95.83
July	86.33	92.83
August	78.78	88.96

1	2	3
September	67.31	86.79
October	69.78	82.00
November	70.86	82.92
December	74.35	80.71
January	78.21	90.96
February	76.38	95.92
Average	78.56	89.65*

\*Average upto February, 2006

The large increase in the exports of Skimmed milk powder during the current year from April to September 2005 (about 14,600 tonnes) as compared to the corresponding period of last year (about 3100 tonnes) appears to be one of the main reasons for increase in prices of skimmed milk powder as compared to the previous year.

(c) Government of India has not received any report on shortage of milk during the current year (2005-06), despite increase in export of skimmed milk powder in the current year as compared to the previous year (2004-05).

[English]

#### **Sugar De-licensing System**

2418. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to de-license sugar sector to control the increase in the price of sugar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the extent to which it is likely to benefit the industry and the consumers?

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) The sugar industry has been de-licensed with effect from 31.8.1998. The entrepreneurs are now free to set up sugar mills as per techno-economic viability of their project maintaining a distance of 15 Kms from the existing sugar mills.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### **Supply Channels of Chambal Command in Rajasthan**

2419. SHRI RAGHUVVEER SINGH KOSHAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan has submitted any proposal to the Union Government for financial assistance and rejuvenation of supply channels of Chambal command up to 150 cusec capacity;

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

(c) whether any budgetary provisions likely to be made during 2006-07; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) No, Sir. The State Governments are required to submit detailed technical proposals separately for each distributary/minor for approval of this Ministry in order to be eligible for release of financial assistance for the item of correction of system deficiencies above outlet up to distributaries of 150 cusec capacity. The Government of Rajasthan has not submitted any such proposals for the Chambal command so far.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### **Eco City Project**

2420. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Pollution Control Board has set up certain model tourism destination under Eco-City Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has not set up any model tourism destination under Eco-City Project. However, CPCB has taken up Eco-City Project in towns of Kottayam (Kerala), Puri (Orissa), Thanjavour (Tamil Nadu), Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh), Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh) and Vrindavan (Uttar Pradesh). The objective of Eco-City Project is to demonstrate verifiable environmental improvement in the core area of selected towns. For environmental improvement, the project includes various schemes of improvement in traffic systems, maintenance of drains, solid waste management, plantation and landscaping and other relevant schemes.

#### **Marketing Avenues for Processed Food**

2421. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to create more marketing avenues within and outside the country for the processed food; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) In the Union Budget 2006-07, Government has announced that NABARD will create a separate window with a corpus of Rs. 1,000/- crores for refinancing loans for agro-processing infrastructure & market development. Other Government agencies also assist in creating marketing avenues for processed food.

#### **Forest Ministers Conference**

2422. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Forest Ministers Conference was held in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Conference of Forest Ministers of all States/Union Territories was held under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Environment and Forests, on 15.02.2006 at New Delhi. The issues discussed in the Conference were:

1. Increase in forest and tree cover land availability, mobilization of finance, tariff on import of timber.
2. Multi Stakeholder Partnership (MSP) for inviting investment for the plantation on degraded land including degraded forest land from private sector.
3. Rationalization of felling and transit regulations to promote trees growing on private lands.
4. Forest tribal interface-conferring ownership of minor forest produce on forest dependent communities.
5. Lifting ban on the recruitment of front line staff.
6. Lateral movement of forest officers in other departments to overcome the stagnation.

(c) The Union Government had already requested the State/Union Territory Governments to lift ban on recruitment of front line staff, assigning ownership of minor forest produce to forest dependent communities, rationalization of felling and transit regulations for trees grown on private land and allocating more financial resources for afforestation and forest development in general.

#### **Spread of Parthenium/Congress Grass**

2423. SHRI KULDEEP BISHNOI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ravaging weed, Parthenium or Congress Grass has spread to a menacing level in all places of the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government has prepared any strategy to control the spread of Parthenium on Congress Grass;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for effective control of this weed at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) Parthenium or Congress Grass is found all over the country, mainly on barren and vacant lands.

(b) and (c) Details of the strategy for the control of Parthenium are as follows:

*Physical Methods:*

- (i) Uprooting before flowering.
- (ii) Use of uprooted Parthenium plants for composting.
- (iii) Use of competitive plants such as Cassia sericea/tora, marigold for replacing parthenium.

*Chemical methods:*

- (i) Use of 15% solution of sodium chloride (common salt) on older plants.
- (ii) Spray of 2-4, D amine salts at the rate of 1.5—2 kg. a.i./ha in 300-400 litre of water on young plants of Parthenium.
- (iii) Spraying paraquat on mature Parthenium plants @ 0.5 kg. a.i./ha for desiccation and subsequently burning of the dried plants.
- (iv) Blanket application of Diuron or Atrazine @ 2.0-2.5 kg. a.i./ha. to check emergence of Parthenium weed.
- (v) Spraying Glyphosate @ 3.00 litre/ha. on young plants of Parthenium.

*Biological method:*

Zygogramma bicolorata beetle has been identified for the biological control of Parthenium weed.

(d) Government of India has sanctioned a project on "Large scale demonstration on management of Parthenium through integrated approach" in May 2004 for a period of three years at seven centres of country. The project is being coordinated by National Research Centre for Weed Sciences (NRCWS), Jabalpur. The other centres are Acharya N.G. Ranga Agriculture University (ANGRAU), Hyderabad, University of Agriculture Sciences (UAS),

Bangalore, Tamil Nadu Agriculture University (TNAU), Coimbatore, University of Agriculture Sciences (UAS), Dharwad, Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya (HPKV), Palampur, Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeet (MPKV), Raehuri and Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya (IGKV), Raipur.

To make people aware of the ill-effects of the parthenium and its management, short term courses are organized regularly by NRCWS, Jabalpur for Officers, Scientist, NGOs, progressive farmers, etc.

More than 5 lakh Mexican beetles (*Zygogramma Bicolorata*) have been distributed free of cost through out the country for effective control of Parthenium especially in non-cropped areas.

**Lions In Gir Forest**

2424. SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the current lion population in Gir Forest;

(b) whether the conditions surrounding the Gir Forest with concentrated population of lions are not favourable to the existence;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is considering to move some of the lions to reserves in adjoining Madhya Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) A lion population of 359± 10 has been reported in Gir by the Government of Gujarat as per the census of 2005.

(b) and (c) No such reports have been received from the Government of Gujarat. The rising trend of population of lions, as placed at enclosed Statement-I, does not indicate unfavourable conditions of the lions at Gir.

(d) and (e) Yes Sir. The State Government of Gujarat has been requested to provide a viable population of lions for reintroducing in the Kuno Palpur Sanctuary of Madhya Pradesh, highlighting the imperatives for ensuring an additional home for this species.

**Statement****Statement showing the details of Lion Population in Gujarat State**

No.	Year	No. of Lions
1.	1985	239
2.	1990	284
3.	1995	304
4.	2001	327±5
5.	2005	359±10

**Centrally Sponsored Agricultural Schemes**

2425. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received requests from State Governments to release additional amounts under various Centrally Sponsored Agricultural Schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and current year, State-wise;

(c) the funds sanctioned/released for the purpose during the above period to each State;

(d) whether some State Governments have not utilized the full amount sanctioned to them under various agricultural schemes during the said period;

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

(f) the steps taken to ensure full utilization of the allocation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) to (f) The details of funds released (including release of additional funds) under the production oriented Centrally Sponsored Schemes as also their utilization, State-wise, during the last three years (i.e. 2002-03 to

2004-05) and the current year are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

The steps taken to ensure full, proper and even paced utilization of funds include regular monitoring of the timely release of funds; review of progressive expenditure incurred on implementation of schemes and follow up on obtaining of utilization certificates from the State Governments.

**Statement I****A: Technology Mission on Cotton**

			(Rs. lakh)
Year	Name of the State		Additional Fund Demanded
2003-04	(1) Karnataka		1.44
	(2) Maharashtra		134.03
	(3) Tamil Nadu		63.98
2004-05	(1) Gujarat		325.00
	(2) Maharashtra		153.79
	(3) West Bengal		20.49
2005-06	(1) Andhra Pradesh		325.00
	(2) Karnataka		65.24
	(3) Madhya Pradesh		100.00
	(4) Tamil Nadu		14.58

**B: Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM)**

Year	Name of the State	Additional Fund Demanded
2004-05	Andhra Pradesh	357.23
	Gujarat	800.00
	Madhya Pradesh	500.00
2005-06	Andhra Pradesh	2250.00
	Himachal Pradesh	8.50
	Maharashtra	989.00
	Orissa	220.00
	Madhya Pradesh	500.00

**C: Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA)**

SI/Year	Name of the State	Additional Fund Demanded	1	2	3
1	2	3			
2005-06					
1.	Rajasthan	3872.40	7.	Goa	50.00
2.	Uttaranchal	143.87	8.	Himachal Pradesh	100.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	805.15	9.	Jharkhand	513.04
4.	Orissa	590.16	10.	Uttar Pradesh	1947.00
5.	Mizoram	500.00	11.	Karnataka	3723.00
6.	Madhya Pradesh	1300.00	12.	Maharashtra	1500.00
			13.	Andhra Pradesh	499.35
			14.	Tamil Nadu	121.00
			15.	Gujarat	1781.44
			16.	Manipur	403.00

**Statement II****A: Macro Management of Agriculture Scheme**

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	Released Expenditure 2002-03	Released Expenditure 2002-03	Released Expenditure 2003-04	Released Expenditure 2003-04	Released Expenditure 2004-05	Released Expenditure 2004-05 (Prov.)	Released Expenditure 2005-06	Released Expenditure 2005-06 (Prov.)*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1900.00	2848.15	3800.00	3279.20	4702.31	3712.18	2082.89	1970.61
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	463.20	298.05	317.28	466.12	1214.15	716.33	1420.00	754.22
3.	Assam	350.00	512.97	350.00	490.00	1661.93	695.00	860.00	
4.	Bihar	1250.00	1879.16	900.00	1573.84	1786.51	1295.80	850.00	
5.	Jharkhand	600.00	1146.00	1200.00	561.26	2458.75	1116.19	650.00	
6.	Goa	162.20	137.99	131.04	231.44	280.53	258.12	182.59	200.00
7.	Gujarat	1600.00	926.61	1150.00	2864.77	5305.61	4090.53	1100.00	575.66
8.	Haryana	1600.00	1742.47	1662.00	1606.67	1813.68	1703.69	1460.00	647.27
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1600.00	1473.47	1585.15	1894.10	1600.00	1466.46	1600.00	598.64
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1932.00	1674.64	1680.00	1442.36	2285.38	2215.93	2250.00	
11.	Karnataka	5338.00	6236.40	5580.00	5681.23	11872.44	6471.47	3902.58	5196.53
12.	Kerala	2762.00	2231.15	2348.00	2018.02	4583.19	3536.98	2200.00	



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4350.00	5686.09	4400.00	4054.78	7224.76	4077.49	1950.00	1897.35
14.	Chhattisgarh	1138.23	1483.90	1600.00	1579.00	5359.23	2521.04	900.00	1913.68
15.	Maharashtra	7612.00	9720.98	8400.00	8384.85	17225.59	16563.74	6578.01	2798.76
16.	Manipur	300.00	290.00	300.00	515.92	1146.16	758.10	1785.40	1053.85
17.	Mizoram	810.00	784.62	820.00	828.50	1821.64	1563.00	1950.00	1070.00
18.	Meghalaya	700.66	648.50	427.25	584.05	1223.18	575.95	800.00	0.00
19.	Nagaland	660.00	500.00	880.00	1040.00	1768.00	1412.50	1800.00	900.00
20.	Orissa	1250.00	2160.11	1967.31	2152.00	4036.54	4466.72	200.00	833.68
21.	Punjab	850.00	392.36	0.00	114.05	996.54	25.20	0.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	6700.00	5397.17	6571.19	7025.50	11955.30	8898.26	4647.78	4691.54
23.	Sikkim	330.00	343.01	500.00	499.47	861.80	833.28	1422.00	547.65
24.	Tamil Nadu	3360.00	3971.75	4275.00	4077.19	5137.01	4291.63	3670.00	1816.80
25.	Tripura	900.00	644.31	715.34	784.66	1699.91	774.19	1380.00	0.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	6885.00	7663.52	7375.00	6717.24	8888.67	8212.66	5800.00	2810.76
27.	Uttaranchal	1290.00	1305.30	1600.00	1420.53	2361.06	2414.82	1787.87	690.42
28.	West Bengal	1427.47	1733.06	1920.00	2041.95	3152.65	2575.89	2500.00	2044.88

\*Note: Expenditure reported upto 08.3.2006

*B: Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC-MM-II)*

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl.No.	State	Released Expenditure 2002-03	Released Expenditure 2002-03	Released Expenditure 2003-04	Released Expenditure 2003-04	Released Expenditure 2004-05	Released Expenditure 2004-05 (Prov.)	Released Expenditure 2005-06	Released Expenditure 2005-06 (Prov.)*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	30.00	186.70	238.33	255.54	571.16	554.14	570.52	440.00
2.	Gujarat	122.00	284.05	419.28	448.04	773.04	800.18	750.00	364.90
3.	Haryana	98.50	81.61	159.61	95.97	112.50	186.96	270.43	179.63
4.	Karnataka	108.00	151.74	386.44	377.55	478.58	420.79	434.76	300.84
5.	Madhya Pradesh	28.00	145.04	213.67	138.64	483.28	406.42	302.35	353.23
6.	Maharashtra	235.89	544.03	779.03	641.65	771.44	775.81	763.00	473.27

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7.	Orissa	11.00	60.17	93.80	54.17	40.00	100.94	78.97	51.50
8.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Rajasthan	70.67	157.95	265.61	208.02	231.25	189.55	392.87	306.94
10.	Tamil Nadu	89.00	135.38	288.98	222.31	342.94	234.08	338.45	287.00
11.	Tripura	9.82	7.50	12.88	12.00	22.00	15.07	15.00	0.00
12.	Uttar Pradesh	15.46	58.42	92.92	57.26	40.00	58.15	35.00	50.00
13.	West Bengal	11.86	7.44	25.58	33.58	38.59	49.60	74.00	33.00

\*Note: Figures are upto 31.01.2006

*C: (i) Oilseed Production Programme (OPP)\**

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Released 2002-03	Expenditure 2002-03	Released 2003-04	Expenditure 2003-04
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	760.00	1083.92	1218.00	2228.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15.00	48.63	21.00	11.25
3.	Assam	110.00	0.00	104.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	28.00	0.00
5.	Jharkhand	5.00	0.00	9.00	0.00
6.	Goa	3.00	4.21	3.00	0.92
7.	Gujarat	615.00	350.00	732.00	348.74
8.	Haryana	130.00	186.33	178.00	147.64
9.	Himachal Pradesh	15.05	15.67	10.00	9.69
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5.00	1.17	12.00	N.R.
11.	Karnataka	456.00	54.41	522.00	238.42
12.	Kerala	25.00	12.76	9.00	0.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	675.00	1246.27	1060.00	989.66
14.	Chhattisgarh	70.00	54.07	46.00	13.39
15.	Maharashtra	575.00	761.75	642.00	9.77
16.	Manipur	72.00	74.11	72.00	31.50

1	2	3	4	5	6
17.	Mizoram	34.00	119.00	79.00	49.49
18.	Meghalaya	24.00	5.17	24.00	0.00
19.	Nagaland	90.00	70.00	90.00	45.00
20.	Orissa	25.00	412.74	205.00	6.89
21.	Punjab	0.00	7.76	30.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	815.00	769.31	869.00	698.31
23.	Sikkim	50.00	73.30	50.00	50.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	420.00	467.79	347.00	218.48
25.	Tripura	60.00	50.00	60.00	23.20
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	328.09	297.50	76.89
27.	Uttaranchal	25.00	24.66	18.00	31.31
28.	West Bengal	95.00	75.00	130.50	3.65

\*Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize (ISOPOM) became operational with effect from 1st April, 2004 after merging four erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP), National Pulses Development Project (NPDP), Oilpalm Development Programme (OPDP) and Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP)

C: (ii) Oil Palm Development Programme (OPDP)\*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Released 2002-03	Expenditure 2002-03	Released 2003-04	Expenditure 2003-04
1.	Andhra Pradesh	230.00	71.14	72.00	426.86
2.	Assam	4.00	0.00	2.00	0.00
3.	Goa	2.50	6.29	8.00	0.25
4.	Gujarat	20.00	32.22	50.00	19.20
5.	Karnataka	79.50	103.23	120.00	129.21
6.	Kerala	5.00	0.00	5.00	41.12
7.	Orissa	3.50	0.00	5.00	0.00
8.	Tamil Nadu	39.50	68.93	120.00	93.31
9.	Tripura	6.00	0.00	8.00	0.00

\*Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize (ISOPOM) became operational with effect from 1st April, 2004 after merging four erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP), National Pulses Development Project (NPDP), Oilpalm Development Programme (OPDP) and Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP).

## C: (iii) National Pulses Development Project (NPDP)\*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Released 2002-03	Expenditure 2002-03	Released 2003-04	Expenditure 2003-04
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25.00	142.43	69.00	100.38
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15.00	9.96	15.00	12.80
3.	Assam	15.00	74.60	50.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	9.00	87.44
5.	Jharkhand	2.50	2.50	9.00	36.35
6.	Goa	1.00	0.17	1.00	0.32
7.	Gujarat	50.00	130.00	42.00	27.28
8.	Haryana	10.00	39.70	61.00	35.90
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2.50	7.10	4.00	27.16
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	4.50	3.06	4.00	0.00
11.	Karnataka	67.00	149.06	117.00	124.26
12.	Kerala	4.00	3.75	3.00	0.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	132.50	241.18	336.00	49.63
14.	Chhattisgarh	45.00	35.21	42.00	14.65
15.	Maharashtra	147.00	292.79	212.00	70.17
16.	Manipur	40.00	31.50	20.00	49.99
17.	Mizoram	51.00	4.50	15.00	16.65
18.	Meghalaya	15.00	4.50	15.00	0.00
19.	Nagaland	37.00	40.00	35.00	17.50
20.	Orissa	10.00	55.40	33.00	33.00
21.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	9.00	2.60
22.	Rajasthan	254.00	366.71	269.00	238.44
23.	Sikkim	10.00	13.24	10.00	16.99
24.	Tamil Nadu	93.00	85.00	69.00	50.17
25.	Tripura	37.00	48.92	30.00	10.46

1	2	3	4	5	6
26.	Uttar Pradesh	60.00	464.18	172.00	280.04
27.	Uttaranchal	4.50	29.26	13.00	0.00
28.	West Bengal	4.50	4.50	21.00	0.00

\*Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize (ISOPOM) became operational with effect from 1st April, 2004 after merging four erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP), National Pulses Development Project (NPDP), Oilpalm Development Programme (OPDP) and Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP)

C: (iv) Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP)\*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Released 2002-03	Expenditure 2002-03	Released 2003-04	Expenditure 2003-04
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	33.75	18.52	5.00	34.52
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.46	11.14	15.95	13.87
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	4.44	22.43
4.	Bihar	0.00	95.50	0.00	0.00
5.	Jharkhand	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.47
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	0.00	0.29	2.00	2.30
8.	Haryana	0.00	2.03	0.00	2.49
9.	Himachal Pradesh	47.57	34.87	47.27	51.46
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	5.00	12.16
11.	Karnataka	42.62	36.94	4.00	22.00
12.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	3.00	47.37	20.62	5.57
14.	Chhattisgarh	6.36	10.62	10.07	9.58
15.	Maharashtra	60.77	47.37	15.13	40.48
16.	Manipur	13.44	10.35	22.30	25.39
17.	Mizoram	44.72	36.28	29.89	50.28
18.	Meghalaya	0.00	10.35	4.30	4.30

1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	Nagaland	0.00	11.00	4.30	4.30
20.	Orissa	0.00	0.74	0.00	0.00
21.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	20.88	33.57	50.31	47.83
23.	Sikkim	17.85	10.71	3.00	9.87
24.	Tamil Nadu	11.48	12.20	15.75	15.72
25.	Tripura	13.53	8.73	15.82	25.62
26.	Uttar Pradesh	38.92	51.32	51.20	33.02
27.	Uttaranchal	10.35	10.62	10.65	14.04
28.	West Bengal	1.30	0.00	0.00	7.47

\*Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize (ISOPOM) became operational with effect from 1st April, 2004 after merging four erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP), National Pulses Development Project (NPDP), Oilpalm Development Programme (OPDP) and Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP).

C: (v) Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM)

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Released 2004-05	Expenditure 2004-05 (Prov.)	Released 2005-06	Expenditure 2005-06 20.2.2006 (Prov.)*
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3559.97	3864.95	2650.00	3513.40
2.	Assam	4.00	139.94	3.00	0.00
3.	Bihar	145.00	421.65	245.00	0.00
4.	Goa	10.00	7.75	16.50	2.61
5.	Gujarat	1883.00	1316.71	1850.00	1371.08
6.	Haryana	497.00	495.07	350.00	361.11
7.	Himachal Pradesh	40.00	55.08	67.00	45.95
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	85.00	29.30	142.50	0.00
9.	Karnataka	2155.00	1560.97	1800.00	837.50
10.	Kerala	5.00	34.83	7.50	23.01

1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Madhya Pradesh	2925.00	2627.40	2400.00	1675.89
12.	Chhattisgarh	625.00	523.58	400.00	167.68
13.	Maharashtra	1040.00	991.41	1750.00	940.93
14.	Mizoram	107.00	100.00	10.00	50.70
15.	Orissa	455.00	788.17	500.00	272.25
16.	Punjab	52.50	1.76	87.50	3.62
17.	Rajasthan	2000.00	1608.29	2350.00	1719.51
18.	Tamil Nadu	990.00	644.14	1245.00	760.60
19.	Tripura	5.00	0.00	7.00	43.96
20.	Uttar Pradesh	785.00	761.43	1065.00	802.97
21.	West Bengal	260.00	228.97	450.00	495.19

\*Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize (ISOPOM) became operational with effect from 1st April, 2004 after merging four erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP), National Pulses Development Project (NPDP), Oilpalm Development Programme (OPDP) and Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP)

D: Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North-Eastern States including Sikkim, Uttaranchal, H.P. & J&K (MM-II)

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Released 2002-03	Expenditure 2002-03	Released 2003-04	Expenditure 2003-04	Released 2004-05	Expenditure 2004-05 (Prov.)	Released 2005-06	Expenditure 2005-06 (Prov.)*
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1099.00	1099.00	1220.00	1220.00	1645.55	1645.55	1150.00	1150.00
2.	Assam	1092.15	1092.15	1400.00	1400.00	871.00	871.00	1300.00	1300.00
3.	Manipur	687.36	687.36	638.00	638.00	1286.25	1286.25	1500.00	1500.00
4.	Mizoram	1271.76	1271.76	1089.00	1089.00	1801.10	1625.75	1500.00	1500.00
5.	Meghalaya	865.85	865.85	937.00	937.00	1395.99	1395.99	1500.00	1500.00
6.	Nagaland	979.00	979.00	1256.00	1136.00	1875.00	1225.75	1275.00	1275.00
7.	Sikkim	857.14	857.14	1000.00	1000.00	1150.00	1150.00	1500.00	1500.00
8.	Tripura	821.50	821.50	900.00	900.00	1111.30	1111.30	1200.00	1200.00
9.	Uttaranchal			564.72	664.72	975.00	975.00	1100.00	1100.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh			650.00	650.00	1300.00	1300.00	1100.00	1100.00
11.	Jammu and Kashmir			650.00	650.00	1233.00	1233.00	1307.54	1307.54

\*Note: Expenditure reported upto 31.12.2005.

*E: Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms*

(Rs. in lakhs)		
Sl.No.	Name of the State	Released 2005-06 (up to Jan. 2006)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	223.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	50.00
3.	Assam	82.00
4.	Bihar	176.00
5.	Jharkhand	92.00
6.	Gujarat	116.00
7.	Goa	16.00
8.	Haryana	92.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	80.00
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	104.00
11.	Karnataka	128.00
12.	Kerala	80.00
13.	Madhya Pradesh	200.00
14.	Chhattisgarh	40.00
15.	Maharashtra	231.00
16.	Manipur	17.00
17.	Mizoram	34.00
18.	Meghalaya	14.00
19.	Nagaland	28.00
20.	Orissa	152.00
21.	Punjab	92.00
22.	Rajasthan	231.00
23.	Sikkim	22.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	128.00
25.	Tripura	22.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	324.00
27.	Uttaranchal	96.00
28.	West Bengal	92.00

*F: National Horticulture Mission*

(Rs. in lakhs)		
Sl.No.	Name of the State	Released 2005-06 (up to 6.3.2006)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4420.96
2.	Bihar	3100.00
3.	Chhattisgarh	2037.83
4.	Gujarat	3239.28
5.	Goa	315.20
6.	Haryana	1050.00
7.	Jharkhand	2800.00
8.	Karnataka	4455.17
9.	Kerala	3533.98
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2388.40
11.	Maharashtra	8260.28
12.	Orissa	3611.91
13.	Punjab	2968.82
14.	Rajasthan	2259.57
15.	Tamil Nadu	3891.67
16.	Uttar Pradesh	5340.25
17.	West Bengal	4035.31

**Vamsadhara Project**

2426. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for construction of Vamsadhara Project in Andhra Pradesh is pending with the Government for site clearance; and

(b) if so, the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared/implemented by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.



**Introduction of Health Cess**

2427. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee of Secretaries had short down the proposal of introducing 2 per cent health cess on all central taxes;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry had proposed the Cess to raise Rs. 8500 crores to fund among other things a Rs. 3000 crores medical scheme comprising free medicines for the poor;

(c) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the committee; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) The proposal of this Department for introduction of a Health and Pharma Cess on the lines of education cess for launching a Health Insurance Scheme for BPL families was discussed by the Committee of Secretaries (COS) in its meeting held on 7th February, 2006 under the Chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary. After detailed discussions it was decided, *inter-alia*, that the entire exercise should be remitted to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare which would prepare appropriate schemes within their budgetary limits.

[Translation]

**Water Tax**

2428. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to impose water tax on drawal of ground water and use of rivers waters; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) There is no such proposal with the Ministry of Water Resources.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Environmental Clearance Process**

2429. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has decentralised the process of environmental clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government is considering to reduce the time limit for giving such clearance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Government has brought out a draft revised environmental impact assessment notification published in Gazette of India *vide* S.O. 1324 (E) dated 15th September, 2005. In the said draft notification, State level clearances in respect of select projects below a prescribed threshold limit are proposed.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

**Demand for Iron Ore**

2430. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:  
SHRI KAILASH NATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment of increasing demand of iron ore in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on date; and

(c) the total quantum of iron ore used during the year 2004-05 and 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) and (b) In the National

Steel Policy, Government has assessed the domestic demand of iron ore at 190 Million Tonnes (MT) in 2019-2020 for a projected steel production of 110 MT in the same year.

(c) The total dispatches for internal consumption of iron ore, as reported by Indian Bureau of Mines, for the year 2004-05 (P) and 2005-06 (E) are given as under:

2004-05 (Provisional)	76.3 MT
2005-06 (Estimated)	86.6 MT

[*English*]

#### Plan Outlays

2431. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite steep increase in the Central plan outlays the allocation for Department of Agricultural Research and Education has been scaled down during the last couple of years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to arrest this trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir. The details are as under:

(Rs. in Crore)

Years	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Total Central Outlay	144038	147893	162947	211253	254041
DARE/CAR Outlay	775	775	1000	1150	1350

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Settlement Commission on Overcharging Cases

2432. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Settlement Commission to resolve all the pending cases relating to overcharging by pharmaceutical companies;

(b) if so, whether the outstanding demands of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority and the Government claims under Drug Price Equilization Account are proposed to be transferred to the proposed Commission;

(c) if so, the time by which this Commission is likely to be set up; and

(d) the extent to which this will facilitate the clearance of the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (d) Based on the recommendations of the Committee under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Pharmaceuticals) and the Task Force under the Chairmanship of Dr. Pronab Sen, Principal Advisor, Planning Commission as well as feedback received from other stakeholders the Government have formulated a Draft National Pharmaceutical Policy, 2006 (Part-A-excluding pricing) which has been circulated to various departments/stakeholders seeking their comments. This draft policy also contains a proposal to set up a Settlement Commission to resolve all the pending cases relating to overcharging by pharmaceutical companies under the Drugs (Prices Control) Orders issued from time to time. Based on the comments received from various stakeholders the Government is likely to finalize the new Policy shortly.

[*Translation*]

#### Allocation and Offtake of Foodgrains

2433. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:  
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:  
SHRI KAILASH NATH YADAV:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state the current allocation, release and offtake of foodgrains for distribution under the Public Distribution System, Targeted Public Distribution System and the Antyodaya Anna Yojana?

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): The details of Allocation (release) and Offtake of foodgrains, under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) categories, for the Current Year (2005-06-form April, 2005 to January, 2006), are given as under:

(in lakh tonnes)		
Category	Allocation	Offtake
AAY	65.53	55.77
BPL	161.39	120.38
APL	370.02	62.50
Total	596.94	238.65

[English]

#### Export of Plants/Herbs

2434. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether export of plants, herbs and derivatives thereof is permitted;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Governments are competent to issue permission for such exports;

(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) and (b) Yes, Sir. The export of plants, plant portions, their derivatives and extracts are permitted by the Union Government as per the rules and procedures prescribed under Foreign Trade Policy (2004-2009).

(c) to (e) No, Sir. The permission for export of plants, herbs and their derivatives are given by the Union Government under Foreign Trade Policy on the recommendation/report of State Governments.

#### Post of EPFO Commissioner

2435. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of meetings of Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) Board held during the last three years and till date;

(b) whether EPFO Commissioner's post has been lying vacant for a long time; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the post is likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) No, Sir. The post of CPFC has since been filled up with effect from 01.12.2005.

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

#### Statement

*The details of the meeting of the Board 'fixed', 'held' and 'postponed' during the last three years*

Year	Details of Meeting	Date of Meeting
1	2	3
2002-2003	Special Meeting	12.04.2002
	157th Meeting	09.07.2002
	158th Meeting	22.10.2002
	159th Meeting	04.12.2002
	Special CBT Meeting	23.12.2002
2003-2004	160th Meeting	28.3.2003
	161st Meeting	31.5.2003
	162nd Meeting	27.06.2003
	163rd Meeting	19.08.2003
	164th Meeting	15.10.2003
	165th Meeting	03.12.2003
	166th Meeting	03.02.2004
167th Meeting	23.02.2004	

1	2	3
2004-2005	168th Meeting	30.06.2004
	169th Meeting	13.07.2004
	169th Meeting	20.07.2004
	169th Meeting	09.08.2004
	170th Meeting	06.12.2004
	171st Meeting	21.02.2005
	172nd Meeting	20.03.2005 *(Postponed)
2005-2006	Special CBT Meeting	28.05.2005
	172nd Meeting	30.07.2005 *(Postponed)
	172nd Meeting	10.11.2005 *(Postponed)
	172nd Meeting	21.11.2005
	173rd Meeting	07.12.2005
	174th Meeting	23.2.2006

\*Due to administrative exigencies the meeting could not be held.

#### **Crisis in Farm Sector**

2436. SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farm sector is experiencing severe crisis;

(b) if so, the specific causes for the deepening crisis in farm sector; and

(c) the remedial steps proposed to be taken 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 KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) In the recent times, there has been a deceleration in the growth of agriculture. This is mainly because of drought and other natural calamities as well as problems like inadequate investment, low irrigated area, inadequate

flow of credit, low productivity, and inadequate marketing infrastructure. These problems have caused hardships to the farmers in some areas of the country.

In order to make the agriculture sector more vibrant and dynamic with the objective to increase production and productivity, the Government has taken several initiatives, which include enhancing the flow of institutional credit to the farmers and strengthening of cooperative credit structure, ensuring the timely availability of quality inputs, promoting farmer friendly and demand driven agriculture extension system, accelerating diversification to high value crops, launching of national horticulture mission, strengthening infrastructure and the supply chain, optimising the efficient utilization of available water resources through drip and sprinkler techniques, enhancing the sustainability of dryland/rainfed farming system, reforming agricultural markets, widespread use of post harvest technology and putting in place a broader spectrum of risk management apparatus for farmers.

*[Translation]*

#### **Submission of Fake Bills for Subsidy on Fertilizers**

2437. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO  
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints regarding submission of fake bills related to subsidy on fertilizers by the fertilizers manufacturers;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government has ascertained the quantum of subsidy claimed in such cases;

(d) if so, the amount of each bill submitted, separately during each of the last three years; and

(e) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (e) During the last three years, some complaints have been received by Department of Fertilizers in respect of supply of the non-standard fertilizers/bogus sales by some Companies in

the States of Bihar, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan. The details is as follows:

- (i) M/s. Oswal Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd. supplied two rakes of non-standard DAP in each of the States of Bihar and Punjab during 2004 and availed 'on account' payment of concession thereon. The State Government of Bihar suspended the supply of DAP in the State from this company. The Department has recovered the 'on account' payment of concession released to the Company in respect of the sales in Bihar. The report from Government of Punjab in the matter is awaited.

Additionally, the State Government of Uttar Pradesh reported in February 2003 that M/s. Oswal Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited had made a bogus sale of DAP in that State through M/s. Kaveri Distributor Private Limited, Shahjahanpur, M/s. Rural Mercantile Private Limited, Allahabad and M/s. Krishi Mercantile Private Limited, Kushinagar. A complaint has also been received that the Company had made bogus sales of DAP in Punjab through M/s Swastik Urea Private Limited in the State of Punjab. The detailed reports from the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Punjab have been sought in the matter. The Department has frozen the release of entire amount of payment of concession to this Company till final settlement of all its claims. Final view in the matter will be taken by Department of Fertilizers after receipt of the detailed reports called from the concerned State Governments.

- (ii) 2015.05 MTs and 1027.45 MTs of SSP supplied by M/s. Prem Sakhi Fertilizers Ltd. and M/s. Bohra Industries Ltd. respectively to Himachal Pradesh State Cooperative & Marketing Consumer Federation Ltd. during the months of November & December 2004 were found non-standard. That State Government cancelled the authorization letter for selling SSP Fertilizers in the State in respect of above companies under the Fertilizer Control Order. Department of Fertilizers also recovered the 'on account' payment of concession released to M/s. Prem Sakhi Fertilizers Ltd. The claims of concession in respect of the above quantity submitted by M/s. Bohra Industries Ltd. were not entertained by Department of Fertilizers.

- (iii) Certain samples of SSP supplied by M/s. Madhuban Chemicals, M/s. Shurvi Colours Chem. Ltd., M/s. Ganpati Fertilizers Ltd., M/s. Prem Sakhi Fertilizers Ltd. and M/s. Arihant Phosphate & Fertilizers Ltd. have also been found non-standard by the State Government of Rajasthan. The State Government has cancelled the registration certificates of these companies to sell SSP in the State of Rajasthan.

*[English]*

#### **Demarcation of Coastal Stretch**

2438. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

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

- (a) whether any project for demarcating a hazard line along the entire coastal stretch has been commissioned;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which the project is likely to be completed; and
- (d) the estimated cost of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Based on the recommendations of the Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Committee Report on Coastal Regulation Zone the Ministry of Environment and Forest has initiated a pilot study project for demarcating a vulnerability Line taking into account the natural and manmade coastal hazards for identified coast stretches of the country. Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad, Survey of India, Dehradun, Centre for Earth Science Studies, Thiruvananthapuram and Department of Ocean Development, New Delhi are associated in the study.

(c) The pilot study project is designed to be completed by April, 2006.

(d) For the above pilot project, Centre for Earth Science Studies have quoted Rs. 7.5 lakhs while Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad have sought Rs. 7 lakhs.

\*U.S. Q. No. 2439.

[*English*]

### **Eradication of Hunger**

2440. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has prepared any action plan for turning every village into a knowledge centre and making India hunger free by August, 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(c) whether the country possesses necessary capabilities for successful implementation of the said programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and success achieved therein?

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 National Commission on Farmers in its first interim Report submitted to the Government has, *inter-alia*, recommended:

(i) Establishment of a Knowledge Centre in every village to create a veritable platform for knowledge transfer between and across rural communities, scientists, educators, healthcare providers, technology enablers on local agro-ecological and socio-cultural conditions as well as sharing experiences on various farming methods and techniques; and

(ii) Implementation of a Seven-Point Action Plan to make India hunger free by 15th August, 2007.

The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation has intimated that it has not yet firmed up its views on the recommendations. However, the Finance Minister in the Budget Speech for 2005-06 has announced the decision of the Government to provide financial support of Rs. 100 crores to begin with, through NABARD under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDC) for establishment of such Centre.

\*The question tabled by Shri Paras Nath Yadav, MP was deleted *vide* corrigenda to list of Questions issued on 5.5.2006.

(b) to (d) it has been the constant endeavour of the Government to ensure food security to all with focus on the poor and create a hunger free India. A well Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is one of the effective strategies in respect of poverty alleviation and to enhance food security, at the house hold level. In addition, there are several other schemes which cater to the requirements of the specific target groups such as the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) for the poorest of the poor; Mid-Day Meal Scheme for students of primary schools; Wheat based Nutrition Programme for children below 6 years of age and expectant/lactating women; Annapurna Scheme for indigent senior citizens not getting pension under the National Old Age Pension Scheme; Sampooma Gramin Rozgar Yojana for organizing various employment generation programme; Emergency Feeding Programme for old, infirm and destitute persons belonging to Below Poverty Line households to provide them food security in their distress conditions; Grain Bank Scheme to provide safeguard against starvation during the period of natural calamity or during the lean season when the rural people do not have purchasing power; National Food for Work Programme for generation of supplementary wage employment and providing food security, etc. As a sequel to the resolution adopted at the "World Food Summit-Five years later" in Rome for instituting an "International Alliance Against Hunger" the Government of India has constituted a "National Alliance Against Hunger" with various Department/Ministries, Food and Agriculture Organisation, Planning Commission and Non-Governmental organization as its member. The primary aim of this Alliance is to mobilize political will, technical expertise and financial resources to reduce the hunger in the country.

### **Losses to Sugarcane Farmers In Andhra Pradesh due to Floods**

2441. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sugarcane farmers of Andhra Pradesh and some other States have incurred huge losses due to floods in recent past;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to help the said farmers 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 KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per report of the Inter-Ministerial Team deputed to the States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka for an on-the-spot assessment of damage caused to sugarcane crops by recent floods, more than 50% sugarcane crop over an area of 17351 hectares in Andhra Pradesh, 66292 hectares in

Maharashtra and 193191 hectares in Karnataka has been affected.

(c) An amount of Rs. 39.57 crores to Andhra Pradesh, Rs. 15.91 crores to Maharashtra and Rs. 14.374 crores to Karnataka were approved from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) for damaged sugarcane crop to the affected farmers.

[Translation]

#### Migration of Bengal Tigers

2442. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the reported migration of the Bengal Tigers of Sunderbans in West Bengal to Bhutan;

(b) if so, whether the Government has verified such reports;

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to check this migration;

(d) whether the Government has conducted a census of the tigers in Sunderbans; and

(e) if so, the total number of tigers in Sunderbans and the steps being taken to increase their numbers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) This Ministry has not received any report of tigers from Sundarbans migrating to Bhutan.

(b) and (c) Question do not arise.

(d) and (e) The State Government conducts estimation of tigers and other wild animals periodically. The population of tigers, based on the All India Estimation as reported by States since 1972 is given in the Statement-I enclosed. The steps taken by Government of India for tiger conservation are given in the Statement-II enclosed.

#### Statement I

Sl.No.	Name of Reserve	1972	1979	1984	1989	1993	1995	1997	2001-02
1.	Sunderbans (West Bengal)	60	205	264	269	251	242	263	245

#### Statement II

Steps taken by the government for protection and conservation of tigers and other wildlife are as under:

- (i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (ii) Several rare and endangered species of wild animals have been included in the Schedules of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby giving it highest degree of protection.
- (iii) The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 has been amended and made more stringent. The punishment in cases of offences has been enhanced. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that has been used for committing any wildlife offence.
- (iv) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.

- (v) Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centers of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.
- (vi) Financial and technical help is provided to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger, Project Elephant and Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals.
- (vii) A National Wildlife Action Plan 2002-16 was adopted by the Indian Board for Wild Life under the chairmanship of Prime Minister in January 2002. The plan outlines the strategy for conservation and protection of wildlife in the country.
- (viii) Government of India is a signatory to many international conventions concerning biodiversity conservation and control of illegal trade in wild flora and fauna.

- (ix) Bilateral agreements have been signed with Nepal and Republic of China for controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife.
- (x) A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
- (xi) Action has been taken for implementing the urgent recommendation of Tiger Task Force and creation of National Wildlife Crime Control Bureau.

#### **Lease of Land of Commercial Institutions by PSUs**

2443. SHRI TEK LAL MAHTO: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether instead of making proper use of land acquired by public sector undertakings they have leased out the land to various commercial institutions and schools;
- (b) if so, whether the affected persons have not yet been paid compensation;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has taken any action to stop these organisations from leasing out the land; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) Guidelines have been issued in February, 1986 with regard to land acquisition and rehabilitation aspects involved in major projects by CPSEs. The said guidelines envisage identification of surplus land with CPSEs and its appropriate use. The guidelines also provide that the land acquisition authorities should streamline the procedure for payment of compensation to the affected persons as per the provisions of Land Acquisition Act.

[English]

#### **Funds for Rehabilitation**

2444. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a proposal has been sent to the Union Government by the Government of Karnataka to provide

100 per cent financial assistance for rehabilitation of 154 tribal families displaced due to the formation of Bandipur National Park;

- (b) if so, whether there is delay in dispatching the instalments;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken to release the funds immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) An Annual Plan of Operation for 2005-06 received from State for Bandipur (Nagarahole extension) Tiger Reserve has been approved for an amount of Rs. 456.39 lakhs (Central Assistance Rs. 331.925 lakhs), which *inter alia* includes rehabilitation of 154 affected tribal families by formation of Bandipur Tiger Reserve. An amount of Rs. 251.585 lakhs has already been released for implementation of activities approved in Annual Plan of Operation for 2005-06. Action has been taken for release of balance Central Assistance, based on progress report/utilization of funds as received from the State.

#### **MoUs with Private/Foreign Companies**

2445. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some MoUs were signed by the Government of Orissa with Indian and Foreign Companies in recent past for setting up of steel plants and for selling of the iron ores;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; project-wise and area-wise; and
- (c) the names of the companies which have started the project so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS): (a) Yes, Sir. 43 MoUs were signed by the Government of Orissa with Indian and Foreign Companies in recent past for setting up steel plants and sponge iron plants.

- (b) Details of the MoUs signed are enclosed at Statement-I.
- (c) The names of the companies which are reported under operation are enclosed at Statement-II.



**Statement I**

*List of Steel Plant Projects for which MoUs have been signed by the State Government  
(as on November 03, 2005)*

Sl.No.	Name of the Company	Location	Capacity in MTPA	Investment Rs. in crore	Date of signing of MoU	Requirement of iron ore for 25 years in Million Tonnes	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9
1.	M/s Bhushan Group of companies	Lapanga, Sambalpur	Phase-I	1.2	1650	15.05.2002	48
			Phase-II	1.6	1850		64
2.	M/s Aarti Steel Ltd.	Ghantikhali, Athagarh, Cuttack	Phase-I	0.5	512	01.10.2003	20
			Phase-II	0.5	374		20
3.	M/s Neepez Metalicks (P) Ltd.	Chadriharipur, Rourkela, Sundargarh	Phase-I	0.26	202.5	01.10.2003	10.4
			Phase-II	0.15	197.5		6
4.	M/s Scaw Industries (P) Ltd.	Gundichapada, Dhenkanal	Phase-I	0.25	310	01.10.2003	10
			Phase-II	0.55	514		22
5.	M/s Deo Mines & Mineral (P) Ltd.	Bonai, Sundargarh		0.325	316	01.10.2003	13
6.	M/s Visa Industries Ltd.	Jhakhapura, Duburi, Jaipur		0.35	345.78	26.12.2003	14
7.	M/s SMC Power Generation Ltd.	Hirma, Jharsuguda	Phase-I	0.25	141	26.12.2003	10
			Phase-II	0.15	314		6
8.	M/s Shyam DRI Power Ltd.	Pandoli, Rengali, Sambalpur		0.27	224.71	09.02.2004	10.8
9.	M/s Sun-Flag Special Steels Ltd.	Bornai, Sambalpur	Phase-I	0.35	348.74	26.08.2004	14
			Phase-II	0.65	588.45		26
10.	M/s Oriasa Sponge Iron Ltd.	Guria, Govindpur, Sambalpur	Phase-I	0.35	395	26.08.2004	—
			Phase-II	0.6	642		—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9
11.	M/s SPS Sponge Iron Ltd.	Badmal Growth Centre, Jharsuguda		0.29	210	26.08.2004	11.6
12.	M/s Maharashtra Seamless Ltd.	Kalinganagar Industrial Complex, Duburi, Jaipur	Phase-I	0.3	245	26.08.2004	12
			Phase-II	0.18	205		7.2
13.	M/s OCL India Ltd.	Rajgangpur, Sundergarh		0.25	204.21	27.11.2004	10
14.	M/s AML Steel & Power Ltd.	Kalinganagar Industrial Complex, Duburi, Jaipur		0.275	208.67	27.11.2004	11
15.	M/s Maheswary Ispat (P) Ltd.	Rampei, Khuntuni, Cuttack		0.25	210.00	27.11.2004	10
16.	M/s Monnet Ispat Ltd.	Mangalpur, Dhenkanal		0.25	281.09	27.11.2004	10
17.	M/s Aryan Ispat & Power (P) Ltd.	Bomlai, Rengali, Sambalpur		0.30	393.14	27.11.2004	12
18.	M/s Maithan Ispat Ltd.	Kalinganagar Industrial Complex, Duburi		0.27	395.25	27.11.2004	10.8
19.	M/s Sree Metaliks Ltd.	Loidapada, Barbil, Keonjhar		0.25	190.44	27.11.2004	10
20.	M/s MSP Metaliks (P) Ltd.	Marakuta, Jharsuguda		0.26	260.59	27.11.2004	10.4
21.	M/s Action Ispat & Power (P) Ltd.	Pandripather & Marakuta, Jharsuguda		0.25	270.00	27.11.2004	10
22.	M/s Agrim Steel Industries Ltd.	Marakuta, Jharsuguda		0.36	501.73	27.11.2004	14.4
23.	M/s Tube Investment India Ltd	Kalinga Nagar Industrial Complex, Jaipur	Phase-I	1.2	3480.00	21.04.2005	48
			Phase-II	1.8			72

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
24.	M/s Patnaik Steel & Alloys Ltd.	Purunapani, Joda, Keonjhar		0.27	337.42	04.05.2005	10.8
25.	M/s Rathi Udyog Ltd.	Potapally-Sikridi, Sambalpur		0.30	272.85	04.05.2005	12
26.	M/s Viraj Steel & Energy Ltd.	Gurupali, Pandaloj, Sambalpur		0.30	207.00	04.05.2005	12
27.	M/s Deepak Steels & Power Ltd.	Topodih, Barbil, Keonjhar		0.25	195.31	04.05.2005	10
28.	M/s Konark Ispet Ltd.	Hirma, Jharsuguda		0.25	198.50	04.05.2005	10
29.	M/s Beekay Steel & Power Ltd.	Ulburu, Barbil, Keonjhar		0.28	319.80	04.05.2005	11.2
30.	M/s BRG Iron & Steel Co. (P) Ltd.	Khurunti, Dhenkanal		0.25	228.05	04.05.2005	10
31.	M/s Jain Sponge (P) Ltd.	Durlaga, Jharsuguda		0.30	251.77	04.05.2005	12
32.	M/s Jindal Stainless Ltd.	Duburi, Jaipur	Phase-I	0.8	1612.00	09.06.2005	32
			Phase-II	0.8	5016.00		32
33.	M/s Rungta Mines Ltd.	Kamando, near Koira, Sundargarh and Jharaband, Dhenkanal (1 MTPA each)		2.00	2275.00	3.11.2005	—
34.	M/s Stats Steel India (P) Ltd.	Tangi, Cuttack		0.5	855.00	3.11.2005	20
35.	M/s Brand Alloys Ltd.	Palaspanga, Keonjhar		0.27	307.54	3.11.2005	10.8
36.	M/s Eastern Steels & Power Ltd.,	Lahandabud, Jharsuguda		0.25	254.00	3.11.2005	10
37.	M/s Jai Balaji Jyoti Steels Ltd.	Tanisar, near Lathikata, Sundargarh		0.33	321.14	3.11.2005	13.2
				(A)	21.94	28570.18	780

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	9
<i>List of Mega Steel Plant Projects for which MoUs have been signed with State Government (as on November 3, 2005)</i>							
1.	M/s TATA Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.	Kalinganagar Industrial Complex, Duburi, Jaipur	1st Module	3.00	10,400	17.11.2004	—
			2nd Module	3.00	5,000		—
2.	M/s Sterlite Iron and Steel Company Ltd.	Palasponga, Keonjhar	Phase-I	3.4	9782	15.10.2004	136
			Phase-II	1.7	2720		68
3.	M/s Hy-Grade Pellets Ltd. (ESSAR Group)	Paradeep		4.00	10,721	21.04.2005	160
4.	M/s POSCO India Project (P) Ltd.	Paradeep		12.00	51,000	22.06.2005	600
5.	M/s Jindal Steel & Power Ltd.	Beneficiation Plant at Deojar, Keonjhar & Steel Plant at Angul		6.00	13,135.02	3.11.2005	240
6.	M/s Bhushan Steel & Strips Ltd.	Meramundali, Dhenkanal		3.00	5,828.15	3.11.2005	120
			(B)	36.10	108596.17		1,324
	Gr. Total		(A+B)	58.04	137,156		2,084

**Statement II***List of the plants which have reported under operation*

Sl.No.	Name of the Company	Location	Sponge Iron capacity under operation (in tonnes per annum)
1	2	3	4
1.	M/s Bhushan Industries Ltd.	Lapanga, Sambalpur	3,00,000
2.	M/s Aarti Steels Ltd.	Ghantikhaj, Athagarh, Cuttack	3,00,000
3.	M/s Neepaz Metalicks (P) Ltd.	Chandriharipur, Rourkela, Sundargarh	1,80,000

1	2	3	4
4.	M/s Scaw Industries (P) Ltd.	Gundichapada, Dhenkanal	90,000
5.	M/s SMC Power Generation Ltd.	Hirma, Jharsuguda	90,000
6.	M/s SPS Sponge Iron Ltd.	Badmal Growth Centre, Jharsuguda	1,80,000
7.	M/s OCL India Ltd.	Rajgangpur, Sundargarh	1,20,000
8.	M/s Maheswary Ispat (P) Ltd.	Rampei, Khuntuni, Cuttack	60,000
9.	M/s Sree Metaliks Ltd.	Loidapada, Barbil, Keonjhar	1,50,000
10.	M/s Deepak Steels & Power Ltd.	Topodih, Barbil, Keonjhar	90,000
11.	M/s Beekay Steel & Power Ltd.	Uliburu, Barbil, Keonjhar	90,000
12.	M/s Rungta Mines Ltd.	Kamando, near Koira, Sundargarh and Jharaband, Dhenkanal (1 MTPA each)	1,20,000
13.	M/s Jai Balaji Jyoti Steels Ltd.	Tanisar, near Lathikata, Sundargarh	60,000

[Translation]

**Assistance for Survey**

2446. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has provided any financial assistance to any institution for conducting survey for assessing financial and physical performance of food processing industries in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the financial assistance provided for the same during the last two years, institution-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) This Ministry provides financial assistance for conducting studies/survey etc. No specific survey for assessing the financial and physical performance of food processing industries has been undertaken by this Ministry. However, general studies/survey of this sector assisted are given in the Statement enclosed.

**Statement**

*Details of financial assistance sanctioned for conducting general studies/survey during the last two years institution-wise*

Sl.No.	Name of Organization & year of study	Details of studies/survey
1	2	3
1.	National Productive Council, New Delhi. (2003-04)	Evaluation of the projects assisted by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries during Ninth Plan period for Northern Zone comprising of Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Haryana,

1	2	3
		Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal at a cost of Rs. 19.39 lakhs.
2.	Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata (2003-04)	Evaluation of the projects assisted by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries during Ninth Plan period for Eastern Zone comprising of Andaman & Nicobar, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Orissa at a cost of Rs. 19.00 lakhs.
3.	M/s Scope e-knowledge Center Pvt. Ltd., Chennai (2003-04)	Evaluation of the projects assisted by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries during Ninth Plan period for Southern Zone comprising of Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Pondicherry & Lakshadweep at a cost of Rs. 5.58 lakhs.
4.	M/s Rabo India Finance Private Ltd., New Delhi (2003-04)	A major study has been carried out by M/s Rabo India Finance Private Ltd., New Delhi, a 100% subsidiary of M/s Rabo Bank International, Netherlands which is a major International bank in food & agri-business. The study <i>inter-alia</i> was for assessing the current status of food processing industries and for preparing a Vision, Strategy & Action Plan Document for Food Processing Industries for the whole country for the next 10 years for this Ministry. The study was commissioned in 2003-04 at a cost of Rs. 93,50,000 + service tax.
5.	M/s Sewa Gram Mahila Haat, Ahmedabad (2003-04)	Conducted a survey of food processing groups on rural areas of Gujarat at a cost of Rs. 3,79,750.
6.	U.P. State Horticulture Marketing Federation, Lucknow (2003-04)	Master Action Plan for the development of Food Processing Industries in Uttar Pradesh at a cost of Rs. 9.90 lakhs.

[English]

#### Ranking of India in EPI

2447. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the ranking of India in environment performance index, 2006; and

(b) the steps proposed/taken by the Government to improve the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) India has been ranked 118 in the Pilot 2006 Environmental Performance Index.

(b) The Government of India accords high priority to environment protection and sustainable development. These concerns are duly reflected in our planning process. The Government of India has already taken a series of steps, including establishment of a regulatory framework to address these concerns.

#### Developments of Lakes

2448. SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted any proposal to the Union Government for development of existing lakes; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Under National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) the State Governments were requested by Ministry of Environment & Forests to send prioritisation of lakes in their state. The Government of Karnataka prioritized 14 lakes. Out of these, Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of 7 lakes were submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests of which projects for conservation of 3 lakes namely (i) Akka Mahadevi lake at Haveri, (ii) Sharanabasaveshwara lake at Gulbarga, and (iii) Channapatna tank at Hassan, have since been approved in February/March 2005, with the total approved cost as Rs. 12.50 crores. Against this sanctioned expenditure an amount worth Rs. 3.04 crore has been released so far. In respect of remaining 4 lakes namely (i) Bellakki tank at Shimona (ii) Kote Tavarekere lake at Chickmagalore (iii) Tripuranthkeshwar lake, and (iv) Kundawada lake at Davangere, the Ministry of Environment & Forests have sought for clarification from the Government of Karnataka.

In addition, projects for conservation of 7 lakes at an estimated cost of about Rs. 27 crores has already been sanctioned between February, 2002 to January, 2005 for Karnataka.

#### **Rehabilitation of Kudremukh National Parks Victims**

2449. SHRI M. SHIVANNA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 201 families have been affected due to formation of Kudremukh National Park;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested the Union Government to provide financial assistance to these families;

(d) if so, the amount so far released by the Union Government for rehabilitation; and

(e) the time by which all the displaced families would be rehabilitated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) As reported by the Government of Karnataka there are 1299 families living within Kudremukh National Park. The first phase of the project on rehabilitation of villages from within the National Park would involve voluntary rehabilitation of 201 families.

(c) Yes Sir. A proposal was received by this Ministry for providing financial assistance amount to Rs. 18.35 lakhs, for acquisition of land to rehabilitate the families in Phase-I of the project.

(d) It was not possible to allocate the funds from the present budgetary provisions of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries". Hence the State Government was advised to send the proposal to the Planning Commission for possible budgetary allocation in the State Plan.

(e) As reported by Government of Karnataka, rehabilitation of the families in the first phase would require five years after initiation of the project.

*[Translation]*

#### **Increasing CO<sub>2</sub> Level and Depletion of Ozone Layer**

2450. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:  
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:  
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:  
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

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

(a) whether the level of CO<sub>2</sub> (carbon dioxide) in the atmosphere is increasing while ozone layer is depleting day by day;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to contain the situation; and

(d) the success achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The global average concentration

of Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) has increased from a value 280 ppm in the pre-industrial era (prior to 1750) to 374 ppm in 2003 as per the report of the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (2005). As per a joint World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Assessment in 2002, the 1997-2001 global average of total ozone in the atmospheric column has been 3% below the 1964-1980 average. The lowest values were recorded during 1992-93. The above changes are attributed to anthropogenic sources of emissions.

(c) and (d) The steps taken to contain the situation and the success achieved include the following:

- The reduce the combined greenhouse gas emissions including CO<sub>2</sub>, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol on Convention on Climate Change are the international agreements. These agreements contain the measures for reduction of anthropogenic source of greenhouse gas emissions including CO<sub>2</sub>, by the industrialized countries. India is a Party to both the Convention and the Protocol. The Central Government is actively promoting projects under the Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol for reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases. The National CDM Authority has so far given Host Country Approval to 252 eligible CDM projects.
- In order to tackle the issue of ozone depletion, the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer are the international agreements. These agreements contain the measures for phasing out Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) in developed as well as developing countries. India is a Party to both the Convention and the Protocol and has taken necessary steps to phase out production and consumption of ODS in various sectors in accordance with the provisions of these agreements. The country programme has been prepared for phasing out various ODS and is under implementation at present.

*[English]*

#### **Land to Sandhi Cement in Gujarat**

2451. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sandhi Cement in Gujarat has been given some portion of forest land for the purpose of mining;

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

(c) whether this spoils the environmental circumstances in the region; and

(d) if so, the remedial action being taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No such proposal regarding diversion of forest land for mining by Sandhi Cement has been received by the Central Government so far.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### **Reduction in Subsidy for PDS**

2452. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the terms and conditions applied for World Bank loans to the State Governments;

(b) whether the State Governments are required to substantially reduce subsidy on food for below poverty line families for World Bank loans;

(c) whether the Central sanction of SAL-III to Andhra Pradesh is also required to substantially reduce subsidy on rice for 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) Sir, The borrower of the World Bank loans/ IDA credits is the Government of India.

Until April 01, 2005, the Government of India transferred the World Bank/IDA funding under on-lending arrangements between the Government of India and the recipient states, either on (i) 70% loan and 30% grant or (ii) for special category states, 10% loan and 90% grant.



After April 01, 2005, following the recommendations of the 12th Finance Commission, the on-lending arrangements to all states are on back-to-back basis.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) No. The World Bank has supported two Development Policy Loans (also referred to as SALs) for the state of Andhra Pradesh (February 2002 and February 2004 respectively). Both programs were aimed at supporting the medium term reform programme of Government of Andhra Pradesh. This includes better fiscal management devoting more resources to social sectors like health and education, and improved targeting of the rice subsidy scheme to eligible beneficiaries.

#### **Conservation of Sacred Groves**

2453. SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for seeking financial assistance for conservation of Sacred, Groves (Deverakadu) in Kodagu District is pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The said proposal is not pending with the Central Government.

(b) and (c) The proposal on conservation of Sacred Groves (Deverakadu) in Kodagu District as received from the State Government suffered from certain inadequacies like lack of scientific details about gap planting, proposed intermingling of exotic species, and non-indication of appropriate soil manipulation and canopy management of existing tree vegetation among others. The State Government of Karnataka has been requested to reformulate the proposal in consultation with Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

#### **Study on Ecology of Inter-Rivers Basin Transfer**

2454. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scientific studies on the ecology of Inter-River basins transfer and related works have been conducted by National Research Institute; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) National Water Development Agency (NWDA) while preparing the feasibility reports of river link proposals carries out preliminary studies in regard to environmental, ecological and socio-economic aspects. Socio-economic and environmental studies for 9 links have been got completed by NWDA through various organizations. Further, the Government of India has constituted a Committee of Environmentalists, Social Scientists and other Experts on 28th December 2004 to advise the Government on the environmental and socio-economic issues involved in inter-linking of rivers.

12.00 hrs.

### **PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): Sir, on behalf of the hon. Prime Minister, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of External Affairs for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3877/06]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Urban Development for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3878/06]

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Law and Justice for the year 2006-2007, together with a Corrigendum thereto.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3879/06]

- (2) (2) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Law and Justice for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3880/06]

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Public Enterprises Survey (Volumes I to III) (Hindi and English versions) for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3881/06]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

(ii) Annual Report of the Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3882/06]

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions):—

- (1) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3883/06]

- (2) Ministry of Panchayati Raj for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3884/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Sir, on behalf of Shrimati Meira Kumar, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3885/06]

- (2) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3886/06]

- (3) A copy of the Performance Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the year 2005-2006.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3887/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): Sir, I on behalf of Shri K. Chandrasekhar Rao, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Employee's Provident Fund Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3888/06]

- (3) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 2004-05.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3889/06]

- (4) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 25 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th January, 2006, making certain amendments in the Notification No. G.S.R. 375 (E) dated the 7th June, 2006 issued under Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3890/06]

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Ocean Development for the year 2006-07.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3891/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3892/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Indian Council of World Affairs Rules, 2006 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 74 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st February, 2006, under section 27 of the Indian Council of World Affairs Act, 2001.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3893/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
  - (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Insecticides Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.
  - (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Insecticides Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3894/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions):—

- (1) Department of Posts for the year 2006-2007.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3895/06]
- (2) Department Telecommunications for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3896/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Sir, on behalf of Shri Prithviraj Chavan, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions):—
  - (i) Department of Atomic Energy for the year 2006-2007.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3897/06]
  - (ii) Department of Space for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3898/06]

- (2) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Space for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3899/06]

- (3) A copy of the Performance Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Atomic Energy for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3900/06]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1)
  - (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, Coimbatore, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.
  - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, Coimbatore, for the year 2004-2005.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3901/06]

- (3) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Environment and Forests for the year 2006-2007.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3902/06]

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): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 80 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th February, 2006, containing Order directing that every producer of sugar to sell and dispatch the monthly quota of sugar released to him for sale by the monthly release order within the specified period to furnish its details to Directorate of Sugar, Department of Food and Public Distribution, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3903/06]

12.06 hrs.

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY

### One Hundred Seventy-eighth Report

[*English*]

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura): I beg to lay the One Hundred Seventy Eighth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Industry on "Unlocking of surplus assets of CPSEs to generate resources for revival and the status of ancillary units of CPSE".

12.06½ hrs.

## STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

- (i) **Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 7th Report of Standing Committee on Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution**

[*English*]

\*THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC

\*Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3904/06.

DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Sir, I am making this statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Seventh Report of the Standing Committee on Food and Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs) in pursuance of direction 73A of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part II dated 1.9.2004.

A statement indicating the Action Taken/status of all the recommendations contained in the Seventh Report of the Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution is annexed. It may be noted that the report contains 21 recommendations. These recommendations have been carefully examined by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs). All the recommendations have been accepted and action taken thereon has been indicated.

The Action Taken replies had been sent to the Lok Sabha on 26.07.2005. This was presented by the Chairman of the Standing Committee to the Lok Sabha on 01.12.2005 and laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on the same day.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I wish to compliment your Ministry for submitting the Reports regularly.

12.07 hrs.

- (ii) **Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 83rd Report of Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on the functioning of Commission of Railway Safety**

\*THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Praful Patel, I am making this statement on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in 83rd Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on the 'Functioning of Commission of Railway Safety' in pursuance of the direction 73A issued by the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha Parliamentary Bulletin Part-II dated

\*Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3905/06

01 September, 2004 under the provisions of rule 389 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

The 83rd Report on the Departmentally-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture was laid in the Lok Sabha on 03.12.2004. The Report contains 11 recommendations. Most of these recommendations required action/consultation with Railways and other Ministries, which is taking time. However, a majority of the recommendations have been accepted by the Government and action has already been initiated. A Statement indicating the action taken/status of all the recommendations contained in the Standing Committee Report is annexed.

12.08 hrs.

### UNION DUTIES OF EXCISE (ELECTRICITY) DISTRIBUTION REPEAL BILL, 2006\*

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): On behalf of Shri P. Chidambaram, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to repeal the Union Duties of Excise (Electricity) (Distribution Act, 1980.

MR. SPEAKER: The Question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to repeal the Union Duties of Excise (Electricity) (Distribution Act, 1980."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I introduce\*\* the Bill.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I have got names of 23 Members with me. I will try to accommodate all of them, if you kindly have a little patience. If it is done in an orderly manner, I think I can complete the list.

\*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary Part-II, Section-2, dated 13.3.2006

\*\*Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

Shri Chandrapal Singh Yadav.

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHANDRA PAL SINGH YADAV (Jhansi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the unseasonal rain and hailstorm during the recent past have caused heavy losses to farmers in Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh. About 34 villages of Mehrauni region in Lalitpur district and about 26 villages of Talbahat Tehsil under my Lok Sabha constituency have received heavy hailstorms. These areas witnessed hailstorms of about one to one and a half kilogram weight. In about one and a half dozen of villages, people have been rendered homeless. Their cattle have died and loss of human life has also been reported. Agriculture is totally ruined. I would like to apprise you that Lalitpur district is already a poor region. The people of this region migrate to other places for their livelihood. But today, the whole district is suffering very badly due to hailstorm and unseasonal rains. People have no arrangement for food there. People who took loans from banks for agriculture are not in a position to repay. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to request the Central Government that avenues of employment for the people of that region may be created by giving special package to the district through various schemes of the Central Government like food for work and employment Guarantee Scheme avenues of employment should be opened for the people so that they get employment and earn their livelihood. The people who have lost their kith and kin and those whose cattle have died should be given compensation and the Government should provide funds under Indira Awas Yojana to those who have become homeless.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Many other hon'ble Members would like to speak on the similar issue. I would request them to be brief and to the point.

*[Translation]*

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rajasthan has also witnessed unseasonal rain, heavy storm and hailstorm. In my Lok Sabha Constituency Alwar, blooming crops of farmers were destroyed overnight. Mustard crops lying in the barns submerged in water. Jatiyana and Sadhuka villages in Khertal township have suffered a huge loss of sheep, goats and other livestock.

I would, therefore, through you, like to request the Central Government that alongwith the whole of Rajasthan,

Alwar district may also be got inspected. Relief centers may be opened there by the Government so that people may get help and grants.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, please cooperate.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA (Sikar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this unseasonal rain on 10th instant, around 24 villages around Reengas town in my Parliamentary Constituency Sikar have witnessed heavy hailstorm. There was non-stop hail-storm falling of for 16 hours and the hailstones did not melt. All mustard, wheat and Methi crops got destroyed. I visited the site myself.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to request the Government that farmers may be given relief from the Natural Calamity Relief Fund. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, why are you raising your hands like this? Why can you not wait?

*[Translation]*

SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA: Their electricity charges should be waived off under all circumstances. As regards severe hardships being faced by the farmers due to this hailstorm, I would like that the Government should take complete note of it. Kota was the first district to experience hailstorm and then not only Sikar, but also Jaipur, Alwar, Churu, Jhunjhunu, all these districts of Shekhawati region also witnessed hailstorm.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are already aware that Rajasthan is a drought prone state and has been suffering from severe famine. Therefore, the State Government should be given more and more relief and the affected farmers provided more and more compensation. There electricity bills may also be waived off by the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, you are very much aware of the procedure. Why are you doing it? This is not free for all. Otherwise, I would stop this so-called 'Zero Hour' business.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandarpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this hailstorm has affected the entire country. In Maharashtra, pomegranate, cashew, mango and sugarcane crops have been destroyed badly. Through you, I would like to request the Government of India that these crop growers may be given more and more compensation and this Government should also consider to increase the insurance as well. I demand that more and more support should be given to Maharashtra.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Neeta Pateriya, please try to be on time in future. I am allowing you because of the importance of the matter.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI NEETA PATERIYA (Seoni): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there have been non-stop heavy rains and severe hailstorm for the last four months in Madhya Pradesh. As a result of which farmers got ruined. Gram crops lying in the barn, got sprouted again and the wheat crops were destroyed due to hailstorm. Farmers have suffered massive loss due to hailstorm. To save them from getting ruined, I request the Central Government to give more and more funds and a special package to Madhya Pradesh Government for farmers so that farmers may be given more and more compensation and they can be saved from getting ruined. Moreover, their loans and their electricity bill may be waived off so that they may get some relief. Jobs may be created for them in the region itself so that they do not go outside their region for labour and may support their families by staying in the village.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the hon'ble Member has said that in Uttar Pradesh, the wheat crops have been destroyed due to hailstorm and storm. Wheat crop has been damaged completely. The crops will not yield wheat. Farmers have suffered massive loss due to this. Through you, I would request the Government to send a central team to Uttar Pradesh to survey the loss suffered by the farmers. The farmers whose crops have been damaged be given compensation and a special package. Besides this, Steps may be taken to waive off the loans and taxes of farmers.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to apply my judgement because this is a very important matter concerning the common people and the farmers. Therefore, I have given it a priority. Although you could have associated, I have allowed each member to make a separate submission. Therefore, allow me a little to please apply my judgement. As I have said, I will try to cooperate with every hon. Member.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the State of Maharashtra has undertaken the construction of Babli barrage in the foreshore area of Sriramsagar Project in violation of the inter-State agreement. It is very, very unfortunate to state that even though the CWC has given repeated instructions, including the last one on 3rd of this month, the State of Maharashtra has rejected them. They are constructing Babli barrage on Godavari river. This is a great loss to the State of Andhra Pradesh, and particularly to the farmers of seven districts. The project caters to the needs of the farmers and also the drinking purposes. They are violating the provisions of the Constitution; they are violating the rule of law; and they are violating the inter-State agreement. Who will stop this construction? It is very unfortunate that the Government of India is watching like a spectator. We are all bound by the Indian Constitution, by the governing of inter-State agreement, and by the rule of law. Even in the upstream, they are constructing 11 barrages including the Babli project. They have not stopped the work even though repeated instructions have been given by CWC. It is a very sorry state of thing. Our hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister is here. I would like to say that there are no politics involved in it. My farmers are crying and agitating. On 3rd of the month, the CWC Chairman, Shri R. Jeyaseelan has written a letter to the Maharashtra Government, the Chief Minister, and the Chief Secretary. But they are not taking any action. It is very unfortunate that they are violating the provisions of the Constitution. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a debate. I will come to it. I have promised that I will come to it.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU: I would request the hon. Minister to intervene once again. He should talk to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra and safeguard the interests of the farmers of Andhra Pradesh.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you very much for your cooperation.

SHRI K.S. RAO (Eluru): Sir, I associate with this.

MR. SPEAKER: No association will be recorded because you have not given notice.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are a very, very cooperative Member.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my Parliamentary constituency Patna is situated on the bank of river Ganga. Soil erosion on a large scale is still continuing there. A large portion of land of Netanpur Nakata Diara has been erased and submerged in the river. Further, soil erosion of this area is continuing. But arrangements to check erosion of only 2700 feet of land have been made so far. Lakhs of people live there and their livelihood also exists there. Through you, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Water Resources that arrangements for checking erosion may be made at the earliest and funds made available to check erosion of 1000 feet land in this financial year itself. It would protect the village and also the 'tola'. Besides, the entire region of river Ganga has become contaminated, and as a result of this Ganga is changing its course. It is a historical river. It is the recognition of the aesthetic beauty of various areas of Bihar including Patna. Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources may kindly take immediate action to save river Ganga and also to check soil erosion so that it could be prevented from pollution and erosion and the people, who are being displaced on account of this erosion, could live there and earn their livelihood with ease.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise a very important issue in the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Discussion on Railways has been completed and still.

*[English]*

your demands and not being minimized.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a new issue has emerged. I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the news item that has been published in the 'Dainik Jagran' on 11th. You and entire House may be remembering that the Railways had nine zones previously. When the Government of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee was formed and Nitishji was the Railway Minister, the number of these zones was increased to 16 after reviewing it from administrative and geographical point of view, out of which Central and Eastern railways zonal office was established in Hazipur. A number of disputes were raised at that time and the matter was taken to the Supreme Court. Due review of geographical and administrative reasons was also made at the residence of the Prime Minister. Thereafter, it was constituted. It has been reported in the newsitem published in Dainik Jagran that a report has been called for from all the zonal managers by the Ministry of Railways with regard to constitution of zones and to add or delete the areas falling under the jurisdiction of these zones and that report has since been received by the Ministry of Railways. As per my information and according to the newsitem of the newspaper, Dhanbad is being excluded from Hazipur and it is being taken back to Bengal as before, which is not appropriate in any way. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Why are you mentioning Bengal? Bhagalpur is also there in Eastern Railway. Why do you mention Bengal? You please say Eastern Railways. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I accept his suggestion. A conspiracy is being hatched to take it to the Eastern Railways and rail-politics is being done keeping in view the forthcoming elections in five states. ...(*Interruptions*) I would like to urge the Government that it is the question of right of Bihar. I would like to tell Priyaranjan Dasmunshi that if such sensitive issues are intended to be taken up, it will lead to untoward incidents. The people of Bihar will come to the roads. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not make any threats.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I would like to request not to initiate act of such unnecessary interference. If such attempts are made, we would show them the door in the forthcoming elections of Bengal. Therefore, I would like to request that such interference may not be made. The Dhanbad Division of Hazipur Headquarters may be retained as it is. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: No provocation.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: It is a very good suggestion. It should remain in Dhanbad.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us not divide the country.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY (Dhanbad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Palamu and Gadhwa districts of Jharkhand are the most backward and poor districts. A situation of famine prevails in these two districts for past many years in the absence of rain. Unemployment is at its peak. The development work in these two districts is almost negligible. There is acute shortage of drinking water in these areas. The level of ground water has gone down to a great extent, as a result of which water has dried up in wells, ponds and reservoirs. Under these circumstances, people are forced to flee the villages. Lot of extremist activities are also taking place in the entire Jharkhand region. Particularly, these two districts are worst affected by extremist activities. It is mainly because of poverty and unemployment. I would like to draw the attention of the Government that a number of important irrigation schemes for the farmers of these two districts are lying incomplete for many years. No action is being taken on these two schemes by the irrigation department of Government of India. I urge the Government to complete Auranga Reservoir Scheme of Palamu district and Kanhar Reservoir Scheme of Gadhwa district on which crores of rupees of the Government of India have



already been spent and by completing these projects relief could be given to the farmers, labourers and unemployed persons of Palamu division and efforts should be made to bring the extremists to the main-stream of the society.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Smt. Kiran Maheshwari—absent.

*[Translation]*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, an incident of brutal murder took place in Delhi yesterday. In this incident, Swarna Mahajan and her daughter Anuradha Mahajan, who was an advocate in High Court, have been killed after having tied their hands and legs and strangle them with a dupatta tied around their necks. A number of cases of murder of women and old persons have come to light during past few days. A woman named Gulshan Kapoor was killed in Kalkaji on 5th March, Sachdev Khosla and his wife Santosh Khosla were killed in Greater Kailash, a 60 year widow was killed in Shalimar Bagh, two women named Rampyari and Panditain were murdered in Mukherjee Nagar, a woman was killed in Bhajanpura and in this way, there are about 30-35 incidents that have occurred during the past one year. The incidents of murder and rape of women are taking place continuously. The incidents of kidnapping are occurring the most. Delhi is slowly becoming the crime capital of India. Hon'ble Home Minister is sitting here, I would like to tell him that the way in which killing of old persons and women is taking place in Delhi, no woman considers herself safe here. It is matter of shame for the country that such a situation has arisen in the capital. Hon'ble Home Minister would agree from this fact that the people of underworld, gangsters of the outside states, criminal gangs come to Delhi and after committing the crime, they flee the capital. There is no check on them. There is no issue of identity card for them. There is a need to ponder over this issue seriously.

I would also to tell the Home Minister that whenever we talk of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, he says that it is a state matter and center has nothing to do with it. But, the law and order of Delhi is directly in the hands of Home Ministry. The Government of Delhi does not interfere in this matter. When law and order of Delhi is with the Ministry of Home Affairs, emergence of such a situation in Delhi is a matter of shame. At least, the Hon'ble Minister may look into this aspect that most of

the police force is engaged in security. The police force is engaged in VIP security, agitations and demolition of houses throughout the day. A separate police force should be set up for these purposes and there is a need to set up a separate police force to deal with the issue of law and order.

The law and order of Delhi is directly linked to the Centre. There are 10 Members of Parliament in Delhi, out of which 7 Members are from Lok Sabha and 3 are from Rajya Sabha. Among these ten, nine Members of Parliament belong to the Congress Party. I would like to ask from hon'ble Minister whether any meeting has been convened with any of the Member of Parliament of with any of the representatives elected by the people of Delhi? Whether any initiative of holding of such meetings would be taken the hon'ble Home Minister may please inform the House about this. All people of Delhi are scared by incidents of such brutal killings and there is fear in their minds. The entire country is very much concerned about this. The hon'ble Home Minister should take this issue seriously.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri S. Mallikarjuniah. Do you want to speak in Kannada?

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH (Tumkur): Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Let me see whether the Kannada Interpreter is there. I think he is not there. Please send for the Interpreter. Shri Mallikarjuniah, please wait for a few minutes.

Chaudhary Lal Singh to speak now.

*[Translation]*

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the people of Riyasat-e-J&K, who have been deprived of their rights since 1947. These people belong to POK and West Pakistan region. People from West Pakistan took refuge in India and they were given compensation, relief and other help in this country. They were rehabilitated and their educational development was also taken care of. But the people from West Pakistan who got settled in J&K, are not allowed to take ration and to own a house of their own. Neither they are provided with education nor they get employment. They

do not have the right to vote in Assembly as well as Panchayat elections. I want to point out that the other POK people have not got ownership right so far for the property they are residing in i.e. EP land. POK is a Pakistani occupied area, Mangla dam has been built there, but these people did not get compensation. They are being asked to go back. Their 24 seats are lying vacant in the Assembly. They have not got their share yet. I would like to say that there are two big groups of one lakh population each. Sikhs and Hindus are in majority in these groups. These people are staying particularly in J&K. But J&K has not adopted them so far. Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are holding round table conferences. We are trying our level best but despite three generations and two big groups of large population, they have not got their rights. They may be given their rights.

MD. SALIM (Calcutta-North-East): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon'ble Member.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very serious matter. The population of these people is in lakhs and they are neither given the citizenship nor the right to vote so far. Therefore, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon'ble Member.

SHRI NIHAL CHAND (Sriganganagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for allowing me to speak during Zero Hour.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rajasthan is an agriculture dominated State. The entire State depends upon agriculture. Prior to 1981, when the Indira Gandhi canal was not constructed, Rajasthan and Punjab entered into an agreement relating to use of water for irrigation. The agreement states that when the work of construction of the Indira Gandhi canal is completed, 0.6 MAF water will be released for Rajasthan. But Rajasthan has not received that water till date. Farmers of Rajasthan are suffering on this account. At present, the dam holds 1301 feet water, but Punjab is not releasing water to Rajasthan. Earlier also, the water receded. Through you, I request the Central Government to get the water released for Rajasthan from Punjab as per the Agreement.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in BBMB, Members are appointed from states on rotational basis. Appointment from Haryana and Punjab has already been made on rotational basis. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You raised this matter earlier also.

...(*Interruptions*)

DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA (Tarantaran): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are releasing water. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIHAL CHAND: Mr. Speaker, Sir, they are not releasing water for us. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You do not follow the Agreement. You have not fulfilled their requirement. It has come on the record. It is a matter of great regret. There should be no state vs. state dispute.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIHAL CHAND: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in BBMB, Members are appointed on rational basis. members from Haryana and Punjab have already enjoyed their term. Now, it is Rajasthan's turn. Through you, I request the Center to appoint a member from Rajasthan State. I only request that the dam holds 1301 feet water and some quantity of it may be released for Rajasthan also. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHANWAR SINGH DANGAWAS (Nagaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Punjab is not releasing water for Rajasthan. The whole of the water is flowing away to Pakistan but it is not being given to Rajasthan. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: No cross talks, sorry.

[*Translation*]

Please do not cross talk. What is the matter? I have given full opportunity to all of you to speak. Please sit down.

[*English*]

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (Tripura-West): Sir, the people of Tripura and the State Government have long been demanding for conversion of Tripura University into a Central University. The Tripura University was established in 1987. But, due to paucity of funds it has not been possible to develop necessary infrastructure and diversify their courses to provide quality education, academic excellence and innovative research and development programme. There are Central Universities in North-Eastern Region at Kohima, Silchar, Tezpur, Aizawl and

Shillong, which are in a better position to provide infrastructure and the academic facilities mainly because of Central funding. Recently, Manipur University has been converted into a Central University. Considering the backwardness and remoteness of Tripura, it is urgently necessary to convert Tripura University into a Central University to minimize the imbalance in educational facilities available in the North-East.

I would, therefore, strongly demand that the Union Government should introduce a Bill in this Session with a view to convert the Tripura University into a Central University.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, my favourite MP, Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava.

*[Translation]*

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: We should all learn from him.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER: See, some hon'ble Members do not bother to give notice and ask for time to speak. It is not possible to allow to speak without giving notice. Learn to give notice.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a simple but very relevant request, I would like to make to the hon'ble Minister, through you, that Rajasthan is the largest state of India, Rajasthani language is very commonly used. There is lot of literature available in this language. Shri Kanilal Thikwal, who is living in Kolkata, has written a song, "Dharati dhoranri" in the praise of Rajasthani language. Therefore, through you, I would like to request the Home Minister to recognize and include Rajasthani language also in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution on the lines of other languages of the country recognized and included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution so that I can speak and take part in debate in Rajasthani language in Lok Sabha. I thank you for

allowing me to raise this matter and through you, I request the Central Government to concede to this relevant demand made by me. The Home Minister of the Government of India is sitting here. I also thank him that he listened to my point. I hope, the Government of India would consider and meet the demand made by me.

*[English]*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the terrorist attack in Varanasi has been universally condemned by the major political parties. Both the Houses of Parliament expressed their grave concern and grief at the loss of lives. The Parliament also reiterated its strong resolve never to surrender to such criminal acts and maintain peace, tranquility and complete harmony among the people of our country. But there is an ominous development. The Leader of the Opposition, just after the Varanasi terrorist attack, announced a diabolical yatra to be undertaken by him. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, we have not forgotten the yatra which the BJP undertook in 1990 from Somnath to Ayodhya during which hundreds of people were killed. ...*(Interruptions)* My district is known as a peaceful district where there was never any communal riot. But when that yatra touched my district and left, there was a riot in which 14 innocent people were killed. That yatra was stopped in Bihar when the then Chief Minister of Bihar Shri Lalu Prasad arrested Shri Lal Krishna Advani. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, you have made your statement. Please conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the people of our country should thwart the game plan of the BJP to arouse communal feelings. I congratulate the people of Varanasi who have pledged to combat both fundamentalists as well as communal forces. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing more will be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*,

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, you have made your point. Please take your seat. Shri Mallikarjunaiah will make his submission now.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. You have made your point.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Only Mr. Mallikarjunaiah's statement will go on record. Nothing else will be recorded.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Prof. Malhotra, please cooperate and take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record. The recording has been stopped.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, you have made your statement. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is being recorded. Leave it.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mallikarjunaiah. Shri Acharia, please cooperate.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, I could not complete. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your statement. Please take your seat.

\*Not recorded.

\*\*SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNIAH (Tumkur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a school four kms. away from Tumkur town. One of the girl students of this School committed suicide under mysterious circumstances. It is alleged that one of the teachers is responsible for this incident as he was repeatedly harassing the student unnecessarily. The people of Tumkur are agitating and they are taking out processions demanding justice to the girl student who has committed suicide. The parents are scared to send their wards especially girl students to this School. It is very essential to find out the true facts about this unfortunate incident. First of all the parents and other people in general have to be convinced such that they can send their children to this school without any fear. This is nothing but self-immolation and hence adequate compensation to the parents of the deceased must be given immediately. It also requires an immediate enquiry to whole incident. This apprehension should go and we have to gain the confidence of the people of that area. I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government of India to conduct an inquiry without any delay such that justice is method out be to the girl student. I hope and trust this will be done immediately.

MR. SPEAKER: The names of the hon. Members, who will go on disturbing, will never be taken.

Shri S.K. Kharventhan.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: How can I give you a chance as you don't listen to me.

[English]

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Sir, I would like to bring to the kind attention of the Government the plight of brick chamber industries and the workers engaged in this industry throughout the country, particularly in Tamil Nadu, due to the imposition of 16 per cent highest rate of excise duty on the rural industry in the Finance Bill 2006.

There are more than 2,500 brick chamber industries in Tamil Nadu and they give employment to more than 50 lakh people belonging to the downtrodden community

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

and OBCs, The districts of Dindigul, Erode, Salem, Namakkal, Madurai, Ramanathapuram, Sivagangai, Dharapuram and Chennai are having more brick chambers providing employment to over 50,000 people and the imposition of excise duty to the tune of 16 per cent in the Finance Bill will affect the industry drastically.

Since bricks are the basic requirement of the building industry, this unrealistic rate of excise duty will slow down the building industry, which will affect the economy also. The exemption from excise duty given to brick chambers with annual sale up to Rs. 1 crore does not help in any way. This is the only rural industry which is labour intensive and employs a good number of women.

In view of the above facts, I appeal to the Union Government to drop this proposal and do the needful at the earliest.

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (Sriperumbudur): Sir, I would also like to associate with this.

*[Translation]*

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (Sagar): Mr. Speaker Sir, Khajuraho is known as an international tourism spot. A large number of tourists from home and abroad visit here. The mobile companies have installed their towers here acting solely upon their choice—which causes great inconvenience for the pilots. The pilots and FIU have intimated to the Airports Authority of this development and have apprised them of the impending danger likely to be caused from Mobile towers to aeroplanes. Due to the height of the towers installed by the cellular operators, pilots are faced with tremendous troubles in take off and landing of the Aircrafts. In the restricted areas of Khajuraho, construction up to the height of 22 ft. is permissible while the cellular operators have erected towers with heights in the range of 160 ft to 180 ft. The Bureau of Civil Aviation security had called a meeting to discuss the issue threadbare with a view to securing security. The three officers of BSNL are not coming to attend the meeting despite having been invited. So, therefore, I put forward my request to the Union Government to direct the M/o Communications to get an on-the-spot inspection conducted by sending a team of experts to ensure whether any prior permission was sought to install the towers at the permitted locations or elsewhere. having conducted an enquiry into the matter let the towers be installed elsewhere fairly far away from the restricted zone in order that pilots of aircraft may be saved against inconveniences.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Tejaswini Seeramesh. I have mentioned about it in the morning.

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH (Kanakapura): Sir, first of all, I would like to congratulate you for that. I come from the State of Karnataka where there is Shri Anil Kumble's hometown.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it specially for Karnataka?

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH: Sir, I rise to congratulate Shri Anil Kumble on behalf of the people of India and on behalf of Karnataka. This is the greatest moment for us. Let me appreciate the Bengalis for their love for sports. I would like to say that they were mad lovers of cricket as well as football. During my childhood, when I visited West Bengal, they used to enquire about Gundappa Vishwanath. We used to call him G. Vishwanath and they used to call him Gundappa Vishwanath. So, Sir, as a true Indian you have respected Anil Kumble's achievements. I would like to mention here a few milestones.

MR. SPEAKER: You associate with me.

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH: Sir, Anil Kumble is an ordinary boy who comes from an ordinary village in a coastal district of Karnataka. His rising to such a high level is really a great achievement.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, he belongs to India and not to Karnataka alone.

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH: Yes, Sir. He belongs to India. He is an Indian who particularly belongs to Karnataka. Sir, 16 years back Anil Kumble entered cricket in Manchester. ...*(Interruptions)* He got his 100th wicket in Bangalore; he got his 300th wicket in Bangalore and he got his 400th wicket also in Bangalore, his hometown also. I would like to mention these things.

MR. SPEAKER: We are waiting for his 600th wicket.

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH: As far as his personal life is concerned, he is a role model. Anil Kumble married a divorced woman. He fought for the girl child. It is because today no celebrity will come forward to take care of the interests of women. I would like to specially salute a personality like Anil Kumble who can inspire the

Indians to take care of the interests of women. I would emphatically like to submit it on behalf of the people of Karnataka. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you for your appreciation of sports. Shri Suresh Kurup.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. This issue is not limited to a particular State.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Sir, we the five Members of this House visited Kota in Rajasthan last Saturday after hearing disturbing reports about the attack on the Emmanuel Mission and its institutions.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Just a minute. Please listen. Shri Kriplani raised this matter. I have allowed him to raise this matter. Many of the hon. Members have joined. He has some submission on that. He should make it.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you to raise it.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not fair. I have allowed you.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, they are running 49 schools in Rajasthan. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SRICHAND KRIPLANI (Chittorgarh): Mr. Speaker Sir, I've said against the book and these people are referring to the Christians there. ...(Interruptions) You please listen to me. ...(Interruptions) They didn't give me an opportunity to speak. ...(Interruptions) I'm talking of the book "Hakikat". ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It cannot be a one way traffic. I have allowed him to raise it. He has some submission to make.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do not show this, Shri Kriplani. You are speaking not from your seat. Do not show this. I have asked you not to show this. I direct you not to show this. You are violating the rules of this House.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Let me make my submission. ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please observe the rules.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Suresh Kurup's statement will be recorded and nothing else will be record.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, the Emmanuel Mission is running 49 schools in Rajasthan including an orphanage at Kota. Two thousand orphans are taken care of in that orphanage. What we found was. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Srichand Kriplani, not one word of yours is recorded because you are speaking without my permission and you are speaking not from your seat.

...(Interruptions)\*

SHRI SURESH KURUP: Sir, what we found was that for the last three weeks, a systematic State campaign and an attack were unleashed by the Sangh Parivar against that institution. Their registration under the Societies' act is cancelled. Their bank accounts have been frozen by the Rajasthan Government. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. K.S. Manoj, Shri A.V. Bellarmin and Shri Lonappan Nambadan are also associating with him.

...(Interruptions)

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\*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing more to be recorded.

...(Interruptions)\*

MR. SPEAKER: I have already mentioned your names. Dr. K.S. Manoj, Shri A.V. Bellarmin and Shri Lonappan Nambadan have been recorded as those who have associated with him. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Nothing is being recorded. Why are you shouting?

...(Interruptions)

12.52 hrs.

### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Matters under Rule 377 listed for today may be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

- (I) **Need to construct roads under Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojna in tribal backward areas of Jharkhand**

[Translation]

SHRI BAGUN SUMBRUI (Singhbhum): Special provisions may please be made for the construction of rural roads in the most backward tribal dominated areas under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna in order that the tribal community residing in the far-flung remote forest areas could join the mainstream of nation with their places having been linked to Block Headquarters, District Headquarters and Divisional Headquarters. In order to enable the poor tribal community residing in the forest dominated far-flung rural areas to be beneficiaries of Bharat Niram Yojna launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister an express provision be made under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna in an expeditious manner by undertaking the following constructions:

- (1) Construction of road and the bridge from Divisional Headquarters Chaibasa to Bandu via

Pushnapani of Tonto block covering the stretch of 57 kilometers.

- (2) Construction of road and bridge from Wandabeda of Tonto block to Buduvota of Novamundi block covering a stretch of 15 kilometers.
- (3) Construction of road and bridge from Udikham of Tonto block to Buduvodta of Novamundi block covering a stretch of 8 kilometers.
- (4) Construction of metallic road and bridge from Mriglindi Chowk of Tonto block to Nogada covering a stretch of 11 kilometers.
- (II) **Need to prevent the reported move to resume Lottery business in the country**

SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH (Karolbagh): Of late it was reported in the newspaper that State-lotteries are to be re-started. This should not be allowed to take place. There should be blanket ban on the sale of lotteries in every state—as in those days when lotteries were in circulation in all the States including Delhi; the life of an average person was punctuated with the chain of troubles. Particularly women belonging working labourer community and their children who turned addicted to lottering and would buy lotteries from the money meant for vegetables, milk and the other necessary stuffs meant for nutrition of their children and wards. As a result, the bad habit of buying lotteries mothered domestic violence and an atmosphere of disputes prevailed on the domestic front. Finally, the Government had to impose a ban on the sale of lotteries. If we, once again open the Pandora's box, this will lead to a horrible situation. Particularly in Delhi, the floating population earns his/her living by engaging himself/herself in some ordinary jobs gets entrapped in the vicious circle of prize and simply makes a mess of his life.

Hence, I urge the Government of India not to allow lotteries to be started again.

- (III) **Need to set up a Bench of High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL (Hapur): I am a Member of Parliament from Ghaziabad-Hapur, Uttar Pradesh and I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government towards the long pending grave problem of common people of Western Uttar Pradesh. The people of this area are demanding to set up a Bench

\*Treated as laid on the Table.

of High Court for the last several years. The renowned lawyers of Western Uttar Pradesh launched a very big agitation for setting up a Bench of High Court and staged a big 'dharna' at Jantar Mantar for several days during the tenure of the N.D.A. Government. However, no progress has been made in this regard so far. In Western Uttar Pradesh, Meerut, *viz.* Lucknow which is 110 kilometres away from Allahabad, is already having a Bench of High Court. It has become absolutely necessary to set up a bench of High Court in order to provide cheap and speedy justice to the people of Western Uttar Pradesh as per their hopes and aspirations since it is a very costly affair to go to Allahabad. It is also wastage of time. Earlier, Benches of High Courts have been set up at convenient locations in States of West Bengal, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. Keeping in view all these circumstances, I urge the Central Government to take a decision in the public interest for expeditiously setting up a Bench of High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh.

**(iv) Need for proper repair and maintenance of National Highway-55 In Darjeeling, West Bengal**

*[English]*

SHRI D. NARBULA (Darjeeling): Road plays vital role in the development of an area. Central Government therefore spends huge amount for the development of the roads in different parts of the country is famous for tourism. People from different parts of the country as well as from abroad come to Darjeeling to enjoy its scenic beauty and the Himalayan mountains. All people coming to Darjeeling have to go through N.H. 55, which connects Darjeeling from Siliguri or Bagdogra. But the condition of N.H. 55, which connects Darjeeling from Siliguri or Bagdogra. But the condition of N.H. 55 is not very good. The Central Government has sanctioned several crores of rupees for repairs and Maintenance of NH-55.

Previously the construction of roads in Darjeeling was taken up in phased manner and several different contractors were engaged to repair and maintenance of roads were done properly. But now after the introduction of the package system, the work of maintenance and repairs of the National Highway No. 55 about 28 km. from West Point, Darjeeling has been awarded to one company which is not satisfactory.

I, therefore, urge upon the Hon'ble Minister of Transport and Highways to intervene into the matter so

that the huge amount of money sanctioned by the Central Government is properly utilized and the money thus sanctioned by the Central Government do not go waste.

**(v) Need for early construction of Badarpur flyover**

*[Translation]*

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA (Faridabad): The Faridabad city, situated on the border of National Capital Territory of Delhi, is the largest industrial centre of Asia. Lakhs of people, workers and businessmen undertake to and fro journey for Agra and other places in the country from Faridabad daily. Besides, it is located on Agra National Highway. There is movement of large number of international tourists from this place. Therefore, the volume of traffic on Delhi-Faridabad border stretch on Agra National Highway has increased significantly. Consequently, the people have to get stuck in traffic jam for at least two hours daily. In such a situation the people are facing a lot of difficulties daily. The proposal for construction of a flyover on Badarpur border to ease the traffic is under consideration of the Government for a long time. The news regarding construction of this overbridge has been published in newspapers a number of times. Still, this important work is not being paid attention seriously. Moreover, the information regarding reasons for delay is also not being given. Owing to negligence of Faridabad area, the potential investors are taking interest in other districts of neighbouring States of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana instead of Faridabad. As a result, the unemployment in Faridabad is increasing speedily.

I, therefore, request the Government that in view of the above facts and the importance of Agra National Highway, the construction work of Badarpur flyover may please be taken up soon in public interest so that serving people, businessmen, tourists and common people can rid of the problem of traffic jam in the area.

**(vi) Needs to create a Wild Life Sanctuary at the Kodaikanal Forest and provide fencing at the border of Palani Hills to prevent menace of elephants in Palani Parliamentary Constituency, Tamil Nadu.**

*[English]*

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (Palani): My Parliamentary Constituency of Palani is situated at the



[Shri S.K. Kharventhan]

end of Western Ghats. Moreover, my constituency is having large number of agriculturists. For the past six months, nearly 40 elephants have entered from Kerala forests in the Palani Taluk—Ayakudi and Balasamudram Town Panchayat area. From Ayakudi to Perumalpur, the elephants damaged all kinds of agrarian products in 5000 acres and killed number of poor farmers and workers. We emphasized on the Forest Department, Tamil Nadu Government to take immediate necessary action but till date the menace of elephants is continuing. For want of drinking water only, the elephants are coming to Polar—Procunthalar Dam area in Palani. To solve the drinking water problem, number of small tanks should be constructed by the Forest Department in the Upper Forest Area.

If the elephants are continuously wandering in this area, it will affect the agricultural activities. To solve this issue permanently, Ministry of Environment and Forests must sanction a "WILD LIFE SANCTUARY" for the Kodaikanal Forest and the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy needs to take action for fencing through solar energy at the border of Palani Hills to prevent the elephants coming to Palani area.

I request the Hon'ble Minister to kindly do the needful to save the farmers and the public of my constituency.

**(vii) Need to ensure holding of regular meetings of District Vigilance and Monitoring Committees constituted to review the implementation of Centrally Sponsored Projects.**

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI (Rewa): In view of the all round development of the country, different States are allocated a larger amount of funds, to enable them implement certain central schemes. With a view to ensure proper use of the amount alongwith the quality of schemes within the specified period and proper utilization of funds, a vigilance and monitoring committee has been set up in the districts of the States which comprises officers of the concerned districts of the State along with the representatives of people as members. With regard to the review of working of District level Committees, State level Vigilance and monitoring committees are also set up. However, there are certain States namely Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana etc. where district level committees are not able

to hold meetings within prescribed time-limit. Moreover, the officers are also not able to participate in the meetings as per their requirements. Consequently, the above committees are facing difficulties in executing their work.

I, therefore, request the hon'ble Minister of Rural Development that he should again ask the States to give priority to the District level monitoring and vigilance Committee and render necessary assistance in their work.

**(viii) Need to Include Rajasthani language in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.**

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Sir, Rajasthan is a big State of India. In India, Rajasthani language is more popular in its spoken form. The literature of Rajasthani language is a rich one and Shri Kanhaiya Lal Sikwal has presented a Rajasthani song in praise of this language.

I urge the Government to include the Rajasthani language in the eighth schedule of the Constitution just as other languages have been recognized under the Constitution so that views can be expressed in Rajasthani language in Lok Sabha also.

**(ix) Need to make suitable amendment in the Crop Insurance Scheme by considering 'Village' as a unit for providing compensation to the farmers in the country**

SHRI BHANWAR SINGH DANGAWAS (Nagaur): Two years have passed since the Crop Insurance Scheme was started. The farmers have not benefited from this scheme at all. There are two shortcomings in this scheme. The first is that Tehsil is considered to be unit for taking into account the loss of crops. It means that the payment of crop insurance as compensation is possible only when there is a loss of crop in the entire Tehsil which is totally wrong. It has been announced in the Rajya Sabha that Gram Panchayat will be considered a unit. It is also improper to consider the village as a unit and bring it under insurance cover. Secondly, the farmers who take loan on credit card, are compulsorily brought under insurance scheme and the banks deduct the instalments of insurance before hand from the amount of loan. Therefore, the instalment of insurance should be charged from those farmers who want to avail of insurance facility. The farmers who do not want to avail of insurance facility, should be charged no instalment of insurance. In view of the deplorable condition of farmers, the amount of crop insurance should be paid to them at the earliest.

**(x) Need to formulate schemes for the rehabilitation of youths indulging in drug abuse and other social evils**

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur): Sir, the Government is required to launch a special campaign by making a law to ban the use of liquor, gutka, tobacco, charas, hemp, ganja, brown sugar and to put restrictions on gambling, bidding, running brothel house in a educated and unemployed society in the entire country and the people engaged in above activities should be brought to the mainstream after making them understand. At the same time a scheme should be launched to provide them loan so that their economic condition could be improved and they should be compelled to shun the social evils. The problems of naxalite and terrorism can be tackled by providing any type of work to the educated unemployed youths. Therefore, I urge the Central Government to take necessary action in this regard.

**(xi) Need to take steps for revival of Coir Industry in Kerala**

*[English]*

DR. K.S. MANOJ (Alleppey): Coir Industry is one of the major traditional industry in Kerala. Nearly four lakhs workers are employed with the industry and most of them are women. Now the industry is facing serious problems. Many cooperative societies have closed down. In order to give some support to the industry, the Government of India has sanctioned a project under Industry Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme, with a total outlay of 56.8 crores in the Coir Industry to develop a coir cluster in Alappuza, Kerala.

For implementing the project, special purpose vehicle is set up in the form of a society comprising of all stakeholders. The Department of Industries Policy and Promotion (DIPSP) under Ministry of Commerce and Industry is monitoring the Implementation of the Project.

The project formulated and approved by the Ministry envisages setting up of common facility centres, common affluent treatment plants for exporters and small and medium scale manufactures, distribution of rafts and workshed and other amenities for the benefit of women spinners in the cooperative sector as well as private sector. The Board of Directors after long deliberations had recommended to the Ministry for re-appropriation of the financial outlay by including a few activities.

Land is precious entity in Kerala. So the apex committee of the IIUS while considering the project on cluster based developmental programmes, have permitted inclusion of working capital as well as the cost of land for providing grant-in-aid. But this proposal is not approved by the Ministry. I urge upon the Government that the cost of land, working capital, and the Market Developing Assistance (MDA) given by the Government to the Cooperative Societies may also be considered as the State is to fulfil 25% share of the stake holders.

**(xii) Need to open branches of State Bank of India at Sareela and Muskara in Hamirpur Parliamentary Constituency and Kabrai in Mahoba district of Uttar Pradesh**

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA (Hamirpur, U.P.): There being no branch of State Bank of India in the newly formed Tahsil Sameela and two big towns Muskara of Hamirpur district and Kabrai (District Mahoba) of my parliamentary constituency Hamirpur, the local businessmen and other people have to face great hardship. The population of all the above mentioned towns is between 20 to 30 thousands. Besides, all these towns have Mandis which warrant the necessity for the traders to have all types of transaction with banks. The traders, big farmers and other people are forced to go to Hamirpur and Mahoba, situated about 50-60 kilometers from their towns, for depositing, withdrawing their money or for other purposes which always creates apprehensions of incidents of looting. Many such incidents have already taken place to the traders in the past. It is to be noted that most of the big places in the country have branches of State Bank of India and the public also demands that braches of the same banks be opened in their cities also.

Therefore, through this House, I would request the hon. Minister to instruct the concerned officers to open branches of State Bank of India in Sareela and Muskara of my parliamentary constituency of Hamirpur and in Kabrai of Mahoba district so that the traders as well as the local people could be benefited by it.

**(xiii) Need to provide Special Economic Package to address irrigation problem in Kaushambi, Allahabad and Fatehpur districts in Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chayal): The problem of irrigation is very grave in the districts of Kaushambi,

[Shri Rajnarain Budholia]

Allahabad and Fatehpur of Uttar Pradesh. There is no flow of water in Ramganga command canal for the last 35 years. Similarly, water from Kishunpur Pump canal does not reach upto the tail as per its capacity, as a result of which lakhs of acres of land remain unirrigated wrecking havoc for the farmers. The problem of unemployment is on the rise in the above-mentioned districts. The farmers are falling pray to debt. The Central Government is requested to provide a special economic package to expedite the flow of water in both these canals so that both these canals could have flow of water.

**(xiv) Need for early commencement of Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Electrification Programme in Samastipur district of Bihar**

SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur): Sir, the work under Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Plan is going on throughout the country as promised by UPA Government but this work has not yet been started in Samastipur district of Bihar even after about 2 years of implementing the programme despite NHPC having taken its responsibility. It is affecting agricultural work in rural areas. It is also causing adverse effects on other small and big industries.

Therefore, an arrangement should be made to get the work started at its earliest so that common people and farmers could be benefited by this ambitious plan of UPA Government.

[English]

**(xv) Need to provide rehabilitation package to the Sri Lankan Tamil refugees**

SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM (Krishnagiri): Sir, with the recent change of Government in Sri Lanka, it has brought renewed violence rather than calm. The arrival of Tamil refugees to Tamil Nadu has resumed after a gap of three years. But a question arises whether the "heaven" they have chosen, would help their rehabilitation in the country. The major contention are two issues which could affect the future of over 56,000 refugees who live in poverty and are at present lodged in 102 camps in Tamil Nadu. The contentious issue of food subsidy and educational concessions that Tamil refugees have been enjoying since 1983 to enable their survival under international humanitarian requirements for rehabilitation and repatriation. The Union Government in August 2005 took a controversial stand by cutting the rice subsidy offered

under a comprehensive package. The Government of Tamil Nadu has also not yet restored the cancelled, special allotment in professional educational institutions that Madras High Court validated. It is not humane to leave the refugees in the lurch especially when they are waiting to return to their motherland.

Hence, I request the Hon'ble Minister to kindly intervene in the matter and to restore the food subsidy and special allotment in educational facilities immediately and adequate rehabilitation package should be provided to the Sri Lankan Tamil refugees.

**(xvi) Need to implement the programme for providing grants to the farmers by National Tilhan Board**

[Translation]

SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL (Parbhani): National Tilhan Board had prepared a plan of providing grants to the tune of Rs. 16000 crore to improve the condition of farmers. Under this scheme 30% amount was to be provided as subsidy to the farmers, 50% amount was to be provided by banks as loans and the rest 20% amount was to be arranged by the beneficiary himself. But banks are not playing their role honestly and they do not provide loan of 50% amount to the farmers. National Tilhan Board had decided that the mandatory condition of providing 50% loan amount by banks should be relaxed. If a farmer happens to manage his 70% share, then he should be provided with 30% subsidy. This proposal is pending before the planning commission for a long time as a result of which the target of providing grants to the farmers through National Tilhan Board is becoming unachievable. In this way neither the farmers are getting financial assistance nor is there any increase in the investment in agriculture sector. On the contrary agriculture investment in our country is on the path of decline.

Therefore, through this House, I would request the Central Government that the decision of National Tilhan Board pertaining to relaxation in the rule should be implemented in the interest of farmers by the Planning Commission.

**(xvii) Need to provide compensation to the farmers of Ferozepur Parliamentary Constituency who suffered losses due to laying of land mines by the Army on their land in 1999**

SHRI JORA SINGH MANN (Ferozepur): During our strained relationship with Pakistan in the year 1999 Indian

Military had made strategic preparations along Indo-Pak border which caused heavy losses to the people living along borders. Since my parliamentary constituency Ferozepur, Punjab is situated along the border, Indian Military had planted landmines there. As a result, crops were destroyed and sowing could not be done for many years. The Central Government had declared to provide compensation to the farmers, which has not been provided fully to the farmers.

Many farmers had to suffer loss of life and property due to mine blasts. Some farmers lost their limbs. They also didn't get compensation. Through you, I would demand from the Government that these farmers should be compensated as early as possible.

**(xviii) Need to establish a Railway Division of South Central Railway at Kazipet, Andhra Pradesh**

*[English]*

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR (Hanamkonda): In tune with the vision of Hon'ble Railway Minister's objectives, I am making a proposal to establish a new Railway Division at Kazipet Junction which if becomes operational as early as possible will definitely contribute to the profit making goal of Indian Railways as well as betterment of rail infrastructure in North Telangana region.

Sir, Kazipet Junction is presently situated in Secunderabad Division of South Central Railway and is in proximity to the Singareni Collieries (largest coal mines in South India).

If we examine at the revenue patterns of the six divisions of South Central Railway, it will show the necessity to carve out a exclusive operational and administrative set up for better freight management.

Secunderabad Division of South Central Railway has earned a lion share for the zone owing to coal and cement loading and all these rich natural resources are situated in the drought prone, backward region of Telangana.

Kazipet is amongst triplet cities, which forms Warangal Municipality Corporation. It is the capital city of great Kakatiya Empire in 11th Century which ruled the entire Southern India and lasted for nearly 350 years. Warangal town is also a known as an educational centre with a University and reputed colleges.

I request the Government that in view of operational and locational advantages of Kazipet Junction, a Division in South Central Railway should be established there.

**(xix) Need to withdraw the order making it mandatory for Small Scale Industries producing bandage cloth at Chhatrapatti, Tamil Nadu to have their separate testing labs and other facilities for renewal of their licences**

SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPAPARAI (Sivakasi): There are nearly 80 Small Scale Industries producing bandage cloth at Chhatrapatti near Rajapalyam in Tamil Nadu. More than 5000 people are getting employment. Seventy per cent of the Indian bandage cloth requirement is supplied by these units. Bandage cloth produce here is being tested in a common testing lab at nearby Rajapalayam. Recently a circular has been sent to all these small scale industries for their renewal of their licence while doing so they have been asked to own separate testing lab and other facilities which are to meet out the standards of Schedule M (Good Manufacturing Practices). Sir, these bandage clothes are only used to be tied over the medicine, no way it is used as a medicine. Today more than 5000 people have closed their units and go for a demonstrating. If these conditions are to be implemented, it is feared there is a possibility of nearly 5000 employees losing their jobs and closure of all small bandage unit.

I earnestly request the Health Minister through you to exempt the bandage cloth from the table of the Schedule M and save the industries.

**(xx) Need to instal Instrument Landing System at Lengpui Airport in Mizoram**

SHRI VANLAL ZAWMA (Mizoram): The only communication Mizoram have, are road communication from Asom and air services from Kolkata and Guwahati. We have only one airport at Lengpui which is 40 km. from Aizawl, the capital of Mizoram. This Lengpui airport was constructed by the State Government with the help of Planning Commission and was inaugurated in December, 1998.

The State Government is now asking for installation of ILS (Instrument Landing System) from the Airport Authority of India (AAI) for this airport.

Mizoram is a hilly area and monsoon affected region. Without this ILS regular air services cannot be maintained during monsoon period.

Therefore, I would like to request the concerned authority, the Hon'ble Minister, Civil Aviation or Airport Authority of India to install ILS at Lengpui Airport as soon as possible to solve the problems of the people of Mizoram.

\_\_\_\_\_

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Now your time is over please conclude.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am telling them also into be seated. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Even then you want to continue you may also.

[English]

It cannot be one-way traffic. You mentioned a matter. He is mentioning. You are not allowing him.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the proper way. It will not work

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is very unfortunate.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the House will now take up discussion and voting on Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Will you please go back to your seats?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: What is this going on? Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Is anything being recorded? Do you get any benefit out of this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I can only say that it is extremely unfortunate and it is condemnable the way the House is being disturbed.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Rasa Singhji, You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please go back to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot take the House for granted. Please sit down. Enough is enough.

Nothing is being recorded. Why are you shouting? Nothing is being recorded. Nothing can be recorded.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now up take discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

...(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: OK carry on.

[*English*]

Nothing is being recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Srichand Kriplani, I will have to take action against you. I will take action against you. You are deliberated violating the Chair.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You are deliberately violating the Chair. You are raising slogans here.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*],

MR. SPEAKER: I had allowed you to speak.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You got the full opportunity. I had already said it. Nothing is being recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)\* ;

MR. SPEAKER: Why is he raising slogans? I will not allow anything to be recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. SPEAKER: I am very sorry to say that you are not co-operating with the Chair.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 1.30 p.m.

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\*Not recorded.

12.55 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till thirty minutes past Thirteen of the Clock.*

13.37 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at thirty-seven minutes past Thirteen of the Clock.*

[SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV *in the Chair*]

## GENERAL BUDGET—2006-2007— DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

### Ministry of Home Affairs

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos. 50 to 54 and 94 to 98 relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Hon. Members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demands for Grants have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Only those cut motions will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly thereafter. In case any member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table immediately.

Motion moved:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2007, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the Second column thereof against Demand Nos. 50 to 54 and 94 to 98 relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs."

## LOK SABHA

*Demands for Grants—Budget (General) for 2006-2007 in respect of Ministry of Home Affairs  
submitted to the vote of Lok Sabha*

No. & Name of the Demand	Amount of Demands for Grants submitted to the Vote of the House	
	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
<b>Ministry of Home Affairs</b>		
50 Ministry of Home Affairs	759,45,00,000	41,50,00,000
51 Cabinet	215,92,00,000	3,00,00,000
52 Police	14090,65,00,000	2039,38,00,000
53 Other Expenditure of the Ministry of Home Affairs	964,51,00,000	
54 Transfer to Union Territory Governments	1123,37,00,000	72,00,00,000
<b>Union Territories (Without Legislature)</b>		
94 Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1301,01,00,000	754,84,00,000
95 Chandigarh	1114,07,00,000	175,48,00,000
96 Dadra and Nagar Haveli	768,20,00,000	39,30,00,000
97 Daman and Diu	273,46,00,000	40,26,00,000
98 Lakshadweep	249,47,00,000	169,27,00,000

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Dharmendra Pradhan to Speak now.

*[Translation]*

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN (Deogarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, today we will discuss on the Budgetary grants for the Home Affairs presented by the Government in this House. As you are aware, ministries are run by collective responsibilities. In the meeting of Congress party held in Hyderabad, the internal security policy of the UPA Government which is under the Ministry of Home Affairs was praised for doing a good job. This can be judge by today's incidence when neither Hon'ble Home Minister nor two State Ministers are present in the House when the matter is being discussed here. Yes, it can be said that this is a collective responsibility.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: With the permission of the Speaker, the Minister of Home Affairs has gone to the other House. The Minister of State for Home Affairs is here.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Sir, he was not visible.

*[Translation]*

UPA Government under the leadership of Congress has run the country for about two years. When we analyse the news published in today's newspaper the direction and intention of the UPA Government in the matter of internal security can be assessed. It also reveals its

seriousness and alertness. Today internal security of our country is in danger. The responsibility of maintaining security lies on Central Government and due to wrong, unclear policies, minoritism and vote bank politics, the country itself and specially its internal security is in danger. It is my first allegation against the UPA Government. I will not mention the matters which require details but I would like to mention about five-six subjects as internal security, budgetary grants, in increase in grant in comparison to previous year sector of government spending. All these things need a technical approach and as I think this is not being referred to standing committee this year. It would have been better if it were referred to standing committee ignoring political election in the country where it would have been reviewed in detail. The Ministry of Home Affairs is the Department that reveals the intention of the political party in power, process adopted by them to assure the people and their ideological role. Today the internal security of the country is at stake due to lack of transparency and state of indecision of the Government.

Recently, American President George Bush visited India. Just a few days ago round table talks were held in Delhi with the Hurriyat Conference. This is not a new thing. The Government has been negotiating with Hurriyat friends and many other organisations of Jammu and Kashmir since 2002. The previous Government of Atalji also held such talks under the leadership of Deputy Prime Minister Shri Advaniji in the year 2002. Then also Hurriyat joined the talks. The critic of internal political situation were amazed as to how a Government led by the B.J.P. is talking with Hurriyat in Kashmir. World was neutral. And in India it was being viewed critically. While discussing internal security we can not ignore Pakistan and Bangladesh. We must discuss with both the countries. When there was a news about the arrival of Mr. Bush in Jammu & Kashmir, It was stated that we may accept partial autonomy or self rule to some extent. The Prime Minister of the country mentioned about it after attending the Round Table. Perhaps such incidents did not occur earlier. Discussions with any organisation are always welcomed in this country. The discussion should be within the ambit of Indian Constitution, which ensures the guarantee of India's security. There may be some demands which is usual but if the leader of the Government accepts the autonomy thereby and says that it can be discussed, then it is the biggest sign of danger. I am levelling charges against the wrong policies of the Government because this may lead to a compromise with the internal security of the country.

When we review the internal security we consider North-Eastern states. I do not want to elaborate. Some days ago Hon'ble Prime Minister himself called on some eminent persons from Assam and had discussions with ULFA. In this exercise one thing that draws attention is the date and all this was being done three months before the elections. In Assam Congress Party has been in power for past five years and it is ruling the country for the last two years. The Prime Minister is also elected from Assam. No discussion was held earlier. Since the elections are nearing, so discussion with ULFA was initiated. Did the discussion started, what were the issues and why the ULFA is fighting and what were the issues and with whom it is fighting? It is fighting against the Indian army. The Government of Atalji negotiated with Bhutan and drove them away from there. In those days Bhutan cherished the idea that at our interference the misuse of their land can be checked. They were apprehensive of the re-agreement which might have been reached. The same situation is appearing again. Had the Government intended to restore peace and normalcy in Assam, there would not have been. ...(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): How can the solution come without negotiations?

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: The Hon'ble Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is equipped with a vast experience. I urge him to have a little patience. We are in a democratic set up. He feels uncomfortable since he is losing ground in Assam. You will have to answer to the country. If you are really serious about holding talks with ULFA and if you have serious concern for solving the problems, I would like to remind you expectedly, you would have visited there as you necessarily have certain responsibilities as a Minister of Defence. The day on which your party president visited Assam, the Assamese people were fired at? Are you concerned about Assam? You simply devised a dramatic plot of negotiations to win over the innocent people for the sake of vote bank. Are you in dialogue with NSCN? An alternative is being explored for a long time to restore peace in Manipur. At that time, the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs didn't find enough time. Now we are talking of the Department of Home Affairs. Why is it that he did not dare to visit Manipur, I wish to quote it. The Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs stated:



[Shri Dharmendra Pradhan]

[English]

"While there is a delayed reaction regarding Manipur, we did whatever was needed. I did not go there earlier because we wanted to give the elected State Government time to handle the situation, and to do its duty under the Constitution. The Centre is not expected to interfere in everything. The situation is better in the state now."

[Translation]

Under such pretexts the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs does not visit Manipur and remarks that he does not intend to interfere with the functioning of the State Govt. A few hours after the incident occurred in Varanasi, the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs visited there. The entire world has witnessed whether he intervened in the affairs of the State Government or not. You visit the place where you can make votes. North-east is a smaller region. So the situation of that region does not receive your attention. There is no clear policy of Multi-dimensional programme. Let me quote the words of a distinguished social activist Shri Shekhar Gupta ji—"If the Government is genuinely interested in resolving the issues of internal security, particularly in respect of North-Eastern states, the scene would have been altogether different and there would have been no vote bank politics. Let me quote a few sentences from Shekhar Gupta's article published in the *Danik Jagran* September, 2004....

"One of the reasons of the BJP's stability in power for six years in the 1995 was that it laid too much attention to the issues related to National Security while the State Governments of the North-Eastern region proved weak and incompetent. The UPA Govt. is adopting a lackadaisical approach on this front which is indicative of the gross incompetence of the Govt."

Mr. Speaker, Sir, be it Kashmir or North-East, the present Government have not come forward with any clear-cut policy. The Ministers visit only such locations where there is fair scope of garnering votes. I had already said in the beginning that the biggest threat to our internal security is posed by I.S.I. of Pakistan. If we talk of Varanasi, one will allege that it is being viewed from communal angle coupled with communal out look. Nobody would deny that we must have cordial relationship with Pakistan. The former Prime Minister did visit Lahore with

the message of peace. Subsequently Musharaf Sahib visited India and talks were held in Agra. Sadly, the dialogue process resulted in a fiasco rather than arriving at any tangible conclusion as the Govt. of India, then kept holding its firm view that Indian wanted cordial relationship with Pakistan but then cross border terrorism must end from Pakistan side of border. That must be a pre-condition for initiating any kind of dialogue with Pakistan. Today it's an issue of huge concern for everyone. One talks of demilitarisation along the country's border in Kashmir. It is termed as progressive approach. It is common knowledge that terrorist activities have witnessed a rise along the cross-border areas. Fanaticism is being linked with this issue.

At this point of time what I want to establish is that this Government is compromising with the national security by over-looking the I.S.I. just for the sake of vote-politics. A news-item has been published against the Department of Home Affairs, particularly I would like to quote the news-item published in the "Indian Express" relating to the developments occurred in the recent past. I would like to remind you of the incidents that occurred in Ayodhya, Bangalore, Kerala and in Delhi during Diwali festival, let alone the incident of Varanasi. I counter response, the argument is advanced that during the NDA regime too, the country had witnessed terrorists' attack on Raghunath temple in Parliament and on Akshardham temple in successive phases. There is a difference in between the two. Whenever there is a war, two opponent parties fight to the core in a spirited manner being quote unconcerned of the repercussions. The data produced by the department of Home Affairs prove that the Govt of India was successful in monitoring ISI activities, to short-circuit their conspiracy aside from checking their modules. The Govt. of India under the NDA regime succeeded in these efforts, however, certain incidents took place. In an atmosphere when we were taking them to task and attacked on them and their conspiracy was being exposed, they retaliated by attacking certain locations. But what is the state of affairs at present. I would like to refer to some statistics before you. As per the figures produced by the Minister of Home Affairs—

[English]

Since the year 2002, security forces arrested 780 persons including 83 Pakistani nationals in their drive against subversion, sabotage and espionage. These figures are shared with the Directors-General of Police in their annual conference.

*[Translation]*

This action was resorted to crackdown I.S.I. modules in the year 2000. In 2003, 56 such modules were cracked down. In 2004, as many as 40 incidents occurred. In 2005 it reached the negligible level. Now, it stands to reason that the series of incidents in Bangalore, Ayodhya, Varanasi, Delhi was the brain-child of Pak-based I.S.I. activists. The Government have now failed in taking pre-emptive measures on all such counts. The Government is only concerned about the fact that a particular community should not protest and that they are also not hurt. That is their only concern. This is true every-where whether it is Ayodhya of Delhi of Kerala. We have a case of Kerala. The support of the Muslim league is sought just to run the Government. I do not think it has even the least concern whatsoever of national security.

Mr. Chairman Sir, the dark law introduced by the present Government in Assam in the name of IMDT was rejected by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. It was dismissed summarily and while dismissing the legislation, the Supreme Court ruled that it is an open attack on the sovereignty of India by Bangladesh. It is not in the national interest. The Union Government ought to withdraw it without delay. What was the outcome thereof. I would once again refer to the elections in Assam. In the next general elections in Assam, People belonging to so called minority community reacted sharply. To allow the Bangladeshi's habitation in the country, let the economy witness the downslide. Compromise with the national security and letting a rise in social tensions is not fair by any standards. But Bangla Deshi nationals came here and were safe. There are voices to amend the Indian Citizenship Act. Group of ministers met and discussions held. The so called leader of the Government during her Assam visit stated that the nation might disintegrate but they had to win Assam elections. That is why we intend to bring other form of I.M.T.D. I would like to remind the Congress members.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dharmendraji, three more members from your party are to speak.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Sir, I am to end my speech. I would like to remind the treasury benches that their policy of minoritism is nothing but vote bank politics. You don't have any programme. You are threatening security of the nation out of passion for minoritism. You fail to recall the decade of eighties. In the mid eighties when you came to power after winning

more than 400 seats. You had ignored Supreme Court judgement in Shahbano case.

14.00 hrs.

You tried to change the legislative assembly and changed it too. You are again conspiring to apply IMTD, something similar to it. On Assam you will have to face its result. You could manage to get some votes but one day people of this country will ask you and bring you before the court and ask you whether you compromised with the interest of the nation. This country will never forgive you. I would like to request the hon. Home Minister to keep away from politics of vote bank. You are Home Minister of the country and security of the common man is your primary concern but you should keep yourself away from this anti national programme which is being run just to make the political alliance survive.  
...(*Interruptions*).

Mr. Chairman Sir, I belong to Orissa and the tentacles of the internal security are connected to Orissa. That is why I cannot desist myself from mentioning it. I accuse the UPA Government, especially the Congress party for rise in Naxalite violence during last two years. You had executed an agreement with the Naxalites at the time of elections in Andhra Pradesh in 2004. ...(*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): It is wrong I object to this.  
...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: What proof do you have with you? ...(*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record but the speech of Shri Dharmendra Pradhan.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

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\*Not recorded.

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing irrelevant will go on record.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Mr. Chairman Sir, don't you accept that the convoy of an elected Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri Chandra Babu Naidu was attacked by Naxalites? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI (Rajamundri): Who was behind it? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: ...*(Interruptions)\**

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record but the speech of Shri Dharmendra Pradhan.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Shri. Chandra Babu Naidu's convoy was attacked by Naxalites. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record but the speech of Shri Dharmendra Pradhan.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing irrelevant will go in proceedings.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI. DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Mr. Chairman Sir, I am talking about a totally point of context and relevance. We may have political differences with Shri Chandra Babu Naidu but who can deny that he was attacked and Naxalites were behind this attack, we object to it. I give you two examples of that time when a review of Naxalites

was done by the then NDA Government. Then a coordination committee was formed under the leadership of Home Secretary and Home Secretaries and D.G.Ps of all the states were included in it. We had admitted and accepted that Naxalite violence was a national problem because had it not been a national problem it would not have had an international impact. West Bengal has been under communist rule for 30 years. They too are feeling the heat and they have to face it.

Mr. Chairman Sir, when UPA Government came to power, I don't want to repeat the charge but it was said out of political reasons. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs called a meeting and said that it was a state problem and not a national one. It is my biggest allegation on this Government. If they were serious and had they kept national security and national interest in their mind, they would not have deviated from this policy and would not have called a national problem to be a state problem. They dissolved that committee saying that there was no need of it. Why did they say this? Because they entered into an agreement. They backtracked the statement of PWG and Naxalites. All had expressed their anguish over last week's naxalite attack in Chhattisgarh and it was said that the Government pushed the tribals under the attack without caring for their security. The other day Shri Ajit Jogi was also saying this though he is not present today. He was also saying this. I want to know who is playing politics and how it is played?

Mr. Chairman Sir, a social movement emerges in Chhattisgarh to fight Naxalism who leads it? It is Shri Mahendra Karma, leader of the opposition belonging to Congress Party in Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly whom Congress made a leader. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, please conclude.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: I am concluding, Sir.

MR CHAIRMAN: Many members of your party have to speak.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Mr. Chairman Sir, I am the first member from my party and I am expressing my views on a national problem. Please give me some more time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You give it in writing from your chief whip. If you consume the whole time then time allotted to other members of yours party will be deducted.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Mr. Chairman Sir, I have taken the time from my Chief whip. I will speak within the allotted time. I was saying that Shri Mahendra Karma is the leader of the opposition there who does not play politics but he is conducting a social movement. Government of Chhattisgarh have accepted that it is a good movement. Common men are polarising against Naxalism which must get every body's support. However, this good move is being sidelined all due to the internal conflicts of the Congress party.

Mr. Chairman Sir, a request to this effect has been forwarded to the Union Government by the Orissa Government that the naxalites are stretching their base from Nepal to Sri Lanka covering Orissa. My Parliamentary Constituency does also fall within this red corridor. The Government of Orissa has placed two to three demands before the Central Government in which there figures security related expenditure scheme which is operated by the grants received from the Union Government. The Government of Orissa has identified districts under this scheme and special request has been made for three districts—Devgadh, Sambalpur and Jajpur. I urge the Government to accord its approval to the scheme and I also do support it.

Mr. Chairman Sir, the red corridor falling in this region encompasses tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Jharkhand which is located along the NH leading to Ranchi from Vijaywada. I want the Union Government to ponder over it and the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs ought to fulfil it by making special provisions touching upon the subject.

Mr. Chairman Sir, before I conclude. I would like to draw your attention towards a very momentous subject. A few years back, one such incident occurred in Delhi when our popular leader Shri Lal Krishna Advani was the Minister of Home Affairs. The Chief Minister of Delhi staged a Dharma at that time claiming that Delhi was not state. I would like to ask the same question whether Delhi is safe today. Crime against women have turned out to be a routine affairs as... \* Even today, It has been reported in the newspaper.....\* ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing irrelevant shall go on record. Please sit down.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Mr. Chairman Sir, it is submitted for your consideration. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Minister, please sit down. I have ruled from the Chair—that nothing irrelevant shall go on record.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Mr. Chairman Sir, we are in a democracy. I have simply made political allegations. Why is he intervening so much? ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You take your seats. Nothing irrelevant is going on record.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Had there been proper security arrangements, such incidents would not have taken place in Delhi. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Why are the Hon'ble Members standing? Irrelevant expressions have been expunged. You please don't impede the conduct of the House.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are interrupting. It does not behave the Members of ruling party to do this. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Swain Ji, please take your seat. You are a sensible member. Please take your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Mr. Chairman Sir, I will conclude shortly. Here we are debating the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs. As I said in the beginning, as per the data available to me, the expenditure of the Ministry of Home Affairs has increased by eight to nine percent. To speak otherwise, the expenditure of the Department of Home Affairs has increased proportionate to the growth in revenue of the country but his approach is faulty. The entire internal security system is focused on minorities. Today the nation is feeling insured since they declared in their Common Minimum Programme to repeal POTA. POTA was repealed and today the nation has to pay for it. Those involved in parliament-attack were booked and convicted under POTA. However, what's the approach of the present Government. ...(*Interruptions*)

[Shri Dharmendra Pradhan]

By constituting Banerjee Committee the Government is trying to acquit those involved in hatching conspiracy of murdering of the majority community in Godhra genocide episode. The terrorist forces are having connection with ISI. They get encouragement and inspiration from such moves\*..... This is an anti-national tendency. The approach to appease the minorities is not fair. ...*(Interruptions)*. I condemn the unfairness adopted in such treatment and expect the Ministry of Home Affairs to rise above politics and protect the interest of the common men.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ajay Chakrabarti, please sit down. Now, Shri Madhusudan Mistry.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Madhusudan Mistry.

...*(Interruptions)\**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mistry, you should start your speech.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Sabarkantha): Sir, let them stop disturbing the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

#### CUT MOTIONS

[Translation]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA" (Almorah): I beg to move that the demand under the head Ministry of Home Affairs Page 50 be reduced to Re. 1

38. Failure to implement the use of official language Hindi in the working of courts.
39. Failure in implement the measures to check infiltration from across the border and terrorism.

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS PAGE 50 BE REDUCED BY RS. 100

40. Need to fully recognise Rajbhasha Hindi in the Union Public Service Commission for the purpose of taking examinations.

41. Need to make the use of Rajbhasha Hindi mandatory in the Supreme Court of India and all other Courts under the three language formula.
42. Need to re-enact POTA to check the terrorist activities effectively.
43. Need to evolve effective programme to destroy the major centres of Naxalite and Maoist activities.

THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD POLICE (PAGE 52) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100.

44. Need to take effective measures to check the Bangladeshi infiltration in Assam, West Bengal and other parts of the country.
45. Need to provide 30% reservation for the youth of Uttaranchal in para-military forces.
46. Need to provide water-boat to Sashastra Seema Bal for patrolling in Kali river at Indo-Nepal border in Uttaranchal.
47. Need to provide canteen, medical and accommodation facilities to the para-military forces at par with Indian army.
48. Need to provide family accommodation to the employees of para-military forces during their tenure of their deployment at border areas.
49. Need to set up a Central command of para-military forces.
- THAT THE DEMAND UNDER THE HEAD OTHER EXPENDITURE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PAGE 53) BE REDUCED BY RS. 100
50. Need to provide special financial assistance for drought affected area in Uttaranchal.
51. Need to establish a separate directorate for the rehabilitation of ex-employees of para-military forces.

[English]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for allowing me to speak on the discussion on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 2006-07....*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI SOMABHAI G. PATEL (Surendra Nagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a point of order. Discussion on such an important issue is going on, but there is no quorum in the House. Please, get the quorum completed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Bell is being sounded. Now, there is quorum in the House. Hon'ble Member Shri Madhusudan Mistry please continue your speech.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, I have the opportunity to speak on the demand for grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 2006-07. Certain points have been raised from the other side, on which I would express my views later. There is a demand for Rs. 13710 crore under the Budget head 2055 of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

[*English*]

That is, in fact, 5.79 per cent of cost of administrative services.

[*Translation*]

and these are revised estimates of the previous year and this is 8.67 per cent more than that. I would also like to mention that it was 4.02 per cent of the total services in the years 2002-03 and 2003-04 during the regime of Bhartiya Janta Party.

[*English*]

It has increased to 5.70. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

A lot of hard work is required to collect the data.

[*English*]

It is not joke.

[*Translation*]

I would also like to mention about the police

[*English*]

It was under the 0055 Head and I have not taken into account the capital expenditure.

[*Translation*]

which was under revenue and it is presumed that the income of police under the Head 0055 is likely to be

1,867 crore. Two things are clear from this. One is, the income of police is likely to be increased that implies that police have to work hard because police keep an eye on the violators of law and order. The fine features of violation goes under the income and

[*English*]

police supply to the other states also and the states have to pay that. That goes under income

[*Translation*]

The expenditure has increased. The Government have to take care of its internal security arrangement and police establishments throughout the country. Forces are posted on border to keep the same secured. There are many other fields such as training, modernization of police, National Crime Record Bureau and also census and surveys. While incurring expenditure on these items, the Government ensures that its internal security should be tightened-up. This is the main purpose of such an expenditure. We have been apprised of this fact that a number of issues fall within the jurisdiction of states. We are heading towards the minoritism and the Government always encourage such issues.

Sir, I am very much surprised that the persons having fascist mentality, persons playing politics on the corpse are preaching us today. ...(*Interruptions*)\*

Mr. Chairman, Sir, persons playing politics on the corpse are preaching us. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing, except what Shri Mistry says, will go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, I am not yielding to him.

[*Translation*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ram Kripalji, please sit down. Please speak only when your turn comes. Please, take your seat.

...(*Interruptions*)

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\*Not recorded.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, I would like to remind him that people belonging to minority community are also citizens of this country. These people do not recognize them as the citizens of this country. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

I remember and I want to put this on record.

*[Translation]*

When there was tension in Gujarat, we went to meet their Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Advaniji on 2nd or 3rd and we requested them to send military to Gujarat and hand over the charge of Gujarat to the military forces, but they said that we would only deploy army but Gujarat will not be handed over to army to maintain law and order.

Now, when there was a terrorist attack on Hanuman temple in Uttar Pradesh, they are going to organize a 'Rath Yatra' and it is being named as 'Ekta Yatra'. It appears to be their policy to give such a name to these programmes so that the press do not enquire much about them, but in reality they do not work in the direction of unity of the country. It has the name as 'Ekta Yatra' but in reality it is 'Vibhajan Yatra'. I would like to ask as to why their leaders are heading towards two different directions? They are not marching hand in hand. One is going to one direction and the other is going to the other direction. There is a split between two. ...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the main problem is that

*[English]*

they do not have the tolerance. What is this, Sir? ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

They do not have the habit of listening to other. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing except what Shri Mistry says, will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to tell the hon'ble member that our government does not run on the remote control from Jandewalan, like theirs. The way in which their Government used to run from Nagpur and Jhandewalan in Delhi, our Government does not have any such system. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mistry please continue your speech. Nothing except your speech is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, when Parliament was attacked, when Akshardham was attacked, we used to sit on the other side. We all, the entire House, got united and opined with one voice that the attack on Parliament is like the attack on our country. It is a national problem. We will find out a solution to this altogether. We did not organize any Rath Yatra after the terrorist attack. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please sit down. Nothing is going on record except the speech of Shri Madhusudan Mistry.

...*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the opposition should be prepared to listen to what we say. They should also have great courage to listen to our arguments. There are small but very important issues. When the Parliament was attacked, we were standing behind them. We did not try to encash the situation in any manner and we did not talk about minority. We said that the attack on parliament is just like an attack on our country. We did not contradict their views. When attack was made on England and also on America, the entire country was united. The entire country should be united under such circumstances.

We were with them. When we were on the verge of war with Pakistan and when the situation was such that the war was likely to be broken out any time, a situation that was created by these people, we were standing with them. Congress did not want to play politics on these issues. But you know that if you will not play politics on such issues, you cannot come to power. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, the hon. Member is forgetting the elementary courtesy that he initiated the debate and now he should have the courtesy to listen to the other speakers. This is not the way. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: Dada, you were not present at that time. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Let him conclude. I didn't intervene your speech.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: While such words are used for our leader, we shall return the same coin. You will have to bear up because the leaders of your party are of Fascist mindset. You talk something in the House and the same thing other outside. Its in our Gujarat as well as the national level too. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Pradhanjee, please keep up the level of Parliamentary debate.

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: It is also their responsibility. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is everyone's responsibility. All of you behave the same way.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: We extended our corporation while there were attacks on Akshardham, Raghunath Temple and on all other temples we wiped their fears. We saw the victims while our leader visited Varanasi. Then too, she was scorned with allegations that her move was aimed at gaining political mileage. She did not do so. But, of course, you are doing so for politics sake. Still further, there is little hope of your party coming back into power in the next 10 years. Take it for certain. The issue of internal security was referred to here. On demand I would say Nanavati Commission was referred now, there comes the issue of Ayodhya Commission. I do not think the arguments advanced by you are going to be incorporated in the Nanavati Commission. As far as the sitting Chief Minister of the State Government is concerned I do not think he figures therein. However, I want the Commission to submit their reports at the earliest possible with minimum delay.

Naxalites problem can hardly escape one's attention. Right now it was asked where has there been maximum naxalites attack. In the year 2004-05 and in preceding years casualties numbered 352 while in 2005 the figure has been reported to be 380 in Chhattisgarh. In Jharkhand the no. of casualties have been reported to be 379 and 308 respectively in 2005.

In Bihar the figures are 323 and 183. These apart, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra also witnessed Naxalite attacks. You are terming the Naxalites problem as a national problem but I would like to request him that he can register his protest to an issue but cannot take care of the functioning of the Government. The States, where their party was in power in 2004-05, had utterly failed on this front. The Central Government was apprised of the situation. The center feeds information. The police force is deployed by the centre. Even assistance is provided by the Centre. However, the ground reality is such that the State Government do not extend cooperation in tackling the Naxalites menace. On the contrary, it is said that the Union Government interferes with their functioning. To my mind, it would be in the fitness of things to contain Naxalites activities in the State ruled by your party rather than laying focus on minorities only. It has quite often been witnessed, this is why I am saying that their approach leads to surcharging the Union with additional expenditure.

*[English]*

Take the example of Rath Yatra.

*[Translation]*

What should be the far-reaching consequences. Wherever there shall be Rath-Yatra (Chariot Procession) additional police force shall be required, there shall be concern for law and order. All endeavours will have to be made lest the procession should get converted into a riot. Steps will have to be taken. All this is an additional expenditure.

*[English]*

It is an additional expenditure on the part of both, the Central Government as well as the State Government.

*[Translation]*

I ask them why are they doing so. They talk of nothing but Pakistan, Bangladesh, Mosques, Naxalism and



[Shri Madhusudan Mistry]

terrorism as these are considered to be their favourite subjects. They cannot afford to move away from these subjects. They shall never talk of development. I can say with full authority that they do not have the capability the to get elected in the name of development. Now-a-days Kota is debatable issue. What is there in Kota in Rajasthan? ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): He is digressing from the issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will be recorded except the speech of Shri Madhusudan Mistry.

...*(Interruptions)\**

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: I am coming to the issue of law and order. A book was brought out nearly seven years ago. Now there is no trace of the author or of the readers. How the issue has hogged the limelight today while the chapter was opened up seven years ago. Who is refusing to file a case against the person who triggered the entire episode. As against this, the schools being run by the Christian community must not escape one's attention. Let there as connection be disrupted. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: I am against the running of schools. I have simply raised my voice against the conversion. As many as a thousand people have been converted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: They claim themselves as the supreme authority for determining one's religion. Who are they to impose any religion on anybody. Its solely a matter of choice. Once again, I would like to place it on record that the tribals are atheists. Air, fire, rains are their deities. I have been in their association for 25 long years. They are not affiliated to any particular religion. One approaches them and persuades them to get associated with one religion. Subsequently, you

approach them and force or lure them for conversion. The fact remains that in a way, you too, are favouring conversion. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: They make a turn around of their religious practice. They come back here. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: The freedom to adopt a religion is the fundamental right of the citizens. It is quite ridiculous to trigger an issue of observance of law and order on religious grounds.

Sir, In Dange district of my Parliamentary Constituency, "Shabri Mela" was organized. Shabri offered fruit to Lord Shri Ram—which formed the basis of this Mela (tribal fair). It continued for three months. The expenditure, whatsoever was met by the State Govt. People from Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh were hired and all of them gathered and actively participated in Mela celebrations. The person who was instrumented to the conduct of this Mela has been offered a ticket from the Rajya Sabha. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please address the Chair. Mr. Mistry.

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: If you have a little sense, I place my humble submission not to raise the issue of law and order. Please do not overburden the Government with monetary expenditure. Please maintain peace.

The voters who are to give their votes to you will anyway vote only you. Minority people too are citizens of this country. They have right to property and to live here. Take it certain that most of these people don't cast their votes in their favour. That is why they have such a mentality. I would like to tell them to have patience. Don't divide the country. This step of yours will divide not only a community, an area but the whole country. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Pradhan ji, please don't interrupt. You have already spoken. Mistryji, don't pay attention to interruptions and continue your speech. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, I repeat that it is a stunt and nothing else.

*[Translation]*

Sir, in respect of the demand for grant, I would like to say that in our country per lac police population ratio is very low as compared to other countries. It is 1225 in Russia, 430 in Malaysia, 347 in England-Welsh, 300 in USA but in India it is only 134. I request the hon. Minister, through you, to increase it by making demands in the budget. There were such circumstances in both the cases. You have witnessed cases of Jessica Lal and Jahira in criminal law system. In Jahira case an inquiry was conducted regarding making the witness hostile and to bribe her. But under criminal justice system the state government has complete accountability. ...*(Interruptions)*. You go and ask Mr. Modi, why are you speaking here. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except Shri Mistry's speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Witnesses were made hostile. My request is that criminal law system should be made more speedy. I request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to make the cases of riots, murders etc. time bound. A time bound legislation should be brought about regarding continuing the cases, finishing them and conviction. Once a case starts, the judge should be designated. People have no fear of law in serious cases like murder and kidnappings etc. The people who have enough money or who are in power as is the case in Gujarat, they exert their influence on the case. A way should be devised to ward off such influence so that maximum people could get relief. At national level a sum of Rs. 11 crore 71 lakh has been allocated for the National Human Rights Commission in this year's budget estimates. But there are several state governments who have yet not formed Human Rights Commissions. They are being reminded for 7-8 years but they don't constitute them. I belong to Gujarat. Gujarat government is also included in it. The government is very well aware of the reasons for not constituting the commission. Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh have also not constituting the commission. Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh have also not constituted the commission. The procedure of

constituting the Human Rights Commission should be completed at the earliest so that the poor could get justice.

Regarding prison reforms, there has been a special mention of Bihar in connection with breaking of jail. It has been seen that mafias run a parallel government there. It should be stopped. There has been an increase in the number of criminals but there is no such increase in the number of jails. It should also be taken care of.

Gujarat and Pakistan share a very long stretch of international border. One is land border and the other is sea border. One has Coast Guard and other has Border Security Force. Coast Guards' position in Gujarat is such that Pakistani Marines come to the river and take away the fishermen from Indian territory. A few days ago people of Porbander and its side coastlines had stopped all the services for many days because fishermen going for fishing are arrested and their boats are seized and they are put in Pakistani jails. Their boats are not released and moreover no one knows where the person has gone. It is learnt from some other sources that he has been arrested. Coast Guards should be more and more active and if further recruitment or deployment is required it should be done. Similarly, fencing has been done on about two thousand five hundred kilometre long Bangladesh border but Gujarat and Pakistan border has not been fully fenced. This causes maximum exploitation. The government says that there is infiltration from that side but it could not stop it. It wants to gain maximum political mileage from it. We have witnessed such a mentality theirs. The circumstances developing on Bangladesh and Pakistan border indicate that there is some problem with internal security. It is their view. Two or three matters have been raised here. We have been charged to have nexus with Naxalites in Andhra Pradesh. I don't know whether we have done such agreement or not but in our Gujarat the Chief Minister keeps saying after every three months that he has been threatened by the Naxalites. He gets this done deliberately so that his rivals could not depose him. He says that his life is always under threat. ...*(Interruptions)*. I can sense it clearly that he has a pact with anti social elements. So I would like to tell them not to oppose the dialogue without keeping in mind that they are Naxalites, terrorists or any one else. Please don't discuss law and order situation of states there. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dharmendra Pradhan ji, you start speaking without taking permission. It is not a good practice.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN: You Government in Andhra Pradesh has done this. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dharmendra Pradhanji, nothing of your speech is being included in proceedings. This is not fair.

...*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: You execute an agreement. ...*(Interruptions)* We don't throw cow's tail in temple. You know better who throws it and then trigger riots. Would you like to say something in this regard? We have heard such things that you will feel surprised. Twenty five rupees for stabbing by rajor and hundred rupees for stabbing by dagger. ...*(Interruptions)* Do you have anything to say? ...*(Interruptions)*. All this is being done at the instance of your Government. Do you have anything to say? The little we speak, better it is for you. ...*(Interruptions)*. The perpetrators of riots want to get votes by talking about minority. You have nothing else except this. ...*(Interruptions)*.

*[English]*

You have nothing to show ...*(Interruptions)*.

*[Translation]*

I had to speak because one of the members of your party spoke so. ...*(Interruptions)*

You will come to your senses in Gujarat. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

No, Sir, they simply irritate, nothing else. They do not have anything. ...*(Interruptions)* They should have the tolerance to listen to us. When we can listen to them, why can they not do so? They have a fascist mentality. ...*(Interruptions)* That is what is going in Gujarat. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mistryji, please continue your speech. Please, do not get excited while making the speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH WAGHMARE (Wardha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are directing us but you are not saying anything to him. He is digressing from the subject. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Mr. Chairman, Sir if there is anything unparliamentary in my speech, you may delete it from the record. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH WAGHMARE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we fail to understand as to what he is talking about? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: There is nothing to settle political score. Therefore, I do not want to go into that issue. But, I would like to mention that. ...*(Interruptions)* \*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already given the ruling that nothing irrelevant will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: The entire work related to census comes under this Ministry. I have requested several times earlier and I would also like to request the hon'ble Home Minister today that the report, which follows the census.

*[English]*

It takes its own time. Computerisation of data takes a very long time.

*[Translation]*

When the report of the census is published, next census becomes due. As such, the data of the previous census could not be used, which should have been used in development work. Similarly, the data of National Crime Record Bureau also comes very late. They do not send the data related to crime in time. I feel that the subject of security should be brought under concurrent list. Some penal provisions should be made against the states which do not respect this issue, so that complete data could be obtained. As suspicion arises with regard to the data of National Crime Record Bureau whether all the cases are actually registered with police station or not? Similarly, which are the states where the cases of crime have decreased or the extent to which the cases of section 125 have decreased in particular? In order to describe

about the other cases that have decreased, the officials of National Crime Record Bureau are often of this practice that the manage that the complaints are not registered in police stations and thus

*[English]*

on record, they show that crime is declining.

*[Translation]*

But the ground reality is quite different. I, therefore, urge you that complaints may be registered in a proper manner in National Crime Record Bureau.

It is also necessary to modernize the police stations. Funds are provided by the Central Government but training should be imparted to bring proper alertness among the police personnel. Desired results after the modernization could only be achieved when alertness in the approach of the police force, the graph of crime would not come down and prevention of crime cannot be possible in spite of several means of modernization adopted by the police force. When the mentality of police force is such that crime is to be prevented at any cost, the only desired results could be achieved. There are two types of measures—curative and prohibitive. Services are much of curative nature under health sector. If we want to prevent diseases, we will have to supply pure water and thus diseases could be controlled. Similarly, if the mentality of the police force is so set that it is committed to prevent crime, then only the rate of crime will come down.

*[English]*

Lastly, I have been advocating one thing quite for some time

*[Translation]*

that we spend a lot of money on police force in the budget. The most important thing is that there should be fear of law in the minds of people. They should be cautious about the law and order and have the feeling in their minds that if they will not obey the law, they would be charged with violation and taken to the court, Then they would be penalized and would be lodged in the jail. If there is huge police force for maintaining the law and order and to prevent crime, more expenditure would be incurred on arms and ammunition. This is an approach with regard to prevention of crime.

There is another approach about which I have been mentioning that we should prepare an entirely law abiding society and it should be started from the family itself. The school-going children in the family should be imparted training in such a manner that they could become law-abiding citizens. In the times to come such a society would be formed when crime rate would come down and thus our requirement for police force, courts, criminal cases, jails would also decline considerably. This sort of approach should be there. Therefore, more and more schools should target this approach while imparting education to children, and more families should also be targeted and if, by means of advertisements, such a mentality is developed among the children and citizens that they have to obey the law, I feel that during the next ten years there would be a decline in the budget allocation of Ministry of Home Affairs and also in cases pertaining to violation of human rights. Then perhaps, we could move ahead towards a civilized society. This is what I feel. With these words, I conclude. I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, those who want to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House, they can do so. Those will be treated as part of the proceedings.

Now, Shri Suresh Kurup to speak.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Respected Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I would like to say that two years back, this UPA Government came to power in our country in the wake of widespread communal disturbances all over India. It goes to the credit of the majority community in India that they rejected all sorts of chauvinistic forces and decisively voted to power a secular Government. When we take stock of the situation after two years, we can see that communal amity is prevailing in this country. It speaks volumes to the credit of the State Government of Uttar Pradesh as well as the Central Government that in spite of the recent bomb blasts in Varanasi, no communal disturbances occurred in Varanasi as well as in India.

So, I would like to give 80 per cent marks to the Home Ministry for maintaining this communal amity all over India. Still there are some stray incidents happening in this country. One case in point is the attacks mounted against the Emmanuel Mission in Kota, Rajasthan. This

[Shri Suresh Kurup]

is done in the name of a book. I would like to make it clear that I am not associating with the book. If anything condemnable is there, anything unlawful is there, proper action should be taken against those who are responsible for it and I have no doubt about it. But, using this book as a tool, what is the Sangh Parivar organisation doing in Rajasthan for the last three weeks? Five of us had gone there last Saturday. We made on the spot enquiry. This Emmanuel Mission is functioning there for the last so many years. They are having 49 schools all over Rajasthan. They are having a school in Rajasthan and also an orphanage where 2,800 children are there. These 2,800 orphans are being taken care of by this Mission. Now, the Government of Rajasthan have asked the bank to freeze the accounts of the organisation. Even the local gas agency is prompted not to supply LPG cylinders to this orphanage where 2,800 children are studying.  
...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Sir, information regarding anti-national activities of this institution has been received. Evidences to this effect have also been received.  
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your name is there in the list of speaker. Please speak when your turn comes.

*[English]*

SHRI SURESH KURUP: We went there and found out the facts ourselves. So, I would urge the Home Minister to make proper enquiries and assure the minorities in Rajasthan that they are safe under the hands of the Central Government.

Sir, at the same time, serious view should be taken against the mounting atrocities against the women all over the country, especially, in the capital city of Delhi. Delhi has become the crime capital as far as the atrocities against the women are concerned. This is not only in Delhi. In the villages all over the country, women, especially dalit women, are subjected to various atrocities and they are not even able to file complaints. It is reported that they are not even able to file complaints before the police station. Even if the complaints are filed before the courts. So, a serious enquiry should be made about all these things and the Government should assure the people of Delhi that the mounting crimes will be taken care of and culprits will be arrested and will be brought before the law.

Sir, the Government should also implement their solemn assurance regarding the Women's Reservation Bill. All the political parties in the country, women's organisations in the country are demanding all through that this Bill should be brought before the Parliament and passed. If the Government has a political will, what prevents the Government from introducing this Bill and passing the Bill. We are here to support it. I am sure the Bill will get a majority. What was the situation regarding earlier Bills? There were so many controversial Bills which were passed in this House itself and nobody said that the consensus should come. If there is no consensus regarding a just course, the Government should not waver on it and the Government should bring forward this Bill and pass this Bill immediately. That is what I want to say.

That is a commitment given by the UPA Government to the women of this country.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Home Minister towards some happenings in my home State Kerala. A few months back, there was an incident in the Calicut Airport where some miscreants destroyed the National Flag and hoisted the flag of a particular political party, but no action was taken against anybody after that incident. We are not hearing anything about it.

There, there is also considerable apprehension among the people of Kerala that certain extremist organisations—they may be having connections with Pakistan, I am sure the Home Minister will enlighten us—are having a filed day all over Kerala. Recently, a major bomb blast occurred in the city of Calicut. Fortunately nobody was injured, but the culprits behind the bomb blast have not been arrested. In the earlier incident also the culprits were not arrested. So, the Government should make a proper inquiry into these incidents and come before this House making it clear as to who are behind all these incidents and what sort of activities these extremist organisations are doing in Kerala.

In this connection, I would like to bring to the notice of this House the sad plight of Mr. Abdul Nasser Madani. I would like to make it clear that I have nothing to do with whatever Mr. Madani and his organisation stand for, but he has been languishing in jail for the last eight years. His health is in a very poor condition and both inside the House as well as outside, we have been demanding that he should, at least, be taken to a proper hospital for treatment or he should be given parole.

Nothing has happened and the trial is going on and on. But, in the meanwhile, he is languishing in jail.

14.57 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

There are many culprits in the jail who are given better treatment than Mr. Madani. I would like to know why this sort of treatment is meted out to Mr. Madani. I would like the Home Minister to make a statement regarding this when he replies to this debate. I think his family members have met him when he came to Kerala. His wife, mother and all his children are demanding that Mr. Madani should be given parole to come out of jail for treatment and his trial should be expedited. When his grandmother died, parole was not granted to him in spite of his family's repeated requests.

So, there are the things that I would like to mention in this debate and I support the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

\*SHRI NAKUL DAS RAI (Sikkim): Sir, Almost all the border areas of India must be provided with the latest technology to enable the infiltration and also negative activities could be checked in time. Today our neighbour China has developed infrastructure like rail links and 4-lane roads upto to our border. Whereas from our side we still do not have a proper road from Silliguri to our border. Although Sikkim is one of the smallest State yet it is surrounded by three countries like Bhutan, Nepal and China. If we look from this angle, Sikkim is the most strategic State of our nation.

In 1962 China attacked India from Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh. Nobody can predict anything in future. That is why it is very important to fully develop infrastructures like road, communication, rail and air link without further delay. As we all know that everyday everywhere threat of terrorist attack exists and crime rate is increasing day by day. There is no security at all especially for women and children. In order to check this I would like to suggest the Government to provide enough found for strengthening citizens forum nation wide. Through such forms mass awareness national campaigns to inculcate a sense of patriotism and make every citizen feel proud that they are Indians first and religion and

region second. India's interest is their interest, which is supreme. This is the strongest measure to get rid of exploitations, conflicts and terrorist threats.

It is good to understand the growth rate for 2005-2006 as 8.1% and projection for 2006-2007 is 10%. This indicates good economic health of the Union. However smaller States particularly North-Eastern States are reeling under huge debt burden as these States are not able to raise enough resources and non-plan gap grants are far short of requirements. With an objective to constantly pushup the economic growth and make up with other States, North-Eastern States including Sikkim are investing their resources in infrastructure like Roads, Power, Housing, Water Supply, Health and Education sector. When we joined the national stream our literacy rate was only 20% and today it is gone upto 75% Similarly the infant Mortality Rate (IMR) has come down to 32 per thousand. There is a drastic reduction of BPL, which according to recently conducted draft report of economic census in the State has fallen down to 20%. This became possible because we endeavoured investing in high growth even at the cost of debt and high deficit. However, there are other issues to address. Our Public Sector Undertaking (PSU's) are all in the red and needs restructuring. We urgently need Air and rail link. We have been requesting for setting up some institution of national importance including a Central University. Without these we feel we are not fully integrated and fitted into the economic plan of the country. These are major issues for us and we hope to overcome the issue of debts and deficits by the end of 11th Plan when we will be generating 4000 MW of Power. Till then we would like to request the Government of India particularly the Ministry of Finance to help us tide over the problem of financial constraints which could still jack up our fiscal problem by few percentage points. This is not to undermine the issue of reforms and fiscal management programme of the Government of India. My only point here is to mention that in my State fiscal deficit is a quality deficit resulting on account of capital formation only.

North-East states including Sikkim is promoted one of the important destination for tourism. Keeping in view the great potential for handicraft and natural beauty, the Commitment to promote 50 handicraft centric villages is a welcome step.

In the budget 4 new institutes of hotel managements are proposed in Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal. May I request you that Sikkim be also

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\*The speech was laid on the Table.

[Shri Nakul Das]

included in the proposal. Over the last two decades Sikkim has suddenly come up as a prominent tourist destination, thereby opening of so many hotels and development of other infrastructure for the tourist by private contribution. However, we felt the necessity to have them managed professionally. In this context the requirement of hotel management institute is most urgent and go a long way in creating professional image of the State and the nation as a whole.

Floriculture today is catching up very fast as a revenue earning, employment generating activity. Even in China, in a decade 21,400 house holds growers and 390 enterprises have taken their place at the heart of flower industry. YUNAN cut flower business is currently worth 415US\$ million and account 500% of Chinese domestic market per year. North-East states in general and Sikkim in particular holds tremendous potential for raising tissue culture by natural process, which needs to be promoted at international level by giving Specific support for programme of raising and also marketing orchids and other flowers may be considered.

#### **Service Tax**

Reference budget speech for possible legislative changes to allow the states to levy and realize tax on some services as part of a compensation measure for value added tax (VAT). Coming from a poor and backward state, I am worried that for consumer states like Sikkim, this step maybe repressive step for economic development. The service sector in our state is in the nascent stage of growth and such policy will be a deterrent to squeeze this growing sector in our quest to increase tax revenue.

While I appreciate center's decision to consider the interests of the producer, developed states, I would submit that the interests of the small consumer states be given equal protection and opportunity for growth and prosperity. Therefore, the present arrangement of devolution of service tax from the center should continue. Even if the center amends the constituency to allow collection of service tax in some sectors by the states, its implementation should be held up for backward and growing states like Sikkim, till it is ready to accept it.

#### **Central Sales Tax**

Presently CST is being imposed at 4% on inter state trade. The Empowerment Committee (EC) of state finance

ministers to introduce VAT from 1st April 2005, had taken a conscious decision to phase out CST as follows

1st April 2005—31st March 2006	..4%
1st April 2006—31st March 2007	..2%
1st April 2007	..0%

almost all consumer states that had introduced VAT from 1st April 2005 had pacified the trade bodies and political opponents by assuring that CST will be phased out in three years on introduction of VAT. Even with the present arrangement, the consumer states will not be in the level playing field vis-à-vis producing states. For example a commodity having 12.5% tax in a producing states will bear 16.5% tax in a consuming states because of 4% CST. Additionally, in the absence of railway links, the transportation cost, storage and other handling charges go to increase the cost.

I would like to request the Hon'ble Finance Minister to kindly ensure that the decision taken by the EC, before the introduction of VAT should be adhered without alteration. Any act to overturn the decision would be great injustice to consuming states like Sikkim and other consumer states.

I have been informed that the employees of central banks in Sikkim do not get the benefits which are extended to the employees of Central Government in Sikkim and other North-Eastern region, such as annual LTC and special compensatory allowances etc. Hence, I request the Hon'ble Finance Minister to examined the matter and to issue necessary directives to the Indian bankers association for clearance and grant them facilities of being part of the North-East States, which is, formulated by the Government of India.

*[Translation]*

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in democratic countries there should be a consensus on the matters of foreign policy, defence policy and national security. Unfortunately, when people having a particular ideology sit there on the ruling side the matter of national security becomes a question of security to all but when the people come in opposition it becomes a political issue. Here, I want to quote the statement of the then Home Minister published in the daily "Hindustan" on 18th September, 2001.

"Opposition parties should try to learn from America where in the moment of crisis all the political parties and media stand with the Government. But in India, the situation in reverse. Opposition parties did not allege Bush Administration for the havoc played by terrorists in America."

15.00 hrs.

We blame our Government because there is a lack of national character. I want reply from my friend who are doing politics on the incident that occurred in Varanasi. When we are in the Government, challenge posed to our national security from across the border is a proxy war and we should fight against this proxy war unitedly taking it as an attack by the outsiders. However, I condemn the tendency of politicizing such incidences.

Sir, recently two incidents occurred. There are four parts of our budget. One main part consists of national security, second part consists of extremism in the name of Maoism, third is related to national calamity and the fourth part is related to law and order. Law and order is normally a State matter. Administration of Capital Territory of Delhi is under the Government of Delhi, so we consider about law and order also. We spend Rs. 1400 crore on Delhi Police out of this budget and despite this there is news in today's newspaper that two women were brutally murdered in their homes. This is the biggest proof of failure of law and order situation. Delhi, being the capital of the country, is always on the focus worldwide. There are people who do not want to see India as a powerful country. This is the reason why they try to disturb the law and order situation here. We can maintain law and order only by maintaining our unity. We should not see law and order from political point of view. Our laws are more than hundreds years old. A number of commissions and committees like "National Commission on Police" were formed and made their recommendations for making amendments in IPC and CrPC enacted after 1857 by the British rulers. In today's situation police have their own witnesses who are produced by them in every case. In Delhi, a women was shot dead by the assailants who were set free by the court for want of witnesses. As there was no evidence to this attack, witness turned hostile. So there is a need to make some amendments in police administration and prosecution related to witness.

When we are modernizing everything, why are we afraid in separation prosecuting agency. These should be separate. During the preliminary enquiry witness should

come before an officer of the SP rank and his/her evidence should be video recorded. In my opinion incidents of rapes are the reflection of evil thoughts.

These incidents should be condemned collectively and widely. But there are some reasons behind it. The male female ratio is increasing constantly in the country. According to Economic Times there are 550 girls per One Thousand boys in the Capital Territory of Delhi. In coming days atrocities against women will increase and homosexuality will prosper and crime against women will become very common. The Government of India need to be active in this regard. The case related to crime against women must be disposed of within six months and evidence should be video recorded and courts should take decision by accepting such evidence of the witnesses. This is my suggestion in this matter. According to the present year's statistics in our country, guilty is free in 82% cases of prosecution. This is a major thing. It is a blot on our judicial system and police administration, where is 82% cases of prosecutions of guilty persons are disposed without any punishment. The Government should think about it. There seems to be a lack of internal security in North Eastern States of our country, but I can boast that situation in North Eastern states is not as disturbed as it used to be 10 years back. There are many reasons behind it. We had constituted a department for the development of North Eastern region. I am happy and thankful to the Government for forming a separate Ministry for this purpose. a budget allocation of Rs. thirteen hundred crores has been made. It has been made mandatory for all the department to allocate ten percent of its total budget allocation for the North Eastern states. Besides, Rs. one thousand crore for Railways and Rs. 450 crore for the construction of roads has also been released to North Eastern states. In my opinion, leaving apart a small portion, there was no separatist extremism in North Eastern States. They have extremism related to their own problem of their region. The separatism spread in a limited area since 1947 is still there despite making air attacks on them. It still continues. I urge the Government of India that cease-fire is continuing since the time of Deve Gowda Ji. We are negotiating with them from the time when Inderjit Gupta Ji was Home Minister in Government of India. Padmanbhैया ji was visited Thailand and Amsterdam again and again for negotiation but we are not getting any result. I would like to urge the Hon'ble Home Minister that this country and our party will never accept the concept of Greater Nagaland. So the Government of India



[Shri Mohan Singh]

should fix a date for talks with those separatist extremists. Negotiation is the only tool for solution, and this negotiation should be a continuous and endless process. Sending our representatives to talk with person living in a foreign country on a foreign passport is a matter of shame for the sovereign and great country like India. So there is a need to fix a time frame of six month or so for negotiations, if they do not accept it we should be ready to come forward strictly and for safeguarding Manipur National Highway and also accept no disturbances on air way or road. This should be accepted by the Government of India with firm determination. I am happy that after Mizoram accord, Mizoram is developing itself as a good, beautiful and literate State.

I want to congratulate the people of that State. There is no problem in Arunachal Pradesh. It has more than four thousand kilometre long border with China. Most of the areas remain covered with snow for six months. Movement is difficult there. There live 26 tribes and about 100 sub-tribes. But they have full loyalty to India. They want to live a peaceful life there. Whatever the Government of India want to do for their economic development, it is less and it should be done. Therefore, it should do more for them.

Meghalaya was also a beautiful State and I believe that it was the hub of education during British period. The people of North-Eastern States, Bengal and Assam used to send their wards to Shillong for education. The area also is at peace today. Khasi, Jyanti, Garo etc. tribal groups raise some voice for their respective existence but they are fully loyal to India. The frontiers of India and Bangladesh is so much linked that Indians go for shopping to Bangladesh and Bangladeshis come to Meghalaya for shopping. Besides this, there is peace, and harmony. They have abiding faith on India. The problem of two states i.e. Tripura and Assam is very serious. There is severe infiltration from outside. This infiltrations is legally allowed or not, and even though the Supreme Court has declared the laws invalid, yet it is the duty of the Government of India to check infiltration into its border from outside at all costs. As regards the disputes in Assam, we have tried to curb that extremism by developing good relations with Bhutan. Our relations with Myanmar should be good. But the problem is that as per the news not confirmed, illegal trading of the value of more than billions of dollars is taking place every year. Is it not possible to open our trade with asian countries? Weapons are being smuggled, opium is being smuggled

which is a serious challenge to the internal security of India. The Government of India should take initiative to check this.

Moreover, the problem of Maoist extremism is also there. This is the result of the economic and social problems of this country. You have just been a serious problem that raised its head this week. The people and the tribals of the State have started a shuddhikaran movement in an organized way. It is somethings else in their language, but in Hindi translation it is 'shuddhikaran' movement. Thousands of people are there in their organization. The Government supported them and gave them weapons. Their gatherings started but their own people are becoming the victims of their Maoist attacks. About 26-27 persons were killed on 28th. About 150 persons were kidnapped. Again 12-13 persons were killed. As per today's newspaper, they have kidnapped eight security personnel. Their dead bodies. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): They have been released.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: It is good that they have been released. I thank you for that. But this is a problem that has arisen out of social and economical reasons of the country. This problem first arose under the leadership of Charu Majoomdar in West Bengal in 1968-69 and keeping in view the question of land Naxalite Movement emerged in one village. Today what is the matter that Naxalite Movement has weakened in West Bengal. The Government should think over it. The main reason of it is the revolutionary work done by the Government of West Bengal in the field of land reform, which ended the Maoist extremism in West Bengal. Disputes are seen where people do not have the ownership of land. This law; is pending before the House for the last two years which provides ownership to tribals on their land. It is sometimes discussed and sometimes not. The cabinet sometimes passes and sometimes does not pass. I urge that Parliament should immediately pass the law, which provides for the ownership of land to tribals.

We have checked this problem with great strictness in Uttar Pradesh. It was possible only because the land reform laws were enacted long back in Uttar Pradesh. When India got its independence, the land reform and abolition of Zamindari Law in Uttar Pradesh was implemented in the first phase itself. We have taken the problem of unemployment seriously. In this Budget, an amount of five hundred rupees was announced as

unemployment allowance to unemployed graduate youths. The youth have also reacted positively to Uttar Pradesh Government. Either the problem of unemployment be solved or there should be some other arrangement for jobs to unemployed persons. Otherwise, such extremist organizations will exploit their problem and by making them a part of their organization continuously pose a challenge for law and order situation. All instant programme which should be based on equality, be implemented to solve this problem. The Government of India have been of this opinion for years that if the country has money, this problem will be solved. But only money will not do. The number of millionaires is increasing in the country. But the number of poor is also increasing in the same proportion. Our challenge is the rising number of the poor. If it is not controlled, I think that we cannot react positively to the naxalite movement. The non-violent and democratic movements in this country have increased in such a way that if they end, youth has no other option. Under the circumstances, they are taking weapons. To check this, we should emphasize on taking up the work of economic and social reform.

The responsibility towards national security lies with the Government of India and the State Governments work as a tool. The State Governments do not have enough resource so as to deal with infiltrators firmly. When there was an attack in Ayodhya, the PAC of Uttar Pradesh and defence forces of the Government of India did an exemplary job in a joint action and without suffering any damage, crushed the extremists within half an hour. The extremists were carrying so much of weapons that they could fight for twelve hours. The Ayodhya operation in itself is a difficult one among the operations carried out against extremism in India till date, in which all the extremists equipped with weapons were killed within half an hour by Uttar Pradesh PAC and CRPF Jawans of Government of India. Thereafter, our friends, big leaders went there but the public did not give response to them. Extremists, thinking that they had failed in Uttar Pradesh, they should attack at some other place in Uttar Pradesh itself. They attacked and killed 14-15 persons. They achieved some success in it. Our friends tried to play politics on it and sat on a dharna there. But nobody joined the dharna, public did not respond because public considers these things irrelevant. If you try to capitalize political gain out of the question of national security how can public let you go and they will ignore you! Our friends should understand it.

I would like to request you but you have paucity of time. But I have many things to say. Internal security has many dimensions and I conclude on all these dimensions with the few words. The whole of North India is hailstorm affected and Rabi crop is damaged. Today this problem has become an issue in the House. I would like to tell the Hon. Home Minister that the great responsibility of this natural calamity is on your shoulders. This subject is more serious than the problem of law and order situation. In my opinion, taking this subject into account, representatives may be sent to the affected States immediately. The way you accepted our request in the House and sent the Home Secretary to Chhattisgarh after the incident of 28th, a team should also be sent to the states affected by this natural calamity and it should assess the situation. After the incident of Varanasi your ministry, yourself and your Chairperson went there and made a statement, I heartily thank you for that.

That statement had influenced the sentiments of whole country. I am sorry to say that some of our friends tried to take undue advantage of the charged atmosphere created by the media and the publicity mechanism in the country after that incident. Your statement calmed down the sentiments of whole country and that responsible statement from your side played a vital role in maintaining peace across the country. I would like to thank you for this. I believe that the Government of India and any party of this country should view approaches on the point of law and order situation and the question of breakdown of constitutional machinery from two different angles. When one such incident occurs in Chattisgarh, the state government should not be dismissed. People like me say from here that by removing the Chief Minister and the Home Minister it will not bring down the number such incidents but it will accelerate such incidents. If the incident occurs in Jharkhand the Chief Minister should not be removed but if it happens in Uttar Pradesh, the state government should be dismissed and it is a matter of delight that N.D.A. friends say that this is the point on which we are ready to support the Congress Party. Nothing can be more shameful than this. If a Chief Minister is removed after such incident then there will be a series of such incidents and whenever a new Chief Minister assumes office try to oust him by repeating such incidents. In this way, after every such incident it will be mandatory to remove the Chief Minister and the Home Minister. This will not put an end to such incidents but it will enhance them. So, administrative stability only can fight such things. I feel that the wise and responsible

[Shri Mohan Singh]

Home Minister will take the right step at the right time after comprehending all these circumstances. With this appeal I thank to you all.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Mohan Singh Ji was not a member of 13th Lok Sabha. Then the members of his party would get the House adjourned almost daily by demanding the removal of U.P. Government. He was not present that time so he has not seen this. But, now, perhaps, he has seen it. Then they did not allow the House to run even for a single day. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for allowing me to join the discussion on Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 2006-2007. I have risen to support the demands for grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 2006-2007. U.P.A. Government has been formed in the country, Communal harmony and social justice are the foundation stones of this Government. This Government exists on that foundation I feel that thus Government has been lucky enough to complete two years in office while withstanding its principles and discharging the responsibilities and I feel that the hon. Minister of Home Affairs will fulfil his liabilities dutifully and will definitely take some effective steps to solve the problems, specially those mentioned by the hon. members, which have arisen in the country on a wide scale.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, India is a big Country and it is the largest democracy of the world. But I feel that for last few years India has been facing a lot of problems like Naxalism, terrorism, communal riots and other problems related to law and order situation. It is a cause of concern for all politicians like us irrespective of the forum we are working in. It is our collective responsibility. Mohan Singh Ji has rightly said that when we are in power our perceptions are different and we cross over to opposition our perceptions get changed. If this political attitude continues it will harm the country. This is a national problem and it cannot be solved by the government or a single party. We have to unite to solve this problem. Crimes are on the rise and we are confronted with many problems. Naxalism is on the rise and so are terrorist activities but we cannot solve these problems by simply accusing each other. These problems could be solved only if we cooperate with the government and make some positive suggestions.

Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the problem being faced by our country which has spread in many states. Rising naxalism is a cause of concern for our country. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs including many hon. Members of the House have discussed this subject on many occasions. Earlier, Andhra Pradesh was facing this problem. Now Bihar is facing the same problem and these problems are gradually increasing. In undivided Bihar Naxalism was prevailing on a wide scale in many districts of Jharkhand. After portion of Bihar, I feel that Naxalism has encircled the whole Jharkhand. As many hon. members have mentioned a tragic incident has occurred recently in Chattisgarh, this is happening in Orissa also. There are many areas where Naxalite activities are on rise. Have we ever contemplated seriously to find out the origin of this problem? Have we ever given a serious thought to solve this problem? Have we made any effort to evolve a solution to solve this problem by taking some positive steps? The reason behind it is that our country is having myriad disparities. There is wide gap between poverty and wealth. The local people, farmers, public and unemployed youths are engaged in all such activities to improve their condition. We cannot stop naxalite activities as long as disparity exists in the country. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs, Sir definitely you will have to take effective steps to bring parity and development by removing disparity. There are several districts of the state devoid of roads, water, electricity and education facilities. Won't we pay our attention to development works there even after these many years of our independence? Won't it create resentment among those people and won't it increase naxalite activities? The perpetrators of Naxalism are boldened by engaging and exploiting all such unemployed youths. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs, Sir, I think you will have to take concrete steps to remove the disparity. You can control this problem only if education system is put in place and unemployment is alleviated, otherwise this problem will engulf the whole country into its flames. Therefore, it is a cause of concern and it definitely calls for effective steps to be taken.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I am not talking about the law and order situation of a single state. Today law and order situation is not good in many states of the country. In Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai or in any other big city, where there is VIP movement, police force, is deployed to maintain the law and order. even after deploying black at commandos, CISF or BSF, there has been no control over law and order especially in ensuring dignity of

women. Dignity of women is targeted. They are being murdered and raped daily which is itself is a cause of concern. It is imperative for the Government to take care of rural police stations also where there are no wireless sets, no jeeps and even no buildings. How can we fight Naxalites or terrorists without having sophisticated arms?

The people involved in terrorism or nexallism have sophisticated arms whereas our Police have 50 years or 100 years old guns. The Police do not have A.K. 47 rifles. Under the circumstances, how can they fight terrorism? Police stations are being attacked, loot is going on. How will we be able to protect them? I think the Home Minister is arranging funds for State Governments. You would also want that our Police have sophisticated arms but for that Police need training. If Police have sophisticated arms but not training, how would they be able to use them? Police is required to be modernised and made stout and they must be imparted training. Therefore, to struggling against terrorism and naxalism, should be provided with more and more furids in the Budget.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Govt. towards one more important subject. Terrorist and nexalite activities from a new point on Nepal border are increasing. I would like to cite one example of their activities before you. Hundreds of nexalites attacked the residence of our Member of Parliament Shri Sita Ram Singh in broad day-light. Fortunately, by the grace of God, Shri Sita Ram Singh was not in his house. Moreover, nexalites from some parts of Nepal are trying to consolidate their position in some parts particularly in Bihar. The adjoining districts of Nepal are affected by it. The Govt. should take concrete action in this regards. The Hon. Home Minister might be worried about that and I believe he will pay attention to this problem.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today, globalisation is affecting our past culture. The way we are trying to develop ourselves and our mentality is developing, similarly, the mentality of culprits has also developed in this some way. If we do not try to find some measure to put a check on them, we will not be able to save our civilization and culture. This will short up crimes. Our women are being killed, incidents of murder and loot and similar activities are taking place. We will not be able to check such incidents. Therefore, I want to put it before the Govt. that terrorist activities are a matter a concern. The more we want to control terrorist activities, the more its number is increasing. Recently, one such incident

occurred in Varanasi Cantt. railway station. I have numerous such incidences to quote. Besides various parts of the country, Parliament was also attacked. All of us are concerned to check terrorist activities.

I would like to request the hon. Members sitting in the opposition that if you have any grudge or ill-feeling against the people of a particular community in your mind, much needed thing that terrorist activities should be checked, will not be achieved. Why do you want to target minorities? As regards the minorities of India who were born here and decided to stay in this country itself when the two nation theory was going on at the time of partition of the country, they embraced this country, don't they have any contribution in taking the country forward on the path of progress? Don't they have any contribution in the self-esteem of this country? Mr. Dy Speaker, Sir, many more examples are there where this country got strength from minority classes and this country became strong. You are trying to apply the some criteria on all the people. They want that this country should be divided. They want that there should be instability in the country.

Our colleagues made a mention of Gujarat. The Godhara rail disaster happened. I would like to thank the Railway Minister for constituting the Banerjee Committee to examine the allegations made against such a large community and the conspiracy to target the minority people. It is his initiative of constituting the committee that the particular community is free of blemish on their names. The committee says the fire was set from inside the train and not from outside. You want to solve the problem in such a way! The incident that happened in Godhara was a matter of great shame. Now you are playing politics over that. You take notice to what happened in Gujarat. Thousands of innocent people were killed and you saw that with your open eyes. Did you not move, did you not feel shame. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodara): This is not correct. The House is being misguided. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is not to be recorded. Please sit down.

...(*Interruptions*)

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\*Not recorded.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: They do not have any issue. They do politics in this way only. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please conclude.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we need protection from you. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please maintain silence in the House. Madam, nothing is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: The incident that happened in Gujarat. ....\* only a beast can do such a thing. In my opinion, it was a gross inhuman act that was performed.....\* there ... ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: They don't have any agenda. Their only agenda is, engineer riots and get power. The state where their position weakens, as in Gujarat the position of their Govt. worsened, elections were round the corner, therefore, they engineered riots and got the power in their favour. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, the High Court has already said that it should not be discussed in any way. Therefore, this should not be allowed to continue. Even their own Minister had refused to present it on the Table of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will go through the proceedings. If there is anything against the High Court Orders, then I will expunge it. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have already said that the objectionable portions will be expunged. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing should be recorded except the speech of Shri Ram Kripal Yadav.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Now they want to play political tricks in Uttar Pradesh too and come to power in the State. ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to extend my thanks to the people of Uttar Pradesh who remained unaffected by their conspiracy they exercised restraint. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, please conclude your speech now.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Whenever they feel low, they start Rath Yatra. When Mandal Commission was in the light, they had started Rath Yatra and created communal tension in entire country.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Yadav, you should also try to conclude your speech as the time allotted to you is already over.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Had there been no elections in five States, the Rath Yatra would not have been taken out by Shri Advaniji.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude your speech.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: This is not a Rath Yatra. This is a riot rath which had been used to grab power in the country.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have taken your time. Please conclude your speech.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Sir, I am going to conclude my speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The time allotted to your party was 11 minutes.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Sir, I obey your instructions. If you do not allow me to speak, I will take my seat.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is why I respect you. Please come to your last point.

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please do not advise him. Shri Ram Kripalji, please conclude your speech.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Sir, I am going to conclude my speech. Shri Advanji is doing all this in order to strengthen his position. Everybody knows it. I am not saying anything special. Advanji did not follow the directions of the R.S.S. and, therefore, he had to quit the post of the Party President. He is taking out his Rath Yatra again to get the said post. The people of this country have neglected his role.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude your speech, otherwise I will invite some other hon'ble Member to speak.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: He will not even play Holi. I would like to thank the hon'ble Minister that he has done a nice job. He set up the Sachchar Committee for the people belonging to the minority community in entire country. I would like to thank the hon'ble Prime Minister also and, at the same time, I ask him as to why he is not going ahead with the task of collecting the data of the people belonging to the minority community. There is no need of discrimination in India. Such type of situation will continue to arise. If you do not give due share to the minorities, the backward classes and the SCs, STs, then how will you abolish this social inequality? Let all the people enjoy equal shares. How will the country run if there is governance of a particular class or category? Therefore, I would like to state that the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs should continue to go ahead with what he is doing.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude your speech.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Whether it is a question of recruitment in Army or recruitment of Jawans, please do not take any back steps. Moreover, I would urge the hon'ble Minister to pay attention to the matters such as villages, poverty, terrorism, naxalism, law and order, etc. Unless there is development of backward people of villages, the country cannot make progress, especially in view of the growing feeling of discontentment among the masses. Moreover, the country cannot make progress unless social disparities, inequalities are removed and a congenial atmosphere is created. This is a national problem and it should be considered seriously. Terrorism, naxalism and deteriorating law and order situation which have become national problems, because of not discussing the same properly. The people of our country can live peacefully only when these problems are sorted out.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, at last, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs that flood relief work also comes under his Ministry and his Ministry provides fund for the same. Generally floods and famine have been experienced in Bihar on a large scale. Therefore, I request you to kindly take care of Bihar. With these words, I stand in support of the demand for budget and grant of the Ministry of Home Affairs. At the same time, I request him to take note of my views and take action accordingly. Moreover, the anti-minority forces should be cracked down so that peace can be restored in the country.

*[English]*

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (Sriperambudur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to participate in the discussion on Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs. We are holding this discussion at a time when the whole nation is surcharged with hatred against terrorist activities.

Militants are raising their ugly heads on the horizon of the nation jeopardising the unity and integrity of the country. Communal tension is a major cause of concern which has to be addressed by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs and the Government as a whole.

15.47 hrs.

*(Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey in the Chair)*

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the recent serial bomb blasts at Varanasi, in which more than 20 people were killed, are

[Shri A. Krishnaswamy]

an eye opener on how deep the militants and terrorist organisations have penetrated into the country and how they are trying to disturb the peaceful lives of the people. It is high time that the intelligence machinery was strengthened both at the Central and the State levels to combat the situation. Intelligence gathered should percolate down to the District and Block levels so that every town and city could take precautionary measures to thwart any attempt made by terrorist elements. We need to be vigilant about cross-border terrorism being foisted by some terrorist organisations.

Nowadays, terrorist activities have started taking place in the southern parts of the country also. Hon. Home Minister is sitting here. Whenever we speak about law and order situation prevailing in a particular State, the Government of India shifts the responsibility to the States saying that it is a State subject. I believe that the Centre also has to share some responsibility of law and order in the States.

The entire country knows how POTA was misused in Tamil Nadu. I thank the UPA Government for ensuring removal of POTA from the Statute Book as per the election promise that once the UPA Government comes to power, POTA would be repealed. Everybody knows well that POTA was misused in Tamil Nadu. An erstwhile victim of POTA in Tamil Nadu has now joined hands with people who victimised him and imprisoned him under POTA. It is a pathetic situation. We all have seen how bad the law and order situation in Tamil Nadu is. Those who speak against the Government, those who criticise the Government are being victimised, punished and imprisoned in Tamil Nadu.

Our leader Dr. Kalaignar was arrested in the middle of the night in the year 2001. The entire country saw that event on the TV. The ruling party in the State is now taking revenge on the Opposition Parties. They have taken a personal grudge against the Opposition Parties and punishing them. I would request the hon. Home Minister to intervene in this and act against the misuse of power by the State Government.

In Tamil Nadu, the MLA of Gummidipoondi, a Constituency which is close to Andhra Pradesh, was shot dead by goondas. He was shot dead by anti social elements with the purpose of breaking into his house. The investigating agencies have not been able to find the accused till today. This is not alone incident. More than 20 incidents of this kind have happened so far.

However, the Centre has not intervened in this. We have written repeatedly to the Central Government requesting to intervene in the investigations and find the culprits.

Even State Governments have responsibilities in this regard. A number of incidents of burglary are taking place even in the residences of police officers in Tamil Nadu. Even police officers are not able to catch the burglars. As I mentioned earlier, State police officers are taking revenge on anti-social elements and taking law in their own hands. Anti-social elements are not handled by the court of law. They are not trying to convict the accused by following through legal procedures. Instead, Tamil Nadu police started indulging in the encounters with the accused and the political rivals.

For example, I would like to state in the House that husband of one of our colleague. Shrimati V. Radhika Selvi had been killed by the Tamil Nadu police in the midnight 'encounter'. It was a pathetic situation. Till today, no action has been taken against those who indulged in such a heinous crime. This is the fate of the husband of a Member of Parliament of this House. Such incidents are taking place in Tamil Nadu.

The Central Government has allocated a lot of funds to the State with the result the Police Department of the State is doing a good job. The Police Housing Development Corporation had constructed many residential quarters for police personnel, purchased cars, provided arms, etc. but the State Government has no gratitude towards the Central Government or the hon. Home Ministers.

I would like to narrate a few incidents of the past and the recent ones. As you are aware, Sir, when Tsunami and the floods devastated Tamil Nadu, the Central Government have pumped in crores of rupees to the State Government but the entire fund was utilised by the State Government for election purposes. Whenever I raised the question relating to this before the hon. Home Minister, he would reply that the State Government has been handling the situation very well. But the fact is that we are the one who are practically facing this situation. Hence, we are enlightening this to the hon. Home Minister. There is no monitoring system to know as to how the State Government is utilising the funds provided by the Central Government.

In fact, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu had directly told on the floor of the Assembly that when Tsunami

happened in Tamil Nadu, the Services people or the military people had not helped even a single Tsunami victim and only the State Government police had come to the rescue of the Tsunami affected people. But the hon. Home Minister, in response to that, denied to reply as to what Chief Minister has told on the floor of the Assembly. I would like to remind the hon. Home Minister as to what wrong is going on in the State. He has the responsibility to condemn such incidents and to intervene when such wrong propaganda takes place so that we can maintain dignity and decorum of Parliament and the Government of India.

The Central Government is allocating huge sums of money to the State Governments and the Central Government deserves credit for the work done at the State level.

Another important point I wish to make is that MPs are not respected in Tamil Nadu.

In our country, the problem of terrorism has become a very important problem. The hon. Home Minister and the Government of India are trying their best to root out terrorism from this country but they are not able to control the menace of terrorism. Families who want to go in for shopping are very apprehensive. The Central Government and the hon. Home Minister have the responsibility to maintain peace and security in the country.

Today, communalism is the real threat to the country. That should be contained. There should not be any division in the name of communalism, casteism and language.

The other day, we read in the newspapers that hon. Leader of the Opposition Shri Advaniji is going to have a *Rath Yatra*. In Tamil newspapers, there was a cartoon about the *Rath Yatra*. Instead of '*Rath*', they had written '*Mada Yatra*'. '*Mada*' in Tamil means 'religion'. All the newspapers have started criticising Shri Advani's *Rath Yatra*. It may divide the country. We have to seriously view this and stop this *Rath Yatra*. It may create maximum division in the country in future. The Home Minister should take serious steps to maintain peace and harmony in the country.

Our country has started booming in the world and it is becoming a leading country in this region. We have to maintain peace and harmony and then only our mission can be achieved. I thank the Chair for giving me this opportunity. I conclude my speech.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV (Faizabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, you offered me an opportunity to express my view relating to the demands for budget meant for the police administration.

Sir, police administration is the mainstay of our country's and state's internal security and peace. They are entrusted with huge responsibilities. However, the issue of law and order can hardly be maintained with the laws and mode of actions to be affected by the police only. As long as the normal situation in the country is not strengthened and forfeited, it is futile to expect proper law and order from the police administration. People's hunger cannot be quenched with law, neither injustice and crime against humanity can be checked. As of now, our countrymen widely differ from one-another in terms of life style and ways and manners. There is a big gap between the rich and the poor. Unemployment and crimes are deep-rooted, which causes conflicts in society on the one side police administration itself sadly lacks the elements of dedication and reliance. It is not that the police personnels have been victimised by society and fall easy prey to the shortcomings of the country. Police administration also necessarily need to form a cadre-based police force. To my mind it is quite difficult to expect one to maintain the law and order simply by importing them six months' training and equipping with police uniform. Hence, I urge the Union M/o Home Affairs to introduce measures for imparting training to the police personnel demand and prepare the strategy to constitute cadre-based police force.

Secondly, criminal cases are reported to the police in which the criminals are going scot-free and they are virtually making fun of law and order. Even the public prosecutions interpreting law and order situation in the courts are also not doing justice. They are engaged in diluting the charges framed against the criminals. As a result of this a lot of criminals are being acquitted.

16.00 hrs.

You need to keep a watchful eye over the police administration. This also deserves mention that in various states the evils of terrorism, Naxalism, organized forces are also gaining grounds due to social and economic disparities prevailing there. Such fissiparous activities have given birth to agitations in some form or the other, be it violent or non-violent. You and I will have to lend a



[Shri Mitrasen Yadav]

thought to it—"Bubhukshiteh Kim na Karoti Papam—which means there is every possibility for a hungry man to resort to evil means to meet his requirements. Crores of people live below the poverty line in our country. They are victims of starvation, and are caught in the vicious circle of disparities. It is common knowledge that the area of land is the prime source of sustenance in our country particularly in the rural blocks. Distribution of land is not equitable. Those who are toiling day in and day out in producing harvest worth lakhs of rupees do not possess even an inch in their possession. In case their children die, they do not have enough land to bury the dead body. As against this those who lead their life in clover without any physical labour whatsoever, have lakhs of acres of land with them. The earners have nothing while the robbers own so much area of land. Where there is such a huge gap between the rich and the poor, the genesis of Naxalism is inevitable. The process of eliminating disparity among people in our country and leading them to the egalitarian societal fabric is suffused with conflicts which virtually weakens the law and order system and proves it to be futile enough.

Issues of communalism are increasingly gaining grounds in our country. The issues of temple and mosques are being politicised. This also results in many serious incidents. We are very much sensitive to it. We do not bother to compare with the friends living in the other countries in terms of the extent to which freedom can be given in the name of religion. On account of Holi, Diwali, Id and Dassehera, as if some wedding celebration were to take place. It causes traffic problems restricting the movement of trucks, vehicles and people as well. Even a little nuisance results in the trigger of a riot. Such religious functions should be restricted to certain areas or places of worship with some mandatory provisions laid by the Government. There is exhibition of theocratic craze along the roads which are public property. India consists of people from diverent religions and one celebrates the religious function at the expense of the others comfort by creating hurdles for the persons belonging to other religions. The way religious freedom is being intensified do not augur well for harmony among the citizens. These disturbances trigger riots in the states and compel people to call for a change of the Government.

So far as Uttar Pradesh is concerned, Ayodhya is quite often the issue of debate. The way terrorists were killed and were nabbed in the face of terrorists' strike

deserves wide appreciation. At the same time when our colleagues were in the power, they had acquired 67 acres of land on which he assured to set up schools, school for the blind, reading rooms etc. to facilitate the public. A law was also enacted in this House but there was no development in it. That 67 acre land was encircled which caused difficulty in public movements. People's daily activities came under the eclipse of restriction. Now, the court's judgment regarding the disputed land is awaited. If the land is allocated to Muslims, a mosque will be erected there, otherwise a temple shall be constructed over there. But, the issue is as to what shall be constructed over the areas around the controversial land. If the M/o Home Affairs does not embark on any concrete decision, it is very likely that it may trigger a violent riot in the wake of the Supreme Court's verdict. The existing state-of-affairs is very much indicative of such endings.  
...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MITRASEN YADAV: I would urge the M/o Home Affairs to embark on some amicable solution on Ayodhya issue. In case of not being so, the union Government will not take a decision in a precipitated manner, the day on which the court's verdict is in favour or of either of the parties, the same day there will be serious problem relating to construction work. Therefore, I am very much apprehensive about the impending problematic situation. The M/o Home Affairs should ponder over the issue seriously and act presuming the court's verdict in the perceptive manner so that the Ayodhya problem does not reemerge. Moreover the situation might be tackled in an amicable manner.

*[English]*

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Mr. Chairman. Sir, we are discussing the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 2006-07. The Home Ministry is dealing with a lot of subjects like Jammu and Kashmir, North-Eastern states, naxal activities, border management, internal security, police, police modernisation, foreigners' division, Centre-State relations, Delhi Police, Human rights, freedom fighters and rehabilitation, police and planning, administration of public grievances, Registrar General of India, etc.

So, it is not possible to discuss all these things within a very short period of time. Anyway, I will mostly concentrate on the security problem of our country. Internal security is an important subject of the Government. It is the reflection of the administration and if one spends more money on police administration, it is not at all a good indication.

There is almost 50 per cent increase in the Budget of the Home Ministry in the last five years. What does it say? When the people of our country are suffering from hunger, unemployment, diseases, illiteracy and lack of infrastructure, we justify it with more allocation in police administration. But of course I admit that this is the compulsion. We are proceeding to become a police State from a welfare State.

Now, most of our states are facing naxal problem. There is an increase in the overall naxal violence and the number of naxal incidents have increased in the last year.

The number of naxalite incidents in 2005 is 1,594 and it was 1,533 in 2004. So, the naxalite incidents in the country have increased and they have now spread to 13 or more States. Naxalism, not imaginary, has become a serious threat to our internal security. This needs to be handled not only as a law and order problem but also as an issue that has socio-economic and political dimensions.

Naxalism is spreading because of widespread socio-economic, political and regional inequalities, coupled with poverty, unemployment and lack of proper infrastructure. Hence, there is an urgent need for the economic development of the affected areas by creating more employment avenues, land reforms, redistribution of land, assurance of tribal rights to forest produce and spread of education and health facility together with firm police action at the required time. Is the Government going in this direction.

In Bihar alone, in the last five years around 2,500 common men were killed or lost their lives in more than 5000 incidents of naxal violence. What had happened in Jehanabad in Bihar in the last November or the recent incident in Chhattisgarh has demonstrated the naxalites increasing influence in the country and the Union Home Ministry is completely out of its depth in dealing with this problem. I do not want to elaborate all these things.

What has happened in Delhi? We have witnessed two bomb blasts in the National Capital on 22nd May, 2005 and 29th October, 2005. Apart from these frequent terrorists' attack, the national Capital, Delhi is witnessing the daily menu of rape, dowry-death or murder of elderly and tourists. If you go through the newspapers in the morning, we come across all these things. All these are happening in the National Capital, Delhi where the entire resources of the country are under the administration of the Union Government. It is not that we have lost faith or we have any doubt in the ability of the Home Ministry. We know the competence of the Ministry but why such things are happening? What is the result? The increased terrorism is endangering the national security and unity of our country. What is the Government's strategy to deal with terrorism, to deal with the menace of terrorism and what is the Government's approach to strengthen the border management in order to check infiltration, to galvanise the intelligence machinery and to provide improved technology, best weaponry and equipment for security forces both at the Centre and at the States. We do not know what is the approach of the Government. We are not getting any information as to whether the Government is improving in the direction to check terrorism.

The House has also discussed about the incidents at Varanasi. The entire country is shocked to see the alarming situation that has occurred there. On 7th March, 2006, we witnessed a number of serial blasts at Varanasi in which a number of people were either killed or injured.

It seems the Union Government has ignored the intelligence alert in the aftermath of Ayodhya attack. The intelligence report was available with the Home Ministry where there was the possibility of attack on the important religious places and other places. In spite of these intelligence reports, these incidents had occurred in Ayodhya and Varanasi.

During UPA Government's regime, the country has witnessed a number of terrorist attacks which have endangered the national security and unity. Now the terrorists are targeting even the scientific research institutions and the historically important places alongwith religious places. The scientists of our country were killed in Bangalore by the terrorists. So far nobody has been identified or arrested. This had happened in the last year. But I would like to thank people of our country the way they have maintained peace. In spite of all these, they have not lost their patience. Although there are

[Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy]

provocations, people in general, have maintained patience and they have not gone beyond their limitations. They have maintained peace and harmony.

What has happened in Jammu and Kashmir which is a primary concern of this Ministry? The terrorist outfits such as Lashkar-E-Toiba, Hizbul Mujahideen, JeM, Al Badr. etc. are mainly responsible for terrorist incidents in Jammu and Kashmir. The investigations so far made reveal the involvement of LeT in terrorist attack in Ayodhya on 5th July, 2005 and BKI in the twin bomb blasts took place in Delhi on 22nd May, 2005. The Government is getting all the information. When the Government was having dialogue with the terrorist groups, the House and the country stood completely behind the Government. There is no difference of opinion on this issue. The entire House is supporting the Ministry for the dialogue to maintain peace and harmony and for solving the problem of Jammu and Kashmir. But what is the progress? Now two years have passed but what is the progress? Hon. Home Minister has taken the approval of this House for three Budgets of this Ministry. So, we should entitle to know what is the progress in Jammu and Kashmir. Terrorist outfits such as ULFA, NDFB, ATTF, etc. are also responsible for terrorist violence in North-Eastern States. Incidents of violence have also increased in the North-Eastern States to 1332 in 2005 from 1234 incidents in 2004. So, the number of incidents have also increased in North-Eastern States and Jammu and Kashmir. The naxal violence has also increased. So how can we be satisfied with the functioning of this Government? We want to ask from the hon. Home Minister what action has been taken by him to combat terrorism.

The cyber crimes are also helping the terrorist groups in generating funds and for recruiting people. It is reported in the Press. I want to have a clarification from the hon. Home Minister about it. The naxals have funds amounting to Rs. 100 crore to Rs. 150 crore. Now at the moment, we are also coming across some press reports about it. They are collecting funds from these crimes. Now marine crime has also increased.

So, there should be more police stations in the seacoast and in the coastal belts to check marine crimes. The Ministry of Home has made some efforts to increase some police stations in the coastal districts in the seacoast. But more efforts should be made by the Ministry in this direction and more emphasis is required towards increasing the police stations.

Now, I would like to make some suggestions and then conclude. The UPA Government should pay special attention to improve discipline and morale of the police, which we all feel are lacking. The paramilitary forces deployed in North-Eastern States also suffer from low morale. The cases of high handedness and suicidal deaths are increasing in the North-Eastern States. Police apathy during communal riots has become common. So, the police should be trained in this regard. They should not be given this impression. They should not also express their apathy during the communal riots and communal violence. The Police Commission had made several recommendations to improve recruitments, training, equipment and other facilities. These recommendations have been implemented only partially. I want the Home Minister to respond to this when he replies. He should try to overcome the shortcomings that are there.

I would like to speak a few words on the Delimitation Commission. It was created four years back. It is reported that the Delimitation Commission is working arbitrarily and that they are acting arbitrarily. It should not be so. The Members of Parliament are also associate members in this Commission. They are there to help them. But the Commission is not taking the views of the Members of Parliament and the State Assemblies, the associate Members of the Commission. The hon. Home Minister should see as to how their views can be reflected in the Commission's work. They should be honoured. Already four years have lapsed, but only five States' work has been finalised. So, how long will it take to complete the work? The work of the Delimitation Commission should be reviewed. Until then its work should be kept in abeyance. I would like to know the opinion of the hon. Home Minister on this aspect.

Coming to reservation, Scheduled Castes are getting more seats, but it is done at the cost of Scheduled Tribes. This is happening. This is not a good indication. So, the hon. Home Minister should take care of all these things.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY (Basirhat): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much. We are discussing about the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Home Affairs for 2006-07.

The Member who spoke first on behalf of the main Opposition Party, the JP, has diverted the entire line of discussion. So far as I understood, in his speech he has targeted the minority communities of the country. He has not given any single suggestion to the Government of India on any aspect as the first speaker from the

Opposition Party. He has not uttered a single word on extending their cooperation to the Government, as a main Opposition Party. He has made accusations against the Government. He has charged the Government that it is appeasing the minority communities of this country. He accused this Government for withdrawing the POTA. He has also advocated re-imposition of the POTA and crushing the minority communities in order to combat the present situation, prevailing in the country.

I would like to remind my BJP friends, when this august House was attacked by the terrorists, where many precious lives of our brothers and sisters were lost due to that terrorist attack, at that relevant point of time, that particular POTA was in force in our country. No POTA protected this House from the hands of the terrorist strike. POTA has not saved the precious lives of our brothers and sisters from the hands of terrorist strike. No POTA, no TADA, no draconian law can save the life and property of the people of our country and combat the situation. Only the people can save this country from such situations. If we unite the people of this country against the onslaught of terrorism, it can save our country.

Now, they targeted the minority communities. They made a charge against the Government that this Government is appeasing the minority communities. I would humbly request my BJP friends not to divide our country in the name of religion, in the name of Hindu and Muslim. Our nation is a great nation. We have a culture, heritage and history. Do not destroy and demolish our culture, heritage and history. More than hundred crore of people, whether Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Christian or Jain, are united irrespective of caste and community under the tricolour of the National Flag of our country. We are proud of it. This is our heritage, culture and history.

Sir, during the coldest times, when there is tremendous cold and snowfall in Jammu and Kashmir, the Hindu jawans, the Sikh jawans, the Muslim jawans, the Christian jawans protect our motherland. They are protecting the sovereignty of our country from the hands of enemies. This is our great country. We cannot discharge our duties, we cannot avoid our duty, and we cannot shift our duty by accusing the Government only and by casting blame on the Government. Of course, the Government has tremendous duty to combat the situation. But this is not the problem of 'A' party, 'B' party or 'C' party. This is not the problem of this side or that side. This is the problem of the entire nation. We should unite together. We are the representatives of the people of the

country. If we unite, that would save our country from the onslaught of terrorists or any type of terrorism. We must unite our people. It is not the time to make accusations against the Government.

Now, everybody knows what happened in Varanasi recently. Our hon. Home Minister immediately rushed to the spot. Our distinguished friend, Shri Mohanji, told in this House, and he had made a statement in Varanasi, the Holy City. That encouraged the people of UP. After the incident, one dedicated MP from our party, the Deputy Leader, Shri C.K. Chandrappan, and our Comrade, Shri Prabodh Panda, visited Varanasi. After returning from Varanasi, they gave a report to the party that in Varanasi, the situation is calm, quiet and peaceful. But one former MP of this House, I do not want to mention his name but he is the leader of the Bajrang Dal, while speaking in a loud speaker accused and made charges against that particular religious group, that, is, the people belonging to the Islamic minority community. I do not want to mention his name because he is not present here. So many words have been uttered and mentioned regarding the Maoist attack, the naxalite movement.

Earlier, I said this in this House. It is my conviction. I strongly believe that arms, ammunition, para-military forces or the Army cannot prevent the naxalite activities and the so-called Maoist activities which are there.  
*...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY: I will just take two minutes. I will conclude.

The aborigine people of the country, the tribal people of the country who live in the distant and remote corners of the country are suffering. Even after 57 years of Independence, we have failed to bring them to the mainstream of the country. Most of them are suffering from hunger, under-development and starvation. There are increasing naxalite activities throughout the country. It is not a question of Chattisgarh. It is not a question of Andhra Pradesh. It is not a question of Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand or other States. It is a question of the whole country. It is the common problem of the country. If we do not implement the Land Reforms Act properly, we cannot solve this problem.

In this connection, I would like to say that only West Bengal, Kerala and Tripura, where the Left Party Governments are here, they have not only enacted the

[Ajay Chakravarty]

Land Reforms Act but also have properly implemented the Land Reforms Act in the field. In other States, the laws are there. They have enacted the laws in their State Assemblies. But they are not implementing the Act sincerely and seriously. The kulaks are there. The landlords are there. All the downtrodden people, the tribal people who live below the poverty-line are subjected to tortures by these landlords.

Lack of development is another reason. So, it is our duty to see that development takes place. It is not only the duty of the Government of India, it is not only the duty of the State Government but also it is the duty of all the parties, all the Members of Parliament to start initiating the development work in the tribal areas, backward areas and the poor areas where these poor people are living below the poverty line. So, if we do not implement the Land Reforms Act sincerely and seriously, if we do not distribute the land among the poor people who are suffering from hunger and starvation, we cannot prevent the so-called Maoist activities and the naxalite activities. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala to speak now.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Sir, I will just take a minute. I will conclude. Do not be in a hurry, please. That is why, I say that irrespective of political parties, cutting across party lines, we have a tremendous responsibility to unite the people, to cooperate with the Government irrespective of the fact whether it is the State Government or the Union Government to combat the menace. We have to unite to save our country from the extremists and the terrorists. Terrorism is sponsored by our neighbouring country. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. I have already called another hon. Member to speak.

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: I will conclude. We want friendship with the people of Pakistan. We want friendship with the people of Bangladesh. The people of Pakistan and Bangladesh are fighting against terrorism. They want peace. They want to be friends with us. They never want to be removed from India. They want to establish friendship with our country. So, the people of Pakistan and Bangladesh are our friends. Of course, the rulers might have destroyed our country. They are encouraging and sponsoring cross border terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir and other places of the country.

So, I humbly request all the Members of Parliament that irrespective of political parties, cutting across party lines, to unite and fight against this terrorism, we will have to combat the menace. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, nothing will go on record.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: With these few words, I conclude, I thank you very much.

[*English*]

©DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA (Taran Taran): Chairman Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak in Punjabi on Demands for Grants (2006-2007) pertaining to the Home Ministry.

Several Hon. Members have expressed their views on this matter. People of India want that the Government they have voted to power, should protect their lives and property. Congress party has ruled over India for a maximum period ever since independence. And the Congress Party is responsible for the genesis of various problems in this country.

Sir, I hail from Punjab. Punjab was plagued by terrorism for twenty years. Congress party was responsible for terrorism rearing its head in Punjab. Two Congress leaders used to vie for supremacy in Punjab politics. Their internecine bickering resulted in the advent of militancy in Punjab. More than 25,000 innocent people were killed in Punjab due to terrorism. A Chief Minister also lost his life in terrorist violence. Who was responsible for the advent of terrorism in Punjab? It was the creation of Congress party. The Government can find a solution to any problem if it has the will to do so. These problems are our creation. Common man has nothing to do with this.

Those sitting on my right seek votes in the name of Hindus. Those sitting on my left do so in the name of Muslims. In such a scenario, who will control the Law and Order situation? Until and unless we say no to vote-bank politics, the Law and Order situation in the country cannot improve.

The Hon. Home Minister is present here. Whenever we raise a problem concerning the state, we are told

\*Not recorded.

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

that this is a state subject. What, then is the role of the Centre? The Central Government is based in Delhi. But, Delhi itself has been rocked by several bomb blasts. Killings are taking place in Delhi. What about these killings? Who will find a solution to this problem? The Central Government or some other Government? If the Central Government cannot find a solution to the problems being faced in Delhi, how can it solve the problems of the various states? The problem of terrorism needs to be tackled seriously. Why did these problems originate? Who are the people responsible for the creation of these problems?

Sir, poverty and illiteracy are the two major problems facing the nation. Since 1947, both poverty and illiteracy have increased. Moreover, the CRPF, BSF and the state police have a very bad track record as far as their treatment of common man is concerned. When injustice is meted out to the people, terrorism and naxalism raise their heads.

Sir, I hail from the border area. People are very poor and illiterate in my constituency. The BSF does not allow the farmers to cultivate their land that falls beyond the barbed wire fence. No compensation is given to these people. No facilities for education are there. Health-care is non-existent. If we do not address the legitimate grievances of the people, they are bound to take to the guns. The Central and the State Government must solve these problems.

Sir, the DGP of Punjab has recently claimed that there is a list of 300 such people who are dead in police records, but are alive in reality. The police is using them for their own purpose. What kind of work will they do for police? Sir, elections are due next year. These people will be used for killings and mayhem. That is why they are being kept alive by the police. The newspapers have reported one such case. But the DGP claims that 299 more such persons are there. They are dead in police records. But, their services are being utilised by the police. I would urge the hon. Home Minister to make public the names of these 300 people. We want this to be made public list.

Sir, a few days ago, Zee T.V. telecast a programme regarding the Khalistan movement. Khalistan flags are being hoisted by their supporters on roof-tops. Who has allowed all this? In Punjab, Congress Government is in power. The Congress Chief Minister is tacitly supporting these elements so that the Hindus are terrorized. He wants the Hindus to vote for him out of fear.

SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR (Patiala): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is not correct. He is misleading the House.

SHRIMATI TEJASWINI SEERAMESH (Kanakpura): Mr. Chairman, Sir, terrorism is not a State issue. The Hon. Member from Punjab from our party is refuting it. He cannot mislead the House like this.

DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA: One should be prepared to face the truth. One should not get angry. Truth is bitter. I am speaking the truth, injustice is being meted out to the people of Punjab. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Ajnala, please address the Chair.

DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA: I am speaking the truth. Until and unless we speak the truth and we listen to the truth, how can we solve the problems of Punjab? Truth is bitter. But, we must speak the truth, listen to the truth and tread the path of truth. Only then can we resolve matters. Vote bank politics will not solve the problem. Governments may come and Governments may go. But, the people will suffer if we commit wrongs. And they will make us pay dearly. Those who are guilty must be punished. Whether they are politicians or policemen or common men, the guilty must be brought to book.

Sir, our country is plagued by serious problems. Law and Order is one such problem. Sir, we want safety and security to our lives and property. We want to live peacefully. But, morning newspapers are full of reports regarding killings and bomb-blasts. And that too, in Delhi. Naturally, we are all concerned. If Delhi is not safe, you can well imagine the situation in different states.

The Hon. Home Minister is present. The Government must control firmly the situation with a iron hand. Problems have to be solved. I appeal to my colleagues from different parties let us work together and find solutions to all problems facing the country. Let us make our country a happy and prosperous place to live in.

*[Translation]*

SHRI TAPIR GAO (Arunachal East): Mr. Chairman Sir, I convey my thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the debate on demands for grants of Ministry of Home Affairs. If today the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri Shivraj Patil were the Minister of Finance and Shri P. Chidambaram were the Minister of

[Shri Tapir Gao]

Home Affairs, the things relating to demands for grants would have been better. The situation has changed significantly. Right from the repeal of POTA Act, it would have strengthened the hands of law for bringing peace to the country. It is in Patil Sahib's mind, but I make it public. The problem of Naxalism and terrorism or the present law and order situation of the country, all these problems can be attributed to the lack of stringent law. Today, all the conflicts, riots and terrorism, be it in Jharkhand Bihar or Chattisgarh or from Kashmir to Varanasi can be attributed to the repeal of the Act by the UPA Government.

Therefore, while participating in the discussion on demands for grants of Ministry of Home Affairs, I would like to tell the government that there is no lacunae in the law of the country, there is no shortage of police force or the para-military forces. Anything which lacks in the country is the lack of political will in the government. Today country needs political will. Our country needs the political will to tackle the law and order problems being faced by the country. I would like to tell the UPA Government that if today's situation is similar to the situation prevalent during Shri Rajiv Gandhi's time and you are going for that law following Shri Rajiv Gandhi's policy, you will have to generate political will for this. You will have to repeat what had happened in the North-Eastern states, Mizoram. You have no other alternate except political will to solve the problems of the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today's biggest problem pertains to the modernization of police force and its I.T. also needs to be updated. Today our para military force jawans are standing everywhere armed with 303 guns on the other hand terrorists and naxalites are armed with AK-47 and AK-56 rifles. Therefore, to counter them, the Ministry of Home Affairs should lay emphasis on modernization of police force. I would like to tell, specially the Minister of Home Affairs that para military force jawans are not robots. They are human beings like us, they are our brothers and sisters. How can these people perform their duty properly unless we make them mentally sound? Today Delhi police is considered as the largest and the strongest force of the country. But have a look at the housing facility provided to the Delhi Police personnel. You will find that only 33 per cent personnel have been provided this facility. In this way our police force does not have proper housing facility and they are not in a position to take care of their children and their family. How can you expects them perform their duty in a hundred percent right way in such a situation.

16.48 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the tribals of Chattisgarh have formed a tribal force to counter the naxalites. I think—the Ministry of Home Affairs should also cooperate with them. I would like to tell the Minister of Home Affairs that whenever any law and order problem arises in the states he makes his statement in Parliament, on T.V. Channels and in newspapers that it is a state mater. If you ask the states to bear all responsibility, you will not be able to solve the law and order problem. Therefore, I request you to provide in the demands for grants that wherever there is any problem in the States, you will extend help and cooperation to them. You cannot solve these problems unless the Government of India helps the states.

An Hon. Member from Punjab has just spoken, I would like to repeat that wherever in the country the problems have arisen, their root cause can be traced back to Congress Party. Whether it is terrorism in Punjab or naxalism in Andhra Pradesh, or N.S.C.N. (IM) and NSCN (K) problem in North-Eastern States or the problem of Manipur, Congress has been behind all these problems. I would like to remind my Congress friends of the resolution adopted by them in AICC Session of Congress in the year 1972. You had accepted that the demand for Naga integration was not unconstitutional. If this demand is not unconstitutional then why you have been extending cease fire to Naga terrorists. NSCN (IM) and NSCN (K) for last eight, nine or ten years?

[*English*]

The country needs a permanent solution on the issue of cease fire.

[*Translation*]

It is your AICC resolution and these resolutions were adopted in AICC session of 1975. Pranab Da was also a member of that session. The resolution was that all the Bangladesis residing in Assam should be included in the voter list. You should reiterate it in your party office. I am saying so because Congress has been behind every problem. IMDT Act was a black law.

[*English*]

The Hon. Supreme Court has declared it as unconstitutional.

*[Translation]*

Even then you protected it. I am sure that all the acts you have brought in after twisting IMDT Act, are not going to help in solving these problems.

You have added fuel to fire in the Assam State and because of this in the coming elections among North Eastern states Assam will not forgive you.

Sir, I am very happy that Shri Mohan Singhji invariably refers to North Eastern States in his speech. The dress that he has put on is of North eastern States. I would like to apprise the Member of the situation existing in the North Eastern States. You better not link the problem of Manipur with that of Manipur Govt. It requires information of the Government of India. As regards the problems arising in Karbi Aunglong in Assam, you escaped your obligation advancing the excuse that this is concerned with Assam Govt. Thousands turned homeless and in case of those killed, the Govt. of India as well as the Govt. of Assam promised to offer ex-gratia amount of Rs. three lakh each to the affected families. You go to Karbi Ainglong for election campaign and ask the people there about how much ex-gratia was paid to them.

Sir, I would strongly reiterate not to link the issues of North-Eastern States to internal security. The border fencing stretches from Gujarat to Kashmir at Pakistan border. Our para-military forces have been deployed there for surveillance. The west doesn't figure in the ISI agenda. It prominently includes North Eastern States.

*[English]*

We have got a long distance international border with Bangladesh and Myanmar.

*[Translation]*

We can't afford to overlook this issue. For obvious reasons, I would like to request you to initiate efforts especially of modernization of police and paramilitary forces is very important. They are equipped with sophisticated weapons. You've simply made a mesh of No. 52 in the Demands for Grants. You allocated Rs. 16 crore in two years while in this years non-plan, the allocation is Rs. 11 crore only. I fail to see as to how you will be able to tackle the problems of North Eastern States? As of now, no effective legislation has been

enacted to counter terrorism. You've repealed POTA. One needs to have firm political will to strengthen the law applicable in a few of the States falling within the North Eastern region. You have deployed of para-military forces to tackle the terrorists while the Chief Minister of that State has made an allocation of Rs. 1.5 crore to apprehend the terrorists the Army Intelligence has submitted its information with documentary details. You don't have such law to deal with terrorist problem there. It is common knowledge that there needs a political will to restore peace in the North East or else none but the leaders will have to face its repercussions. I would like to inform the House that our colleague Shri Kiren Rijiju comes from Arunachal Pradesh.

*[English]*

Shri Kiren Rijiju is under the protection of the Delhi Police.

*[Translation]*

Delhi Police has intercepted a message that he should be shot dead. Of course, that group has been arrested by the police but has not been imprisoned.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are two more speakers from your Party. Please conclude now.

SHRI TAPIR GAO: Sir, I am concluding.

*[Translation]*

We are not aware where he has been placed. Under this rule it seeks to repeal POTA. It does exist in every state. Shri Mohan Singh referred to a point. I would like to mention that a provision of Rs. 1300 crore for the development of North Eastern States, Rs. 700 Crore and Rs. 600 crore for NCCR, NEC and Indo-Bangladesh border respectively has been made.

*[English]*

Where is the contribution of the Government of India for putting up Indo-Bangla border fencing in the North Eastern Region?

*[Translation]*

You've directed to deduct Rs. 100 crore for SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN, and Rs. 90 crore for NCCR from Rs. 700 crore. Then, where is the contribution of the



[Shri Tapir Gao]

Government of India for the economic development of the North Eastern Region? This is a national project.

It is incumbent upon the Government of India to release the amount of this Ministry. Already so much amount has been disbursed for development. Once again the Government intends to allocate funds for national project Money has already been disbursed.

[English]

In addition to tackling the law and order situation, economic development of the North Eastern Region is also necessary.

[Translation]

Now, I would like to engage your attention on a specific problem which Manipur is facing.

[English]

There is one lady, Sharmila Devi and she is on a fast unto death for more then five years.

[Translation]

Currently, she is fed on medicated scientific liquid to survive. In case she breathes her last it will create a very problematic situation in Manipur. Therefore, I would like to request the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs to provide Smt. Sharmila Devi with protection absolving her of the charges leveled under the provisions of Armed Forces Special Power Act, Manipur. Other big problem will emerge. I urge Hon. Home Minister to include this in his reply.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY (Berhampore, West Bengal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants proposed by the hon. Home Minister who has already earned the kudos from a number of Members of this House in his dealing with the situation in Varanasi.

I must appreciate the people of Varanasi belonging to all communities who have exhibited their resilience, patience and equanimity by not falling into the booby trap laid by the provocative forces who were eager to score political brownie point out of the disastrous incident.

17.00 hrs.

Sir, since the birth of our nation. India has been infected by various kinds of secessionist and insurgent problem. It is not new. Actually, India is considered as a multi-lingual, multi-cultural and multi-ethnic country where various groups claim to establish their distinct identity along ethnic, religions and cultural lines. It resulted in various kinds of movements and violence. Sir, the rise of contentious politics based on confessional, cultural and religion, is the root cause of the secessionist movement in our country.

If we see the contour of the secessionist and divisive forces in India, then we can easily demarcate Jammu and Kashmir as a terrorist-infested State along with a part of North India. We are well aware that the hostile neighbour across the country has been nurturing their plan to destabilise the political equilibrium of our country since Independence.

Sir, one former ISI Director of Pakistan, Hamid Gul was quoted as saying the Jammu and Kashmir is the *raison d'etat* of Pakistan Army and we are not afraid to carry out the conflict to the brink. In 1970, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto exhorted the Pakistanis that if a Muslim majority area remains a part of India, then the *raison d'etat* of Pakistan collapses. So, this is the psyche of our neighbouring country. This is the mindset of our neighbouring country. Therefore, the problem is so ticklish.

However, our Government has been continuing its endeavour to restore the confidence, peace and harmony of Jammu and Kashmir. We are fighting our cause in various political fronts. We have been fighting in the international fora to establish the argument of our country since long. Now, it is happy to note that the incidents by terrorists have been declining in Jammu and Kashmir. One statement from the Ministry of Home Affairs vindicates this. It says that in the year 2004, up to December, the number of incidents took place in Jammu and Kashmir is 2223; the number of civilians killed is 624; and the number of security force personnel killed is 239. But now up to 31st October, 2005, the number of incidents accounted for is 1736; the number of civilians killed is 490; and the number of security force personnel killed is 170. It clearly indicates that the situation has been contained by our Armed Forces and by the State Government in consultation with the Central Government. Sir, already the healing touch has been yielding tangible results. The National Common Minimum Programme (NCMP) is also

committed to continue the dialogue with all groups who eschew the path of violence.

Insofar as the North-East is concerned, a number of hon. Members have already expressed their concern. Insofar as Assam is concerned, 343 incidents took place in the year 2005 in comparison to 226 in the year 2004. In the entire North-Eastern Region. A total of 598 incidents have been recorded in comparison to 905 incidents which took place in 2004. As far as the number of civilians killed during this period, the figure is 315 in comparison to 341 during the year 2004-2005. It means it has been declining.

So far as the security forces are concerned, the casualty of security forces also declined considerably. We are all concerned about international security. Internal security is a vital component of our national security. There can be no external security without internal security. We can shield our billion plus population by adopting minimum creditable nuclear deterrent, but we cannot shield our population from an indirect aggression that has been taking place here over the years. It is a low-cost, low-intensity warfare being perpetrated by our hostile neighbour with a view to bleed India because they know that in a direct war, they will not be able to win. That is why only bleeding India is their single agenda.

Insofar as North-East is concerned, the Government is very much sincere to the problems of North-East. Ten per cent allocation of all Ministries has already been earmarked for the development of North-Eastern region. The dialogue has been continuing with the insurgents group led by Isac Muviah and Kaplang group.

The Opposition should not forget that during the regime of Congress, the Mizo Accord took place. It is a fact that due to the enormous pressure being built upon in the western sector, the focus of ISI activities has been shifted to North-Eastern region. It is a fact. Even in the State of West Bengal, which had been untouched by the ISI activities, it has now been growing by leaps and bounds. It has become a corridor of terrorists who are taking advantage of the porous border. The State of West Bengal has become a hotbed of trafficking of girls and drug trafficking also. Due to the soft border and due to the weak Government, the terrorists are making their headway. I can warn this House that the State of West Bengal has been sitting on a time bomb. If any effective measure is not taken as immediately as possible, it will be difficult to control the situation later.

Insofar as naxal violence is concerned, it is a grave concern for us because the hinterland of our country has been affected by naxalite violence. Already a red corridor has been established from Nepal to Dandakaranya.

Sir, West Bengal has recently been hogged the limelight due to naxalite violence. Even landmine blasts have been taking place there. The police administration has failed to contain the naxalite violence in West Bengal. Virtually, a number of blocks are there where the administration has ceased to exist and the State Government has announced the vacation of various police posts leaving the poor and vulnerable people at the mercy of these moist insurgents. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. We have three to four speakers more from this side.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, just a minute. I am hailing from a border district—Murshidabad. The accused in the bomb blast in Bangladesh has been nabbed from my district. Even altercations between the common people and the BSF used to flare up more often than not. I would, therefore, request the Ministry of Home Affairs to issue multipurpose identity cards as early as possible.

Secondly, the language barrier is a problem there because most of the BSF personnel are hailing from Northern India. Therefore, there is a language barrier which often creates a problem resulting in firing also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You will not speak further. Shri Khagen Das to speak now.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Therefore, I would request the Ministry of Home Affairs to engage such BSF personnel who are well-versed in the local language to deal with the border problem because border management is a vital component in dealing with the terrorist problem.

Secondly, intelligence should be increased.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except the speech of Shri Khagen Das.

...(*Interruptions*)\*

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\*Not recorded.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, just a minute please. Intelligence in all segments should be vertically integrated. I would quote an extract from Kautilya. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You need not quote anything. Nothing will go on record. Shri Khagen Das to speak now.

*...(Interruptions)\**

SHRI KHAGEN DAS (Tripura-East): Sir, how can I speak? *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: An archer by letting off his arrow may or may not kill a single man; but a wise man, by using his intelligence can kill a person by reaching unto the womb.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is rather very difficult. If you do not control yourself, how can I control you? There are four to five speakers from this side to speak.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, I thank you. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs. While participating in the discussion on the Ministry of Home Affairs, at the outset, I would like to say that the country is in the midst of deepest crisis after 58 years of Independence. The unity and integrity of the country is threatened. The communal forces have raised their ugly heads posing a serious threat to the secular and democratic foundation of the polity and the preservation of national unity. The minorities have faced the brunt of the intensified anti-minority attack.

The entire nation is shocked over the incidents of Gujarat. Such incidents have never taken place in the nation after Independence. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: What about the anti-Sikh riots? *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHAGEN DAS: According to the NHRC Report, recently tabled in Parliament, it accuses the State

Government of being "indifferent" in its approach to providing compensation and relief to riot victims. As per the report of the police, the total damage to property is to the tune of Rs. 687.34 crore; but so far the State Government has distributed only Rs. 56.37 crore to the affected persons.

In the States mainly where there are the BJP Governments, the RSS and other communal forces are stepping up their activities directed against the minorities and raising the communal agenda.

In Gujarat, the Modi Government is scuttling all attempts to bring those guilty of the pogroms in 2002 to justice. The bomb-blasts that took place—many hon. Members have spoken about this—very recently at a temple and railway station in Banaras, UP which killed 20 people and injured many more show the diabolical motive behind these terrorist attacks with a view to create communal tensions and a backlash. While it is time for a people to be united and determined to counter such terrorist violence, it is unfortunate that the BJP is restoring to low politics by attributing the terrorist outrage to the so-called minority appeasement by the UPA Government and the secular parties. The Leader of the Opposition has made the most outrageous charges against the Left Parties claiming that the policy of appeasing minorities has led to such terrorist attacks. Subsequently, he has cited the anti-Bush protests organised by the Left Parties as an expression of appeasing the minorities. This is an exhibition of the type of communal politics which vitiates the atmosphere of the country.

I urge upon the UPA Government to bring in a legislation to deal with communal violence at the earliest. I would also urge upon the UPA Government to come forward to take steps to tackle the growing violence by the naxals, Maoists, insurgency in the North-Eastern States and extremism in Jammu and Kashmir.

I would demand that adequate Central paramilitary forces should be deployed in West Bengal to counter murderous activities of the Maoists to help the West Bengal Government, at the earliest. I would like to bring the attention of the Government to a news-item "India Among Worst Victims of Terror" which appeared in *The Times of India* dated 31.10.2005. The figure is startling. Since 1994, over 50,000 have died in terrorists related violence in India. According to the South Asia Terrorism portal, 23,995 terrorists, 19,662 civilians and 7,320 security force personnel have been killed in such incidents between 1994 and June, 2005.

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\*Not recorded.

I appeal to all, irrespective of their political affiliations, secular forces in the country to rise to strengthen the secular character of the State, combat communal ideology in the society and also to come forward to counter divisive communal and separatist forces in order to strengthen national unity.

Coming to the issues facing the North-Eastern region, I would like to say that the people sitting in Delhi for so long fail to see, understand and feel the agony of the people of the North-Eastern States. The North-Eastern region is the worst sufferer of the manner in which the partition of the country was done in 1947. Even after 58 years of Independence, the North-Eastern States have remained the most backward. The long neglect and the consequent lack of development have generated a climate of discontent and resentment. It has misled a section of the youth towards wrong and destructive path of terrorism.

In 1996, a high-level commission was appointed under the chairmanship of Shri S.P. Sukla, the then Planning Commission's member, to examine the infrastructure deficiencies in the North-Eastern States. The Commission has done a commendable job of identifying critical infrastructure deficiencies. It is, unfortunate, that the Report has been gathering dust at the Centre. I would suggest that to make up for the neglect and loss of the past, the region should get more than just the due share of total investment in the country. The recommendations of the Shukla Commission should be implemented on highest priority basis.

The problems of growing unemployment in the region is a major source of concern for us.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, you can lay your speech on the Table of the House.

SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Sir, please give me two more minutes to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will give you one more minute. Otherwise, you can lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI KHAGEN DAS: The recommendations of the Boparai Committee to promote employment among the educated unemployed needs to be implemented in letter and spirit. The problems there are not only a result of underemployment, but also a product of international effort to destabilise the region.

I, therefore, strongly demand that the camps of Indian militants in Bangladesh should be demolished, and the Indian militants handed over to India. The bank accounts of Indian insurgent groups should be frozen; construction work of border fencing in the North-Eastern States and West Bengal also needs to be completed in a time-bound manner. I would like to add here that the people affected by border fencing should be properly compensated and rehabilitated. In Tripura alone more than 10,000 families have been affected due to border fencing. The border roads should be re-aligned along the border fencing, and the illumination of fence along the border areas should also be taken up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, you can lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI KHAGEN DAS: There should be installation of flood lights along the borders just like it has been done at Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab borders. There should be construction of water towers; installation of sensors, kobra wire, trip wire, etc. along the borders just like it has been done at the borders of Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What can I do? Hon. Member, please place your speech on the Table of the House. There is no need to read it. Next speaker is Shri K. Yerrannaaidu.

SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Sir, please give me one more minute.

It is reported that the pilot project for flood lighting—along the Indo-Bangladesh border in West Bengal—has to be speeded up. There should be more deployment of BSF to effectively manage the Indo-Bangladesh border. I would like to add that the North-Eastern States need more support in the modernisation of their police forces. The Chief Minister so far the North-Eastern States raised this issue at the NEC meeting held recently. The rehabilitation package of surrendered militants also needs to be improved at the earliest.

Finally, I would strongly urge upon the Central Government to rise to meet the genuine needs of the North-Eastern States.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next speaker is Shri K. Yerrannaaidu. Mr. Yerrannaaidu, you have only five minutes at your disposal to speak on this issue.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I stand to participate in the discussion on the Demand for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The law and order, and internal security are the most important issues for any country. Under the Constitution of India also, the elected Government—both State as well as the Centre—has to protect the life and property of the citizens. This is the foremost obligation of an elected Government. But last year, major incidents took place in different parts of the country. There was terrorist attack in Ayodhya; serial bomb blasts in Delhi on the eve of the festive season; attack on the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; communal incidents that took place at Maotown in Uttar Pradesh; and recent attacks at Varanasi. Such kinds of incidents are taking place in our country.

This year we have passed the Budget—both plan and non-plan expenditure of Rs. 5,63,991 crore for development of this country. If there is peace in the country, then development would also be there. Therefore, if we want to implement all these schemes, and its benefits to reach the common man, then we have to maintain law and order in the country.

Under the Constitution of India, law and order is a State subject, but we cannot leave this issue to the States. The Centre also has an obligation to assist by providing infrastructure, and intelligent inputs to control law and order. This is the obligation of the Government of India.

Let us take the example of Andhra Pradesh. The number of deaths in 2002, due to Naxalite incidents, was only 96. Similarly, in the year 2003 the number of deaths, due to Naxalite incidents, was only 140; in the year 2004 the number of deaths was 74; and in the year 2005 the number of deaths was 2006.

The numbers have drastically increased. What is the reason behind it? It is due to mis-governance. There is no planning, and they are not taking any corrective measures. These are the figures given by the Home Ministry. I am not attributing anything or criticising any Government. These are the figures given by the Home Ministry. I am quoting the figures given by them, and I have not brought these figures from anywhere else. People in the villages, not only in Andhra Pradesh but elsewhere also, are suffering.

Under the Backward Districts Initiative, the Central Government have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 2,475 crore for 55 naxalite-affected Districts in all the States. The amount given under the *Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana* is not at all sufficient. If you take Andhra Pradesh, even North coastal districts, Telengana and all other districts are suffering due to naxalite activities. That is why, my humble request to the hon. Home Minister, through you, is that you have to implement your programme in one go in all the districts throughout the country. Then, we can undertake some works or we can provide employment. Through employment, these kind of activities will be reduced. That is why, my demand is that the whole of Andhra Pradesh should be included in the list of affected districts.

For modernisation of the Police force and also in the form of special assistance to the States, every year, both put together, you are giving Rs. 1,000 crore. This amount is not at all sufficient. The amount of Rs. 1,000 crore both for modernisation of the Police force and also the special assistance to the States is not at all sufficient. You have to increase this amount to Rs. 3,000 crore and then only you can meet the requests made by each State Government. We are spending six lakh crores of rupees for the welfare of this country, and we are giving a lot of money to the States. There are special programmes for Jammu and Kashmir and to the State of Bihar. We are providing a lot of assistance, thousands of crores of rupees, to each State for backward areas development. If you want to implement these schemes correctly and if each *paisa* has to reach the common man, the poorest of the poor, then law and order should be very perfect. To maintain law and order, you require more money. So, you have to demand and get more money from the Prime Minister. Then, you have to pass on that money to the States and only then, they can control law and order. We have to purchase vehicles and they have to purchase latest weapons in order to modernise our Police forces. You should also share intelligence and everything else with the State Governments and then only they can maintain the law and order effectively and efficiently.

You know about the States' financial position and we need not have to mention that here. Every State has a lot of obligations. On one side, they have to meet their social obligations, and on the other side, they have to implement various irrigation projects, they have to provide electricity and all those things. Even the revenues

transferred by the Centre to the States are not sufficient for the welfare activities undertaken by the State, or to meet the needs of the people in a State. That is why, you have to provide enough money not only to the State of Andhra Pradesh, but also to other States.

In regard to Calamity Relief Fund and National Calamity Contingency Fund, several Members have been demanding on the floor of the House, for so many years, that the allocation has to be increased. Under the National Calamity Contingency Fund, this year, you have given Rs. 100 crore to Andhra Pradesh and it is an *ad hoc* grant. We have requested for more than Rs. 2,000 crore. Last year, within a period of two months, we were hit by cyclones four times, which have caused a lot of damage. The hon. Chief Minister has written to the Prime Minister informing him that we need Rs. 2,000 crore, but we got only Rs. 100 crore as *ad hoc* grant under NCCF. Even the allocation under the National Calamity Relief Fund is not sufficient. The Central Government is providing three-fourths of the money, and the State Government is providing the remaining one-fourth. For Andhra Pradesh, for example, you are providing Rs. 260 crore, and the remaining one-fourth of the amount is being provided by the State of Andhra Pradesh. Even this amount of Rs. 260 crore is given in two instalments. How is it sufficient not only for Andhra Pradesh but also for other States? The budgetary allocation to the States under the National Calamity Relief Fund is not at all sufficient.

We have a 9000 kilometres long seacoast and we face cyclones, floods and drought perennially. This money is not sufficient for us. The Centre has to provide more funds for this purpose, not only to Andhra Pradesh but also to other States, from the National Calamity Relief Fund and National Calamity Contingency Fund. Then only the States can meet their obligations.

Since the present allocations are so meagre, States keep coming to the Centre with their demands. Chief Ministers of different States come to New Delhi from time to time to meet the Prime Minister, the Agriculture Minister and the Minister of Home Affairs. Even after their repeated requests, the Central Government is not able to provide sufficient funds to them due to lack of budget.

I, therefore, request the Ministry of Home Affairs to get higher allocation made under these Heads. It is only then that more money could be provided for the calamity relief works.

With these suggests, I conclude my speech.

[*Translation*]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, today the demands of the Ministry of Home Affairs are being discussed. Through you, I would like to tell the Government that the situation in the country remain unchanged in respect of the problems, be it the problem of terrorism or extremism, the problem of the North-Eastern States or the naxalites. An Urdu poet had said that:

"Tu Idhar-Udhar ki baat na kar,  
yeh bata ki kafila kyon luta,  
Mujhe rahjani se gurej nahin,  
sawal to tumhari rahbari ka hai."

The UPA Government has been holding reign of the country for the last two years. I would like to say that the situation has been worsening since then. There is no improvement in the situation as required. We should not level allegation, counter allegations against each other, rather we should go ahead according to actual developments. The national interest should be given utmost importance. This will definitely help in improving the situation. I would tell the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs that Sardar Patel used to sit on the chair on which he is sitting. He was called Bismark of India and the Iron Man of India. He unified all the princely states of the country and consolidated India as a strong nation in the world.

Today, there is a need to set aside the vote bank politics and strengthen the country because the more our internal security policy is strengthened, the security, unity and integrity of our country will be stronger. It will be a welcome step for all round development of prestige of our country. If it is working well in the country, it will also yield good results outside the country. If we are powerful, the foreign countries will recognise our prowess. In case we are weak, other nations can take advantage of our weakness.

Many a people have discussed about numerous problems of the country. I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs towards the police force. We do not have adequate number of police personnel in our country. As per U.N. Global report of Offence and Justice, 1999, the number of police personnel in over one lakh population in the year 1994 has been

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

stated. In Russia, there are 1225 police personnel over a population of one lakh. In Malaysia, this number is 430 in England and Wales, it is 347 over one lakh, in USA, 300 and in India, there are 134 police personnel for a population of one lakh. It does not matter whether they are personnel of para-military forces or else. It means that there is hardly one cop for one thousand people. Thus you can imagine about the position of our police force.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, many years ago, Dharmveer Commission had been constituted. That Commission had made a number of suggestions for bringing about improvement in Police Department, out of that some suggestions were accepted and some were refused. The need of the hour is that the Government of India is required to set up a new police commission to strengthen the police force and solve their problems. I would like to state one or two more things through you. There is a need to strengthen the intelligence network. There was an attack on Sankat Mochan Temple. Had the State Government or the Central Government got any prior information of this attack, the terrorists would not have entered the temple complex and the lives of innocent people would have been saved. ...*(Interruptions)* So, there is a need to strengthen the intelligence mechanism. Whatever information is received, the same should be communicated to the concerned State Governments, police departments and other such agencies.

It had been proposed to issue multipurpose citizenship Identity cards so as to identify the infiltrators and check infiltration. The hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs is requested to state, while giving his reply, as to what progress has been made in this regard or whether it has been thrown in dustbin. It had also been proposed to maintain a national citizenship register. I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs as to what action is being taken in this regard.

17.36 hrs.

[SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG *in the Chair*]

India provided citizenship rights to the Hindus who had come from Pakistan to Jammu Kashmir but they have not got citizenship rights in Jammu & Kashmir so far because the law is different there. Consequently they are deprived of voting and other human rights. Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs towards all these matters.

We are fighting against terrorism but there is a need to look into the problems being faced by the Kashmiri Pandit who are still living in tents after leaving their birth place. There is a need to help the Kashmiri Pandits to settle in Kashmir again and also to assist them get back their homes, properties etc. I hope that hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs will pay attention to this issue while giving reply.

I would like to state one thing about naxalism. You are providing much help in this regard. Moreover, efforts are being made to modernise the police force and to streamline the whole system.

But what about proposed unified command under Central leadership as demanded by the states which emphasises on formation of unified command from Nepal to Hyderabad, in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh in some parts of West Bengal, Hyderabad, Maharashtra in the country where Maoist, Naxalite and Extremists centre have been set up. Please tell us about it also.

Besides this, please mention the efforts being made to alleviate poverty and unemployment also.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will conclude within two minutes. I am giving my suggestions. There is a need of encouragement and sophisticated arms supply to police force. Now a days we come across news that police Jawans are killing their own officers or 4-5 colleagues by firing on them. Such incidents are seen in many parts of Kashmir and Bengal. What is reason behind such resentment in force? We should pay attention towards their leave rules, fooding, lodging and physiological examination to maintain an amicable relation between officers and Jawans. Our Jawans in CRPF, CISF, BSF, ITBP are doing commendable a job but such incidents let us down. We must make some efforts to solve this problem.

I have one more suggestion that work on barbed wire fencing was in progress on Indo-Pak border. Has fencing been finished throughout the 700 K.M. border line, some parts of Kutch or Rajasthan and some parts of Kashmir has been left out? What is the present status of this Barbed wire fencing on indo-Bengla border? What is the progress made so far? Is Bangladesh opposing it Please give some details in this regard also.

Regarding further details about flood or draught or Tsunami or any other national natural calamities, I would like to say that there should be a comprehensive plan for the management of calamities at state level and if national level. Please elucidate the budget allocation and other provisions made in this regard.

I thank you for providing me time and opportunity to speak.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Sir we are participating in the discussion on demands of Ministry of Home Affairs. Though the Lok Sabha has handed over the treasury to Central Government but today Home Minister wants to take the charge of this treasury. We are ready to give this key to him happily. We are not reluctant in giving this key to him and we presume that intention of taking the key is to strengthen the internal security of the country, to wage a war against terrorism and Naxalism, and strengthening of police forces. There is no doubt about his intentions. I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards two or three points.

Terrorism is a very old subject of discussion. Due to some new incidents it is always in news. In our country we celebrate the occasion when there is some pause in the incidents of terrorism for some period. We feel that we are getting control over terrorism and we are about to succeed. But in the meantime such incident occurs which works as a great catalyst. Then we start talking about failure of our intelligence. It seems true also. Had the secret agencies forewarned about the incidents some arrangements could have been made to manage them. Some times we see such statements in some newspapers that the Home Secretary was having the information and he passed it to state government also. But the Chief Minister stated that state government was not apprised of it.

I am surprised that a person holding such a high post is not speaking the truth. As per the statement given by the Home Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs was aware of it, Secret agency performed their duties, despite all this such an incident occurred in Varanasi. Who is to blame for this failure? it meant that there is some fault in our system or we are not able to review and monitor the situation properly. Government of India pays to equip and train the police force and also provides ammunitions. Whenever such incidents occurred, the matter is discussed in the House and Home Minister keeps himself away

from the issue by terming it a state matter. And responding to such reply some time we talk about boycott and sometimes we say that the reply was not appropriate.

I would like to submit one or two points before the hon'ble Home Minister. e.g. Number of Naxalite and Terrorist incidents are increasing rapidly in the country. Now it appears that this Naxalism and terrorism are going to make their entry in villages also. Earlier it was prevailing in Andhra Pradesh only but now it is correct that it had spread all over the country. They have direct link from Andhra Pradesh to Nepali in Nepal there is an organisation which is engaged in anti-India campaign in an unorganised manner. We are living in border areas and anti-India feelings are being spread from Radio or other media so that the anti-India feeling may breed in the minds of people of Nepal also. They do propagandist transmission. There are a number of terrorist and Maoist organisations which have footed their root in Nepal. It appears that their strength could not be weakened by the Nepal Government, even they have become stronger. For example, one among such organisations is working in Bihar, Jehanabad incident took place and on the incident of Jahanabd hon'ble Home Minister in his reply stated that it is a state matter. I would like to request the hon'ble Home Minister that this organisation has made its entry in Bihar villages and not only entry but in the matter of arms and ammunition it could not be weakened by your police force. You are providing funds for providing training and strengthening the police force. As stated by an hon'ble member the strength of the police force is very low. Definitely it is low but when you give money you must be doing monitoring and reviewing also. You should give directions to state government from time to time after sitting together and making discussions. Whenever an incident occurs in any village the police is informed and after hearing the loud sound of police vehicle, the criminals escape after committing the crime. You provide money to strengthen the system. In this system does not become stronger then it is your responsibility to hold discussions with state Government and to have your control. It should also be seen whether funds are spent for the purpose for which it was sanctioned. Therefore, review is necessary whether money is being spent only for the purpose for which it was sanctioned. These measures will help in strengthening of state police and there will be a check in the problem related to law and order. We, who are assembled here, come from almost all the states of the country. We get information about the incidents that happened in our respective states through newspapers. If you monitor the



[Shri Prabhunath Singh]

funds released from here it will immensely help in controlling such incidents.

Today a number of states have been affected by naxalism. Particularly in the areas located in Nepal border e.g. Bihar, Uttar Pradesh or the eastern areas. You are not taking strong action to check the free flow of people to and from Nepal to Bihar and Eastern U.P. Ministry of Home Affairs is not taking any such steps. Only local police do its job but it is insignificant. We all know this.

In the context of local police I would like to tell you one more thing. In a place a drama or comic was in progress. I witnessed it so I thought to tell you about it. It was about police department and comic was going on and medal were being awarded to policemen of various countries. A policeman of a country said that if any incident occurs in our country we solve it within a week some other said five days and policemen of different countries were saying about them. Now it was the turn of India and Indian representative said you know nothing. In India when an incident is to occur we get information about it 24 hours before the incident takes place. In the same way whenever an incident occurs in the state we receive from newspapers that there was a criminal connivance with police. The duty of such monitoring is vested with the state Government. When funds provided for weapon and to equip the police force, if the funds are not used properly, you should initiate action against it.

A lot of money is provided for police training in rural areas. The situation is the worst where a police constable holds lathi in his one hand and his pant in another hand. He looks very uncomfortable in his uniform. How he can control the crime? You can realize it. So you must see that funds released from here are to be spent on uplifting their standard of living, on improving their weapons, and on their training. In all that you have to keep a vigil.

Bihar and Eastern U.P. are widely affected by Naxalism and we are the victims of this Naxalism. You are conducting raids on the areas where terrorist incident occurred in Varanasi Definitely there is a link between Naxalism and terrorism. If such incidents occur in Eastern U.P. the criminals escape to Bihar or Nepal. If it occurs in Bihar then the culprit take shelter in Eastern U.P. or Jharkhand. All these area are affected by naxalism or terrorism. So we cannot leave the responsibility to state police alone. States are also the part of the country. You

are demanding more funds to strengthen the police force. You have to see everything. You cannot assure that disturbed law and order situation is a state matter. You cannot assume that murder, theft, dacoity terrorism or Naxalism are state issues. The Central Government should have control over the situation and money released by it should be reviewed. You should accept this thing in public. It appears that our intelligence has failed. Which have resulted in increase in terrorist incidents. I do not want to discuss about the places where such incidents have occurred.

Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards North-East. What is our perceptions about North East, I would like to present my own view. There is cease fire in Nagaland and both the parties have stopped firing on each other. But what do you think about the people who say that they are fighting for Independence. They call our police officers and other officers as agents of India. When Central Government want to hold talks with them they show reluctance to visit Delhi pleading that why should we go to Delhi when India is also a country like ours. So they fix venue in other countries where they hold talks with India.

They also get funds from foreign countries but now Indian Government itself providing funds to these states but even 55 of this amount is not being spent. All the money went to the hands of Terrorists.

SHRI KIREN RIJJU: Sir all the states are not like that, Arunachal Pradesh is absolutely not like that.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Hon'ble Minister, I want to say one thing. I have met an IAS Officer, in Nagaland I do not want to disclose his name. He wanted to be posted away from Nagaland. He said that whenever we make efforts to take action against the terrorists we are instructed from our seniors to keep them engaged at any cost. When I asked for the meaning of engaged I was told that let them live happily as they wish. When we asked him as to how he maintains the situation, he stated that some persons from their organisation come to the office and ask for a vehicle fitted with red light. On being asked about the purpose, it is said that it is required for transporting the arms from one place to another. Only hon. Minister of Home Affairs knows to what extent it is true. If it is true, you can easily understand the situation prevailing there. One of the states of your country is being run by terrorist organisation arbitrarily. The funds released by the Central Government for development work

are not being spent on that work. It is an open secret that the funds are being pocketed by the terrorists. Honourable Minister of Home Affairs, Sir, it will give rise to separatism in the country and one day that state will slip out of your hands. If cease fire brings solution you must solve it but if a face to face fight is required, then Central Government should not surrender before the terrorists steps should be taken to bring prosperity in the life of people living at a place which is a part of India.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Chairman Sir, honourable member has got heavy security. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record, except the speech of Shri Nikhil Kumar.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: All security should be withdrawn after review. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, This is out of context.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nikhil Kumar Ji, please speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record except the speech of Mr. Nikhil Kumar.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Nothing is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your speech is not going on record. Please sit down. Nikhil Kumar Ji, you please speak. Your time is going waste.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not allowed. Nothing is going on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nikhil Kumar Ji, please make your submission.

*[English]*

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR (Aurangabad, Bihar): I have risen in support of the Demands for Grants of the Union Home Ministry and I have done so because the Home Ministry is really chaired with a very grave responsibility. It is not only leading the fight against terrorism itself through its Central forces but is also giving assistance to the State Governments to enable them to stand on their own feet not only in fighting terrorism but all threats to internal security.

Sir, our country is very unique in that it faces a variety of threats to its internal security, the like of which is not seen in any other country. In fact, the United States was not quite appreciative of terrorism until 9/11 and thereafter it suddenly realises that it needs all kinds of resources and special laws to counter terrorism. Britain followed suit. But special laws cannot prevent terrorism. We saw that when London had a series of bomb blasts on the 7th of July last year and the London Police was so upset, it was so shattered, that it lost its equanimity and in order to control the situation, killed an innocent

[Shri Nikhil Kumar]

Brazilian. What was remarkable, Sir, was the response of the people of London and the Human rights Organisation. They did protest but in a very muted way. Above all, the Police Commissioner of London went to the people and said that this was a mistake that had been committed but would not be repeated and that is all, full stop. We do not do this. We take human rights very seriously.

I remember, after nearly 11 or 12 years of gross terrorism in Punjab and Kashmir, there was a great deal of criticism all over the world about human rights violation by our security forces.

18.00 hrs.

It was the Congress Government of 1991-1996 that took the decision to permit two international human rights organisations—the International Congress of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Amnesty International to visit Kashmir and see things for themselves and this is what happened. The United Kingdom went in for special laws. It was our Party which had first thought of dealing with terrorism through special laws.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, it is 6 o'clock now. I have a list of 11 more speakers. If the House agrees, the time for discussion may be extended by one hour.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: It was in 1985 that we enacted TADA. In just eight or nine years, we realised that TADA was being misused, especially against minorities in Gujarat. Therefore when time came to renew it, we allowed it to lapse in April, 1995. That is why, we are opposed to any special law and that is why we are opposed to POTA. We are absolutely happy with laws available to us. The general laws and whatever other local laws which may be there already in this country are adequate to enable us to deal with the terror factor. This is what we have been doing. The special laws brought about by the British Government did not help prevent the London bombings of July 7, last year. I therefore think while dealing with terrorism, we must also give equal importance to guarding of human rights but human rights have to be seen both ways. The human rights cannot be only of one person. It will have to be of the other person also.

In dealing with terrorism, we have lost 60,000 lives in the past 25 years, of which nearly 33,000 and plus

are those of security forces personnel. The Ministry of Home Affairs is leading the fight against the terror and it has at its disposal security forces at the central level. As I said earlier, it is also giving assistance to the State Governments to help build up their own State Police forces. The Home Ministry will have to give special attention to the security forces personnel who are in the forefront of this battle against terror. One important thing which I have just now seen in the Budget papers is—this is only an instance and I am not saying this as a special case recommendation—that the total revenue expenditure this year for the police forces has risen by 8.4 per cent and the capital expenditure has risen by nearly seven per cent. I am aware that there has been a great deal of accretion of strength to security forces. For instance, the ITBP has been given a very large area of responsibility. It is now going to cover both Sikkim as well as Arunachal Pradesh. I do not know if this increase is going to meet the expenditure that will now come to us because of this increased area of responsibility. Above all, we will have to see that these security forces personnel are looked after as far as their welfare is concerned. One very important aspect of the welfare is their housing and the level of housing satisfaction. It is already very poor. I think just 14 per cent or so has been prescribed and this 14 per cent also is not fully met.

Now, if the Government goes on adding up to the strength of the security personnel, then this percentage is going to fall even further. My understanding is that there is not enough provision made for housing for the security forces personnel working at the Central level. This needs to be increased and should be increased substantially.

The second point is that there is now an increased area of responsibility given to the ITBP. It is not very clear from the Budget papers if there is a provision in the Budget for increased expenditure on both capital as well as on revenue accounts of the ITBP. I have been taking up this issue only as a special case. I am only citing the case of ITBP as a matter of instance. I shall also come to BSF. The BSF also are facing a very serious problem in the Kutch area of Gujarat along the border of Rajasthan. In this area they are facing a very serious drinking water problem. I do not know if there is enough provision made in the Budget to meet this problem of drinking water in both the States of Gujarat and Rajasthan as far as the BSF is concerned. Since the

ITBP has been given an increased area of responsibility and these areas are now extremely inhospitable in the State of Arunachal Pradesh.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may please conclude now.

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: Sir, please allow me to speak for another five minutes.

Most of these areas are inhospitable terrains and are inaccessible. Unless there is air power, one would not be able to go there. I cannot make out from the Budget papers if there is enough provision made to allow IAF to be given payment for providing helicopter or chopper support to the ITBP. This is absolutely essential for their operation.

Sir, now I turn to the question of terrorism. Better intelligence and more pro-active vigilance has led to diminution in the number of instances of terrorism all over the country and also in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Ever since the UPA Government has assumed office, there have been three major instances of terrorism. We all can remember all the three instances. One was in the IISC., Bangalore and two other instances in the State of Uttar Pradesh. It is a coincidence that two instances of terrorist attack took place in the State of Uttar Pradesh. As has been mentioned by our colleague, Shri Mohan Singh, the security forces there did fight the terrorists valiantly and prevented any damage to the idols. But the same thing should have been done in Varanasi. But it was not done. I would like to appeal to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to see as to how it did not happen. They have been saying that the Intelligence Bureau did not provide any input about this. But that is not all. I am sure the Intelligence Bureau must have given some indication and even if they had not given any indication, it does not require people great intelligence to know that the *Sankat Mochan* temple in Benaras must have been one of the targets of the terrorists. After all, there is a history of attacking important religious places. There was an attack on the *Akshardham* temple in Gujarat; there was an attack on the *Raghunath* temple in Jammu and Kashmir. The local administration should have been more sensitive and understanding to see that the *Sankat Mochan* temple was given proper access control arrangements. This is a very serious matter because it leads to inflaming of the communal passion. I would like to pay a special tribute to the Chairperson, UPA and the hon. Home Minister who promptly decided to visit Benaras and to see things for themselves and ensure that

communal passions were not inflamed. My heartiest thanks to their efforts and I compliment them. The same thing should be done by other political leaders also. It is not right really to go on *yatra* at this stage. A *yatra* at this stage would not bring people together, rather it would split people and inflame passion and a communal unrest will take place in the manner as it did during the last *yatra*. If at all any *yatra* has to be undertaken, I would suggest that it should be taken in those areas infested with Left Wing extremism.

I would suggest that they should be undertaken in those areas where people are really scared, where they do not know what to do after the evening falls. Their social intercourse is almost nil. The responsible leaders who are now leading the *rath yatra* should think of leading them in those specific five or six States.

Sir, I, now, come to the naxal problem. I would suggest the hon. Minister that a well thought-out cogent plan to deal with naxalism is needed. A little while ago, Shri Ram Kripal Yadav was mentioning about the threat from naxal extremists from whom even the hon. Members got threats. He mentioned only one name and, if I am correct, he mentioned the name of Shri Sitaram Singh. Shri Jha is not present here. Shri Anirudh Prasad Yadav has received threats.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kindly conclude now. Time is short.

SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR: As regards communal problems, it is very essential that there should be some arrangement to station the police forces, even if they are central police forces, in the naxal affected areas. My request to the hon. Home Minister is that he should give some attention to arrange the police forces to be stationed in such areas.

There was a blueprint of action for good governance which was brought out by the Inter-State Council Secretariat. I do not know the position of it. Something has to be done about it. If the plan is to be acted upon, I would appeal to the Home Minister to give some thought on it because good governance is very important for the development of the country. If that blueprint is drawn out and if it is being implemented by the States, then it must be monitored.

With great sense of responsibility, I would say one thing. We have been telling the State police forces to do their job. There are certain times and there are certain

[Shri Nikhil Kumar]

movements which are not confined to a single State or a single place in a State. They have inter-State ramifications which a single State police force is unable to pursue. Therefore, we must think in terms of giving some kind of an authority to the Centre to intervene in such cases and, if it is possible, the Constitution should be amended. In a limited way, it should be brought in the Concurrent List. Once this is done, it will be possible for us to really go about taking meaningful action in these matters. I would kindly request the Home Minister to give a thought to this point and think of bringing it under the Concurrent List.

[*Translation*]

\*SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Sir, this House is considering demands for grants of Ministry of Home Affairs. The most serious problem before the country today is the rise in naxalite activities. The statement of Hon. President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam is very important that continuous ignorance of the poor, regional imbalance, unemployment helplessness are the basic reasons for the origin of terrorism. Maoists of Nepal, LTTE or Tamil Tigers of Sri Lanka and separatists of Bangladesh and Pakistan, almost all of them get training abroad and execute their plans here in India. Though, the Government tries to avoid its responsibility by simply saying that law and order is a state matter, but in real sense it is a matter related to the internal security of the country and the Government of India can not escape from its responsibility. Borders of the country are insecure. We share 15106 km. long border with the neighbouring countries. Such type of incidents will go on increasing unless border is secured. Today, 127 districts of 13 states of the country are afflicted with naxalism or terrorism. According to a report naxalites and terrorists are 9300 in number and they have with them a cache of more than 6000 automatic and indigenous arms. The Government accepts that there has been an increase in naxalite activities. As compared to the year 2004, there has been an increase of 4% in such incidents in the year 2005. Non implementation of poverty alleviation programmes, non-eradication of unemployment and lack of a strong administration are the main reasons behind the increase in such incidents.

In the case of insurgency in Kashmir, Government's statement reveals that till June-Oct. 2005, 219 terrorists had crossed into our country. It means 219 terrorists

crossed into our country in just 300 days. Chief of Army general J.J. Singh had stated that there would be no withdrawal of Army from Kashmir but, inspite of such a statement, reduction in Army's strength in Kashmir is a cause of concern there. I would request the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs to reply on the compulsion behind reduction in Army's strength in Kashmir during the discussion. When incidents of explosion occur in the country, the Government claims that the common man has come out of its impact and is leading a normal life but the reality is that the people of the country have become habitual of such type of incidents occurring for decades. In the past years many commissions and committees have been constituted in the name of police reforms who have given their recommendations to the Government. To review the status of implementation of these recommendations the Government had constituted a committee which has submitted its report to the Government on March 23, 2005 but it has not been made public as to which extent police reforms have been implemented. Intelligence agencies play an important role in every country. Continuously occurring incidents are indicative of failure of our intelligence agencies. CRPF, which is working in naxalite areas, is of the view that their services can be fruitful only when an independent intelligence agency is formed.

Our T.V. channels have been instrumental in increasing crime and terror in the society. This issue was raised a number of times in the House in the year 1999 but I am sorry to state that the Government have not restricted their action which is misguiding our new generation. Today, the common man is not even getting the services he is entitled to. Center for Media studies, after a study, has stated that the people of the country have to pay Rs. 21,068 crore as bribe annually for getting the work done which they are entitled to.

As regards law and order situation, the situation is very serious. Law and order system of Delhi is under the control of Government of India. Apart from being the capital of the country, Delhi is on the verge of becoming crime capital also. Out of the 35 metropolitan cities of the country, Delhi witnesses the maximum number of rape incidents which is 17% of such total incidents and it grows at 12% annually. In the last month of October 3 bomb explosions took place in Delhi. A team of 300 policemen under the guidance of Joint Commissioner of Police took the responsibility of investigating into the matter but unfortunately they have not arrived at a conclusion till now. The situation of judicial

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\*The pseech was laid on the Table.

system is that it takes upto 4 years time to move the cases of rape etc. to the courts. As a result only less than 50% of the convicts are sentenced. These cases should be disposed off in a minimal time within a prescribed time limit. An ex justice of India has commented that the average of conviction has reduced from 60% to 22% in the past 45 years. The argument of the Government may be agreed to that the police cannot be deployed at every place of terrorist incident. It is not the strength but the fear of police which actually works. The psychological influence which the police must have on the criminals is gradually on decline which is a cause of great concern. Today, the situation of internal and external security of the country is not satisfactory. Unbalanced use of economic resources and lack of long term policy to solve the problems of the country are the reasons behind this. If no meaningful efforts are made at the right time, the country may have to face a situation of disintegration and the whole responsibility of which will lie on this regime.

*[English]*

PROF. M. RAMADASS (Pondicherry): Sir, on behalf of my Party, the Pattali Makkal Katchi, I am delighted to support the Demands for Grants moved by the hon. Home Minister. The Grants moved by him deserve to be approved by this House.

At the outset, I would like to compliment the splendid job done by the Ministry of Home Affairs in the midst of various constraints posed before them. During the last two years, the country has seen the worst disasters in the form of Tsunami, earthquakes and unprecedented floods in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. On all these occasions, the Ministry of Home Affairs has risen to the occasion and rushed relief and succour to the people who required them. Especially, in the event of the Tsunami episode, the Government of India acted with such alacrity that the people in the Union Territory of Pondicherry, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Andaman and Nicobar Islands have been timely rescued and rehabilitated. There is no parallel in the manner in which aid was rushed to the various places and, therefore, the Ministry of Home Affairs deserves our appreciation.

Now, coming to the nature of grants, the Ministry is asking for a grant of Rs. 19,213 crore, out of a total expenditure of Rs. 5,63,991 crore. This constitutes 3.4 per cent of the total expenditure of the Government of India today. This expenditure is more than the

expenditure earmarked for the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture, which are contributing to the economic and social development of this country.

Therefore, the Ministry of Home Affairs must realise that the Government has earmarked a greater amount of money for the purpose of discharging its duties. One of the important aspects of this Budgetary provision is that, out of the total expenditure of Rs. 19,213 crore, 89 per cent goes for revenue expenditure and only 11 per cent is earmarked for the capital expenditure. If the Government has to create a lot of infrastructure for both the police as well as for other establishments, the Government should earmark more of capital expenditure, curbing the non-plan revenue expenditure. This is one commentary which I would like to make.

Further, in the total expenditure, 83 per cent goes for police alone, followed by 6.2 per cent of allocation to the Union Territories. Therefore, the Government should be able to account for this kind of expenditure that we are making for the police department.

18.16 hrs.

*[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]*

A number of hon. Members here have voiced concern about the inefficiency and the integrity of the police force. We need to do something to improve the image of the police force. We are talking in terms of police reforms, which are overdue and the Government should bring in those reforms soon, the earlier the better.

With regard to census operations which are under the control of the Registrar General, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Home Minister that this decennial census has not made a mention about the ST population of the Union Territory of Pondicherry. Although various evidences are available, there is no mention about the ST population that is enumerated by the Census Commissioner for reasons unknown to us. Even last month a member of the Scheduled Tribes Commission came and visited various places and identified nine communities as Scheduled Tribe communities. But unfortunately, till the last census of 2001, there is a mention saying that there are no Scheduled Tribes in Pondicherry. That should be taken care of.

Another thing is that the Census does not give the figures of Other Backward Classes. We are giving the

[Prof. M. Ramadass]

figures of minorities, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. But we do not know what is the population of the Other Backward Classes. Only the Mandal Commission mentioned that 52 per cent of the people belong to the Other Backward Classes. Why can't the Census Organisation take up the work of enumeration of Other Backward Classes also? Let this country know what is the exact number of Other Backward Classes in this country.

On the official languages issue, the Government is providing grants for teaching of Hindi. We would feel that this amount must be increased and it should be used for teaching of all the 18 regional languages, which may be considered as official languages in due course of time.

With regard to Home Guards, I would like to say that though they are recruited on a regular basis, their service conditions are not as good as the police force. The Government should give some importance to that. *...(Interruptions)*

The Bureau of Police Research and Development must commission impact studies on the police force and find out as to what is happening. When the Government is spending so much of money and when the Government is under so much of resource constraints, and when the Government is giving more than what it gives to the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Health, this country should know as to what is happening to this money. We should know as to how this money is being used to tackle various problems that we are facing.

As far as modernisation of police force is concerned, the Home Ministry is providing 100 per cent grants for purchase of vehicles, wireless equipment, sophisticated equipment and computers. But it is not allocating money for providing manpower. How will the manpower come, if you make provisions for equipment alone? In my view, it is more important than modernisation of weapons. Modernising the mind of the policemen is an imperative need. Police force must be imparted all kinds of training to bring about radical change in its attitude so that it can become the friend of the people and the deserving people. It should be done.

On the issue of national disaster management, I would like to say that it is silent about the allocation that is to be made for National Disaster Management Authority, which was created by the Government of India.

Sir, on my Union Territory, transfers to the Union Territory Governments, I find surprisingly, last year, the Ministry gave a transfer of Rs. 802 crore. But it has now declined to Rs. 736 crore. I do not know the reason why it has been reduced.

As far as the non-Plan grants are concerned, the Government has increased only Rs. 10 crore this year. Last year, it was Rs. 429 crore. This year, it is only Rs. 439 crore. Even if you take the inflationary factor, the rise in price, it should have been around Rs. 470 crore. But the Government has given only Rs. 439 crore.

Coming to the Plan amount, it has declined from Rs. 370 crore to Rs. 297 crore. There is no reason as to why it should be done. Especially in the case of the normal assistance, it has declined from Rs. 99 crore to Rs. 68.97 crore. There is no provision made for slum development. There is no provision made for rehabilitation programme of Tsunami, and there is no mention about the Urban Renewal Mission. There is no outlay for this purpose. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Does it concern the Home Ministry?

*...(Interruptions)*

PROF. M. RAMADASS: Therefore, I would say that these gaps must be bridged and the Union Territory of Pondicherry must be given more. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do you feel that this is concerned with the Home Ministry?

PROF. M. RAMADASS: Sir, this is concerned with the Home Ministry. I am talking about the Demand No. 54 provided by the Ministry of Home Affairs. I am talking very relevantly, specific to the point. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

PROF. M. RAMADASS: I represent the Union Territory of Pondicherry. It is my duty to bring to the notice of the Home Minister that the transfers to the Union Territory of Pondicherry has declined this year. That is why, it is my duty to point it out. I am not talking irrelevantly here. I am just pointing out to the point that is required. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

PROF. M. RAMADASS: The Union Territory of Pondicherry deserves to be declared as a B2 status, a demand which has been pending for a long time. Port Blair has been conferred B1 status. Panaji has been conferred B1 status. They all have lesser urban population. According to the Fifth Pay Commission, a city must have 5 lakh population to qualify for B2 status. Panaji has only 1.7 lakh population, Port Blair has only 93,000 population whereas Pondicherry City has got 2.4 lakh population. But the Government is not giving it B2 status. I would request the hon. Home Minister to move this matter with the Finance Ministry and get us this status. The people of Pondicherry are clamouring for a special statehood for Pondicherry, and the union Home Ministry will have to decide about it also.

With these few suggestions to the Home Ministry, I fully support the Demands for Grants of the Home Ministry.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before I request the next hon. Member, I would like to make a request that I have got a list of 12 Members who have yet to speak. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Members that those who participate in the discussion, they should be very brief. They should complete their speeches within five minutes.

Secondly, I would also like to request that those hon. Members who want to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House, they are allowed, and these speeches will be treated as part of proceedings.

SHRI SUBRATA BOSE (Barasat): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs for 2006-07.

The Ministry of Home Affairs faces many major problems and issues, and out of which, I think, the most important one today, as being faced by us, is the acts of terrorism and the action of the extremists in different States of India. The terrorists today have set up an international network. To combat that, I think, it is necessary for us to strengthen more our Intelligence Bureau and our Intelligence Wing. I appreciate that it is more easier said than done. But, I would request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to kindly examine this point and do what is needed to combat terrorism.

Another aspect of the acts of terrorism is that they are targeting soft targets, particularly, as we know, the

recent incident in Varanasi. They are doing it with the objective of creating more internal disturbances like bring out communal passions and communal disturbances. I think the visit of the hon. Home Minister accompanied by the hon. Chairperson of the UPA immediately and within hours of the incident definitely helped in defusing the situation there. I would like to compliment them for taking this very swift action.

As far as the extremist actions are concerned, this has particularly affected a number of States including the State of West Bengal. We can note that most of these extremist actions, whether you call them Maoists or naxalites or anything, are occurring in economically backward areas, it is easier to get the support of the people who are misled and misguided. I think, therefore, that apart from facing the extremist situation by taking very stern action, we should have special provisions. We should try to improve the economically backward areas so that we can face this threat of extremist much more effectively. I think the Union Government has to come forward to help the affected States in improving the economic conditions there and also in facing the extremist actions with the police force.

Here, I would like to say that in West Bengal we have noticed that in many of these actions, the militants outnumbered the police forces which were posted there. It is so because they do it in remote places, in the villages, in the small towns. It is not only that. Even the arms and ammunition carried by the militants are sometimes more effective and they are better than the ones that the police forces have. So, I think, it is necessary for the Union Government to come to the aid of the State Governments to modernise and improve the police forces' strength. I think, if necessary, the hon. Home Minister may even consider having additional funds to help the affected States in this regard. If we are unable to contain them, I think, this will affect or even spread to the other States.

Sir, I remember your constraint of time. It is applicable to all of us. So, I would only mention that the other two major problems which are faced by the Ministry of Home Affairs are the separatist tendencies in the North-East, even in the Northern part of West Bengal like Coochbehar. I think about this movement, as the hon. Member Shri Mohan Singh has suggested, there should be negotiations on this. We should try to convince them. But if that does not succeed, I think there is no other alternative but to take very stern and strong action to curb the separatist movement.



[Shri Subrata Bose]

The other one is the crime against women. It is increasing, I think, there is a different reason for it. Even very recently, we saw in the newspapers that two women—one mother and a daughter—were murdered in Delhi. It is very difficult even for the Intelligence people to anticipate what action the criminals are going to take. I think we are very much concerned about this. I am sure, the hon. Minister, who is present here, will give thought to this problem.

Sir, I abide by your decision. I think we should all cooperate with you so that the debate and the discussion can come to an end within a reasonable time. So, I conclude by thanking you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

[*Translation*]

\*SHRI RATI LAL KALIDAS VERMA (Dhandhuka): Sir, I want to express my views on demands for grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The Ministry of Home Affairs is a Ministry which is engaged in very important work rather than other ministries. Happiness and prosperity sans peace have no value. Unless each home, each village, each city, each state and the country at large as at peace, there is no meaning of development and it is useless to show development related data. Today terrorists and nexalites have blurred the peace of the country and every day terrorists keep on showing their odious face. Sometime they target parliamentary forces and military in Kashmir valley by hurling hand grenades or sometime they burn down military trucks alongwith military jawans by laying land mines. The youth of our country are being murdered at the hand of profane people and at some places innocent people are made to stand in arrow and are ruthlessly fired with AK-40 and AK-56 rifles. They don't spare even elders, children and women. After villages, it is now the sacred places of India which are being attacked by terrorists whether it is Akshardham temple in Gujarat or Ramji temple in Jammu or Sankatmochan temple in Varanasi. Today these terrorists are using various types of arms. Every time they explode RDX in a new way and the innocent people lose their lives in these explosions.

Due to the lack of sophisticated arms our youth, paramilitary forces and the police performing its duty in the cities are sometimes unable to detect and thwart the

attempts of explosions. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to arm our policemen with sophisticated weapons and boost their moral by caring for their families so that they could face the terrorists, traitors and mafias with increased zeal and morale. Sir, I belong to Gujarat. The Government of Gujarat had enacted POTA to deal with the goons and maintain peace. Without understanding the significance of POTA for Gujarat, the UPA Government repealed the act in the interest of their vote bank. Today, terrorist tendency in Gujarat is on the rise. People of criminal tendency from Neighbouring Maharashtra want to make Gujarat their base. Gujarat is a peace loving state and its people want to lead a peaceful life. To maintain peace in Gujarat, the Government has made MACOCA Act on the pattern of Maharashtra and sent it to the hon. President for his assent but the UPA Government has not given its assent to this Act till now. So Gujarati people's resentment against the UPA Government has grown which they have expressed by voting against UPA Government i.e. Congress in Municipality, Corporation and Zila Panchayat elections held in the State. I hope the Ministry of Home Affairs will give its assent to the MACOCA Act very soon.

Sir, I would like to draw Government's attention, through you, to the atrocities being committed on SC & ST people. This year more than 35 thousand cases of atrocities have been registered across the country. Somewhere someone is killed for untouchability and somewhere else a person belonging to Scheduled Caste is killed while ploughing on the land given by the Government. An oppressed class person is killed or his family is tortured somewhere just because he married a girl of another caste. A whole basti of oppressed people is burnt down to ashes and mass genocide is done for the simple reason that they refused to become their bonded labours. And somewhere else a Scheduled Caste woman is raped and killed to destroy the evidence. Not only this, in some places like Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, a Scheduled Caste woman's clothes are removed, her head is shaved and she is made to walk naked openly.

Sir, even after 58 years of independence of India, this is the condition of Dalits. It is a shame for our whole country. We will have to make law and order more stringent. We will not only have to punish all the offenders but also have to take hard steps and as I have said if the demand for taking such steps does not come from the civilized society, mothers and sisters of the civilized society also would not be safe in the coming days. Because for a person of oppressed psyche there is no

\*The speech was laid on the Table.

society, no religion, no sister and no mother. Therefore, such tendencies will have to be checked and for this we will have to provide special powers to the police officers and also to assess whether the oppressed class has got due justice or not.

Sir, I conclude my speech after saying this thing. Gujarat has been gifted with a long coastal line by nature. The fishermen living along sea shore, who belong to fishery industry, go very far off in the sea for fishing. Pakistani coastal rangers come and arrest these fishermen. Recently, 200-300 fishermen were sent to Pakistani jails. Today their families are aggrieved. The Gujarat Government and also the MPs of Gujarat have requested the hon. Minister of External Affairs to talk to the Government of Pakistan on this issue. A delegation under the leadership of leader of the Opposition Shri Advani Ji had also requested the hon. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh Ji to come out with a solution by talking with President of Pakistan General Parvez Musharraf and to sign an MoU with the Government of Pakistan on the lines of the MoU signed with the Government of Sri Lanka for the benefit of fishermen. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs, Sir, our coast guards should be provided with convenient boats and sophisticated weapons so that they could protect the coastal line of Gujarat.

Hon. Minister Sir, I hope you will save the oppressed class people from the atrocities, the reality of which I have just stated, so that they could live with dignity. I think you, your Ministry and the concerned Ministry will take steps to create such an environment.

SHRI BHANWAR SINGH DANGAWAS (Nagpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, from the time of the British rule, the deptt. of police is not believed. Even the criminal gives confessional statement before the police which gets recorded but it is not valid for legal purposes. Unless the material evidence is available, it is worthless. My submission is to bring a little change in the procedure. Their confessions should be recorded before some Senior Police Officer, not below the rank of Supdt. so as to avoid the ordeal of courts. This has been the practice to let of the perpetrators but not a single innocent man should be punished. I differ with this also to some extent. We should not accord benefit of doubt to the criminals. The convention must be commensurate with the nature and extent of crime and the evidence collected by the agencies or else criminals will continue to go unpunished.

I would like to submit that the police ratio in India is 1 : 3 for each thousand including the drivers etc. the

number of constable deployed per thousand population is hardly even one. The strength of the police needs to be increased. Our friend Shri Rasa Singh Rawat submitted that we figure at the bottom in the list of all other States. I strongly recommend addition to the strength of police. You will be swept off your feet having come across the no. of posts lying vacant in Rajasthan. As per the information furnished by you, there are 184 posts of IPS officers in Rajasthan by which 143 posts have been filled up and as many as 41 posts are still lying vacant. This is an indication of the vacancies at the lower ranks. This deserves serious consideration and so many posts must not be allowed to be vacant. The selection process of IPS Officers involves years together and people look forward to becoming an IPS Officer. Even at times, it takes five years.

I would also like to submit that the division of the police force is not a welcome step. It is not fair. You ought to have divided the entire police force into four segments in the order of investigation team, preventive team, VIP duty team and CID including CID crime and CID intelligence. ...*(Interruptions)* I am not talking about Delhi Police. This concept has already been translated into reality in Delhi Police. Delhi Police has not been subjected to sufferings. Police persons are no duty even for 24 hours at a stretch. There are no separate departments. The same person at one point of time performs the duty of Santry and then is forced to attend the work of some VIP and then again is deployed in some Mela for the maintenance of law and order there. My submission is to augment the number of personnel in the police department. Police force should be classified into four divisions. Such system will facilitate the constable or officer concern to discharge the duties for a period of not more than 8 hours. In the existing sets of arrangements the police personnel are hard-pressed and are not left with enough time to attend the family front. There is nothing new in it. I too have been subjected to this type of hardship for a period of 33 years and retired almost 20-22 years back. For the obvious reasons, I want that the police personnel should be allowed to take rest both physically and psychologically. For this the duty hours are to be reduced. One cannot expect efficiency without mental and physical fitness. Of transport and Information System, I would like to submit that it is very obsolete and inadequate. Equipment wise, I would like to mention a few details. They have been given 410 musket during British days. Subsequently, they came to be equipped with 303 rifles while the criminals are equipped with AK-56 and AK-47. It is not that only Armed forces and

[Shri Bhanwar Singh Dangawas]

para military forces have to use the weapons. On occasions, the state police too have to resort to firing. These days, all hard core criminals are invariably armed with sophisticated weapons which has necessitated the provision of weapons for them on a priority basis. The transportation facility in Rajasthan is also far from being satisfactory. Petrol is supplied to the Police Stations in limited quantities which meets the requirement of hardly ten days. After some days, the vehicle remains static and people are coerced to fill petrol into the tanks. Given such grim state-of-affairs, there must be proper arrangements of transport facilities for police personnel. Secondly, it merits attention that criminals manage to arm themselves with the speediest means of transportation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I associate with myself the huge concern expressed by my friend Prof. Raza Singh Rawat regarding the poor condition of the vehicles owned by the police personnel which sounds are itself indicative of police presence and provide ample time to the criminals to escape from the spot. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please stop this running commentary.

SHRI BHANWAR SINGH DANGAWAS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am not saying anything that may hurt one's feeling. Sir, let me come to the welfare of the Police personnel. You have setup schools for imparting education to the children of the police officials residing in the police colonies in Delhi but sadly, no such initiative has yet been taken outside Delhi so that the children and wards of the police personnel may be imparted proper education. There should be five to six Central schools in each district and besides they should be provided free-of-cost education including hostel accommodation. After all, they are also the citizens of the country. Their children remain illiterate. Family quarters are not available for the police personnel. This too causes depression among the police officials. So therefore, I put forward my request to construct family quarters for them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards pay and allowances. The state government employees working in a comfortable milieu with the electric fans and AC receive handsome salaries and even better salaries as compared to those police officials working in the sun, rain and shivering colds. In some of the states their salary is at par with the other Government employees while in some states it is less. I request to cover the issue of police officials. My first

suggestion is to increase their salaries and second the insurance premium of the police officials which is deducted from their salaries, should be replaced with highly paid insurance scheme where the premium ought to be paid by the Government to instill a sense of security among them. If they are killed while on duty their children should get the money without any problem.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Now, I would like to refer to uniform. When I joined the police force, we would get overcoats in winter but now such provisions don't exist and the police personnel discharge their duties having wrapped up themselves in blankets. People fail to identify the policemen as they are wrapped up in blanket. The point is that the police personnel's presence must be felt by the public. They should be provided proper uniform to discharge their duties during rainy days.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It's okay. Dangawasji. Please conclude.

SHRI BHANWAR SINGH DANGAWAS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would take three to four minutes more. I am not saying any objectionable thing.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I granted you five minutes' time. You have already covered more than allotted time.

SHRI BHANWAR SINGH DANGAWAS: I will conclude by making small suggestion. I would like to draw your attention towards the increase in crime rate in the country. The youth getting degrees from the colleges stay unemployed even after undergoing hard and fast studies for years together. In the absence of a job they resort to crimes like theft and robbery as they find it easier to do. This is why I suggest that the children obtaining less than 60 per cent marks in the Secondary School Examination should be enrolled in vocational courses. College education should be provided to those only who score 60 per cent or more marks. In case of not doing so, crime rate shall continue to go up.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the end I would like to emphasize the point, it is not that only the army personnel are killed in the operations. There is no doubt that the Armymen are valiant but at the same time its also an established fact that the police officials too, have to sacrifice their lives while on duty. In case of the death of such valiant policemen, they are offered police medals and president medals. Their widows are offered Rs. 450 as an honorarium while the president medal winner is

given Rs. 700. This amount is meagre. I request to increase the amount at least, to rouse a sense of honour. The money must be increased to a respectable level to instill a sense of honour.

Now, I would refer to Rajasthan. The people of Rajasthan have been subjected to severe unnatural calamities like hailstorm and are lying close to virtual destruction. I have already spoken on this point in the morning. Compensation package must be given to the farmers or they will have no alternative but to commit suicide.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You did not speak anything objectionable which prompted me to give you an opportunity to speak up. Let me thank you.

SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA (Jammu): Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on demands for grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs. As far as the grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs in concerned, I rise to support it.

It is a fact that many of the MPs belonging to the other side initially talked aimlessly and did point to us. I do not wish to go into details. I intended to counteract. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, there is nothing objectionable in his statement.

SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA: Thus I will not be able to conclude, other speakers are also not present here. Here, there is an issue of foresightedness, well being and of unity. I know their accountability. They have been in the Government for a period of 58 years and are now the UPA allies. The Congress party whether in power or out of power or be it in the face of struggle for freedom movement they have along been responsible. After the struggle for freedom movement the Congress ruled over the country very efficiently and lifted all sections all regions beyond the vicious circle of casteism, regionalism and linguistic divide.

It is unfortunate that those who neither took part in the struggle for freedom movement nor played any role and misguided the poor, got an opportunity to be in power for a period of 6 to 8 years. The man is emotionally

affected who constructs anything with his own hands while those who did not take pains remains unaffected. This is why I want to submit that in the existing circumstances, the alien forces do not want the nation to move forward. While this has also been combated by our successive Governments from time to time. But today we are discussing the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs—while I would like to submit that he is also the personification of humanity.

During the last two years whenever there was snowfall, any earthquake or any flood, UPA Chairperson Smt. Sonia Gandhiji, hon. Prime Minister and the Minister of Home Affairs made a immediate visit to enquire about the well being of the people.

I think providing them relief and helping them can be waited but what is the matter of great significance is to visit them and comfort them in the hour of crisis. They feel that they live in a democratic country, they live in India. When they feel that the leaders of the country are kind and have a good understanding of their difficulties, their morale gets boosted. I would like to appreciate them that whenever any contingency gripped any part of the country or whenever there was any accident, these people visited the affected people. I want to speak about my state Jammu and Kashmir. I would not speak much but give suggestions only. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your companion is also to speak. It would be better if only one of you could speak.

SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA: Sir, hon. Member from Jammu and Kashmir has not spoken yet. Whatever remains will be spoken of by him.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, after UPA government came to power, our hon. Prime Minister, UPA Chairperson Smt. Sonia Gandhiji and our Minister of Home Affairs made many visits to Jammu and Kashmir in the wake of snowfall and earthquake. I thank all of them for this. Jammu Kashmir witnessed an earthquake in which three of our districts were devastated. They provided blanket as relief there. I convey my thanks to the Government, NGOs and other people of the country for the great help rendered by them. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You better speak on demands instead of extending thanks.

SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA: Sir, I have not yet spoken about the department of Minister of Home Affairs. I will not make a long back ground. I want to say just two-three things. First of all I convey my thanks to the Minister of Home Affairs, his department, Home Secretary and his staff from top to bottom for extending their liaison and support to the State and the Government of Jammu and Kashmir. Earlier we had border problem. There was the issue of rehabilitation of the people who became refugees in 1990. I thank them for approving a proposal of Rs. 78 crore sent by the State government. Prior to it rupees twenty thousand each were given but one thing still lacks. The file dealing with the issue of rehabilitation of refugees at some safer place was there and allotment of 5 storey building to each of them is still pending with them. I request that the file be cleared so that the State government could implement this plan. Our long standing demand which was not met to by the previous government in a span of 8 years, has been fulfilled in just two years. So now the people living along border feel that they were served 8 years sentence. They still live in refugee camps. I thank the hon. Minister of Home Affairs for solving the issue of their rehabilitation.

Apart from this, I would like to say one more thing. The people living on borders should be provided with grant. There is firing from Pakistan's side more often than not. Mines have been planted there which cause injury or death to their cattle. Live stock is the only property of the farmer. When a person passes through a land mine it goes off and the person loses his leg or life. There is no provision of compensation for that. I would request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to provide compensation so that the people living on borders could keep their spirits high thinking that if any calamity happens to them their family would not have to live in crisis. So, they should be provided compensation so that they could sustain their family. Old cases have been left out some people received relief under one package. Out of 800 families of a village, 700 families got the compensation but 100 families are still awaiting. Last time when a team of Home Ministry officials visited the place, they had decided to forward the remaining cases to the Central Government for its clearance. This proposal also needs to be put forward to the Union Government so that it can also be cleared. The situation in Jammu and Kashmir has improved. This can be ensured by the data just given by an hon. Member. I don't talk of data, I just want to talk about the ground realities. Today one can see peace prevailing in the State of Jammu and Kashmir

and its whole credit goes to the UPA government, hon. Minister of Home Affairs and hon. Prime Minister who have been in contact with the people of Jammu and Kashmir every now and then.

There are two-three issues. When does these issues arises, when does law and order situation deteriorate and what are the reasons behind the emergence of terrorism? It all happens when people are discriminated with, when atrocities are done to them and justice is denied and when they are deprived of their legitimate rights. Gujjar Bakarwals have been included under the category of Scheduled Tribes after a long time but Bakarwal people live at one place while highlanders live at another place. This case has been forwarded to the Central Government with the recommendation of the Cabinet of Jammu and Kashmir. I would request hon. Minister of Home Affairs to accept and clear this case so that lakhs of highlanders living in the state of Jammu and Kashmir could get justice and the uncertainty, which is exploited and taken advantage of by the enemies which further deteriorates the situation there, should not take place. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have exhausted your party's time also.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA: The second thing which I want to talk about is that there should be coordination among the departments. ...*(Interruptions)*

I would like to tell the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that no telecommunication facility is available in Poonch district. Poonch is a district headquarters. A tower has been erected there by BSNL which requires clearance from Ministry of Home Affairs. Today these people have a feeling that it is the punishment given to them for living along the border that they are deprived of the facilities extended by the Union Government. Therefore, I would also request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to give the clearance because it is under his department's jurisdiction. The department has made all preparations for the last six months. Tower has been erected there. This matter pertains to district headquarters. They deserve relief. ...*(Interruptions)*

I am very fond of television. How did terrorism thrive in Rajouri and Poonch? We are helpless to watch Pakistani television there. ...*(Interruptions)* Our television programmes don't reach there. I would like to say that it

needs to be improved so that the people of Jammu and Kashmir could watch programmes of their own country and foster a feeling of patriotism in them and young generation's mind could be warded off the wrong perceptions generated by watching Pakistani television.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA: This issue is related with Kashmiri Pandits. I am thankful to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs and the Prime Minister. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)\*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have exhausted Ch. Lal Singh's time also.

...(Interruptions)

\*SHRI SITA RAM SINGH (Sheohar): Sir, supporting the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the following subjects.

Bihar is totally under the grips of terrorism. Terrorist activities particularly in my Parliamentary Constituency Sheohar, Sitamarhi, Motihari adjacent to Nepal are on the rise day by day. Police rifles, banks were looted at various places. A number of murders were also committed. The area as a whole is still under extremist target. Therefore, I request that concrete action may be taken in this regard. There was a terrorist attack at my house on 23rd June, 2005. The rifle of the guard posted at the Block Office was looted. A rifle was looted in a police station and a policeman and a bank guard were killed. All the people present at my residence got injured. I was away from my residence that is why my life was saved. I am still getting threats. Not only this, the whole area is under extremist target. A concrete action may please be taken.

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\*Not recorded.

\*The speech was laid on the Table.

I would also like to say that the police may be armed with sophisticated weapons. Action may be taken to increase police strength. Moreover, an arrangement may be made to provide security to me and my family.

Sir, the Hon. Minister is Incharge of Disaster Management. A permanent arrangement in a planned way may be made in the direction of controlling the flood situation.

\*SHRI VIJAY KRISHNA (Barh): Hon. Members have put forth very important views. I would like to put some suggestions regarding Bihar. A major part of the central Bihar is affected by extremists and nexalism. While on the one hand, the Western part of Patna is struggling against extremist activities, on the other hand the eastern part of Patna, particularly, Barh, in Barh Division, Monkana, Begusarai, Baraliya, Lakhisarai are crime-affected. Dozens of criminals are running parallel government. Accused of murder, loot, kidnapping, rape are enjoying life freely. These criminals have protection from certain ministers of the Government of Bihar. This should be enquired into. There should be coordination between the Central Government and the Police and Intelligence Department of the State Government Police should be armed with sophisticated weapons. A list of wanted criminals and absconding criminals should be prepared and a joint action to nab them must be taken otherwise some major incident can take place in that region.

Central Bihar is suffering from problems like caste based rigidity, landlordism, migration of labourers, unequal treatment, inaccessibility of development funds to the poor, lack of administrative coordination. It will be a positive initiative if persons, group of persons and organizations work by rising above party-politics at social and political level and benefits of development reach the masses and better administrative set up is formed.

The Nepal border of North Bihar is a disturbed area. The border is porous. A four-lane road at Bihar Nepal border should be constructed either by the Defence Deptt. or by the Government of India so that at the time of crises that road can be used as safe road. That area has witnessed many organized attacks by extremists. The residence at Madhuban of Member of Parliament Shri Sita Ram Singh (Sheohar) was subjected to naxalite attack on 22 June, 2005, but till date no effective security arrangement has been made either for him or for his residence. This is a matter of regret. Not to talk of general masses in Bihar, even Members of Parliament have not been provided adequate security. Any untoward incident can occur there.

With this, I conclude.

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\*The speech was laid on the Table.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Shri V. Radhakrishnan. You may kindly start your speech.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I cannot speak along with him. Let him stop. Then, I will start my speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri V. Radhakrishnan, you speak only for five minutes.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Sir, I have only five minutes. So, I will submit only the points.

While supporting the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs, I have to make certain comments regarding the functioning of the judicial criminal system in the country.

The Demand relating to the Police Force is the most important Demand put forward by the hon. Home Minister. Now, Police Force is in many ways outdated. In the first place, the Police Act itself requires changes to suit the modern conditions. I am not going into the details.

Now, I come to criminal investigation. That also is in a crisis. The primary duty before the Police is to investigate the crimes. Now, the conviction rate in our country is far below when compared with other civilised nations. It is six per cent or so.

Why this happened? We have two Central statutes. One is the Criminal Procedure Code and the other is the Indian Evidence Act. These two statutes were enunciated or came into effect in this country a century before. Now, the primary question is about the investigation in the present age of cyber crimes. We are now investigating the cyber crimes also. So, in the present age, they have become outdated in many ways.

Yesterday, we heard about two deaths. We can say that our law and order situation is normal. When we take the reality, our claim may not be correct. Even yesterday, we had the bitter experience that a mother and a daughter, both are lawyers, were brutally murdered in our country. So, the crime is on the increase. In every State, the crime is on the increase. That too, very heinous crimes like dacoity, robbery, are on the increase.

Before that I must point out one thing. The communal disturbance is also a major problem in our State concerned. Now, the is quite inadequate. We have only certain mention in the Indian Penal Code. Apart from that, we do not have a separate law to deal with the communal disturbances. So, I would suggest to the hon. Minister to bring in a legislation to deal effectively with communal disturbances imposing collective fine and all that. I am not going into the details now but I can give you the details afterwards and not now because there is no time.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: You give the details.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Yes, I have the details and I will give you that. I am sorry because I do not have the time.

Then the second one is about the offences against women. We should have a special legislation for that also. The present law is there but it is not enough. We want a special trial court or a special court to be constituted for this purpose. We were talking about the women's service in offices. In offices as well as in factories the women are doing service and there is molestation. We must have a separate legislation for effectively dealing with all those offences against women. I am not going into the details. I can give you the details if they are required. I can give you the details for this also.

Then coming to the amendment in the Criminal Procedure Code and the Indian Evidence Act, there is one very relevant thing. We have the Best Bakery case. Jessica case and the foreigner case at Kozhikode. All these ended without punishment because the witnesses turned hostile. Witness turning hostile is not a new thing. They happen because as per the provision of our Criminal Procedure Code, 162 is an unsigned statement. If the witness stands in the box, he or she can turnaround and the witness is declared as a hostile witness.

But there is one aspect. There is Mafia influence. We should give protection to the witness. That aspect also should be taken into consideration. Giving sufficient protection to the witness and influencing the witness should be taken into consideration. Best Bakery is an example. The Supreme Court, on the other day, convicted Zaheera Sheikh for one year imprisonment and Rs. 50,000 fine. It is quite all right.

Now, in the Jessica case, what is the result? All the accused persons were acquitted and the investigating officers have now registered a new crime case against the person who investigated the Jessica case. Such is the situation in our country. All the people who had investigated the murder are at fault. The court passed structures against them. Now, they have registered a new case against the persons who have investigated the case. That is the situation prevailing in our country. So, what should we do? We should entirely deal with the amendment regarding the provision of investigation. All this process will have to be taken into consideration. Now, we have 164 statement signed before the Magistrate. How could it be? I will give you the details afterwards on all these aspects because now I am not going into those aspects. Now, this is the question. How can we deal with such a situation?

Now, in regard to rape, you may see this. In deciding the rape case, consent is the material element to be decided. This is as per our law now. *...(Interruptions)* Am I to stop here?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude your speech.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: We have the Prevention of Child Marriage Act. in that Act, it is provided that 18 years is the age for entering into a valid marriage.

19.00 hrs.

Now in our Penal Code, a girl can give her consent for a sexual act with a man, if she is only 16 years or above. She can have a sexual act with a man, but not marriage. So, as per the Penal Code, a girl can enter into a sexual act with a man. If she is caught, then it will not be treated as strain because the element of consent is there even if the age is below 18 years. For a *bona fide* person, right to vote is 18 years and for signing a document, the minimum age required is 18 years. So, for all those purposes, eighteen years is the minimum age, but for a sexual act, it is 16 years. So, what is the position? Should we not change it? It is totally absurd. In the Indian law, sixteen years is the age for the above. Unfortunately, most of the rapists escape on this ground that consent is presumed. *...(Interruptions)* Am I to stop? *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are more responsible than me.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Now, all those things I can consult with the hon. Minister of Home Affairs. I have very many points about the prevailing situation in the country.

So, with these few words, I conclude.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the extended time for the discussion is over. I have a list of eight speakers with me. If the House agrees, the time for the discussion may be extended by one hour.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: So, the time for the discussion is extended by one hour.

Shri Shailendra Kumar. You conclude your speech within five minutes.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chall): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have allowed me to speak on the discussion on the Demands for Grants for 2006-2007 relating to Ministry of Home Affairs. I support it.

Just now, Hon. Members of both treasury bench and opposition have put their detailed views on terrorism. I do not want to go into that. But I would like to add that Members both from treasury and opposition benches have expressed their views extensively on the terrorist attack on Sankat Mochan Mandir at Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh and they have condemned as well as criticized the attack. The Central Government, the home Minister and the UPA Chairperson have extended help so far as the security is concerned. I thank them for that.

Secondly, in a crime, criminal has got more rights than victims. I demand, a new law may be enacted to give rights to victims so that victims also get protection.

I was just going through a book on homeguard. All the hon. Members are aware that a homeguard discharges his duty very sincerely whether you put him to control traffic, or on election duty. No matter for how long his duty hours are, he discharges his duty. But as regards the facilities, he has been provided with a few of them. He does not get even salary properly. We will have to arm him with sophisticated weapons. Only then we can



[Shri Shailendra Kumar]

put control on crimes. I demand from the Hon. Home Minister to look into it. Earlier also, I have put my views before the House. But I would like to talk about Uttar Pradesh only. In Police Stations, Chowkidars are appointed since British period, but they are paid Rs. 500 as honorarium which is not sufficient for them to support their families. When I talked to some hon. Members of Bihar, I came to know that the Chowkidars were declared class-IV employees and were getting salary commensurate with the category. Chowkidars in Uttar Pradesh police stations get Rs. 500. Most of these Chowkidars belong to Passi community who are very brave people with high self-esteem. As regards the jail administration reform in this Budget, I would like to say that it is often seen that notorious criminals in jails get more facilities. They are provided such facilities by jail authorities in greed of money or due to threats. But the criminals from weaker sections lodged in jails live in the worst conditions. Conditions of jails are very bad. Most of the jails date back to British period. There is a pressing need of their beautification and providing facilities.

You have constituted a Management Commission concerning national disaster management. I thank you for that.

We have discussed this in detail in this House. But on the other hand, whether it is flood or draught situation, when we visit our constituencies, we sometimes see that farmers' crops and barns are destroyed in fire, their houses devastated in fire, their cattle die or accidents occur due to natural calamity like lightning. I had requested earlier also that some provisions may be made in MPLADS so that when we visit such areas, we can provide some help from this scheme. Earlier, Extremists used to infiltrate only from Jammu & Kashmir, but now whether it is Bihar, Uttar Pradesh or areas adjacent to Nepal border, infiltration is taking place from there as well. It is the need of the hour to depute forces at the routes of infiltration recognized so that extremism and terrorism can be checked.

Sir, incidents of kidnapping often take place in all the states. Such crimes are rampant particularly in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and in certain other states. Criminals kidnap a person and take him or her to some other state. For example, if some one is kidnapped in Bihar, he is taken to Uttar Pradesh. Thus, the incidents of

kidnapping have become a matter of grave concern. For this also, an effective STF may be constituted so that such incidents can be checked. A several hon. Members have made a mention of Delhi. Many incidents of murder including the murder of two couples took place and many incidents of rape are being reported every day. I would suggest that a strong force of women may be formed and specifically put to the job of checking rape cases so that such incidents of rape can be checked. Similarly, a mention has been made for strengthening of intelligence system. Today, it is required that the intelligence system may be strengthened. Sometimes, it is seen that when some incident takes place, the intelligence system gets the information in advance. I mean to say, if prior information of such incidents is available, they can be averted by sending additional force in advance.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for allowing me to speak.

•SHRI SITA RAM YADAV (Sitamarhi): Sir, I support the Budget presented by the hon. Home Minister.

Today, terrorism and naxalism is increasing day by day in the country and taking its roots to the villages as well. The hon. Minister has made all possible efforts to check it though his Budget.

Though this responsibility primarily goes to the state government but funds and resources to the state government are made available only by the Government of India. Therefore, along with the state government, the Government of India is also fully responsible to check and crush it.

The situation in Bihar is deteriorating day-by-day. Terrorism, Naxalism and Maoism are spreading their tentacles to the villages. Particularly Bettiah, Sitamarhi, Motihari, Madhubani and the areas along Nepal border are affected more by Maoist. Incidents have taken place in Jahanabad, Madhubani, Motihari, Maoists morale is high.

Therefore, I suggest that this police force may be armed with sophisticated weapons and arrangements of residences for SSB forces and proper road as well as power along the border may be made as the area is lacking these facilities. Moreover, this SSB may be armed with sophisticated weapons more and more.

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•The speech was laid on the Table.

Today, there is a great threat to the lives of public representatives and MPs in Bihar, particularly in North Bihar and Central Bihar. We have met you many times but no concrete arrangement for security has so far been made in this regard. Even I have also faced a number of attacks on my life. There is large scale infiltration from Nepal border. Under the circumstances, strong security may be provided to me as well as all the MPs.

Today, Bihar Police is not that much trained and even they do not have sophisticated weapons. Therefore, they are not able to fight terrorism, Nexalism and Maoism. Hence, their strength may be increased and they may be imparted the training as well.

Many sections of IPC and the criminal code are being misused on a large scale. For example, these are being misused to cause atrocities on scheduled castes/scheduled tribes. Ninety Percent of the cases filed now are to implicate some one in false cases due to personal animosity. Secondly no provision of bail has been made in this Act and neither any provision of anticipatory bail has been made if a case is filed. Therefore, I suggest that a provision of bail and anticipatory bail may be made in the Act. Similarly, the Dowry Act is also being misused. It may be reconsidered and made in the interest of the masses and justice.

Today, despite various efforts peace is still to be restored in Kashmir. There is a need to train and encourage common people along with security forces to fight terrorism, Naxalism and Maoist. The forces cannot be fully fight without strengthening the masses. Therefore, the people of the areas where the influence of naxalism, terrorism and Maoist is seen and likely to be increased, needs to be strengthened well.

The North Nepal border of Bihar is lying open and Maoists are using it easily. Hence, barbed wire fencing should be provided there.

*[English]*

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Thank you. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity.

I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs. My first point is regarding the naxalites. If you see the Annual Report of the Ministry, the number of incidents of deaths of civilians, policemen and naxalites has increased. At the same time, if you

see the figures of Andhra Pradesh for the year 2004, when the State Government had a cease-fire with the naxalites, the incidents of deaths have really come down. If you compare it with the figures of 2005 the deaths have really increased. Therefore, my suggestion to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs is this.

It has been stated in the Annual Report that the problem of naxalites has spread to nine States. So, why do we not have a national policy towards it? The best part is that this Government, this formation has accepted the naxalite problem as a socio-economic problem. When you are accepting it as a socio-economic problem, then there needs to be a cease-fire. A dialogue process should be restarted again so that we can find an end solution to it. A bullet for a bullet will not be an answer to it.

I would like to bring to your notice about what happened in Andhra Pradesh yesterday. The '*Salva Judum*' activist have entered Andhra Pradesh and forcibly taken away 14 people and three people have died while escaping. Where is this thing going on? How to stop it? How can we encourage such sort of activists to take the law into their own hands?

Yesterday at the Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel Police Academy there was a seminar where the Chairman of the second Administrative Reforms Commission Shri Veerappa Moily has gone on record and stated that the Central Government is thinking about having a new Central legislation to curb organised crime and to have a new law to control the terrorism activities.

Sir, I believe that this is nothing but reviving of POTA. I oppose such laws which are going to be made. As far as POTA is concerned, the Act has been repealed over here. I had very vociferously asked that at least as far as confession is related, retrospective effective should be given to confession, but that has not been taken into consideration. What is happening now? But for our repealing POTA, these five innocent Banaras youths would have been under POTA. They have been left because their identities have not been proven.

As far as Gujarat is concerned — I am sure that my hon. friend, Shri Mistry will corroborate what I am saying— more than 42 cases have been booked. Each case has 125 witnesses. Despite a POTA Review Committee giving a recommendation that all the Godhra detainees *prima facie* cannot be booked under POTA, the Gujarat Government has gone against the recommendation of

[Shri Asaduddin Owaisi]

the POTA Review committee and the Supreme Court has given a stay. It has not recognised the POTA Review Committee's suggestions. I would like to know from the hon. Home Minister, through you, what steps the Government is taking to ensure that those people who have been booked in Gujarat under POTA and are lying in Sabarmati Jail get justice. In Sabarmati Jail, *in-camera* proceedings are being done. No press person is allowed. Even the parents of the accused are not allowed. For more than three years, they have been lying in Sabarmati Jail. What is their policy? Why do you not go to the Supreme Court and get the stay vacated? POTA Review Committee has actively and clearly stated that *prima facie* there is no case against these Godhra activists.

In the same Hiren Pandya case, a statement has been given on oath by Mr. Mushtaq Chanmiya. Who is this Mushtaq Chanmiya? He has said on oath that he has links with ISI. He has said that he had got money from ISI and Mufti Sufian had helped him. He has said that Yasin Farooqi had helped him. Mr. Chanmiya is going scot-free. He is not being arrested over there. This clearly shows that the present Government over there is hand in glove with them. It is conniving with and helping only terrorists. Why has Mr. Chanmiya not been arrested? The best part of it in Gujarat is that in Hiren Pandya case, an accused is a witness in a tiffin bomb case. He is also an approver in the conspiracy case. Gujarat has been legally turned into a banana republic. In Hiren Pandya case, the CBI is inquiring. Why can the CBI not inquire into the conspiracy case also? What is stopping you? I am really surprised.

As far as Gujarat is concerned, I would like to point, through you, that this is damaging our democratic institutions. This is what the terrorists want. They want to destroy our democratic institutions. People are losing faith in these institutions. The process of law should not get diluted. The process of law should be legitimate. I would like to bring, through you, to the notice of hon. Home Minister that among the Muslim youths, there is a talk about this thing. I see anger in their eyes. I see mistrust in their eyes. I see all these things in their eyes. I am telling you with all responsibility that I fear a backlash. These are the things which become fodder for all these people.

Five days ago, a terrorist has been killed in an encounter in Delhi. Unfortunately, he happened to be from Hyderabad. His parents do not know his whereabouts for the past three years. On 4th January, an IPS officer belonging to Hyderabad had called for a press conference. In front of the Press people, he openly abused the father

of this boy. Ten days ago, he called his father and told that they would take him to Bangladesh. Why is he making all these statements? What kind of message is the Police Department sending to the common man on the streets? People are worried over there. This sort of statement should not have been made.

Justice U.C. Banerjee Commission has given its report. If and when, the report is tabled, will the Government go for a CBI inquiry? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It cannot go on record.

...*(Interruptions)*\*

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAIISI: On the Babri Masjid issue, you have stated in the Annual Report that Liberhan Commission's time will finish on 30th of March. Liberhan Commission must give its report by 30th March. At the same time, there is crime No. 198 of Babri Masjid case which is in Raebareilly. There was a discussion in this august House at that time that crime No. 198 should be joined with crime No. 1997 of Lucknow. The notification has to be issued by the State Government. I would request the Samajwadi Party Members who are here to pressurise their Government in UP. Let the Central Government make a request to the State Government that a notification should be issued.

The latest report tabled by the National Human Rights Commission clearly states that they are annoyed with the response of the State Government of Gujarat as far as relief and compensation is concerned. Losses worth Rs. 658 crore had taken place, but the Gujarat Government has given only Rs. 56 crore. Why does not the Central Government come out and say that we will give compensation to the Muslims as has been given to the Sikhs in Delhi? Why cannot you give compensation to them?

The UPA Government has come into power because of the massacre of Muslims in Gujarat. But for the massacre, you would not have come into power. The people are asking us this question. What is thing combination doing? Why cannot Muslims of Gujarat be given compensation if Sikhs can be given compensation?

The National Human Rights Commission has stated that Rs. 658 crore worth damage of property took place, and only Rs. 56 crore has been given by the Government of Gujarat. Why cannot the Central Government come forward and give it?

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\*Not recorded.

Lastly, as regards the Jessica Lal case, there is anger about the judgement. But anger cannot turn into a policy. If the Government is going to bring in a legislation, then that piece of legislation will give more powers to the police. It would mean that more innocent people would be harassed. We have 164 Cr.P.C., which states that a witness can make a statement before the Magistrate.

I would also like to request the hon. Home Minister that—as far as the POTA detainees in Gujarat are concerned—he should get that stay vacated. Why cannot you probe the conspiracy case, if you are probing the Hiren Pandaya case?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Member, I would like to repeat my request to all of you. The hon. Members who have got written speeches with them could lay the same on the Table of the House, and it will form part of the proceedings.

Next speaker is Shri Kiren Rijju. I would request him to be very brief while giving his speech. I would humbly request him to be very brief, and try to conclude his speech within five minutes itself.

SHRI KIREN RIJJU (Arunachal West): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I will just focus on a few points relating to the North-East only.

19.17 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

Sir, because of the people who are running the Government with negative approach or part of it, terrorist activities which have been continuing in the North-Eastern States for so many years, are continuously on rise instead of a fall. I have to say one or two things in this regard. These people have no understanding of the complex background and situation of North-Eastern states. Some of the honourable members of the House have commented that North-East is something like this or that. It is imperative to understand the complex situation of North Eastern states. Once they pay a visit to North Eastern states, they come under the impression that they have become an expert on North-Eastern states.

Arunachal Pradesh was once called the 'island of peace'.

[*Translation*]

Arunachal Pradesh have been a peace loving state in the past. But now it has also become prone to the disease which its neighbouring states are suffering from. Honourable Minister of Home Affairs has a fair understanding of the issue, I need not say much on this issue, he knows everything about the state. But, even then, I would like to tell the House that if the prevailing situation continues, 16 districts of Arunachal Pradesh will also be afflicted with this disease and the youth of this state will also raise AK-47 rifles. The day, this disease enters western and middle Arunachal Pradesh, will be a black day for India.

Arunachal Pradesh is a state which has not been understood. Honourable Manmohan Singh Ji is sitting here, I don't know how much detailed understanding of Arunachal Pradesh he has. He has detailed knowledge that China had attacked there but how many people know about it. I wish, the persons who are a part of the Government know Arunachal Pradesh in its totality and it will be easy to implement the policy once they have thorough knowledge of the state. When you have half baked knowledge of anything and you act to implement policy on the basis of the briefing given to you by some people, then it would result in misunderstanding.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, please conclude your speech.

SHRI KIREN RIJJU: Sir, I have just started to speak, and have taken only one minute.

[*Translation*]

Arunachal Pradesh neither has any terrorist organisation of its own nor any terrorist organisation is born there. All organizations operate from out of state. There are some people sitting in the Government, I don't want to name them, who have links with these organizations.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI KIREN RIJJU: I just started speaking. Please give me five minutes. You have come at a wrong time!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI KIREN RIJJU: Please give me five minutes. I just started speaking, and you pressed the bell.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No Party has any time left. Please conclude now; you have already taken four minutes.

*[Translation]*

SHRI KIREN RIJJU: I would like the honourable Minister of Home Affairs to convey this message to the hon. Minister of Finance that though it is necessary to keep an eye over stock market and multinational companies but law and order problem needs to be understood as well. There should also be a provision of sufficient funds for that. If we attract money and security arrangements are improper, law and order problem in the country is deteriorated then what is the meaning of development? Development and security are interconnected. Both of these can not be viewed from different angles. I had stated in my budget speech in detail that the funds allotted to donor ministry of N.E.C. this year required a relook. At last, I would like to tell you that you would have to consider over the procedure of extending help to peaceful states because the state, where any unlawful activity arises due to the presence of terrorist organisation is given a package in the name of maintenance of peace but what about the states which have already maintained peace? You never think about them. Do you want these peaceful states also to submerge in violence? Only then you will give them a special package. You should not punish peaceful states like this. I have much more to say about rest of the North Eastern states but right now, I restrict myself to development issue only. Through you, I would like to tell the hon. Minister of Home Affairs that eighty percent area of my state Arunachal Pradesh is border area which is connected with Bhutan, China and Myanmar. The provision of border area development fund requires a special attention for that area. Please don't compare Arunachal Pradesh with rest of the North-Eastern states in terms of infrastructure. Arunachal Pradesh is a big state. Apart from providing money there, you need to pay your attention to accountability also. It should be checked whether the State Government is spending money in right manner or not. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs, sir, when you had visited Itanagar last time, we had called on you. That time also I had put the same thing before you and I am sure, this time you will take such steps which will hurt us. Even after opposing this budget, I support it because it would be in the interest of the country.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Chaudhary Lal Singh, you have four minutes time to speak.

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH (Udhampur): Sir, you are great.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot give you more time because this is the allotted time and I am not authorised to do otherwise.

*[Translation]*

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: Sir, I rise to support the demands for grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs and welcome it. The demands for grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs is already inadequate and needs to be augmented. This department is responsible for maintaining law and order situation across the country. Amidst its creditable job the safety of life and property deserves special mention. To my mind, this is a very important department and I would like to suggest to the Ministry of Home Affairs on two to three issues.

As I said earlier on many occasions, that you happen to forget it. In our state viz. J&K the Government of India had made the deployment of SPOs and BDS. They are young ones and have been fighting the evil of military for the past 15 years. They have sacrificed their lives and are being subjected to high handedness as they are not constables. For not being accorded the status of a constable, the members of their family receive nothing in case of their sacrifice. They belong to the hilly areas and make no stone unturned in killing the militants. This is the record of the area concerned. They have, as of now, not been offered the entitlement to daily wages either. Quite often their guns are also obsolete. Their uniform is not decent. The role SPSs and BDS have played hardly bears any comparison with others. A lot of their group has sacrificed their lives. As one of our friends said, in a few of the areas, the situation is comfortable while in the far-flung and hilly areas the situation is grim. One needs to perceive it. My Parliamentary Constituency is Doda. One has to cover a distance of 50-60 kilometers walking on-foot itself. Which turns out to facilitate the execution of militants' plans. As a result, they are hell-bent on causing harm to the people. I beg to submit that focus should be laid on connectivity. With the enriched connectivity, the armed forces and the other concerned will find it convenient to reach there. For the reasons of

non-availability of the Armed Forces they are not having proper provisions to sustain their livelihood. Earlier they used to eat goats and sheep meat to fill their belly. Now they are compelled to use even wild animals meat as their food. This warrants special attention.

I have told you several times that those belonging to the western part of Pakistan have been offered everything, except in the state of J&K. Thousands of such west Pakistani's have not been accorded the states of west Indian. It is regrettable. Please be kind enough to take pains for their settlement. They neither get ration nor accommodation nor job, nor they can exercise their franchise in the Panchayat and Assembly elections. They are in a very bad state-of-affairs. Likewise, the people migrating from the POK deserve special care. They too, have not settled till date. As many as 24 seats belonging to them are still lying vacant. Such people living in Jammu & Kashmir ought to be given their due share by providing them with proper settlement.

The core issue is that Pakistan intends to occupy J&K. It is an old issue. They are aware of the fact that Pakistan will be beneficiary if it occupies water, trade and tourism resources. They want that a base camp be set up in Kashmir on the pattern of Pakistan so that India may be converted into the disturbed zone. This core issue needs to be taken care of. The fundamentalists have caused destruction irrespective of the religion they belong to. They need to be crushed.

The opportunist ones especially those hailing from J&K have been putting every thing into complete disarray. These are the same people who at one point of time made demands for self-rule and asked for autonomy at the other moment. I know all of them who asked for mandate and caused havoc in J&K. On the one hand, they raise, their demand to demilitarise the state. On the other hands they themselves are guarded by Black Cat Commandos and security forces. In the first place. I suggest that the security of such leaders should be withdrawn forthwith. Only then, the process of demilitarisation should be allowed to set in. They themselves are under security-cover and leave others at mercy of militants.

Therefore, I would like to request you to identify them. They talk of one thing in Delhi and make reverse comments in J&K. They trigger the violence. My submission is to tackle them properly. Some one had been the Minister of External Affairs, some become the

Minister of Home Affairs and a few even wished to be the President of India. It is sad that they have virtually made a mockery of the state concerned. You will have to understand their tricks. The patriots, the dedicated citizens, be it officers or politicians need to be saved and protected and at the same time the culprits should be crushed mercilessly.

Finally, I want to submit that the situation is very grim in B.A.D.P. areas. The roads are in a dilapidated condition. People living along the bordering areas are yet to be compensated. I beg to submit that they deserve special care. UDC, SPOs and Home guards deployed for a period of 13 days need to be sorted out. I after my thanks for you giving me an opportunity to speak.

*[English]*

DR. SEBASTIAN PAUL (Ernakulam): Sir, the news of yesterday's double murder in the National Capital Territory of Delhi haunts this House as we discuss the Demands for Grants of the Union Home Ministry. It is a stark remembrance for the need to tone up our machinery or system to protect the valuable lives of our citizens. Apart from this conventional crime, terrorist activities are on the increase in the country as was the reported terror in the temple town, Varanasi. Terrorism is not confined to a particular place. Terror is transcending barriers and borders and the terrorist baggage of death and destruction is now travelling from Kashmir to Kerala. We are witnessing several explosions in Kerala also. It is reported that Uttar Pradesh will become the next Jammu and Kashmir. It is distressing news. As the temple town of Varanasi is desperate to keep its communal fabric intact despite this violence and threats, there is disturbing news from Rajasthan.

Day before yesterday, I, along with four of my Parliamentary colleagues, had an opportunity to visit Kota in Rajasthan where we witnessed attacks against the minority community and the institutions run by that community under the guise of a book '*Haqeekat*'. I would like to make it clear that the contents of the book are condemnable and they cannot be justified in any civil society. At the same time, it cannot be an alibi to mount a series of attacks on Christian institutions in that town. All these news are distressing because we have first hand information that they have no connection with the publication of the book. The head of the institution, Shri M.A. Thomas, was honoured by the NDA Government with '*Pardmashri*'. He was not in any way responsible for

[Dr. Sebastian Paul]

the publication of the book. It was made an alibi to continue the attack against those institutions. I hope the Union Home Minister would bestow his attention on such distressing developments.

Next year, we will be celebrating, as was mentioned in the President's Address, the 150th year of our First War of Independence. The present Police Act was passed in 1861, that is, immediately after suppressing the First Mutiny of 1857. We are entering the 60th year of our Independence but even now that very old Police Act is in force, which requires amendment and modifications for the purpose of modernising our Police force.

I understand there is an ambitious Police Mission on the anvil. I request the Hon. Home Minister to launch the Police Mission as early as possible so that we can modernise our police force. We can make it more effective to protect our rights in a more civilised manner benefiting the democratic society. We need a democratic police. So, I hope, the hon. Minister will take particular care not only in revamping the police force but also in reforming the police laws. Along with that, the Police Mission may also be implemented. With these observations, I support the Demands for Grants of the Home Ministry.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): Sir, I would like to oppose the Demands for Grants of the Home Ministry. I would like to make two points. I do not want to go into the details of it.

The terrorist activities have been rising throughout the country and particularly in Gujarat for the last two years. These terrorists are making religious places as their targets. Their first target was the Raghunath Temple, then it was Akshardham and now it is the Sankat Mochan Hanuman Temple in Varanasi and other places.

My constituency Kutch falls on the Western side of our country and just near to it is the Pakistan border. The ISI has got a direct hand in all these terrorist activities. Recently, one bomb blast took place midnight around 1.43 a.m. at the Ahmedabad railway station. At that time, the Kutch Express train was to arrive at Ahmedabad station from Mumbai. But, luckily, the train was running late and the target failed. They are directly attacking Kutch and Gujarat. In the preliminary inquiry, it was found that the substance used in this bomb blast was the RDX. It is very well known that the RDX was being supplied from Pakistan. For controlling this organised

crime, at the suggestion of the Union Ministry, the Gujarat legislative Assembly had passed the Gujarat Control (Organized Crime) Bill in 2003. It was sent to the hon. President of India for his assent. But the Home Ministry and the UPA Government returned the same to the Gujarat State Assembly with modifications. The Gujarat State Assembly again passed the Bill with some modifications in 2004. It was again sent for the assent of the hon. President of India. This Bill has not been receiving assent of the President for the last two years. A similar Act is in force in Maharashtra where the Congress Government is ruling. A similar Act is in force in Madhya Pradesh. I would like to request the hon. Home Minister that while replying, he may make it clear why the assent is not being given; whether the assent will be given or not; and why the assent has been pending for the last two or three years.

Lastly, in my constituency, there is one port Jakhau, which is known for its good variety of fish. Our fishermen from various parts of Gujarat are coming here for catching fish. But the Pakistan Marine Security Agency (PMSA) is always forcibly and illegally taking away them from the place. Thus more than 361 fishermen and 265 boats are in the custody of Pakistan. They are taking away all fishermen and all boats. Then they sell out boats by auctioning it. I would like to request the hon. Home Minister that there has been a talk of deploying Coast Guard to provide protection to these fishermen. But, up till now, nothing has happened. I would like to know whether the Coast Guard would be deployed to protect these poor fishermen who are coming from far off places. My only request to the hon. Home Minister is that these fishermen should be protected. I would also like to know as to when the assent will be given to said Bill. I hope, the hon. Home Minister will kindly give some clarification on these points. With these words, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak.

[*Translation*]

©SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD *Alias* SADHU YADAV (Gopalganj): Sir, I support the vote on account relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Sir, in the present scenario, terrorism, and Naxalism have made its prevalence across the country. Crimes are on the rise rather than witnessing any declining trend. You have made an all out effort to check it. The State Government is merely responsible for the maintenance of

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\*The speech was laid on the Table.

law and order. Still the Union Government is extending its support in terms of release of required funds and the state of the art weapons. You are also supposed to keep a watch on it. The situation in Bihar is getting from bad to worse. The terrorism and Naxalism alongwith Maoism have expended its sphere of influence across the state. The other incidents of the country are before you. The incidents of Jehanabad and Madhubani, Motihari are shameful ones and the Naxalites and Maoists had their prime hands in perpetrating such incidences.

So, therefore, I would like to suggest that the state government should be directed to be more strict and the police officials imparted proper training other than equipping them with the latest weapons.

The Northern part of Bihar is adjacent to the Nepal-border. SSB forces have been deployed along the border but they need more arms and ammunitions and their number needs to be enhanced. Being an open border the Maoists find it convenient to headway into Bihar Hence, there needs a fencing along the borders as well as motorable roads, electricity and housing facilities.

Even the representatives of the people are not safe today. MPs like Shri Sitaram Singh, Shri Sadhu Yadav. Shri Raghunath Jha, Shri Akhilesh Singh and Shri Sitaram Yadav are receiving threats and several incidents have already occurred in the recent past. In this regard I have to submit that we including Shri Akhilesh Singh, UPA Minister. Shri Raghunath Jha, Shri Sitaram Singh, Shri Sadhu Yadav, and many other members have requested you several times to provide proper security to us, however, sadly, as of now, no security cover has been provided. We demand that adequate security arrangement be put in place for us.

The current situation is such that dreaded criminals are siphoning off the funds meant for development purposes in Bihar. It needs to be checked forthwith. The kidnapping is also on its rise. Presurise the State Government to check it. Bihar is largely affected by floods also. Therefore, please arrange adequate relief measures to the flood-affected people.

DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL (Chatra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Home Affairs and I would like to conclude by speaking a few words only.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I hail from Jharkhand. Entire Jharkhand as well as my Parliamentary Constituency is

strife torn due to extremism. In the year 2000, when Jharkhand became a separate state, people were very optimistic that development would take place there, never avenues of employment would be available. But the state got extremism in turn. Particularly my Parliamentary Constituency is very badly affected by extremism. Jharkhand became a separate state from the state of Bihar. About two months ago, five extremists were arrested from Gaya district of Bihar. They confessed that they would receive financial assistance from a legislative member of Chitra, a Legislative Member and a Dy. Commissioner of my Parliamentary Constituency. These people have been provided blankets and track-suits also by them.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, last time at the time of the meeting of consultative committee of Ministry of Home Affairs, I handed over the cutting of that paper to the Minister. Through you, I request the Minister to take action and get the matter examined by C.B.I. and action taken against the guilty. The Government in power in Bihar instead of making developments, checking corruption, terrorism and extremism, has been giving air to the crimes like kidnapping and rape which were already existing in Bihar. There is complete anarchy in Bihar. Our Members Shri Akhilesh Singh ji's and Shri Sadhu Yadavji's lives are under threat there. Shri Raghunath ji and Shri Sitaramji are also getting threats. I request that it may be examined and action taken against the persons behind these threats. Our MPs belong to UPA, and as the Government has changed in the power today, they are receiving threats. Therefore, they may be provided special security so that they can do their work efficiently.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Home Affairs for I have always been in favour of fighting terrorism. The Home Department has a responsibility of providing security to the 102 crore people of this country and people hold the Ministry of Home in high esteem. As far as the Police Department is concerned, Delhi Police is under your control, but the state police, though, does not come under your control constitutionally yet it is the responsibility of Government of India to strengthen the police department. Corruption in police department is increasing day by day. If we want to curb this corruption, I suggest that payment to police need to be increased. They perform duty for 12 hours, 14 hours and some times 24 hours. Hence, their duty should be restricted to 8 hours. Police department should



[Shri Ramdas Athawale]

work in three shifts a day so that unemployed youth in our country may also get employment. Hence, Government of India needs to consider it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, as regards the question of terrorism—whether it is the terrorism of J&K, North-Eastern in the form of attack on Babri mosque or complete ruining of Muslim community in Gujarat or terrorism of atrocities on dalits and tribals in villages, a plan needs to be chalked out to check this terrorism. If we want to curb this terrorism, social justice is required to be done. Chaudhary Lal Singh ji was saying that people were dying, falling pray to police. Therefore, on behalf of J&K people. I request the Government should provide them funds to deal with terrorism and the Government is ready for that, but as far as their demand for autonomy is concerned, it is not justified. I request that more and more funds should be given to J&K. I would also add that as regards the people who come from Pakistan, the police should be active at borders for their checking. The people who want to stay also, intelligence should be active for that.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Babri Mosque was attacked and Advaniji reached there with a crowd of lacs. Had the intelligence in possession of a report about this, Babri mosque would have been under the control of military. Therefore, the intelligence department. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have taken three minutes. You may conclude in one or two sentences.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am about to conclude. Mumbai has been facing gangwar and it is increasing day by day. A specific planning needs to be done to check this. Our Home Ministry is active, our Government is active, that is why, terrorism is decreasing for the last two years. Whereas, during the period of 6 years of NDA Government it increased. The Government is trying to control it but. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: I conclude. How to check terrorism, is a matter of thought.

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. Shri Giridhar Gamang may start.

...*(Interruptions)\**

SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG (Koraput): Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

I will touch only one point. We have completed 70 days of 'Kalinga killings' in Orissa. Immediately after that incident, hon. Home Minister as well as the UPA Chairman visited the place to get the first hand report. But as such, there is no solution to the problem.

Seventy days are over now. The State Highway is blocked. The tribals were killed by police. Two days back, one more tribal died in the hospital. This is a very serious situation in Orissa. There is a demand for CBI inquiry. The State Government has constituted an Inquiry Commission which will take time to present its report. That report will be available later and we will come to know the findings of the report later. But there is a demand for a CBI inquiry.

There is a problem of displacement in the State of Orissa because a large number of projects are coming up in Orissa. On the one side, there is a growing demand for development and on the other side, there is a growing discontentment among the tribals. Therefore, I would request the hon. Home Minister to convene a meeting of the MPs of the Fifth and the Sixth Scheduled Areas to discuss the constitutional and other protections that are given to the Scheduled Areas and the Scheduled Tribes. The problem is there especially in the Fifth Schedule Area. It was confined to the Sixth Schedule Area and the Northeastern States but it has now migrated to the Fifth Schedule Area of Central India. Discontentment is growing in the Fifth Schedule Area. Therefore, I would request the Home Minister to let us know what report he has received from the State Government and what action has been taken on that so as to sort out the problem.

It is not a case for compensation because land for land, or house for house can be given but no Government can have a policy decision to take life for life. This is the problem we are facing. I would request the Home Minister to sort out the problem in such a way that it does not spread throughout the country, especially in the Fifth Schedule Area, otherwise tribals will be exploited due to exploitation of mineral resources. They will become the victims of non-development and if that happens, the Government cannot stop discontentment among them. Besides the extremists' problem in the Schedule Areas, this is one of the reasons for the growing discontentment. The Government will have to identify the reasons for the discontentment and stop the unrest in these areas. With these remarks, I conclude my speech.

DR. K.S. MANOJ (Alleppey): Thank you very much for allowing me to participate in the discussion on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs. I rise to support the Demands. Because of paucity of time I will confine my speech to some of the pertinent points of public concerns and request the Home Minister to take some urgent action on these points.

My first point is, there is an increasing incidence of attack on minority institutions in various parts of the country in general and attacks on Christian minority, particularly in the BJP ruling States, more specifically in Kota, Rajasthan. I will not go into the details of it because my colleagues have narrated it in great detail. I would urge upon the Home Minister to take necessary steps in this regard to restore registration of the charitable societies, which was withdrawn by the Rajasthan State Government. Not only that, the bank accounts of these societies were also frozen. So, urgent steps should be taken to activate their bank accounts as most of the employees did not get their salaries for the last month. An orphanage and a hospital are being run by this institution. They have cancelled the licence of that hospital and have also frozen its bank accounts. So, necessary steps may be taken to activate its bank accounts. The LPG supply to the orphanage, where more than 2,800 orphans reside, has also been withdrawn. The necessary steps may also be taken to restore the LPG connection to that orphanage.

I would also like to bring to the notice of the hon. Home Minister the alarming increase in the number of custodial deaths. In Kerala alone, in the last 4-and-a-half years more than 250 custodial deaths have taken place and in most of these cases the police officers have successfully evaded the legal proceedings and presented

fabricated evidence to convert them into natural deaths. I would request the Government to bring forward some legislation so that the real culprit behind the custodial death may be brought before the law.

There is an increasing incidence of an accused being acquitted from notorious cases because of the fact that the witness has turned hostile. As it has been rightly pointed out, in many of the cases, be it Best Bakery Case, Jassica Lal case or Ice Cream Parlour case of Kerala, the witnesses have turned hostile. I would urge upon the hon. Home Minister to bring forward some amendments, as you have mentioned, in the Indian Evidence Act. With these few words, I support the Demands for Grants.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, I am grateful to the Presiding Officer and the Members of this House for selecting the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs for discussion.

When the Demands are discussed, the working of the Ministry is examined in great detail. The hon. Members, who come from different parts of the country, are in a position to tell the entire House and the Ministry where they have gone wrong, what good things they could have done and where the amendments are required. Today, for nearly six and a half hours the debate has taken place and I must say that almost all Members have made very good points. If we examine the statements made by them, we cannot say that they were adopting a party line as such in their entire statements. Here and there, one or two points may have the party tinge and yet their statements were impartial, unbiased and are going to be very useful to the Ministry.

In this debate, we have given a few documents to the hon. Members. One of the documents given is the detailed Demand for Grants of the Home Ministry. This document gives all the details relating to the Demands for Grants. The second document which has been given in the hands of the hon. Members is recognised as the Performance Budget of the Ministry of Home Affairs detailing as to how the Ministry has performed. Now this document is also given to the hon. Members. The third document which is given is the Outcome Budget of the Ministry of Home Affairs. What has been the outcome of the activities of the Ministry of Home Affairs is explained very briefly in this document. The fourth document which has been given in the hands of the hon. Members relates to the policies adopted by the Government of India and

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

the State Governments to deal with the naxalite activities in our country. Every now and then, this point was made. We were told that neither the Government of India nor the State Governments have any policy to deal with the naxalite movement. We were telling them that we do have the policy and we are following the directions given in that policy and yet every now and then we were told that we lack a policy.

19.59 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

So we thought of putting the policy in booklet form and give it to the hon. Members. Now something more than that can also be done to tackle the naxalite activities in a better manner. In any other debate on the basis of that policy if any good suggestions are made by the hon. Members, we would be only happy to make use of those suggestions.

20.00 hrs.

Sir, the hon. Members have taken a lot of interest in the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs and cut motions have been moved. Copies of the cut motions have been given to us and the hon. Members who spoke here might have made their views clear on the cut motions are very relevant and very important. But it may not be possible for me to reply to all the cut motions, or to all the very good points that the hon. Members have made, based on the cut motions, in the time that is available to me. For about six and a half hours you have been sitting here and I do not know how much patience you are going to have to hear me speaking on those cut motions. That is why, I will endeavour to reply to some of the cut motions and some of the points made by the hon. Members. Not that, other points are not important. I would like the Ministry to send replies, in writing, to the cut motions which have been given by the hon. Members. They have, in fact, prepared notes and given to me to reply to each of the cut motions. But because of paucity of time it may not be possible for me to dwell upon all the statements and all the points made in the statements and all the cut motions I hope, the hon. Members will appreciate this difficulty.

Many a time it is supposed that the job of the Home Ministry is to deal with matters relating to internal security and law and order and nothing else. The emphasis is laid on this aspect of the activity of the Home Ministry.

But then there are other duties to be performed by the Home Ministry. One of the most important duties to be performed by the Home Ministry is to see that this country of ours is run in a proper manner and run in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution that we have given to ourselves and also to see that the Union Government which has been given certain responsibilities and the State Governments who have been given certain responsibilities exclusively and there are also certain responsibilities in which they have a concurrent jurisdiction are run in a fashion that the entire country functions as one organic whole and not in compartments and not in a manner that an action taken by the Union Government go contrary to the action taken by the State Government or an action taken by the State Governments go contrary to the action take by the Central Government. Wherever co-operation and co-ordination is necessary that kind of co-operation and co-ordination is there and the job of the Home Ministry is that. Apart from articles 355 and 356, there are other articles in the Constitution and also there are the Union List, the State List and also the Concurrent List prescribed under Schedule-VII of the Constitution which help the Home Ministry and the Government of India and the State Governments to see that the federal structure of this country is kept intact; that the federal structure produces the result and that the Union Government functions in the areas of its exclusive jurisdiction in a manner that is acceptable to the people of the country. The State Governments should function in the area of their exclusive jurisdiction which is given in a manner which is acceptable to all the States and to the Union Government and also to the entire country. This is one of the most important tasks which has to be performed by the Government through the Ministry of Home Affairs. This is really not understood and sometimes this gets a back seat. In fact, this should be in the front line but this gets a back seat.

We concentrate upon law and order and internal security more than this aspect which is at the root of the very governance of our country.

Sir, fortunately, I must say that, in the last 20 months' time, it has been possible for us to have very good relations. The Union Government has no complaints against the State Governments and I think, the State Governments have not complained against the Union Government. Once or twice, somebody might have said something. But, by and large, the State Governments have not complained against the Union Government at any time. In my opinion, this is a very good thing which

has happened. We have full understanding. The Union Government has full understanding with the State Governments. The Union Government has never thought that a particular State Government belongs to a particular party and so, it has to be treated in a particular manner and I must say that the State Governments also have not acted with the Union Government in that manner. The credit goes to them also. We would like to continue this kind of a policy with respect to the relationship between the Union Government and the State Governments in their functioning according to the constitutional provisions. And I do not see any difficulty in it.

Some years back, the Sarkaria Commission was appointed and that Commission was asked to look into different provisions of the Constitution which help in maintaining good relations between the Union and the States. Having a look at the provisions of the Constitution it was to come to the conclusion as to whether they have produced the desired results or not. I must compliment the Sarkaria Commission on the floor of the House that the Sarkaria Commission did a very wonderful job and the Report which is given by the Commission was really very good. That Report has been examined by the Inter-State Council.

We have an Inter-State Council under the Constitution of India in which some Ministers from the Union Government and the Chief Ministers of the States decide as to how inter-State relations should be there and as to how the Union and the States relations should be there. The Inter-state Council studied the Report given by the Sarkaria Commission and then made their suggestions on the recommendations made by the Sarkaria Commission. I would like to say that most of the recommendations made by the Commission have been accepted by the Government and many of them have been acted upon too. A few of them have not been acted upon I am not going into the details because it will take a long time to go into them.

Now, after a gap of many years since the Sarkaria Commission Report was received and considered, the UPA Government would like to have a second look at the relationship between the States and the Centre and that Commission shall again give a Report on the basis of the new technologies that have become available, on the demands that are coming up and on the new ethos that has developed in the country.

Now, what has to be done with respect to the district bodies that have come up? What has to be done with respect to so many organizations which have come up in the country? What has to be done with respect to the electronic gadgets and the system that are developing in the country? Under the Chairmanship of Shri Pranab Mukherjee, a Committee of Ministers was appointed and that Committee looked into the recommendations made by the Home Ministry as to the terms of reference of this Committee. And after this Committee of Ministers approved it, we have given the terms of reference. I am not going into the details of it but it is being examined.

We hope that whatever we have been able to achieve is very good. Yet there is scope for doing better. As to how we can do better can be seen after this. One of the things which is done by this Government after coming into power is to hold the meetings of Zonal Councils. There is a system of holding the meetings of Zonal Councils of Chief Ministers. The Home Minister and the Chief Ministers of different zones sit together and discuss the problems faced by them. For one-and-a-half decades, the meetings of Zonal Councils could not take place. But then we thought that it is no good not talking to each other in the Zonal Councils. So, it has been possible for us to hold the Zonal Council meetings. I would like to say on the floor of the House that the meetings with the Chief Ministers in different Zonal Council were very productive. I am happy about them. I would not like to say anything more than this on the Centre-State relations which is one of the responsibilities to be discharged by the Union Government.

The second most important thing which has happened during the last year was the management of disasters. Ours is a very big country and all kinds of disasters have been occurring in all parts of our country. Earthquakes have taken place; floods have been affecting many of the States, particularly Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh and other States. There have been avalanches and snowfalls and there have been many cyclones on the Eastern coast. These disasters take place every year. There is not a single year when something or the other has not happened in our country.

Last year the tsunami affected the long coastline. Nearly 2,000 kilometres of coastline was affected by tsunami. It is more than 2,000 kilometres if you take into account the coastline of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. This was a kind of challenge. Immediately after that heavy snowfall took place in Jammu and Kashmir. After that

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there were heavy rains in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, etc. which caused a lot of damage to the property and lives of the people living over there.

These were the disasters of momentous dimension. Yet, fortunately for us it has been possible to manage these disasters. How do we manage these disasters? When these disasters occur, people helped themselves and the Non-Government Organisations helped them. I must say that all the State Governments came out and helped. When I say this some of my colleagues sitting here get angry with me and ask, "Why are you saying this?" But I should compliment the people for the good work done by them. So, all the States came out and did help the people. The Government of India went out of its way to help them. The Prime Minister was asking all the time to find out as to what they require. The Defence Minister was asking his defence forces to rush to the places with their boats, helicopters and aircraft, other vehicles and equipment to help them. The Home Ministry people were rushing to the places to collect materials and reach them to the people. Other Ministries, such as Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Power, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, came together and helped them.

One of the most important things which happened in this tsunami and to which reference was made by some hon. Members who spoke here was, the day it took place, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi and Shri Pranab Mukherjee went there. Their going was an indication that the entire country was standing by their side and they should not worry. It was saying "We share your grief; we share your agony; we share your difficulties and we share our resources also and you should not worry". That psychological assurance which was visible in the visits of the leaders, I found the Prime Minister telling me: "What is the kind of money you need in Maharashtra?" I said: "Whatever you give, give them and they will manage". He asked me and I had to make a statement on the floor of the House. Even the Government of Maharashtra was surprised to hear me telling what kind of money could be given to them. That was an assurance. This helped our country and, I think, in future also, we shall have to adopt this policy so that the people feel confident that they are not alone they will be helped by the people from all parts of the country—not world, but all parts of the country. The world was willing to help we could say to them: "Look, we will manage. If you are giving

something, we are happy and thank you. But we will manage on our own". That is what we did.

One of the most important things which has happened after Tsunami and all those things, is the creation of Disaster Management Authority. Immediately after this, at the instance of the Chairperson of the National Advisory Council, by an Executive Order, the Disaster Management Authority was constituted. That Authority is asked to continue working to make policies, to make plans, to prepare projects, to have the rules, to collect the equipment, to train the people and to do many other things which are required and then help the people. Afterwards, this House and the other House, both the Houses were very happy to pass the Disaster Management Bill. Under this Disaster Management Bill, now we have a Statutory body which is chaired by the Prime Minister and one of the brightest officers of our Defence Forces, General Vij is the Vice-Chairman and there are other very able persons working as the members. They were specifically requested to come and join. They are now the members of the authority.

We have requested the State Governments also to establish State Disaster Management Authorities. Some of the State Governments have readily accepted this suggestion and they have established the State Disaster Management Authorities. As regards other States, none of them has said that it will not do it. We think that that would be done by them. This Body is in the process of making the rules. It is in the process of training the Armed Forces and collecting the material which is required for this purpose. It is not necessary for me to say anything more than this because we have already discussed this issue in this House.

Sir, the third most important thing which has to be understood while discussing the Demands for Grants of this Ministry is, what is the role of the Union Government in providing internal security and law and order situation in the country. The Constitution is very clear, and many hon. Members made reference to it. Sometimes, you know, those who fully understand also just refer to this point. They say that all the time you take the stand that this is the jurisdiction available to the Union Government and this is the jurisdiction of the State Government. We have never taken that stand. I would like to say that I have never taken that stand. I understand the constitutional provisions very clearly, and yet, I have already said that this Government is an organic whole. The Union Government and the State Governments are the parts of the organic whole. It is like hands and legs.

They are not separated completely. The hands and the feet will not be able to carry on the functions of one another. The functions of the legs cannot be carried on by the hands. The functions of the hands cannot be carried on by the legs. Yet, they are a part of the organic whole. If they get separated from this organic whole, there will not be any position to function at all. Hands will not be able to function. The legs will not be able to function. That kind of a stand, we have never taken. We never propose to take that kind of a stand. Let it be clearly understood.

We have to understand what is the duty which is performed by the para-military forces which are at the disposal of the Union Government. Para-military forces are para-military forces. Half of the military job is done by these forces. Where are they deployed? They are deployed on the borders. It is not that our Defence Forces are not in a position to be deployed on the borders and to provide protection. But under international understanding, the Armed Forces do not stand face to face on both sides of the border with the neighbours. Our Armed Forces would not like to stand face to face with the Armed Forces of our neighbouring country because the chances of sometimes committing mistakes have to be avoided. That is why, please understand that the BSF is deployed on the international border which is shared by Pakistan and India. The BSF is deployed on the international border between Bangladesh and India. It has to be very clearly understood. Then the ITBP, the Indo-Tibetan Border Police, as the name suggests, is deployed on the borders which are between Tibet and India. The SSP is the force which is deployed on the Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Bhutan and Nepal borders. These are the borders where they are deployed. In Uttaranchal also, the ITBP is deployed. So, we have nearly seven lakh forces. Out of the seven lakh forces, these forces are deployed there. Half of the forces are deployed there. The CRPF is available for us for other duties. Then, we have the CISF available for our duties internally. It has to be very clearly understood. How do we deploy the CRPF or the CISF? The CISF is giving the protection to the installations here. It is protecting Atomic Energy installations. Space installations, the oil rigs and things like that. They are for giving protection. They are for static duty. They are giving protection to these installations. ...(*Interruptions*)

The CRPF, which is a Central Force, is available for all the States. Whenever the demand comes for assistance, these forces are sent to the States. They are

kept at the disposal of the State Governments. We do not have the district police officers working in the districts through whom we can deploy and use it. They are kept at their disposal. They have to use these forces according to their understanding, according to their requirements. Even if, sitting here, the Home Secretary or the Home Minister has certain different views, we shall have to convey those views to the State Governments through our forces which are to be deployed there so that whatever we want to be done, it is done.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Who bears their expenditure?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir this is a very good question which you have asked. Previously we were charging the State Governments. Now, we have decided that these forces shall be given to the State Governments by the Union Government without charging anything. For three years, they will be with them. While replying to one of the questions on the naxalite movement, I said that 26 battalions or probably more have been given to the naxalite-affected States. They would not be charged a single pie for three years when they use them. These forces are working in the North-Eastern States also and in Jammu and Kashmir and other places also. One of the hon. Members got up here and said that in order to see that there is some sort of coordination between the forces of the Union Government and the forces, the concept, the idea of unified command should be accepted. We have already accepted this idea. This idea is put into practice. It is very correct that this idea should be made available in other States also. This idea is accepted in Jammu and Kashmir. The para military forces, the Army and the State police, all of them under the unified command over there and the Chief Minister is the Chairman of that command and they sit together. The officers and they themselves sit together and work on it. Now, this kind of a system is made available to Manipur also. The Chief Minister chairs the meetings of the unified headquarters. This is available to Assam also. We have asked through our Home Secretary that if they want that in other States, where these forces are given, this kind of arrangement is required, we will be only happy to provide this arrangement in other States also. The point I am trying to make is that we are not saying that Naxalism is something which is the responsibility of the State Government and we have nothing to do with it. We have never, never said this thing. I have said on the floor of the House more than once that 26,000 men and officers are given to the States to control the Naxal

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movement. What is 26,000 armed forces? If you go to the small countries, there you will find that their armies are not equal to these kinds of forces, which are given to the States over here. They have to be used. Their problem is difficult. The State Governments' problem is not easy. I am not saying that we have given these forces, you just see that everything is controlled within a given period of time. I am not taking that kind of stand. It is because this is not a problem, as is rightly stated by many hon. Members, to be dealt with only with the Armed Forces. This is an economic problem, social problem, cultural problem and to some extent a political problem also. This has to be solved in a proper manner. That is why we have not taken the position that we have now to help in solving it. As far as the national security is concerned, it is clearly said in Article 355 of the Constitution that the Union Government shall have a duty to provide it. We provide national security by putting our forces on the borders. We provide national security by making these forces available to the Union Government as well as to the State Governments to do this thing. The law and order problem, for which actually the Union Government can be directly or indirectly held responsible. I would say directly, is in Union Territory, Delhi is a Union Territory, Chandigarh is a Union Territory, Pondicherry is a Union Territory and Daman and Diu is a Union Territory. In these States, direct responsibility of the Government of India is there. But, supposing the Home Ministry wants to interfere in the activities of the State Government, which are controlled by the State police, which are at the disposal of the State Government, will they accept it? Supposing tomorrow I say that this DSP should take an order from. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Silence please.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Bareilly): The Speech is getting too long. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: If you do not want to hear I can conclude, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Your party people are making the noise. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I thought, Sir, this is the only opportunity when I can explain. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your party people are making the noise.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Whichever party they may belong to, I can conclude, Sir. The point I was making was that internal security as per the Constitution is the responsibility of the Union Government. But, then the State Governments have understood very clearly that though it is with the Union Government, they have a responsibility to help the Union Government to maintain the internal security. That is why the Government in Jammu and Kashmir, the Government in Manipur, the Government in Assam and the Government in Arunachal Pradesh have been helping the Union Government. We are thankful to them for this purpose. In the same fashion, the primary responsibility of maintaining law and order is the responsibility of State Governments and the Government of India is helping them by providing forces, not only with providing forces, but also with providing funds for modernisation of State police with equipments which are given to them and providing them with the intelligence which is available.

Sir, many hon. Members spoke about the intelligence that is gathered and given to State Governments. This concept of getting the intelligence and giving it to officers of State Governments has to be understood in clear terms. At the national level, we have the intelligence agencies. Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW) is one of the intelligence agencies which collects information from across the borders and from other parts of the world and Intelligence Bureau (IB) is the agency which collects information from within our country. When they do that, it is a mega intelligence. This intelligence gives you the direction that religious places are likely to be attacked, that offices of the political parties are likely to be attacked, that some soft targets are likely to be attacked etc. This kind of information is passed on to the States. Having passed on that kind of intelligence to the State Governments, if we ask the State Governments as to why they have not acted upon it even after we have given them the information, it is not fair. Actionable intelligence is something different from the intelligence which is available like this. We understand the difficulties of the State Governments and the State Governments also understand our difficulties. So, one of the things

which has to be done is to understand as to how the Union Government and State Governments can cooperate by giving the forces, the intelligence, by providing equipments, in making the plans and all those things.

Fortunately for us, today I am in a position to say that because of the policies adopted by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, because of the policy of the Government of India, because of the policy of the Government of India of talking to our neighbour also, because of the vigilance of the Armed Forces and para-military forces and because of the fatigue which has developed in the minds and hearts of the people of Jammu and Kashmir that bloodshed should not continue, it has been possible for us to reduce the violence in Jammu and Kashmir to the extent of 30 per cent. The credit for this should go not to the Home Ministry, but also to those who have actually been in the field and who have been responsible for that.

As far as North Eastern States are concerned, very good points have been made by hon. Members. I can assure you that we would remember all that they have said about Arunachal Pradesh, about Manipur, about Nagaland, about Mizoram, about Meghalaya and also about other States. But I may tell you that even in North Eastern States, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland have been peaceful. We were told: 'If you are talking, you decide and talk; otherwise act.' What does it mean? Should we start firing at them or what? They have their difficulties and we have our difficulties. If there is peace, we would like to make use of it and create a better understanding and solve the problem. Until the time it becomes absolutely necessary to take action, we would be happy to maintain peace through agreements or through many other methods in that area.

There are certain problems which have been very correctly pointed out and explained by hon. Members. We would like to sit with you and discuss them. The former Chief Minister of Orissa made a suggestion about consultation with Members. I accept his suggestion. We would like to talk to him and others about various things.

Sir, in North Eastern States, difficulties did arise in one or two places. There is some difficulty in Manipur and also Assam, if we analyse State-wise, we will find that more than two-third of that area has shown improvement and one-third of that area has not shown improvement. We should not be satisfied with this, we should be doing better.

As far as naxalism is concerned, I would like to say that when the Government of Andhra Pradesh was talking to Naxalites, the graph of violence had come down. When the Naxals in Andhra Pradesh withdrew from the talks, their activities increased and the violence graph has gone up. The States around Andhra Pradesh, that is, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra are also affected. But as far as Bihar is concerned people have criticised Bihar like anything, but the statistics show that Bihar has shown improvement. In other States also, there has been improvement. Statistics show this, but that does not mean that nothing has happened in Bihar. Incidents did happen in Bihar and we shall have to be careful. But if you take the totality of the situation, Andhra Pradesh has caused some difficulty. Maharashtra has also caused some difficulty. Chhattisgarh has also caused some difficulty. Jharkhand is going through the difficulty and Bihar has been better. Uttar Pradesh has been better. Chhattisgarh has been fluctuating and other States also in the South these things have happened.

The Naxal problem has to be solved as per the advice given by you. When I come to Parliament and hear the Members speaking, I think that what we are thinking in the Home Ministry is correct. What hon. Members from all States have been saying is that be determined and be firm, but be understanding also. Do not think, the economic issues have nothing to do or the social issues have nothing to do or cultural issues have nothing to do with the Naxal issues. You approach this problem from different angles. You adopt a multi-pronged approach and solve this problem. When I come to the Parliament, to this House and that House, I feel, reinforced in the thinking which has been given to us, to the Government from the Home Ministry and others also. But some times, doubt is also created, 'No' 'No' you have to act, only act. Act, we will when it is necessary. Act, we will with determination, but we will act with understanding, with compassion and with feeling that it is not only bullet and the gun, which will solve the problem. The terrorists and the violent people say that bullet and the barrel of gun can solve the problem. We do not think that way. We think that bullet and barrel may be required at times, but they themselves do not solve the problem. So, we are not depending on that alone.

I would like to say, I feel that this is a country of more than some billion people. I have said it in so many forums while discussing with our colleagues in the Ministry and others also. We are more than one billion people and more than 90 per cent of this one billion people are



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peace-loving. The strength of our forces, that is, Defence, Police, Home Guards, NCC, Civil Defence, if you compare it with those who are misguided citizens, we do not have to bother. It does not mean that we should not be vigilant. That does not mean the police and the Home Ministry people can go and say that 'No' 'No' everything is all right and can take rest. That is not going to the case. Vigilance has to be there and we would like to be vigilant.

But at the same time, I would like to say that we do not feel scared. Let us not create the scare by saying things disproportionately, by using hyperbole. Let us not create the fear-psychosis in the minds of those people who have no time to apply their mind to this problem. Let them have the correct information and let them feel confident that this country, these people are not scared. It is not a question of one Party or one Government. It is not a question of taking credit for this or that. Credit can be given or discredit can be given to the previous Government, to this Government or the Governments which had been before them also. But that is not the case.

But, if you take into account the totality of the people and their psychology, their readiness and their strength, I do think that this is a problem, we have to be careful about. We will be careful. We will act in a determined manner. We will act in a wise manner, but we will never be scared. We are not scared. I am not scared. I can stand up here and say I am not scared. I will solve this problem with your help and with the help of the people outside. But let us not create scare, please. Anybody who is saying something which is disproportionate, out of proportion, will create scare, and scare is not going to help us. So, our only request is that let us not create scare. We have a policy; we have given the policy. We should like to be guided by you. One of the things which we want to do, and I would like to inform this House, is not strengthen the intelligence agencies at all levels so that wherever this kind of information is required is given. Strengthening of the State intelligence agencies is more important. I am not saying only the State level intelligence agency, but also the district level intelligence agency or taluka level or the police station level intelligence agency. In fact, for actionable information or intelligence the State Level intelligence agencies have to be strengthened. We would like to discuss this issue with the hon. Chief Ministers, their officers and try to prepare a plan as to how this can be brought about. More than that, everybody in the society can help in getting the information which

is going to cause violence. And if it is used a proper time, it can help us. The aircraft, the ships and the tanks are not useful in controlling terrorism. What is most useful in controlling the terrorist activities is intelligence. We have intelligence we would like to have better intelligence and we would like to take steps for this purpose.

One of the most important points which was made by my very respected friends related to criminal justice system in India. It is because of the judgements given; it is because the judgements have been discussed in the media, our attention has been attracted. I would like to say that the suggestions which you have given are very correct, and we would like to act on them. But, if you have more suggestions. We would like to discuss them with you, and we would like to use them. I would like to say that in last 20 months we have already amended the Criminal Procedure Code two times. This Government amended the Criminal Procedure Code two times and third time we are going to come to the Parliament for amending it. But, if anything more than that is required for amending the Criminal Procedure Code, we would like to do it also.

As far as amending the Evidence Law is concerned, it is a very complicated issue, but we would like to be guided by the jurists, the Judges and the thinking of masses in the society. It is because it does not relate only to the outward activities of the human beings it relates to the inner activities, the mind working, the intention part of it, the *mens rea* part of it, and so many other things. There was a suggestion given to us that the Indian Penal Code also should be looked into for amendments. This suggestion has been given by many jurists, and we are looking at it. In my own opinion, part of the Indian Penal Code, which is relevant to the offences against the person or the human beings, it is very good. But on the portions which relate to the social offences and other offences like economic offences, there is some difficulty. There is a great scope for looking at the Indian Penal Code also. There are some provisions relating to rape and all those things. ...*(Interruptions)* That also, we would like to look into and we would like to do what is necessary. There are other laws also which are of penal nature. We have looked at them and we have taken appropriate decisions. If necessary, we can look at the existing laws also.

Then there are many other laws in which penal provisions are provided. Those penal provisions are guided by the Criminal Procedure Code and the Law of Evidence

Act also. We shall have to see as to how the Criminal Procedure Code and the Law of Evidence adjust with that.

More than that the witnesses give the evidence. We are depending more on the oral evidence. I have been saying that rather than depending on oral evidence we should depend on circumstantial evidence or technological evidence or technical evidence and that will take us nearer to the truth and justice. As to how it can be done, we are looking into it. We are providing funds to the forensic laboratories and others also. If there is anything more which has to be done we can do it.

As to how recording of evidence has to be done there are suggestions made. In fact the suggestions which are being made were part of the amendment that we have suggested. As some people objected to it we did not press for it but we are again looking at it. But this criminal justice system is something in which whatever can be done by the Home Ministry, the Law Ministry and the Government will be done. This also falls in the jurisdiction of the Judiciary also. We shall have to get their advice and guidance also, and work on that. We would also like to do that.

I would not like to say anything more than this. The only thing which I would like to say is that it has been possible for us not to have extraordinary performance but to have a performance which is by and large acceptable. Why is it acceptable? It is acceptable because of some principles we are following. One of the principles which we are following is this. Carry everybody with you. Do not discriminate against anybody on the basis of religion or caste. The communal violence has come down in the country in the last 20 months' time and some hon. Members have said that. But I would like to say that caste violence has gone up. Communal violence has come down and caste violence has gone up. We shall have to take note of this fact. We are trying to pass a law which gives the victim the right to get the compensation. This is going to be one of the most important things which the Parliament would be doing in the near future. A Bill has been introduced and it is before the Standing Committee. In the world today and in our country also, criminology aims at punishing the offender. But criminology or criminal jurisprudence does not help the victim to get the relief. That is why, we are trying to make this law holistic in which the offender will be punished and the victim will get the compensation. This will be one of the greatest contributions of this

Parliament to criminal jurisprudence. Any victim will get the compensation and that compensation will come from the Government coffers.

It was suggested that the society should compensate. The society is too amorphous. We cannot have money from the society to give it to the victim. That is why, money will come from the society to the Government coffers and it will go to the victims. This is what we are trying to do.

We are also thinking of, if everybody agrees, to have an institution which will look into the academic research side of policing in the country. If it becomes possible for us to have a Police University, we will be very happy.

The fourth thing which we would like to have—if it is agreed to by all and specially the Finance Ministry has to agree because they have their own problems—the research activities there also. One of the newest things that we have done is the coastal security and we would like to strengthen the coastal security also.

Sir, I am very grateful to the hon. Members for the patient hearing they have given to me. I request that the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Home Affairs be passed.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only one hon. Member, Shri Bachi Singh Rawat has moved his cut motions and he is not present in the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put all the cut motions together to the vote of the House.

*The cut motions were put and negatived.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Third column of the Order Paper be granted to

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

the President of India, out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2007, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the Second column thereof against Demand Nos. 50 to 54 and 94 to 98 relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs.”

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 14th March, 2006 at 11.00 a.m.

20.51 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, March 14, 2006/Phalgun 23, 1927 (Saka)*

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